



European Network for
Rural Development

Transnational Cooperation Conference “Networking Works!”

The importance and added value of LEADER/CLLD
Cooperation for Rural Europe & State of Play of
LEADER/CLLD Cooperation in the EU

Peter Toth, ENRD Contact Point

Vilnius, Lithuania – 14 September 2017

Funded by the



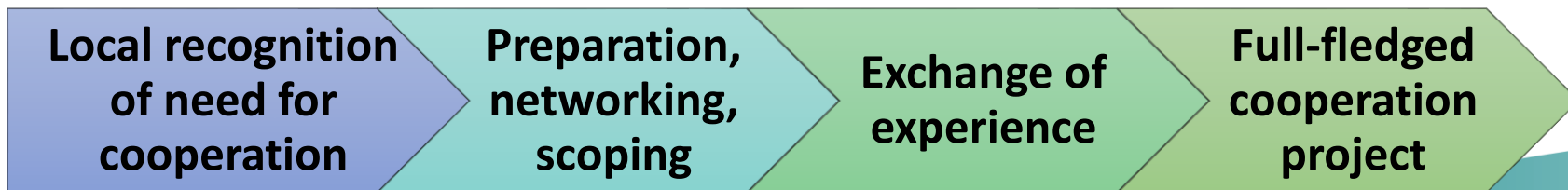
Topics

- The added value of cooperation
- State of play in LEADER/CLLD
- ENRD Tools and support
- The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape`
- ENRD support to LEADER/CLLD – next steps

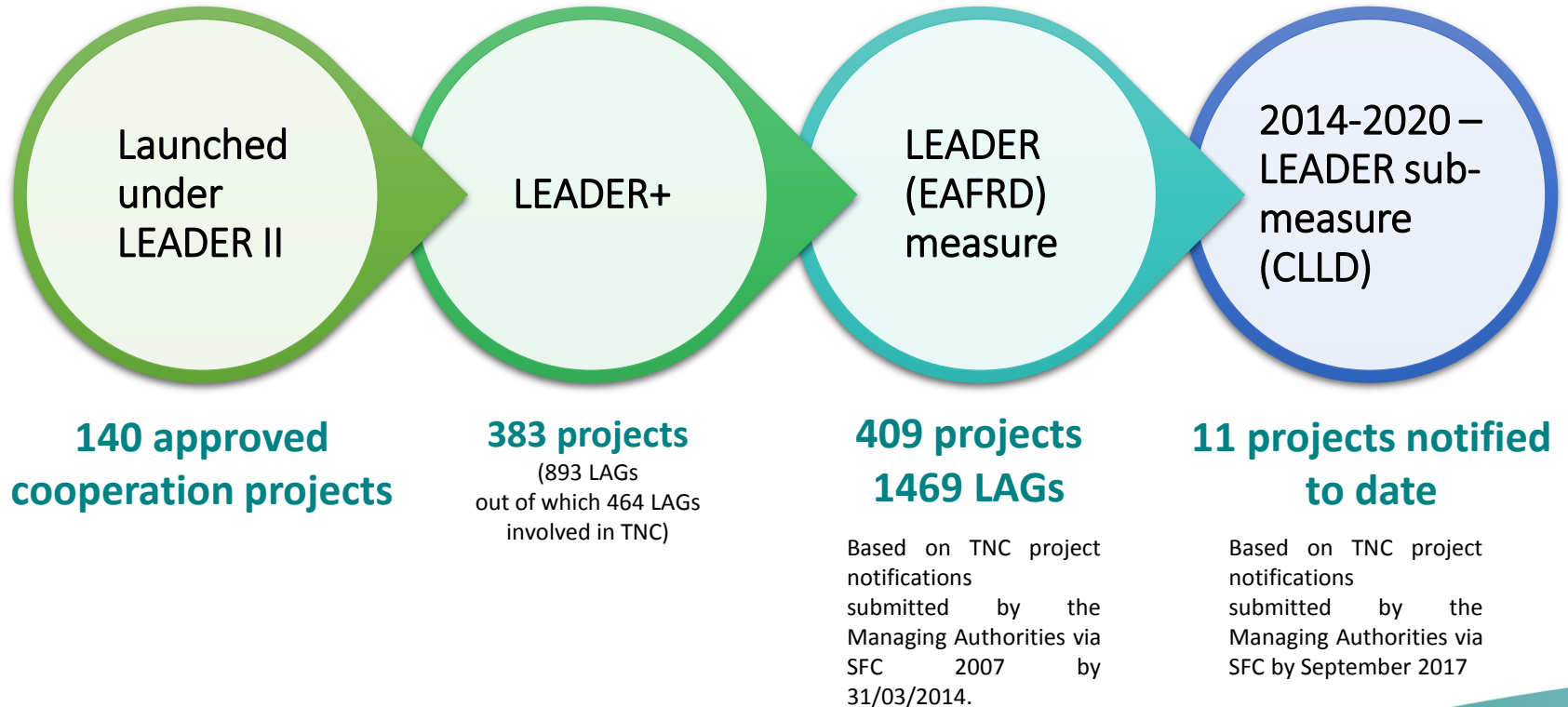
The added value of cooperation

Cooperation can

- Broaden local views...
- Bring new knowledge to local stakeholders...
- Enhance innovation in the local area...
- Introduce new work practices and methods to local action groups...
- Strengthen local partnerships...
- Help the LAG achieve what it could not achieve alone...
- Strengthen EU identity...

