



promoter



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Municipality of Cenon
• France •

• CITIZENS, EQUALITY, RIGHTS AND VALUES PROGRAMME (CERV) •

101192725 CERV-2024-CITIZENS-TOWN-NT



NETWORK OF TOWNS 2025-2026

MEETING VI

Cenon (France)

11-14 June 2026

project summary

RurAll: Rural Alliance for Greater Democratic Participation

The RurAll project, co-funded by the CERV Program of the European Commission, brings together 13 partners from across Europe – Bulgaria, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Croatia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain. United by a shared commitment to revitalizing rural communities, the project focuses on democratic participation, cultural and economic development, and civic engagement.

Rural areas often face geographic isolation, limited access to resources, and a disconnect from broader political and economic landscapes. To address these challenges, RurAll seeks to strengthen democratic legitimacy, promote civic participation, and foster European values in rural territories.

Over the course of the project, six international meetings will take place in different European countries. These gatherings will provide a platform for participants to exchange knowledge, share best practices, and develop innovative solutions tailored to the needs of rural communities. Through discussions, workshops, and cultural experiences, the project will enhance understanding, build networks, and empower citizens to take an active role in shaping their communities.

The initiative also aims to combat misinformation, bridge the gap between urban and rural political engagement, and encourage youth participation. By working closely with local authorities, civil society organizations, and grassroots initiatives, RurAll will help build more inclusive, resilient, and participatory rural communities.

As a key outcome, handbooks will be created based on contributions from project partners, addressing the different challenges discussed at each meeting. These handbooks will serve as a collection of best practices and practical solutions to promote a rural for all (RurAll), ensuring that lessons learned and successful strategies can be shared and implemented across European rural territories.

The project's long-term vision includes empowering local leaders, creating sustainable materials, and developing strategies for continuous community engagement beyond the funding period. This ambitious initiative contributes to EU integration, intercultural dialogue, and democratic engagement, reinforcing the essential role of rural areas in the future of Europe.

greetings

I am very honored to welcome you to Cenon, and for it to be the closing city of this European RurAll project. It is a source of pride for our city to host so many European delegations at the same time. Europe needs, more than ever today, to build strong ties among all its democratic components.

Cenon is a city of 27,065 inhabitants belonging to the Bordeaux metropolitan area. Its history is intrinsically linked to the evolution of the city of Bordeaux. Until the 1960s, the municipality was divided between a lower part near the Garonne River, where a working-class population developed around the docks and shipyards, and an upper agricultural area with the presence of wine estates.

From the 1960s onward, urbanization accelerated and Cenon's population changed. It welcomed several successive waves of immigration, which gave it much of its diversity and intercultural character. Its working-class population grew, urbanization became denser, and it joined the urban community of Bordeaux at the end of the 1960s.

Today, the municipality remains attached to its agricultural past and its multiple origins. It has no fewer than 80 nationalities among its citizens and develops an ecological policy to preserve biodiversity and the long-term future of its natural spaces.

Supported by a dense local associative network across all fields, it accompanies social and economic transitions in an ever more constrained budgetary context. Looking toward the future and the international sphere, the municipality has developed numerous European partnerships and enabled the mobility of 1,173 professionals and students over the last three years through the Erasmus+ program. The RurAll program is therefore particularly meaningful to us, as it has managed to combine the exchange of practices and strengthen friendship among peoples.

I wish you an excellent stay with us, and may the bonds that have been created endure over time, so that they continue to make the heart of this democratic Europe beat.



Jean-François Egron,
Mayor of Cenon

PROGRAM



THURSDAY, 11TH OF JUNE

- 17:00** Arrival at the hotel
- 20:15** Meeting with the Cenon teams at the hotel and distribution of goodies
- 20:30** Dinner at the hotel restaurant IBIS BASTIDE BORDEAUX

FRIDAY, 12TH OF JUNE

- 07:30 - 08:15** Breakfast at the hotel
- 08:30** Departure from the hotel
- 09:30** Official reception at the Municipality of Cenon
Welcome speech by [Jean-François Egron](#), mayor of Cenon
Reply by [Carlos Oliveira](#), mayor of Vouzela
TOPIC - The Influence of Young People on the Future of Europe

Heritage

restoration: Visits to facilities in the town of Cenon:

- Estacade (sports facility)
- Swimming pool
- Utopia (cultural cinema facility)

Lunch: Restaurant in Cenon – Ze Rock

- 16:00** Presentation of Michelet School's European projects at rural level
- Headteacher: [Mr. Julien Delzon](#)
 - Project coordinator: [Mr. Mathieu Bonnamy](#)
- Understanding the political concerns of young people in rural areas

- 17:00** **Conference:**
The Influence of Young People on the Future of Europe Youth:
Speakers: [Sarah Begarin Rodière](#) and [Pierre Lefort](#)

Evening: Wine Festival – Cypressat

PROGRAM



SATURDAY, 13TH OF JUNE

- Breakfast at the hotel

08:30 Departure from the hotel

09:00 "Leadership and political participation for rural youth" Good practice presentations: each participating country presents a case study or successful initiative related to the workshop theme

Rocher de Palmer:

Introduction to the organisation and its young people

Dalinda and **Patrick Duval**

Lunch: Entre deux mers restaurant – Créon
Return to Bordeaux

Until 17:00 Free time at the hotel

17:00–19:00 Visit to Bordeaux and final evaluation of the meeting

Dinner: Restaurant in central Bordeaux – Bistrot Régent – Saint Rémi

Evening: Dance bar – Bal du Coq

SUNDAY, 14TH OF JUNE

- Check out
- Transfers to the airport
- Departure of the participants



We are delighted to welcome the various European delegations gathered in our city today. These exchanges between municipalities are a valuable opportunity to strengthen our cooperation, share our experiences, and work together on topics that are particularly important to our city: inclusion, diversity, citizen participation, and youth engagement.

