

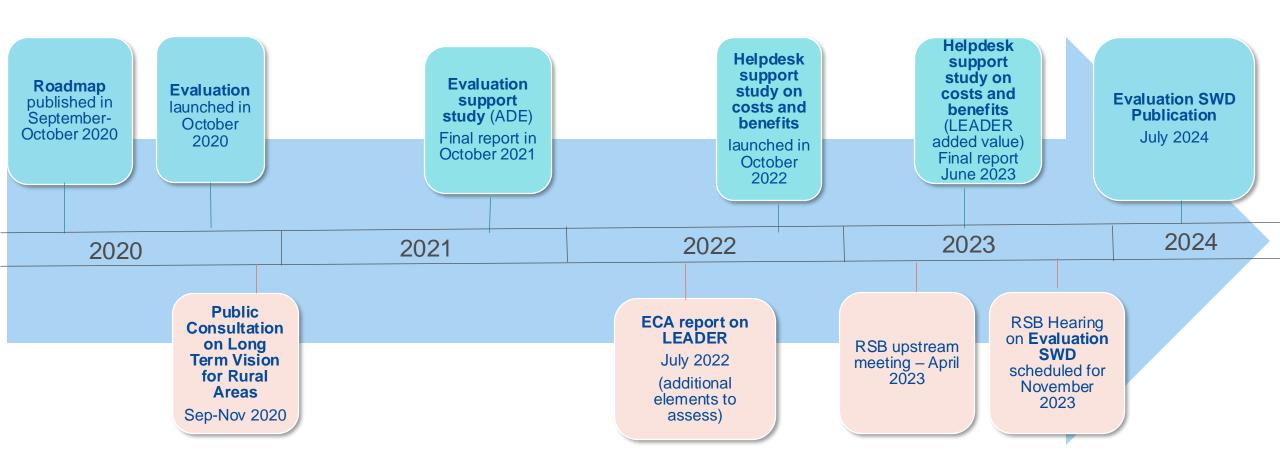
Evaluation of the impact of LEADER towards the general CAP objective 'balanced territorial development'

EU CAP Network – LEADER Sub-group meeting 5 March 2025

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DG AGRI – A3 Policy performance

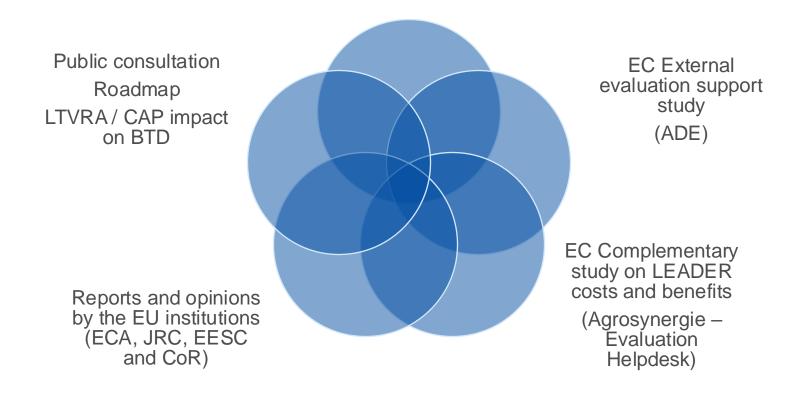
Overview of the evaluation Process



European Commission

Main data/information sources of draft SWD

Annual Implementation reports (AIR) and evaluation reports of Member States





Lessons learned



LEADER Intervention Logic

Not only one but thousands of intervention logics (one per LAG)

Common intervention logic based on LEADER added value concept to illustrate how LEADER/CLLD works.

Needs	 To foster endo strategy To strengthen a To ensure a mo To give response 	 To promote the development of rural areas by fully taking into account multi-sectoral needs To foster endogenous rural development through a bottom-up approach enabling local actors to design and implement a local development strategy To strengthen and facilitate community-led local development to better mobilise potential at a local level To ensure a more flexible implementation of local development strategies by avoiding narrowing their scope with pre-defined measures To give responsibility for the design and implementation of community-led local development strategies to local action groups representing the interests of the community 								
		Financia	al support	Human and institutional resources						
Inputs	EAFRD	National funds	Other ESIF	Member State resources (national,	EU institutions					

