

ENRD | Contact Point 

# Europe is growing (together)

## Leader cooperation projects with other areas

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- Transnational cooperation projects in LEADER+
- LAGs in the new funding period
- What will be the support of the NRN Germany and the new Contact Point?
- What's new in transnational cooperation?





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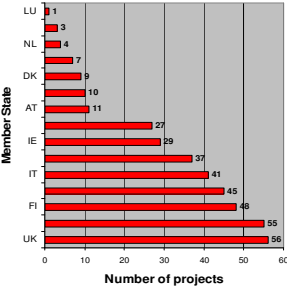
### Transnational cooperation projects in LEADER+

#### Origin of projects ?



Most of the projects are coming from:

- ⇒ UK (15%)
- ⇒ France (15%)
- ⇒ Finland (12%)
- ⇒ Germany (12%)
- ⇒ Italy (11%)

Number of all registered TNC per MS



Member State	Number of projects
LU	1
NL	4
DK	7
AT	11
IE	27
IT	37
FI	41
FI	45
UK	55
UK	58


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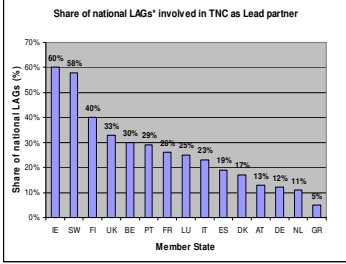
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## Leadership of TNC

Lead partners of TNC were mainly coming from

- Ireland, Sweden, Finland and UK



Member State	Share of national LAGs (%)
IE	60%
SW	58%
FI	40%
UK	33%
BE	30%
PT	29%
FR	26%
LU	25%
IT	23%
ES	19%
DK	17%
AT	13%
DE	12%
NL	11%
GR	5%

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- ~2,3 % of all implemented projects were transnational cooperation projects (interterritorial cooperation projects ~ 4%)
- ~2,1 % of LEADER+ fundings were spent for transnational cooperation

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## Cooperation partners

- At least **464** LAGs were involved in cooperation, this means ~ 40 Prozent of all LAGs
- Average of **four** partners per project
- ~15% of these partners are not LEADER areas:
  - LAGs financed under previous Leader programmes (LEADER I oder II)
  - Partnerships financed under national programmes
  - Other bodies involved in transnational cooperation: tourism and development agencies, associations (environmental, educational, heritage), local and/or regional authorities, Universities und other research institutes

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**Origin of the partners?**

- All EU-15 Member States
- New Member States: Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Slovenia, Malta, Cyprus and Romania (with reduced possibilities)
- Azerbajdjan (I), Argentina (ES), Bolivia (ES), Brasil (PT), Canada, Georgia (I), Guatemala (ES), Lebanon (I), Macedonia (UK), Morocco (F), Mozambique (PT), Norway, Switzerland (A,D,GR), Russia, Syria (I), Tunesia (F), Turkey (I) etc...

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- ~ 34 % of all transnational cooperation projects with neighbouring countries
- ~ 12 % with countries speaking the same language
- ~ 22 % in the mediterranean area

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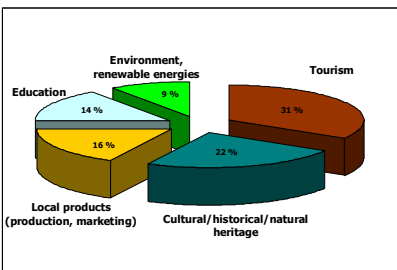
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**Priority themes chosen for transnational cooperation projects in LEADER+**



Theme	Percentage
Tourism	31 %
Cultural/historical/natural heritage	22 %
Local products (production, marketing)	16 %
Education	14 %
Environment, renewable energies	5 %

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**Tourism**

**GEOPARCS: Ideal destination for alternative tourism and educational activities in rural areas in Europe**

- **Partners: Greece, France, Italy, Austria, UK, Germany**
- **Sustainable and ecological tourism**
- **Development of educational tools for kids, schoolchildren and teacher; Information material; PR (Website, Poster, Flyer, CDs) all in different languages**




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**Cultural, historical and natural heritage**

**SISU: small islands for survival and understanding**

- **Partner: Sweden, Finland, UK, 13 islands**
- **Developing a strategy for island networking**
- **Financing of a coordinator, common website, Videoconferences ...**
- **Mid-term-Evaluation: most participants are satisfied and start work in other (neglected) projects**
- **Plan: 20 networks with 240 participants, three education and training programmes for 20 participants**




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**Local Products**

**Marca de Calidad Territorial Europea: Expansion and continuation, in its international dimension, of the inter-territorial "Territorial Quality Brand" cooperation project**

