

The word "LEADER" is written in white, bold, uppercase letters inside a green arrow-shaped graphic pointing to the right. The background of the slide features a gradient from green to blue with abstract white and light blue circular patterns.

LEADER

LEADER in Finland

COVID-19 and planning the future

8th LEADER/CLLD subgroup meeting, 18 September 2020

Laura Jänis, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry



LEADER in Finland 2014-2020

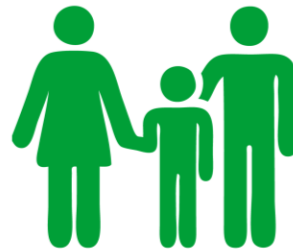


54 rural
LAGs
+ 1 in Åland

100 %



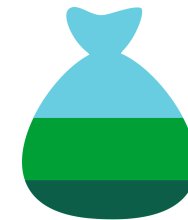
All of rural
population



Per LAG
14 000-123 000
inhabitants,
average 50 000



Total public
funding
300 M€



Per LAG
3-11 M€

LEADER responding to the COVID-19



* 53/54 LAGs
replied to a
survey in
September



Delivery system adapted well

- Digi-leap in LAGs
- Virtual events
- Legal changes and flexibility

Rural communities are **diverse** – need for LEADER funding varies

- 27 LAGs reported more applications due to crisis
- 20 no difference
- 6 less applications

Seasonworkers in the countryside was the most burning question in spring.

- National LEADER Association active in partnership with Farmers Union and Advisory Org. solving the problem.
- Link for job seekers:
<https://www.töitäsuomesta.fi/for-job-seeker-en/>

Digitalisation, broadband infra
Rural-Urban issues, multilocalists,
teleworking



Networking brings more value added

- 2014-2020 focus on **quality** and **results**
 - Quality management -handbooks
 - Better quality of LDS and better results → more money for LAG
- 2021-2027 focus on quality, results and **networking**
 - Better networking means better quality and results
 - **Dynamic network analysis** as a new method to engage stakeholders in LEADER work, preparing and implementing LDS
 - Capacity building for LAGs: Webinars and workshops to help LAGs prepare the dynamic network analysis
 - It is a **learning process** together with the whole delivery chain



Elements of success in our LEADER delivery system

Working together

- All areas covered with LAGs
- Strong support for LEADER by the administration – at the same time respecting the bottom up approach
- Forums and clear practices for dialogue between the administration and LAGs
- NRN facilitates networking, capacity building, exchange and experimenting new ideas
- Trust → stronger network between LAGs – MA – PA & local – regional – national level

Informal Skype
between MA, PA, NRN
and LEADER
ombudsman
weekly

'LEADER expert
group' MA, PA, NRN,
regional adm., LAGs
~ every 2 months

'LEADER days' for
LAG staff and
administration
biannual

'LAG Board member
days'
annual

Meeting of LAG
presidents
biannual

Other examples
- Quality management
training (annual)
- Meetings of regional
authorities working with
LEADER

LEADER2030, CLLD2030, Rural2020 -processes 2016-2018

Leader evaluation and workshop on LEADER criteria 2019

Building a common understanding

What kind of LEADER is needed in the future?



Thank you!



For ideas on a human scale!

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