

ITALY LEADER EXPERIENCE

General details

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Details of activity

Background to the case study	<p>For almost 10 years LEADER has been experimenting with new forms of governance at the local level through local action groups and development plans in rural areas.</p> <p>In this context, acting on behalf of the Ministry of agriculture, the National Institute of Agricultural Economy (Istituto Nazionale di Economia Agraria, INEA) has developed a network among LEADER's beneficiaries.</p> <p>The aims of the network are to share experiences to develop project planning at the local level.</p> <p>There are two implementation phases consisting of LEADER II: 1996-2001 LEADER+: 2004-2008</p> <p>LEADER II in Italy has financed 203 Local Action Groups and there are 132 GAls which are working under LEADER + at the moment</p>
Description of activity	<p>There are numerous activities taking place with the creation of the network: analysis and exchange of good practices, publications and assistance to the creation of co-operational projects. The aim of these activities is to monitor what has been experimented in Italy with LEADER, identifying strengths and weaknesses</p>
Geographical focus of the case study	<p>The network operates at national level, whereas the focus of LEADER is at the local level. (less than 100.000 habitant)</p>



IDELE

Identification, Dissemination and Exchange of good practice in
Local Employment development and promoting better governance

Impact	<p>There are a number of outcomes originating from the activities of the network and their application at the local level.</p> <p>Leader has managed to spread a new culture in local development, above all in disadvantaged areas. The rural development results have varied according to the specific features of the territory and dialogue among partners. Some LEADER's initiatives have managed to meet some targets neglected by other rural development policies.</p>
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Theme-Specific Questions

Sustainability	<p>The LEADER's initiatives have a sustainable approach in several dimensions: environmental, social, economic and institutional. However, the context in which these initiatives operate and the limited resources can affect LEADER's results. What really makes the difference for sustainability is the method adopted.</p>
Successes / lessons learned	<p>There are some difficulties that GALs and the network need to face. These difficulties are mostly administrative and methodological.</p>