

How to access social capital In LEADER (at the LAG level)

Elena Pisani (Prof. Ph.D)

*Dep. Territorio e Sistemi Agro-
forestari dell'Università degli Studi di
Padova (Italy)*

How to assess the LEADER added Value

23 – 24 November 2023

Novotel Luxembourg Kirchberg, 6 rue Fort Niedergrünewald,
Quartier Européen Nord Plateau de Kirchberg, L-2266,
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European Evaluation Helpdesk for the CAP



Assessment of LEADER value added: social capital at the LAG level



1. Network Diversity Index

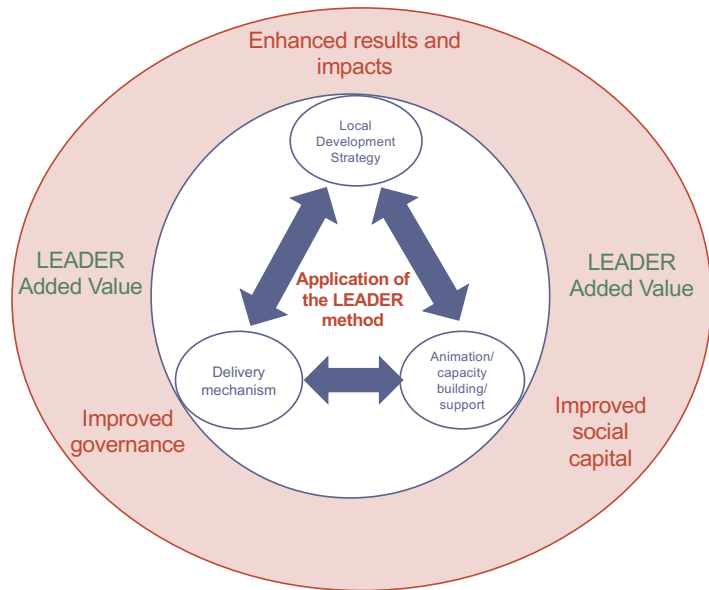


2. Methods for measuring social capital with baseline, in itinere and final evaluation (Palgrave Book on Social capital and Local Development)



3. Network analysis for information sharing among members

Provide a working definition of social capital for evaluation purposes of LEADER



Working definition: **Improved social capital in LEADER includes** networks, mutual trust, shared mental models and beliefs that facilitate the quality of collaboration and cooperation within and among LEADER areas.

Source: **Assessing the added value of LEADER. Thematic Report.** Version 18/10/2023. DRAFT for discussion at the TWG meeting on 23/10/2023

A possible indicator for structural social capital: Network Diversity Index of the LAG membership

Component	Improved social capital
Key element to assess	1. Networks
Evaluation question	To what extent does LEADER contribute to quality interactions and networking among relevant actors?
Factor of success / brief description	FOS.S:1.01: The size of the network and quality of interactions within the LAG is improving or remains at a high level.
Outputs (indicators) / Data sources	O.01: Number of LAG members broken down by type of organisation: a) public administrations; b) private local economic interests; c) social local interests; d) other. <i>(Data source: Data for Monitoring and Evaluation (DME). Variables L600 to L604. (Annex VII to the Regulation (EU) No 2022/1475.)</i>
Results (indicators) / Data sources	R.01: Network diversity index of the LAG membership (as a proxy of structural social capital of the LAG). <i>(Data source: focus groups and administrative records of the LAG)</i>
Impacts (indicators) / Data sources	I.01: Stakeholders that consider a quality cooperation culture has developed between LAG members (e.g., frequent exchange of information, frequent meetings, good relationships developed). <i>(Data source: Interviews, surveys)</i>



Network Diversity Index

The index varies in the range of 0 to 1 assuming the value 0 (no diversity) when there is only one category in the group and the value 1 (maximum diversity) when all the categories are represented in the same measure in the group.

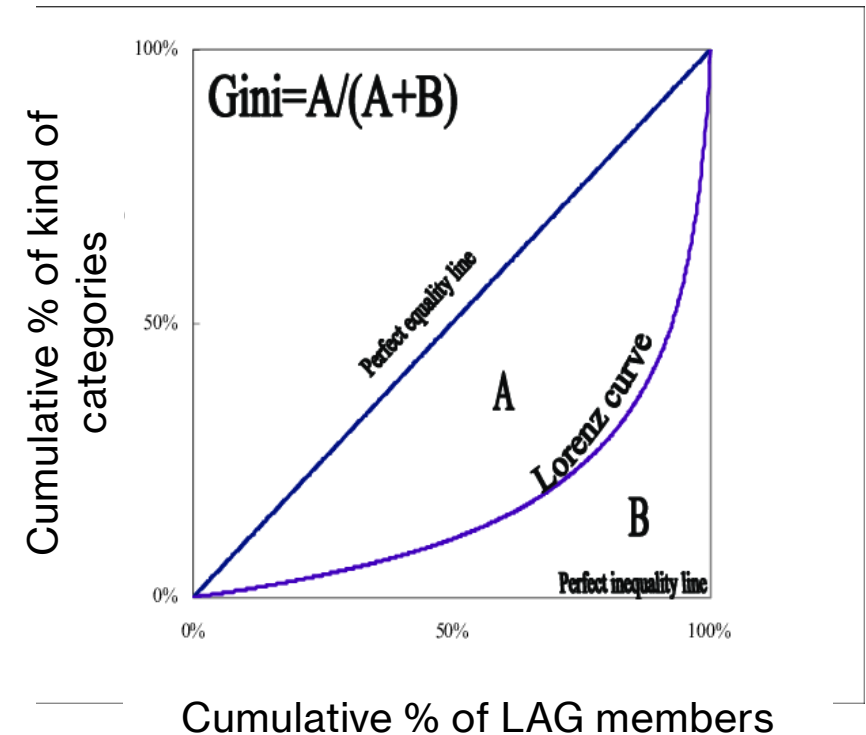
The index is calculated as:

