



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

## **Possible concepts and challenges**

**Budapest, 22 July 2013**

**Pedro BROSEI, European Commission DG AGRI G.1**

# 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

# 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:

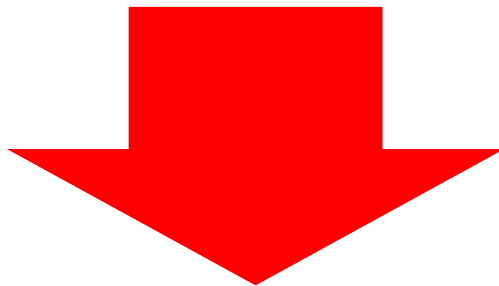
- **Possibility for jointly-funded local development strategies**

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 strategic choices at LAG level



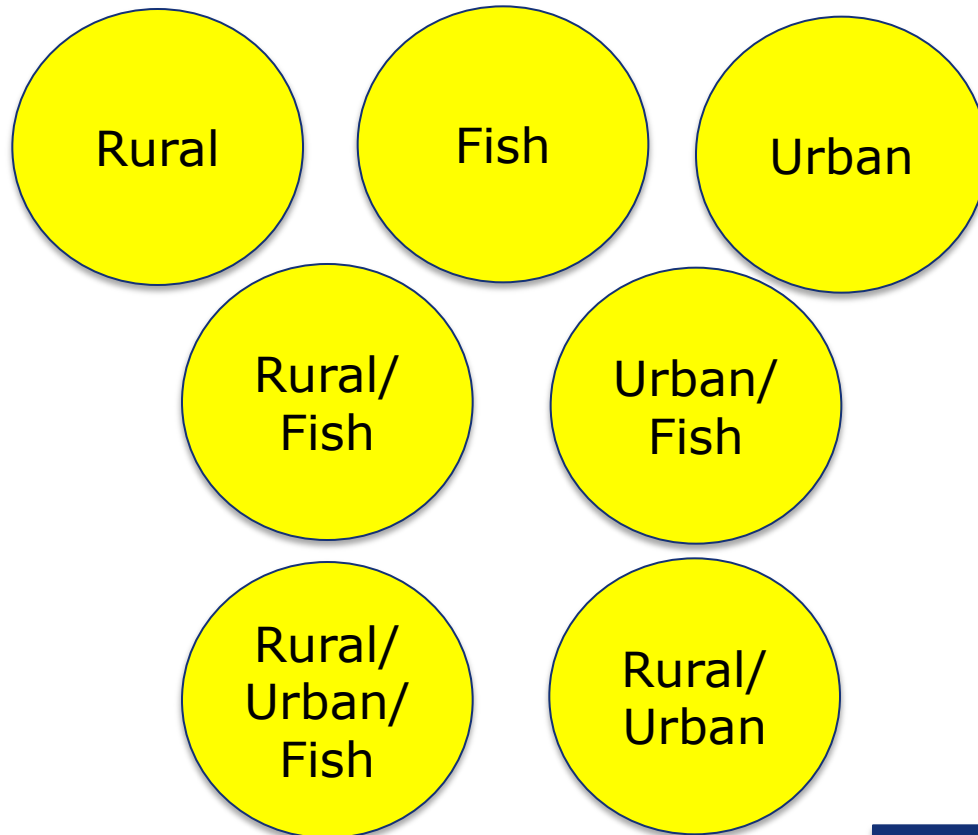
- Strategic approach in PA, reflected in the programmes, based on LAG/FLAG experience
- Which types of areas should be supported and with which of the Funds? What is the available funding?



