



Leader/ CLLD Transnational cooperation in Finland

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Leader Transnational cooperation (TNC) projects in 2007-2013 – RDP Mainland Finland



- **94** transnational projects and **86** feasibility studies
- Total public funding used: 9.63 MEUR
- Most common partner countries: Estonia and Sweden
- Most common themes: youth, tourism and culture
- Typical applicants/project partners: associations, organizations and LAGs



Transnational cooperation projects 2014-2020

2 alternatives in the Finnish RDP:

- Measure 19 – Leader
 - Projects funded by the LAGs
 - Particularly measures similar to M01, M07 and M16
 - 8 TNC applications or feasibility studies approved already
- Measure 16 – Cooperation
 - Projects funded by the regional administration (no LAG involvement)
 - potential applicants same as in national projects
 - a new approach in 2014-2020



Objectives of transnational Leader cooperation

- "The objective is to find new ideas and solutions for problems that emerged in the development of the LAG area, to exploit local possibilities and to create new types of cooperation between the rural areas in the EU and even beyond."
- "Another objective is to build up new businesses and job opportunities in the rural areas, either directly or indirectly."
- Expected amount of Leader TNC projects: not defined
- Total budget of TNC projects: Up to the LAGs to decide within their budget (in total 23 MEUR for cooperation in RDP)



General requirements for Leader transnational cooperation projects

- TNC projects shall implement the **local development strategy** of the LAG and at least one of the six **priorities** of the Rural Development Programme
- **Based on needs and added value** in the local Leader area
- The TNC projects must fulfill the **selection criteria** set by the Local Action Group
- There is a strong emphasis on **results and impacts** in the RDP 2014-2020, this concerns also the Leader TNC projects



General requirements 2

- Themes of the transnational projects may be anything that would be eligible for funding in Leader at national level
- Concrete activities rather than study visits
- Maximum duration of a TNC project is 5 years
- Maximum amount of support 180 000 €/ (Finnish) LAG
- Maximum level of support: 100 % of eligible costs



Calls for application and applicants

- Applications may be submitted any time
- LAGs may decide whether they want to use thematic application rounds
- It is already possible to apply for a TNC project in Finland
- Who can apply: organisations under public and private law, including associations, organisations, cooperatives or LAGs themselves



Eligible costs

- Payroll costs and fees
 - Travel costs
 - Purchase of services
 - Rental costs
 - Material and other costs
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- Payments based on invoices or flat rate 24 % or 15 %
 - Originally, also lump sum was intended to be taken into use as a simple cost option



Community Led Local Development CLLD



- In 2014-2020 LAGs are funded from the Rural Development Programme (Leader) and the European Maritime and Fisheries Programme (FLAGs) but not directly from the Structural Fund Programme
- However, LAGs can be applicants in projects funded by the Structural Fund Programme



Partners in a transnational Leader project

- LAGs or other local public and private sector partners funded by the LAGs implementing a rural development strategy in the EU member states (RDP)
- FLAGs or other eligible partners funded by the EMFF programmes
- LAGs in the urban areas in the EU member states (Structural Funds/ CLLD)
- Leader-like communities or groups implementing a rural development strategy in the countries outside the EU.



How to find a TNC partner in Finland

- According to a study carried out in 2015, the most important means to find TNC partners were the existing trans-national contacts and networks of the individuals and their organisations, including previous TNC projects
- The National Rural Network informs the Finnish LAGs about LAGs looking for TNC partners in the other member states and informs the NRNs of the other member states about the Finnish LAGs
- ENRD website and partner search



Agreement

- A cooperation agreement between the Leader partner and other project partners has to be signed by all parties
 - to define the objectives and funding of the project as well as the tasks and responsibilities of each partner
- Agreement is to be completed and signed at the latest when all project partners have received their decision of funding



Thank you!

More information about the Finnish Leader at the website:

- www.rural.fi

