



Evaluation of LEADER/CLLD

Bill Slee, Geographic Expert

EvaluationWORKS!2017

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Agenda for the day

For MAs:

9.30-11 Evaluation issues for MAs + exercise BS

For LAGs

11.30 -13.15 What makes a good LAG? + exercise BS

13.15-14.00 lunch

14.00-15.30 Intro to evaluation at LAG level +Exercise BS GC

Tea coffee while working

15.45-15.50 Performance monitoring KI

15.50-16.30 Digging deeper exercise

16.30-16.45 Q& A

16.45 -17.00 Feedback and final comments



- Who we are
- LEADER/CLLD in Ireland
- Some Ex-post findings
- The essence of LEADER
- Your thoughts
- Some conclusions



Geographic experts...



Identify good practices

Organize Helpdesk events in MS

Summarize info from AIRs

Support surveys

Disseminate information

Report the challenges and needs of the Member States back to the EU-level

LEADER in Ireland



- Fourth biggest measure in Ireland RDP with 250,000,000 allocation
- Critical to success of Ireland RDP
- “Proven to be an effective tool for supporting the economic and social development of rural communities by providing the resources necessary for communities to support their own development.”
- How good is the evidence base for Ireland?
- But are all Leader groups as good as they could be?



2007-2013 Ex post findings

“It is essential that sufficient information is collated to ensure adequate evaluation and compliance with EU objectives, as well as ensuring continued compliance with regulatory requirements.”
p158

Widespread assertion by respondents that admin is too complex and systems are too complicated.

General recognition that LEADER had contributed quite a lot to diversification and a little to improved governance

Concern that some of the wrong sort of data were being collected and smarter indicators were needed



Some LEADER-Specific challenges

How well integrated is LEADER in the RDP?



Does it add value to the key areas targeted?

Could it be better integrated?



Some LEADER specific challenges

How good is the dovetailing to other CLLD funds and other national policies?



Is there an integrated ecosystem of interventions to support CLLD in Ireland in which LEADER has a clear role?



Some LEADER-Specific challenges



How do we measure innovation? ...



- There are Commission guidelines....but they lack precision
- How well does LEADER encourage/animate innovation?
 - Technical innovation
 - Supply chain innovation
 - Social innovation
 - Any other innovation
- How effectively can we evaluate innovation in LEADER?



Some LEADER-specific challenges (2)

How do we assess improved governance?



- Need clarity of governance model sought
 - Multi-sectoral partnership
 - Strong third sector
- Need baseline of governance situation
- Need to assess empowerment of local actors
- Evaluation of governance change by no means easy (just within LEADER or more widely?)



Some leader specific challenges

How effective is animation?

It may be relatively easy to allocate time and resources to animation

BUT input is not a measure of effectiveness

How do you know if the animation processes are working well?

Do you focus on picking winners or improving the life chances of the hard to reach?

