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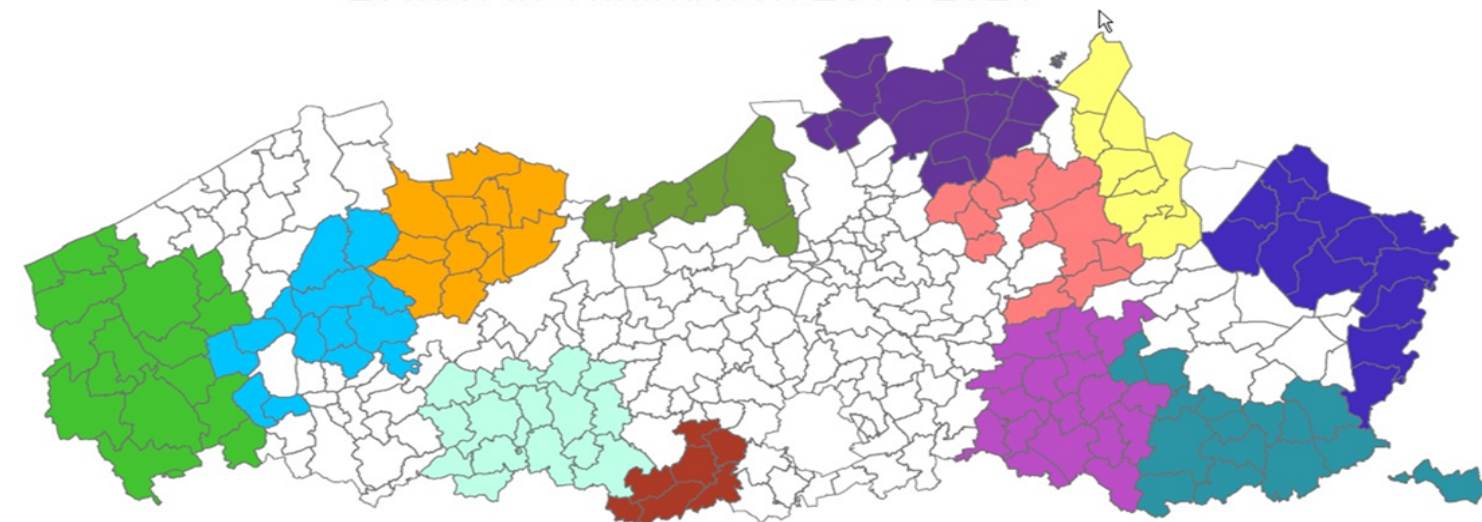
Case Flemish NSU (BE): *Learning Networks LEADER on poverty and vulnerability*

ENRD Workshop on social inclusion
Brussels, 17 March 2016

General information

12 LAGs in Flanders – approved on 22 May 2015

Leader in Vlaanderen 2014-2020



LeADERgebied

- Grensregio Waasland
- Hageland plus
- Haspengouw
- Kempen-Maasland
- Kempen-Oost
- Kempen-Zuid
- MarkAante Kempen plus
- Meetjesland
- Midden-West-Vlaanderen
- Pajottenland plus
- Vlaamse Ardennen
- Westhoek

30 15 0 30 Kilometers



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Learning Networks (LN) for LEADER

► What?

- 2014: idea LAG coordinator (LAG Hageland+)
- Informal meetings of all LAGs to discuss one of the themes (or subthemes) of the Local Development Strategies

► Chosen themes Flemish LAGs

- | | |
|---|---|
| - Regional identity | 9 |
| - Quality of life in villages | 8 |
| - Poverty and vulnerability | 5 |
| - Education on agriculture and nature | 5 |
| - Soil- and water management | 2 |
| - Knowledge transfer and innovation | 2 |
| - Agrobiodiversity | 1 |
| - Sustainable energy and climate adaptation | 1 |
| - Preserving and development of open space | 1 |
| - Starting and rural entrepreneurs | 1 |
| - Regional products and local food strategies | 1 |

Learning Networks (LN) for LEADER

► How?

- Start-up meeting for all LAG coordinators in June 2015: Each LAG coordinator presented their themes and subthemes of their LDS to each other
- Searching for overlap between themes and subthemes
- On a regular basis (2 or 3x/year)
- If possible – in combination with formal LAG meeting (on demand of LAGs)
- LAGs gave input for possible speakers, locations, ... per theme



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First Learning Network

→ **When**

× 22 October 2015

→ **Where**

× LAG area 'Pajottenland+'

→ **Topic**

× Poverty and vulnerability

→ **Programme of the day**

× LAG meeting (organized by the Managing Authority)

× Learning Network

→ Group intervision

→ Lunch

→ 3 speakers + time for questions and discussion



LN on poverty and vulnerability

→ Group intervision

- × Incorporation of theme 'poverty and vulnerability' in the LDS of each LAG
- × Interpretation of poverty in LAG
- × Project ideas?



LN on poverty and vulnerability

→ **Outcomes group intervision**

- × Theme 'poverty and vulnerability' isn't always incorporated in one of the 3 themes of LDS
 - Indirectly under other chosen theme(s) of LDS
- × Interpretation of poverty in LAGs
 - Quality of life in villages => community building
 - Social services
 - Lack of (public) transportation facilities
 - Digital divide
 - Ageing population
 - ...
- × Project ideas
 - Already many project ideas handed in!



LN on poverty and vulnerability

→ **Outcomes group intervision**

× Project ideas

→ Areas of concern

- ▶ Difficult to bring different organizations/sectors together
- ▶ Projects need to be complementary where necessary
- ▶ Different initiatives display the theme => need for easily accessible projects
- ▶ LEADER is a perfect tool for set-up of a project => intention to ensure continuity after LEADER funding (long term projects must get priority)



LN on poverty and vulnerability

→ **Speakers and discussion**

× Speaker 1: Mobiel 21

→ Socio-cultural association

→ Works on sustainable mobility

→ Education, research and development, information and communication



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LN on poverty and vulnerability

→ **Speakers and discussion**

× Speaker 2: Flemish Action Plan for Poverty Reduction

- Focus on families with young children
- Situated within realization of poverty goals of the 'Pact 2020'
- Planning of government measures on short and long term + progress report (every 2 years)



LN on poverty and vulnerability

→ Speakers and discussion

- × Speaker 3: Regular activities Public Social Assistance Centre
 - On high demand of LAGs (regular versus non-regular budget PSAC)
 - Obligatory tasks of a PSAC
 - Examples of regular and non-regular activities of PSAC
 - Discussion on the transmitted cases (project ideas) of the LAGs



LN on poverty and vulnerability

→ **Feedback from LAGs**

- × Expectations fulfilled: good => very good
- × Not too many speakers => important to have enough time to have interaction
- × Good to have theoretic speakers combined with more practical speakers
- × NSU already asked and received input for possible locations and speakers for the next Learning Network
- × Topic of the next LN will be 'regional identity' – April/May 2016



Thank you for your attention!



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