- **Partner: Spain, Italy, Greece, France (totally 19 partners)**
- **Establishment of the tools for the Territorial Quality Brand of each area, marketing, establishment of a General European Charter and its control and management mechanism, Gender, etc.**




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## Education

### Learning from Europe

- Partners: Austria, Germany
- Tomorrow's farmers get the chance to learn about new farming techniques outside their home region
- 15 agricultural schools take part
- Trainees on innovative farms focussed on: renewable energy production, product production and marketing, tourism




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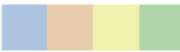
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## Environment, renewable energies

### ELREN: Renewable Energy Network

- Partners: Netherland, Italy, Ireland, Spain und 51 other organisations from 12 other Member States
- Intensely exchange in all fields of renewable energy (production, state of the technology, politics, application...), common website ([www.elren.net](http://www.elren.net))




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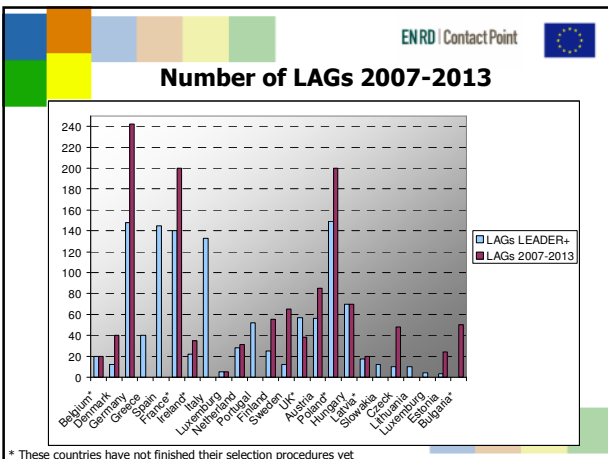
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- **1153 LAGs in LEADER+**
- **~ 20 % from the New Member States**
- **In 2007-2013: 1500 – 1600 LAGs expected**
  - ➔ **35 % more LAGs in 2007-2013**
  - ➔ **More possibilities in cooperation (concerning themes and areas)**

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### Support in TNC from the National Rural Network Unit, Germany

- **Initiation stage** (Media, events, one-on-one-interview, contacts with other european Network Units)
- **Common events** with other EU Member States for initiating cooperation projects
- **Ambassador part** (at European Leader-events)
- **Financing and organisation of moderators for individual cooperation projects** (mainly in the implementation and target setting stages)

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### Support in TNC from the National Rural Network Unit, Germany



- **Also supporting the stages of application and implementation**
- **Support in terms of communicative and intercultural conflicts at national and european level**
- **translations**
- **Handbook for cooperation** (english version: Dec. 2008)
- **Permanent exchange** with the other European Network Units (recent projects, general conditions)

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**Supports from the New European Contact Point for TNC**

In 2008:

- Questionnaire: how can we support LAGs in transnational cooperation? Where are the pressing needs?
- Development of a cooperation guide for TNC, finishing 2009
- Discussion of main issues with all National Rural Network Units (NRNs), Input from LAGs is very welcome




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**Supports from the New European Contact Point for TNC**

From the middle of 2009

- Direct support for 50 transnational cooperation projects per year
- Selection criteria has to be worked out
- Support will be lean on the needs of the projects
- 'Partner Search Tool' on the website of the Contact Point




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**What's new in the approval procedure?**

- The approval authority can give a provisional approval to the LAG and on condition that the other partners will obtain in the next months the approval by the competent authorities in other Member States
- Managing Authority/ Paying Agency shall notify the Commission the provisional approval of any transnational cooperation project
- The Commission will inform all involved countries about news, as far as all partner countries approved the project, the project can finally be approved
- Specific procedure is under construction




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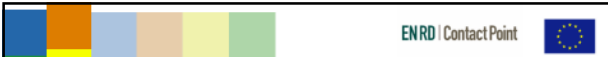
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**Recent problems in the Member States concerning TNC**

- In which axes/measures can the LAGs implement TNC
- Uncertainty concerning the application and approval procedure on the part of the LAGs and the approval authorities or other involved bodies

➔ Involvement of all participants (included approval authorities) in the procedures, development of the projects etc.

➔ Clarification of responsibilities




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Coming together is a beginning.  
 Keeping together is a progress.  
 Working together is success.

Henry Ford




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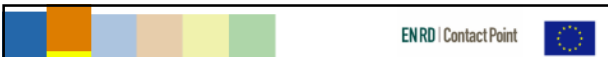
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**Thank you for your attention!**

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