Annex I – Profile of the five pre-selected villages

1. Raudanmaa (Finland)

Population: 600



Source of photo: https://www.aamulehti.fi/a/200121578

Raudanmaa village area consists of several small villages and the rural area situated between two large lakes in Kangasala, Vesijärvi and Längelmävesi. Raudanmaa is located 5-20 kilometres from the Kangasala city centre and 30 km from the second largest city in Finland, Tampere. There are ~600 residents in the Raudanmaa area. Important source of livelihood in the area is agriculture, but there are also many small entrepreneurs and also people who are employed in the nearest cities. Raudanmaa is an active village, where many of the activities and big development projects have been planned by the villagers themselves, such as water co-operative, optical fibre, ice-rink, selective waste disposal point, etc. Smart village Our main aspiration is to be a service-oriented, innovative village where daily life runs smoothly.

Key thematic areas of interest: environment, culture and vitality

Human - financial capacity & motivation:

- ✓ The village has a range of **key assets and opportunities** including an array of entrepreneurs entrepreneurship and high quality farm products, clean forest nature, attractive associations, residents and volunteers
- ✓ **Broadband: Raudanmaa** has a working optical fibre network enabling remote work and use of modern technology in farms and houses
- ✓ **The village is motivated and has** already a series of ideas related to environment, culture and identity that they would like to develop into a smart village startegy. They also have some elements of the strategy, but has not been discussed or finalised with the whole community yet.
- ✓ **Flagship project:** Smart Village Hall project is now working to create a multi-service centre
- ✓ **Governance:** Cooperation with the town council (Kangasala) that includes elected representatives from Raudanmaa area. Raudanmaa Village Association represents the villagers in many common forums. A wide range of stakeholders, including the Rural Women's Association, Wildlife management, road maintenance, water and sweage organisations are involved village governance, as well as local leaders (chair, entrepreneurs, farmer and digital services expert)
- ✓ **They cooperate locally** with LAG, Finnish Village Assocation, Smart Villages Network of Finland, Tampere University, Electricity Company

Expected added value of the project – where the village needs support

- ☒ **Assistance with village strategy work** is needed, the village does not yet have a strategy, they are just starting work on it
- ☒ The village is seeking support for **identifying effective governance models for village planning**
- ☒ They need assistance in identifying relevant funding for projects
- ☒ They would like to learn from other best practices, and receive **technical expertise and research knowledge** for the planned ideas and projects