



Seminar on community-led local development 2014-2020

Keeping it simple

Brussels, 6 February 2013

Getting in right: Delivery systems for CLLD

- Clarity in who does what
- Who are you delegating to?
- What are you delegating?
- Why are you delegating?
- How are you delegating?
- What is eligible?

Who does what? Delegating tasks

What should Local Action Groups be doing?

- 1) Capacity-building
- 2) Assessing quality and relevance of a project for a Local Development Strategy
- 3) Selection of projects
- 4) Monitoring implementation of LDS

What else can be delegated to Local Action Groups:

- 1) Checks of eligibility / legality
- 2) Formal project approval
- 3) Certification and payment to beneficiaries

These tasks require the designation as intermediate body

How to ensure a more efficient use of CLLD?

- Support **capacity-building** at all implementation levels
 - Raise awareness of specificities of CLLD for all players involved in CLLD: MAs, Pas, Audit Authorities, LAGs/ project promoters
- Clear **division of responsibilities**, avoid duplication
- Reduce **administrative burden** for all
 - Simplify procedures for public co-financing
 - Simplified procedures for small projects
 - Simplified cost options (small projects, running costs, etc.)
 - Speed of overall approval process and payments
 - Encourage advance payments (to LAGs and beneficiaries)
- Keep **additional rules** to necessary minimum
 - Avoid restrictions of eligibility which limits the capacity of the LAGs to respond to local needs and support innovation
- **Evaluate efficiency** of delivery systems

How to coordinate between Funds?

Coordination mechanisms for CLLD at national or regional level covering several ESI-Funds

- **Required: coordination mechanism for CLLD involving all relevant MAs**
 - Optional: joint monitoring committee for CLLD
- **Possible: further coordination using specific/ joint intermediate body for CLLD at sub-national level**
 - Facilitates coordination; provides a single interlocuteur for LAGs
- **Lead Fund option for multi-funded LDS**
 - Simplification: running and animation costs for the LDS financed from one Fund only

WHAT CAN BE SUPPORTED BY CLLD? INCREASING FLEXIBILITY, REDUCING RISK

- **Four types of support**
 - Preparatory support
 - Implementation of the local development strategies
 - Cooperation projects and their preparation
 - Running costs and animation
- **Reducing risk**
 - Ensuring all levels have a shared and clear understanding of eligibility
 - Getting eligibility clear from the outset

Preparatory support

- Offered as a **coherent set of actions** coordinated between the different Funds
- **Calls for expression of interest**
- **Support covering:**
 - Training actions to prepare local actors
 - Studies of the area concerned
 - Elaboration of the strategy (consultancy costs, public relations, etc.)
 - Administrative costs of a structure that is applying for preparatory support (operating and personnel costs)
- Preparatory support can be provided **from 1st January 2014**

Implementation of the Local Development Strategy

- **Most eligibility rules defined at national level**
 - Limited by the scope of each programme and Fund specific regulations
- **A list of clearly ineligible activities** should be issued by the Managing Authorities
- **Avoid demarcation lines** between the different Funds
 - If LAG supported by a single Fund: full scope of support
 - If strategies supported by several Funds: LAGs should explain the use of the Funds in their local development strategy

Cooperation projects

- **Preparatory** technical support (meetings between potential partners, studies etc.)
- Cooperation **projects**:
 - Within a MS or transnational
 - With CLLD groups or other local public-private partnerships, also outside the borders of the EU
- **Selection** of cooperation projects:
 - By the LAGs if included in their budget
 - By the MA, through call for projects three to four times a year

NB: this applies to EAFRD and EMFF

Running costs and animation

- Should not exceed 25% of the total public expenditure incurred for this strategy
- Covers:
 - staffing and administration costs
 - training costs for LAG staff and members
 - public relations
 - networking costs
 - monitoring and evaluation
 - animation to inform the local community and support local actors developing new projects

Keeping it simple

- Be clear in who does what and make it explicit
- Make sure you know why you want to delegate tasks
- Be sure that the LAGs have the capacity to undertake the delegated tasks
- Set up robust systems whilst avoiding duplication of tasks
- Clarify eligibility from the outset

Questions:

Delegation of responsibilities:

- How can we design procedures that simplify and accelerate delivery?

Eligibility:

- How can we ensure that all levels have a shared and clear understanding of eligibility?