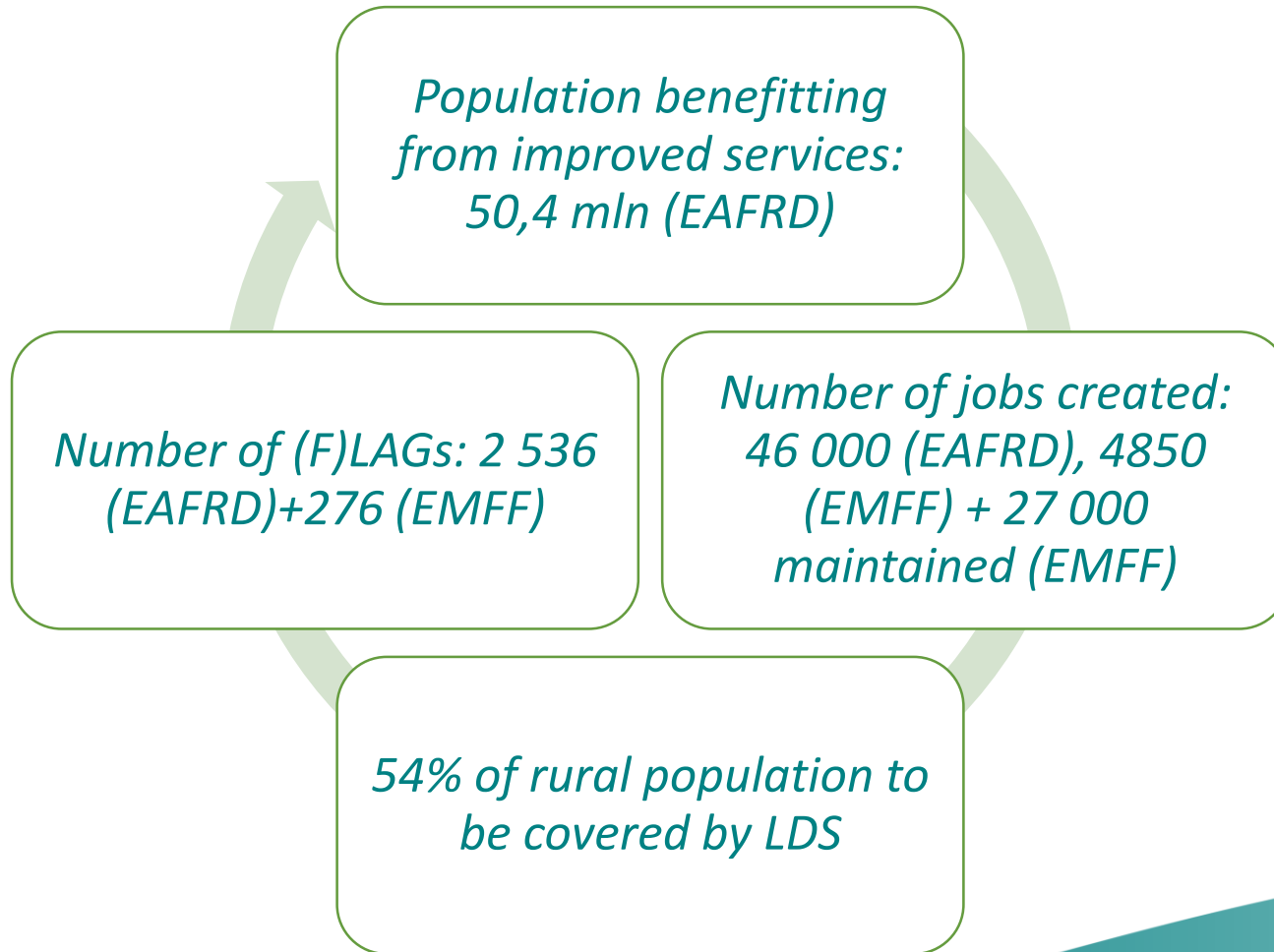


LEADER cooperation – a short history



State of play in LEADER/CLLD

EU objectives*



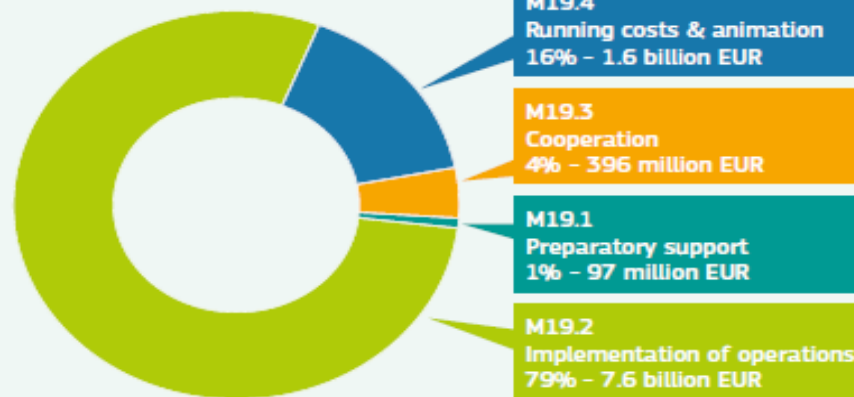