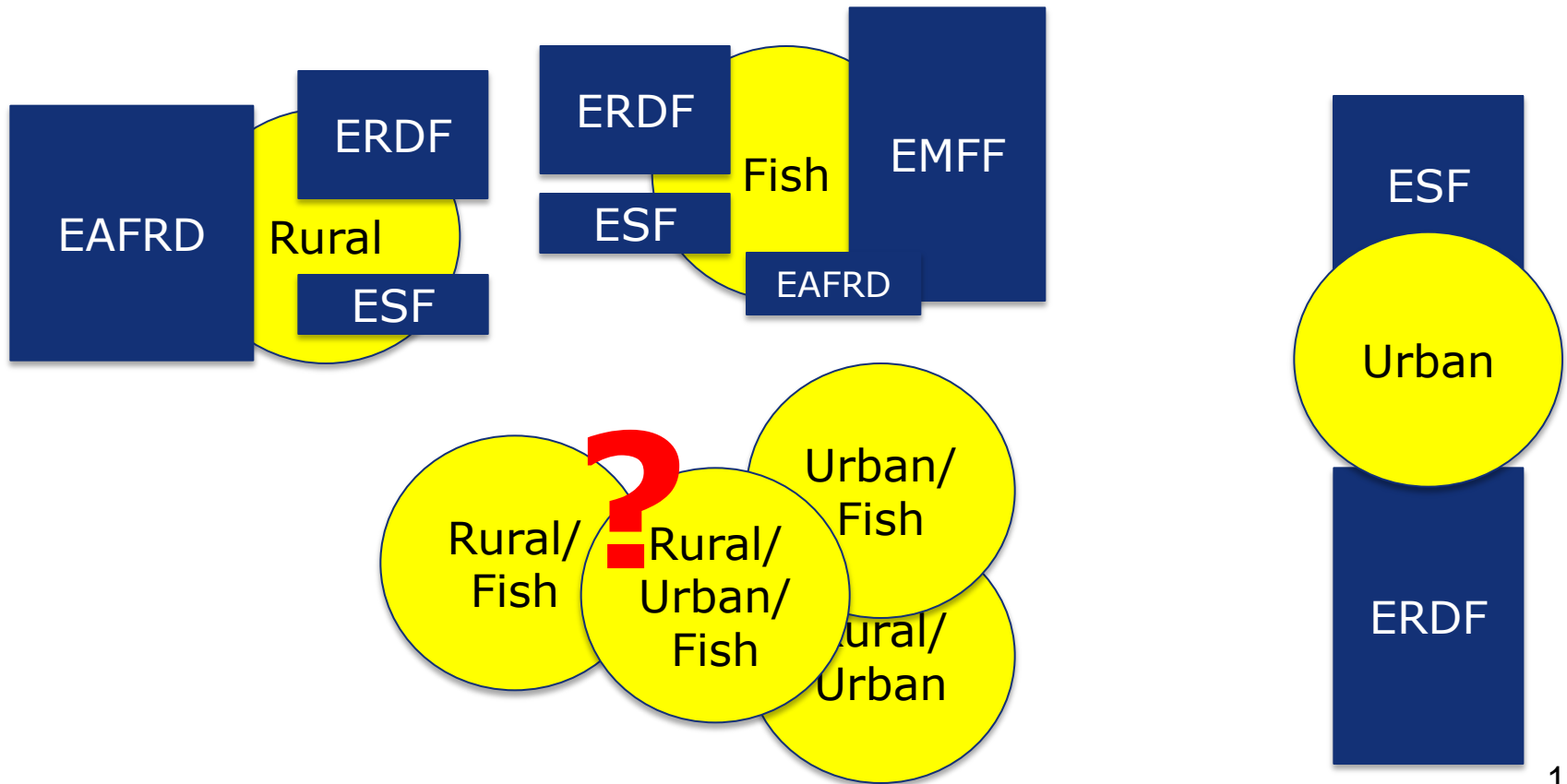
- LAGs decide to which extent they want to make use of the possibilities offered



# Matching the types of areas with the Funds



# Examples for joint funding



# 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

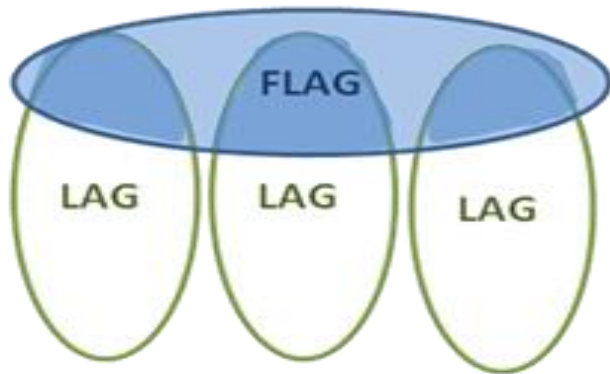
# Examples for the shapes of areas



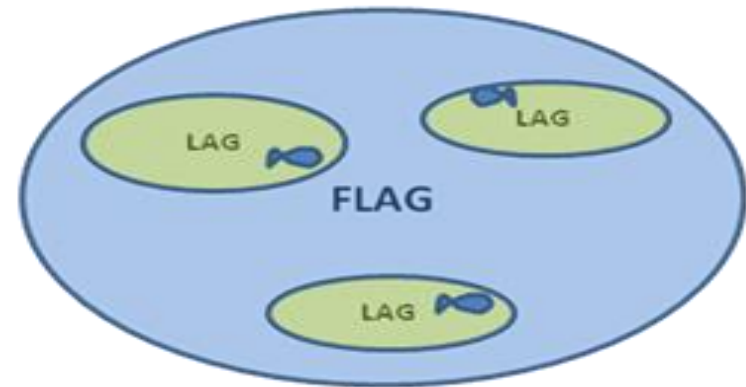
Lonely playing field



Demarcation



Coastal strip



Cooperation between isolated  
fishing communities

# 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

# How to coordinate between Funds?

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

- **Required: coordination mechanism for CLLD involving all relevant MAs**
  - Optional: joint monitoring committee for CLLD
- **Possible: 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