

LEADER/CLLD advocacy and the objective of
“Europe closer to citizens”
LEADER Reloaded
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Who am I related to

AEIDL (Association for the communication on local development in Europe) www.aeidl.eu

- Reinventing Europe by local initiatives (2014)
- Our new (reloaded?) strategy:

“The culture of ‘co’ is AEIDL’s brand, as it promotes the sustainability principles of a social enterprise and delivers high-value services through collaborative approaches.”

“The vision is of a Europe where sustainable local development and community initiatives are widely recognized, not just for their ability to enrich people’s lives, but also as the living embodiment of European values”

“The best way to mark AEIDL’s 30th anniversary organized in 2019 would be to create an intellectual space for innovation within the association, rooted in the values that have been our trademark for three decades.”

- We are here :)

UNDP (United Nations Development Programmes)

- Sustainable Development Goals <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html>
- Localizing sustainable development initiatives (CEE, Southeast Europe& CIS countries since 2003)
- An example, the SARD Programme (Support Agriculture and Rural Development in the Republic of Moldova) www.leadermoldova.eu

Bottlenecks/complications today in local development and/or LEADER/CLLD implementation? – the need of change

“Re-loading” “re-invent”, “re-build” and “re-organize” – change making is a must in policies, in communication, **in ourselves** & go back to the original LEADER/CLLD approach. Has the LEADER Programme forgotten its own method? Are we still change makers?

Weak political interest – lack of innovation in advocacy and communication, including promotion of the LEADER methodology. Can we define LEADER approach for politicians and young Facebook fans?

“Bring EU citizens and European people closer to Europe by the LEADER approach” – Can it work through a more nationalized programming?

The lack of ability to see out from the box and to eliminate unnecessary boundaries. E.g. LEADER approach is implemented much wider than it is acknowledged by those who are the concrete stakeholders of the LEADER programmes.

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ГАГАУЗСКІЕ КОВРЫ

Susținerea agriculturii și dezvoltării rurale în UTA Găgăuzia și Taraclia

Поддержка сельского развития в АТО Гагаузии и Тараклия

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Programul "Susținerea agriculturii și dezvoltării rurale în UTA Găgăuzia și Taraclia" (SARD)

SARD



Challenges in the frame of the new political framework 2021-2027

If LEADER is more nationalized:

- How to empower Europe and European citizenship through LEADER and develop the capacity to act?
- How to take Europe closer to citizens and take citizens closer to Europe???
- How to create flexibility to allow local innovation to be able to answer new challenges in a less common frame? (Nationally organized programmes build more technical, intellectual, communication boundaries)?
- How to keep and extend the territories, where the LEADER values are identified as values of the local communities, including all countries of geographical Europe (Council of Europe countries)?
- How to reinvent “THE” participatory strategy, which is about vision and implementation **process**?
- How to ensure the Place for everyone & where is the animation in the game?
- How to seed democratic local governance equally in different EU countries?
- How to reload the real understanding of the LEADER approach – exchange, empowering, animation?
- How to ensure strong networking with an innovative extension of the list of partners (open the window to get fresh air) and the creation of a strong voice?

Concrete proposals

Additionally to the contents of the debate on the new programme proposal and the 10% proposal:

- An ‘institution”, a LEADER/(CLLD?) Observatory/Hub(?) to work in strong relation with the network functioning as a social and knowledge hub (methodology, training, information, data and other tools)
- A LEADER/CLLD fund established at EU level (about 1% of the whole LEADER/CLLD budget) to be used by LEADER/CLLD initiatives directly for innovation, mobilization, networking and as a direct financial tool.



Thanks for your attention!