

SOCIO-ECONOMIC REVITALISATION OF SPARSELY POPULATED AREAS THROUGH CLINICAL TELECARE



BACKGROUND:

Regions in south-west Europe are facing demographic aging and depopulation in rural areas. This leads to the disappearance of these areas.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the lack of healthcare access in these areas, especially for the elderly and dependent. Young people and professionals are leaving for cities due to a lack of economic opportunities.

IMPLICATIONS:

- The project will strengthen social cohesion and territorial balance by:
- improving health outcomes for rural populations.
 - creating new employment in tech and healthcare.
 - addressing depopulation and aging by establishing a new population with healthcare training.
 - preventing elderly people from migrating to urban areas for healthcare.
 - developing sustainable production systems based on tele-assistance and tele-rehabilitation.

REVITAL

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

- REVITAL aims to revitalise rural economic and social structures.
- It promotes employment by addressing social challenges through innovation.
- The project provides specialized healthcare and rehabilitation via tele-assistance.
- This will create qualified jobs and attract new residents to boost the local economy.
- Digital solutions will enhance existing healthcare infrastructure.

CONSORTIUM

Cluster SIVI, Universidad de Deusto, Gogoa, Gerencia de servicios sociales, Fundación San Cebrián, IPCB, AEBB, EPS Garazi, Estia.

RESULTS:

- The piloting of the REVITAL project is being carried out in Spain (Fundación San Cebrián), France (EPS Garazi and ESTIA), and Portugal (IPCB).
- In Spain, Fundación San Cebrián started the pilot in January 2025, with 5–25 volunteers from the Cerrato and Tierra de Campos area. Twenty applications have been received from patients with ALS, MS, stroke, Parkinson's, and other conditions. Technologies used include Vitalstim Plus, Fesia Walk, Pablo, Tyro, Mobi, and Rehametrics.
 - In France, the pilot started with EPS Garazi and ESTIA, with 42 people benefiting from the technology-based tele-rehabilitation.
 - In Portugal, IPCB implements the pilot project focusing on rural healthcare improvement through tele-assistance and tele-rehabilitation.