*based on information from DG AGRI

Indicative budget allocation*



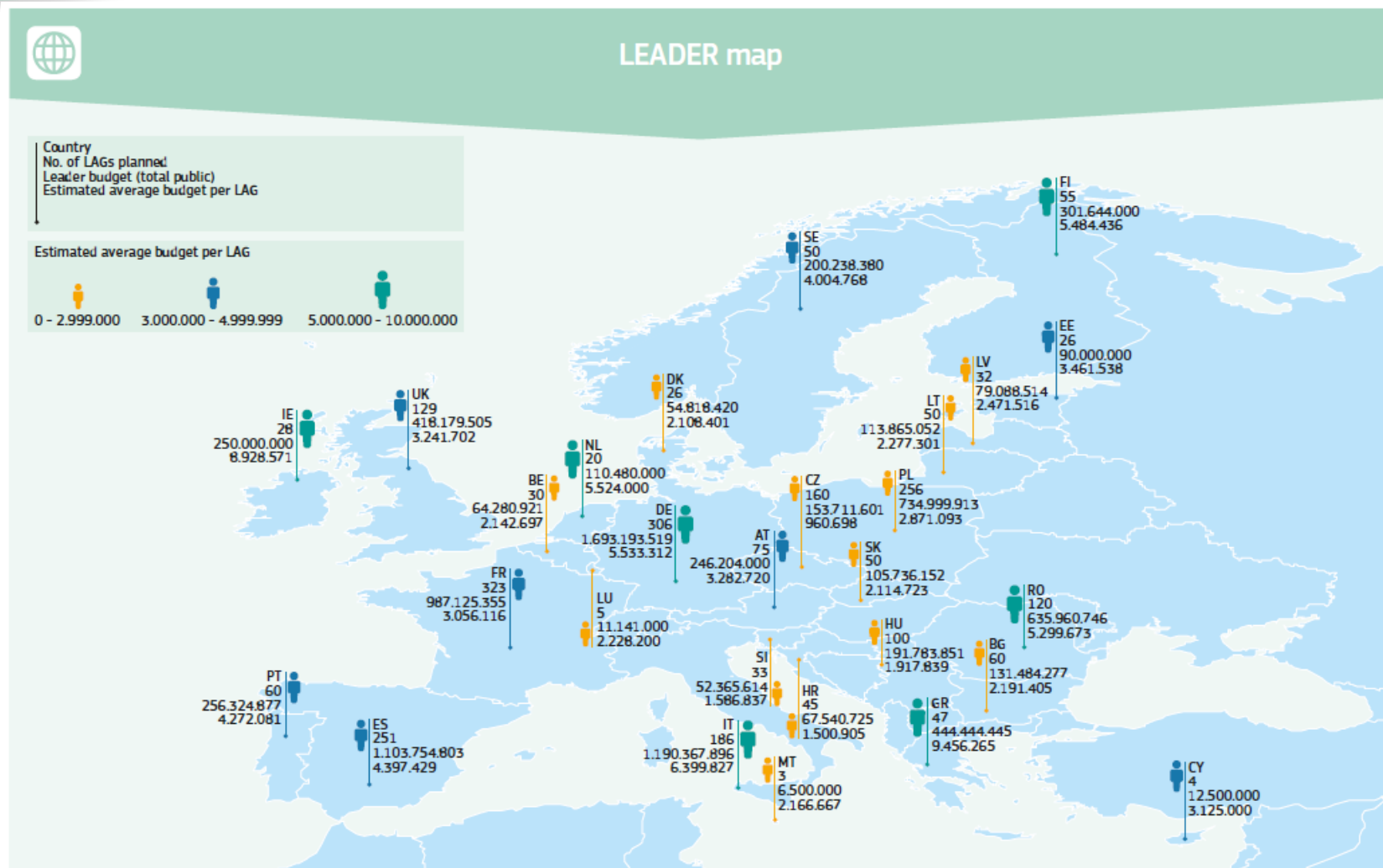
2014-2020 Indicative allocation of budget for LEADER – Breakdown by sub-measure

