The importance of demonstrating that LEADER achieves

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Why is it important to demonstrate that LEADER achieves?

After 25 years why is this still a question?

LEADER in order to achieve what?

Is it still really different, what are these differences?

Achieving objectives vs delivering?

What are the real objectives?

New countries love it, would rural Europe miss it?

Is it a sacred cow or rural superglue?

Why? What is the added value?

Making the case – investing in a time of new challenges and opportunities

So if LEADER achieves, how can we prove it?

Some basic indicators

Eligible costs	**2 908 336**
LEADER funding	**1 350 752**
Other public	**Indirect contribution**
Non eligible project costs funded	**205 000**
LAG population	**221 564**
LAG area	**2 370 km2**
Jobs created	**9**

Some additional indicators

344 **partners involved**

48 **connections to other projects**

Greater involvement and **wider benefit** **than expected, public and private, new association, Interreg project**

51 300 hrs **of voluntary contribution**

Substantial machinery, buildings, equipment contribution

403 articles **in news media**

8 **projects report circa** **250** **new partnerships / groups**

8 **projects produce permanent / long-term benefits**

Sustainability: 7 **non-LEADER funded, 2** **residual activities**

LAG animation / capacity support scores 4.5 (out of 5)

What are we achieving?

A <u>shared</u> investment - worth making for EU, MS and local people?

> 50,000 hours and **344** partners = ?€€€€ investment

250 new partnerships or groups formed

Long term benefits in **80%** of projects

403 press articles

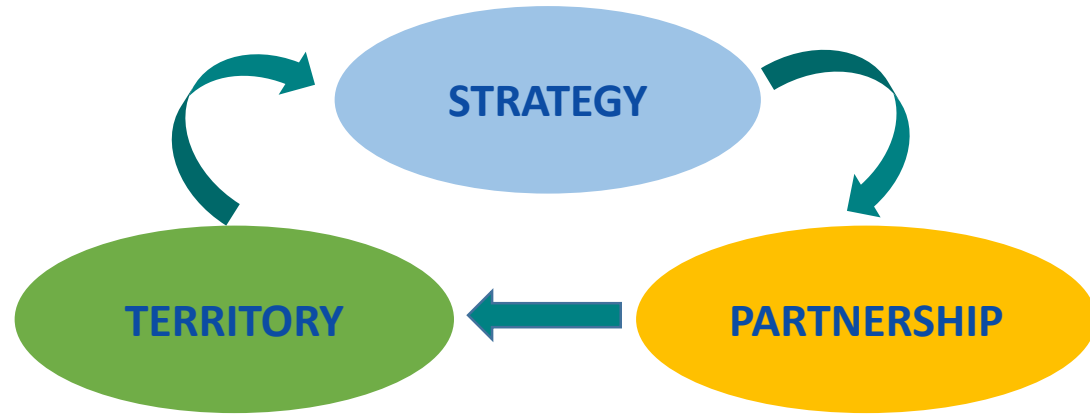**4.5 / 5** ranking of LAG support (not €)

Capture and communicate better

Practical and achievable

Good intentions but often weak in practice

What produces this added value?

