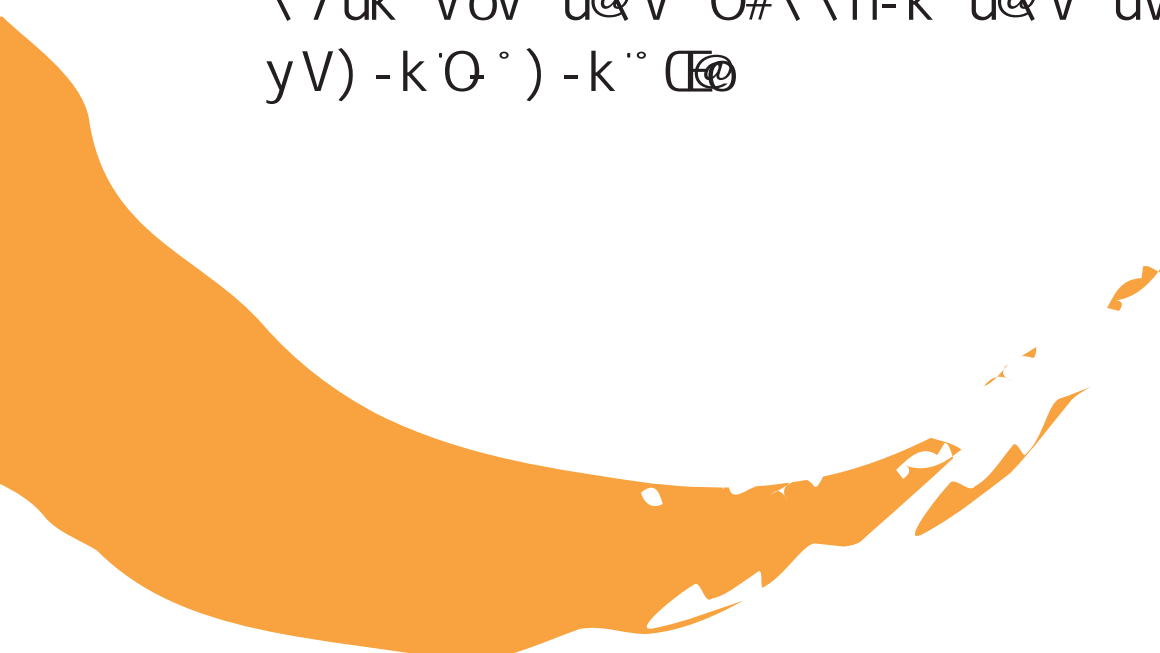




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L'AGRICOLTURA A BENEFICIO DI TUTTI



**PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2007-2013**

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE OF TRANSNATIONAL  
COOPERATION (TNC) UNDER LEADER AXIS**

Publication funded by the EAFRD (European Fund for Agriculture and Rural Development) as part of the activities implemented under the Programme of the National Rural Network 2007-2013

MIPAAF - Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forest Policies  
DISR II- Directorate general for Rural Development II

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Thanks to the Italian Managing Authorities and the managers of the RDP measure 4.21 for their precious and effective collaboration.

# Index

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>
<b><u>Northern Regions</u></b>	
<b>Val d'Aosta Autonomous Region</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Piemonte</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Liguria</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Lombardia</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Autonomous Province of Trento</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Autonomous Province of Bolzano</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Friuli Venezia Giulia</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Veneto</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Emilia Romagna</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Toscana</b>	<b>40</b>
<b><u>Central Region</u></b>	
<b>Marche</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Abruzzo</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Umbria</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Lazio</b>	<b>55</b>
<b><u>Southern Regions</u></b>	
<b>Campania</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Molise</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Basilicata</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>Calabria</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Puglia</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Sardegna</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Sicilia</b>	<b>81</b>



## Introduction

The present document, which falls within the activities and the outputs foreseen by the Italian National Rural Network, addresses the need to ensure a flow of information among the main subjects (Managing Authorities, European Commission, Local Action Groups, stakeholders, etc.) involved in the implementation of the measure 4.21 “Inter-territorial and transnational Cooperation” of the Italian Rural Development Programmes (RDPs).

As it is well known the aspect that has mainly conditioned the starting phase of the cooperation is the complexity and difference within the procedures adopted at regional level. The document, in the detail, relates the main information about measure 4.21 obtained from the analysis of programming documents adopted by the single Italian Regions (RDP, guidelines, public notices, circulars, etc) to the date of 31 October 2012.

It is composed of a first section consisting of related synthesis tables, the reading of which provides a framework on measure 4.21 at national level concerning:

- country specific details
- financial aspects
- programming aspects
- common provisions for TNC project approval. The procedures adopted for its implementation, as well as its performing state to **31 October 2012**.

The second part relates to each Region, and in the form of a fiche, the main information on measure 4.21 (number of LAGs selected per each RDP, Axes covered by TNC projects, budget, main topics of TNC proposed, way of selecting cooperation projects, eligibility criteria, Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects, eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs, the approval process of TNC applications).



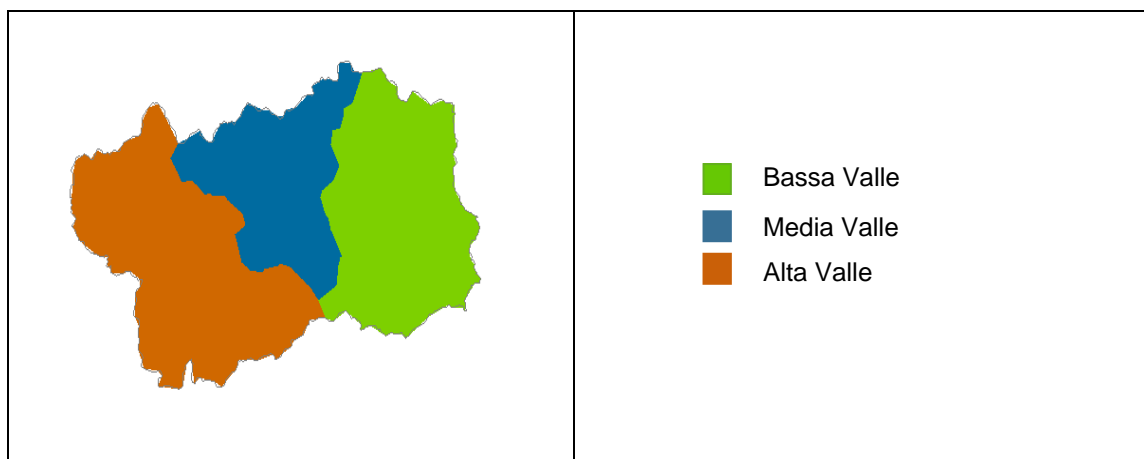
Northern Regions

Central Regions

Southern Regions



## VALLE D'AOSTA AUTONOMOUS REGION



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 3

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 136,000,393

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 11,117,500

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	3,905,000
b.	Public funding:	EUR	4,970,000
c.	Private funding:	EUR	2,242,500



# VALLE D'AOSTA AUTONOMOUS REGION

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 400,000, which is 0.71% of the total RDP public funding budget. An indicative TNC grant of EUR 303,000 is reserved for each LAG.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

LAGs intending to pursue cooperation must specify their project ideas in their LDSs. LAGs open to cooperation initiatives will undergo favourable assessment. Special importance will be given to activities undertaken within the framework of cooperation projects implemented during previous programming periods. The main themes addressed by selected LDSs include:

- Rural tourism
- Local products
- Quality of life.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

In the context of the LDS evaluation, cooperation is assessed with regards to:

- Quality of the cooperation strategy. The evaluation focuses on the analysis of consistency with the LDS.
- Analysis of the degree of complementarity and consistency with the cooperation strategy with the cooperation initiatives undertaken under Leader+ during the 2000-2006 period.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

## VALLE D'AOSTA AUTONOMOUS REGION

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

Rural areas belonging to one or more Member States and/or territories of third countries can participate. All cooperation projects must ensure and foresee concrete actions, integrated with each other (new products, services or organizational models, etc.). Non-material activities may be added (training and exchange of experience etc.).

#### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

Detailed TNC project proposals must be submitted within nine months following LDS approval. In accordance with the provisions of the RDP, LAGs may access cooperation funds following positive evaluation of TNC applications by the MA.

The MA may publish further calls for submission of TNC project proposals, depending on the availability of remaining resources upon completion of the first approval of cooperation projects.

The main selection criteria include:

- The level of consistency of the TNC project with the priorities of RDP and LDS
- Continuation of cooperation projects already implemented during previous programming periods
- The level of project "practical feasibility"
- Projects of local interest addressing environmental issues.

#### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation projects must relate to axis 3 of the RDP.

Eligible expenses include costs for:

- Animation to define the partnership and to implement cooperation projects;
- Operating a common structure that acts as technical support for the implementation of the cooperation project;
- Implementation of inter-territorial and transnational cooperation projects in partnership with rural areas located within national territory and with rural areas belonging to one or more Member States and/or territories of third countries.

#### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis, LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

#### The approval process of TNC applications

LAGs submitted 4 transnational cooperation project ideas in the LDS. The deadline to submit the final project was on 31 March 2012.

## VALLE D'AOSTA AUTONOMOUS REGION

### Contact details

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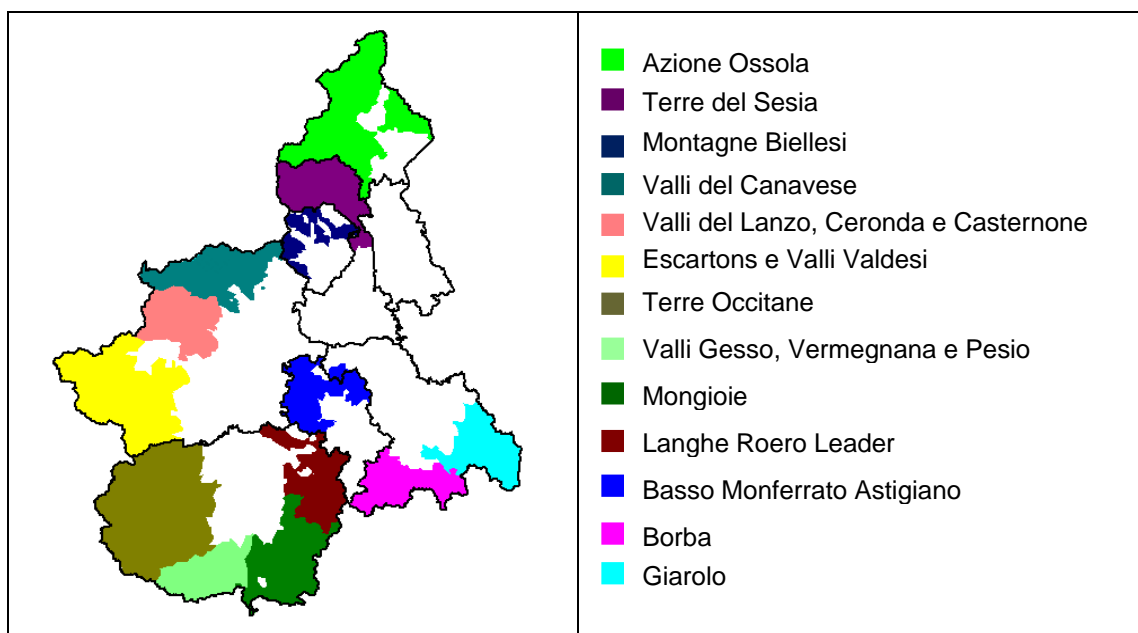
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## PIEMONTE



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 13

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 121, 122, 123, 124, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1,396,440,361

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 87,326,509

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	23,306,217
b.	Public funding:	EUR	29,662,458
c.	Private funding:	EUR	34,357,834

### PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### **Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)**

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 1,589,061, which is 0.17% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

##### **Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)**

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

#### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### **Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period**

Cooperation actions must be integrated in the local development strategy (LDS). The main themes addressed by the selected LDS include:

- Local products;
- Rural tourism.

##### **Way of selecting cooperation projects**

With the approval of the financing plan of the LDS, LAGs have pre-allocated funds for the financing of one or more cooperation projects at their disposal.

##### **Cooperation with third countries**

For partners outside the EU, the project proposal must include a summary of the proposed partner's cooperation experience and the partner's skills relevant to the proposed project.

##### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

Not specified.

#### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

##### **Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects**

The participation of partners from at least two EU countries, is mandatory.

##### **Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects**

Cooperation project proposals were submitted to the Technical Committee by 30/06/2012. Final project approval will be issued by the 'Direzione Economia Montana e Foreste' once all authorities concerned have expressed a positive assessment of the proposal.

## PIEMONTE

The commitment to the implementation of cooperation projects is essential for obtaining the score for the selection and approval of the LDS. The LAG's commitment to develop an inter-territorial or transnational cooperation project is assessed on the basis of the following criteria:

- Definition level of the inter-territorial or transnational cooperation projects objectives;
- Eligibility of actions under the measures that can be implemented by the LAG;
- Consistency with the intervention strategy;
- Identification of the potential partners.

Projects deemed formally eligible will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- Nature of the partnership;
- Financial contribution;
- Quality of the strategy.

### **Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects**

Cooperation projects must relate to those measures of axes 1, 2 and 3, which can be implemented through Axis 4 of the RDP. They must be consistent with the objectives and the central theme of the LDS.

