

ENRD Seminar on Revitalising rural services through social and digital innovation

Integrated approaches for Smart Villages

Eleftherios STAVROPOULOS
Policy Officer
Inclusive Growth, Urban and Territorial Development
DG REGIO – European Commission

Eleftherios.stavropoulos@ec.europa.eu





2014-2020 programming period

Integrated territorial approach: dedicated horizontal chapter in programming documents

- Sustainable urban development: 5% earmarking in national ERDF allocation
- New delivery mechanism for mixing thematic objectives, OPs and funds (ITI)
- New delivery mechanism for community-led local development (CLLD)
- Areas affected by proverty and social exclusion
- Contribution to cross-border and macroregional initiatives
- Areas with geographic specificities and demographic challenges





Summary of the uptake so far - Integrated approaches to territorial development

Based on MS encoding in SFC

CLLD
17 MS
Total of 40 OPs
Total ERDF/ESF allocation EUR 2 billion
(EUR 1.34 ERDF)

Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI)

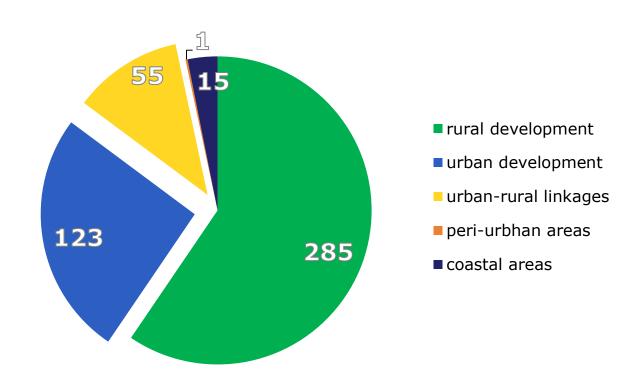
20 MS using ITI for supporting integrated development of various types of territories (17 MS using ITI for integrated urban development under ERDF Art 7)
Total of 100 OPs
Total allocation 13.8 billion (12.0 ERDF)

ERDF Article 7 – integrated urban strategies

Approximately 15 billion ERDF (ca. 8% of ERDF) Large variation between MS (5-22%) 50-50% programming through ITI or Priority axis Strong concentration on urban IPs 4c, 4e, 6e, 9b



Geographical scope of CLLD within Cohesion Policy





Types of CLLD in Cohesion Policy

- Smaller areas within cities, deprived urban neighbourhoods, historic centers, but also other types
- Small cities and their surrounding areas
- Rural areas, urban-rural linkages
- Target group approaches (citizens of the neighbourhood, young people, elderly, local communities, unemployed, deprived areas)
- Thematic approaches (environment, climate mitigation, circular economy, social inclusion, poverty reduction, job creation, capacity building, etc.)





What is the future Cohesion Policy and how?





Post 2020 Cohesion Policy: How to invest

- We need to achieve results in a simple, fast, flexible and cost-effective manner.
- Allocations linked to EU challenges and priorities
- A single rule book
- Higher national co-financing
- An unallocated capacity to create flexibility
- Faster implementation: N+2 and faster closure
- Complementarity between financial instruments
- A radical approach to simplification





Strong commitment to support smart villages development

- > Concept of smart villages is relatively new but there are already some pilot projects co-financed by ERDF which proves that this kind of projects fit to the framework of Cohesion Policy 2014-2020
 - Important to keep in mind the need for integrated, holistic approach and solutions to support integrated local and territorial development – such as CLLD and ITI and the possibility to combine several EU Funds
 - Experience with smart cities demonstrates that in order to be successful it is necessary to raise interest of all key stakeholders – including business sector.





Lessons learned - Reflections

- Importance of the multi-level decision making
 - Partnership principle between EU national regional and local level - Takes time and will not be sustainable within one EU programming periode
- Support (or lack of support) from the Managing Authorities
- Determinant factor: awareness of CLLD potentialities at local level
- Multi-fund approach at project level and simplification of procedures: follow the examples
- Preparatory support





Lessons learned - Reflections

1. Integration of different funds in one programme?

LEAD Fund and earmarking the different funds?

2. Multilevel Governance

 Differentiated approach to take into account national territorial governance and institutional arrangements

3. Minimum funding must be mandatory for all funds?

- Helping to overcome monosectoral thinking towards an integrated approach
- Additional incentives for more cooperation ?
- The ESIF common approach to CLLD has clearly increased local strategies supported by two or more ESIF but the scale is much more modest as CLLD is a voluntary tool under the ERDF





Lessons learned - Reflections

- More thematic flexibility in 2020-2027?
 - Thematic objectives, investment priorities, indicators, intervention fields were set in 2014-2020 before local strategies are selected for support.
 - Thematic concentration in current period was not always in line with bottom-up needs and objectives
 - Macroeconomic and ex-ante conditionalities, country-specific recommendations are not always relevant at local and regional level





European Cohesion Policy :

http://ec.europa.eu/regional policy/en/policy/how/priorities

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/themes/urban-development/

ESIF CLLD quidance

For Member States and programme authorities:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/guidance_commun ity_local_development.pdf

For local actors:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docgener/informat/2014/guidance_clld_local_actors.pdf





Thank you for your attention!



www.ec.europa.eu/inforegio



www.facebook.com/EuropeanCommission



www.twitter.com/@EU Regional



www.linkedin.com/company/1809



DG REGIO collaborative platform www.yammer.com/regionetwork



plus.google.com/+EuropeanCommission



www.flickr.com/euregional



Sign up for our 'REGIOFLASH' www.inforegiodoc.eu