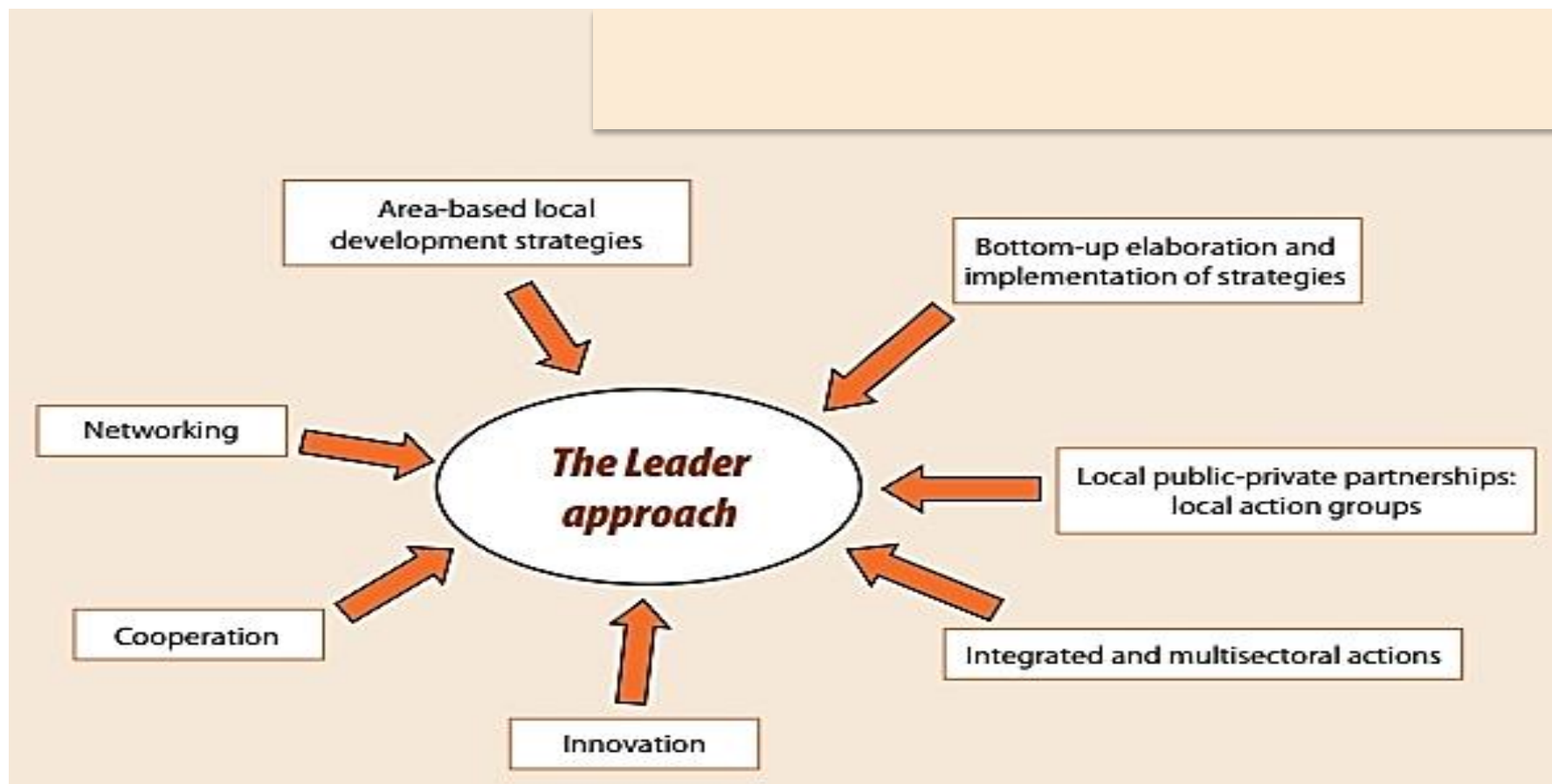


Have the Irish LAGs been true to CLLD principles?

- Focused on specific sub-regional areas (that most need support)
- Led by LAGs which are representative and not dominated by any group
- Deliver through integrated multi-sectoral strategies
- Take into consideration local needs and potential, and include innovative features in the local context, networking and, where appropriate, cooperation



How well have the LEADER 7 principles been applied?





What makes a really good LAG/Leader group?



...So what makes a really good LEADER LAG/group?



What characteristics of a LEADER group would tell you it was really excellent?

Can you agree on 5-8 key characteristics that would be decisive in informing you that the group was a really good one?

First work up a long list; think about all the things you might be looking for; then see if you can all agree on what you *are* looking for.



...and what would set alarm bells ringing?



What might be the warning signs of poor performance of a LAG?

Can you narrow down that list to the top four or five warning signs?

To carry forward, not for today: how would you react if some of these warning signs were present in your LAG?



Thank you for your attention!

European Evaluation Helpdesk for Rural Development
Boulevard Saint Michel 77-79
B-1040 Brussels
Tel. +32 2 7375130
E-mail info@ruralevaluation.eu
<http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/evaluation>