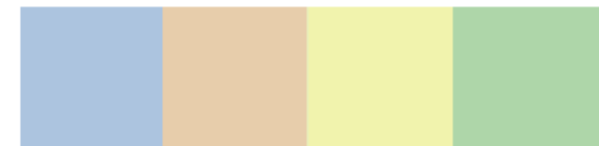


## **Best practice in Leader**

*'A review of selected Best practice Leader+ projects'*

**Seminar – National Rural Networks for Malta, July 1st 2009**

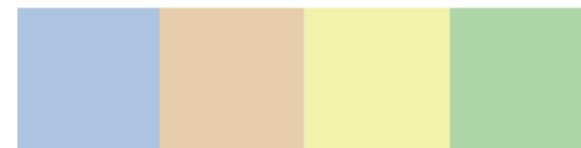
**Martin Law, Group Leader, EN RD Contact Point**





## **Outline of presentation**

- 1. Leader past and present**
- 2. The definition of the Leader approach**
- 3. Axis 4: Finance and priorities**
- 4. Three best practices explained**

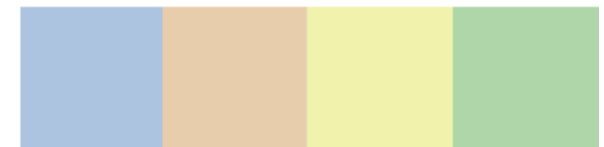


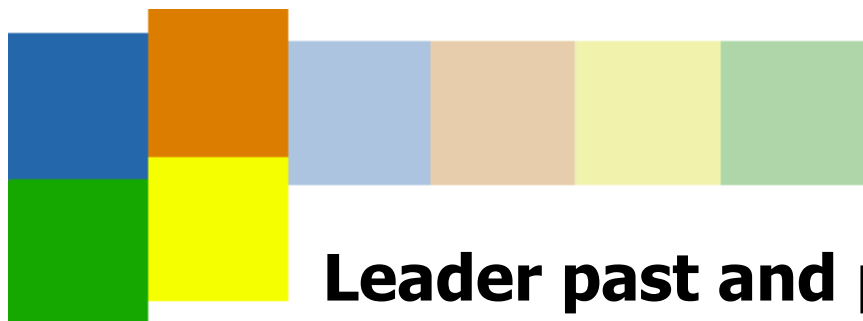


## Leader past and present

**LEADER** = 'Links between actions of rural development'

- **Leader I** (1991-93) marked the beginning of a new approach to rural development policy, which is territorially based, integrated and participative
- **Leader II** (1994-1999) saw the Leader I. approach put to more widespread use, with an emphasis on the innovative aspects of projects
- **Leader+** (2000-2006) continues its role as a laboratory which aims to encourage the emergence and testing of new approaches to integrated and sustainable development that will influence, complete and/or reinforce rural development policy in the Community.  
*\*Leader I, II,+ was a Community Initiative*
- **"Leader axis"** (2007-13) in the rural development plans– methodological approach to the mainstream RD programming



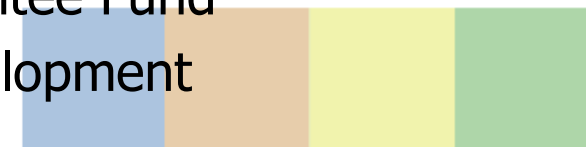


## Leader past and present

Leader Initiatives	Number of LAGs	Area covered	EU Funding (million)	FUND
Leader I (EU-15)	217	367 000 km <sup>2</sup>	EUR 442	EAGGF* Guidance Section
Leader II (EU-15)	906	1 375 144 km <sup>2</sup>	EUR 1 755	EAGGF Guidance Section
Leader + (EU-15) Leader type measure (EU-10)	EU-15: 894 EU-10: 259 Total: 1 153	1 577 386 km <sup>2</sup>	EUR 2 105.1	EAGGF Guidance Section
Leader Axis (EU 27)	Expected number of LAGs: 2 125	NA yet after all LAGs selected-July 2009	<b>Eur 5 424</b>	EAFRD**

\*EAGGF: European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund

\*\*EAFRD: European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development

