



European Leader Association
for Rural Development
Brussels, www.elard.eu

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ELARD LEADER/CLLD seminar LINC conference 12.09.2019



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Agenda

ELARD survey on added value of the European Regional Development Fund and Social fund – Kristiina Tammets, Vice President of ELARD

LEADER and CLLD post-2020 - Opportunities and pitfalls of multi-funding – Karolina Jasinska-Mühleck, European Commission, DG Agri

Main standpoints and conclusions of the European Committee of Regions Opinion “CoR's contribution to the renewed Territorial Agenda, with special emphasis on Community-Led Local Development” – Radim Sršeň, European Committee of Regions

Austria's experience in applying the LEADER-method with the support of the Regional Development Fund and Social Fund – Michael Hohenwarter, Regional Management East Tyrol.



Agenda

Panel discussion “Future of LEADER/CLLD – challenges and opportunities”

Karolina Jasinska-Mühleck, DG Agri

Radim Sršeň, European Committee of Regions

Michael Hohenwarter, Regional Management East Tyrol

Valdek Haugas, Estonian LEADER Union

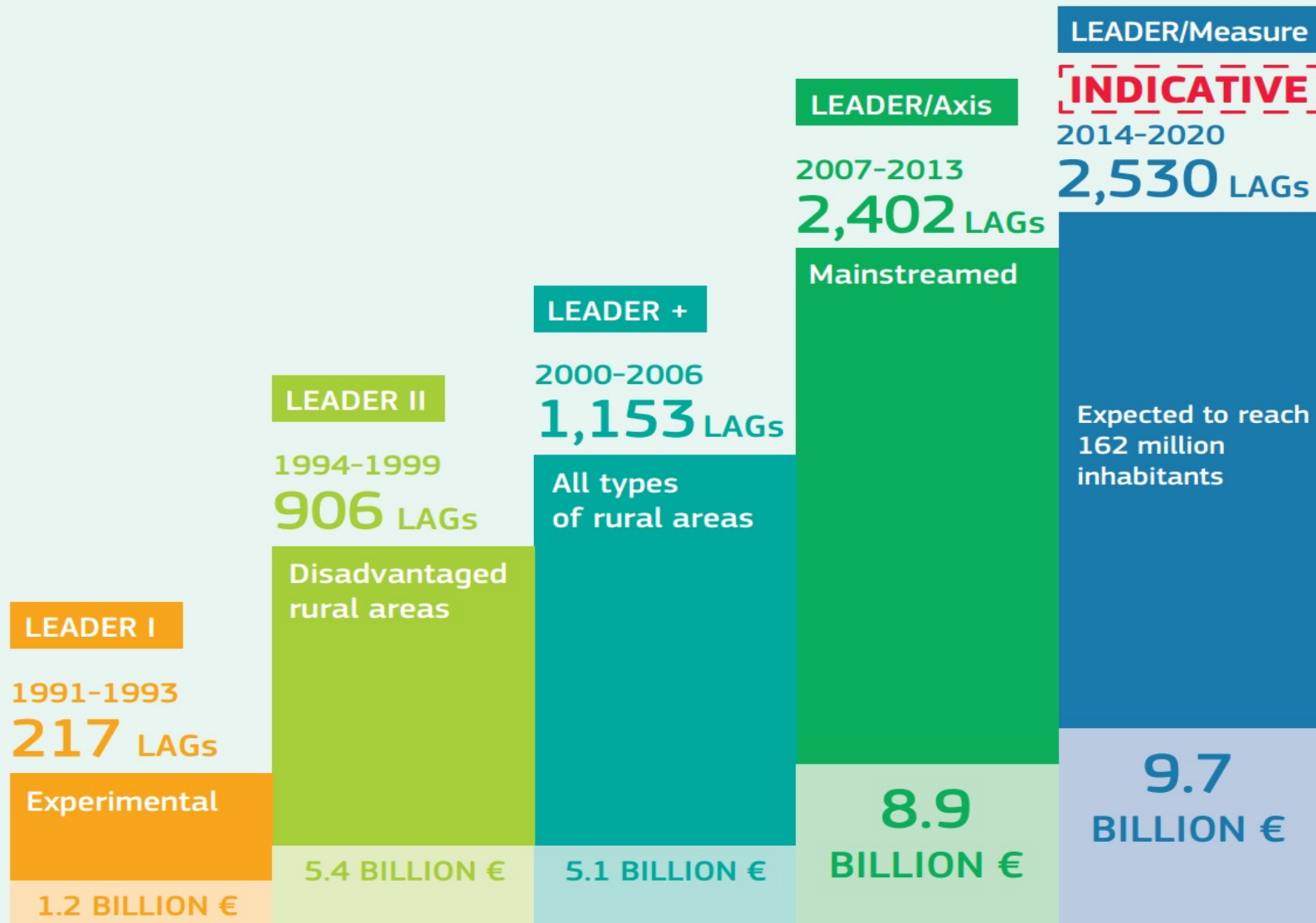
Mikk Pikk mets, Pärnu Bay Partnership

Triin Raag, Ministry of Social Affairs

Taavi Kurvits, Ministry of Rural Affairs



LEADER evolution

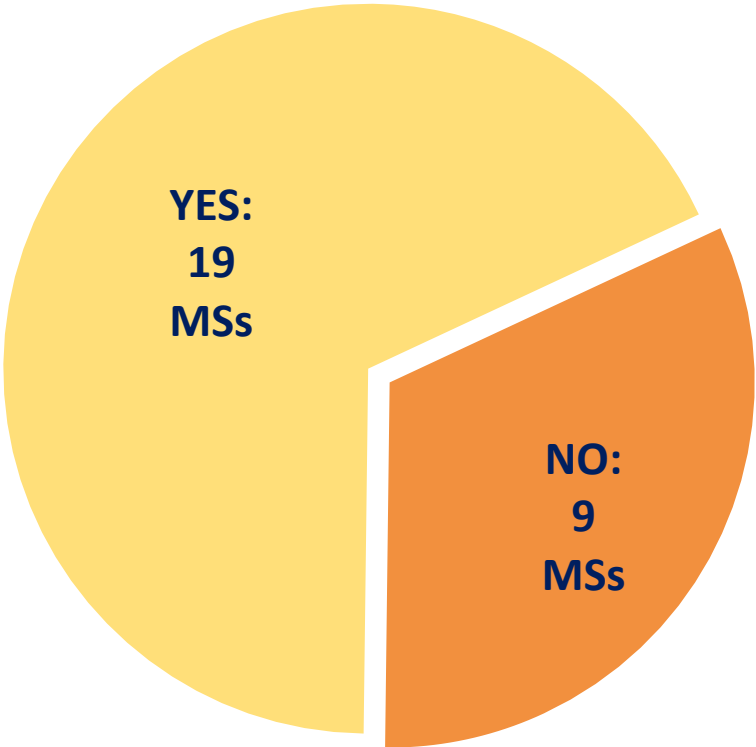


Source: DG AGRI 2014-2020 Provisional budget data

LEADER method



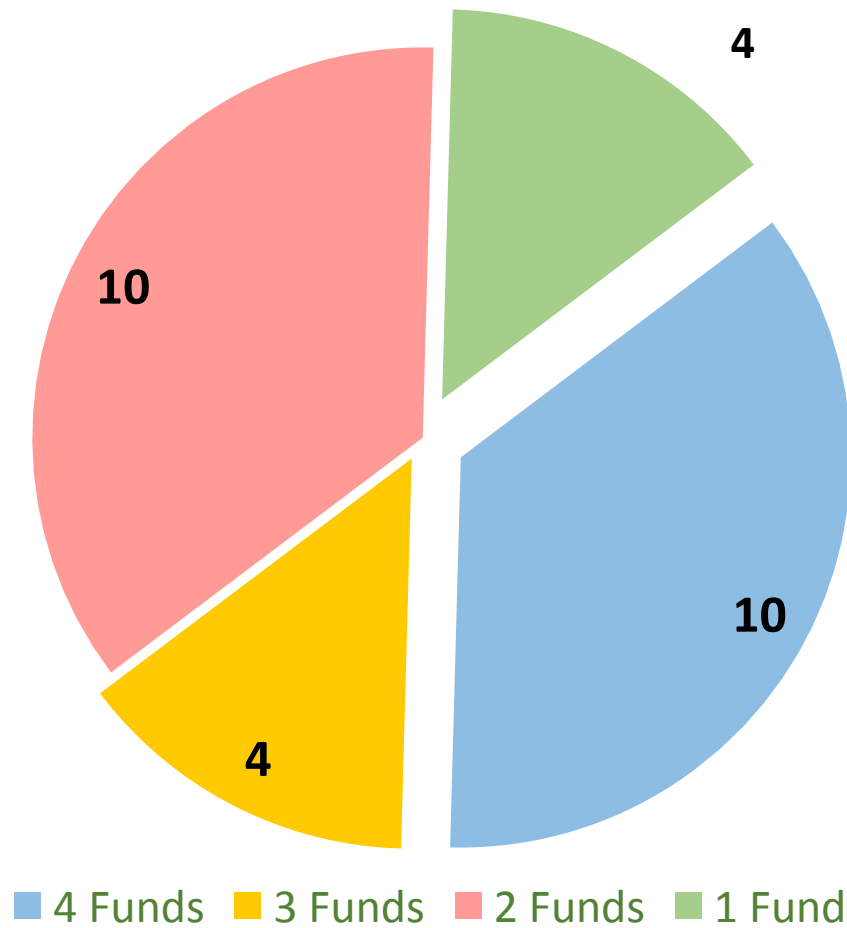
MS planning to support multi-funded strategies



