

## Rural communities build a gigabit-speed broadband network in Hamminkeln, Germany

The 230 households, farms and small businesses spread out over 44 square kilometres in the remote municipality of Hamminkeln, in the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia, felt a great need for high-speed connectivity in order to continue to live and work in the area. The low population density, however, meant that there was no commercial interest from private telecom companies. As a result, the area's four local communities decided to build their own gigabit-speed fibre network themselves, in partnership with a local utility company.



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The communities organised the demand aggregation and undertook the civil engineering work themselves, using their own machinery and voluntary labour. They completed the roll-out of the infrastructure over 110 kilometres of transmission routes in under 12 months, following the Loikumer Glasfaser Modell. The end users invested 253,000 euros in total, with a further 655,000 euros invested by the local utility company, Stadtwerke Rhede, who then provided the service over the dark fibre network.

This project was a finalist in the 2019 European Broadband Awards. Read more about this and other award-winning projects in the brochure *Broadband Good Practices from the 2019 European Broadband Awards*, as well as in the project's factsheet in the European Commission database of good practices in broadband projects.

This video is part of the European Broadband Competence Offices (BCO) Network's programme promoting awareness of good practices in broadband projects as well as EU broadband funding and policy. The programme includes a series of videos, articles and publications accessible through the BCO Network portal.

## Find out more

- The status of connectivity in your area: the European Broadband Mapping Portal
- Who to contact about broadband deployment in your Member State or region: BCO Network Directory
- Information on EU funding for broadband
- Information on technical assistance for broadband
- European Commission vision and policy relating to broadband
- Factsheets on broadband in Member States
- Factsheets on further broadband projects demonstrating good practices
- 2019's European Broadband Award-winning projects

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