9.8 Billion EUR
LEADER budget



*based on information from DG AGRI

Local Action Groups*



*based on information from DG AGRI

The current situation*

CLLD in RDPs

- CLLD in 108 RDPs, 20 EMFF OP, 32 ERDF OP, 25 ESF OPs (15 ERDF/ESF OPs)

Uptake of multi-funding (EAFRD perspective)

- Mixed uptake of multifunded CLLD (EAFRD perspective): 2 DE regions, 3 IT, 2 UK, 0 ES, 3 FR (2 with ITIs); 0 FI (cooperation between Funds); HU ERDF/ESF; RO ERDF/ESF

LAG selection

- N° of LAGs selected: LEADER monofund: > 1989; EMFF monofund: 174; multifunded (any funds): >277

*based on information from DG AGRI

TNC projects*

(notified on SFC by September 2017)

11 projects notified on SFC (to date)

2.375 m Euro = the total cost of all TNC projects notified

Participating countries (no of projects): EE (7), FI (4), DE_Bavaria (3), AT (3), LV (2), PT (2), SI (1), CZ (1), ES (1)

Key themes: Culture and cultural heritage, tourism, natural environment and resources/landscape, public services, knowledge transfer

*based on information from DG AGRI

ENRD Tools and support

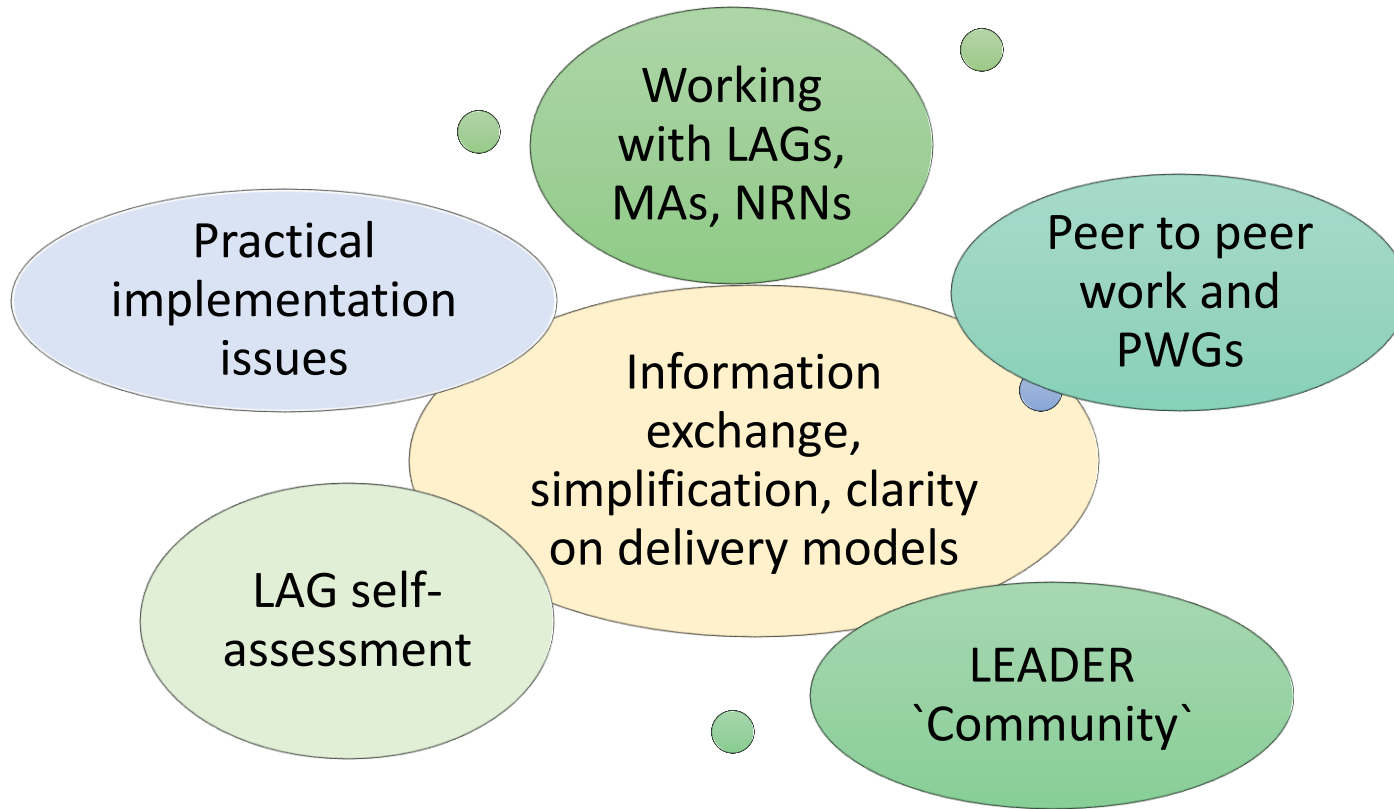
Focus on and influences from...

