

THE Evolution of A CLLD Practice Utilising The LEADER Approach Example of A LAG Delivering A Multi-Fund Platform in Ireland



History of Community Led Development in Ireland (1)

1960's Beginning of Local Groups
Coming together to deal with local
Challenges – Integrated development

Early 1990's:

A. Rural Support from EU via first
LEADER Programmes - AGRI; to
be invested through Rural
Independent LAG Structures

B National Social Inclusion
Programme developed by Social
Protection Type Ministry; to be led
by both Rural and Urban LAGs



History of Community Led Development in Ireland (2)

From Late 1990's Department of Transport providing funding to many areas to provide a Rural Transport Programme for areas where there is no public transport...

All LAG's (Urban and Rural) through the Social Protection Ministry currently operate Market Place Interventions where the LAG can hire unemployed people from Live register for employment experience (social) in Community Initiatives (average of 100 people per year per LAG)



History of Community Led Development in Ireland (3)

LAG's have also accessed and deliver a range of other funds from National, European, International and sometimes via philanthropy/CSR.

Today we have 51 LAG Type Structures in Ireland all following the 'principles of LEADER and most already providing a 'Multi-Fund or Global Fund' Platform

36 LAGs In Rural Area
15 LAGs in Urban Areas



History of Community Led Development in Ireland (4)

The recognition that :

Local Development Strategy

Integrated & Multi-Sectoral

Sustainable Development

LEADER Principles

Community Led Development

Are potentially all inter-related terms...



SECAD's Multi-Fund Platform 2007-2015





SECAD: Sample of Outputs 2011

72 Private Enterprise Grants (50% tourism; 30% Food; 20% Craft/Other (Average Grant; €35,000)
60 Community Infrastructure and basic services Projects (average grant €30,000)

89 Unemployed undertake new support programme for Self Employment (Partnership)
137 Unemployed provided work experience for 12 months through new Partnership Programme
Targeted motivational programmes in communities with highest levels of disadvantage

11,000 passenger journeys provided to people living in isolation....integration...



Why has the Multi-Fund Approach Evolved in Ireland?

Capacity at LAG Level

- Board
- Vision/Planning
- Staff
- Partnership
- Legal / Autonomy
- Flexibility

Capacity at EU & National Level

- Understanding Principles of LEADER Approach
- Respecting the Autonomy of the LAG
- Trust and Recognition of Innovation and Impact in Supporting bottom-up approach





The View of the Client, Public & Beneficiary



The LAG is viewed as a:

One-Stop, Local Development Hub

A Sign-Post for Services

A Point of Guidance across
A range of activities

Access to integrated soft supports;
Training, Mentoring, Networking

A suite of Integrated Investments &
Services



Multi-Fund Approach.... Major Challenges, But Incredible Potential

Challenges:

Reporting to several bodies

Financial Management & Cash Flow
(Capacity?)

Increased pressures and stress
Apportionment of costs (Time?)

Cold hand of bureaucracy (control?)

Success sometimes has a
downside!



Multi-Fund Approach /CLLD.....

Opportunity & Potential:

The EU CLLD 2014-2020

The 'LEAD' Fund

New Sense of Partnership ...

'Simplification' Cost Option
introduced as part of Common
Strategic Framework

Underpinning Valuable Social
Inclusion and Employment
Programmes under increasing
budget



**But we must keep our eyes-wide-open
And be clear in our vision and focus**

