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Lormes: Digital Market Town of the Future

A multi-stakeholder consultation process in a small market town in the Nièvre, to identify priorities for new digital services following the building of a FTTP network in 2014 - 2015. A pilot designed to pave the way for a significant expansion of the fibre network into rural with services appropriate to local needs

Issues Faced

Testing pilot methodology to develop appropriate services that use new public FTTH networks.

Benefiting from existing good broadband, a proactive policy to encourage incomers to the area & with it's digital hub: Fab Lab, Digital training unit & Smart Work Centre, Lormes was selected for piloting a public consultation process to co-develop ideas for new services

Key Objectives

Show how co-created digital services can prove the viability of new sustainable economic models for public investors and telecom operators by setting up an evaluation of the short and long term social and economic returns on investment.

Following on from this the aim is to identify the key learnings and refine the methodology for its application across the county

Main Results

The town's stakeholders identified 6 key service areas in the consulation process:

- 1. The Smart Work Town focused on the digital hub
- 2. An e-medical centre
- 3. A multi-functional public media and video/cinema centre
- 4. A mediatheque and study space
- 5. A distribution/collection hub for local consumers, farmers and food processors
- 6. e-Tools for tourism





Nièvre Numérique/Digital Nievre

Jean-Dimas Malot Nevers, France **33 6.81.81.67.35 jdmalot@ nievrenumerique.fr







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