

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 for Luxembourg

2. Number of Local Action Groups (LAGs):

5

3. Axes covered by LAGs:

All axes of the RDP

4. Axes covered by Transnational Cooperation (TNC) projects:

All measures under the four axes of the RDP

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

435,172,388 EUR

Total budget for Leader axis:

13,732,662 EUR

Of which:

a. EU Funding: 5,285,282 EUR

b. Public funding: 13,213,202 EUR

c. Private funding: 519,460 EUR

SECTION B: PROGRAMMING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

1. FINANCIAL ASPECTS

Budget for TNC projects (Total public funding: EU + public)	The total budget allocated for measure 421 is EUR 1,471,800 (the total budget including private funding amounts to EUR 1,570,000), which is 11.14% of axis 4 public funding and 0.37% of the total public RDP budget. The amount allocated to each LAG for Cooperation amounts to EUR 200,000 EUR. The remainder of the total budget will be allocated to those LAGs whose further TNC applications are considered the best proposals.
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	The above total budget is managed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Wine-Growing and Rural Development. The regionally allocated budget is managed by each of the LAGs themselves.
Special budget for the preparatory technical support of TNC projects	Each LAG has been provided with a budget to cover the costs of four preparatory projects. The total amount to cover the costs for these preparatory actions is EUR 20,000, of which a maximum of EUR 5,000 may be spent per project.

2. PROGRAMMING ASPECTS

Local Development Strategies and TNC	LAGs have included their Cooperation project ideas in their local development strategies.
Way of selecting cooperation projects	Project selection is carried out by the board of the LAG. This takes place at regular board meetings, during which each project application is presented and discussed. The LAGs follow a form, which includes several evaluation criteria. The LAG board decision is followed by a final approval issued by the MA.
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	LAGs have identified the main TNC topics of interest in their Local Development Strategy. The theme most frequently proposed is tourism.
Cooperation with third countries	Restriction regarding Cooperation with countries other than the EU Member States: every Cooperation project must involve at least two LEADER LAGs.
Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG	No restriction has been established concerning the number of TNC projects a LAG may engage in.

3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

<p>Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects</p>	<p>The approval and implementation of TNC projects follows the same procedure as applied to other Leader axis projects. Full procedures concerning the approval and implementation of TNC projects can be found via the Ministry's website</p> <p>http://leader.lu/Files/downloads/Documents/Guide_gestion.pdf</p>
<p>Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>In accordance with the criteria published in the 'Guide de gestion', the eligibility criteria for Cooperation projects are the same as for the regional LEADER projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be located within a LEADER region • be consistent with the local development strategy • contribute to the realization of an objective set by LEADER • be innovative • bring about a partnership on a regional, transregional or transnational level • be primarily investments with "software" characteristics • lead to a self-sustaining project even after the end of the co-financing period • be transferable to other regions • involve at least 2 LAGs in case of cooperation projects
<p>Selection criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>The form used by LAGs to evaluate each project application establishes different categories of criteria, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical criteria: complete project description, identified lead partner for the project, etc. • Criteria in terms of content: e.g. consistent with the local strategy, innovative for the region, contribution to the endogenous development of the region or to the regional identity, effects of economic, ecological or sociocultural dimension.
<p>Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation</p>	<p>Within the framework of this measure, activities typically supported include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organisation of a common training seminar, conference • elaboration of a common concept/study • generation of a common internet platform • creation of a network, label • creation of common tools, e.g. pedagogical tools, CDs,... • creation of common publications (flyers, brochures, ...)
<p>Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects</p>	<p>Typical examples of eligible costs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • staff costs and administration costs • coordination costs including external resource persons • publication and translation costs • common action costs • costs for local actions necessary for implementing the common action • all costs related to transnational meetings (travelling, catering, ...) <p>Costs generally considered as not eligible for LEADER-projects are listed in the 'Guide de gestion'.</p>
<p>Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs</p>	<p>The lead partner LAG is required to present a cooperation agreement, which has been signed by all project partners.</p>
<p>The approval process of TNC applications</p>	<p>Once selected by the LAG board, formal project approval is issued by the MA (the Ministry of Agriculture, Wine-Growing and Rural Development). There are no periodical calls, project applications are processed continuously. The period for applications closes on 31/12/2013. No deadline or maximum time limit has been set for the delay between application and approval.</p> <p>There is also no maximum delay set for approvals to be issued by Member States' authorities of the TNC partners.</p>



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
- RDP: Rural Development Programme