

# LEADER Thematic Lab on Maintaining and widening stakeholder engagement „Zooming in”

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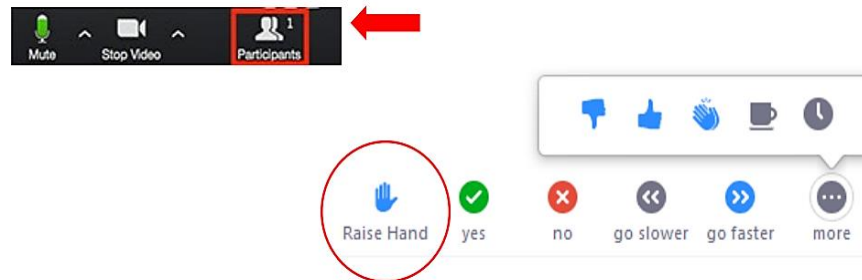
# Meeting ,etiquette'

## Please

- keep your microphone muted during the event when others are speaking or presenting,



- request to speak with the ,Raise Hand' button (at the bottom of the participants window),



- use the ,chat' window to share questions and comments during presentations, and use your camera / switch on video when speaking during the event.

## **Session 1 (10:15-11:15): Widening stakeholder engagement**

- ,Zooming in' (ENRD CP)
- The Commission perspective (DG AGRI). Q&A.
- Widening stakeholder engagement at LAG level (LAG Salland, Netherlands)
- Stakeholder engagement – lessons learnt from Spanish LAGs (REDR, Spain)
- Widening and deepening LAG engagement at Member State level (National Rural Network, Sweden)
- Working with LAGs in a digital innovation hub (4PDIH, Slovenia)

## **Session 2 (11:35-12:50): Maintaining stakeholder engagement in crisis situations**

- Q&A – questions from Session 1
- Maintaining stakeholder engagement and ensuring RD policy delivery during the COVID-19 crisis (MA, Slovenia)
- NRN support to crisis response in rural communities (NRN, Portugal)
- What LAGs are saying on how COVID-19 is affecting their work (ELARD)
- Working with LAGs in developing local responses to COVID-19 (4PDIH and LAG Istra, Slovenia)

# Some considerations

## Who is engaged? When?

- Stakeholders who affect / who are affected
- Stakeholders who have a voice / who do not have a voice
- Stakeholders within the LAG territory / outside the LAG territory
- 3-partnership / extended partnership
- During the LDS design? Implementation? Evaluation?

## Impacts (of more stakeholder engagement)

- Better strategies? More funds utilised? More projects implemented?
- Social cohesion? Resilience? Sustainability?

## How? By what means?

- Degrees of engagement: Information → Consultation → involvement / participation → Cooperation/partnership
- Resources available to the LAG? Rules and delivery systems? Funding?

**How do these change in a crisis situation?**

## Activities, operational priorities

- LAGs spend most time on supporting project development and implementation and administration/reporting of projects
- LAGs would prioritise project development, animation, capacity building and training, and supporting innovation
- LAGs' top operational priorities relate to strategic objectives of the LDS, the cohesion of the LAG territory, and developing innovative solutions

## LAG communications

Most popular ways to communicate with the wider public in the LAG territory include LAG website (89%); through the LAG office (71%); through LAG staff /members working in the local community (66%)

## LEADER effects

- LEADER effects „very/important and difficult to achieve” involve higher level of community engagement (e.g. improving social capital, strengthening economic linkages among local actors, finding innovative solutions)

**How do these change in a crisis situation?**

# Your feedback

## Your experience

- Nature of innovation / design thinking (Austria)
- Innovative service-learning methodology / join rural communities with higher education institutions (Croatia)
- Youth-LEADER, „Companionship-tables” in villages , open online meetings (Finland)
- Cooperation with Cooperative for Ethical Financing (Croatia, LEADER Network)
- Sectoral webinars (Ireland)
- Messages of hope, Whatsapp groups (Spain)
- Open office, co-working, open community (Latvia)

## Issues to discuss

- How to create a united / unified vision / community feeling for a wider area?
- How to create ‚visible’ change?
- How can NSUs/NRN support LAGs in widening stakeholder engagement?
- Practical tools and methods for Involving young stakeholders
- Simplified costs
- Gender equality in stakeholder engagement
- COVID-19 responses – direct selling, short supply chains, other ways of adapting to the situation

## EU Rural Review 29 ,LEADER Achievements'



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# Publications, resources

## Collecting rural responses to the COVID-19 crisis



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