

Added Value of Networking



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Supporting LAGs to develop inter-territorial and transnational projects

Story name: Preparing for co-operation projects

Basic information	
NRN:	Hungarian National Rural Network
Keywords:	Cooperation, study visits.
Coordinator:	Project Coordination Unit of HNRN
Partners:	LAGs
Resources:	Technical Assistance
Period:	15 August 2012 – 30 April 2014

Background to the inter-territorial and/or transnational cooperation support activities

In order to promote transnational co-operation with those LEADER Local Action Groups approved as local communities by the Managing Authority, two calls for tender were announced. The first call *“Call for tender to submit project ideas by LEADER Local Action Groups to promote international co-operation through a preparatory visit”* was announced 7 times to enable as many applications as possible and the second call *“Call for tender to submit a project idea for a study visit to be implemented by the LEADER Local Action Groups”* was announced once.

Purpose and description of the inter-territorial and/or transnational cooperation support activities

The main purpose of the first call was to encourage and support LAGs to take joint actions with LAGs of other EU countries or organisations from a third country which operate with similar LEADER principles. The preparatory visits aimed to promote joint participation amongst rural stakeholders, support the exchange of experiences, best practices and their adaptation in order to improve the quality of life of rural people. In addition, the aim of the second call for project ideas for a study visit to be implemented by Local Action Groups was to present the good practices previously experienced through activity in the first call, to observe their development and to disseminate their results among other rural development professionals and organisations.



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Who benefited from the activities and how

Only those LAGs who had met the criteria of the pre-registration proceedings before the call for tenders were issued were entitled to submit project ideas. Essentially they had to be included within the HNRN registry. The main topics of the completed international visits were to develop and produce local trademarks and trademark system; to learn good practices for local production methods; to promote contacts for future cooperation; to expand existing relationships; environmental protection; migration of young people; heritage protection; energy management and discussions about the 2014-2020's programming period.

Main results of the inter-territorial and/or transnational cooperation support activities & added value of the chosen delivery approach

In the framework of the seven calls for tender in the first call, 50 study visits have currently taken place in the following 13 countries:

- United Kingdom,
- Finland,
- France,
- Croatia,
- Ireland,
- Poland,
- Italy,
- Romania,
- Spain,
- Slovakia,
- Slovenia,
- Turkey.

Furthermore in 2014 five further study visits are planned.

The period relevant to each of the seven calls, the number of field visits and the amount of financing is laid out below:

1. Call published for the period of 15 August – 14 October 2011, 12 visits took place amounting to a total of 8.615.719,- HUF (~ 30.997 euro)
2. Call published for the period of 15 October 2011 – 15 January 2012, 7 preparatory visits took place; amount of financing: 4.699.122,- HUF (~ 14.938 euro)
3. Call published for the period of 1 May – 31 May 2012, 3 preparatory visits were realised; amount of financing: 1.604.859,- HUF (~ 5102 euro)
4. Call published for the period of 1 August – 31 August 2012, 1 preparatory visit undertaken costing

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1.736.482,- HUF (~ 5520 euro)

5. Call published for the period of 15 October – 15 November 2012, 27 visits took place totalling 37.796.436,- HUF (~ 129.307 euro)

6. Call published for the period of 1 – 20 March 2013, 6 preparatory visits were realised; amount of financing: 8.200.184,- HUF (~ 28.054 euro)

7. Call published for the period of 2 – 21 April 2013, 1 preparatory visit undertaken; amount of financing: 1.139.970,- HUF (~ 3900 euro)

An additional call was published during the period of 15 August – 15 September 2013, 3 study visits were realised; amount of financing: 20.540.853,-HUF.

Success factors and challenges

The activities supported through these calls resulted in the signing of four cooperation agreements. The international preparatory visits which were realised in the financing of HNRN preceded the applications of 13 LEADER LAGs – all these applications were submitted to the call for tender based on the *99/2012 (IX. 25) MRD regulation on support the detailed conditions of the implementation of international LEADER cooperation within the EU and in third countries from 2012.*

Description of NSU and other partners contribution

The calls were organised and managed by the Hungarian NRN who also monitored the visits and the results.

Additional information and useful resources

http://www.mnvh.eu/sites/default/files/jo_gyakorlatok_vegleges_0.pdf



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Pictures



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