

## TOWARDS INCLUSIVE AND ENGAGING RURAL AND MOUNTAINOUS AREAS

Amidst the prominence of urbanization as a global trend, and migration as of its key driving forces, the impact and development potential that migration can bring to rural and mountain regions have become neglected. Migration can have a major impact on social and economic development, social innovation, revitalization of remote spaces, and the urban and rural nexus, yet for this happen adequate policies and applicable practices are needed that take into account spatial specificities and context dependencies. Evidence-based knowledge on migration outside urban areas is needed to include migration in the policies to promote balanced and sustainable development and to reduce territorial inequalities.

The three-year research project MATILDE, funded by EU Horizon 2020 facility, has investigated the social and economic impacts of migration in rural, peripheral and mountainous regions of Europe. The international conference will discuss the results from the ten participating countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, Germany, Italy, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom) and 13 case study regions, but also highlight ways to promote socially inclusive and territorially balanced growth by stimulating the potential for local development through migration and coexistence characterized by diversity. This conference aims provide space to improve the dialogue between researcher, policy-makers and various social and economic milieus in order to provide better responses to the challenges posed by migration and integration governance.



**Concept and programming:** Marika Gruber (Carinthia University of Applied Sciences) and Jussi Laine (University of Eastern Finland). **Local organizing partners:** City of Villach and Carinthia University of Applied Sciences.

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Migration ImpAct assessment To Enhance Integration and Local Development in European rural and mountain regions

# villach



MIGRATION AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

PROGRAM

on the EU-Project Matilde (Migration Impact Assessment to Enhance Integration and Local Development In European Rural And Mountain Areas) in the Congress Center Villach and the Carinthia University of Applied Sciences

The conference will be held in German and English with simultaneous translation.

International MATILDE Final Conference  
10 November 2022 | Congress Center Villach  
Europaplatz 1, 9500 Villach

## INCLUSIVE AND ENGAGING RURAL AND MOUNTAINOUS AREAS

- 08:00 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 09:30 Welcome and greetings
- 09:30 – 09:45 Introduction to MATILDE
- 09:45 – 12:00 **Local transformations through migration – Spotlight on selected case studies**  
**Place matters:** Diversity of migration processes  
**Panel Discussion:** Challenges, changes and chances of and through migration
- 12:00 – 13:00 Lunch
- 13:00 – 14:30 **Social and economic challenges and chances of migration to rural areas**  
Rural framework conditions for social and economic inclusion of migrants  
**Panel discussion:** MATILDE findings on social and economic impact
- 14:30 – 15:15 MATILDE Policy Recommendations
- 15:15 – 15:40 Coffee break
- 15:40 – 16:30 **Interculturality in practice:** Examples and findings of activating research
- 16:30 – 17:30 **Policy roundtable:** How can we achieve an inclusive Europe with inclusive and activating rural regions?
- 17:30 Evening reception of the City of Villach

MATILDE Final Conference – Spotlight on Austria  
11 November 2022 | Carinthia University of Applied Sciences  
Europastraße 4, 9524 Villach, Audimax

## THE FUTURE OF LIVING TOGETHER IN RURAL AREAS

- 08:00 – 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 – 09:30 Welcome and greetings
- 09:30 – 10:00 **Keynote:** Current trends in population development and consequences for rural regions in Austria and Europe
- 10:00 – 10:30 **Migration and the Impacts on inclusive Regional Development and Spatial Planning**
- 10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00 – 12:30 **Social and economic integration processes in Carinthia and Vorarlberg**  
Overview of migration-related developments in Carinthia and Vorarlberg  
Results from the Austrian case study regions
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch break
- 13:30 – 14:00 **Challenges of labour market integration and social coexistence - discussion and commentary on the case study results**
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Views from beyond on the Austrian case study results**  
**Panel discussion:** Coexistence in rural areas - what does it take and how can this be achieved?
- 15:30 End of the day

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**CONFERENCE**  
**REGISTRATION**

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