South Eastern Europe SWG RRD
Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group

20th – 21st OCTOBER Vrnjacka Banja, Serbia
Agricultural 2021 Policy Forum

Agricultural Policy Forum 2021

Green Agenda for the Western Balkans: Commitments and Reality Check

Recent developments of LEADER approach under IPARD III

Mariusz Legowski
European Commission
Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development

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Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture

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FAO FIAT PANIS

European Commission

IPARD III SUPPORT FOR LEADER

- Final stage of the preparations
- Technical Assistance measure for preparatory stages
- Implementation of Local Develpment Strategies – LEADER approach measure for more advanced stages for selected mature Local Actions Groups with strategies to support
- Links with other measures

First things first:
7 principles of LEADER method

- ✓**Bottom up approach** – a local community defines the path
- ✓**Area based** – it is on a defined local territory
- ✓**Local partnership** – a public-private organisation in charge
- ✓**A local strategy first** – for real impact
- ✓**Networking** – Groups learn from one another
- ✓**Innovation at the local level** – doing new things or differently
- ✓**Cooperation** – joint projects between Groups

Choose the right route: add value

- Increase social capital in rural areas
- Improve local governance
- Deliver projects with unique values compared with the standard delivery mechanism

Add value: social capital

- **Trust** to institutions and to other people, **Networks** (**people, organisations**, institutions, **relationships**), **civil engagement** (political, voluntarism), social cohesion (**togetherness**, **social interaction**, neighbourhood cohesion), norms and values (**shared emotional connection**, **social support**
- **Collective goals**, affective bonds), **local identity and pride**, information flow between people, **sense of community**, **no loneliness**, **willingness to cooperate**, “social glue”

Add value: improve local governance

- **Improved governance** comprises the institutions, processes and mechanisms through which public, economic and civil society stakeholders articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights,
- meet their obligations and mediate their differences in order to manage public affairs at all levels in a collaborative manner.

Add value: choose projects with unique qualities (1)

- Examples of unique qualities for LEADER:
- **Connections between projects** on the same territory (scale, synergy)
- Connections of projects with economic, environmental and social objectives
- **Innovations** at local level
- Better **fit** with local needs, unlikely to be achieved via classical measures;
- Collective projects, projects with benefits for the whole community
- Projects implemented by **groups so far less active or excluded**
- Projects underpinned by building community capacities first in new areas such as digital, environmental, climate change
- Value for money

Add value: choose projects with unique qualities (2)

- **Where territorial dimension matters** …:
- **Green Agenda** – renewable energy, green innovation, bioeconomy, climate change friendly investments and practices, sustainable transport
- Digital, social, multiple services, resilience
- Wider link with regional development strategies
- Local value chains, quality products, etc

LDS priority themes under IPARD 3

- **Rural economy:** development of short supply chains and added value products including quality products, crafts and other activities for diversification of rural economy
- **Rural tourism:** development of rural tourism products based on the use of local, natural, and cultural resources
- **Community:** boosting the cultural and social life of the community and supporting collective local organisations, associations and NGOs
- **Public spaces:** improvement of public space in villages
- **Environment:** improvement of environmental standards in LAG's areas and promotion of renewable energy use by the local community
- **Networking:** networking of LAGs, best practice exchange, dissemination of IPARD programme and learning new approaches to rural development

Indicators and targets to be used in the IPARD III programmes

- Number of local development strategies (LEADER)
- Number of new jobs created
- Number of IPARD recipients with support in investments in renewable energy production

- **Additional indicators:**
  - Population covered by LAGs
  - Number of small projects paid.

More information?

