Introduction to Session 3: Funding for LEADER/CLLD projects
Specific issues for LEADER projects funding

### Programming
- Needs analysis and LEADER targets for LEADER budget allocation
- MA and PA capacities for decision-making, reporting, claims and payments handling.
- Guidance for financial planning of the LDS for evidence based budgets
- Rules relating to transparency of LDS planning and budgetary allocations
- A funding mechanism for innovative projects, small projects, and complex projects
- Advance payment and financial instruments available for LEADER beneficiaries

### Implementation
- A project approval and payments handling procedure suited to small projects
- A project approval and payments handling procedure suited to complex projects
- Lump sum or unit cost options available for small projects?
- Cost-effective and rapid control mechanisms for small projects?
- Advance payments and/or financial instruments available for project beneficiaries?
- The availability of national co-financing for LEADER beneficiaries

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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)

LDS / 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