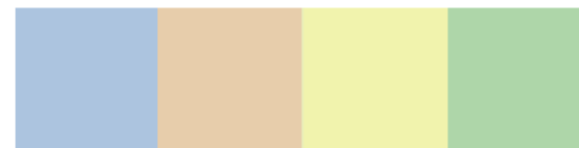




## **Definition of the Leader approach (also in Art 61)**

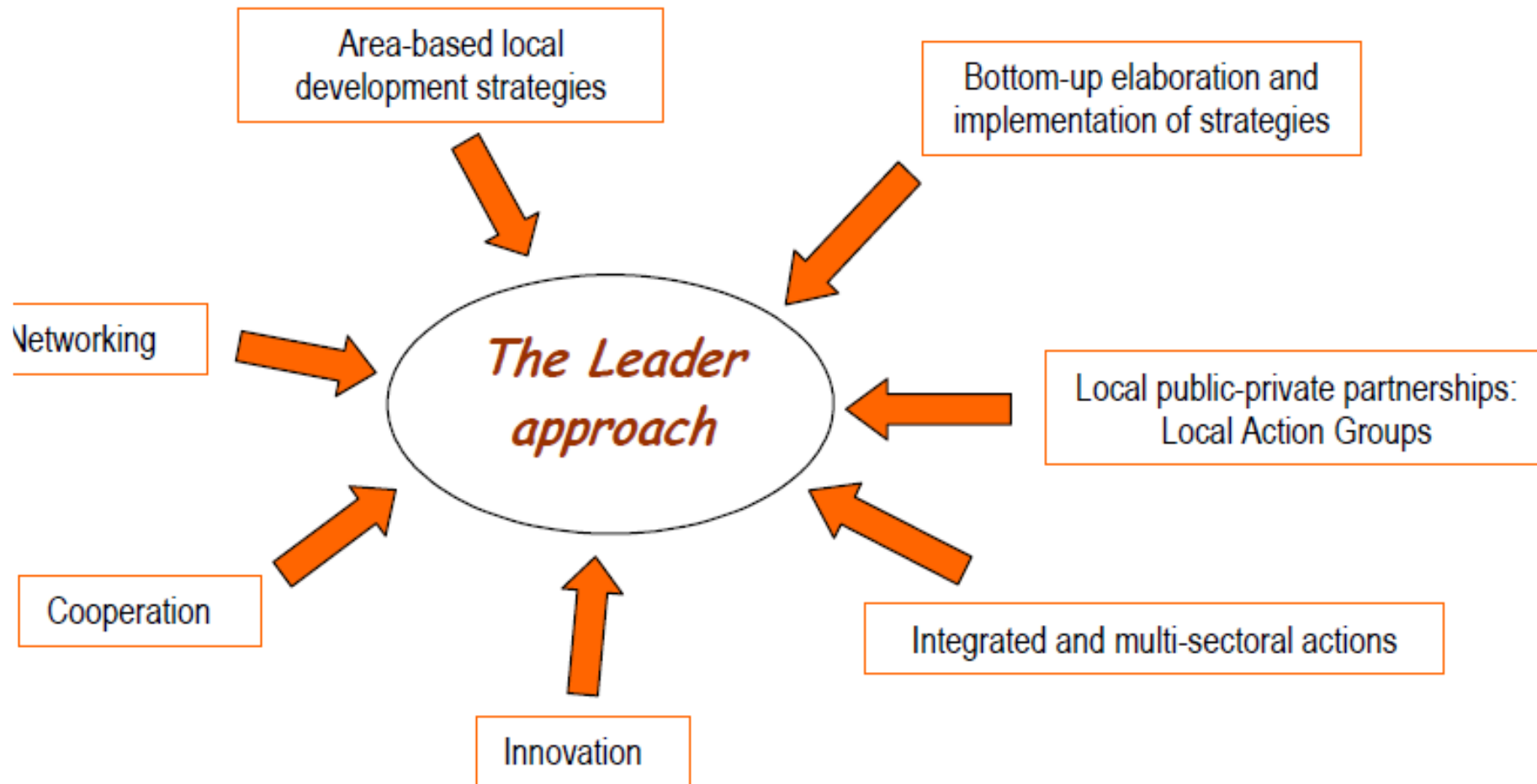
- 1) Area-based approach\***
- 2) Bottom-up approach\***
- 3) Local public-private partnerships\***
- 4) Integrated approach\***
- 5) Innovation**
- 6) Cooperation between areas**
- 7) Networking\***