$$NTd = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} (p_i - q_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} p_i}$$

(1) where *NTd* stands for *network diversity* and the second member is a form of Gini's concentration index. *N* represents the maximum number of categories potentially present in a LAG, $p_i = i/N$ the proportion of all the first *i* categories, and q_i the number of members belonging to the first *i* categories. The index studies the distribution of the variable "kind of category" and measures the distance between each case and the maximum concentration level (each board member belongs to the same category).

Source: Nardone, G., Sisto, R., & Lopolito, A. (2010). Social Capital in the LEADER Initiative: a methodological approach. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 26(1), 63-72.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0743016709000540>



An example of computation of NTd

LAG	Farm enterprisee	Small medium enterprise	Large enterprise	Public enterprise	Professional organisations	Trade unions	Associations	Park-reserve authority	Environment al NGO	Social NGO	Local authority	Other	Total
LAG X		1	3		7		1	1		1	27	1	42
Equal distribution										Sum			
Categories	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8					
Cumulative distribution of categories	1	3	6	10	15	21	28	36		n-1			
relativation	0,03	0,08	0,17	0,28	0,42	0,58	0,78	1,00		2,33			
Specific case	1	1	1	1	1	3	7	27		42,00			
Cumulative distribution of members	1	2	3	4	5	8	15	42		38,00		n-1	NTd
Relativation	0,02	0,05	0,07	0,10	0,12	0,19	0,36	1,00		0,90	pi-qi	1,43	0,39
Difference of equal distribution and member distribution	0,00	0,04	0,10	0,18	0,30	0,39	0,42	0,00		1,43	pi	2,33	

Network Diversity Index: examples of application in different case studies in Europe



Evaluation support study of the costs and benefits of the implementation of LEADER

Final Report



Source: European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development, (2023). *Evaluation support study of the costs and benefits of the implementation of LEADER : final report.* <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2762/995751>

ID	Case studies	NTd of the Board of Directors of the LAGs	NTd of the General Assembly of the LAGs	Indices of structural social capital of the LAGs
1	LAG.01	0.59	0.42	0.51
2	LAG.02		0.79	0.79
3	LAG-03	0.84	0.75	0.80
4	LAG.04	0.90	0.63	0.77
5	LAG.05	0.51	0.51	0.51
6	LAG.06	0.87	0.28	0.58
7	LAG.07	1.00	0.27	0.64
8	LAG.08	1.00	0.51	0.76
9	LAG.09	0.79	0.79	0.79
10	LAG.10	0.93	0.26	0.60
11	LAG.11	1.00	0.50	0.75
12	LAG.12	0.76	0.55	0.66
13	LAG.13	0.80	0.27	0.54
	Average	0.83	0.50	0.67
	Median	0.86	0.51	0.66
	Min	0.51	0.26	0.51
	Max	1.00	0.79	0.80
	SD	+/- 0.16	+/- 0.20	+/- 0.11

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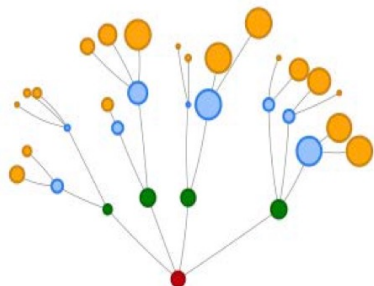


2. Methods for measuring social capital with baseline, in itinere and final evaluation (Palgrave Book on Social capital and Local Development)

