Introduction to Session II: Funding for LAG operations
Specific issues for LAG funding

Programming

- Needs analysis and planning of targets related to LEADER
- transparent LAG funding mechanism
- indicative budget for LAGs
- LAG budget relates a) to quality of LDS?, b) LAG size, c) equal for each selected LAG?, d) relates to quality of LDS and LAG size?
- Degree of delegation of tasks to LAGs, HR and running costs?
- Minimum amount of running costs (including costs of animation) and sustainability of small LAGs
- LAGs using other sources of funding for their operation?
- Balance between running cost and costs of animation for all LAG sizes.
- The type of legal entity for LAGs
- The availability of advance payment
- The availability of funding for preparatory actions

Implementation

- Modifications of financial allocations as part of the LDS review
- A `strict` list of eligible expenditures? A list of non-eligible expenditures?
- Simplified cost, unit costs or lump sum for certain types of expenditure?
- Applying the 25% ceiling & limited funds committed to LEADER projects in the 1st year of LAG operation & time between LAG recognition and 1st running cost payment
Some solutions

LAG funding

- Shared IT systems for the joint management of project information and eliminating the duplication of tasks in control systems (DE, FR, IE, IT, FI, PT)
- Definition of eligible costs more flexible
- Simplified cost, unit cost, or lump sum options
- Municipality contributions to LAG funding (Denmark)

LD5 / LEADER project funding

- Specific LEADER project eligibility rules and guidelines for innovation measures (DE)
- Small projects and coordination project (FL, PL, LT)
- Umbrella projects, small grant funds (SE, UK-SCO)
- Innovative collective funding (PL, SE)
- Innovation funding schemes (NL)
- Complex, integrated projects (ES, DE, BE-Flanders, CZ)
- Single project application forms and procedures on MA level (FL)
- LAGs as financial resource animators