The added value of transnational cooperation in LEADER

Stefan Kah
European Policies Research Centre

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Structure

- Characteristics and added value of transnational cooperation
- Case studies
  - Culttrips
  - Cultlands
  - Slow Travel
- Added value achieved
- Conclusions
  - Success factors
  - Challenges and recommendations
Characteristics of TNC in LEADER

Cooperation…
• …allows to widen local views
• …brings new knowledge to the area
• …can boost the innovative character of local development actions
• …helps to acquire skills and means to improve delivery
• …supports the creation of an EU identity

Can evolve in stages:
• Exchange of experience
• Transfer of promising practice
• Common activity

Sources: European Commission guidance documents for the implementation of LEADER cooperation activities 2008 and 2014
Potential added value of TNC I/II

‘Hard’ added value

• Contribution to territorial strategy
• More ambitious projects through attaining critical mass
• Improving competitiveness: new business partners, new markets
• Strengthening local partnerships
• Shaping territorial identity and awareness
• New work practices & innovation through new skills

Source: ENRD (2011) LEADER Transnational Cooperation Guide
Potential added value of TNC II/II

‘Soft’ added value

• Broadening one’s mind by considering differences as a source for enrichment
• Developing European citizenship and sense of identity
• Acquisition of new (governance) skills

Source: ENRD (2011) LEADER Transnational Cooperation Guide
Case studies

LAG Oststeirisches Kernland TNC projects 2007-13:

1. Culttrips (LU, AT, EE, FI, IT)
2. Cultlands (AT, ES, PL)
3. Slow Travel (AT, LU)
KARTE: BISHERIGE KOOPERATIONEN EUROPÄ

ESTLAND
1. LAG Raplamaa Partnership Registered Association

FINNLAND
2. LAG Maaseudun Kehittämisyhdistys Keski-Karjalan Jetina
3. LAG Joensuun Seudun Leader

ITALIEN
4. GAL Valle Umbra E Sibillini

LUXEMBURG
5. LAG Clervaux-Vianden
6. LAG Redange-Wiltz

POLLEN
7. LGD Partnerstwo Na Jurze

SPANIEN
8. GAL Asociación Para El Desarrollo Integral De Sierra De Montánchez Y Tamuja, Adismonta
Case studies – timing

Timeline

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<tr>
<th>2010</th>
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<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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Lead partner: LAG Oststeirisches Kernland
## Case studies – funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transnational project</th>
<th>Public funds (EAFRD and national)</th>
<th>Private funds</th>
<th>Total costs</th>
<th>Share of AT partner in all project costs (in %)</th>
<th>Total (all partners)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Culttrips</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>16.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultlands</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>51.4</td>
<td>759</td>
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<td>Slow Travel</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>76.7</td>
<td>352</td>
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<td>Sum</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>1,849</td>
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Case study I/III

Culttrips (LU, AT, EE, FI, IT): creative tourism strategy with 15 projects developing creative/participatory tourism offers
Cultlands (AT, ES, PL) solutions for the future of cultural landscapes threatened by agricultural intensification, developing new economic pathways
Slow Travel (AT, LU)

creative tourism; partly building on Culttrips work resulting in concrete tourism offers
‘Hard’ added value of cooperation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributions to territorial strategy</th>
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‘Soft’ added value of cooperation

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<td>(9) Acquisition of new (governance) skills</td>
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Suggested implementation model

Implementation: Regional partners

Innovation & ideas: International partners

Strategic steering: LAG

Regional cooperation

Transnational cooperation

Regional responsibility
Conclusions I – success factors

Success factors for TNC

- Working with the right partners
  - balance between similarities and differences
- Realistic expectations
  - by LAGs and other actors (MAs…)
- Long-term perspective
  - gradual nature of cooperation
- Previous TNC experience
  - and established contacts
Conclusions II – challenges and recommendations

Challenges for TNC projects

*Practical*
- physical distance
- language barriers
- cultural differences

*Regulatory*
- Divergent rules and processes between MS/OPs
- Different time-frames between MS/OPs
- Lack of clear rules at EU-level and in MS

*Procedural*
- Finding appropriate partners and cooperation structures
- Agreement on common objectives and processes
- Measuring results and impact


Nature of TNC…difficult to change

Harmonisation of procedures

Support from networks (EU & MS)?
Thank you for your attention!

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