CORK 2.0 DECLARATION

SMART VILLAGES INITIATIVE

BUDGET FOCUSED ON

RESULTS



SIMPLIFICATION

HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON

THE `Båstad `Agenda`:

strengthen bottom-up, improve delivery systems, allow innovation and local decisions

ENRD Tools and support

Practitioner-led
Working Groups

Publication of
relevant
guidance,
documents

**Simpler and
more
effective
LEADER /
CLLD**

Cooperation fact
sheets and
„cooperation
landscape”

Capacity
Building
Workshops

Local Action
Group
database



**Strengthening
the LEADER
community
of practice**

Information and
analysis

Internal and
external events

LEADER
cooperation
offers

ENRD Tools and support

Cooperation fact sheets

- Data from 17 national RDPs & 41 regional RDPs
- 57 pilot fact sheets prepared
- 31 fact sheets validated and online
- The “LEADER cooperation landscape” published

LAG database

- New version online
- Data for 20 EU MSs now available
- Basic data for 1843 LAGs now available
- Updates are continuous
- Advanced version to be introduced within 2017

LEADER Cooperation offers

- Continuous updates
- Currently >60 offers on ENRD website
- Partner search offers from AT, BE, HR, FI, FR, EL, IT, LV, LT, EL, PL, PT, SI, ES, UK

The LEADER Practitioner-LED Working Groups

- Working in the delivery chain, user focused, facilitating tools
- Cooperation, common templates, definitions, criteria and tools
- Innovation low in practice but high demand
- Innovating in the LAG, innovating by the LAG, innovating through the LAG
- Exchange experience, common understanding and approaches
- ‘New’ enabling roles, innovation brokers, TNC coordinators etc
- Prioritisation of Compliance – Bureaucratic burden - Ease the pressure, implement the method
- Work smarter

The LEADER Practitioner-LED Working Groups (PWGs)

LEADER Cooperation PWG

(46 members, 20 EU MSs)

To facilitate `better transnational cooperation`

10+ themes → updated DG AGRI Guide now available

`PWG` Workshop (June 2017) – key issues and next steps agreed

LEADER Innovation PWG

(44 members, 19 EU MSs)

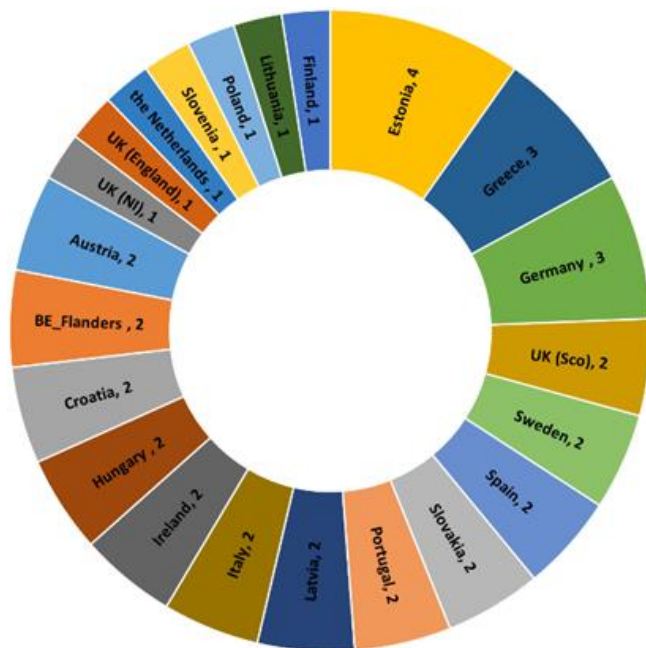
To strengthen LEADER`s contribution to promoting and achieving rural innovation

Themes: Innovating in the LAG.
Enabling delivery chain.
Fostering local innovation.
Strengthening connections.

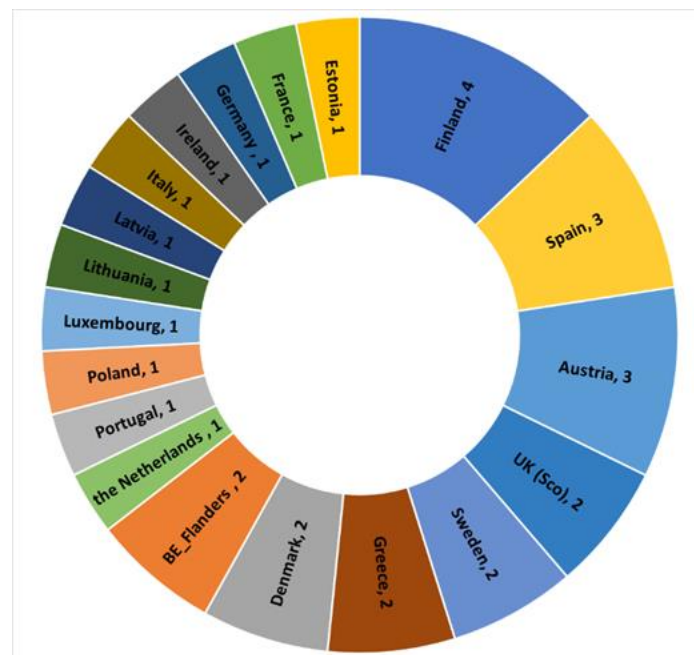
`PWG` Workshop (June 2017) - key issues and next steps agreed