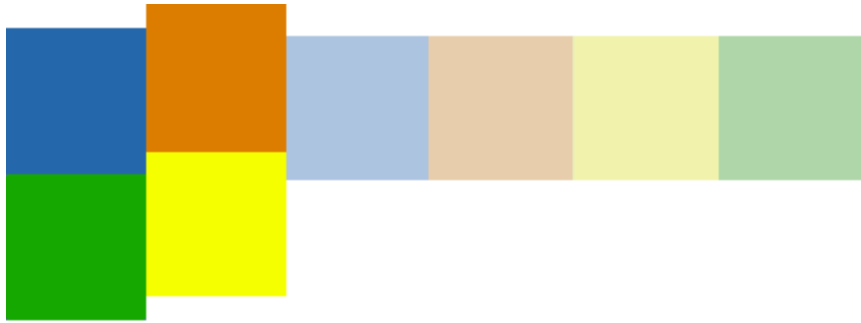
*\* mandatory at Local Action Group level as well in the period 2007-2013*





## The 7 key features of Leader





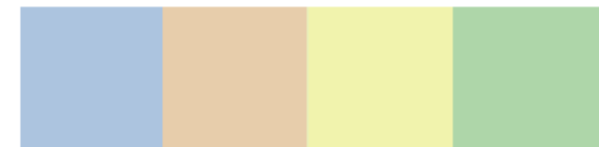
## Financing of Axis 4

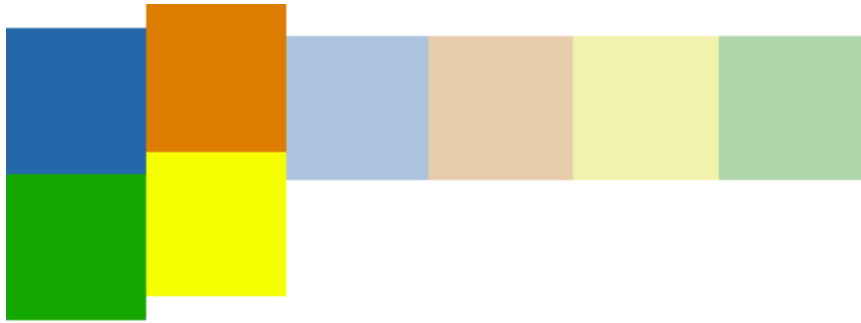
Global EU Rural development expenditure and EAFRD expenditure for Leader

- EAFRD overall: EUR 90.8 billion (61.8% of public expenditure)
- EAFRD funding for the Leader axis: EUR 5.4 billion (6%) ←

Public:	Eur 8.6 billion
of which EAFRD:	Eur 5.4 billion
Private:	Eur 5.1 billion

Axis 4 – Leader: Total: EUR 13.788 billion





## Axis 4 – Main priorities - EAFRD budget

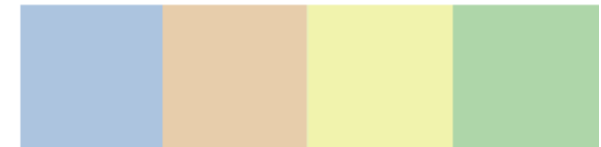
### 1. Implementing local development strategies

- **Measure 413** " Quality of life/diversification" – EUR 3.7 billion, 67.4% of EAFRD Axis 4 resources
- **Measure 411** " Competitiveness" – EUR 522 million, 9.5% of EAFRD Axis 4 resources
- **Measure 412** " Environment/land management" - EUR 165 million, 3% of EAFRD Axis 4 resources

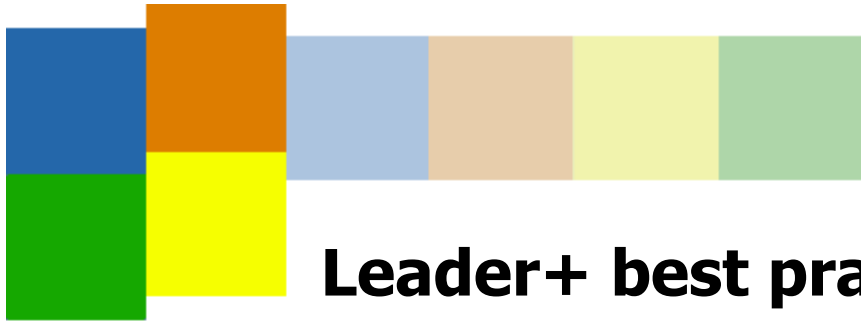
### 2. Running the LAG, skills acquisition, animation - Measure 431

15.3% of the EAFRD funding for Leader is devoted to this measure

- ### 3. Implementation of inter-territorial and transnational cooperation projects (**Measure 421**) - EUR 265 million, 4.8% of EAFRD Axis 4 resources



