

“Implementation lessons learned and best practices”. Case study from Albania

**ICDT CONFERENCE 19 May
Kjell-Roger Karlsson**



LEADER shall be understood, owned and put in practice in a context

Lay the table of

- **Political and administrative acceptance at all levels**
- **Links to overall national goals**
- **Links to Local and Regional Development planning**
- **Sector coordination and Ministry cooperation**
- **Decentralization policy**
- **Integrated and Multi-sectoral approach**
- **Integration of all citizens**
- **Power to partnership vs. Accountability**



ICDT objectives of the Project is
in line with that

- **Ownership of the Leader philosophy**
- **Capacity to spread the philosophy to others**
- **Activities to implement the philosophy in practice**

Eradication of Poverty the overall goal in Albania

- High economic growth that will include every region and *all citizen* of the country’.
- Increase of “the welfare of each individual is the fundamental goal; based on work and free initiative



- Long-term Vision, Overall Goals and Strategies set at local and regional level in the development planning



The “Welfare Pyramid” steers the raise of quality of life

- **Job, businesses and incomes, Knowledge and competence,**
- **Housing, neighborhood facilities, Improved infrastructure,**
- **Commercial services, Public services**
- **Culture, Good Environment**
- **Good governance and social cohesion,**
- **Good health**

Sector program activities – the Broad development policy

- **Sector coordination at national level - decentralization of functions to local and regional level – Subsidiarity!**
- **Included in local/regional dev. program**
- **Compilation of sector program and projects, set medium-term priority objectives.**
- **Short term operative objectives**
- **Annual activities and review to national level**



Capacity building

- **Methods to involve citizens in the decision-making process**
- **Management Package**
- **Development Planning Methods**
- **Implementation of Strategic Local Development plans**
- **Strengthen the Capacity at Regional Councils and Ministries**
- **The Decentralisation Process and National Level Activities**



Findings and experience 1

- **Development planning work in a nationwide context**
- **Local and regional ownership of the planning process**
- **Subsidiarity - decentralisation**
- **Sector strategies and coordination**
- **Rural areas not only agriculture**
- **The region, as an intermediary body**
- **Overhaul of an administration reform at regional and local level**



Findings and experience 2

- **Cooperation and Partnership at all levels**
- **Annual review**
- **Cross-border cooperation and networking**
- **Capacity building**
- **Simplicity**
- **Horizontal goals – all citizens integration and participation**
- **From Broad to Narrow Development Policy**
- **Need for new Methods**



Demand for new method inputs 1

- **Gather and analyze relevant data**
- **Analyze the surrounding “world”, and external impulses**
- **Analysis and instruments for monitoring, and assessment**
- **Progress indicators.**



Demand for new method inputs 2

- **Citizens involvement, partnership, cooperation and networking**
- **Exchange of experience, networking**
- **Integrated and Multi-sectoral approach**
- **Bring in Innovation and Diversification of the rural economy**
- **Methods that can lift the private sector**
- **Trust and social cohesion, mobilize civil society**
- **Public sector in a partnership on equal terms.**



Experience to go on

Project proposal on

Local Democracy

Rural Networking

LEADER – like Pilot Project



A common Project work

Memorandum of Cooperation and Partnership

- Institute of Democracy and Mediation
- Hungarian Rural Parliament
- Hungarian Rural Workshop Foundation
- All Sweden Shall Live

Memorandum of Understanding

- Ministry of Agriculture

Take aim to support strategic national goals

- Sustainable economic growth
- Increase human resource potential to create new jobs
- Improve social inclusion to raise quality of life

In line with Albanian Rural Strategy 2007 – 2013

- Fair Development of all Rural Areas
- Improve Environmental values
- Improve Quality of Life
- Reduce Poverty



Overall Project goals

The LEADER Philosophy Approach

- Break the isolation of Rural Areas – bring in impulses from outside - innovation also outside Agriculture
- Integrated approach – New Businesses and jobs
- Good governance, Deepen Democracy – citizens involvement
- Promote people to stay in Rural Areas
- Exchange of Experience and Networking



Conceptual Project Activities

- Introduction Workshop and Nationwide Conference
- Participation at the Rural Parliament in Sweden
- Local Mobilisation of Citizens
- Capacity building at Ministry of Agriculture
- Macro-Project on Rural Networking
- Preparation work of a LEADER-like Pilot Project
- Study Visits and Multi-National Exchange of Experiences

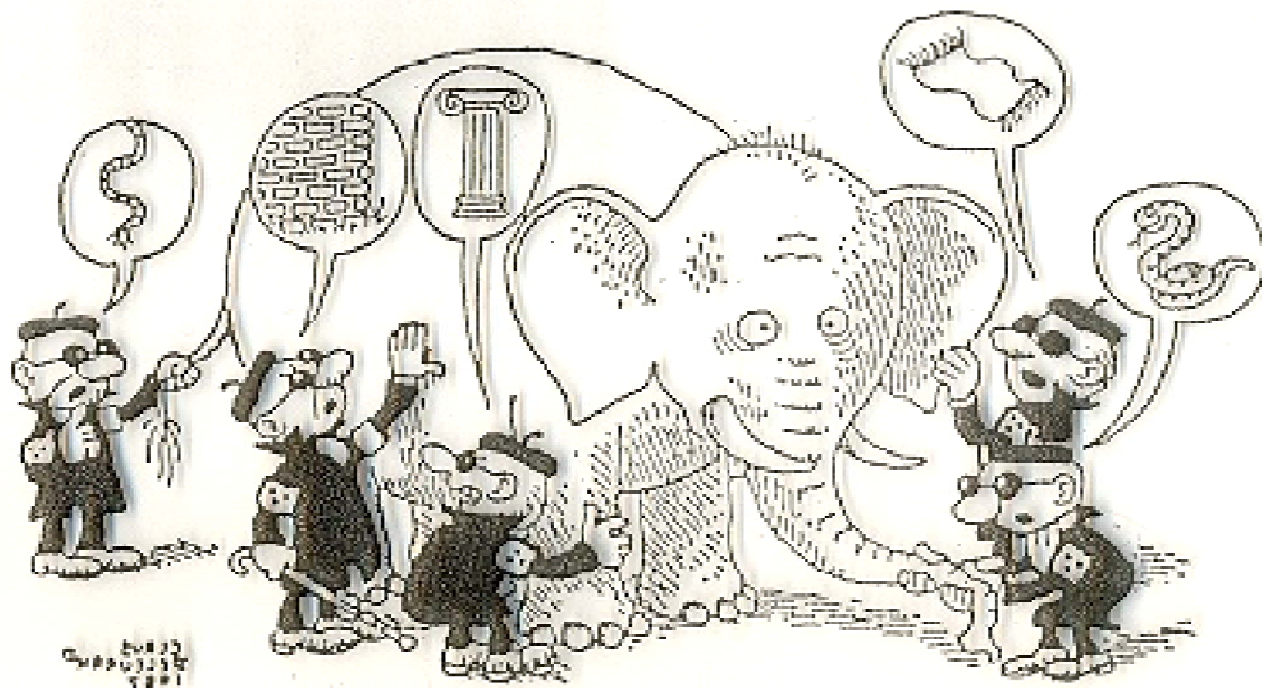


Sum – up 1.....

Remember:

- Sector coordination
- Integrated and Multi-sectoral approach – Linkages between actions

The Coordinated Elephant





Sum – up 2.....

Remember:

Bring in INNOVATION to
Rural Areas

The Innovative Elephant





Don't forget the Elephants !

Thank you!