The LEADER Practitioner-LED Working Groups (PWGs) - membership

Cooperation PWG



Innovation PWG



The LEADER Practitioner-LED Working Groups (PWGs) – next steps

**Profit / income
generating TNC
projects**

**Common period
of calls for TNC**

**Evaluation of TNC
projects**

**Critical points –
innovation in the
delivery chain**

**Innovating in the
LAG**

Issue specifications - drafts developed

online discussion of issue specifications

development of fact sheets

publication of fact sheets on ENRD website

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape`



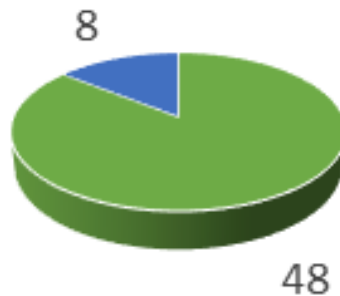
Data from 56 RDP authorities (regional and national)

31 RDP authorities `validated` their data

New entries welcome!

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - TNC themes

Cooperation theme specified in RDP
(or other official document)



■ no thematic restriction ■ themes specified

SOME EXAMPLES

- **Ireland:** Economic Development, Enterprise Development and Job Creation; Social Inclusion; Rural Environment
- **Poland:** social capital; local products and services; local heritage preservation; construction or reconstruction of public and non-commercial tourism, recreational or cultural infrastructure; promotion of the local development strategy area; creating conditions for the development of local entrepreneurship.

Survey question: Does the RDP (or other relevant official document) specify a list of possible cooperation themes?

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - eligibility criteria for TNC

SOME EXAMPLES

Common actions specified in application (Latvia)

At least two partners (Latvia)

Cooperation agreement (Germany – Thuringen),
Sweden)

Co-funding secured (Austria)

Cooperation project duration max. 3 years (Estonia)

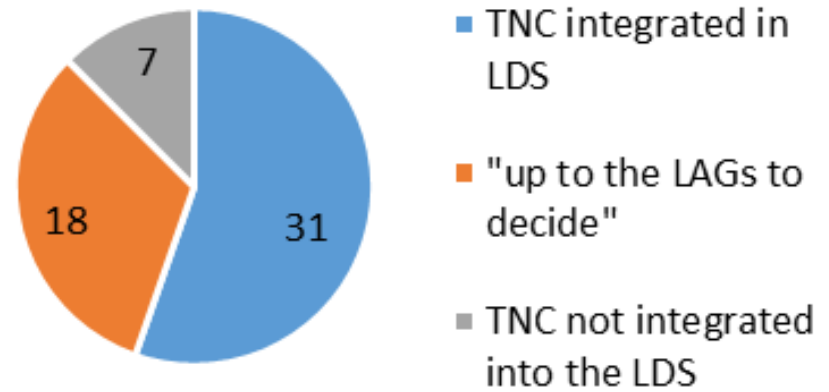
Survey question: *If the RDP (or other relevant official document) specifies the eligibility criteria for trans-national cooperation projects, please describe these briefly .*

The LEADER Cooperation 'Landscape' - integration into the LDS

SOME EXAMPLES

- **TNC not integrated into the LDS:** Latvia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania

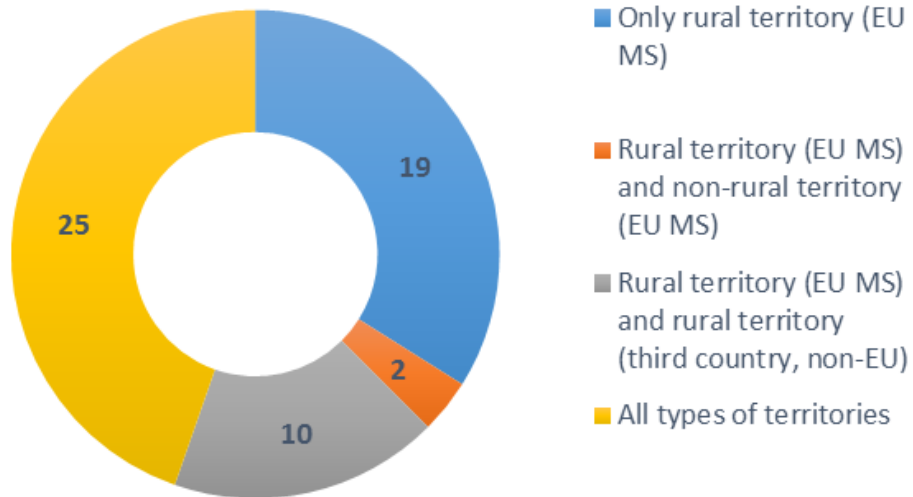
TNC integration into the LDS



Survey question: Is transnational cooperation an integrated part of LDSs?

