



Procedures for the management and control of LEADER measures

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- The context

EC regulations
Italy: the context

- Procedures for the management and control of LEADER measures

Main steps

- The demarcation of tasks between MA, PA and LAGs

The demarcation of tasks between MA and PA.



The demarcation of tasks between MA and PA and LAGs in Italy

- Requirements for LAG management capacity and internal decision making rules

431 Measure

4.. Measures

LAGs organisation

- **Reg. (EC) 1698/05** 
 - Art. 62(4): LAGs select the projects to finance within the strategy. They can also select cooperation projects.
 - Art. 64: If the operations carried out within the local strategy framework match the measures defined in the current regulation for the other axes, the related conditions are applied.
- **Reg. (EC) 1290/05** → Art. 6: Accreditation of the paying agencies. Functions and tasks that can be delegated
- **Reg. (EC) 885/06** → *Rules for the application of Reg. (EC) 1290/05*
- **Reg. (CE) 796/04** → Cross-compliance, modulation and integrated administration of control system
- **Reg. (EC) 1975/06** 
 - Rules on management and control procedures*
Art. 33(1): In the case of expenditure incurred under Article 63(a) and (b) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, the administrative checks referred to in Article 26 of this Regulation may be carried out by local action groups under a formal delegation. However, the Member State remains responsible for verifying that local action groups have the administrative and control capacity to undertake that work.

RDP arrangement

- Axes 1, 2 and 3 measures implemented through the Leader approach;
- Possible specific Leader measures (extra-Regulation 1698/05);
- Appointment of the appropriate Authorities and of the responsible organisms (organisational/institutional structure).

RDP procedures

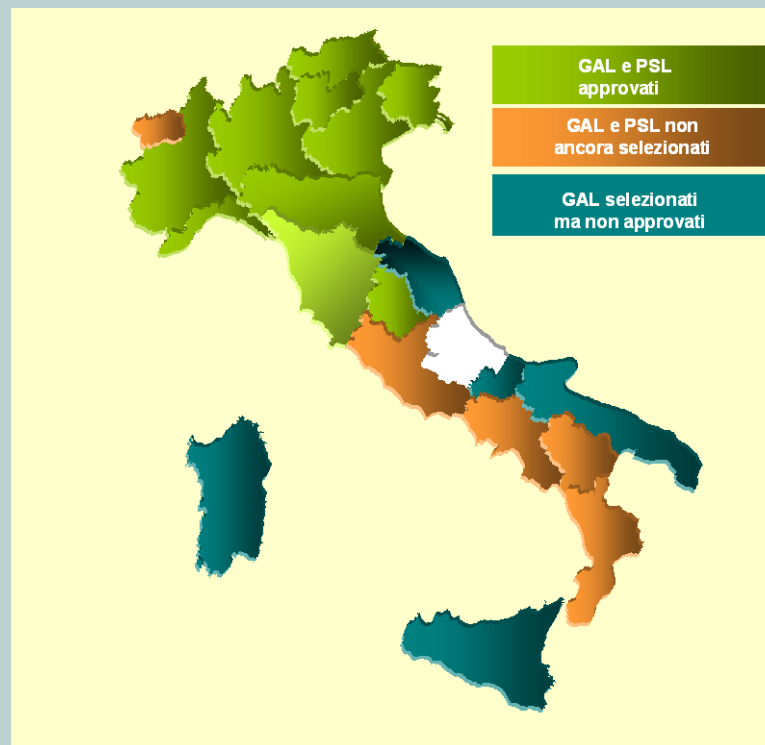
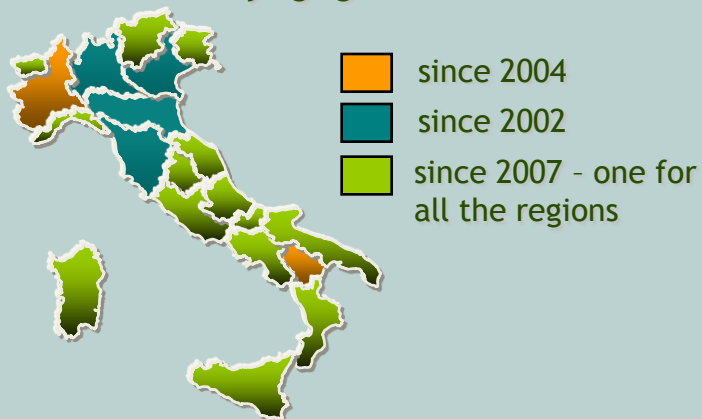
- Implementing conditions and procedures for Axes 1, 2 and 3 measures;
- Organisation of the informative flows and of the monitoring systems.

