



Study on the implementation of Axis 4 of the European Fisheries Fund

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Objectives and methodology

Preparation CLLD in the 2014-2020 period

- 1. Early set of quantitative results*
- 2. Insights into the success factors and difficulties*
- 3. Country-specific recommendations for 15 Member States.*

Methodology:

- 1. Survey of the 247 FLAGs that had been active for more than one year by October 2013*
- 2. 20 case studies*
- 3. Focus group meetings in 15 Member States*
- 4. Individual interviews*

Quantitative results (October 2013)

- *307 FLAGs (312 today)*
- *Budget per FLAG between 450.000 and 4.5 million Euros*
- *67% of the budget committed*
- *5.500 projects (9.000 today)*
 - **50% add value, create jobs, promote innovation, social well-being and cultural heritage**
 - **50% diversification of activities, enhancing the environment, strengthening the role of fisheries communities in local development**
- *75% individual projects rather than collective*

Considerable employment effects

Estimated:

- *Over 8.000 jobs created*
- *Nearly 12.500 maintained*
- *Creation of 220 businesses*

Extrapolated from the survey (October 2013, 5.500 projects), these figures should be substantially higher at the end of the period.

Sustainability

- *Leverage factor of 1.06: One EFF euro has attracted another 1.06 euro (private and public)*
- *61% of projects will continue once EFF support stops*
- *No shortage of projects with demand for project funding outstripping supply*

Factors for success (FLAGs)

Involvement of the (fisheries) community

- **Considerable potential but need further capacity building**

Previous local development experience

- **Clear view on local capacity, needs and expectations**

Capacity of the FLAG staff

- **Right number of staff with good personal skills and expertise**
- **Administrative duties: 31%, leaving little time**

Effective and legitimised FLAG operations

- **Efficient and transparent selection procedures and criteria to avoid conflicts of interest**

Delivery mechanisms (1)

Strategy and FLAG selection:

- *Concentrate limited funds on priority areas but taking care not to exclude other communities*
- *Provide clear guidance and preparatory support, encouraging newcomers but retain valuable expertise and knowledge*
- *Avoid long delays by streamlining selection process*
- *Communicate on expectations with respect to the quality of the local development strategies*

Delivery mechanisms (2)

Project development and selection:

- *Strengthen the number and capacity of the FLAG staff to support the animation of the community*
- *Provide co-funding upfront and not on a project-by-project basis*
- *FLAGs should streamline the application process to facilitate the submission of projects*
- *Ensure that FLAGs are decisive in the project selection process*
- *Give the strategy a more prominent role in the project selection process*

Delivery mechanisms (3)

Project implementation:

- *Give FLAGs a formal role in monitoring the progress of projects*
- *Make pre-financing available*
- *Simplify the payment process and shorten the payment delay*
- *Pay beneficiaries in several stages*
- *Help beneficiaries attract private funding*

Country specific recommendations

BE, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, SE, UK

- *Basic data, Good practices*
- *Time line*
- *Division of tasks*
- *Findings, conclusions and recommendations*
- *Flow Charts showing procedures:*
 - **Selection of FLAGS**
 - **Selection of projects**
 - **Implementation of projects and payments**



Find out more

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/documentation/studies/axis-4/index_en.htm