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - territorial eligibility

Type of territory eligible for TNC



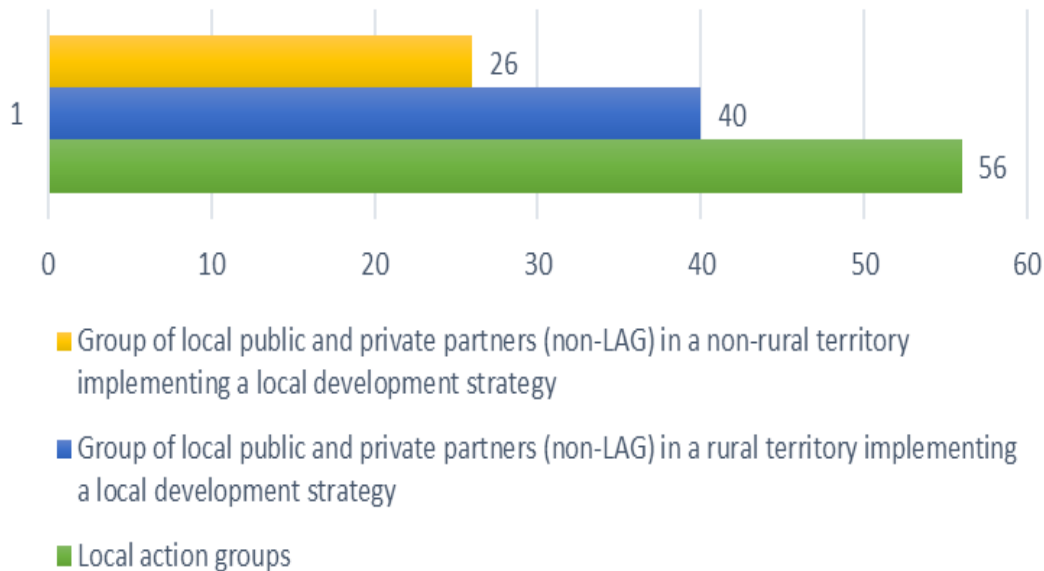
SOME EXAMPLES

- **All types of territories:** e.g. Ireland, Slovenia, Portugal (mainland)
- **Only rural territory (EU):** e.g. Poland, Romania, Luxembourg

Survey question: Please select the appropriate option(s) regarding the type of territory eligible for transnational cooperation.

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - eligible partners

Types of eligible partners for TNC



Some examples

E.g.: Finland, Sweden,
Cyprus, Czech Republic,
Ireland, Romania

E.g.: Finland, Sweden,
Estonia, Austria, Ireland,
Latvia

Survey question: Please select the appropriate option(s) regarding the types of eligible partners for transnational cooperation

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - calls for projects

Calls for projects



- The Managing Authority publishes calls for cooperation projects
- The Managing Authority does not publish calls for cooperation projects
- No response

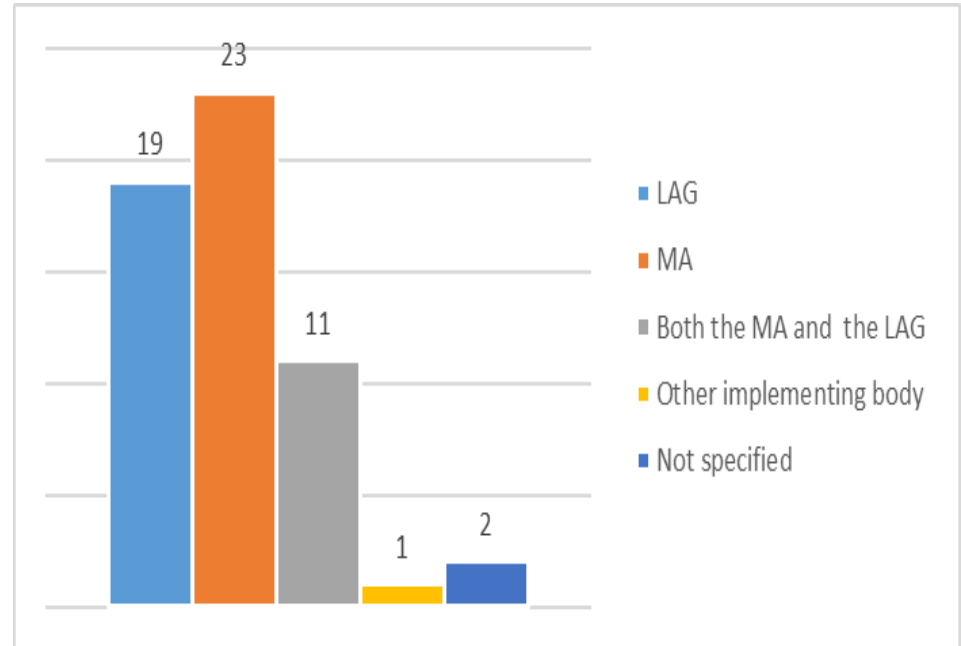
- Calls are published by the Managing Authority, e.g., in Portugal, Slovenia, Romania, Ireland, Latvia, etc.
- For all RDPs in the `TNC Landscape` calls are already open.

