



European Economic and Social Committee

Opinion

**Advantages of the Community-led Local
Development (CLLD) approach
for integrated local and rural development**

Adopted 07.12.2017

**Rapporteur: Roman Haken
Expert of the opinion: Kristiina Tammets**



Request from Estonian Ministry of Rural Affairs to

European Economic and Social Committee for exploratory opinion
under the title

**“What kind of advantages the Community-led Local
Development multi-funded approach creates for integrated
local and rural development”**

with the aim to get to know more about

- the benefits of CLLD for Member States
- the bottlenecks and their resolutions

Main advantages of the CLLD multi-funds

Integrated local development influences a wide spectrum of activities and has a **major impact on local economies and job creation**, especially outside primary production in agriculture;

The importance of the green economy, social inclusion, poverty reduction, migration issues, regional clusters, rural-urban-coastal linkages, smart solutions and IT technologies is growing in local development. CLLD creates opportunities for **all the different types of territories** (rural, urban and coastal) and communities to work together on these challenges. The CLLD multi-fund approach is a very good mechanism for supporting the **"Smart Villages"** concept through **capacity building, investments, innovation support and networking**, as well as through the provision of innovative financing tools for improving services and infrastructure.

Main advantages of the CLLD multi-funds

Integrated local development has a **highly beneficial effect on social inclusion** because of the involvement and participation of different stakeholders (various types of actors, age groups, genders).

The **involvement and capacity building** of local actors is one of the biggest advantages of the CLLD methodology. Integrated local development is the best way of **building links and synergies** between various stakeholders and issues in local development.

Rural-urban-coastal links mean those involved can learn from each other and find answers to important **challenges in a more inclusive way**. Continuous cooperation, networking and training enhance **good governance**.

Main advantages of the CLLD multi-funds

EU cohesion policy seeks to achieve territorial cohesion, which is also the aim of the CLLD approach.

CLLD includes all types of territories: rural, urban and coastal, various community needs (social, cultural, environmental and economic) and diverse funding mechanisms (four ESI Funds are involved).

Enabling CLLD in all types of territories helps to build cohesion between rural, coastal, peri-urban and urban areas which helps to overcome or stop the periphery effect.

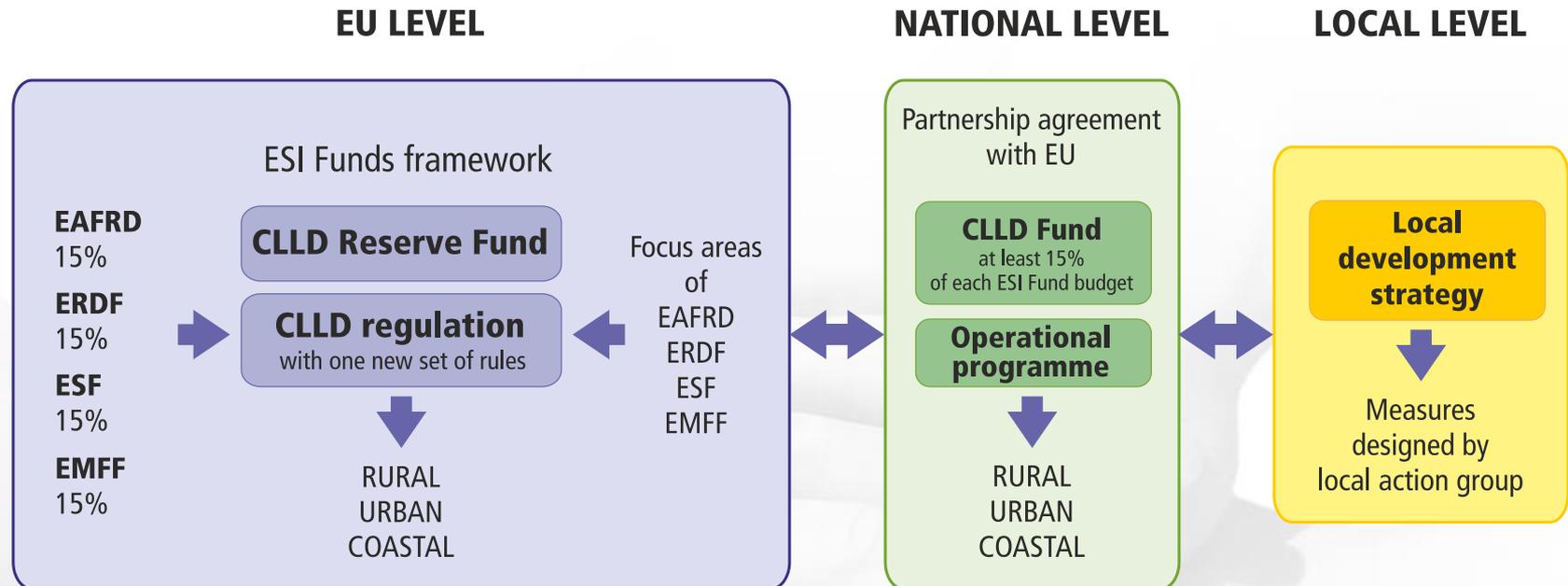
Main advantages of the CLLD multi-funds

The European Union is negotiating on policy post-2020 and the future financial framework for the European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF).

How can the European Union strengthen its ties with the Member States and regain the trust of its citizens at local level?

The answer could be a well implemented Community-Led-Local-Development (CLLD) approach that enables integrated local development and the involvement of citizens and their organizations at grassroots level. CLLD is a European-rooted bottom-up development approach that can help to counterbalance anti-European tendencies in local communities by contributing to social inclusion and sustainable economic development in the territories where it is applied.

Proposed model for CLLD implementation 2021-2027



Main recommendations

Establishing a clear vision for an obligatory CLLD multi-funds implementation in the European Union;

Strong cooperation between DGs is essential, with participation of the other EU institution (as EESC, ELARD, etc);

Mandatory CLLD multi-funds in all Member States in all types of territories - rural, urban, coastal;

Local development strategies implemented by measures designed by Local Action Groups at local level;

Simple CLLD regulation at EU level with one set of rules, one national CLLD operational programme, one Managing Authority.

Reserve Fund for CLLD at EU level or CLLD Fund at national level including all 4 ESI Funds;

Allocation CLLD Fund - 15% from the total budget from all ESIFs.



CLLD Opinion in all EU languages is available at European Economic and Social Committee website www.eesc.europa.eu

Possibility to invite the Rapporteur Roman Haken to national level meetings, seminars to present the Opinion
roman.haken@cpkp.cz

Thank You!