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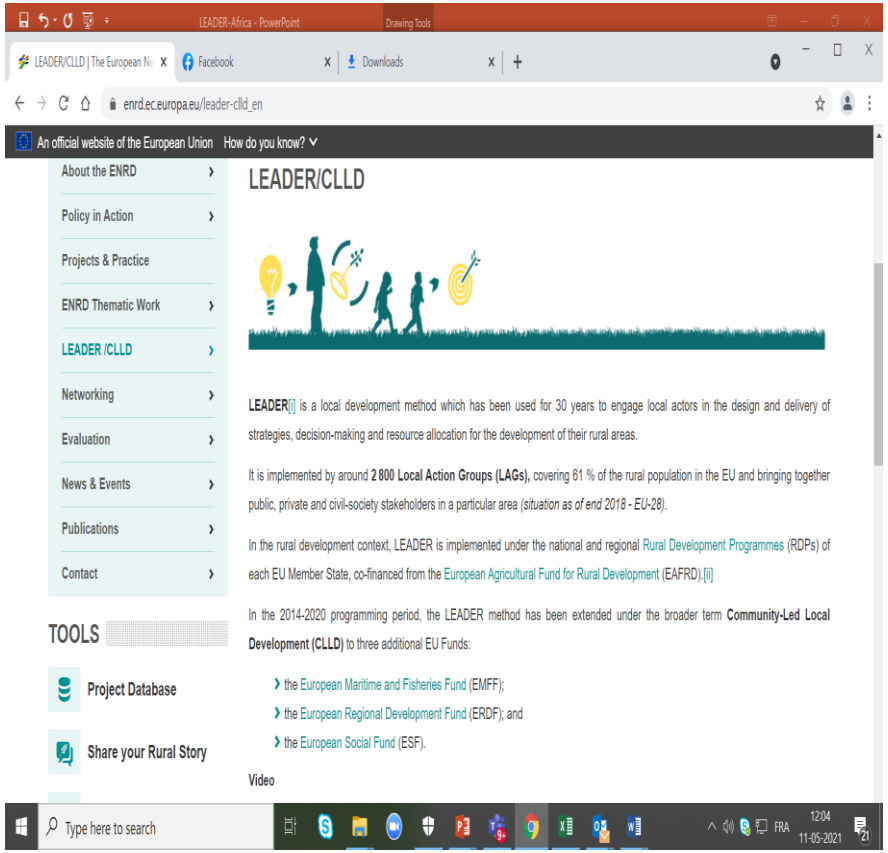
European Network for Rural Development (ENRD)

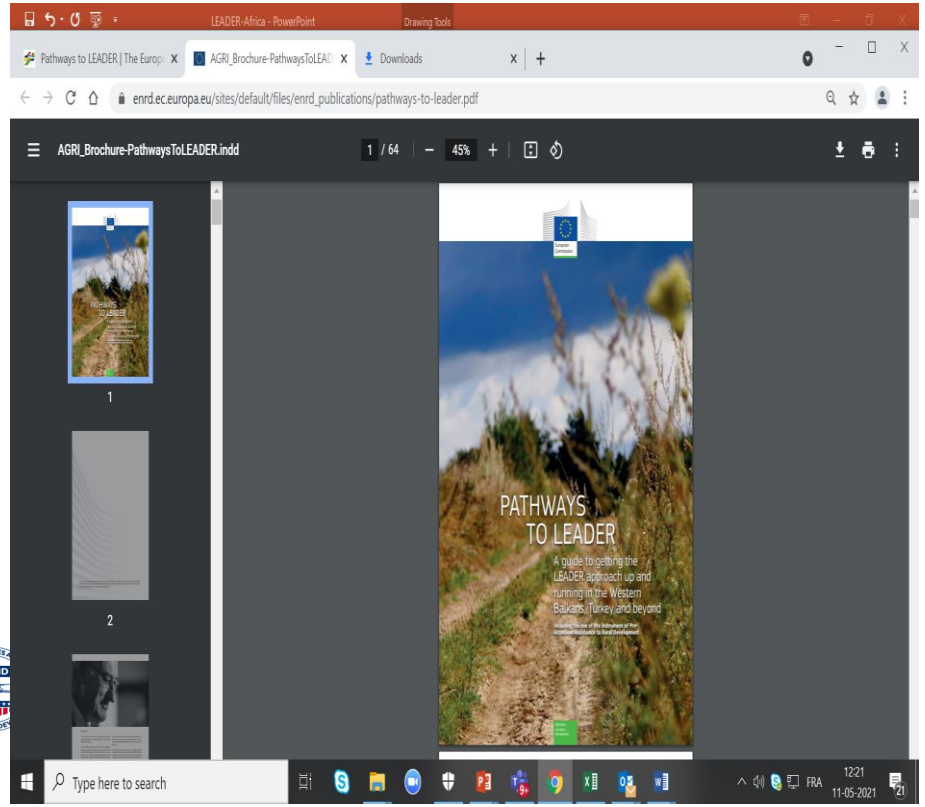
https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/leader-clld_en



Publication : Pathways to LEADER

https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/enrd_publications/pathways-to-leader.pdf

For countries outside the EU



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