Survey question: Does the Managing Authority publish calls for cooperation projects?

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - selection of projects

SOME EXAMPLES

- **Selection by the MA:** Austria, Romania, Latvia, Poland
- **Selection by LAGs:** Finland, Estonia, Sweden
- **Both have a role:** Cyprus, Ireland, Slovakia



*Survey question: Who selects the following types of actions?
(Transnational cooperation projects)*

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - aid intensity

- Typically between 75-100% for TNC projects

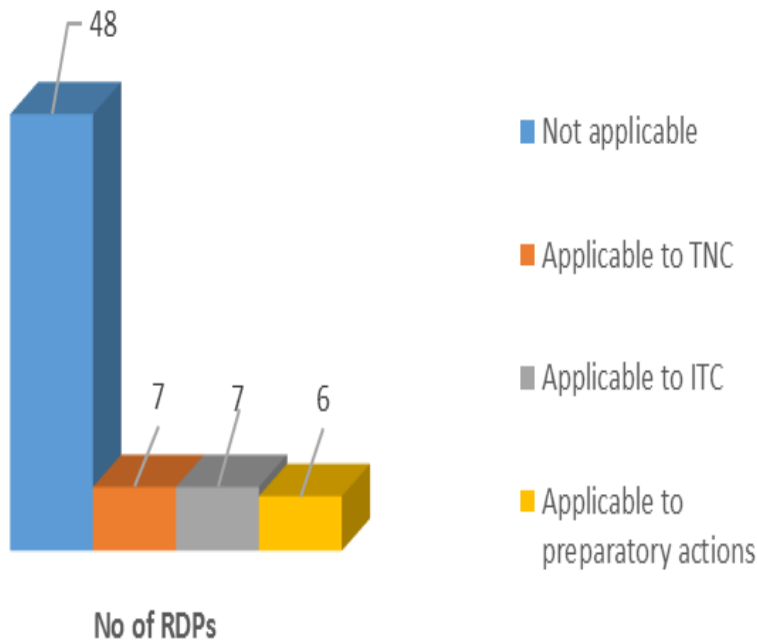
SOME EXAMPLES

- **100%:** Finland, Greece, Latvia
- **90%:** Ireland, Belgium (Wallonia)
- **85%:** Slovenia
- **80%:** Italy (Emilia Romagna)
- **75%:** UK (Northern Ireland)

Survey question: What is the maximum rate of public support (EAFRD + national/regional contribution) for the following types of actions? (in % of total eligible expenditure) - transnational cooperation projects

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - SCO

Applicability of SCO



Applicable for TNC

- **Estonia** (for project management – up to 15% of direct personal costs)
- **UK-Wales** (staff costs and overheads)
- **Other countries, e.g. Sweden, Finland**

Survey question: Are simplified cost options applicable to the following? - Applicable to trans-national cooperation

The LEADER Cooperation `Landscape` - actions or costs **not** eligible

SOME EXAMPLES

- Contributions in kind (LU)
- Umbrella/small grant schemes (UK-Northern Ireland)
- General administration costs, VAT, interest on debts, used equipment, subscriptions to periodicals, studies and analyses not directly related to project activities (Slovenia)
- Purchase of transport vehicles, remuneration of project coordinators if it exceeds limits set in national regulation (PL)

Survey question: *Has a list of non-eligible costs been defined in the RDP (or other relevant official document) and made public in relation to the following types of actions? - trans-national cooperation projects*

ENRD support to LEADER/CLLD – plans and next steps

ENRD support to LEADER/CLLD – plans and next steps

- Continue with PWG work
- Workshops (PWG, `putting simplification into practice`)
- Continued outreach (LINC, ELARD, CLLD event, third countries, etc.)
- Strengthen information base – LAG database, LAG survey, analysis
- LAG self-assessment – exchange of information, support
- Re-launch TNC survey and fact sheet preparation – goal: full coverage of EU MSs/regions in `TNC Landscape`
- Updated version of ENRD TNC Guidance to be published
- Translation of updated DG AGRI Guidance on TNC to EU official languages
- Other, demand-led work on LEADER/CLLD

Useful information and links

LEADER/CLLD

http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/leader-clld_en

LEADER Cooperation

http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/leader-clld/cooperation_en

ENRD publications

http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/publications-and-media_en

Contact us

leader-clld@enrd.eu

ENRD upcoming events

https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/upcoming_en

Thank you for your attention!

www.enrd.ec.europa.eu

ENRD Contact Point

Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat, 38 (bte 4)

1040 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 2 801 38 00

info@enrd.eu