Community-led local development in the ESI-Funds 2014-2020

Possible concepts and challenges

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Why? The main objectives and priorities for CLLD in a Member State

- Developing an overall vision for CLLD

  - Results wanted from CLLD

  - Identify objectives and priorities that can best be dealt with locally

  - Identify resources and scope of the four Funds for most appropriate combination to achieve the aims

Where? The types of territories where CLLD is envisaged to be implemented

PA to map out for each Fund the geography of the challenges CLLD should deal with, eg.

- vulnerable groups, special attention to poverty
- particular clusters of economic activity
- physical problems (eg. housing, environment)

➢ urban, rural, urban-rural cooperation, city neighbourhood, cross-border, areas with specific characteristics such as peri-urban, rural with urbanised centre, coastal areas with fisheries

3

Where ? Which Fund intervenes? (1)

- Which Fund does what – Fund specific regulations

- How does it already intervene, where and in what scale in my country?

- Key to achieve best synergy between Funds, eg.

  ➢ careful blend of "hard" investments by ERDF and "soft" investments by ESF to tackle problems in deprived areas and groups in cities

Where ? Which Fund intervenes (2)

➢ opportunity to use both EAFRD and ERDF for improving links between urban and rural areas

➢ synergy between EMFF and both ERDF and ESF for dealing with infrastructure and training for adaptation of larger fishing ports

➢ joint funding

How to work together?

- Recommended to identify at the PA stage:
  - the common structures and administrative arrangements between the funds supporting CLLD
  - the type of preparatory support to be made available for local actors

- Leave some room of manoeuvre for the LAG:
  - the choice for a mono or multi-funded strategy
  - the question of a lead Fund

What should the programming of CLLD entail?

- **The design of high quality local strategies to deliver results**

- **The mobilisation of the key actors and building the partnership(s)**

- **The choice of the right types, sizes and shapes of the areas**

Elaboration of local development strategies

- Contribution to programme objectives

- Coherence and consistency with "top-down" or other strategies

- Local needs identified through SWOT analysis

- Bottom-up process

The mobilisation of the key actors and building the partnerships

- Build on existing experience whenever possible
- Encourage bottom-up processes
- Range of sectors to be included in the partnerships
- Clarity on the administrative and financial capacity as well as the tasks of LAGs
- Balance between "public" and "private" and the role of the civil society
- Working procedures, rules and structures for decision-making

The choice of the right types and shapes of the areas

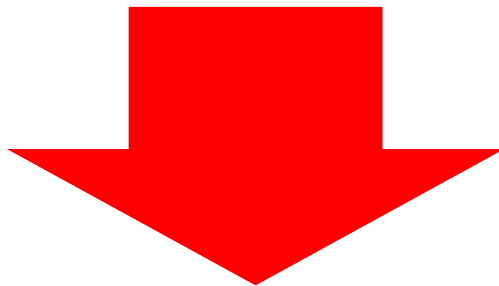... based on one of the two strategic options or on a mix of both:

- **Possibility for jointly-funded local development strategies**

or / and

- Strategies supported by one fund only (including parallel strategies)

→ Requirement for coordination between overlapping LAG areas in both implementation options (parallel strategies)

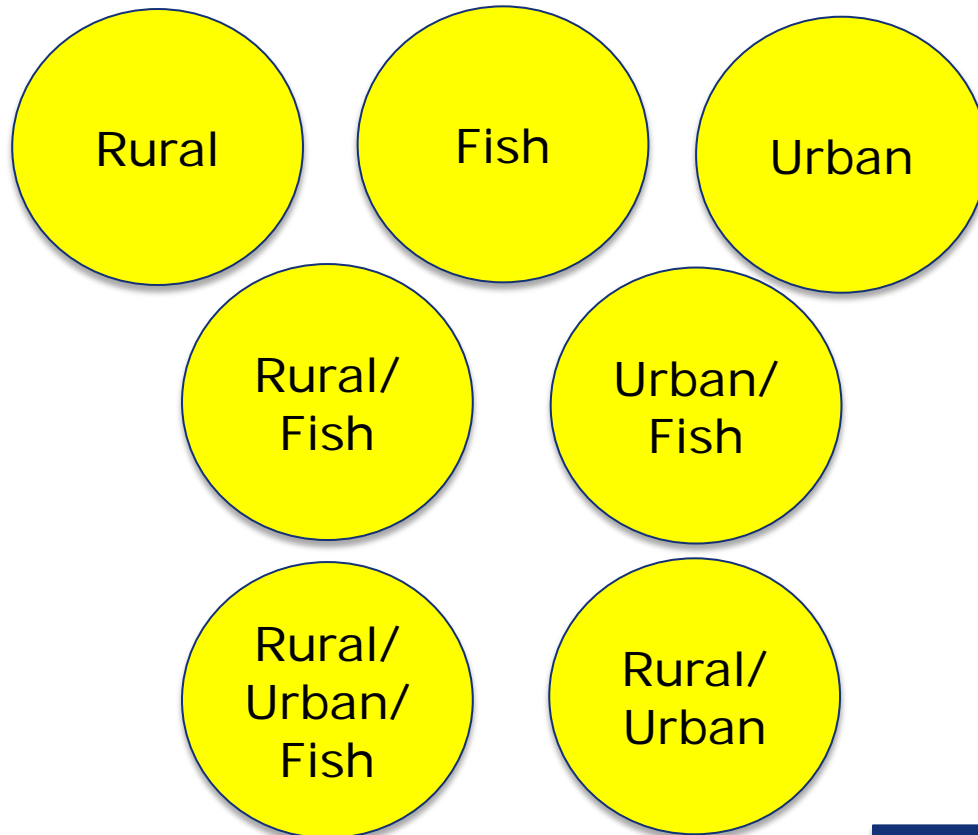# The link between types of area and srategic choices at LAG level