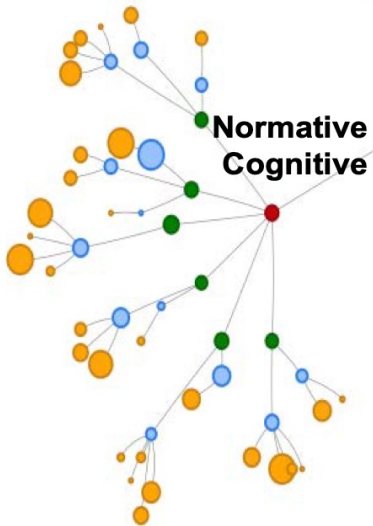


3. Network analysis for information sharing among members

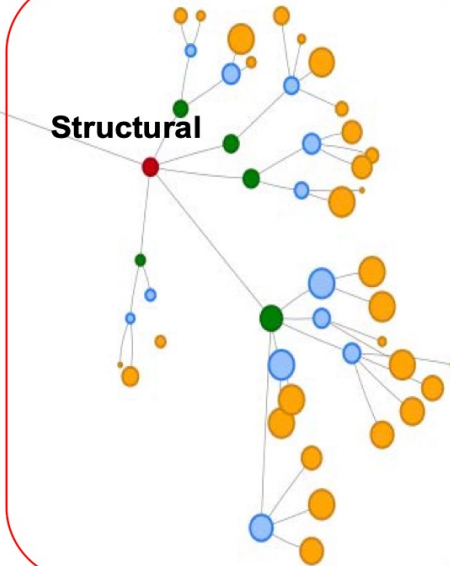
Method implemented



Related aspects of governance



Normative Cognitive



Structural

Social capital

3 Forms

15 Dimensions

34 Sub-dimensions

78 Indicators

The assessment of the added value of LEADER/CLLD as improved social capital in the LAG Prealpi & Dolomiti (Italy)

Elena Pisani – TESAF Dep. – University of Padova

Matteo Aguanno – Director of the LAG Prealpi & Dolomiti

Good Practice Workshop: "Showing the added value of LEADER/CLLD through evaluation"

