



Facilitating the area-based development approach in rural regions in the Western Balkans

Background & Objectives

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Issue

Decline in rural cross-border regions of the Western Balkans

Background

- SWG-Rural Regional Development previous meetings:
assessment development situation in rural cross-border areas
preliminary studies
- EastAgri (2008):
round table on area-based development



Implementation

- Administrative Arrangement between DG AGRI and JRC - IPTS
- with the support/advice of:
DG ELARG, SWG-RRD secretariat, FAO, UNDP, World Bank, OECD

General objective:

Facilitate local rural development in the Western Balkans

Specific objectives

1. To facilitate the **ABD approach** in a selected **rural cross-border area** in the Western Balkans
2. **Disseminate** the ABD strategy and action plan to **potential donors** – *MAY 5, 2011 – Belgrade, Serbia*
3. Develop a method using the ABD or SIMILAR participatory approaches for **other rural areas** in the Western Balkans, where such type of intervention may be appropriate

Origins: UNDP/UNOPS - 1980s

- post-conflict, post-disaster, (extreme) poverty, exclusion
- Afghanistan, Central America, Sudan

Need for approach able to address

- **particular, specific**
 - **complex**
 - in a holistic manner
- } development problems

Main **characteristics**

- **area-specific** (versus country)
- **integrated** (across sectors)
- **inclusive** (communities)
- **participatory** (bottom-up)
- **flexible** (responsive to changes)

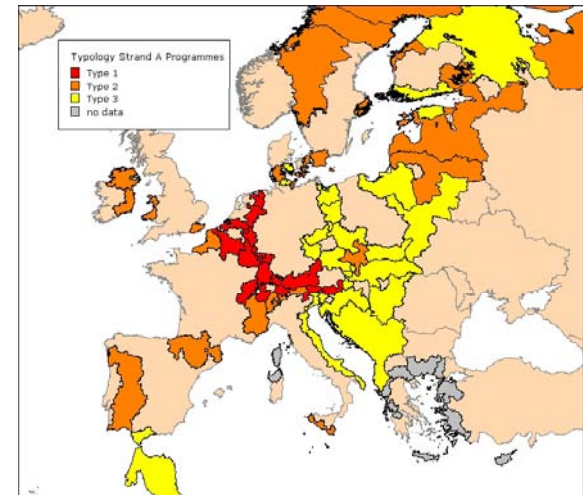
LEADER

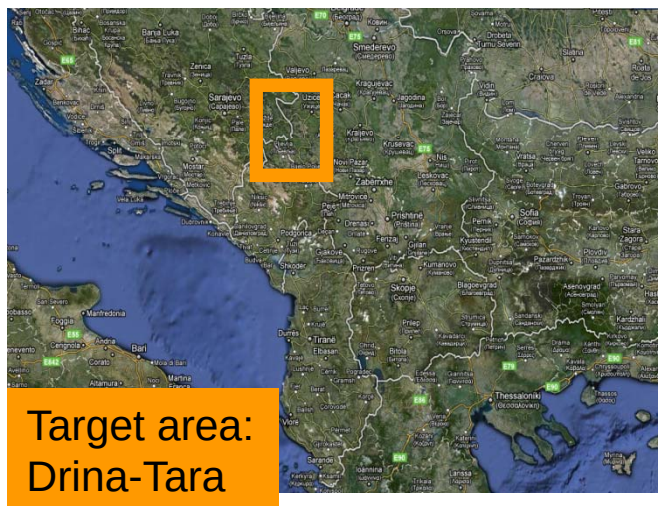
- **Relevant features**
 - **area-based local** development
 - **bottom-up**
 - **capacity building**
 - **multi-sectoral** actions
 - **public-private** partnerships
- **Differences/similarities with the ABD approach**
 - **no area-specific, complex development problem** required
 - **not necessarily inclusive**
 - **no** consideration **rural-urban** linkages
 - limited to areas with **5 000 - 100 000 inhabitants**

INTERREG-A

Factors of success

- **legal framework** for cross-border cooperation
- **quality** of partnerships
- degree of **institutionalisation**



