

# LEADER: Acting locally in a changing world

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## Q1: Specific priority actions now to optimise / improve achievement?

- Simpler, more effective communication about LEADER and its added value /LEADER branding, strategy, definition of CLLD, better set of and use of indicators to demonstrate added value e.g. indicators of local engagement, LAG and project stories, mapping of “ripple effects”/ - innovative tools used at all levels, also meaningful for outsiders
- LAGs should create a framework for measuring, quantifying – also in monetary terms - and demonstrating social return on investment and other LEADER benefits not measured by current indicators
- Better and more wide-spread use of SCOs /rolling out, establishing reference costs/ - national level
- Reduce transition period – time taken for project approvals
- More support to LAG monitoring and evaluation

## Q2: Specific (new and existing) priority target groups and challenges?

Connectivity	Diversity
Openness	Solidarity
Community	Kindness
Integration/inclusiveness	

The  in the room:



- Stronger bottom up / involvement of youth in LEADER, retaining young people, stop brain drain
- Attracting people from cities to a welcoming area
- Specific measures about old people (demographic change, depopulation)
- Migrants
- Green Tech / innovation infrastructure
- Circular, resource-saving and low carbon economy
- Climate adaptation (floods, food security, soil health)
- Agro-ecology, permaculture, sustainable, environmentally sound agriculture
- SMEs, Information technology (interlocutors)
- Need to clarify the role of „smart villages“ and the relation with LEADER
- Broad framework to ensure openness and local level decisions – guidance rather than prescription
- No involvement of MA in defining priorities and target groups – less prescriptive in general (allow for proper LDS)
- Get LAGs' needs better understood by Mas, build trust between LAGs, MAs, EC
- Important distinction between new and long established LAGs
- Uncertainty still a big challenge, having negative effects
- Local level decision: Response to challenges
- Target groups: Open calls, open to all stakeholders (stakeholder mapping)

## Q3: The most important planning and implementation messages to communicate so that LEADER remains distinct and delivers added value?

1. Distinguish LEADER rules from mainstream – an enabling delivery system for LEADER method
2. Include LAGs in designing future LEADER rules at national level– avoiding gold plating, simplify
3. Rules to ensure: capacity for animation, preparing the ground ,small projects, collective projects, pilots, experiments.....
4. Working group on results orientated approach for LEADER, develop specific indicators, monitoring and evaluation procedures
5. Coaching at all levels, examples, strengthen role of NRNs