- Strategic approach in PA, reflected in the programmes, based on LAG/FLAG experience

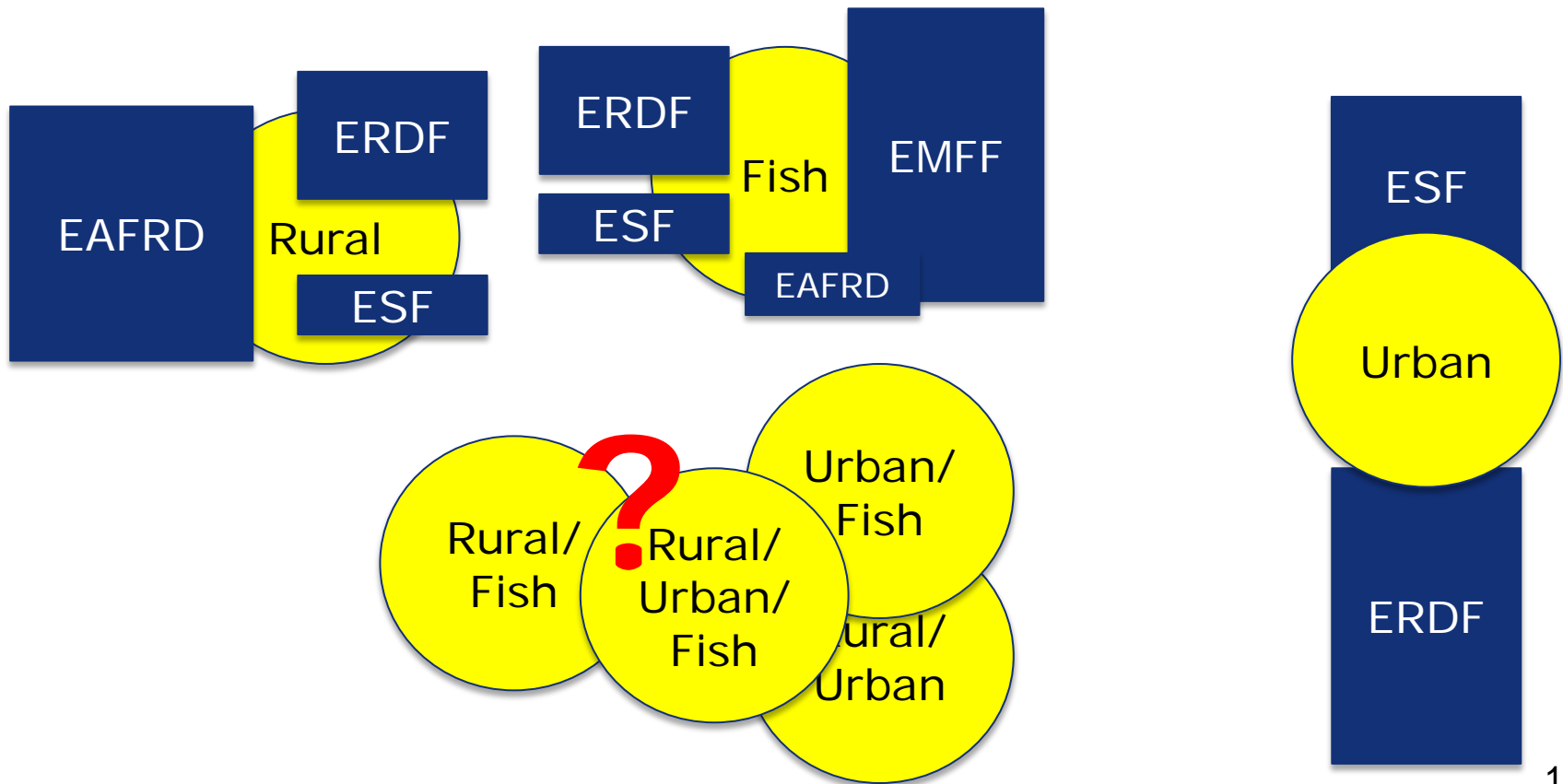- Which types of areas should be supported and with which of the Funds? What is the available funding?

