

Community Led Local Development (CLLD)

What is it and how could it work?

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Proposals for Cohesion Policy 2014-2020

Closer alignment of policy commitments and investments with key **Europe 2020 targets**

Strengthened partnership roles in all phases from preparation, implementation to monitoring and evaluation and at all levels:
National – Regional – Local actors

More **accountability from Member States** in return for simplification of rules

Europe 2020 – 3 interlinked priorities



1.) **Smart growth:** developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation



2.) **Sustainable growth:** promoting a more efficient, greener and more competitive economy



3.) **Inclusive growth:** fostering a high-employment economy delivering social and territorial cohesion

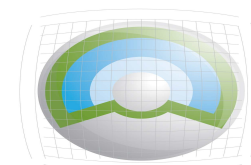
Greater territorial focus

- **Pre-conditions** (linked to specific actions) having the legal or policy framework in place at time spending priorities are being set. Continued EU funding dependent on performance and meeting so called ***ex-ante conditions***. (around 30 in the Council of Ministers compromise from 24th April)
- **Reinforcing territorial cooperation:** among and between regions (cross-border, transnational and interregional).
- **Integrated Territorial Initiative:** clear focus on sustainable urban development - > 5% of the ERDF funds allocated for "integrated actions" by each Member State. Additional Commission funding lines for innovative actions in urban areas and making ESF human capital investments in cities easier.
- **Community-Led Local Development (Arts 28-31)** - 'Local Action Groups' are area-based; bottom-up; public-private; integrated; innovative; co-operative and involve the use of networking.



Definition of CLLD – Article 28 § 1

- (a) **Focused on specific sub-regional territories**, *which can be urban, rural, coastal, cross-border or a mix of several*
- (b) **Community-led**: *implemented by the local community through public-private partnerships - cannot be implemented by the municipality alone*
- (c) Carried out through **integrated and multi-sectoral area based local development strategies**: *(selected jointly under the responsibility of the relevant managing authorities; Art. 29.3)*
- (d) Takes into consideration **local needs and potential, including local innovation, networking, cooperation**



Guiding principle Art 28 § 2

✦ Consistency and coordination of the support to CLLD between the Structural Funds

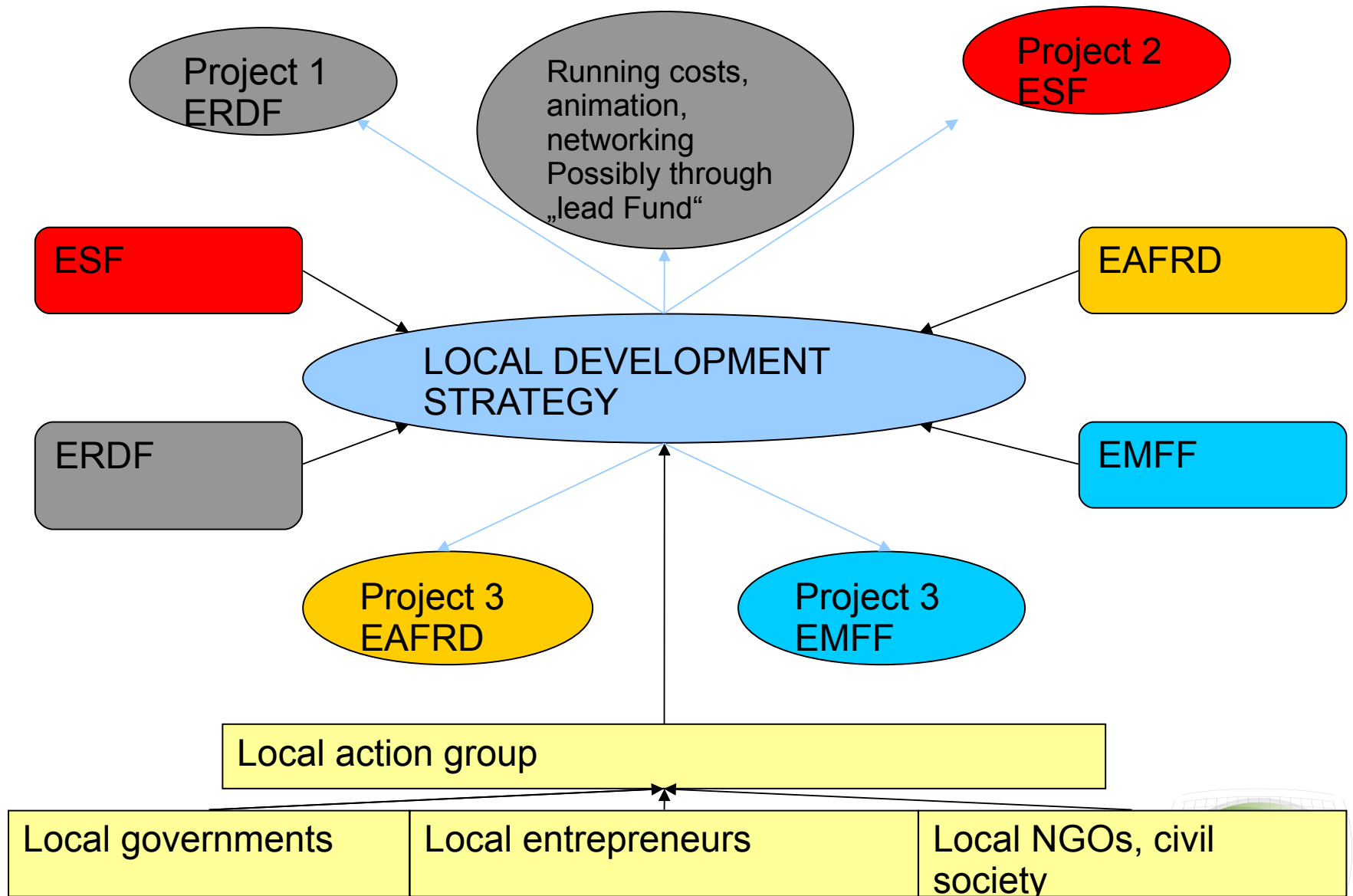
→ ensured through coordination of:

- Capacity building
- Selection and approval of the local development strategies
- Funding of the implementation of the Local Development Strategy

Management at Member State level

- Local development strategies are selected for EU funding under the **responsibility of the relevant managing authorities** (see Art. 29.3); **can be financed from several EU instruments in parallel** (see for example Art. 29.5) ... *“Multi-funding” as an option!*
- If the Local Development Strategies are multi-fund, Member States can designate a „**lead Fund**“ (Art. 28.3 + 4) which covers all management costs
- Choice of the “lead Fund” depends on the activities foreseen and the area in question

Example of a multi-fund local development strategy



Local Development Strategies

Minimum requirements (Art. 29.1):

- ✦ the **definition of the area and population** covered by the strategy (subject to delegated acts, Art.29.6);
- ✦ an **analysis of the development needs and potential of the area**, including an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats;
- ✦ a description of the strategy and its **objectives**, a description of the integrated and innovative character of the strategy and a hierarchy of objectives, including **clear and measurable targets for outputs or results**.
- ✦ a description of the **process of community involvement** in the development of the strategy;
- ✦ an **action plan** demonstrating how objectives are translated into actions;
- ✦ a description of the **management and monitoring arrangements of the strategy**, demonstrating the capacity of the local action group to implement the strategy and a description of **specific arrangements for evaluation**;
- ✦ the **financial plan of the strategy**, including the planned allocation of each of the CSF Funds.

Local Development Strategy – selection & approval process (Art 29)

- ✧ Member States define selection criteria
- ✧ Selection undertaken under the responsibility of relevant managing authorities (jointly)
- ✧ The decision to approve a local development strategy by the managing authority should:
 - set out the allocations of each CSF Fund
 - set out the roles of the authorities responsible for the implementation of the relevant programmes for all implementation tasks relating to the strategy
- ✧ Decision on “Lead Fund” at the level of each LDS (Art. 29.4)
- ✧ LDS should be approved by the end of 2015 to allow sufficient time for implementation

Local Action Groups (Art 30)

- ⤴ Legally constituted structure or lead partner in administrative and financial matters (Art. 30.2)
- ⤴ Composition: no interest group should represent more than 49% of voting rights (part of the CLLD principle; Art. 28.1)
- ⤴ Project selection – at least 50% of the votes from non-public sector partners
- ⤴ Local action groups should **at least**:
 - Carry out capacity building actions for local actors
 - Draw up project selection criteria, assess and **select operations for financing under the local development strategy** (*... role of the managing authority in the approval of the projects remains an administrative and political choice in each MS, see Art.30.3 f*)
 - Monitor the implementation of the local development strategy and the operations supported, evaluation activities
- ⤴ Local action groups can fulfil additional functions

Eligible interventions under CLLD (Art 31)

The Structural Funds can cover:

- the costs of preparatory support
- implementation of operations under the local development strategy (including physical investment)
- preparation and implementation of cooperation activities of the local action group
- running costs and animation of the local development strategy up to the limit of 25 % of the total public expenditure incurred within the local development strategy