Multifunding:	MS
ALLOWED	AT, BG, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GR, HU IT, LT, LV, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK and UK
NOT ALLOWED	BE, CY, EE, HR, IE, LU, MT NL and RO

Source: ENRD CP - Screening of 28 approved Partnership Agreements and sample of 26 RDPs

ESI Funds used to support LEADER/CLLD



Category	MS	
	Multi-fund	Mono-fund
EAFRD, ERDF, ESF & EMFF	BG, DE, ES, FR, GR, IT, PL, PT, SE, UK	
EAFRD, ERDF & ESF	CZ, HU	
EAFRD, ERDF & EMFF	SI	
EAFRD, EMFF & ESF	LT	
EAFRD & EMFF	CY, DK, FI, LV	EE, HR, IE, RO
EAFRD & ERDF	AT, SK	
Only EAFRD		BE, LU, NL, MT

Source: ENRD CP - Screening of 28 approved Partnership Agreements and 26 sample RDPs



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Best Practice in CLLD using ERDF and ESF

As part of the ROAD-project within the European Rural
Parliament (ERP), within the theme:
“LEADER/CLLD for citizens and for the European Union”



Project within the European Rural Parliament

This Survey was conducted by ELARD, within the theme “**LEADER/CLLD for citizens and for the European Union**” as a part of the ROAD-project within the European Rural Parliament (ERP).

The purpose of the ***theme*** is:

- To identify case studies in the Member States to demonstrate the added value of usage of ESF and ERDF via LEADER approach;
- To identify case studies and implementation models in the Member States to show the contribution of LEADER/CLLD to good governance, social innovation, smart villages, capacity building, innovation practice, etc. on local level;
- To identify and promote good practice related to Simplified Cost Option models usages in Member States;
- To conclude and declare suggestions to how LEADER/CLLD can strengthen the connection between European Union and citizens at local level via integrated local development and well managed usage of different ESI Funds.



The method

The Survey was sent out to all ELARD-members, asking them to share their good-practices within the ERDF and ESF.

Total of:

- 15 good-practice in ERDF
- 13 good practice in ESF

Answers from:

- Austria, Tirol
- Poland
- Croatia
- Sweden

- Czech Republic and Portugal are still to fill us in...



In our best projects funded by ERDF:

- The main theme is **business development**, which is either measured through newly started businesses or increased turnover

Business development is mainly achieved through:

- **building cooperation networks** – which is the case in almost all ERDF-project best practices. This is also stated as the LEADER-added value, which promotes good governance
- **capacity building**
- activities for **good governance** on local level
- integrating already known **innovation practice** into the own areas



In our best projects funded by ERDF:

- The cost for the projects is very small taking into consideration the **benefits that are realized** through the projects
- The projects seem to be **sustainable** over time, since the **local actors are the project owners**, who will manage the result.
- Other reoccurring themes were:
 - **Climate change**, adapting to/mitigation (Kaunergrat integration, Photovoltaics plant at company Grisseemann, mobility contact person)
 - **Sport, health and outdoor-activity** (Alpine sports center Wipptal, Fjällbacka activity center, Destination Söderåsen)
 - **Creating urban-rural linkages** like Falkenberg fooddays
 - **Local production and marketing**, for example market hall and Falkenberg fooddays



In our best projects funded by ESF:

- The main theme is **integration into work** for people that are not on the working market

This is mainly achieved through:

- Providing the target group with an **enlarged local network**. This helps the target individuals to learn new skills and find potential employers. **Networking is a specific LEADER-feature. This networking takes place in all good-practice projects funded by ESF.**
- **Capacity building for the target group**, e.g. language training, on-the-job training, but also training for new skills



Some conclusions:

- Our LAGs have very well understood what the purpose of the ERDF and ESF is, since the good practice that are being provided from LAGs themselves are well **fitted to the overall objectives of the funds**.
- There is a different, individual based logic for the ESF than for the other funds. Also, the **target groups** are new for the LAGs. Therefore, one main conclusion is that working with the ESF, there is a need for **sufficient resources and funding** in order for the LAG to get some kind of critical mass of initiatives and through this, really build their knowledge on how to work with the new themes. This is especially interesting when comparing the Polish urban LAG with the Swedish small ESF-initiatives in the LAGs.



Some conclusions:

The main features of the LEADER-approach that was seen as crucial for the success were several:

- **Networking:** in all projects from both funds, this was the main success factor of the projects
- **Multisectoral and integrated approach** help businesses grow and make integration possible and were also seen in all good practices
- **LAGs making the right decisions** through the right competences
- **The local development strategies are bridging the local needs** the overall **EU 2020 strategy** and the concrete aims of each fund



Next steps:

- Conclude a comprehensive report including nice good practice – examples
- Making the survey on SCO
- Compiling the material into a report
- Presenting the result on European Rural Parliament gathering in November

Thank you!

For further questions:

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