Cenon is a French city with 27,014 inhabitants, more than half of whom live in priority neighborhoods. It is located on the right bank of the Garonne River and is one of the 28 municipalities that make up Bordeaux Métropole. It serves as a bridge between urban and rural environments.

As part of a national urban renewal project and labeled with the "3 flowers" distinction, the city aims to develop well-managed urban housing while maintaining social diversity, inclusivity, and a supportive living environment.

Cenon is also part of the Coteaux Park, a vast 400-hectare green corridor with forests and green spaces, serving as a biodiversity refuge. The city's parks cover 49 hectares, with 5 kilometers of pedestrian green paths. Every year, eight sheep graze in the Coteaux Park for six to seven months, helping to maintain the landscapes, create connections between humans and nature, and foster bonds with the residents.

Our city has also implemented an ambitious territorial food program that aims to support the ecological transition of public collective catering and food solidarity, ensuring access to healthy and sustainable food for all. Initiatives such as urban vegetable gardens in parks and the planting of urban orchards not only bring food production closer to residents but also help combat urban heat islands and climate change.

Understanding that territorial transformation in response to climate challenges must be systemic and integrated into all municipal policies, the city has structured its public policies around the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

For several years, we have also been developing a participatory democracy approach through the creation of resident assemblies, such as the Children's Municipal Council, the Ecological Transition Advisory Council, the Council of Elders, and the Association Life Council. We also organize public forums to facilitate dialogue among different groups. Projects are subject to consultation, and residents are actively involved in working groups. Additionally, we have a participatory budget that is put to a citizen vote.

With 82 nationalities represented in our city, international exchanges are essential to our municipality. Cenon has incorporated international relations into its public policies and aims to offer cooperation opportunities to its residents. For example, the city is leading an Erasmus+ program, allowing 400 students, teachers, and technical staff to travel and discover different European realities each year.

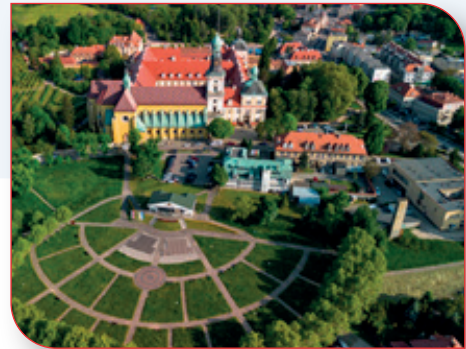
I invite you to continue discovering our city during these several days.



meetings



MEETING I – Santiago de Compostela & Lalín (Spain)
Introduction: Democratic Empowerment in Rural Communities



MEETING II – Trzebnica & Wrocław (Poland)
Strengthening Civil Society and Volunteering



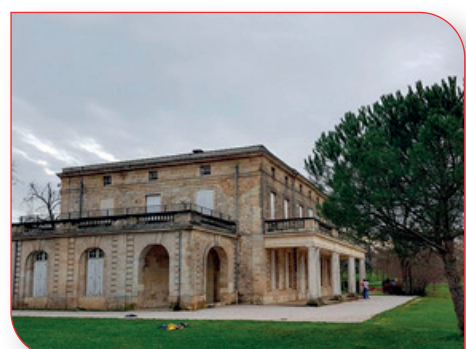
MEETING III – Vouzela (Portugal)
Digital Technologies for Rural Democratic Inclusion



MEETING IV – Kazár & Budapest (Hungary)
European Integration and Intercultural Dialogue



MEETING V – Krizevci & Zagreb (Croatia)
Connecting Rural Cultural Heritage and Democratic Participation



MEETING VI – Cenon & Bordeaux (France)
Promotion of Rural Youth in European Politics



Câmara Municipal de Vouzela
• Portugal •



Municipality of Cenon
• France •

EUROPA EN
MOVIMIENTO
FEDERACIÓN



Federación
"Europa en Movimiento"
• Spain •



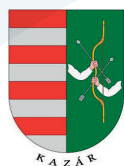
Lokalna Grupa
Działania Kocie Gory
• Poland •



Municipality of Krizevci
• Croatia •



Municipality of
Veliko Tarnovo
• Bulgaria •



Municipality of Kazár
• Hungary •



Municipality of Alexandroupolis
• Greece •



Associazione Le Coccinelle
• Italy •



Municipality of Bauska
• Latvia •



Municipality of Moletai
• Lithuania •



Municipality of Gzira
• Malta •



ZS Kalmana
Mikszathas s
VJM s Ms Vrbovk
• Slovakia •



Društvo za Razvijanje
Prostovoljnega
dela Novo Mesto
• Slovenia •