The following items are eligible for financing:

- Preliminary technical assistance to support the definition of partnerships (travel, accommodation, consultancy, translations) up to a maximum of 3,000 Euro;
- Lead partner coordination activities (development of the cooperation agreement and of a legal common structure model, financial data collection, coordination of the implementation, processing of documents, etc.)\*;
- Animation of the partnership (travel, accommodation, consultancy and translation costs)\*;
- Eligible costs referring to measures of Axes 1, 2 and 3 to be implemented within Axis 4 and useful for the realisation of a common action;
- Management of a legally constituted common structure.

The costs for coordination and animation cannot exceed 10% of the total project expenditure.

### **Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs**

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

The deadline to submit cooperation project proposal is 31 December 2012.

### Contact Details

#### **Bianca Eula**

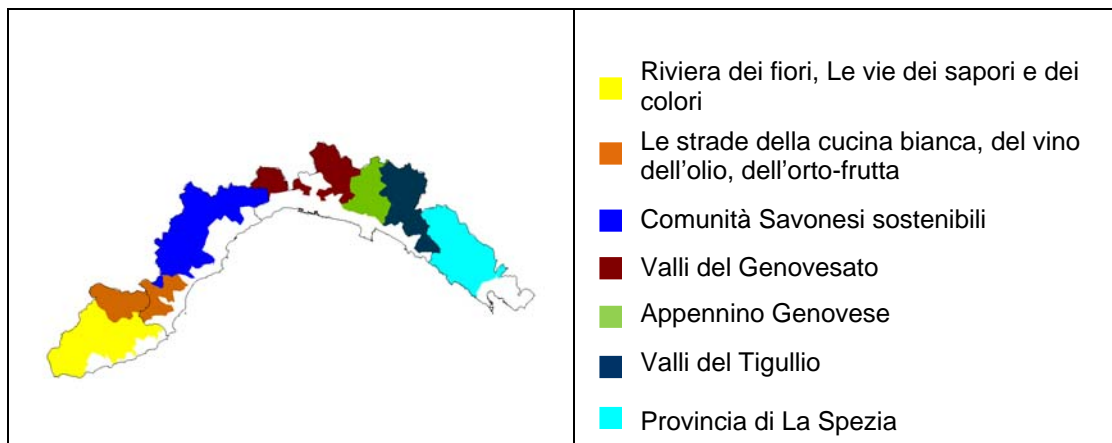
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## LIGURIA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 7

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 121, 123, 124, 125, 126, 132, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 211, 212, 214, 215, 216, 223, 226, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 449,448,719

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 85,976,851

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	21,209,400
b.	Public funding:	EUR	33,173,677
c.	Private funding:	EUR	31,593,773



## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 7,903,618, which is 2.78% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

Pursuant to Article 36(4) of Regulation (EC) no. 1974/2006, preference is given to local development strategies (LDSs) which integrate remarkable cooperation actions.

The main themes addressed by the selected LDS include:

- Quality of life;
- Local products;
- Rural tourism.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

Cooperation project proposals are approved as part of the LDS.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The participation of LAGs selected under axis 4 of the RDP, in cooperation with other public, private or other subjects functional to the achievement of the LDS's objectives is mandatory.

## LIGURIA

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

Following selection and approval of the LDS, LAGs present final cooperation project proposals, which will be evaluated by a Regional Committee within 60 days from the date of submission.

The integration of cooperation in the LDS is mandatory. The MA's evaluation focuses on the number of cooperation projects foreseen in the LDS and the feasibility of these projects.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Measure 421 does not provide for specific interventions: all actions funded under axes 1, 2 and 3 of the Programme may be also addressed through cooperation projects.

Eligibility of expenses for implementing actions is determined by criteria set for the RDP measure in question. Reference is made to the National Guide of eligible costs, approved by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture (for more details see: [www.reterurale.it/speseammissibili](http://www.reterurale.it/speseammissibili)).

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### The approval process of TNC applications

The Liguria Region has issued its call for LDS submission, including cooperation project proposals. The MA has completed its assessment procedure on 20 March 2009 and launched the procedures for the submission of the final projects.

### Contact details

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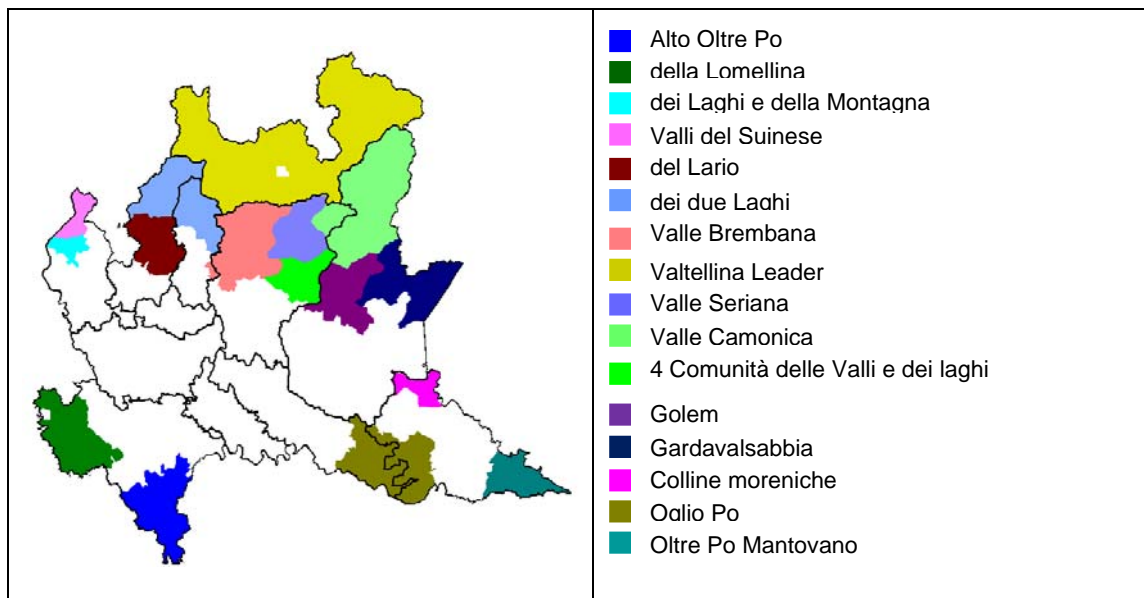
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## LOMBARDIA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 16

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 114, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 132, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 211, 214, 216, 221, 223

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1,666,318,814

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 84,939,244

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	20,455,700
b.	Public funding:	EUR	26.034.527
c.	Private funding:	EUR	38.449.017

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 1,470,682, which is 0.14% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen (10% of the public funds foreseen for measure 421).

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

LAGs are expected to present their cooperation project ideas in the local development strategy (LDS). Proposals should clarify how the cooperation projects fit with the LDS. The main themes addressed by selected LDS include:

- Rural development;
- Quality of life;
- Exchange of experiences and know-how

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The regional MA will publish a call for the submission of cooperation project proposals within one year from the selection of the LDSs.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The involvement of at least two different countries, including at least one EU Member State, is mandatory.

## LOMBARDIA

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

The approach to launch a call for proposals within one year following LDSs selection aims to give the LAGs time to establish cooperation partnerships. It is assumed that the definition of concrete joint projects requires time to ensure a true commitment of the territories to the initiatives. When doing so, LAGs must adopt selection procedures compliant with implementation provisions and the measure fiches approved by the regional MA for axes 1, 2 and 3.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation project actions implementing measures under axes 1, 2 and 3 of the RDP are considered eligible.

The typologies of intervention which are foreseen by the measure are:

- Technical assistance supporting preliminary activities to define partnerships and content of TNC projects;
- Animation and management;
- Joint action and local action in relation to the central theme developed in the LDS.

Eligible expenditure for a transnational cooperation project cannot be lower than EUR 40,000 and cannot exceed EUR 300,000 of public funds.

Reference is made to the National Guide of eligible costs, approved by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture (for more details see: [www.reterurale.it/speseammissibili](http://www.reterurale.it/speseammissibili)).

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the Cooperation measure under the Leader axis, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### The approval process of TNC applications

In September 2012, the MA has finished the assessment process and approved 2 transnational cooperation projects.

### Contact details

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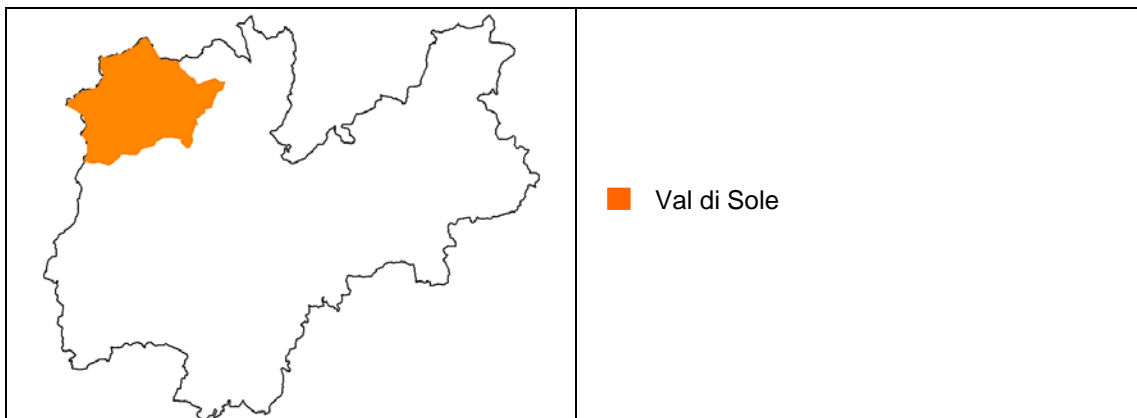
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## AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF TRENTO



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 1

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 121, 122, 123, 125

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 313, 321, 322, 323

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 395,173,727

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 32,137,143

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	6,000,000
b.	Public funding:	EUR	11,142,857
c.	Private funding:	EUR	14,994,286

# AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF TRENTO

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure - 421 "interterritorial and transnational cooperation is EUR 251,429 which is 0.09% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

No special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen.

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

The LAG is responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

LAG applications including a General Cooperation Action Plan in its LDS were given priority during their selection process. The main themes proposed by the LAG in its LDS are the following:

- Forestry, wood, energy;
- Rural heritage;
- Rural tourism and culture;
- Valorisation of territories and local products;
- Biodiversity.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The selected LAG has published the TNC call, which comprises the following two phases:

1. Preliminary phase: submission of expressions of interest by public-private operators intending to define concrete cooperation actions;
2. Definition phase: after collecting the expressions of interest the LAG has the role to define the projects as the actions, the common costs, the costs of every beneficiary and the cooperation agreements.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

Cooperation with public-private partnerships similar to LAGs is permitted, provided they commit to work through networking with other groups.

#### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

The call for submission of expressions of interest is operated as an "open call", i.e. there is a continuous possibility to submit applications since the call was published, but by 30 June 2012. For each cooperation project application, the LAG has the role to look for partners, in order to verify whether other LAGs/groups share the interest to implement a cooperation project including the actions proposed by the applicant.

The submission of the application for the financial grant (part of the second phase) is again operated as "open call", i.e. submission has to be made by 31 August 2013 or as long as financial resources allocated to the Cooperation Measure are available. The financial grant support application will be evaluated by the LAG within 60 days, since the date of its submission.

Applications will be evaluated by the LAG, establishing the eligibility of the proposed action in terms of contribution to the implementation of the LDS and of the maximum expense amount applied by each applicant. In addition, a preliminary evaluation by a Technical and Scientific Committee, considering the criteria listed below, will provide the grounds for approval by the LAG:

- Nature of the applicant;
- Feasibility of the intervention.

#### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation projects must implement operations related to those measures of axes 1 and 3, which can be addressed through axis 4, and in line with the objectives and the central theme developed in the LDS. The Province considers projects addressing the following measures as a priority: 111, 112, 121, 123, 311, 313 and 322.

The following typologies of interventions are eligible:

- Animation supporting partnership development and planning of the joint action;
- Interventions connected to the correct implementation of the joint project, according to the cooperation agreement (direction, coordination, technical support, promotion, operational controls, operating a common structure);
- Implementation of the joint action;
- Exchanges of experience initiatives for the realisation of concrete actions which directly involve public-private operators with the following transferring of managing models and the realisation of new products or the offer of new services: e.g. sustainable environment, energy saving, tourism, agriculture, social services, young people and women, etc;
- Realisation of events concerning the valorisation of local products, the old traditions, cultural and natural resources.



## AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF TRENTO

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

Apart from a completed application form, the LAG requires the following documents in addition to those suggested in the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013):

- a declaration of the absence of overlapping with other cooperation projects;
- the curriculum of the LAG lead partner which demonstrates experience in the field of Cooperation and in the thematic area of the project;
- the curriculum of the other LAG partners;

### The approval process of TNC applications

At the moment, 1 transnational cooperation project has been approved.