Leader approach in Italy - November 2009

21 Rural Development Programs



Italian Paying Agencies



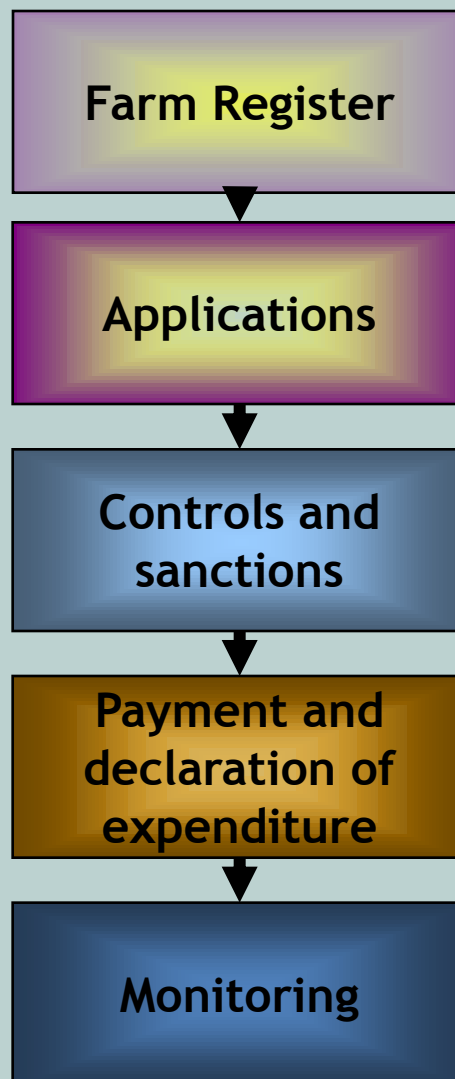
Numbers of LAGs selected:

Numbers of LAGs - February 2010:

Total size of area covered by LAGs - February 2010:

Total population living in LAGs areas:

Main Steps



1. PROGRAMMING

PHASE	ACTIVITY	Responsible subject		
		MA	PA	★
PROGRAMMING	Regional Rural Development Program	X		
	Publication of Calls	X		
	Procedures for collecting, registration and treatment of applications for support	X		
	Procedures for collecting, registration and treatment of payment claims		X	

2. RECEIVING APPLICATIONS

PHASE	ACTIVITY	Responsible subject		
		MA	PA	★
COLLECTING	Deadlines management for opening and closing of Calls with regard to Applications for support	X		
	Establishment and updating of the Farm Register		X	★
	Collecting applications for support	X		
	Collecting Payment claims		X	★

3. ADMINISTRATIVE CHECKS

PHASE	ACTIVITY	Responsible subject		
		MA	PA	☆
ADMINISTRATIVE CHECKS AND TREATMENT OF APPLICATION FOR SUPPORT	Checks on commitments and eligibility criteria of applications in accordance with Regulations, RDP and Calls	X		
	Assessment of applications and ranking	X		
	Ranking approval - list of application admitted and not	X		
	Notification to any applicant on result of assessment (admitted and not admitted)	X		
	Re-examination of applications not admitted and notification to applicants about results	X		

4. ON THE SPOT CONTROLS

PHASE	ACTIVITY	Responsible subject		
		MA	PA	☆
EX-ANTE SAMPLE	Definition of sample selecting criteria		X	
	Advising Paying Agency about specific criteria linked to RDPs and Calls	X		
	Selection of the control sample		X	☆
	Carrying out controls in accordance with EU regulations, RDP, Calls		X	☆

5. PAYMENTS AND ACCOUNTING

PHASE	ACTIVITY	Responsible subject		
		MA	PA	☆
PAYMENT	Authorization of payments		X	☆
	Execution and accounting of payments		X	
	Declaration of expenditure to the Coordinating Body through SFC		X	
MONITORING	Monitoring	X		
	Annual Report	X		

6. EX POST CONTROLS

PHASE	ACTIVITY	Responsible subject		
		MA	PA	☆
EX-POST SAMPLE	Definition of sample selecting criteria		X	
	Advising to Paying Agency about specific criteria linked to RDPs and Calls for Tender	X		
	Selection of the control sample		X	☆
	Carrying out on-the-spot checks in order to verify commitments		X	☆

The role of Ministry of Agriculture

- National Forum on NSP Partnership Implementation
- Ensuring complementarity and coherence among policies; Horizontal issues (cross-compliance and baseline identification, rules on eligibility of expenditure, reductions and exclusion system, etc.)
- National Monitoring Committee (art. 77(3) Reg. 1698/05)
- Financial coordination for 21 RDPs and 1 NRN
- Implementation of a “National monitoring and evaluation system” according to CMEF (art. 80 Reg. 1698/05)
- National Rural Network management

The regional level

- Each Regional authority is responsible for the implementation of 1 RDP
- RDP implementation at regional level: centralized vs. decentralized approach.
- In the latter case, such devolution can even involve Provinces and Mountain Communities.
- Depending on the implementing method, duties and responsibilities for Managing Authority & Paying Agency can change (defined by a specific agreement).