17-18 May 2018 Helsinki, Finland

MONITORAGGIO E VALUTAZIONE

Sistema di Monitoraggio e Valutazione del GAL Prealpi e Dolomiti

CAPITALE SOCIALE E SVILUPPO LOCALE

DALLA TEORIA ALLA VALUTAZIONE EMPIRICA IN AREE RURALI IN ITALIA

MONITORAGGIO FINALIZZATO ALLA VALUTAZIONE DI EFFICACIA ED EFFICIENZA

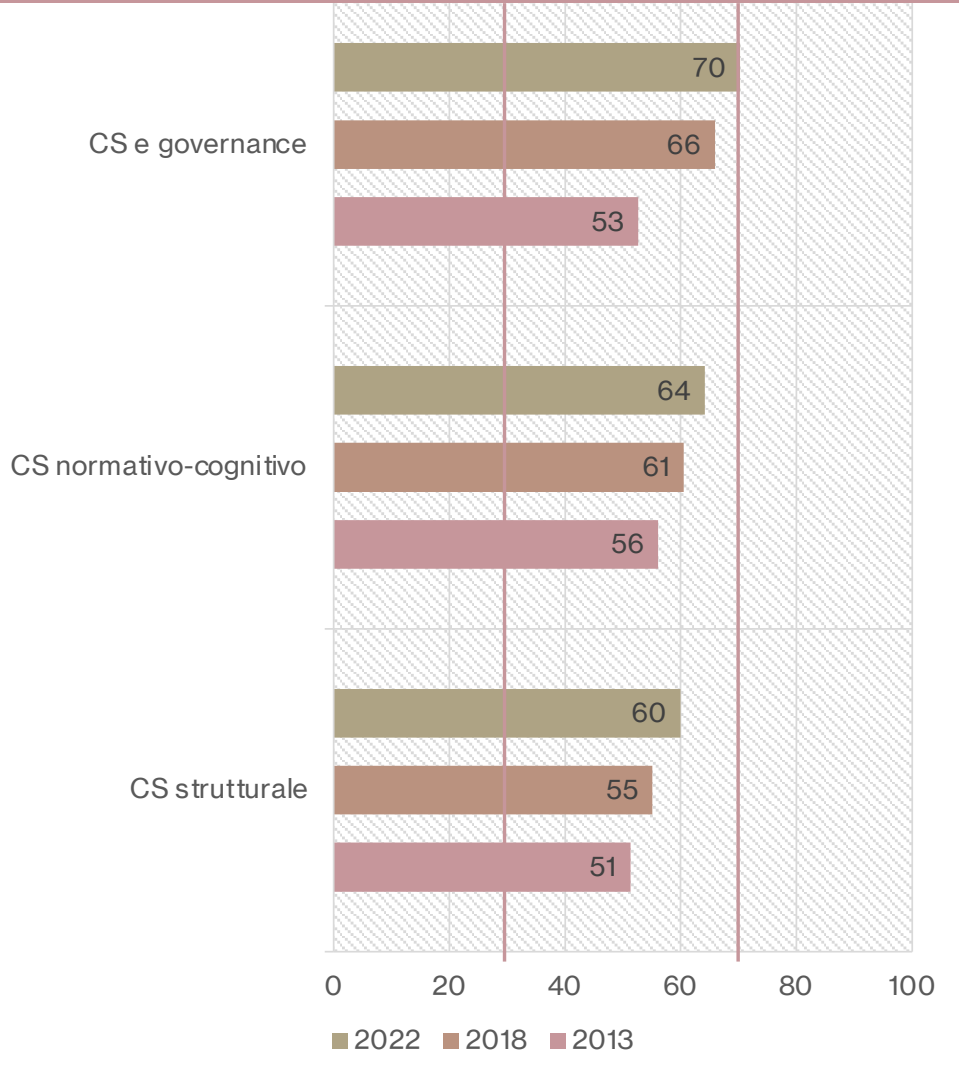
MONITORAGGIO FINALIZZATO ALLA VALUTAZIONE DEL VALORE AGGIUNTO LEADER

SOCIAL CAPITAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

