

# Urban-Rural Partnerships

## LAG Traunviertler Alpenvorland



### Our motivation for working with this topic

The consultation around the drafting of the 2014-2020 Local Development Strategy revealed strong links between the city of Steyr and the surrounding rural areas and communities, identifying challenges – such as mobility, labour markets, demographic change – that can only be addressed through urban-rural cooperation.

### This is what we did and do

The trans-regional project 'Nature of Innovation', involving three LAGs and the city of Steyr, used a participative user-oriented 'design thinking' methodology, including 'problem' and 'solution' spaces across the main stages of the project: from comprehension through development to testing.

For the first time ever, a single 'innovation platform' has brought together individuals and organisations from different disciplines to jointly develop 10 to 20 projects contributing to CLLD strategic priorities and are directly related to the LAG strategies.

### Those actors were important

All Members of our LAGs such as communities and interested representatives, politicians and members of civil society are involved depending on the topic. Other partners include project agencies and scientific institutions such as the University of Applied Sciences Upper Austria Campus Steyr.

### Lessons learnt

Reaching new user-friendly and innovative solutions means breaking new ground. The LAG did that by using the 'design thinking' methodology for regional development, involving many new players.



### Find out more

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