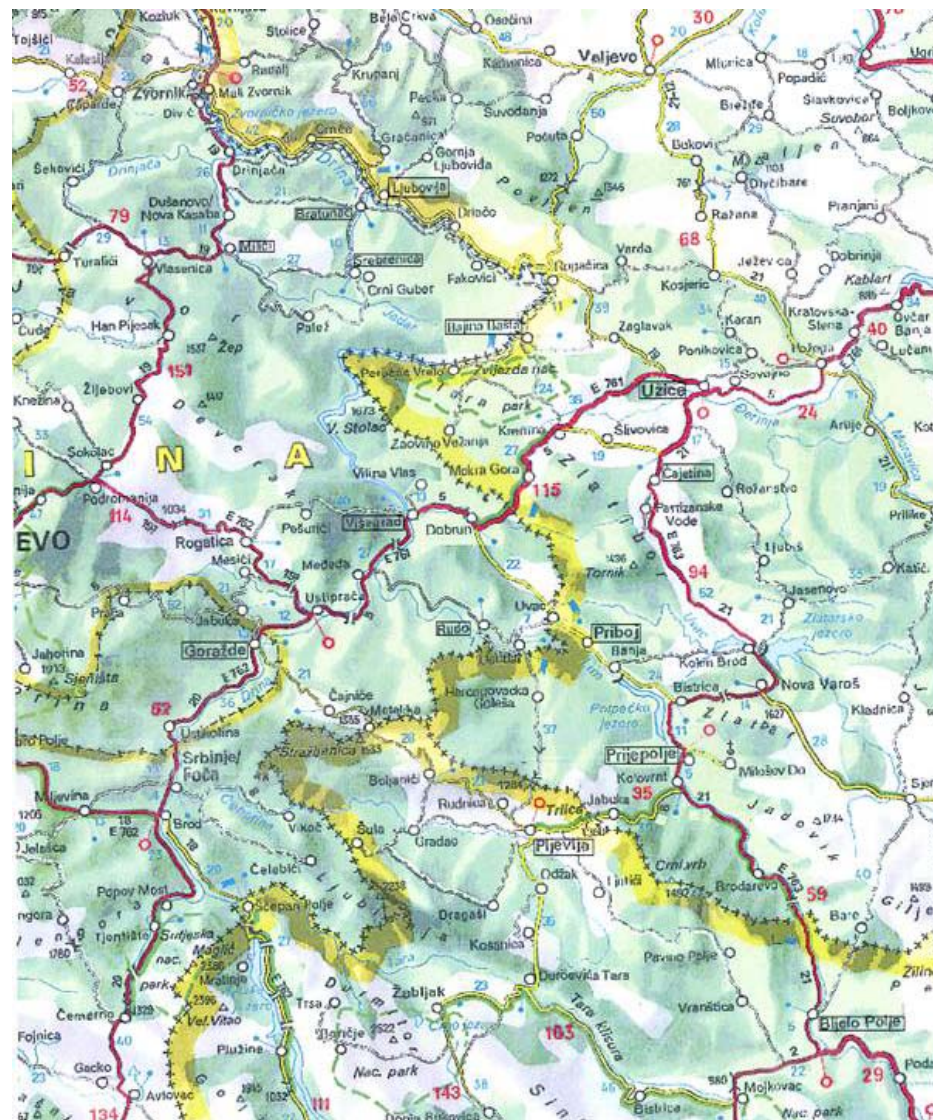


Municipalities:

Serbia: Bajina Bašta, Užice, Priboj, Čajetina, Prijepolje, Ljubovja

Montenegro: Pljevlja, Bijelo Polje

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Višegrad, Srebrenica, Milici, Bratunac, Rudo, Goražde



