

Multi country workshop on LEADER AGR 44316

Regional School of Public Administration
Branelovica
81410 Danilovgrad - Montenegro

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Viviane AILLOUD



Interterritorial and transnational networking on cooperation projects

Networking: is an activity which brings people (and their organisations) together

around a common interest to undertake activities which are mutually beneficial to them.

Cooperation is a dynamic process!

Projects that start out as networking initiatives often end up becoming fully-fledged

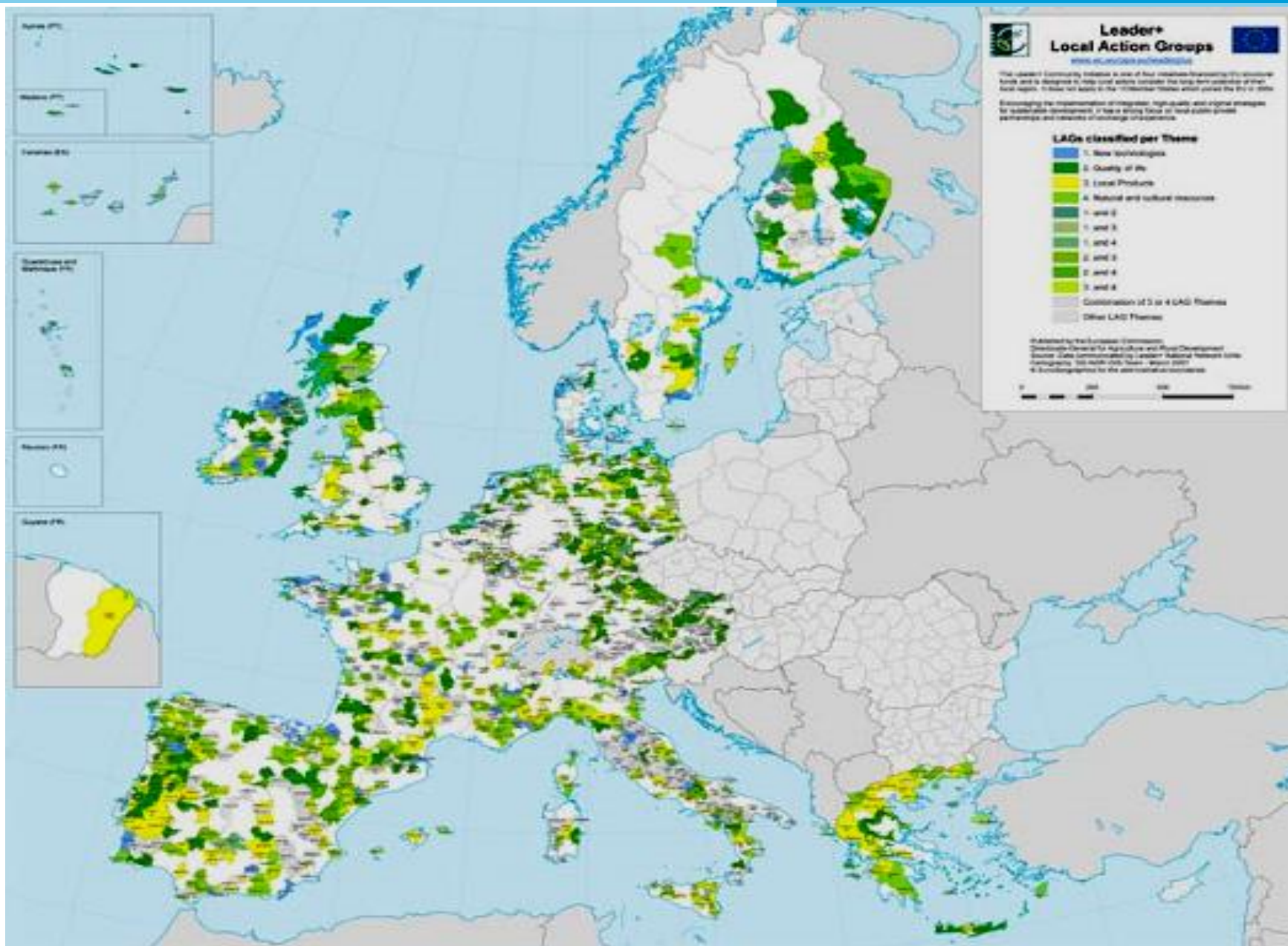
cooperation projects with tangible benefits and added value.

7 good reasons for cooperation!

- 1 . **Extending and boosting** your territorial strategy
- 2 . **Taking better advantage** of local production
- 3 . **Boosting the territory's cohesion**, identity and image
- 4 . **Meeting people from other places, discovering** different ways of thinking and acting
- 5 . **Developing open-mindedness and European** awareness in the territories
- 6 . **Benefiting from the financial support** offered by Leader for cooperation
- 7 . **Preparing the territories for the issues** of the next programmations

Leader cooperation: some important elements

- **Cooperation between rural territories**
- **Strategic continuity**
- **Implementation of a common action** (concrete actions with clearly identified deliverables producing benefits for each of the territories involved)
- **Technical assistance for cooperation** (technical assistance budget for the setting up a transnational cooperation project, in France for example... « from the idea to the project)



Cooperation between rural territories

- **Any Leader territory may start up cooperation with another territory in Europe or the Mediterranean whether or not it benefits from the Leader Initiative. If not, then it should be organized according to the Leader:**

present a territorial cohesion, mobilize and involve public and private actors in a project covering the whole territory, have a development strategy that is both integrated and long-lasting.

The geographical fields of potential partners are as follows:

- **Inter-territorial cooperation** - This refers to cooperation between different rural areas within a Member State.

Cooperation within a Member State concerns at least one LAG selected under the Leader axis and it is open to other local groups using a similar participatory approach

- **Transnational cooperation** - which is defined as cooperation between different rural areas from at least two Member States.

Transnational cooperation covers at least one LAG selected under the Leader axis and additional partners could include other local groups using similar participatory approach. It is also possible to extend this cooperation to groups in third countries following a similar approach.

- **Contact Point of the European Network for Rural Development**

enrd.ec.europa.eu/

- **[European Commission](#) / [Agriculture and Rural Development](#) / Rural Development policy 2007-2013**

ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rurdev

The tools which can help you:

- Leader+ cooperation's good practices: examples of projects;
- Report on the achievements of Leader+ territories in France (in English);
- European Database of Approved Transnational Cooperation Projects under Leader+ (2000-2006).



Thanks for your attention