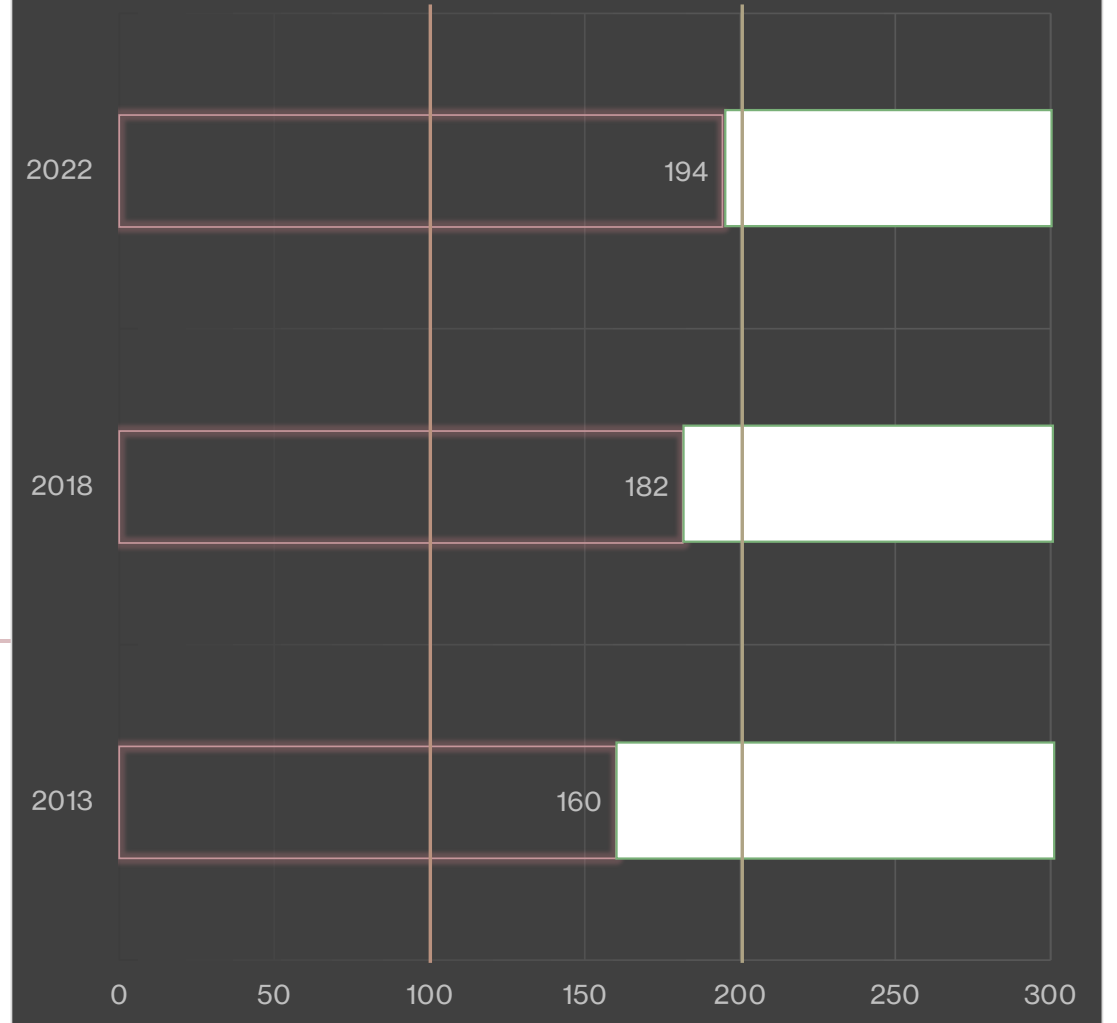
From Theory to Empirics

Edited by Elena Pisani, Giorgio Franceschetti, Laura Secco, Asimina Christoforou

Forms



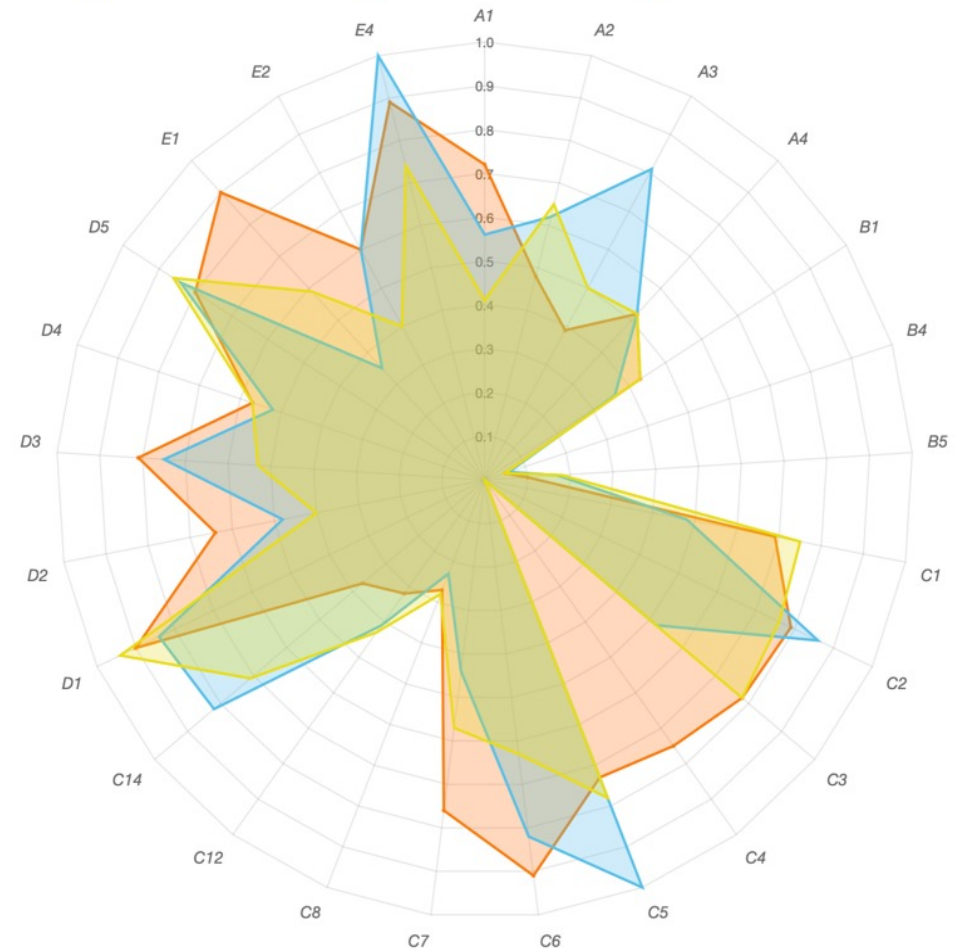
Social capital of the LAG Prealpi e Dolomiti (2013, 2018, 2022)



Structural social capital

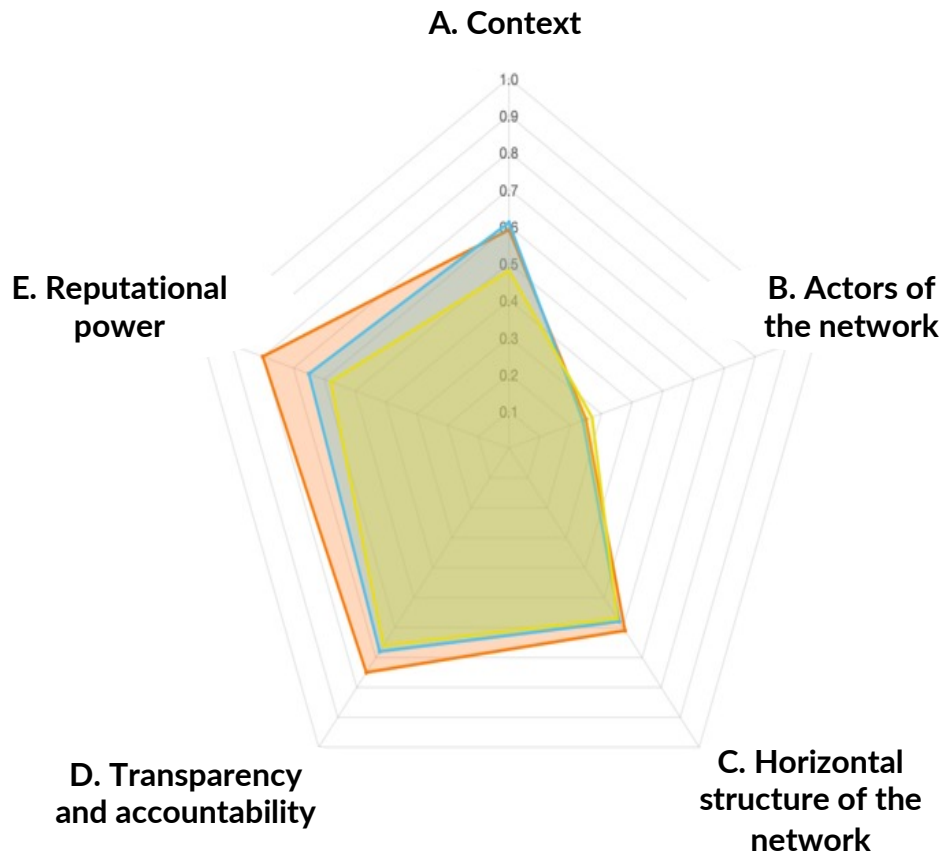
Indicators

■ Rilevazione 2007-2013 | Baseline ■ Rilevazione 2014-2020 | In itinere ■ Rilevazione 2014-2020 | Finale



