**European Rural Networks'
Assembly**

LEADER Sub-group

Progressing LEADER delivery, performance and achievement

John Grieve, Susan Grieve, Peter Toth
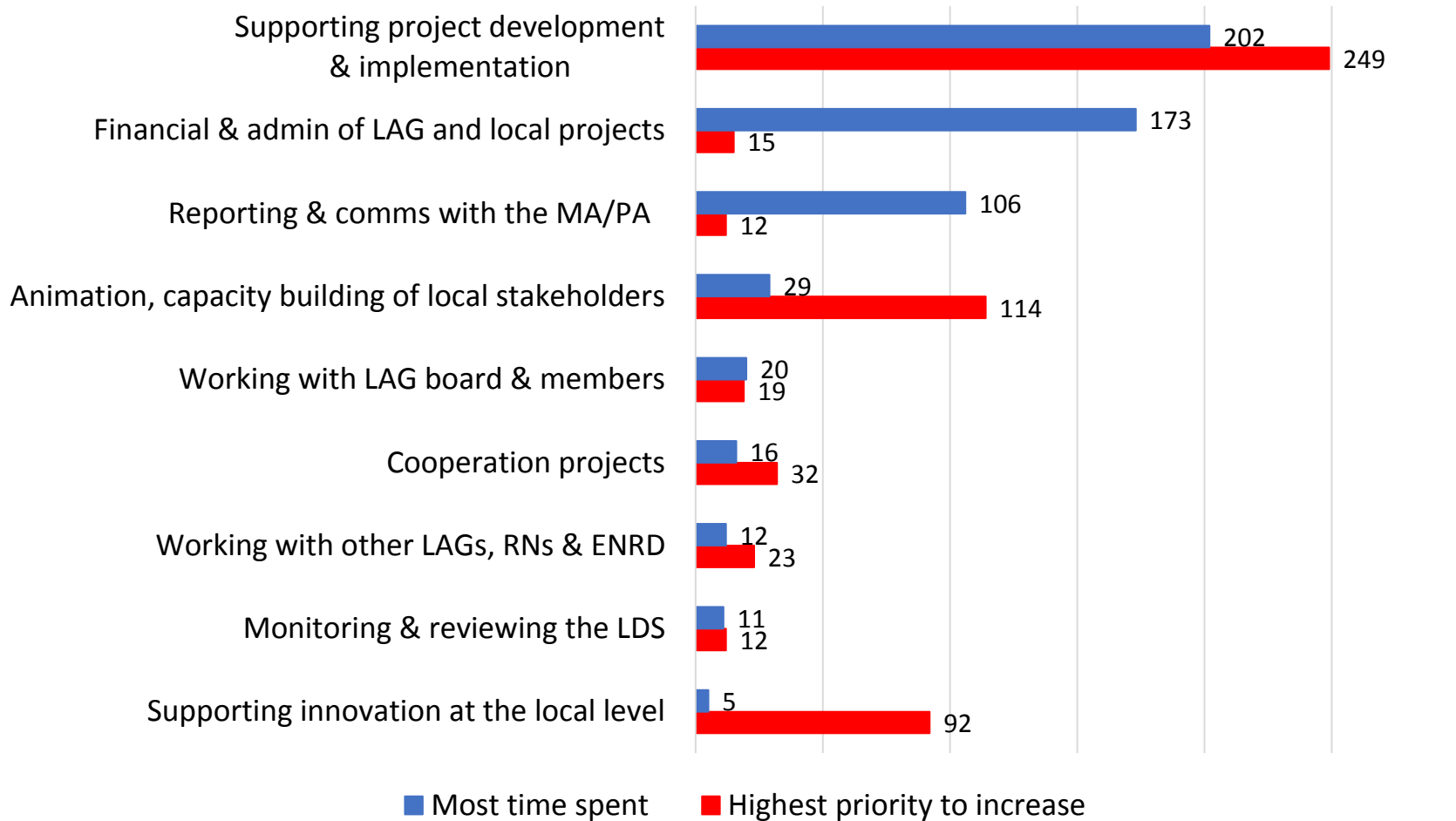ENRD Contact Point

#LeaderCLLD

Brussels – 31 January 2019

Funded by the

Selected action points from 2018

- Animation / LEADER approach toolkit, practical examples

- Better information sharing, peer to peer, mentoring, connections

- Platform for MA preparation

- EU technical workshops – LAGs simplification workshop

- Practical system e.g.s, understand roles, get governance right

- Understand real EU level added value sought

- LAG / MA coordination groups - get PAs more involved

- Good quality added value info, LAG / LDS level, qualitative/quantitative

- Review delivery, reduce burdens, no of controls - focus on the local objectives, 'LEADER in order to?'

