

1. “Made By Us”

Many rural areas face structural barriers to small-scale entrepreneurship, particularly in food production. Regulatory complexity, high initial investment costs, and limited legal knowledge often prevent local producers from bringing their products to market. As a result, rural economies miss opportunities for added value, job creation, and diversification.

“Made By Us” establishes a shared, already certified community kitchen that enables 3–5 local producers to legally process and sell products such as honey, meat, or corn-based goods. The initiative requires close collaboration with the municipality, which provides access to the certified facility and acts as an intermediary with food safety authorities. Legal advisors or food safety experts deliver collective guidance sessions to reduce bureaucratic confusion, while local producers cooperate by sharing equipment and operating under a joint usage agreement. This partnership model lowers entry barriers, strengthens trust between citizens and public administration, and creates a practical framework for sustainable rural entrepreneurship.



Made By Us

2. “Future and Community Day”

Rural young people often lack exposure to diverse professional pathways and meaningful interaction with decision-makers. Weak connections between schools, local businesses, and public institutions can limit both career awareness and democratic participation, contributing to youth disengagement and migration.

“Future and Community Day” is a recurring initiative hosted in cooperation with local schools, municipal authorities, youth organisations, and local businesses. Teachers integrate the event into the educational calendar, while entrepreneurs, NGOs, and political representatives participate as speakers and mentors. The municipality supports coordination and visibility, ensuring that youth voices are also heard in local governance discussions. Through this multi-stakeholder collaboration, the initiative builds stronger links between education, employment, and civic participation, reinforcing young people’s role as active contributors to rural development.



Future and Community Day



3. Flexible Youth Cultural Initiative

Youth-led cultural activities in rural areas often depend on a small number of volunteers and lack stable organisational backing. Without shared responsibility or institutional support, burnout and discontinuity are common, weakening long-term youth engagement and community vibrancy.

This proposal introduces a flexible youth initiative built on collaboration between young volunteers, local NGOs, cultural associations, and the municipality. While maintaining an informal and accessible structure, the initiative benefits from light administrative support, access to public spaces, and small-scale logistical assistance from local authorities. Partnerships with community centres, local artists, and businesses further strengthen sustainability. By distributing tasks, recognising volunteers, and building alliances with existing local actors, the initiative ensures that rural cultural life remains consistent, inclusive, and resilient.



Flexible Youth Cultural Initiative

4. “Social House”

Digital inequality remains a significant barrier in many rural communities, limiting access to education, online services, and professional opportunities. Individual solutions are often costly and inefficient, particularly in sparsely populated areas.

“Social House” responds through a shared community hub developed in partnership with the municipality, local schools, civil society organisations, and potentially private internet providers. The municipality can provide a physical space and basic infrastructure, while volunteers or youth workers coordinate activities. Schools and training organisations may host workshops, and local associations contribute programming. Through this collaborative governance model, the Social House becomes more than a digital access point — it evolves into a multi-functional community space that promotes skills development, intergenerational exchange, and social cohesion.



Social House



5. “Over the Hill”

The Sierra de Gata region in Extremadura is increasingly affected by droughts, forest fires, biodiversity loss, and water pollution. These challenges are linked to the decline of extensive livestock farming, which traditionally helped maintain the landscape by naturally clearing vegetation and reducing wildfire risk. As grazing practices disappear, forests become denser and more vulnerable to fires, threatening ecosystems, local jobs, and the sustainability of rural livelihoods.

“Over the Hill” proposes the creation of a community-led agroforestry and fire prevention hub coordinated through a local cooperative and based in an existing theatre space used as a meeting and training centre. The initiative brings together shepherds, farmers, volunteer firefighters, youth, and local associations to revive extensive grazing, train “firefighting shepherds,” and promote agroforestry practices that reduce fire risk while restoring biodiversity. In collaboration with the municipality, environmental experts, and community networks, the project also supports local markets and a shared territorial brand for sustainable products, linking environmental protection with new economic opportunities for the region.



Over the Hill