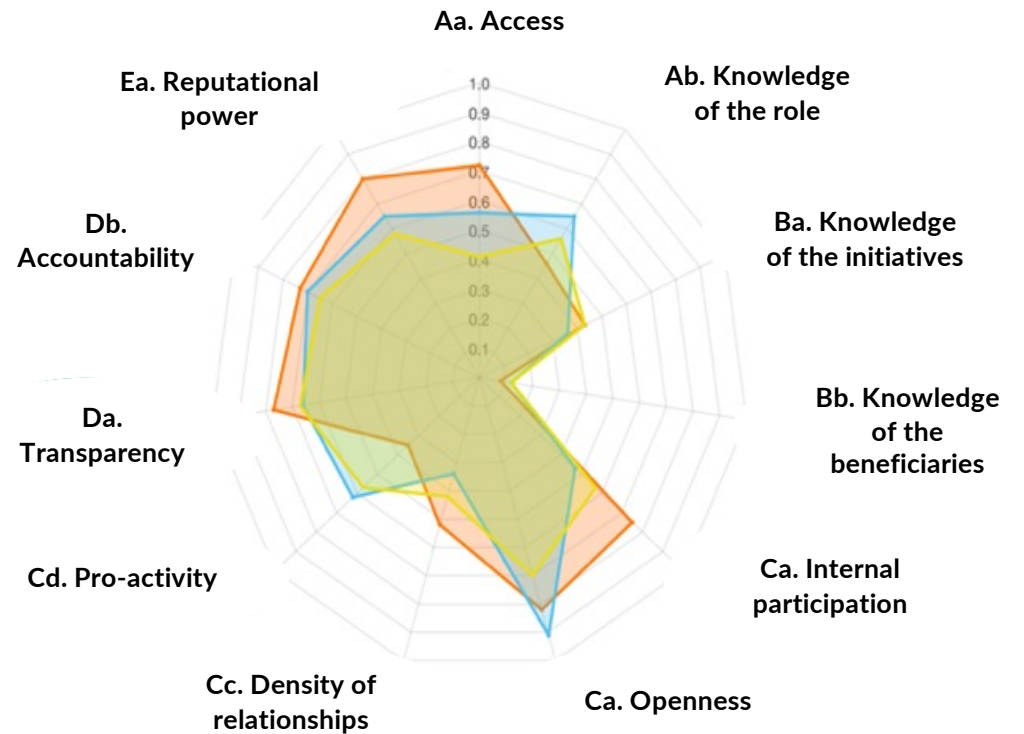
Dimensions

Baseline *In itinere* Final



Sub-dimensions

Baseline *In itinere* Final



Examples of recommendations in relation to structural social capital

- **Recommendation on the horizontal structure of the network. /**
- *Identify the best strategies and methodologies to continuously structure the relationship with the beneficiaries not only for the purposes of the calls, but also in the follow-up activity of the funded projects. An example of this could be the organisation of events to present directly completed projects to the LEADER territory by those who have benefited from rural development measures, which could become attractors for new potential beneficiaries with the support of the LAG. **The idea, therefore, is to move from an "egocentric" network** where the LAG is in charge of all the management of local development to **"polycentric networks"** where the LAG delegates certain functions to local actors to support it in different functions and activities.*

Examples of recommendations in relation to structural social capital

- **Recommendation on the quality dimension of the network.** Further strengthen the quality of the network for which there is still significant room for improvement. After implementing several Community programmes, the LAG has now reached a degree of maturity to allow a further leap forward. The challenge to be met, in the short term, is **functional decentralization**, i.e. the LAG should begin to propose and launch **thematic tables** among the representative actors of the territory that go to investigate in depth specific issues or sectors, the critical issues in the same present, but also the strengths in order to propose specific development proposals.

