

Italy – Friuli Venezia Giulia

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 Friuli Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region

2. Number of LAGs:

5

3. Axes covered by LAGs:

Axis 4:

- Measure 411 Competitiveness – Action 'Valorisation of local agricultural products';
- Measure 412 Environment/Territory management – Action 'Protection and valorisation of rural landscape';
- Measure 413 Quality of life/diversification – Actions 'Tourist accommodation (landlords, B&B, agri-tourism)'; 'Basic services (stores and catering activities, trade of essentials, fitment and collective structures management, personal services)'; 'Development of services and leisure and cultural activities'; 'Support to initiatives aimed at territorial marketing'.

4. Axes covered by TNC projects:

Axis 4:

- Measure 411 Competitiveness – Action 'Valorisation of local agricultural products';
- Measure 412 Environment/Territory management – Action 'Protection and valorisation of rural landscape';
- Measure 413 Quality of life/diversification – Actions 'Tourist accommodation (landlords, B&B, agri-tourism)'; 'Basic services (stores and catering activities, trade of essentials, fitment and collective structures management, personal services)'; 'Development of services and leisure and cultural activities'; 'Support to initiatives aimed at territorial marketing'.

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

EUR 509,304,201

Total budget for Leader axis:

EUR 23,951,108

Of which:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| a. EU Funding: | EUR 7,070,245 |
| b. Public funding: | EUR 8,998,493 |
| c. Private funding: | EUR 7,882,370 |

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 - "interterritorial and transnational cooperation" is EUR 803,436, which is 0.16% of the total RDP's public funding budget. The funds have neither been pre-allocated to TNC projects nor to LAGs.
Responsibility for the management of the Budget (MAs or LAGs)	LAGs are 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	The LAGs intending to establish cooperation projects must outline in the local development strategy (LDS) the purpose of the cooperation and the types of projects they are committed to develop and implement.
Way of selecting cooperation projects	Cooperation project ideas are integral part of the LDS. Selected LAGs may, however, submit to the MA (until December 31 st , 2013) further cooperation project proposals for its approval.
Main topics of TNC proposed for the 2007-2013 programming period	The main proposed theme concern the exchange of experiences and know-how.
Cooperation with third countries	No specific restrictions have been indicated with regards to cooperation with third countries.
Maximum/minimum number of TNC projects per LAG	Not specified.

3. COMMON PROVISIONS FOR TNC PROJECT APPROVAL

Information about procedures of approval and implementation of TNC projects	The regional Managing Authority will fix a deadline (expected to be before but not later than December 31 st , 2013), by which selected LAGs must present their project proposals for approval and financing. The LAG is considered beneficiary of the measure. It can entrust the implementation of the project to a subject demonstrating the administrative capacity and technical competence needed to ensure the results envisaged.
Eligibility criteria for cooperation projects	LAGs of the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region are expected to cooperate with LAGs or subjects of similar quality, originating from other Member States of the European Union or from third countries.

<p>Selection criteria for cooperation projects</p>	<p>Project proposals are assessed for compliance with the LDS and in particular for their consistency with:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the description of the cooperation (purpose and type of projects) therein; 2. the actions foreseen in the LDS (and under measures 411, 412, 413) and compliance with the indications referred to under measure 421; 3. the conditions set by relevant EU and national rules.
<p>Eligible activities of measure 421 Cooperation</p>	<p>Cooperation projects may only implement actions related to those measures of axes 1, 2 and 3, which can be addressed through axis 4 of the RDP, in line with the objectives and the central theme of the LDS.</p>
<p>Typical examples of eligible costs for TNC projects</p>	<p>In addition to costs for the individual actions referred to under measures 411, 412, 413, the following costs are typically considered eligible for financing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reimbursements of the staff and the chair of the LAG for expenses incurred for meetings with partner representatives outside the LAG's territory, even if incurred prior to the approval of the projects by the regional MA; • translation and interpretation services, even if incurred prior to the approval of the projects by the regional MA; • organisation and implementation of public and information meetings; • rental of premises and equipment for public meetings and seminars related to individual projects; • production and dissemination of information material; • specialized advisory services not funded by measure 431; • reimbursement for expenses related to coordination activities, even if incurred prior to the approval of the projects by the regional MA; • management of the common structure.
<p>Specific documents concerning the cooperation partners required from LAGs</p>	<p>In addition to the requirements established by the Guide for the implementation of the measure Cooperation under the Leader axis of rural development programmes 2007-2013, LAGs will have to complete a specific application form, providing detailed information and data.</p>
<p>The approval process of TNC applications</p>	<p>The Friuli Venezia Giulia Region issued its call for LDS submission, including 3 transnational cooperation project proposals, in May 2008. The MA has completed its assessment procedure on 30 October 2009 by selecting 5 LAGs.</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