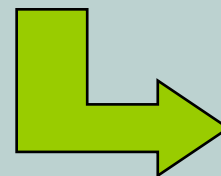
The Paying Agency

The PA undertakes RDP aid payments and it is competent for:

- receiving, registering and managing payment claims ;
- administrative checks on all applications, with reference to Article 11 of Reg. (EC) n. 1975/2006;
- on-the-spot checks concerning at least the 5% of beneficiaries, as referred to in Art. 12 of Reg. (EC) n. 1975/2006;
- management of irregularities and recoveries;
- payments of EAFRD aids.

With the exception of aids payment, the abovementioned tasks can be delegated according to the conditions referred to in Annex 1, paragraph 1(C) of Reg. (EC) n. 885/2006.

... what about LAGS?



Who does what? The framework

Activities: phases and involved subjects

MA

LAG

PA

Elaboration of calls

4

17

0

Definition of selection criteria

4

17

0

Publication of calls

1

19

0

Reception of applications

2

17

1

Administrative and technical checks

4

16

1

On-spot checks (if any)

4

14

2

Definition of ranking

4

16

1

Ranking approval

3

17

1

Definition of final list of beneficiaries

3

17

1

Reception of payment claims

4

15

1

Administrative and technical checks

4

13

4

On-spot checks

3

9

5

Clearence of payments

0

0

21

Who does what? The framework

Rural Development Programme																					
Phases/ Activities	Abruzzo	Basilicata	Bolzano	Calabria	Campania	Emilia R.	Friuli V.G.	Lazio	Liguria	Lombardia	Marche	Molise	Piemonte	Puglia	Sardegna	Sicilia	Toscana	Trento	Umbria	Valle d'Aosta	Veneto
Elaboration of calls	LAG	MA / LAG	?	LAG	MA / LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA / LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG
Definition of selection criteria	LAG	MA / LAG	?	LAG	MA / LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA / LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG
Publication of calls	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG
Reception of applications	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	MA (Prov)	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	PA
Administrative and technical checks	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	?	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	MA (Prov)	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	PA
On-spot checks (if any)	?	LAG	LAG	LAG	?	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	MA (Prov)	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	PA	LAG	PA
Definition of ranking	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	MA (Prov)	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	PA (LAG)
Ranking approval	LAG	LAG	MA (LAG)	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	PA
Elab. of final list of beneficiaries	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	MA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	PA
Reception of payment claims	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	MA (Prov)	?	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	LAG	PA
Administrative and technical checks	LAG	LAG / PA	MA	LAG	?	LAG	LAG	LAG	MA	MA (Prov)	?	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	PA	LAG	PA
On-spot checks	?	PA	MA	LAG	?	LAG	LAG	MA	?	MA (Prov)	?	LAG	PA	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	LAG	PA	LAG	PA
Clearence of payments	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA	PA

Axis 4 (LEADER APPROACH) – 2007-2013 RDP APPLICATION CONTROL SYSTEM						
Measure 431 – beneficiary: LAG						
Item checked	Exectuor(A, B, ...)	Responsibility	Delegated to	Region	GAL	PA
Application for support (100%)	Examiner (100%)	Region		A		
	Assessor (to be appointed by MA)	Region		B		
Payment claim (100%)	Examiner (100%)	PA	Region	C		
	Assessor (2%)	PA	Region	D		
On-spot checks (5%)	Examiner (100%)	PA	Region	E		

Axis 4 (LEADER APPROACH) – 2007-2013 RDP APPLICATION CONTROL SYSTEM						
Measure 431 – beneficiary: other than LAG						
Item checked	Exectuor(A, B, ...)	Responsibility	Delegated to	Region	GAL	PA
Application for support (100%)	Examiner (100%)	LAG			A	
	Assessor (to be appointed by MA)	LAG			B	
Payment claim (100%)	Examiner (100%)	PA	Region (LAG can be delegated if envisaged by the RDP)		C	
	Assessor (2%)	PA	Region	D		
On-spot checks (5%)	Examiner (100%)	PA	Region	E		

LAG INTERNAL ORGANISATION

Taking into account the tasks to be undertaken (assessment of applications for support, assessment of payment claims) LAG's staff should be composed of:

- 1 application examiner
- 1 application assessor (MA option)
- 1 payment claim examiner
- 1 payment claim assessor

thus envisaging a maximum number of 4 units.

Other critical aspects...

- LAG file: opening and updating
- Demarcation of functions and internal organisation of LAG
- On-spot checks: criteria and sample definition
- Monitoring: LAG's role
- Monitoring: additional output and result indicators

<http://www.reterurale.it/leader>



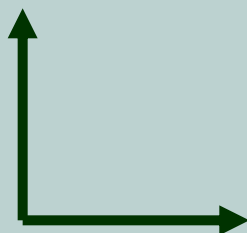
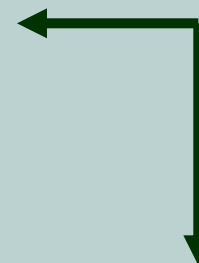
Forum Leader (F.A.Q.)



On-line legal and administrative window



Documents



Meeting with M.A. and P.A.



**Training on legal and
financial/administrative
issues (LAGs)**