### Contact details

#### **Riccardo Molignoni**

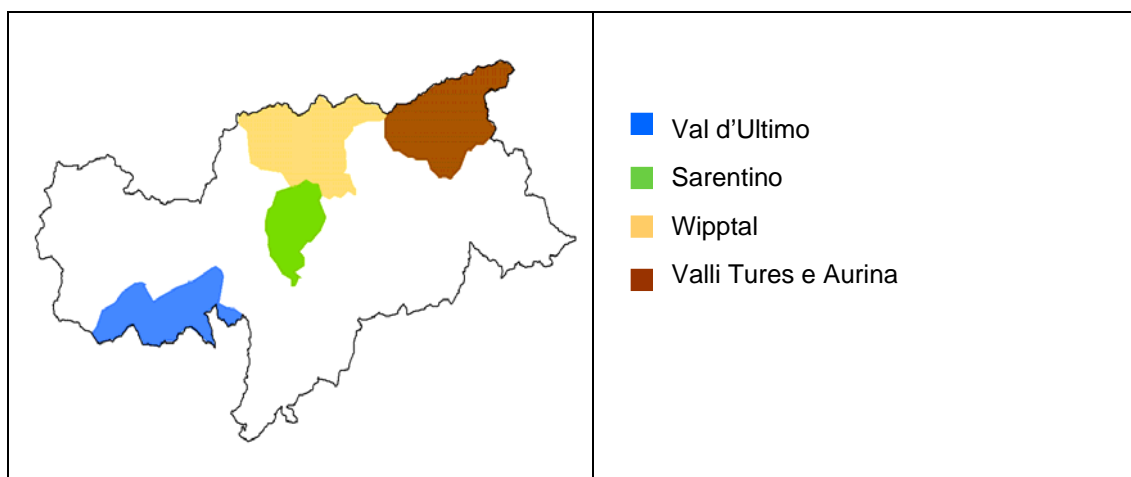
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## AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF BOLZANO



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 4

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 123, 124

Axis 3 – Measures 313, 321, 322

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 423,750,688

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 19,175,029

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	6,915,050
b.	Public funding:	EUR	8,800,973
c.	Private funding:	EUR	3.459,006

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 300,000, which is 0.09% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects and to the LAGs.

No special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen.

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

The LAG is responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

LAGs can present their cooperation strategies in their LDSs. When selecting the LDSs, priority will be given to Groups that have integrated cooperation in their local development strategies. The main themes proposed by LAGs cannot be indicated yet.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

Following approval of the LDS and on an annual basis, the Province invites the LAGs to submit TNC project applications.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

Successful project applications will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Consistency with the local development strategy;
2. Project idea selected applying the bottom-up method and implemented integrating at least two areas of the local development strategy;
3. Generation of added value, compared to normal axis 4 projects;
4. Potential to facilitate the exchange of experience and knowledge, and to improve and enhance local professional skills.

## AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF BOLZANO

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

After the approval of the LDSs the MA invites the LAGs, through a call for proposal, to submit expressions of interest.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

The cooperation should cover operations implementing the local strategy. The projects must relate to RDP measures of Axis 1 and 3.

As indicated by the European Commission in the "Guide for the implementation of the measure cooperation", financing can be given to expenditure related to:

- preparatory technical support;
- joint action and the management of common structures.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirement to complete an application form, the Managing Authority may require documents other than those suggested in the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013):

- a declaration of the absence of overlapping with other cooperation projects;
- the curriculum of the LAG lead partner which demonstrates experience in the field of Cooperation and in the thematic area of the project;
- the curriculum of the other LAGs partners;
- a declaration, from which the financial solidity of the LAG partner LAGs can be derived.

### The approval process of TNC applications

The MA has published a call for expressions of interest concerning cooperation projects before 31 December 2013.

### Contact details

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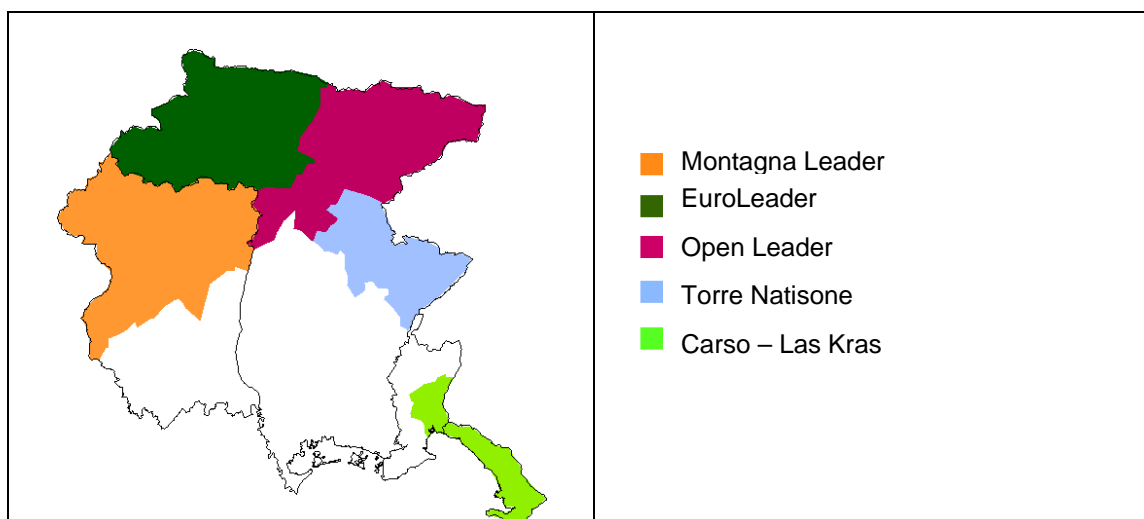
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## FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 5

#### Axes covered by TNC projects:

- Measure 411 Competitiveness – Action 'Valorisation of local agricultural products'
- Measure 412 Environment/Territory management – Action 'Protection and valorisation of rural landscape';
- Measure 413 Quality of life/diversification – Actions 'Tourist accommodation (landlords, B&B, agri-tourism)', 'Basic services (trade of essentials, fitment and collective structures management, personal services)'; 'Development of services and leisure and cultural activities'; 'Support to initiatives aimed at territorial marketing'.

#### Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):

EUR 509,304,201

#### Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 23,951,108

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	7,070,245
b.	Public funding:	EUR	8,998,493
c.	Private funding:	EUR	7,882,370

### PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 2. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### **Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)**

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 803,436, which is 0.16% of the total RDP's public funding budget. The funds have neither been pre-allocated to TNC projects nor to LAGs.

No special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen

##### **Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)**

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

#### 3. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### **Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period**

The LAGs intending to establish cooperation projects must outline in their local development strategy (LDS) the purpose of the cooperation and the types of projects they are committed to develop and implement.

The main proposed theme concern the exchange of experiences and know-how.

##### **Way of selecting cooperation projects**

Cooperation project ideas are integral part of the LDS. Selected LAGs may, however, submit to the MA (by December 31st, 2013) further cooperation project proposals for their evaluation.

##### **Cooperation with third countries**

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

##### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

Not specified.

#### 2. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

##### **Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects**

LAGs of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region are expected to cooperate with LAGs or subjects of similar quality, originating from other Member States of the European Union or from third countries.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

LAGs must submit their project proposals for approval and financing by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2013. The LAG is considered beneficiary of the measure. It can entrust the implementation of the project to a subject demonstrating the administrative capacity and technical competence needed to ensure the results envisaged.

Project proposals are assessed for compliance with the LDS and in particular for their consistency with:

2. the description of the cooperation (purpose and type of projects);
3. the actions foreseen in the LDS (and under measures 411, 412, 413) and compliance with the indications referred to measure 421;
4. the conditions set by relevant EU and national rules.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation projects may only implement actions related to those measures of axes 1, 2 and 3, which can be addressed through axis 4 of the RDP, in line with the objectives and the central theme of the LDS.

In addition to costs for the individual actions referred to measures 411, 412, 413, the following costs are typically considered eligible for financing:

- reimbursements of the staff and the administrators of the LAG for expenses incurred for meetings with partner representatives outside the LAG's territory, even if incurred prior to the approval of the projects by the MA;
- translation and interpretation services, even if incurred prior to the approval of the projects by the MA;
- organisation and implementation of public and information meetings;
- rental of premises and equipment for public meetings and seminars related to individual projects;
- production and dissemination of informative material;
- specialized advisory services not funded by measure 431;
- reimbursement for expenses related to coordination activities, even if incurred prior to the approval of the projects by the regional MA;
- management of the common structure.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### The approval process of TNC applications

At the moment, the MA has approved 1 transnational cooperation project.

### Contact details

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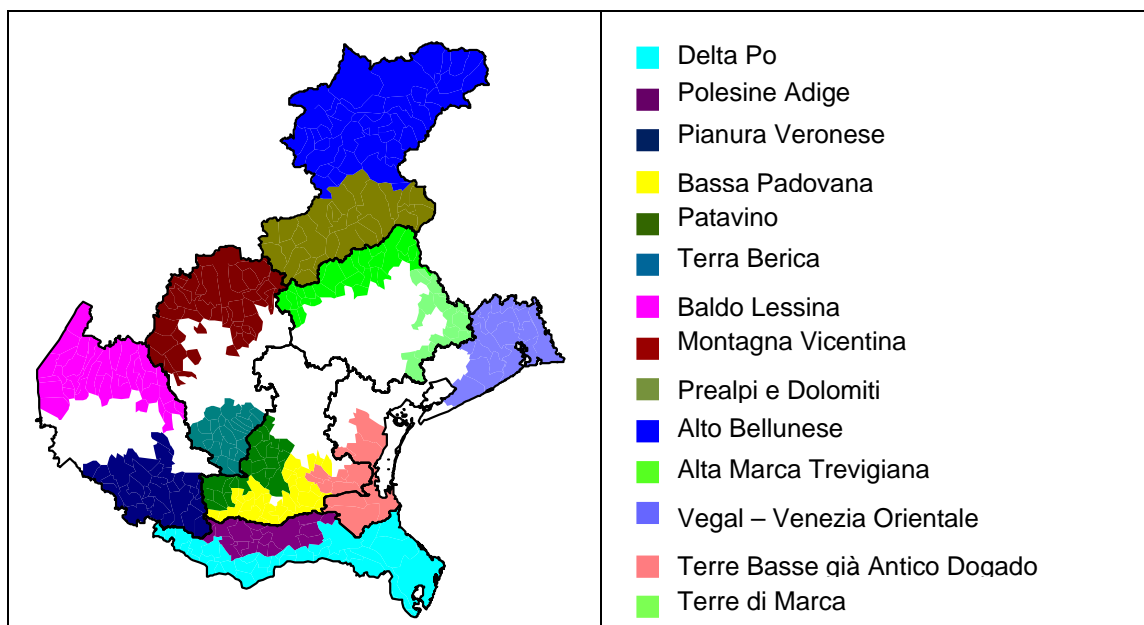
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## VENETO



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 14

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 121, 122, 123, 123 F 124, 125, 132, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 221, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 323/a, 323/b, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1,713,821,915

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 190,078,143.75

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	44,270,270
b.	Public funding:	EUR	56,343,980
c.	Private funding:	EUR	89,463,894

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 9,800,000, which is 0.93% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

LAGs may include cooperation in a specific section of their Local Development Strategies (LDSs), entitled "General Plan of Cooperation Actions", in which they are expected to summarise their project ideas.

The inclusion of cooperation in the LDS is not mandatory; yet, it constitutes one of the selection criteria when applicant LAGs and their LDSs are assessed. Evaluators pay particular attention to the quantity of projects foreseen, the degree of their definition and the level of completion of the entitled "General Plan of Cooperation Actions".

The main themes addressed by selected LDS include:

- Energy;
- Rural tourism;
- Local products;
- Quality of life.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The MA assesses the General Plan of Cooperation Actions along with the proposed LDS. Approval of the LDS constitutes eligibility of the cooperation actions, which must be transformed into detailed project proposals.

Additional TNC projects may be selected through specific calls organised by the regional MA.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

Rural areas belonging to one or more Member States and/or territories of third Countries shall participate.

#### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

Once the LDS has been approved, LAGs submit detailed cooperation project proposals to the MA which:

- Assesses the project proposal for compliance with the LDS, RDP, NSP and EC, as well as with national and regional regulations;
- Invites the LAG to review and adapt the project proposal;
- Approves the project and notifies the LAG.

Besides, the MA will consider the following aspects:

- Completeness and conformity of documentation;
- Eligibility of subjects and territories involved;
- Eligibility of planned operations that must, as far as the Veneto region is concerned, correspond to the actions/measures which may be implemented under axis 4;
- Solidity of planned operations;
- Respect of expense limits (see below under eligible costs);
- Consistency and conformity with the project ideas foreseen by the General Plan of Cooperation of the LDS;
- Consistency of objectives of the cooperation project with LDS objectives, considering its thematic focus and strategic priorities;
- Conformity of the cooperation agreement with the general scheme (Technical Annex A) linked to the application form for the selection of LDSs (identification of a lead partner and task division among cooperating partners).

Additional cooperation project proposals, submitted following calls issued by the regional MA, will be assessed on the basis of the following criteria: overall quality, nature of the partnership, financial involvement of partners, management modalities and feasibility of the cooperation projects.

#### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation projects must be based on solid actions, i.e. deemed appropriate to produce visible benefits for the territories concerned. Projects aiming at mere sharing of experience are not admissible. Projects must aim for the development of common actions, jointly implemented by all partners.

Eligible expenses include:

- Animation to define the partnership and to plan the common action;

## VENETO

- Interventions linked to the proper implementation of the common project, in accordance with competences and commitments defined in the cooperation agreement. These include: management, coordination, technical support, promotion, operational control, operation of a possible common structure;
- Development of the common action: all actions foreseen by the project must comply with those foreseen under axis 4 and must respect the same conditions.

Eligible projects may claim public funding support for expenditure within a range of EUR 50,000 to EUR 500,000.