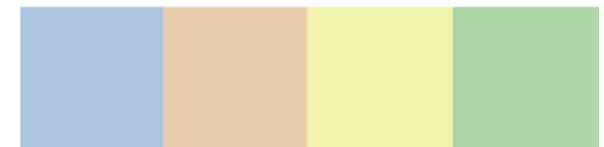




## Leader+ best practice examples:

### 1. Greece: Honey processing and standardisation unit

- **Objectives:** add value to local product (honey), provide employment to excluded groups of people, improve social cohesion
- **Good practice:**
  - **Area based:** support local producers
  - **Bottom up:** initiated by the Honey producers
  - **Partnership:** LAG and project holder working together on quality and marketing issues
  - **Innovation:** combined local products with support for psychiatric patients
  - **Networking and cooperation:** brings together a wide range of actors; strengthened island networking, linking external stakeholders to improve market access and establish quality certification

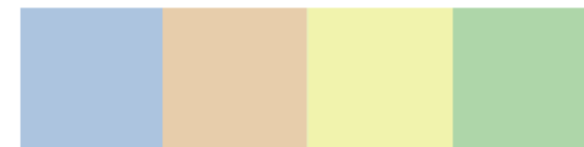


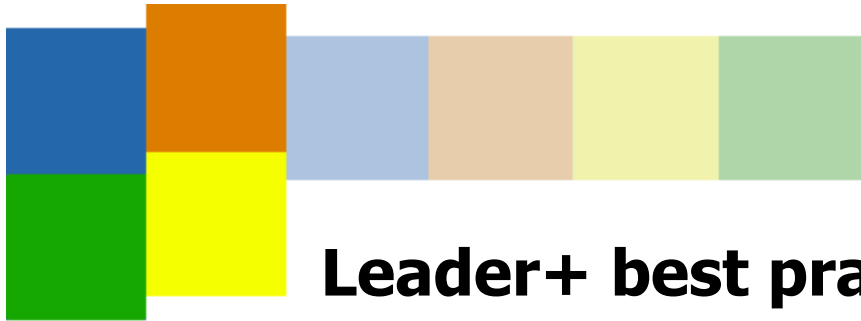


## Leader+ best practice examples:

### 1. Greece: Honey processing and standardisation unit cont'd

- **Concrete outputs:**
  - Five jobs
  - Promotion of social partnerships
  - Support of local producers
  - Involvement of people with disabilities
  - Increase in production and quantity of honey
  - Improvement of the local economy
  - Improved social cohesion
  
- **Leader added value:**
  - Provided the framework for development when support difficult to find
  - Helped to establish contacts and provided expertise
  - Funding for honey processing
  - Management expertise

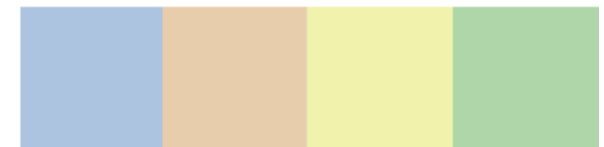




## Leader+ best practice examples:

### 2. Italy: Area label (Marcheo d'Area Alto Casertano)

- **Objectives:** Improve the quality of the area; develop quality products and services; promote area on a wider scale (tourism and other services) by developing a 'quality charter'
- **Good practice:**
  - **Area based:** area-based approach is the main concept of 'area-label'
  - **Partnership:** Wide public-private sector partnership involving diverse stakeholders
  - **Innovation:** Goes beyond the traditional idea of the 'collective' label – encourages diverse producers to work together + rewards them by giving accreditation.
  - **Integration:** Integrates: several quality dimensions (environment, social, safety); public and private organisations from these sectors; takes into account the environmental impacts to integrate the various projects at regional level