The Trinity
Interactions and effects

STRATEGY

TERRITORY

PARTNERSHIP

LAGs agree - Bottom up, Local partnerships, Area-based LDS most important and achievable elements
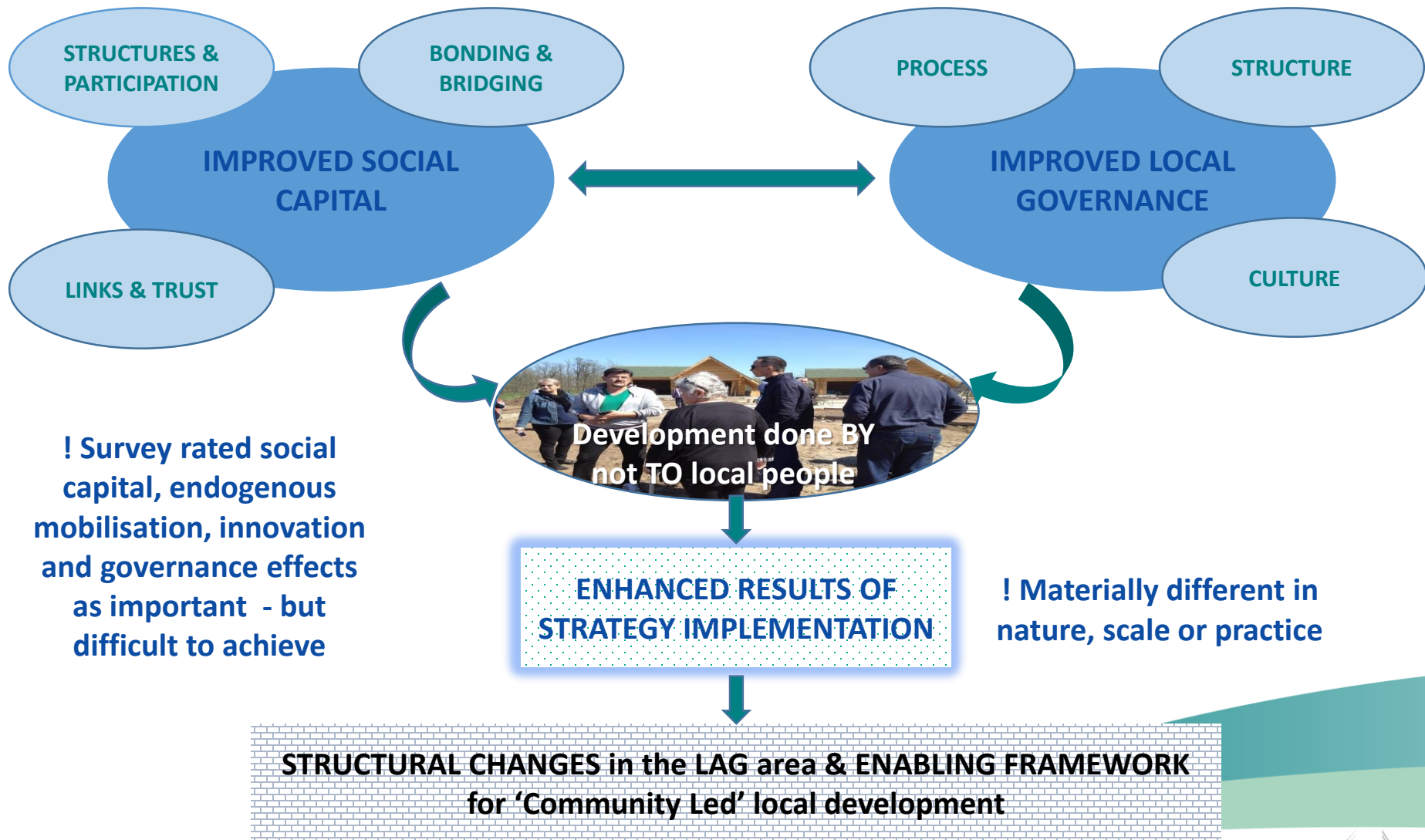
LEADER Links, as method and aim

CLLD should: 'provide for structural changes, build community capacity and stimulate innovation'

{CPR Proposal 2018/0196 (COD) }

What is the added value sought?

STRUCTURES & PARTICIPATION

BONDING & BRIDGING

PROCESS

STRUCTURE

IMPROVED SOCIAL CAPITAL

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IMPROVED LOCAL GOVERNANCE

LINKS & TRUST

CULTURE

Development done BY not TO local people

! Survey rated social capital, endogenous mobilisation, innovation and governance effects as important - but difficult to achieve

ENHANCED RESULTS OF STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

! Materially different in nature, scale or practice

STRUCTURAL CHANGES in the LAG area & ENABLING FRAMEWORK for 'Community Led' local development

Simplification to aid added value?

Policy / delivery **mismatch**? Measures not objectives?

Simplification – **align** with approach and objectives

Rebalance, **reconnect** policy and delivery objectives

Evolve delivery system – **supportive, enabling**!

'**How to proceed** rather than what needs to be done'

Transition - more **self sustaining** –not institutionalised - result!

Public interface, good news, participative, fun

Many challenges best addressed locally

Identify and concentrate on what makes LEADER work!

Opportunities in new proposals:

- LEADER remains obligatory + 5%

- Local focus

- Laboratory / innovation

- MS subsidiarity, targeting, delivery and proportionality

Make the case for the future, secure trust, prove LEADER works!

Use LEADER **where it brings clear added value** – mutual benefit

Demonstrate that **LEADER achieves** and produces **achievements**

Intangible is not enough in a **results based** world

Improved **evaluation** – into action

Learning and continuous renewal

Thank you for your attention!

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