### **Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs**

Cooperation project proposals are submitted using specific application forms, including:

- a cooperation agreement;
- a draft project outline, related maps and technical annexes;
- a declaration of the absence of overlapping with other cooperation projects funded by other programmes.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

In October 2012, the MA approved 8 transnational cooperation projects.

### **Contact details**

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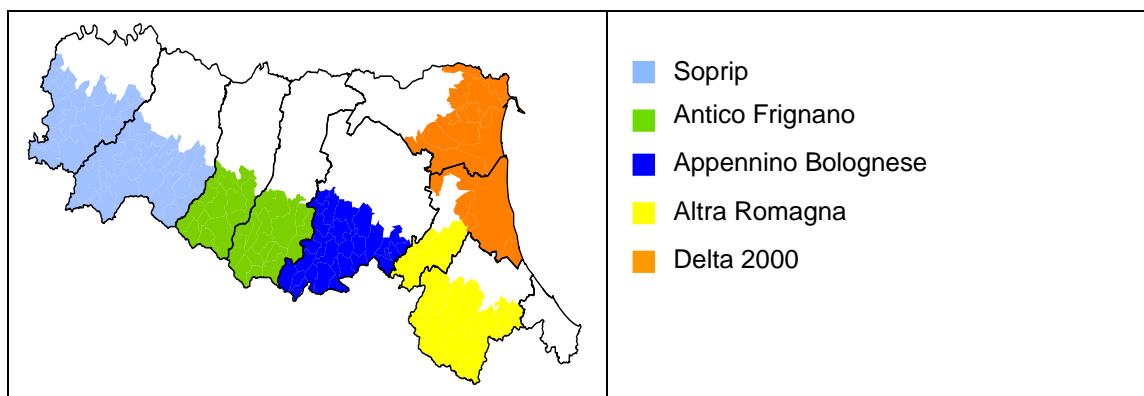
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## EMILIA ROMAGNA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 5

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 114, 121, 122, 123, 132

Axis 2 – Measures 214, 215, 216, 221, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 313, 321, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1,730,153,514

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 85,840,000

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	25,766,500
b.	Public funding:	EUR	25,766,500
c.	Private funding:	EUR	34,307,000

### PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### **Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)**

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation is EUR 3,863,636, which is 0.37% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects and to the LAGs.

Actions to support the preparation of TNC projects cannot exceed 15% of expenses of actually implemented cooperation projects.

##### **Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)**

The LAG is responsible for managing the TNC budget.

#### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### **Local Development Strategies and Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period**

The proposals for cooperation projects are presented together with the Local Development Strategy. LAGs will have to justify the consistency of the submitted project with their LDSs and the measures addressed by the project.

The main themes proposed by LAGs refer to:

- Promotion of local products;
- Environment and sustainable development;
- Tourism development.

##### **Way of selecting cooperation projects**

Following the approval of the LDSs, the LAGs will present a fully detailed project application to the Leader Technical Committee (LTC). Following examination the LTC will issue its opinion on its compliance with Regulation (EC) 1698/2005, regional and provincial programming acts and the LDS.

##### **Cooperation with third countries**

The cooperation with territories of third countries that have a similar approach is foreseen.

##### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

Participation of territories selected under the Leader Axis.

#### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

The LTC will meet approximately every four months and will hold special meetings, if deemed necessary.

MA approval is foreseen once the LTC has issued its evaluation.

Cooperation projects will obtain a score to assess their contribution to the overall achievement of the LDS. This evaluation approach considers:

- The number of proposed projects;
- Their complexity in terms of implementation (role of the LAG, lead or partner role in the project, inter-territorial or transnational cooperation project and duration of the project);
- The implementation of a project carried out during the previous programming period;
- The coherence that inter-territorial and transnational cooperation projects display with regional priorities.

Furthermore, priority will be given to areas that have been involved in previous transnational cooperation activities (Interreg and SAPARD programmes).

#### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation should involve operations implementing the local strategy. The projects must address RDP measures of axis 1, 2 and 3.

In accordance with the National Guide for eligible costs (approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of Italy) the following expenses are considered eligible. They are incurred during one of the following phases:

- Preparatory actions and missions: study visits, translation and interpretation, communication and information, organization of meetings, studies, feasibility studies, counselling for setting-up the cooperation project.
- Project Implementation: the costs of implementing the interventions fall under the individual RDP measures. The types of eligible expenditure will be identified in provincial or regional public notices. Based on the specificity of the cooperation action, eligible expenses include communication and information, activities to exchange experience and best practices, organization of meetings, travel, expenses for the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of projects.

#### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### The approval process of TNC applications

In October 2012, the MA approved 1 transnational cooperation project.

### Contact details

#### **Mario Montanari**

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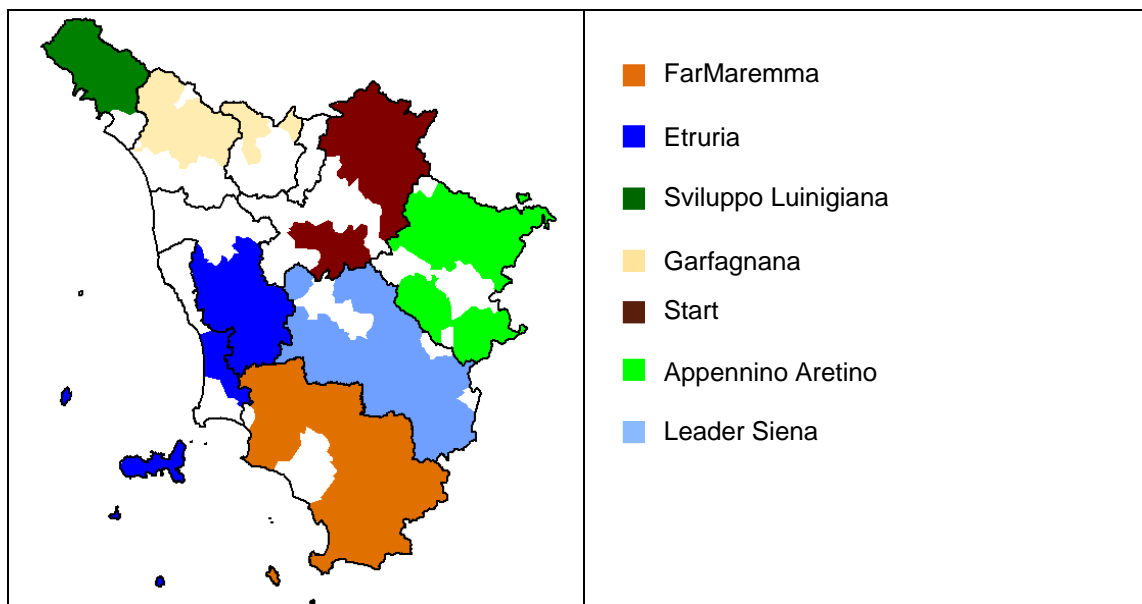
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## TOSCANA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 7

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 124, 133

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 331, 341

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+public+private expenditure):**

1,387,108,700

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

106,837,345

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	37,992,980
b.	Public funding:	EUR	48,354,701
c.	Private funding:	EUR	20,489,664

### PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### Budget for TNC projects

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 7,635,945, which is 0.88% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen (10% of the total amount foreseen for measure 421).

##### Responsibility for the management of the Budget

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

#### 1. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

The Toscana Region identified the following topics of regional strategic interest:

- historical and religious ways;
- paths of local quality wine and food.

The cooperation projects will have to focus on the above-mentioned topics to promote the valorization of the cultural and productive heritage of the rural territories.

Each LAG can identify a cooperation project idea on the basis of:

- consistency with the needs of the area identified in their "Integrated Strategy of Local Development (ISLD)";
- the objectives of their ISLD;
- synergy and complementarity with other policy instruments in the area;
- the present provisions.

##### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The MA will publish calls for submission of cooperation projects at least once a year also on the basis of the expressions of interest submitted.

The eligibility and assessment of local cooperation projects is made by a Technical Committee of Evaluation composed of representatives of the regional offices responsible for the matters concerned.

##### Cooperation with third countries

The cooperation with territories of third countries that have a similar approach is foreseen.

## Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Given the limited amount of funding available, only local cooperation projects related to two cooperation projects, can be financed exclusively, with an amount not exceeding 50% of the available resources.

## 2. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The criteria used for the selection of executive projects are the following:

- the degree of consistency with the strategic lines of the RDP and the local strategy of the LAG;
- the critical size of the project;
- the level of concreteness of the operation (co-operation can not be solved in a mere exchange of knowledge and experience but must be aimed at creating a common operation).
- the degree of definition of the project (in other words, its feasibility);
- the number of regional and extra-regional GAL project participants.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

In order to identify the partnership with the local project, the LAG must publish a notice in the Official Bulletin of the Region of Tuscany for the collecting of expressions of interest by public and / or private stakeholders to participate in the implementation of the cooperation project. They have to specify the feasible interventions, the purpose, timing and the conditions for admission to any contribution.

At the end of the preliminary phase, the LAG submits to the offices of Tuscany Region, within the terms and procedures established, the cooperation project, shared with other LAGs or people belonging to other territories, and their local cooperation project, and whether it looks like leader or as a simple project partners.

The Commission examines the projects and gives them a score in order to place them in a list of eligibility which includes:

- Approved projects
- Partially approved projects
- Approved projects but not funded due to lack of resources.

The list of the above eligible projects is approved on a provisional mode pending communications approval from the other Managing Authorities involved.

Within 9 months from the approval of the provisional ranking list there will be the final approval, following the notification of projects approval, even if only temporary, by the other Managing Authorities involved.

In case of partially approved projects the LAG is given the option to choose whether to give up or start on implementing them. Any savings that may occur on other projects will have to be used primarily to cover the quota of contribution recognized, but not covered for lack resources, of projects partially approved.. In this case, the LAG may ask to eliminate some parts of the project, if this does not invalidate the consistency and the financial viability of the intervention. The proposal must be approved by the Technical Committee for Evaluation.

Remaining projects may be funded in the case of new financial resources.  
The list is valid until 30.6.2013

### Eligible activities and Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

As part of the pre-development (entertainment and information, including preparatory meetings with the territory and potential partners and preparation of the project proposal) the following types of expenditure are eligible:

- remuneration and reimbursement of administrative technical staff for the implementation of Axis 4;
- room rental, rental of furniture and equipment for the organization of information and entertainment events;
- entertainment activities;
- information activities;
- insurance / guarantees required by these rules;
- acquisition of specialized consultants (including those for translation and interpreting).

All costs incurred by the LAG in this phase are funded up to a maximum of 5,000 euro, even in case of submission of more project proposals more.

The award is subject to the same even in the case where the project idea does not lead to a project, provided that they are duly presented for payment and have detailed the reasons why the idea of the project is not successful in the report the activities.

As part of the project implementation (animation, information and assistance, direction, coordination and monitoring of the project) where the LAG is configured as the project leader and as the coordinator of the local cooperation project, only the following expenses incurred by the LAG are eligible:

- remuneration and reimbursement of administrative technical staff for the implementation of Axis 4;
- room rental, rental of furniture and equipment for the organization of information and entertainment events;
- other entertainment activities and information;
- participation in these activities (travel and accommodation);
- insurance / guarantees required by these rules;
- acquisition of specialized consultants (including those for translation and interpreting
- the amount of contributions required in each local project co-operation is not less than € 200,000 and not more than € 350,000
- as a result of the investigation on the eligibility of expenditure under the local project co-operation, the contribution of public spending could be awarded for each local project co-operation is not less than € 150,000.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### The approval process of TNC applications

The processing of the call for submitting project proposals is in progress

### Contact details

#### **Lorenzo Drosera**

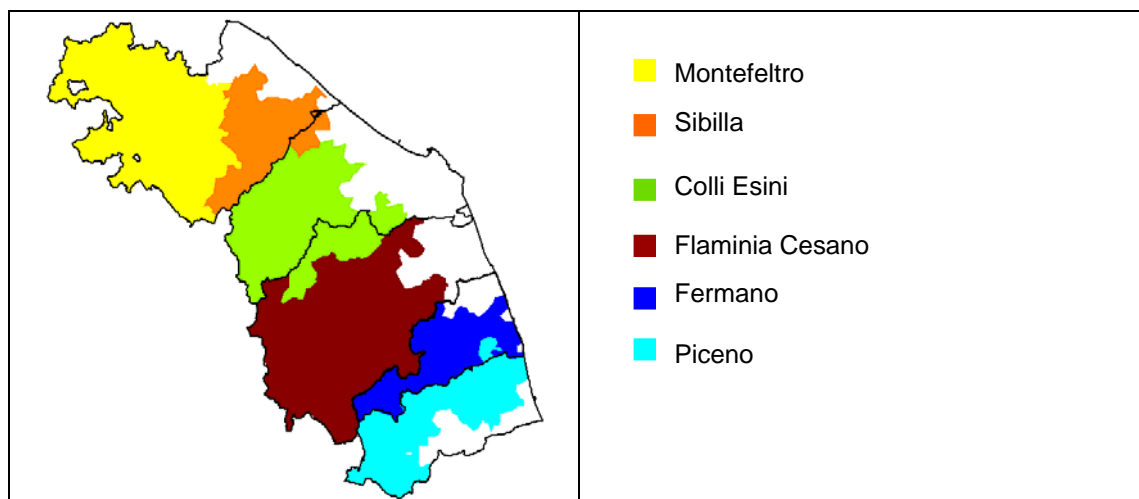
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## MARCHE



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 6

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323 , 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 769,264,238

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 39,821,224

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	12,139,200
b.	Public funding:	EUR	15,449,891
c.	Private funding:	EUR	12,232,133

### PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 2,270,000, which is 0.48% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen (10% of the total amount foreseen for measure 421).

##### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

#### 1. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period

LAGs are expected to present their cooperation project ideas in the local development strategy (LDS). The presentation must include the themes they intend to address in cooperation with others and describe the actions deemed appropriate in light of an analysis of context and previous experience (if any) in these areas.

Among the topics particular relevance is given to the commercialisation of local products

##### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The presence of cooperation initiatives in the LDS is accounted for in the evaluation score during the LDS selection and approval process.

##### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

##### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

#### 2. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

##### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The participation of territories from at least two EU Member States is mandatory.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

Final cooperation project proposals will be collected following the LDSs approval. Their evaluation will be the task of a specific committee, which comprises of various experts. The assessment of the proposals follows the same terms and arrangements as the procedure leading to the approval of the LDS.

The MA selects from the cooperation project proposals submitted by the LAG, by applying among others the following criteria:

- Thematic relevance and consistency of the TNC project proposal with RDP and LDS;
- Size of the project and its expected impact on participating territories;
- Presence of a concrete, jointly implemented action.

The specific committee referred to above will determine and further detail the selection criteria to be applied to final project proposals. The committee will submit these criteria prior to their use for approval to the Monitoring Committee.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation project actions implementing measures under axis 3 of the RDP are considered eligible.

Eligibility of expenses for implementing actions is determined by criteria described in specific measure fiches. Reference is made to the National Guide of eligible costs, approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of Italy (for more detail see: [www.reterurale.it/speseammissibili](http://www.reterurale.it/speseammissibili)). Besides, the following expenditure items are eligible for financing:

- Animation costs for partnership development and definition of the joint actions, up to a limit of 10% of the total budget;
- Costs related to the implementation of the joint action, for the operation of the common structure and for technical support to implement the cooperation project.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### The approval process of TNC applications

The MA has completed the selection of six LAGs on December 30th, 2010.

The deadline to submit cooperation final projects is 30.06.2013.

### Contact details

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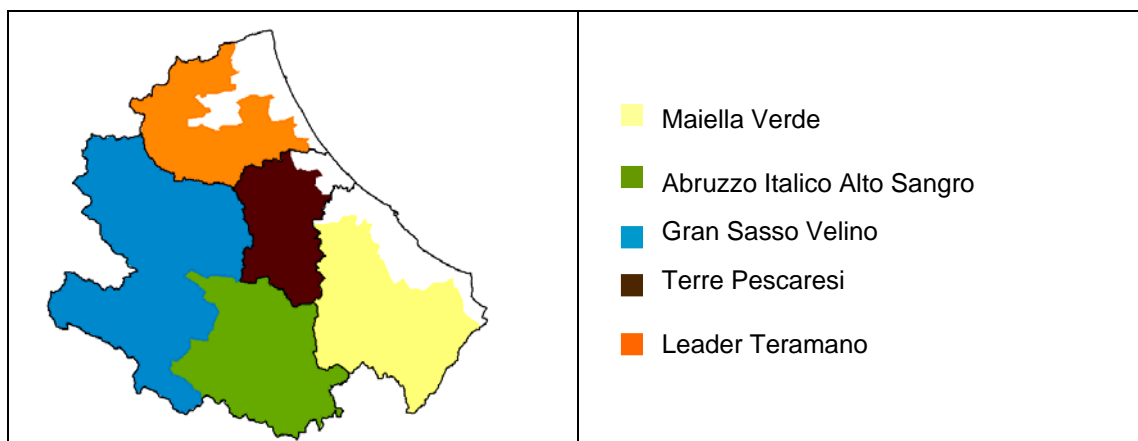
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## ABRUZZO



### SECTION A: COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 5

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 121, 122, 123

Axis 2 – Measures- 216, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+public+private expenditure):**

EUR 610,901,299

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 26,631,000

Of which:

a. EU Funding:	EUR	9.445,000
b. Public funding:	EUR	12.021,609
c. Private funding:	EUR	5.164,215

### PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### Budget for TNC projects

The budget allocated to measure - 421 "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 3,232,450, which is 0.81% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects and to the LAGs.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen (12% of the total amount foreseen for measure 421)

##### Responsibility for the management of the Budget

The LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

#### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

Modalities of implementation differ, depending on cooperation projects being promoted by the directly by LAGs or by the MA.

##### *a) Cooperation projects promoted directly by the LAGs*

LAGs present the cooperation strategy within their LDSs, by indicating:

- the typology of action they intend to implement;
- the objectives they intend to pursue;
- the amount of funding requested.

##### *b) Cooperation projects promoted by the Managing Authority*

The Abruzzo Region reserves the right to allocate a part of the transnational cooperation funding to finance pilot projects on issues of international importance.

Topics of interest for transnational cooperation projects:

- Food safety;
- Product origin;
- Use of alternative resources;
- Other.

##### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The cooperation strategy, as well as the general plan of actions, are approved together with the LDS. The Managing Authority is responsible for issuing the call for "pilot projects".

Pilot projects of regional interest are implemented:

- following a call for proposals, subsequent to the final approval of the LDS;
- following direct negotiations with selected LAGs, which have previously defined suitable partnerships displaying the ability to fully achieve the objectives set for each pilot project.

### **Cooperation with third countries**

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries

### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

Not specified.

## **3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL**

### **Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects**

Participation of at least one LAG of the Abruzzo Region selected under the Leader axis, at least one LAG of another Italian region and at least one LAG of another Member State selected under Leader Axis.

### **Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects**

The procedures of approval and implementation for TNC projects are indicated in the call for the selection of LAGs. Subsequently, LAGs shall submit TNC project applications for each cooperation initiative they intend to implement. The eligibility requirements will be verified by the MA.

The selection criteria are indicated in the call for the selection of LAGs. Cooperation projects must consider the following aspects:

- Consistency with the strategies pursued in the LDS;
- Technical feasibility and project quality;
- Organisational model adopted;
- Adequacy of expenditure.

### **Eligible activities and Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects**

The most immaterial activities eligible under this measure may only refer to the joint action. The measures addressed by cooperation define the intervention areas of cooperation projects, which are directly promoted by the LAGs. Cooperation projects must relate to axes 1, 2 and 3 of the RDP.

Only the following expenditure items are eligible for financing (with reference to the National Guide of eligible costs, approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of Italy):

- Animation costs for partnership development and definition of the joint actions, up to a limit of 12% of the total budget;
- Costs related to the implementation of the joint action, for the operation of the common structure and for technical support to implement the cooperation project.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirement to complete an application form, the Managing Authority may require documents other than those suggested in the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013):

- a declaration of the absence of overlapping with other cooperation projects;
- the curriculum of the LAG lead partner which demonstrates experience in the field of cooperation and in the thematic area of the project;
- the curriculum of the other LAG partners;
- a declaration, from which the financial solidity of the LAG partners can be derived.

### The approval process of TNC applications

The Abruzzo Region has issued a call for the selection of LDS (February 2010), under which it was possible to propose cooperation projects.

The submitting of cooperation projects is in progress.

### Contact details

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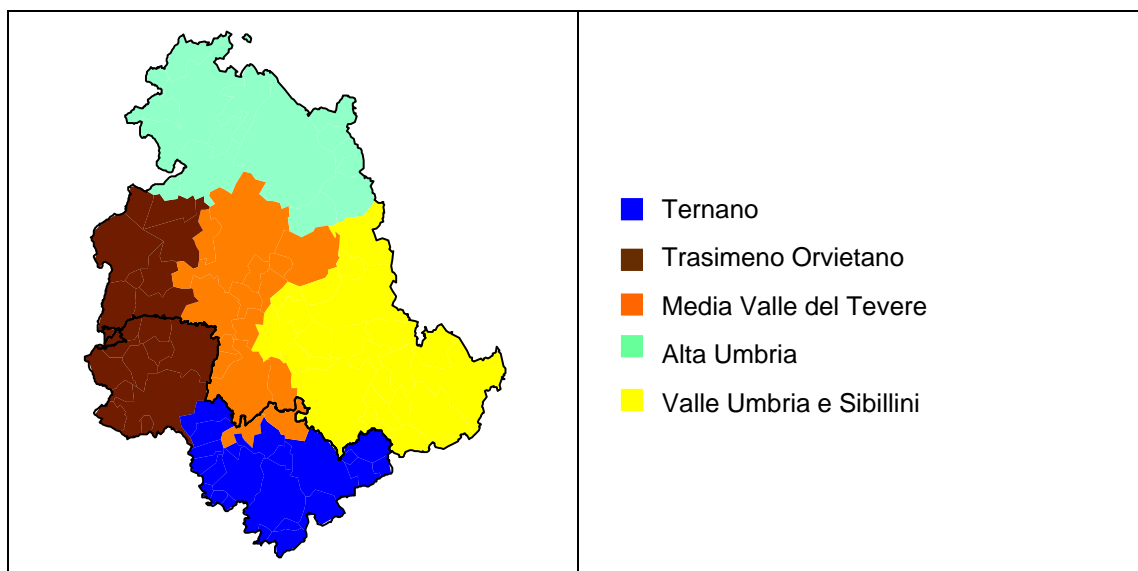
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## UMBRIA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 5

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 3 – Measures 312, 313, 321, 323, 331, 332

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1,060,270,873

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 48,775,682

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	17,837,900
b.	Public funding:	EUR	40,540,682
c.	Private funding:	EUR	8,235,000

### SECTION B: PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### **Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)**

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 3,800,341, which is 0.49% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

##### **Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)**

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

##### **Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects**

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

#### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### **Local Development Strategies and TNC and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period**

Local Partnerships intending to undertake cooperation initiatives present these in their Local Development Strategy (LDS). The inclusion of cooperation is considered priority in the course of the evaluation of the LDS.

The main proposed themes are the following:

- rural tourism;
- local products

##### **Way of selecting cooperation projects**

The Umbria Region has issued a call for submission of LDS, including cooperation project proposals.

##### **Cooperation with third countries**

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

##### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

Not specified.

#### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

##### **Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects**

There are no specific criteria for the participation of partners.

There are no specific criteria for evaluation of cooperation projects.

### **Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects**

The same procedures as for the LDS selection apply.

### **Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects**

Cooperation projects must relate to those measures of axis 3, which can be addressed through Axis 4 of the RDP. They must be consistent with the objectives and the central theme of the LDS.

Funding covers the costs incurred for the implementation of:

- Actions foreseen by measure 413;
- Technical assistance activities, supporting preparatory steps for the development of cooperation projects, such as: partner search, establishment of contact and preparation of the cooperation project application.

### **Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs**

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

In October 2012, the MA approved 2 transnational cooperation projects.

### **Contact details**

#### **Giuseppe Merli**

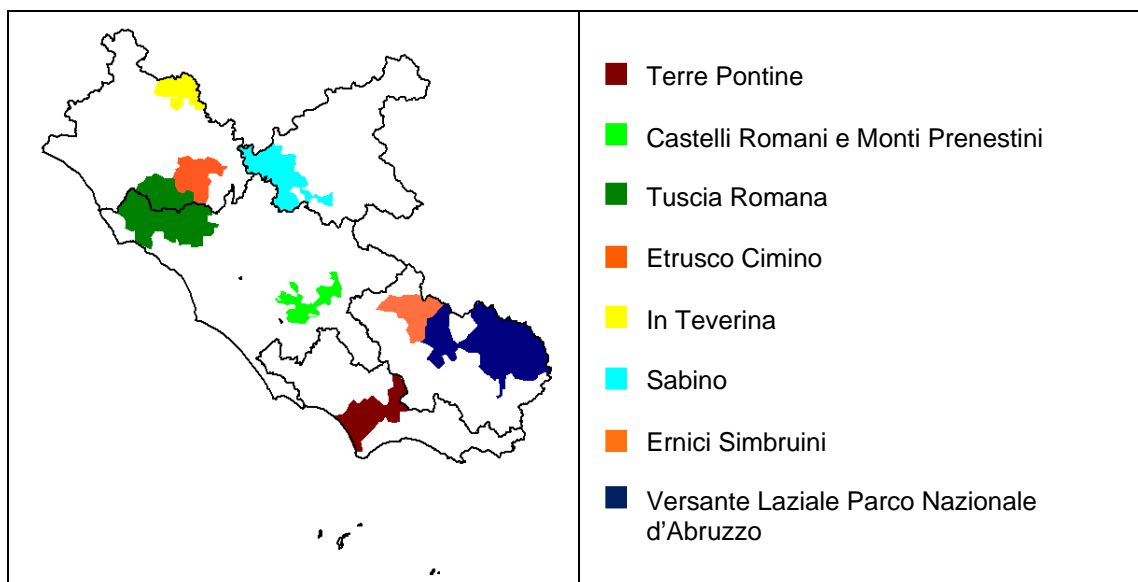
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## LAZIO



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 8

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 121, 123, 124, 125, 132, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 222, 223, 226, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1,104,243,536

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 64,290,623

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	17,303,040
b.	Public funding:	EUR	22,022,051
c.	Private funding:	EUR	24,965,532



## **PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS**

### **1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS**

#### **Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)**

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 1,310,071, which is 0.12% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

#### **Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)**

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### **2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS**

#### **Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period**

LAGs intending to participate in cooperation projects have to introduce preliminary TNC project proposals in their LDSs.

Topics of interest for transnational cooperation projects:

- Local products;
- Quality of life;
- Rural tourism.

