

Evaluation of LEADER/CLLD: Getting the right indicators

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Outline

- A few background thoughts
- A short exercise
- Some conclusions



The nature of LEADER

- It has a focal point on Focus Area 6B
 But
- It is also recognised as a powerful means of contributing to enhanced outcomes and impacts in other focus areas



The justification of LEADER

Leader is not only the axis of rural policy that implements rural development measures through local development strategies - LDS (mini-programmes, which have their own intervention logic). Leader also represents a method through which specific EU rural policy interventions are implemented, at the same time generating and enhancing social capital and hopefully triggering changes in:

- individual capacities, namely concerning knowledge, attitudes and behaviours,
 - as well as
- organisational and institutional capacities (strategies, rules, routines and culture),
 - as well as
- societal capacities, namely inter-organisational cooperation links and network relationships as well as normative capacities (cultural and regulatory framework determining the development of new options for regional governance in rural areas)

Source 2007-2014 Ex post guidelines



How can we best capture that complexity in indicators

The obligatory indicator of primary results: jobs

Secondary effects contributions to other focus areas

Do they matter?

NO just another unnecessary chore

YES If you want to bottom out all of LEADER's impacts



A real world example:

This is an example of a project that is about to seek LEADER funding

Your task is to try to think through what you would be looking for to assess all of the important impacts of this project, using either established indicators or additional indicators



The handout

The handout contains the description of a project. It is a real project with which the trainer is involved. Feel free to ask questions about it if you need anything explaining more fully.

Are all the claims made justifiable?

What else might you need to know to appraise the impacts of this proposal?

Where is the best fit?

What additional indicators if any might be needed, reflecting what additional evaluation questions



Some issues

If you have multifaceted projects like this coming forward, is the evaluation system as it stands (including evaluation questions) capable of assessing the added value of LEADER?

Can you retro-add additional indicators? (Should you try?)

Even more perhaps on multifaceted projects process matters, governance matters

Is innovation evident?

Are local needs better satisfied?

Is sustainability and resilience built into the project?



Thank you for your attention!

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