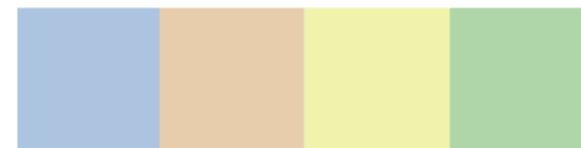


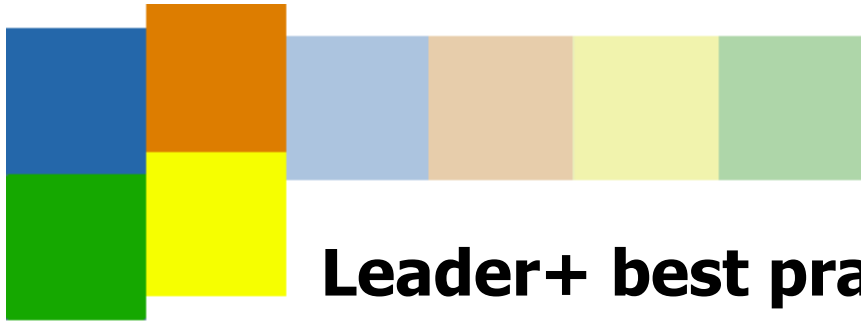


## Leader+ best practice examples:

### 2: Italy: Area label (Marcheo d'Area Alto Casertano) cont'd

- **Concrete outputs:**
  - Development of a "quality charter"
  - A series of indicators to evaluate enterprises taking part
  - Recognition by consumers of quality and commitment to sustainable development
  - Diversity of enterprises listed in the 'area label system'
  
- **Leader added value:**
  - The capacity of the LAG as the 'brains' behind the project
    - Development and implementation of the quality system
    - Increase in the number of local stakeholders

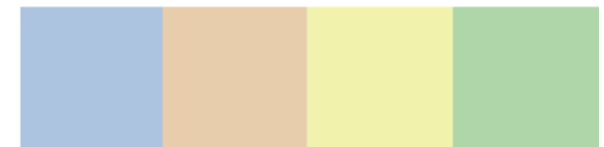


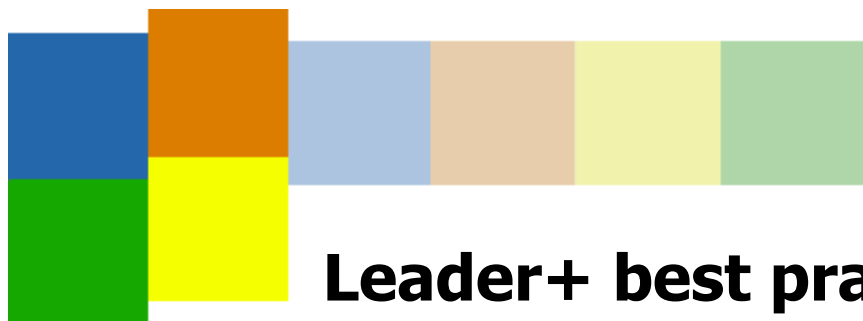


## Leader+ best practice examples:

### 3. Portugal: Youth development in Alentejo

- **Objectives:** Bring together two 'subprojects' to create links between schools and local enterprises + to promote the participation of civil society.
- **Good practice:**
  - **Bottom-up:** Initiated by the school and socio cultural association
  - **Innovation:** Activities that focus on youth as a bridge to future by empowering young people "Citizenship and development"; a volunteer programme; and a bi-monthly forum
  - **Area based:** As part of the territory's development strategy
  - **Partnership:** Involving othe organisations that can provide financial support

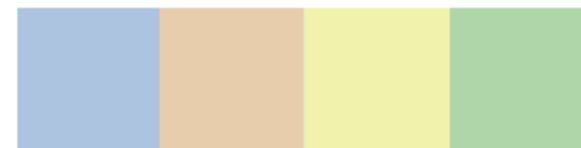


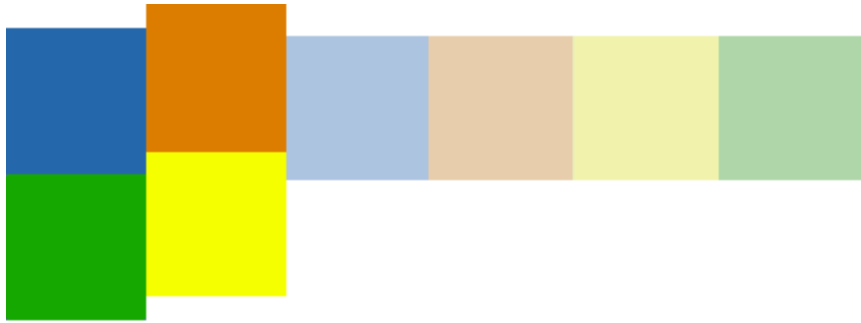


## Leader+ best practice examples:

### 3: Portugal: Youth development in Alentejo cont'd

- **Concrete (soft) outputs:**
  - Better access to information
  - Foster an 'entrepreneurial spirit' among young people
  - Identification of new professional training opportunities for young people
  - Recognition that schools are partners for local development
  - Contact with relevant institutions
  - Partnerships created in order to access untapped local resources
  
- **Leader added value:**
  - The flexibility of the approach
  - The support of the LAG





**Grazzi għall-attenzjoni**

