

E-ARIB, E-services and document management system - Estonia

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1. What type of organisations are/were involved in the design?

Estonian Agricultural Registers and Information Board (ARIB) which is the Estonian Paying Agency, LAGs and the service developer.

2. Why was the tool/mechanism put in place?

In Estonia an 'e-republic' system has been developed which provides the opportunity for the digital signing of all documents. A short video, in English, is available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=julTG1JWNLg> explaining this process.

An information centre was created for ARIB, project applicants and LAGs. The main goal was to create a quick and easy e-service for clients so E-ARIB was designed to facilitate the financing of projects; to make the system faster, easier, more transparent and reduce the need for paper documents.

3. Describe briefly how it is carried out in practice

The services available through E-ARIB include:

- submitting project applications for investment under measures 114, 112, 123 and 411, 413 and 421,
- submitting payment claims for investments under all measures,
- submitting additional documents e.g. amendments to declarations; responses to enquiries,
- check registry data, to see different measure payment information

The first application via E-ARIB was submitted on Aug 2011 with the first LEADER application submitted in Feb 2012.

Some statistics:

	2011			2012			2013 (10 months)		
	appl.	E-appl.	%	appl.	E-appl.	%	appl.	E-appl.	%
AXIS 4	1549	0	x	1572	215	13,7	889	267	30,0

The table above shows the growth in electronic applications – rising to 30% over the first two years. ARIB are hoping this will continue increasing to 100% during 2015.

4. What is the main effect of the described tool/model/practice in relation to financing LEADER and on which level is this effect achieved?

Over the last year (Sept 2012 – Sept 2013) 97 076 documents were submitted through e-ARIB. The main impact of E-ARIB will be paperless applications - the whole process will be delivered much more quickly and conveniently over the Internet.

The beneficiary can submit an application and manage payments claims and other documents from anywhere, with no need to come to the office. For example the Paying Agency does not have to insert data from the payment claim into our IT-system as this is done by the beneficiary through E-ARIB.

5. What have been the conditions needed or put in place to design and/or implement the practice?

The most important prerequisite was good will and patience from stakeholders throughout the process and a willingness to work together. Governmental support was also required to develop a digital signing 'e-services' system.

6. What are the lessons learnt and relevance for LEADER 2014-2020?

Very ambitious goals are in place for the new programming period. Included within these is the target of making e-Applications mandatory by 2018. To achieve this national legislation needs to be changed and so further work will be carried out to convince the Ministry of Agriculture (MA) of the value of this approach.

ARIB itself is aiming for 100% e-ARIB capacity building for 2015, the use of e-services for 100% of investment measures by 2015 and area based measures by 2018.

7. Is there any further information on the practice?

A brief video guide on how to complete LEADER project applications on-line is available in Estonian. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hWXtGFPWJ90>

8. Contact details for further information

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