#### **Way of selecting cooperation projects**

Cooperation project proposals are approved as part of the LDS.

#### **Cooperation with third countries**

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries

#### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

Not specified.

### **3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL**

#### **Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects**

The involvement of at least two different countries, including at least one EU MS, is mandatory. Cooperation projects must aim to contribute to the achievement of the objectives identified in the LDS. Expenses may not exceed 5% of the total eligible public expenditure foreseen by the LDS.

#### **Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects**

Preliminary TNC project proposals are considered during the evaluation of the LDS. Following approval of the LDS, the MA give LAGs a margin of six months to present final project proposals. Interventions may be implemented in the form of Cooperation projects, provided the following conditions are fulfilled:

- The intervention addresses private beneficiaries (identified through a call for proposals);
- The intervention addresses public authority beneficiaries (in this case preliminary project proposals become final upon LDS approval);
- The LAG is the beneficiary (the project may be directly implemented by the LAG's management structure or through third parties selected by means of a public selection procedure).

Final project proposals will be approved by the regional MA, based on its assessment of the proposed actions' feasibility and the project holder's ability to produce benefits for the territories involved.

### **Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects**

Eligible actions are those falling under the respective Leader/TNC theme the LAG has chosen for its LDS and the corresponding measure foreseen in the RDP:

- Quality of the food and territorial offer (measures 111, 121, 123, 124, 125, 132, 133, 311, 312, 313, 331);
- Quality of life in rural areas (measures 111, 226, 227, 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 331);
- Preservation of the environment and natural resources (measures 111, 216, 222, 223, 226, 227, 311, 321, 323, 331);
- Rural tourism (measures 226, 227, 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 331).

Expenses typically foreseen in the corresponding RDP measure are considered eligible.

### **Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs**

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

The deadline to submit cooperation project proposal is 4 December 2012.

### **Contact details**

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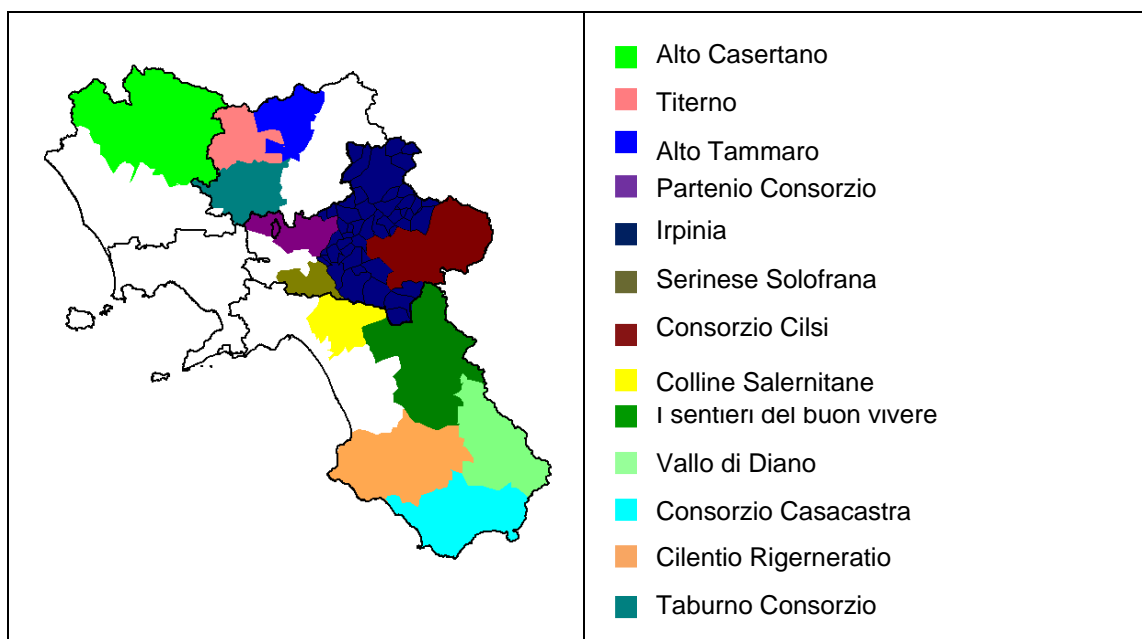
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## CAMPANIA



### SECTION A: COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 13

#### Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 1 – Measures 124

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 225, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323

#### Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):

EUR 2.215.160,542

#### Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 98.832,879

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	59,117,450
b.	Public funding:	EUR	26,696,819
c.	Private funding:	EUR	13,018,000

### SECTION B: PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### **Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)**

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 6,550,916, which is 7.63% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects and to the LAGs.

In accordance with the National Guide for eligible costs, approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of Italy, eligible expenditure for a transnational cooperation project cannot exceed 300,000 Euro.

Each LAG can be provided with up to a maximum of EUR 15,000 Euro to cover preparatory technical support costs.

##### **Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)**

The LAG is responsible for managing the TNC budget.

#### 1. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### **Local Development Strategies and Main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period**

LAGs can present within their LDSs the cooperation strategy, indicating:

- the level of the involvement of partners;
- the relevance of the proposed actions in terms of the project's objectives;
- the methodology, the typology of the actions and the objectives they intend to pursue;
- the amount of the funding request.

The main themes proposed by LAGs include the promotion of local products and the development of tourist itineraries.

##### **Way of selecting cooperation projects**

The cooperation strategies will be selected together with the LDS and the action plan. Afterwards the LAG will have to submit a final project for each cooperation project, enclosed the cooperation agreement signed by all the partners, the implementing modalities, the financial and organization informations.

##### **Cooperation with third countries**

The cooperation with territories of third countries that have a similar approach is foreseen.

##### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

To avoid fragmentation and burdening of the LAG management with administrative activities of the partnerships, each selected LAG cannot participate in more than 3 TNC projects.

## 2. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The participation in TNC projects with other rural areas belonging to one or more Member States and/or with territories of third countries that have a similar approach is foreseen.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

A committee established within the MA will assess the compliance of TNC project applications with the cooperation strategies of the LDSs.

The implementation of the action will be subject to the approval of the cooperation project by all the other MAs involved. The MA may give provisional approval, so long as the other partners receive approval from their respective MA within the next six months from the planned start date of the project.

An administrative selection procedure, distinct from the project selection one, has been put in place to facilitate the financing of preparatory technical support expenditures. The submission of applications is accepted at any time from the moment the LAGs were selected.

As part of the LDS approval process, the selection of cooperation strategies will consider the following:

- Consistency with the strategies pursued by the LDS;
- Technical feasibility and project quality;
- Organizational model adopted;
- Appropriateness of costs;
- Compliance and eligibility of expenditure pursuant to EU, national and regional legislation.

The evaluation of projects will verify:

- The presence of a joint action;
- The consistency with regional policies related to the international dimension;
- The presence of at least one partner from another Member State;
- Existence of a signed cooperation agreement between the partners.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

The cooperation should include operations relevant to the local strategy. The projects must address RDP measures of axis 1, 2 and 3.

The only expenditures eligible for financing include:

- Planning, within a limit of 2% of the total cost and within a limit not exceeding 6,000 Euro;
- Animation, needed to develop the partnership and the supporting actions, monitoring, and reporting up to a limit equal to 7.5% of the total cost and for an amount that cannot exceed 22,500 Euros;
- Joint action, for which only the actions foreseen by measures 411, 412 and 413 of the

## CAMPANIA

RDP can be carried out, as well as expenses not covered, provided these are strategic to the project itself, consistent with regional policies and do not exceed 20% of the total cost.

In accordance with the National Guide for eligible costs, approved by the Ministry of Agriculture of Italy, eligible expenditure for a transnational cooperation project cannot exceed 300,000 Euro.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

As part of for the LDS selection/approval process, the Managing Authority required the completion of the application form for cooperation projects established by the Italian Rural Network, which also includes:

- a declaration of the absence of overlapping with other cooperation projects;
- the curriculum of the LAG lead partner which demonstrates experience in the field of Cooperation and in the thematic area of the project;
- the curriculum of the other LAG partners;
- declaration, from which the financial solidity of the LAG partners can be derived.

### The approval process of TNC applications

The MA gave the acceptance to 6 transnational cooperation projects and is waiting for the partnership agreements.

### Contact details

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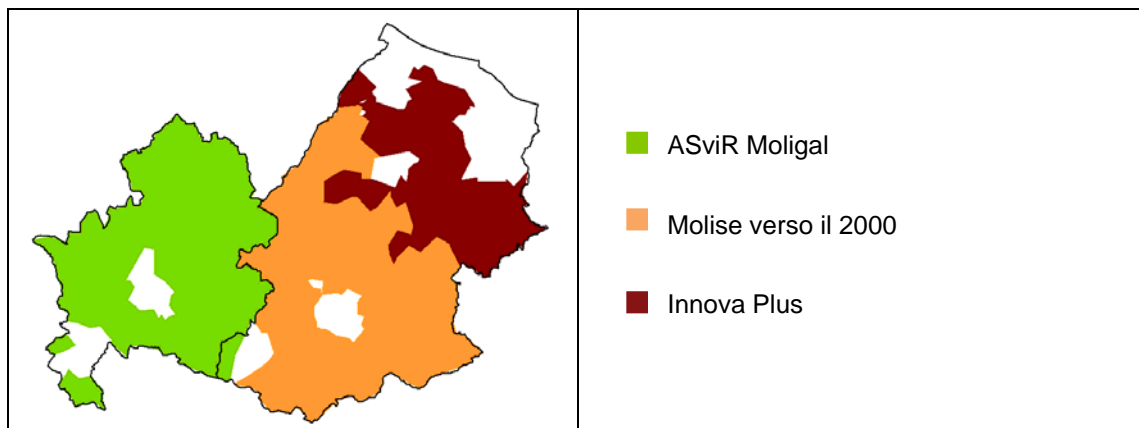
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## MOLISE



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 3

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 321, 322

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 283,398,564

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 12,925,066

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	4,487,360
b.	Public funding:	EUR	5,711,185
c.	Private funding:	EUR	2,726,521

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 1,255,977, which is 0.6% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have neither been pre-allocated to TNC projects nor to LAGs.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen (12% of the total amount foreseen for measure 421).

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period

The integration of Cooperation in local development strategy (LDS) is optional. However, the inclusion of cooperation is particularly rewarded, as it is considered a strategic priority for the LDS. LAGs demonstrate their interest to cooperate in specific thematic areas addressed by their LDS, describing the objectives, criteria, priorities and respective methods and approaches. An identification of partners is not required at this stage.

The selected LDS submitted the following main themes:

- Quality of life;
- Rural tourism.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The MA will publish calls for submission of cooperation projects within one year from LDS approval. Calls will be issued at least once a year.

#### Cooperation with third countries

For projects involving partners from outside the EU, the participation of at least three partners is mandatory, of which at least two have to be EU Member States.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Each selected LAG cannot participate in more than 3 TNC projects with an amount of public funding that cannot exceed 450,000 Euro.



## 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The project must respect the following conditions:

1. For projects involving partners from outside the EU: the participation of at least three partners is mandatory, of which at least two must originate from EU Member States;
2. For projects involving partners from within the EU: the participation of at least two partners is mandatory;
3. The presence of a cooperation agreement, which defines mutual commitments and relations among project partners;
4. The implementation of a joint action;
5. The identification of the lead partner, responsible for managing the project, selected according to article 39.1 of regulation (EC) 1974/2006.

Cooperation may be also open to local partnerships (according to article 59, letter (e) of regulation (EC) 1698/2005; public private partnership) and other local rural groups organised along the following main lines:

- a) ..Presence of a local group active in rural development, with the capacity to draw up a development strategy for a certain geographical territory;
- b) Organisation of a local group based on a partnership among local actors.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

The MA will publish calls for submission cooperation projects within one year from LDS approval. Calls will be issued at least once a year. The procedural approach will allow all LAGs to proceed to the identification of partners and the preparation of cooperation projects within the set time frame.

The selection criteria indicated in the RDP are:

1. The relevance and the degree of consistency with the strategic priorities of the RDP and the LDS;
2. The critical mass of the project and its sustainability;
3. The degree of definition and the presence of a concrete, jointly implemented action;
4. The validity of the methodology;
5. The transparency of the budget and the arrangements for managing the project;
6. The added value of the cooperation compared to the proposed strategy.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

The eligible activities, exclusively related to the joint action, are mostly non-material (e.g. feasibility studies, exchange of experiences and know-how, dissemination activities).

Only the following expenditures are eligible for funding:

- Animation costs needed to define the partnership and to plan the joint action, within a limit equal to a maximum of 12% of the total cost;

## MOLISE

- Costs related to the implementation of the joint action, for the operation of a common structure and technical support to the implementation of the cooperation project.

### **Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs**

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

In May 2012, the MA has finished the approval process and approved 3 transnational cooperation projects.