A. Delineate the pilot **target area**

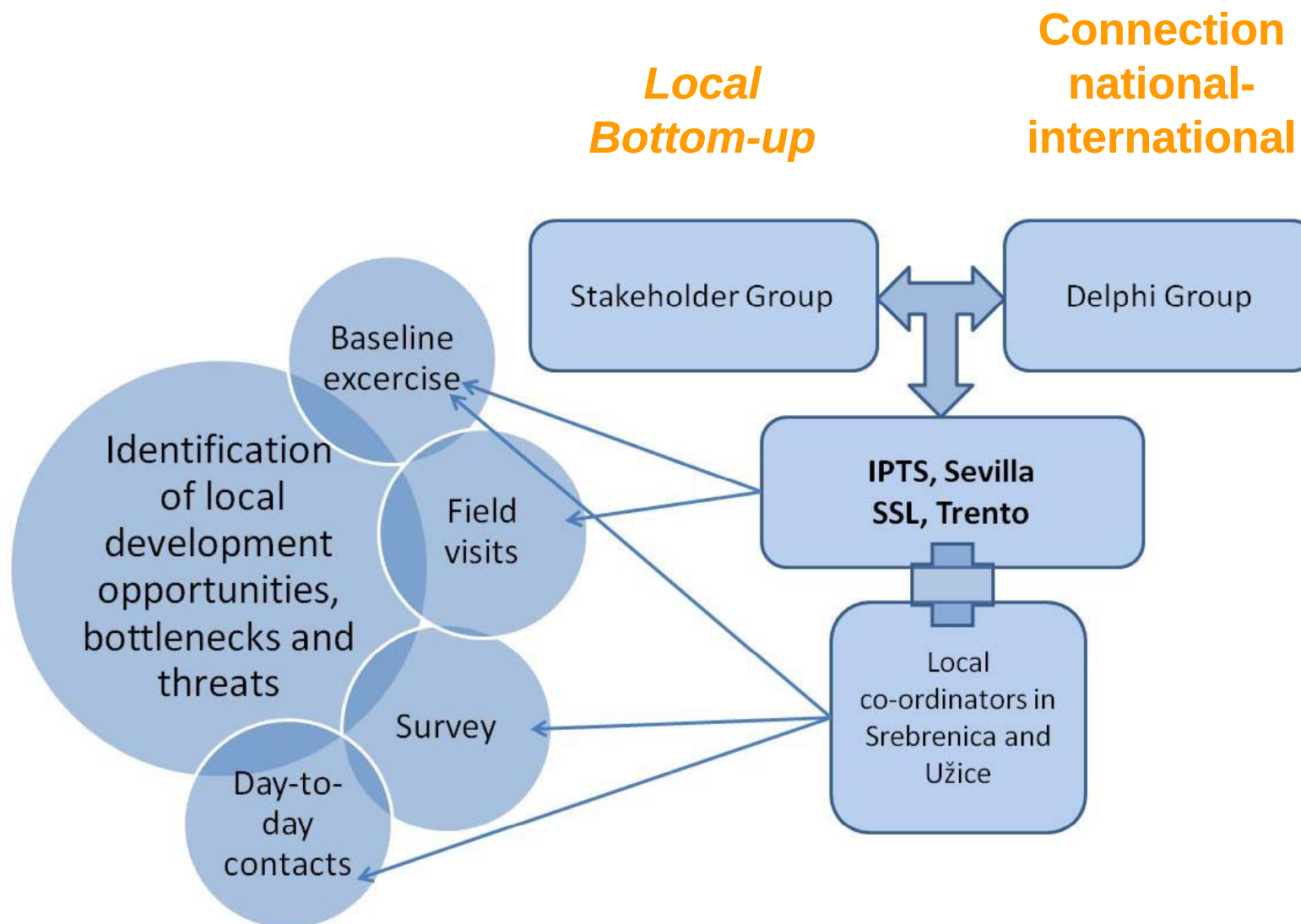
B. Assess the **development situation**

- the baseline
- critical needs/development gaps
- priority development areas

Participatory

C. Elaborate the **development strategy and action plan**

- development priorities
- specific activities
- monitoring - engage different levels



A. Adapted methodology

→ build on the existing

ABD & local development approaches, LEADER, cross-border programmes

→ lessons learnt from Drina-Tara pilot

→ dissemination plan

B. Identify other potential rural cross-border areas



Thank you for your attention