



Planning SWG twinning projects

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT, ROMANIA

Institutional implication

Typical institutions receive technical support from these kind of projects:

Ministries

Paying Agencies

Management Authorities

About twinning projects

- Short history of twinning
- Applying methodology
- Research for the right partners

- What is a twinning?
- Number of projects
- Countries-partnership

Short history of twinning

Originally created in 1989 to assist Poland and Hungary, the PHARE programmes currently covers 10 countries- the *8 new Member States: the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia*, as well as *Bulgaria and Romania*, assisting them in a period of massive economic restructuring and political change.

Short history of twinning

Objectives:

- Strengthening public administrations and institutions to function effectively inside the European Union.
- Promoting convergence with the European Union's extensive legislation (the *acquis communautaire*) and reduce the need for transition periods.
- Promoting Economic and Social Cohesion

What is a twinning?

Definition and origin

Twinning – as the initiative of the European Commission - was launched in 1998 as part of the pre-accession strategy for Central and Eastern Europe countries. The name “twinning” was chosen to stress the applied methodology, based on the establishment of inter-institutional relations between bodies of the administration of one or several Member States and their opposite numbers in the candidate countries

Applying methodology

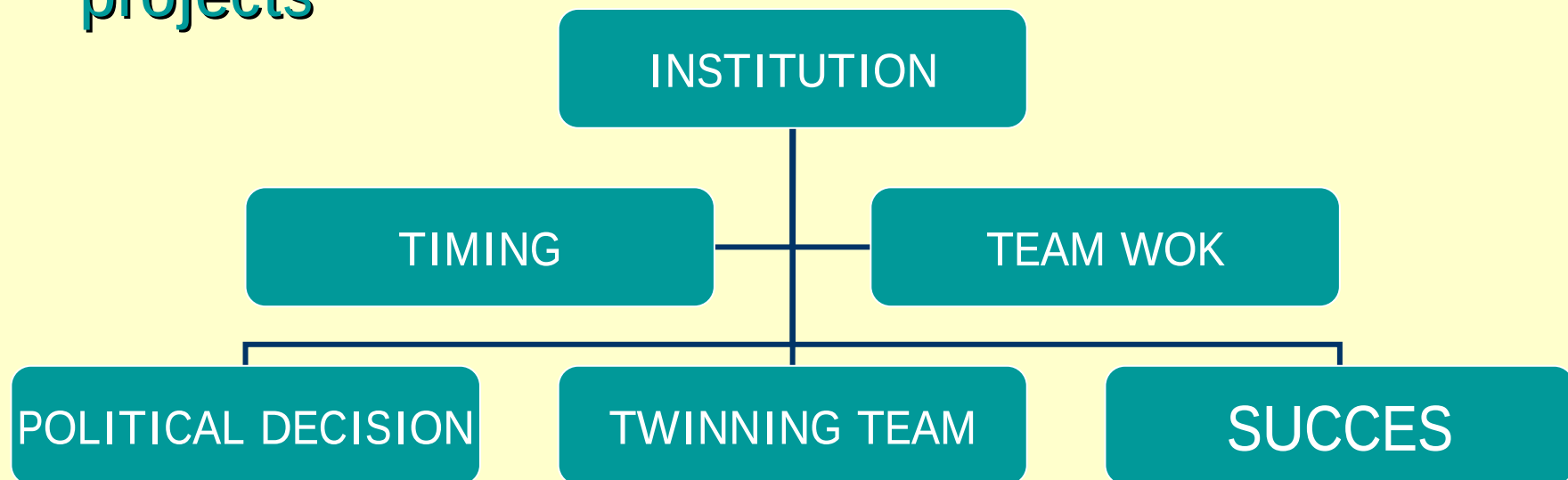
The key input from the Member State administration is the core team made up of twinning involves the long term secondment of EU experts in the implementation of the acquis, to the candidate countries to effect longer-term change.

Each twinning project has:

- at least *one Resident Twinning Adviser* who is an individual seconded from a Member State administration or other approved body in a Member State to work full time for a minimum of 12 months in the corresponding ministry in the new member state or candidate country to implement the project;
- *a senior Project Leader* responsible for the overall thrust and coordination of the project;
- *team made of experts* who intervene during planned and timed missions, training events, visits, etc to accompany the reform process towards the targeted result.

Institutional capacity in the implementation of twinning projects

- Institutional capacity
- Political decision in implementation of projects
- Civil personnel



In practice

PHARE Twinning Project (2004) RO 2004/IB/ AG – 05 – Support for Managing Authority from MARD in order to prepare the rural development and fisheries programmes

- *Twinning partners: German- French partnership*
- *Budget: 1.300.00 euro*
- *Implementing period of the project: 22 January 2007 – 21 November 2007 (+3 months extension)*
- *Unrolling project.*

In practice

General objective:

Granting support to MARD in order to ensure the efficiency's Managing Authority responsible for National Strategic Plans and programming documents for period 2007-2013 implementation

Specific objectives:

- MARD consolidation in order *to set up strong partnership* comprising all bodies involved with the purpose to elaborate and implement national strategic plans and rural development and fishery programme;
- *Managing Authority structure consolidation* responsible for rural development and fishery operational programme monitoring, evaluation, communication and administration;
- *Support for elaboration and implementation of programmes and plans mentioned above;*
- *Training* for Managing Authority and their decentralized offices staff and other structures, including NAAC with the purpose of knowledge, understanding level and rural development and fishery operational programme implementation abilities development.

RESULTS

- **Activities accomplished by project in reporting period:**
- The project granted support for:
- Identification of the *suitable indicators and methods* for measures monitoring which shall be financed by EAFRD and EFF and improving certain chapters, such as:
 - Chapter 2, 3, 6, 7 from POP
 - Measures 211 and 212 from NRDP for disadvantageous areas
- GDRD was supported to elaborate the structure of a *guide* for eligible expenditures of NRDP 2007-2013
- Setting up a set of *eligibility and selection criteria* for each RDP and POP by short term missions which granted support to edit the chapter 9 from NRDP
- Setting up the *diagrams for LEADER* measure procedures by short term missions. The preparation of a seminar for LEADER potential beneficiaries, named “territories”; editing graphs for LEADER measures 421: Cooperation and 431.1 Implementation of measure regarding setting up local development strategies

RESULTS

- Support for set up a *coordination committee* responsible for rural development and fishery programmes evaluation. The project supported GDRD in order to organise the monitoring process and procedures needed evaluation.
- *Editing rural development and fishery programmes*. The project contributed to improve the measure 214 regarding agri-environmental scheme
- Training for:
 - Negotiations for NSP and RDP/ POP, focusing on NRDP Axis 1 and 3
 - Potential LEADER territories
 - Knowledge specific acquiring in MA from other MS
- Setting up a rural network based on experience acquired by MS through LEDER within a consultation/ information seminar