### **Contact details**

#### **Nicola Pavone**

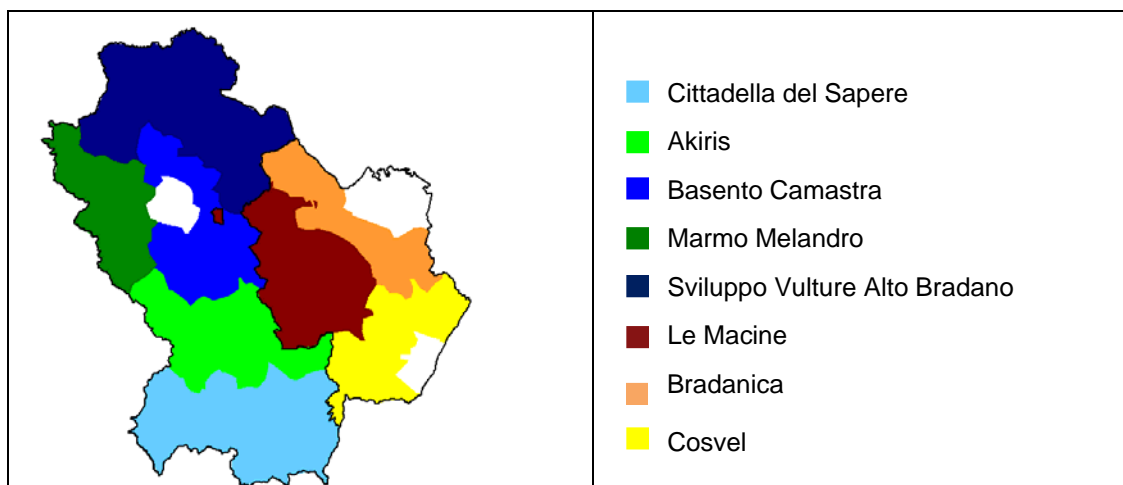
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## BASILICATA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 8

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 121

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 852.354,538

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 52.217,294

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	22.359,001
b.	Public funding:	EUR	16.526,218
c.	Private funding:	EUR	13.332,000

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### **Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)**

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 1,944,261, which is 0.30% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects and to the LAGs.

No special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen.

#### **Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)**

The LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### **Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period**

During the LDS selection phase, LAG applicants were encouraged to express their cooperation strategies on a special application form prepared by the Region. LAGs may propose cooperation projects at different levels of advancement as regards the project and partnership definition:

- Preparatory projects, in the absence of established partnerships (minimum level);
- Final projects, with already formed and operational partnerships (maximum level).

The main themes proposed by LAGs refer to:

- Local products;
- Tourism development.

#### **Way of selecting cooperation projects**

In the case of final projects LAGs may immediately proceed to the implementation of the selected projects. In the case of preparatory projects, the selection is subject to the approval of final documentation, to be submitted after the selection of the LDS.

#### **Cooperation with third countries**

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### **Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG**

Not specified.

## 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The project must involve cooperation of at least a LAG from the Basilicata Region selected under the Leader Axis, with at least one LAG from another Italian region and at least one LAG from another EU Member State. All the cooperating LAGs must have been selected under the Leader Axis.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

For preparatory projects, the selection is subject to the approval of final documentation, to be submitted after the selection of the LDS. The same procedure as for operations implemented under measure 4.1 "LAG direct coordination" applies. Therefore, within a maximum period of 18 months from the approval of the LDS, the selected LAG shall establish partnerships and present the Managing Authority the final projects. The MA will duly process and definitively approve applications within 24 months from the approval of the LDS.

Any new cooperation project the LAGs would like to present following the approval of the LDS will be checked for consistency with the LDS strategy during the preliminary evaluation phase.

The RDP indicates the following selection criteria:

- definition of the level of advancement of the proposed cooperation projects and consistency with the strategy of the LDS;
- definition of the level of advancement and quality of the proposed cooperation partnership.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation should cover operations in consistency with the local strategy. The projects must address RDP measures of axis 1, 2 and 3.

The following categories of expenditure are eligible:

- Costs relating to the implementation of information and communication actions;
- Costs relating to the implementation of activities for the exchange of best practice, including the use of third parties for research, evaluation and exchange of experience;
- General costs (direct and indirect) for the organisation and implementation of project activities, including administration and secretariat, monitoring, the purchase of various utilities (telephone, electricity, heating, rental of premises, etc.);
- Costs relating to coordination meetings between partners, including travel costs, accommodation, meals, local transport, subsistence allowance, renting of premises and equipment costs;
- Costs incurred by the LAG or the lead partner for the coordination, monitoring and evaluation activities of the whole project;
- Costs relating to the establishment and running of any common structure.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of the RDP, LAGs will have to complete a specific application

## BASILICATA

form issued by the MA, providing detailed information and data.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

In October 2012, the MA has approved 1 transnational cooperation project.

### **Contact details**

#### **Rocco De Canio**

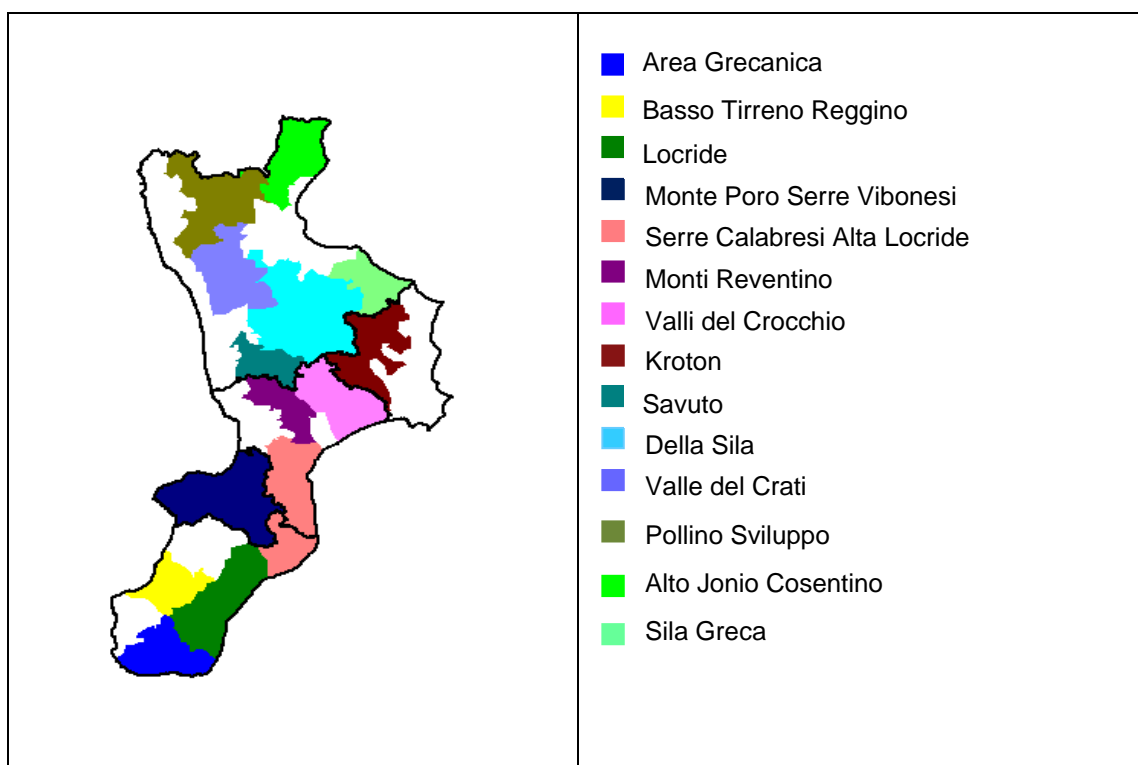
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## CALABRIA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 14

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 1 – Measures 121, 123, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 216, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 323, 331

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1.069.123,633

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 90.399,576

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	37.400,460
b.	Public funding:	EUR	24.933,640
c.	Private funding:	EUR	28.065,476

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 4,791,667, which is 0.45% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects and to the LAGs.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen (10% of the total amount foreseen for measure 421 and however no more than 50,000 euros).

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 1. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the programming period

The cooperation project idea is jointly submitted with the LDS. The main themes proposed by LAGs refer to:

- Local products;
- Tourism development
- Food safety;
- Other.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

Cooperation project ideas are directly promoted by the LAGs: the approval of the LDS involves the approval of the cooperation projects.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

### 2. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The cooperation projects proposed under the LDSs must fulfill the following eligibility requirements:

- a LAG lead partner must be indicated in the project;



## CALABRIA

- the project must not overlap with other national and transnational cooperation projects financed by other programmes;
- Presence of the accession letter by all the involved project partners;
- The project must foresee the development of a joint action or a joint structure (e.g. European economic Interest Grouping according to Reg. EC 2137/85), other than the exchanging experience;
- Physical resources at the base of the cooperation project must already exist and must not be acquired in order to implement the project;
- At least one of the partners must be a beneficiary of the Leader axis measure;
- The project must integrate an environmental dimension;
- Cooperation project partners must sign a cooperation agreement, in which they agree to pursue cooperation activities beyond the end of the 2007-2013 programme funding.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

Full project applications must be submitted within six months following LDS approval.

Project presented as part of the LDS will be evaluated against the above eligibility requirements and against project quality criteria:

- Technical and project quality;
- Quality of the cooperation partnership;
- Implementation modalities;
- Consistency with the strategies pursued by the LDS.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation projects concern operations related to the measures of axes 1, 2 and 3.

The following costs are eligible:

- Preparatory actions (animation for the partnership development and joint action planning) cannot exceed 10% of the total cooperation project cost and no more than 50,000 euro.
- Project implementation costs, the operation of the common structure, the technical support for the implementation of the project and the implementation of the joint action, as well as costs relating to the interventions foreseen in the different measures referred to in axes 1, 2, and 3 are also eligible.

### Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of the RDP, LAGs will have to include a completed application form in their LDS.

### The approval process of TNC applications

In October 2012, the MA approved 4 transnational cooperation.

## CALABRIA

### Contact details

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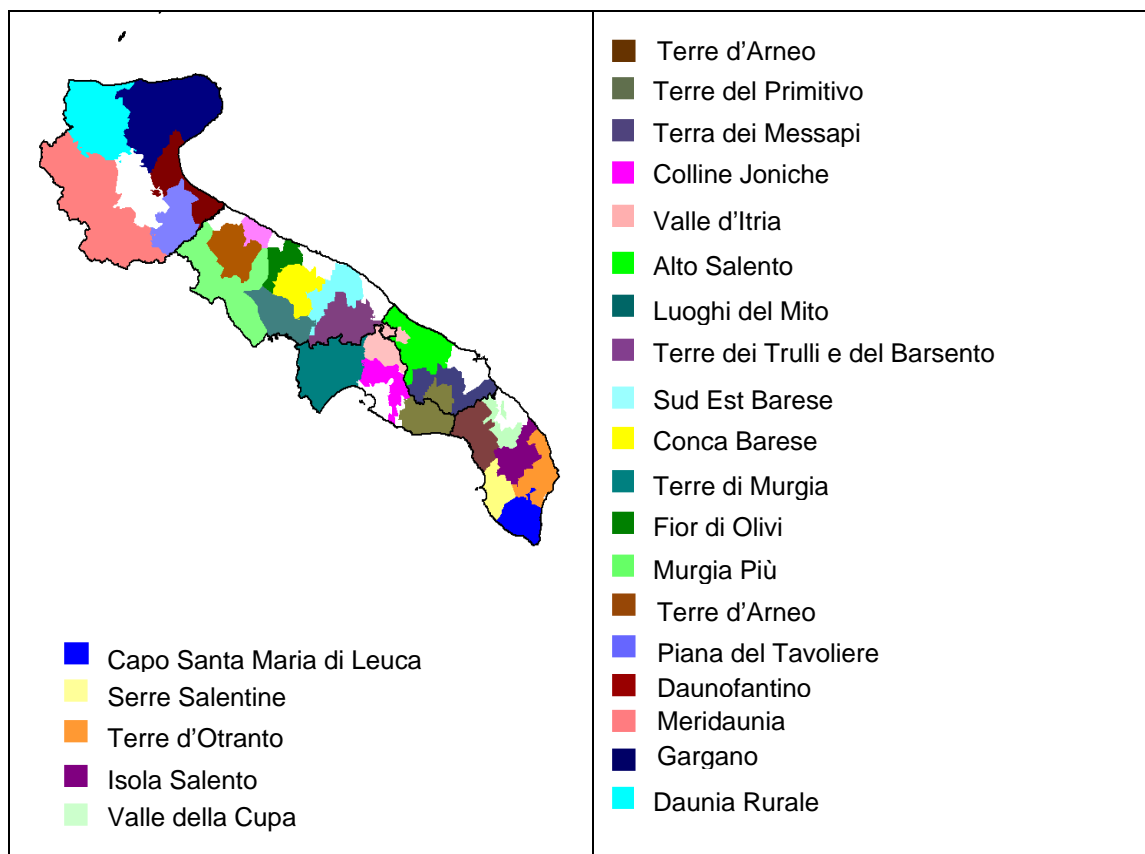
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## PUGLIA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 25

#### Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 114, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 132, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 211, 212, 214, 216, 221, 223, 226, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 323, 331

#### Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):

EUR 2,197,135,081

#### Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 441,972,656

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	169,388,000
b.	Public funding:	EUR	124,626,589
c.	Private funding:	EUR	147,958,067

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 11,976,649, which is 0.76% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects is not foreseen.

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period

Under "Phase I - Selection of territories and local partnerships", priority will be given to LAG applicants which have included Cooperation in the local development strategy (LDS). During the evaluation of the LDS, particular attention will be paid to TNC project proposals integrating with the objectives of the LDS. Assessment scores will reflect the level of integration achieved.

Under "Phase II – Constitution of LAGs and selection of Local Development Plans," LAGs which have passed the first stage will have to present the cooperation strategy of their LDS, indicating:

- the general plan of intended actions;
- the level of involvement of partners,
- the relevance of the proposed actions in terms of project objectives, methodology, intended type of intervention and goals;
- the amount of funding requested.