				(LEADER/CLLD multi-funding)		regional and local)				
		Measu	res in Rural De	evelopment Progr	LEADER method (7 features)					
*	Measures	Measure 19.1: M Preparatory Su		Measure 19.3: Support to Cooperation projects	Measure 19.4: Support to LAG animation activities and running costs	Bottom-up approach Public-private partnerships Area-based approach Integrated and multi-sectoral strategies	Innovation Networking Cooperation			
*	Outputs	Local Action GroupsSupport to local actorsAnimation of local strategies		Local Development Strategies • Local projects • Cooperation projects		Transnational projects				
		Improved social capital		Improved governance		Enhanced results due to LEADER approach				
*	Results	Diversity and inclusion of local actors Promotion of social trust Improved relations between relevant stakeholders		 Improved multi-level governance Increased quality of interactions between institutions Increased participation of local population in local strategies Getting EU closer to citizens 		 Projects better adapted to local needs and more targeted to local actors Innovation promoted in the LAG area More sustainable projects Better quality and performance of projects Valorisation of local assets Increased leverage of additional resources 				
	Contribution to local development									

Empowerment of

local society

• Economic development promoting job creation, local business and economic diversification

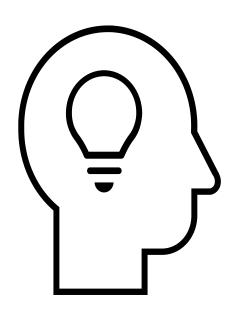
- · Social development promoting social inclusion, reducing poverty and providing local services
- Environmental development promoting sustainability of local projects and activities and valorising local environment

External factors:

Impacts

- Development of COVID situation
- General economic trends
- Other EU and national policies

Lessons learned



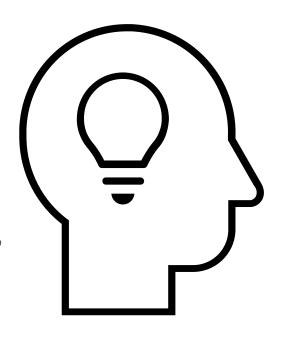
- LEADER contribution to be seen at local scale and complementary to other measures
- LEADER is more suitable for socio-economic issues, but environmental dimension can be addressed as a crosscutting element
- Cooperation and innovation need to be encouraged and facilitated (e.g. implementing innovation-friendly rules for innovation or harmonisation selection criteria and administrative rules for cooperation)
- Promotion of LEADER added value concept and its adding value features (animation, networking, innovation, etc.)
- Governance and participation are key and can be improved
- Specific costs of LEADER should be seen as investment not only as costs (animation is key)
- Take the advantage of economies of scale.
- CLLD multi-fund needs to be increased and simplified
- Simplification and reduction of administrative burden by
 - extending use of SCO
 - · improving administrative tasks distribution,
 - better multi-level coordination and communication,



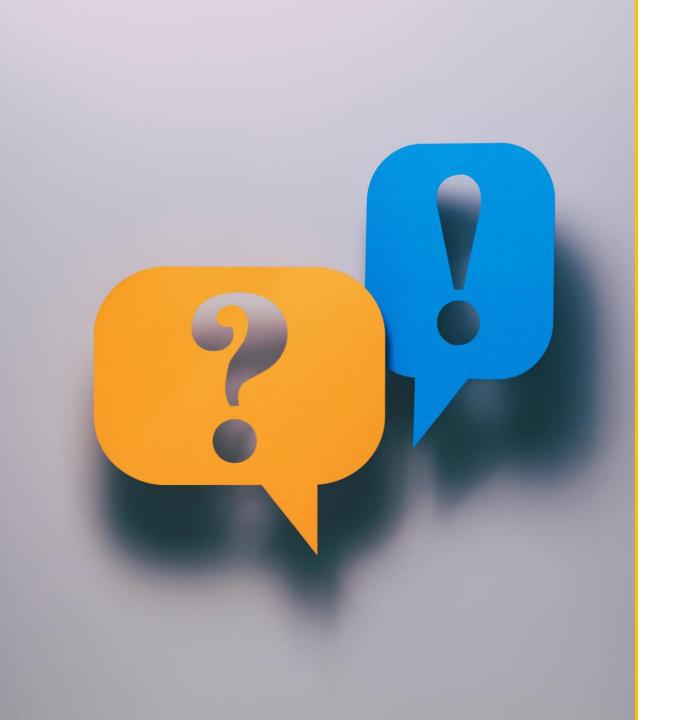
Lessons learned

Monitoring and evaluation of LEADER

- RSB recommendations: Clear intervention logic and quantification
- Promotion of LEADER added value concept and its adding value features (animation, networking, innovation, etc.): IR (EU) 2022/1475 – Helpdesk's support (TWG, GPW, etc.)
- More suitable/practical methods and points of comparison (specially on intangible benefits), and better data for monitoring and evaluation are needed (at LAG level): IR (EU) 2022/1475 and beyond (statistics at local level)
- Data on costs could be improved to enhance their usability:
 - Animation vs Running costs at LAG level
 - Robustness and clarity of administrative costs at MA/PA level
- Missing link: To what extent has LEADER contributed to structural changes?









Questions?

Comments?





