POLIRURAL

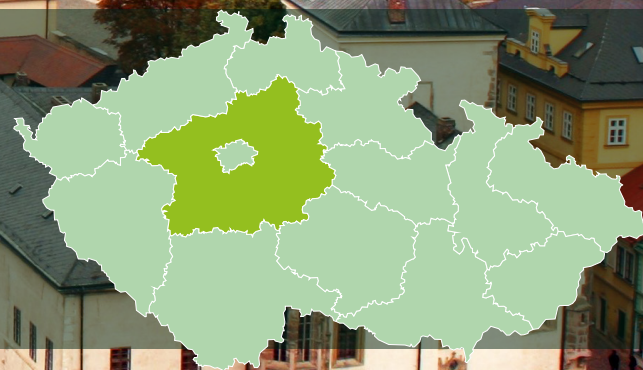**Central Bohemian Region**
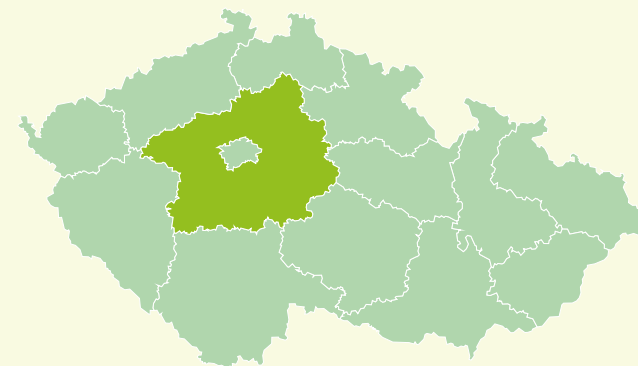Czech Republic

# Central Bohemian Region
## Czech Republic

The Czech pilot will be managed by NUVIT z.ú. (Partner), with support from Network of Local Action Groups (Associates), LAG Sedlčansko (Associates), Ministry of Regional Development (Associates), CCSS (Partner), Czech University of Life Sciences (Partner) and Czech-Moravian Association of Agricultural Entrepreneurs (Associates). Rural peripheral parts of the region are attractive places to live because of the beautiful landscape and relatively easy accessibility of the capital, but the generational renewal is coming along slowly across these areas and the whole region suffers by demographic decreasing.

Existing local, regional and national interventions focus mainly on promoting environmental protection, boosting business competitiveness and supporting infrastructure redevelopment, but there are no particular stimuli for rural newcomers. To ensure the sustainable development of rural areas that also minimizes intra-regional disparities, the pilot will seek to update existing strategies with a greater focus on the current rural population, new entrants and their needs.

The Central Bohemian Region is the biggest region of the Czech Republic (according to the dimension - 10 929 km²/ 14 % of the Czech Republic - and population - 1 377 000 inhabitants/12,86 % of the Czech Republic). The Central Bohemian Region has no natural center (as other regions), but for this region the natural center is the capital city.

The region is separated into two parts - the metropolitan and peripheral area (mostly rural). It is typical for the region a very specific settlement structure - even in the European context - with many small villages (1031 municipalities with less than 2000 inhabitants) related to many infrastructural challenges and issues.

The attractiveness of the region/well-being of the rural population, minimizing of intra-regional disparities, sustainable development of rural areas, and policy-making.

**(Vision statement)**

The overall ambition of the pilot is to support the sustainability and resilience of rural areas via using new modern technologies/methods, boost the attractivity of rural areas for current rural population and newcomers and make policy-making processes in these fields more effective with the ability to respond flexibly to current and new challenges and issues.

## Expected outputs:

e.g. a new service for young farmers, a new rural development program from the region.

- Missing information and data about the rural population and newcomers' needs will be shared with all stakeholders;
- Data sharing with local, regional and national policy-makers, regional (the Central Bohemian Region) authorities and municipalities (in cooperation with LAGs);
- Boosting collaboration and synergy among all rural stakeholders and policy-makers;
- Using new modern technologies/methods to handle defined challenges and issues;
- Implementing of findings to related policies/strategies on the local, regional and/or national level.

## Expected impact (qualitative):

Supporting of the sustainability and resilience of rural areas using new modern technologies/methods and boosting of the attractiveness of rural areas for current rural population and newcomers will be implemented as key topics in local, regional and/or national policies/strategies and funding programs.

New information and data, together with collaboration of all rural stakeholders, will led to well-being of rural population and newcomers.