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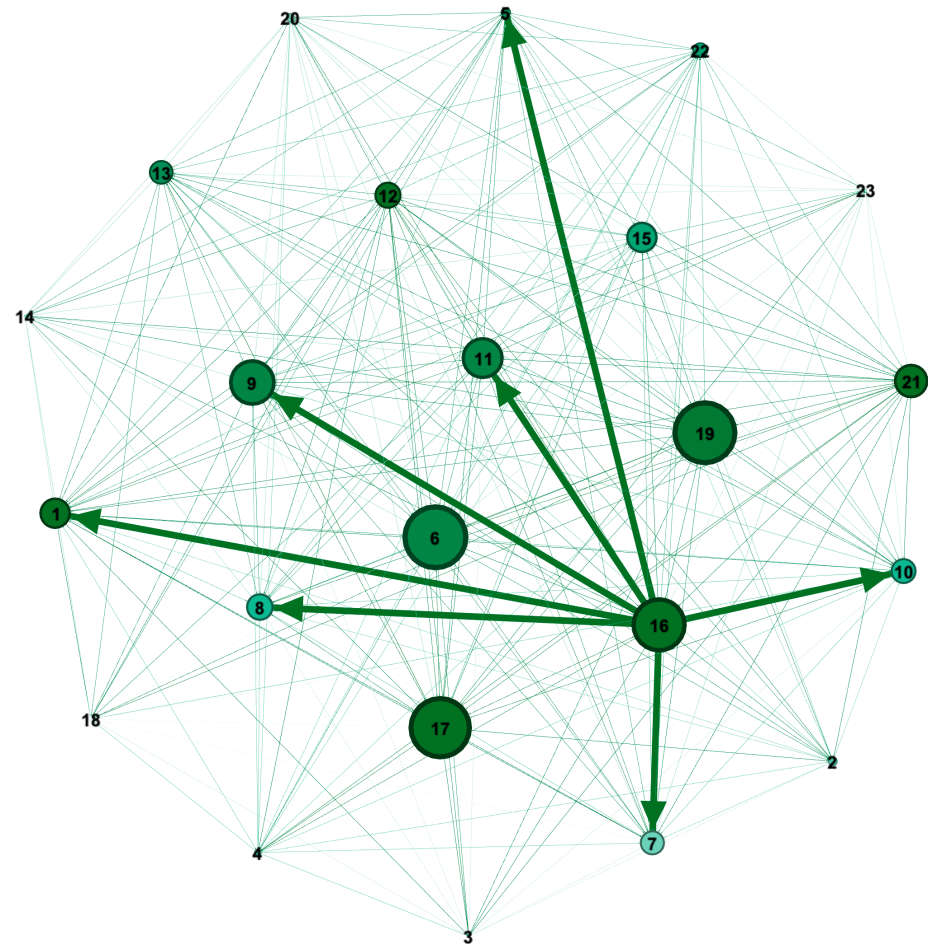
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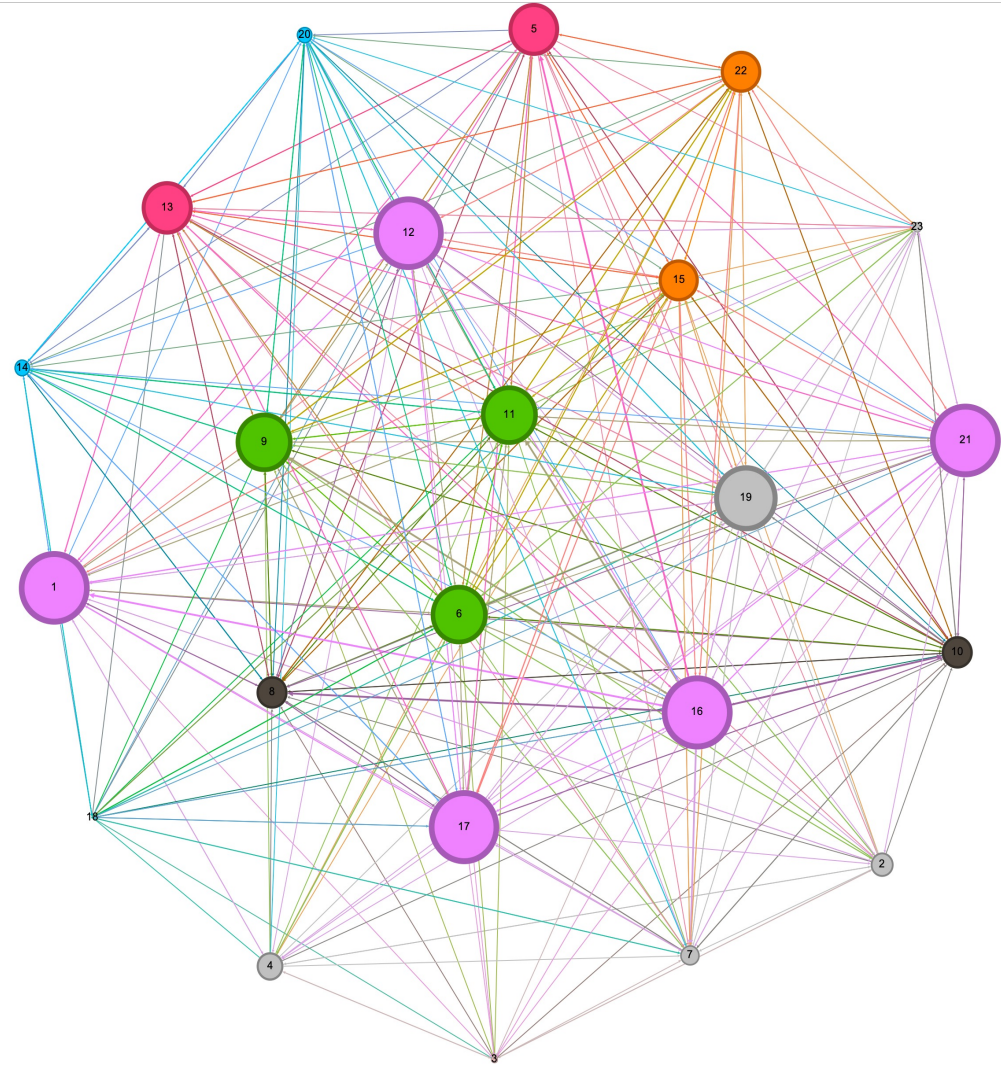
Network Analysis: exchange of information among LAG members

Betweenness centrality:
who are the information brokers?