The main themes the selected LDS indicated include:

- Local products;
- Exchange of experiences and know-how;
- Rural tourism;
- Quality of life.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The Puglia Region reserves the right to subsequently issue a call for proposals, in order to invite project proposals beyond those submitted as part of the LDS.

## Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

## Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Not specified.

### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

#### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The participation of partners from at least two countries, including at least one from an EU Member State, is mandatory. The following aspects are of particular relevance for the eligibility of project proposals:

- Consistency with the strategies pursued in the LDS and with its financial resources;
- Quality and intended results of the project proposal;
- Information details provided by the signed cooperation agreement;
- Modalities of project implementation;
- Organisational approach adopted;
- Financial aspects.

#### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

Before presentation of detailed TNC project proposals, LAGs will be given about six months of time following approval of the LDS to establish their partnership.

The assessment of project proposals will be based on the following elements:

- Identification of needs in relation to the area's strengths and weaknesses indicated in the LDS;
- Link between the proposed project and the central theme presented in the LDS;
- Compliance of the interventions with the provisions of the LDS (technical description, percentage of contribution, indicators, etc.);
- Eligibility of the interventions;
- Degree of innovation in relation to new products or new methods and productive processes;
- Quantification of result and output indicators, with reference to specific objectives and operational objectives;
- Employment effects in relation to the number of working units created or maintained as a result of project implementation;
- Financial and organisational sustainability;
- Coherence and complementarity with the Community guidelines concerning the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA).

### **Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects**

The cooperation projects must address the objectives of one of the axes of the RDP.

Eligibility of expenses for implementing actions is determined by criteria described in the relevant specific measure fiches.

### **Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs**

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

In October 2012, the MA has approved 6 Transnational cooperation projects.

### **Contact details**

**Cosimo Roberto Sallustio**

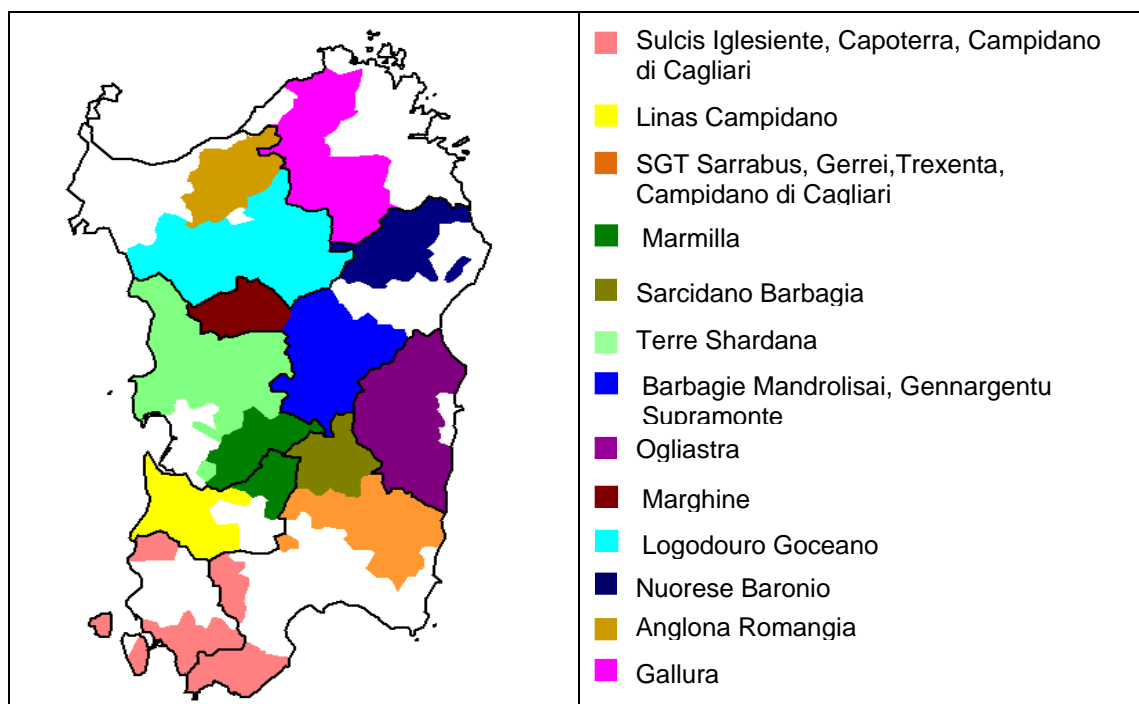
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## SARDEGNA



## COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 13

**Axes covered by TNC projects:**

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 341

**Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ national+ private expenditure):**

EUR 1,565,962,307

**Total budget for Leader axis:**

EUR 235,000,000

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	74,767,500
b.	Public funding:	EUR	95,158,636
c.	Private funding:	EUR	65,073,864

### PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

#### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

##### Budget for TNC projects

The budget allocated to TNC projects is EUR 5,000,000 which is 0.4% of the total RDP budget. The budget per LAG is EUR 384,615.38

A special budget for the preparation of TNC project has been foreseen (12% of the total amount foreseen for measure 421).

##### Responsibility on the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

The Managing Authority is responsible for managing the budget.

#### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

##### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period

LAGs must specify in their Local Development Strategies their project ideas in terms of objectives, criteria, priorities, methodologies, and approaches without preventively identifying the partners

Topics of interest for transnational cooperation projects:

- Food safety;
- Product origin;
- Other.

##### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The regional MA will publish a call for the submission of cooperation project proposals within one year from the selection of the LDSs. The call will have a multi-year duration with an "on-going" selection procedure.

##### Cooperation with third countries

Participation of at least three different partners, of which two from EU member states.

##### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Participation of at least two EU partner.s

#### 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

##### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

Two eligible criteria must be respected in order to participate in TNC projects:



1. to be a legally constituted LAG and selected under current call for proposals;
2. to submit a project either as promoter or as a partner which falls under the Axis 3.

### Information on procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

The TNC cooperation projects will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

1. grade of definition of the partnership at the moment of the submission of the project;
2. quality of the project (compliance of the project with the diagnosis, the objectives and the strategy of the RDP and of the LDP, added value of the cooperation project, level of innovation, definition of the project, level of compliance of the budget and of the timetable with the actions to implement, sustainability of the project).
3. managing modalities level of the managing and communication modalities, evaluation and monitoring system, tasks and roles of the partners).

### Eligible activities and specific eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation projects concern operations related to the measures of axis 3.

The following are the only items eligible for financing:

- Animation and technical assistance supporting the definition of partnerships, cooperation agreement and project plan;
- Implementation of the joint action, operation of the common structure and technical support for the implementation of joint actions foreseen by the cooperation project.

### Specific document concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs

The LAG has to fill in a specific application form (in addition of what is required by the "Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013"), in which detailed information and data is requested. In addition the LAG has to justify the consistency of the submitted project with its Local Development Strategy and the Measures carried out. The only specific national requirement for the Cooperation Agreement concerns the eligible expenses.

### The approval process of TNC applications

In April 2011 the MA published a call for proposal following an on going selection procedure. The deadline for submission was scheduled for 31.12.2012.

### Contact details

**Daniela Boi**

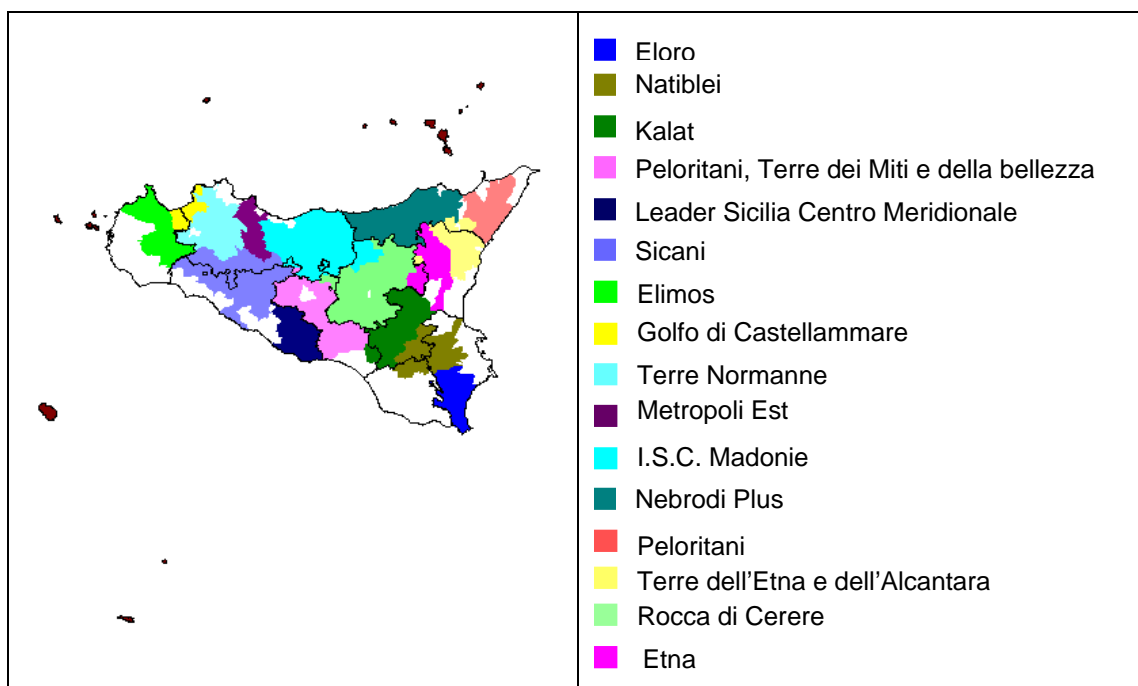
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## SICILIA



### COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

**Number of LAGs:** 15

#### Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 114, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 132, 133

Axis 2 – Measures 211, 212, 214, 216, 221, 222, 223, 224, 226, 227

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 312, 313, 321, 322, 323, 331, 341

#### Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):

EUR 2.933.160.391

#### Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 160.854.378

Of which:

a.	EU Funding:	EUR	71.731.685
b.	Public funding:	EUR	51.943.634
c.	Private funding:	EUR	37.179.059

## PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

#### Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)

The budget allocated to measure 421 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 15.039.310, which is 0.7% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have neither been pre-allocated to TNC projects nor to the LAGs.

A special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen (2% of the total amount of each project and no more than 50.000).

#### Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)

LAGs are responsible for managing the TNC budget.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

#### Local Development Strategies and main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period

LAGs are invited to submit their cooperation ideas and to specify the areas of intervention as part of the local development strategy (LDS).

The main themes addressed by the selected LDS include the following:

- Rural tourism;
- Local products;
- Quality of life.

#### Way of selecting cooperation projects

The selection of cooperation projects is the responsibility of the actuator (Assessorato Regionale Agricoltura e Foreste – Dipartimento Interventi Infrastrutturali – Servizio Leader). The actuator will issue a specific call, inviting the LAGs to submit cooperation project proposals.

#### Cooperation with third countries

No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.

#### Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG

Each selected LAG cannot participate in more than 3 TNC projects and can submit only one TNC as Lead partner.

## 3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

### Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects

The participation of at least 5 Sicilian LAGs is mandatory.

### Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects

The MA will approve a provisional list and suddenly a final list. The projects that need the approval of other MAs will be approved with reserve waiting to receive the approvals within 45 days from the day of project approval communication by the Sicilia Region. After this date, the MA could cancel the approval. In case of no project approval by one of the MA involved, the project could be implemented.

The TNC cooperation projects will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

1. grade of compliance of the project with the RDP and added value of the proposed strategy;
2. prosecution of the cooperation projects implemented in the former programming period;
3. grade of feasibility and concreteness of the project;
4. managing modalities of the project;
5. extension of the partnership, expressed in number of participants, over than the Sicilian LAGs;
6. grade of portability of the methodologies selected.

### Eligible activities and typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects

Cooperation projects must not be limited to a mere exchange of experience. TNC project partners must implement specific common actions constituting:

- Added value for local products;
- Improvement of the quality of life through the distribution of new services to the population;
- Improvement of the competitiveness of enterprises;
- Valorisation of natural and cultural resources;
- Use of new know-how and new technologies.

The constitution of cooperation networks promoting synergy and collaboration among different LAGs will be considered advantageous (realisation of common projects integrating the local resources of partnering territories).

The following are the only items eligible for financing:

- Animation and technical assistance supporting the definition of partnerships, cooperation agreement and project plan;
- Implementation of the joint action, operation of the common structure and technical support for the implementation of joint actions foreseen by the cooperation project;
- Managing and coordination of the Sicilian Lead partner LAG.

### **Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs**

In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to fill in a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.

### **The approval process of TNC applications**

The call for proposals has been published on 18.11.2011. The deadline to submit project proposals is 27.02.2012.

### **Contact details**

#### **Celeste Di Girolamo**

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**List of abbreviations:**

EU:	European Union
LAG:	Local Action Group
LDS:	Local Development Strategy
MA:	Managing Authority
MS:	Member State
PA:	Paying Authority
TNC:	Transnational Cooperation
RDP:	Rural Development Programme



**PIANO STRATEGICO DELLO SVILUPPO RURALE  
L'AGRICOLTURA A BENEFICIO DI TUTTI**

**RETE RURALE NAZIONALE 2007-2013**  
**Ministero delle politiche agricole alimentari e forestali**

Dipartimento delle politiche competitive del mondo rurale e della qualità  
Direzione generale della competitività per lo sviluppo rurale

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