- LAGs decide to which extent they want to make use of the possibilities offered

11

Matching the types of areas with the Funds

Rural

Fish

Urban

Rural/Fish

Urban/Fish

Rural/Urban/Fish

Rural/Urban

?

EAFRD

ERDF

ESF

EMFF

Examples for joint funding

EAFRD

ERDF

Rural

ESF

ERDF

ESF

Fish

EAFRD

EMFF

Rural/
Fish

?

Rural/
Urban/
Fish

Urban/
Fish

ural/
Urban

ESF

Urban

ERDF

The choice of the right sizes and shapes of the areas

- "Large enough but sufficiently small": decide on population threshold within the 10-150 000 inhabitants ceiling

- Avoid to pre-define boundaries top-down

- Prefer quality to full geographic coverage (depending on viable budgets)

- Possible shapes: depending on the approach taken in the PA; coherent unit in geographical, economic and social terms
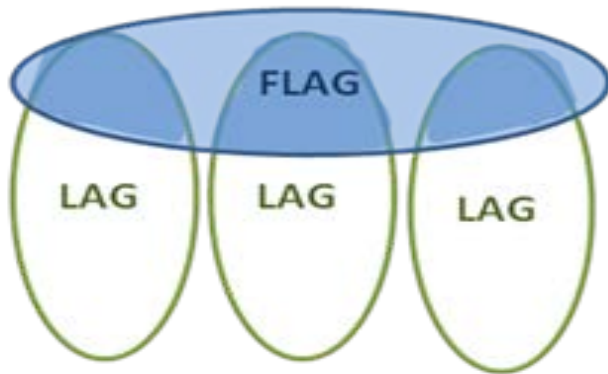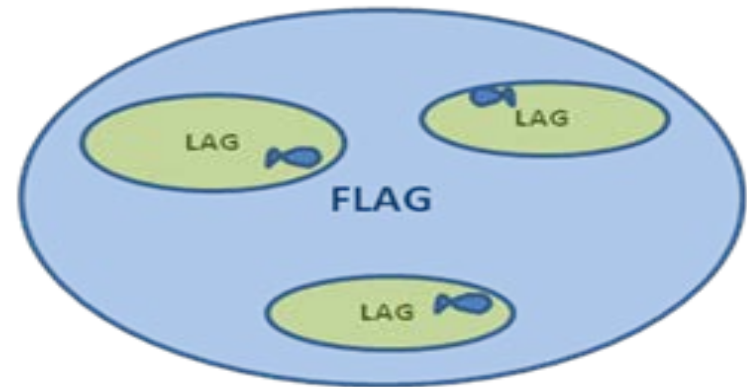
Examples for the shapes of areas

Lonely playing field

Demarcation

Coastal strip

Cooperation between isolated fishing communities

15

Selection of local development strategies: an effective process

- Timing: One or several selection rounds
- Types of calls depending on the readiness of LAGs
- Selection criteria have to reflect the added value of the CLLD approach
- Strategies should compete against a common standard rather than against each other
- Selection committee:
  - *Administrative arrangements in case of multi-funding*
  - *Overall coordination of the selection process*

Basic information to be provided in the programmes (based on templates/guidance)

Principles for the identification of the areas in which CLLD will be implemented in line with the PAs

Description of the selection, approval and funding arrangements of the local development strategies (LDS) and local action groups (LAG): main eligibility criteria and types of support

Indicative financial allocation for support to CLLD by the fund in question.

How to ensure a more efficient use of CLLD?

- Support **capacity-building** at all implementation levels
  - Raise awareness of specificities of CLLD for all players involved in CLLD: MAs, Pas, Audit Authorities, LAGs/ project promoters
- Clear **division of responsibilities,** avoid duplication
- Reduce **administrative burden** for all
  - Simplify procedures for public co-financing
  - Simplified procedures for small projects
  - Simplified cost options (small projects, running costs, etc.)
  - Speed of overall approval process and payments
  - Encourage advance payments (to LAGs and beneficiaries)
- Keep **additional rules** to necessary minimum
  - Avoid restrictions of eligibility which limits the capacity of the LAGs to respond to local needs and support innovation
- **Evaluate efficiency** of delivery systems

18

How to coordinate between Funds?

Coordination mechanisms for CLLD at national or regional level covering several ESI-Funds

- **<u>Required:</u> coordination mechanism for CLLD involving all relevant MAs**
  - Optional: joint monitoring committee for CLLD
- **<u>Possible:</u> further coordination using specific/ joint intermediate body for CLLD at sub-national level**
  - Facilitates coordination; provides a single interlocuteur for LAGs
- **Lead Fund option for multi-funded LDS**
  - Simplification: running and animation costs for the LDS financed from one Fund only

Σας ευχαριστώ πολύ για την προσοχή σας!

Thank you very much for your attention!