

## Methodological and administrative Guide for Cooperation

#### by Cécile Schalenbourg, NRN Wallonia (Belgium)









# **Context in Wallonia**

- Cooperation is an obligation : each LAG has to reserve at least 10% of its total budget for cooperation (+- 150 000 euros)
- Cooperation projects are mostly financed by public funds (45% regional and 45% european).
- A cooperation project is proposed by LAG and its members to the regional administration, two times per year (15/02 and 15/09).
- The administration selects projects and gives a formal approval : an agreement to receive funds.
- A preparatory mission is organizable.
- The project is so allowed to start.



# A wide partnership around cooperation and different tasks

Network support unit	Interface LEADER	Managing authority in charge of IRC	Admini- stration in charge of TNC	LAG Leader
Methodology Capitalization Links between European LAGs	Training Technical (administrative and financial) assistance to LAG and administration Link between Walloon LAGs	Selection of IRC projects File processing Administrative and financial follow up / reporting	Selection of TNC projects File processing Administrative and financial follow up / reporting	To answer to a call of proposal Implementation of IRC or TNC projects



# A wide partnership around cooperation but different interests





# A wide partnership around cooperation and complementarity





# Working together around a Guide

- A matrix of responsibilities / tasks
- A common table of contents for the guide
- A first round of writing by each partner
- A workshop for a careful and interactive reading (between technicians) in order to provide a proposal to administration
- A last workshop with technicians and administrations to complete, amend and finally validate all the chapters and tools
- A training course for LAG and last verifying whether guide meets their needs



Réseau wallon de Développement Rural

# A selection of interesting tools and documents

- A project sheet for preparatory mission
- A project sheet to describe objectives, actions, partnership, added value, budget, indicators...
- A model of cooperation agreement, describing roles of partners and lead partners, responsibilities in project implementation and financial management, reporting...
- Financial good practices (eligibility, billing...)
- Animation tools



Réseau wallon de Développement Rural

## Financial tips for cooperation project from ideas... to relevant tools by Cécile Schalenbourg, NRN Wallonia (Belgium)



Estonia - 16/02/2010



### Ideas

• To provide some tips, recommendations or tools for elaborating a transnational budget by using strengthes and possibilities of each partners

• How to use differences to be stronger ? :-)



# Methodology

- Analysis of partnership situation about eligible costs and investments possibilities -> comparative list and focus on strenghtes of each partner
- By analysing project, identification of :
  - Common actions
  - Local actions implemented by each partner
- Establishment of project previsional budget (details of needs, costs for actions) -> list of costs
- Cross of data in a matrix : common and local eligible costs / potential "strongest and relevant paying partner"
- Signing up a detailed agreement with clear allocations
- -> What do you think about the idea ? Maybe is it already done by some LAG... ?

Eligibility

Réseau wallon de Développement Rural

Budget structure TNC Level - Common structure and actions	Estogreat	Dreamland	Finleader
Preparatory mission	6 000 euros	Doesn't exist	4 000 euros
Human ressources / common structure			
* Project coordinator	Yes - 90% of public funds	Yes - 50% of public funds	Yes - 50% of public funds
* Administrative costs	Max 10% of the project budget	Yes - 50% of public funds	Not eligible for TNC
Expertise	Feasability studies not eligible	Yes	Yes
Communication	Yes	Yes	Yes
Technical investments (computer, webcam,)			
Travel	Limited to 10 LAG members	Yes	Yes
Events and meetings (reception, seminars,)			
Common production(s) of TNC project			
ex : Pedagogical tools around river	Yes	Yes	Yes
ex : Mobile exposition	Yes	Yes	Yes
ex : Framework for the training	Yes	Yes	Yes
ex : Film (introduction)	Yes	Yes	Yes
ex : The common House of the River (proposal of Dreamland)	Max investment of 50 000 euros	Possibility to use axis 3	Not eligible
Local level			
Human ressources / local management			
* Local project manager/referent			
* Administrative costs			
* Local travel			
Actions/productions with local impact			
ex : Training for local stakeholders			
ex : Film (local examples)			

Réseau wallon de Développement Rural **Budget structure** Dreamland Finleader Total budget Estogreat TNC Level - Common structure and actions Preparatory mission 6 000 euros 4 000 euros Human ressources / common structure Yes - 50% of public Yes - 50% of public Project coordinator Yes - 90% of public funds funds funds 60 000 Max 10% of the project Yes - 50% of public Administrative costs 15 000 budget funds Not eligible for TNC Feasability studies not Expertise eligible Yes Yes 5 000 15 000 Yes Yes Communication Yes Technical investments (computer, webcam, ...) 5000 10 000 Limited to 3 LAG members International travel (coordination) Yes Yes Events and meetings (reception, seminars,...) 50 000 Common production(s) of TNC project ex : Pedagogical tools around river 7 000 Yes Yes Yes ex : Mobile exposition Yes Yes Yes 10 000 ex : Framework for the training Yes Yes Yes 2 000 ex : Film (introduction) 5 000 Yes Yes Yes ex : The common House of the River (proposal of Max investment of 50 000 Dreamland) Possibility to use axis 3 Not eligible 500 000 euros Local level Human ressources / local management \* Local project manager/referent \* Administrative costs \* Local travel Actions/productions with local impact ex : Training for local stakeholders

ex : Film (local examples)



### Weaknesses

- Different regulations in MS
- Different eligible costs or actions
- Difficult to access to eligibility information
- Administrative system too heavy to be quickly changed
- Lack of financial engeenering tools and methological support

# **Strenghtes**

- Maybe existing good practices
- Existing cooperation sheets from PCE
- Our creativity