



SMART
VILLAGES



OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT - SLOVENIA

Rural areas in 2040

Addressing global challenges of rural areas with Smart Villages

1 November 2021

18:00 - 20:00 (GMT+4 - UAE)

15:00 - 17:00 (GMT +1 - Belgium, Slovenia)

EXPO 2020, Dubai

▶ Livestream on YouTube: bit.ly/SVDubai

si2021.eu



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA GOSPODARSKI
RAZVOJ IN TEHNOLOGIJO

SPiRiT
SLOVENIJA

INVITATION

Rural areas in 2040:

Addressing global challenges of rural areas with Smart Villages

1 November 2021 from 18:00 - 20:00

Terra Pavilion, Sustainability District, Dubai World Expo

Excellencies, colleagues and friends,

We are honoured to invite you to the high level debate titled **Rural areas in 2040: Addressing global challenges of rural areas with Smart Villages** at EXPO 2020 Dubai on 1 November 2021.

Join us for an interesting conversation organised jointly by the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the country of Slovenia and Member of the European Parliament Franc Bogovič on behalf of the RUMRA & Smart Villages Intergroup in the European Parliament at the Terra Pavilion, Sustainability District, Dubai World Expo on 1 November 2021 from 18:00 - 20:00.

Agenda:

• 18:00 - 19:15: Welcoming Speeches & Debate

- **H.E. Dubravka Šuica**, Vice-President of the European Commission and European Commissioner for Democracy and Demography
- **H.E. Jože Podgoršek**, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, Government of the Republic of Slovenia, Presiding minister of the Agriculture and Fisheries Council of the EU
- **H.E. Omar Sultan Al Olama**, Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, UAE (invited)
- **Matic Volk**, Commissioner General of the Republic of Slovenia for EXPO
- **Franc Bogovič**, Member of the European Parliament & Chair of the EP RUMRA & Smart Villages Intergroup
- **Chenesai Mangoma**, CEO of Chenesai Africa & Creative Industries Trade Strategist (video message)
- **Doris Letina**, Vice President of the European Council of Young Farmers (CEJA) (Video message)
- **Tony Jin**, Huawei Chief Representative for the EU Institutions
- **Gregor Novak**, CEO Suncontract, Slovenian Energy company (SME)
- **Moderator**: Ladeja Godina Košir, Founder and Executive Director at Circular Change

• 19:15 - 19:30: Animated film of the future of smart villages

• 19:30 - 20:00: Q&A Session with the Audience

You can enjoy European cultural and artistic experiences throughout the day in various public areas at EXPO2020 Dubai and in the 27 pavilions of the EU Member States.

There will be a reception hosted by the Slovenian Pavilion from 20:15 onwards for the guests of the event.

Please confirm or decline your attendance and let us know if you need a pass to access the EXPO. Register here: <https://forms.gle/rGwQRaoc1xVLYxhF6>

The event will be LIVESTREAMED at the Franc Bogovič YouTube channel here: [The Franc Bogovič YouTube Channel](#).

For more information, please contact Iris Pšunder: iris.psunder@spiritslovenia.si.