

## Italy - Autonomous Province of Trento

### PROGRAMMING PERIOD 2007-2013

#### ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION (TNC) UNDER LEADER AXIS

#### SECTION A: COUNTRY SPECIFIC DETAILS

##### 1. Name of the programme:

Rural Development Programme of the Autonomous Province of Trento

##### 2. Number of LAGs:

1

##### 3. Axes covered by LAGs:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 121, 122, 123, 125

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 313, 321, 322, 323

##### 4. Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 1 – Measures 111, 112, 121, 122, 123, 125

Axis 3 – Measures 311, 313, 321, 322, 323

##### 5. Total RDP budget for all the four axes (including EU+ public+ private expenditure):

EUR 395,778,727

##### Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 32,857,143

##### Of which:

- a. EU Funding: EUR 6,000,000
- b. Public funding: EUR 11,142,857
- c. Private funding: EUR 15,714,286

## SECTION B: PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

### 1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)	The budget allocated to measure - 421 "inter-territorial and transnational cooperation is EUR 571,429 which is 0.20% of the total RDP public funding budget. The funds have not been pre-allocated to TNC projects.
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	The LAG is responsible for managing the TNC budget.
Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects	No special budget for the preparation of TNC projects has been foreseen.

### 2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

Local Development Strategies and TNC	LAG applications including a General Cooperation Action Plan in their local development strategy (LDS) were given priority during the LAG selection process.
Way of selecting cooperation projects	The selected LAGs have issued a TNC call, which comprises of the following two phases: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preliminary phase: submission of expression of interest by public-private operators intending to define concrete cooperation actions;</li> <li>2. Definition phase: having collected the expressions of interest it is the LAG's role to define the projects, i.e. the initiatives, the common costs, the costs of every beneficiary and the cooperation agreements.</li> </ol>
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	The main themes proposed by LAGs in their LDS include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forestry, wood, energy;</li> <li>• Rural heritage;</li> <li>• Rural tourism and culture;</li> <li>• Valorisation of territories and local products;</li> <li>• Biodiversity.</li> </ul>
Cooperation with third countries	No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries. Cooperation with public-private partnerships similar to LAGs is permitted, provided they commit themselves to work through networking with other groups.
Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG	Not specified.

### 3.COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

<p>Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects</p>	<p>The call for submission of expressions of interest is operated as an “open call”, i.e. there is a continuous possibility to present applications (since the call was published, but no later than by 30 June 2012). For each cooperation project application it will be the LAG’s role to engage in partner search, in order to verify whether other LAGs/groups share the interest to implement a cooperation project including the actions proposed by the applicant.</p> <p>The submission of the application for the financial grant (part of the second phase) is again operated as “open call”, i.e. submission is to be made the latest by 31 August 2013 or as long as financial resources allocated to the Cooperation Measure are available. The financial grant support application will be evaluated by the LAG within 60 days, from the date of its submission.</p>
<p>Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>Cooperation with public-private partnerships similar to LAGs is permitted, provided they commit themselves to work through networking with other groups.</p>
<p>Selection criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>Applications will be evaluated by the LAG, establishing the eligibility of the proposed action in terms of contribution to the implementation of the LDS and of the maximum expense amount applied for by each applicant. In addition, a preliminary evaluation by a Technical &amp; Scientific Committee, considering the criteria listed below, will provide the grounds for approval by the LAG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nature of the applicant;</li> <li>• Feasibility of the intervention.</li> </ul>
<p>Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation</p>	<p>Cooperation projects must implement operations related to those measures of axes 1 and 3, which can be addressed through axis 4 of the RDP, and in line with the objectives and the central theme developed in the LDS. The Province considers projects addressing the following measures a priority: 111, 112, 121, 123, 311, 313 and 322.</p>
<p>Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects</p>	<p>The following typologies of interventions are eligible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animation supporting partnership development and the planning of the joint action;</li> <li>• Interventions connected to the correct implementation of the joint project, according to the cooperation agreement (direction, coordination, technical support, promotion, operational controls, operating a common structure);</li> <li>• Implementation of the joint action;</li> <li>• Exchanges of experience initiatives for the realisation of concrete actions which directly involve public-private operators with the following transferring of managing models and the realisation of new products or the offer of new services: e.g. sustainable environment, energy saving, tourism, agriculture, social services, young people and women, etc;</li> <li>• Realisation of events concerning the valorisation of local products, the old traditions, cultural and natural resources.</li> </ul>
<p>Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs</p>	<p>Apart from a completed application form, the LAG requires the following documents in addition to those suggested in the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a declaration of the absence of overlapping with other cooperation projects;</li> <li>• the curriculum of the lead partner LAG which demonstrates experience in the field of Cooperation and in the thematic area of the project;</li> <li>• the curriculum of the other partnering LAG(s);</li> </ul>



The approval process of TNC applications

The call for submission of expressions of interest is operated as an “open call”, i.e. there is a continuous possibility to present applications (since the call was published, but no later than by 30 June 2012). The submission of the application for the financial grant (part of the second phase) is again operated as “open call”, i.e. submission is to be made the latest by 31 August 2013 or as long as financial resources allocated to the Cooperation Measure are available.

The financial grant support application will be evaluated by the LAG within 60 days, from the date of its submission.

### List of abbreviations:

- EU: European Union
- LAG: Local Action Group
- LDS: Local Development Strategy
- MA: Managing Authority
- MS: Member State
- PA: Paying Authority
- TNC: Transnational Cooperation