LEADER Thematic Lab 'Designing LEADER for resilience and sustainability'
Session 1 / Group 2

Key elements of local
social, economic and environmental resilience

caring community

responsibility

strong volunteerism

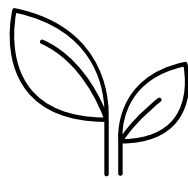**awareness of community issues, needs, strenghts**

change consumer behaviour (through local connections)

flexibility (of individuals, businesses)

attractive rural regions

international cooperation & networks

openness to new solutions, tools (e.g. digital)

global/national decisions enabling local action

'risks' of digital tools - hindering social connections?

How to implement LEADER in the transition period / for post-COVID recovery to achieve resilience in these aspects?

integrating ppl coming/ returning to rural areas & keeping their knowledge & capacity

local ownership of political processes

listen to local needs - and act based on those

develop a local vision & pursue that

developing a local innovation ecosystem by LAGs

connection with EU-wide strategies (LAGs need help to prepare)

support flexibility of local SMEs (new business models, diversification)

support local social enterprises, cooperatives

develop new business models

enhance local ownership of decision-making, economic activities

enable LAGs to react quickly & flexibly

support new consumer habits (e.g. buying local) developed during covid crisis

acknowledge negative impacts of digitalisation

support sustainable food & energy production

takes time to adapt LDS & start implementation

seize opportunities offered by transition period

3

How to design LEADER under the CAP Strategic Plans to <u>enable</u> local development strategies that optimise these aspects of resilience?
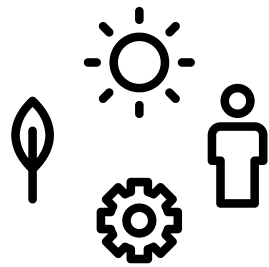
flexibility, ability to act quickly

LEADER Thematic Lab 'Designing LEADER for resilience and sustainability'
Session 2 / Group 2

Key elements of local
LAG capacities, organisational, and delivery system
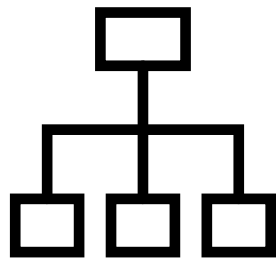# features for designing resilience?

minimum staff (e.g. Germany, Finland: min. 2 FTEs in each LAG)

min. staff agreed with LAGs (not top-down decision); depends on LAG size

need for specific competences of LAG members
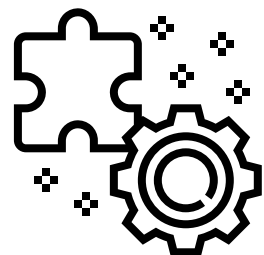
networking/ network management skills

careful study the local area again to assess changes due to Covid pandemic

acknowledge long-term impacts of Covid on local areas

ensuring continuity in LAGs' human resources, organisational structure

upgrade LAG structure during transitional period

enable all the 7 LEADER principles

demonstrating effectiveness of animation (to increase its value)

use of online systems (for beneficiaries and for LAGs)

good cooperation with (trust from) regional authorities

flexibility of LDS

How to maximise LEADER/LDS contribution to resilience in the transition period (by making these capacities and features work)?

evaluating LAGs' and areas' capacity to adapt to emerging situations

being able to pay beneficiaries increases LAGs' capacity & builds trust with beneficiaries (GR)

maximise contribution/use of transitional funding

considering other issues that are changing the local area (e.g. migration)/ adapt to all challenges

in selection criteria, targeted support to most affected businesses

need for clarity on availability of transitional funding (amount, timing)

networking between LAGs (pooling resources)

how to predict future challenges & their impact?

flexible LDS to develop tailored responses

new conditions that may bring new opportunities or challenges (e.g. people moving to rural areas, or changing landscapes due to climate change impacts)

How to consider these – capacities and features - when designing LEADER (for resilience) for the future CAP Strategic Plans?

enable all LEADER features at maximum capacity

increased use of Simplified Cost Option

the 'cost' of complicated and lengthy procedures for the delivery sytem - simplify and shorten procedures under the CAP SPs for LAGs

when designing LEADER intervention and when providing guidance to LAGs

build on LAGs' experience

methodological challenge: enable CAP SPs to intersect with other sectors (which is a feature of LEADER/CLLD)

preparatory support is enabled during transition period

CAP's 'vertical' (sectoral) approach vs LEADER's 'horizontal' (cross-sector) approach

8