Comparison of Day to Day Activities and Priorities to Increase

European Network for Rural Development

Activity	Most time spent	Highest priority to increase
Supporting project development & implementation	202	249
Financial & admin of LAG and local projects	173	15
Reporting & comms with the MA/PA	106	12
Animation, capacity building of local stakeholders	29	114
Working with LAG board & members	20	19
Cooperation projects	16	32
Working with other LAGs, RNs & ENRD	12	23
Monitoring & reviewing the LDS	11	12
Supporting innovation at the local level	5	92

Legend: ■ Most time spent ■ Highest priority to increase

Funded by the European Commission

Optimising Success Factors Now

- ✓ **Cooperating with other LAG territories:**
  - ➤ 95% very/important
  - ➤ 67% achievable
- ✓ **Strengthening public private partnerships:**
  - ➤ 95% very/important
  - ➤ 57% achievable
- ✓ **Directly addressing local issues and opportunities :**
  - ➤ 99% very/important
  - ➤ 63% achievable
- ✓ **Strengthening stakeholder participation in governance:**
  - ➤ 98% very/important
  - ➤ 56% achievable
- ✓ **Finding innovative solutions to local problems:**
  - ➤ 97% very/important
  - ➤ 33% achievable

Ways to Improve LEADER

Simpler application forms / process (53%) ;

Simpler and more proportionate system of controls (for smaller projects) (53%);

Improving turnaround time on approving selected projects (39%);

Simplification, harmonisation and flexibility to support LAGs in the practical use of multi-funding (35%); and

Better common knowledge and networking between LAGs, MA/PA & NRNs (34%).

KEY NEEDS

Simplification

Coordination

Cooperation

Cooperation PWG – outcomes, issues

More detailed description of joint actions and common costs

Generic template (cooperation agreement) developed

Information sharing (preparatory support template, project information sheet, etc.)

Updated DG AGRI Guidance

Information gaps remain
⇨ Better information from MS level (?)

Diversity of rules at MS level
⇨ better coordination between EU MSs, within ENRD?

Funded by the

OUTPUTS

Practical examples of LEADER innovation collected from LAGs, Managing Authorities, and NRNs

Summary of the LEADER Innovation PWG discussions, conclusions

Dissemination tool on LEADER Innovation

Links to other relevant documents, regulations, and other (non-EAFRD) innovation support mechanisms in the EU

KEY LESSONS LEARNT

The essentials: Local innovation, sufficient resources for animation. ‚local innovation culture'

EU rules: No LEADER innovation-specific control requirements at EU level

Attitudes: ‚fear of failure', ‚full risk avoidance', ‚building trust', ‚know what you don't know' – these matter in developing MS-level innovation-specific rules for LEADER and dealing with errors detected

Delivery chain: Accept diversity of local contexts (LDSs) that define LEADER innovation

All LEADER stakeholders: Conscious effort from all to build trust, cooperate, coordinate

'Rust' success factors: Now

- Additional indicators, tangible evidence, help 'external' stakeholders understand

- Open and flexible delivery system, accountability ensured

- An active LAG - designing and implementing - identifying and using local knowledge

- Strong partnerships, commitment and enjoyment

- Cooperation and communication

- Supporting collective actions

- Networking locally - tackling local issues

- Seed corn for larger scale activity

'Rust' success factors: Future

- Tell the added value story better to a wider audience
- Enriched qualitative indicators and processes, examples
- Tackle new challenges, specific priority target groups
- An enabling delivery system, include LAGs in designing
- Build trust in local decision making
- Capacity for animation, preparing the ground
- Working group on results orientation
- Small projects, collective projects, experiments
- Strengthened NRN role
- Coaching, peer to peer

Priority Action Points

In groups of three

Discuss and agree up to three specific and priority actions <u>you can take now </u>to:

- Minimise current implementation bottlenecks

- Optimise success factors now

- Optimise post 2020 success factors

Post-its for main messages