

**Regional Workshop on
integrated community
development**

Budapest, Hungary

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**Региональный семинар по
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**The EU Perspective to Local Rural
Development**



REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
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DEVELOPMENT**



LEADER Approach within Rural Development

❖ Acronym “LEADER”:

- French phrase “Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l’Economy Rurale” – “Links between activities for the development of rural economy”

❖ Idea:

- To engage people and local organizations as development actors to contribute to the future development of their rural areas

❖ Actors:

- Local Action Groups (LAGs)



LEADER – CLLD (Community-Led Local Development)

❖ LEADER - Brief History

- First introduced as a Community Initiative – experimental phase 1991-1993 – LEADER I, 200 LAGs
- 1994-1999: LEADER II, 900 LAGs
- 2000-2006: LEADER +, 1200 LAGs
- 2007-2013: LEADER mainstreamed in RDPs, 2300 LAGs
- 2014-2020: LEADER mandatory component of all RDPs; 2600 LAGs; extended to CLLD – multiple funds
- post-2020: CLLD, co-financing rate (EU): 80%



LEADER - 7 FEATURES

- 1) Bottom-up approach
 - Local actors/communities define needs, expectations and plans
 - Decide about local strategy, selection of priorities and projects
 - Active participation throughout the process
- 2) Area-based approach
 - Area must have clearly defined geographic borders
 - Population criteria: between 10,000 and 150,000 inhabitants



LEADER - 7 FEATURES

- 3) Local Partnership
 - The Local Action Group comprises partners from the public, private and civil society
 - The LAG represents local interests and the different socio-economic sectors in the area
 - On decision-making level no sector can represent more than 49% of the membership
- 4) An Integrated and Multi-Sectoral Strategy
 - Actions and projects address the needs and opportunities of the area to achieve desired common goals.
 - Focus on integrated approach – different sectors involved



LEADER - 7 FEATURES

- 5) Networking
 - LAG: a network of local partners
 - Local, national and international networks linking rural people, places and actions
 - Networking: disseminating and sharing knowledge, experience, building capacities
- 6) Innovation
 - Searching for innovative solutions to local problems
 - LAGs should aim to bring new elements and solutions to the development of its territory
- 7) Cooperation
 - Inter-territorial and international cooperation as a wider dimension to local development
 - Source of knowledge transfer; insights from other areas; importing/exporting successful approaches and good practices



LEADER – GERMANY AS AN EXAMPLE

- LEADER implemented since the very beginning in 1991
- Current programming period 2014-2020:
 - 321 LEADER regions
 - They cover 2/3 of the total area of Germany
 - EAFRD contribution: EUR 1,3 billion
 - Total public contribution: EUR 1,7 billion
 - In some Rural Development Programmes, Measure “Basic services” is entirely implemented via LEADER – people “on the spot” decide!
 - MSs are obliged to reserve minimum 5% of RDP budget for LEADER



LEADER – A SUCCESS STORY ?

❖ Yes, where we have:

- Fair cooperation between private and public partners of LAGs
- Regions actively supporting LAGs in their plans; decisions are taken independently and in favour of the rural communities
- A well-functioning LAG management
- Actors regularly trained
- Willingness to exchange experiences and to be open to new ideas
- Well-working networks
- Sufficient funding



LEADER – OBSTACLES

- Bureaucracy
- “Gold plating” – too many additional national rules
- Insufficient co-financing



LEADER IN THE NEXT PROGRAMMING PERIOD

❖ The future CAP's 3 general objectives:

- Economic viability, resilience and income of farms
- Enhanced environmental and climate performance
- **Strengthened socio-economic fabric of rural areas**
 - a clear obligation for LEADER to be continued
 - minimum 5% of RDP budget in each RDP



LEADER IN THE NEXT PROGRAMMING PERIOD

❖ Under the cooperation measure:

- CLLD can be funded by EAFRD, ERDF, ESF and EMFF
- In this case a LEAD FUND will be determined
- Freedom for Member States to define their own rules
- Limits reg. total population less rigid
- LEADER is only successful if people WORK TOGETHER



**Thank you
for your attention**

