

## LEADER/CLLD

**LEADER**<sup>[i]</sup> is a local development method which has been used for 20 years to engage local actors in the design and delivery of strategies, decision-making and resource allocation for the development of their rural areas.

It is implemented by around **2 600 Local Action Groups (LAGs)**, covering over 54% of the rural population in the EU and bringing together public, private and civil-society stakeholders in a particular area.

In the rural development context, LEADER is implemented under the national and regional [Rural Development Programmes](#) <sup>[1]</sup> (RDPs) of each EU Member State, co-financed from the [European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development](#) <sup>[2]</sup> (EAFRD).<sup>[ii]</sup>

In the 2014-2020 programming period, the LEADER method has been extended under the broader term **Community-Led Local Development (CLLD)** to three additional EU Funds:

- the [European Maritime and Fisheries Fund](#) <sup>[3]</sup> (EMFF);
- the [European Regional Development Fund](#) <sup>[4]</sup> (ERDF); and
- the [European Social Fund](#) <sup>[5]</sup> (ESF).

Although LEADER is obligatory only under the EAFRD, a single action can now be supported under two or more of the four EU Funds at the same time through the concept of **multi-funded CLLD**. Where this is applied, it enables LAGs to comprehensively integrate local needs and solutions and helps to reinforce the links between rural, urban and fisheries areas.

For further information, explore a set of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) <sup>[6]</sup> (FAQs).

Follow the work of the permanent [LEADER/CLLD Sub-group](#) <sup>[7]</sup> operating within the framework of the European Rural Networks' [Assembly](#) <sup>[8]</sup>.

### LEADER/CLLD implementation: insights from LAGs

- [LAG survey results report 2017](#) <sup>[9]</sup>

### Click on the links below to explore LEADER/CLLD in detail

- [LAG Database](#) <sup>[10]</sup>

- [CLLD Partner Search](#) [11]
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## ENRD guidance

- **LEADER Local Development Strategies (LDS): Guidance on design and implementation** [PDF [en](#)] [16]

## EU guidance and legislation

- [Omnibus Regulation \(EU, Euratom\) 2018/1046](#) [17]
- Articles 42-44, [Rural Development Regulation \(EU\) No 1305/2013](#) [18]
- Articles 32-35, [Common Provisions Regulation \(EU\) No 1303/2013](#) [19] for the European Structural and Investment Funds
- **Guidance on Community-Led Local Development in European Structural and Investment Funds (June 2014)** [PDF [en](#)] [20]
- **Guidance on Community-Led Local Development for Local Actors (August 2014)** [PDF [en](#)] [21] [fr](#) [22] [de](#) [23] [it](#) [24] [es](#) [25] [pl](#) [26] [bg](#) [27] [cs](#) [28] [el](#) [29] [fi](#) [30] [ro](#) [31] [nl](#) [32] [pt](#) [33] [mt](#) [34] [lt](#) [35] [lv](#) [36] [sl](#) [37] [hu](#) [38] [da](#) [39] [sv](#) [40] [et](#) [41] [sk](#) [42] [hr](#) [43]]

## CLLD outside rural areas

- [Community-Driven Development \(CDD\) programs](#) [44], World Bank
- [Urban-rural linkages & RURBAN](#) [45], DG REGIO
- [Implementing CLLD in cities](#) [46], URBACT
- [Cooperation between LEADER LAGs and Fisheries LAGs](#) [47], FARNET

**[i]** The term 'LEADER' originally came from the French acronym for "Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Économie Rurale", meaning 'Links between the rural economy and development actions'.

**[ii]** For information on LEADER and LAGs in the 2007-2013 programming period, visit the [archived ENRD website](#) [48]

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Source URL: [https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/leader-clld\\_en](https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/leader-clld_en)

### Links

- [1] <http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020/country-files/>  
 [2] [http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/rural-development-2014-2020/index_en.htm)

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[44] <http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/communitydrivendevelopment>

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[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/what/territorial-cohesion/urban-rural-linkages/](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/what/territorial-cohesion/urban-rural-linkages/)

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<http://urbact.eu/implementing-community-led-local-development-cities-lessons-urbact>

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<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/cms/farnet/improving-coordination-eu-funds-cooperation-between-leader-lags-farnet-flags>

[48] [http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/enrd-static/leader/en/leader\\_en.html](http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/enrd-static/leader/en/leader_en.html)