

Successful implementation of LEADER with reference to specific cases

LEADER

Funding tool
or

philosophy for successful and sustainable
development

LEADER – a European success story

“small and beautiful”

“less money – big success”

“less bureaucracy – great outcomes and results”

Because of the “LEADER Method”

The term „LEADER method“ designates the following „special characteristics “and/or „action principles “ – the **LEADER features**

- Area based (territorial) approach
- Bottom up approach
- the local partnership
- Innovation
- Multi sectoral integration
- Inter- territorial integration (cross border and transnational co-operations)
- Networking
- Decentralized management and financing modalities

“ The LEADER approach gives responsibility to local actors and links public authorities with civil society in the local economy. It contributes to sustainability by opening up new ways of creating added value in rural areas and through capacity building”

Franz Fischler

LEADER+ Seminar, Brussels, 25th October 2004

Capacity Building

is a term used to describe activities aimed at increasing peoples ability to participate in local development.

- ... to make the LEADER philosophy an interesting topic
- ... to animate for the LEADER philosophy
- ... mobilise to be an actor, to work in project groups
- ... activate for contributing innovative ideas
- ... activate for contributing future development ideas for the development strategy

No need to invent new tools

Need for communication, interactive learning process

The region needs an integrative person as a **“soft skills manager”**
who takes care of this necessities

EUROPEAN thinking – why ?

added value through:

e.g.

- know how transfer
- common product development
- common marketing in a worldwide market
- identifying good practise

Problems:

- Sometimes the LAG's set over-optimistic and unrealistic targets to get funded.
- Different languages, different administration rules, different working mentality,....

The way of implementing LEADER

The local actors need general information about the programme

The local actors need a guideline (instruction) for preparing the local strategy

The local actors need a local development process assistance

The local actors need time to develop the strategic and operational capacities and to design and implement a local development plan in the framework of the regulations.

New LEADER regions should have the help of established LAG's !

Training from actor to actor

- is most efficient – is following good practice

- fulfils the LEADER features

- is a good start for trans-national co-operation projects

- is the basis of **European added value**

Thank you for your attention!

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