Network Analysis: exchange of information among LAG members

Closeness centrality: *who are closed to relevant actors in the network?*



Some working considerations



Historically, social capital has been analysed via qualitative information.



We now know that social capital can be measured also with quantitative indicators, and not only on a qualitative base.



We have now at our disposal different **instruments** and **tools** that can be used for this purpose at the LAG level (mainly) but also at CSR level.



Qualitative data can help in interpreting better the quantitative results or in those LAGs where the M&E system is well-structured.



Certain indicators can be used as secondary data (e.g., CAP Network and National Network databases of LAGs membership and data collected at the beginning and at the end of the programming period).

LAG Profile

GAL 100 Villages

LAG code:	BE-001
Country:	Belgium
Main ESI Fund:	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
ESIF Programme:	Rural Development Programme - Wallonia

Contact information

LAG email:	leader@wfg.be
LAG manager:	Gilbert Kuepper
LAG manager email:	gilbert.kuepper@wfg.be
Address:	Hauptstrabe 54 4780 Saint-Vith Belgium

Additional information

Municipalities covered:

Amel/Amblève, Büllingen/Bullange, Bütgenbach/Butgenbach, Sankt Vith/Saint-Vith, Burg-Reuland

SOURCE: https://ec.europa.eu/enrd/lag/be-001_en.html

Thank you for your attention

- Elena Pisani
- Dep. Territorio e Sistemi Agro-Forestali
- Università degli Studi di Padova (Italy)
- elena.pisani@unipd.it
- <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8918-2781>



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id
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Published name
Elena Pisani

Name
Elena Pisani

Emails
elena.pisani@unipd.it

Websites & social links
[Dipartimento Territorio e Sistemi Agro-Forestali \(TESAF\)](#)
[twitterId](#)
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Biography
Elena Pisani, PhD in Real Estate Appraisal and Land Economics, is an associate professor in Agricultural Economics and Rural Appraisal (SSD AGR/01) at the Dep. "Territorio e Sistemi Agro-Forestali - TESAF" of the University of Padova (Italy) from November 2010. She was a researcher in the same department from December 2010 to October 2020. Her research interests concern the assessment of social and economic innovation projects and social capital in rural development initiatives specifically in the LEADER approach. More recently, she has been studying social-ecological systems and network governance in environmental projects and, specifically, in green care initiatives. She is part of the research team of the:
1. Horizon Europe RESONATE "Building individual and community resilience through nature-based therapies" from 2023 to 2026.
2. European Horizon 2020 project SIMRA "Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas" (<http://www.simra-h2020.eu>) from 2016 to 2020. She has been collaborating also on other Horizon and LIFE projects with the TESAF dep. She has been collaborating on research and applied projects funded by FAO, IFAD, ILO, Regione del Veneto, and Fondazione Cariverona. She was the scientific coordinator of different research projects: "Fortalecimiento de investigación en capital social y análisis de redes para el desarrollo local (MEC)" Comisión Nacional de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica del Chile - CONICYT (2017-2019), "SMART-In, Instruments, and Methods for Innovation in Agriculture, Rurality and Land", "Increased efficiency and effectiveness of the local development programs in tourism through participatory processes and good governance" financed by the European Social Fund (ESF). She teaches at the University of Padova in the following courses:
1. Principles of Economics (Bachelor in Forest Science);
2. European Projects for the Environment and the Territory (Master program in Sciences and Technologies for the Environment and the Territory);
3. European Projects for Forests and the Environment (Master program in Forestry and Environmental Sciences). She is a member of the "Società Italiana degli Economisti Agrari (SIDEA)", the "Associazione Italiana di Economia Agraria e Applicata" (AIEAA), the "European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy" (EAPE), and the European Association of Agricultural Economics (EAEE). She has published over 100 scientific publications (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8918-2781>) (<https://www.research.unipd.it>). She has realized intensive research activity in Latin America (e.g., Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, and Chile). She has been a visiting scientist at the Catholic University of Maule (Chile) and Universidad de la Frontera (Temuco - Chile) for different years. She is a member of the Doctoral School TARS-LERH of the TESAF Department. She is also an invited member of the Doctoral School in Social Sciences of the Catholic University of Maule (Chile). She collaborates as a reviewer with several international scientific journals (e.g., Land Use Policy, The Social Sciences Journal, Environmental Planning and Management, and Open Agriculture). She is an Associate Editor of Frontiers in Environmental Economics and the International Journal of Sciences.