



Land consolidation and rural development – new approaches

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2007 Prague Regional Workshop 25-27 June 2007



Content

- Background information on LC and RD
- Rural development in the EU: A short history
- New approaches and instruments for land consolidation
 - Member states, candidate countries and potential candidate countries, neighbourhood countries
- Lessons learned and target questions

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Background information

- Paper responds to a need for information:
 - Linking land consolidation and rural development
 - Financing of related activities via policy measures
- Paper arguments are based on particular definitions with respect to land consolidation:
 - LC as a tool to overcome land fragmentation
 - LC as a catalyst for broader rural development (!)



Background information

- Rural development and land consolidation are closely linked; concepts show similarities:
 - Moving from agricultural to integrated concepts
 - Increasing complexity (agriculture plus rural economy, infrastructures, institutions, environmental aspects, etc.)
 - Three levels of action: micro (re-parceling, enlargement of farms, etc.), meso (infrastructures, spatial distribution, etc.), macro (sector competitiveness, decreasing of disparities, etc.)



Rural development in the EU

- Moving from a sector to a holistic approach
 - 1960s: first programs to support agriculture (national investments in infrastructure, LC)
 - 1970s: first steps of the EU (EC) targeting at more than pure agricultural developments (village renewal)
 - Until 1990s: emphasis on investments (on- and partly off-farm); however, limited support to rural development issues came from the EU, partly better situation existed in single member states



Rural development in the EU

- Moving from a sector to a holistic approach
 - New situation: November 1996, Cork, Ireland
 - Council regulation 1257/1999 on rural development
 - “Second pillar” of the CAP was established and financed via a so-called “guidance section”
 - Menu of 22 (26) rural development measures, among others: land consolidation, re-allotment of land parcels, basic services, village renewal, etc.



Rural development in the EU

- LEADER I / LEADER II / LEADER+
 - bottom-up approaches (!) in addition to top down concepts of policy making
- Special treatment of the EU accession process
- Establishment of the EAFRD for 2007-2013
 - A new fund (!) replacing “guidance” of the EAGGF
 - Importance of the “Second pillar” increased

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Rural development in the EU

EU assistance instruments for agriculture and rural development:

Status	up to December 1999	January 2000	May 2004	January 2006	January 2007 - December 2013
Members since last enlargement 1995 EU-15	structural funds	EAGGF / LEADER+			EAFRD
2004 enlargement round countries Ten new EU Member States	Phare	SAPARD	EAGGF / LEADER+		EAFRD
2007 enlargement round countries Bulgaria, Romania	Phare	SAPARD			EAFRD
2007 Candidate countries Croatia The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Turkey	Phare Phare	CARDS CARDIS Turkey pre-accession instrument (TPAI)	SAPARD		IPA (5 components) IPA (5 components) IPA (5 components)
2007 potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia, UNMIK Kosovo	Phare	CARDS			IPA (components 1 & 2)
2007 European Neighbours Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine		TACIS			ENPI

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New approaches and instruments

- Some general remarks (I)
 - This presentation concentrates on aspects linking RD and LC and specific examples!
 - Numerous measures/interventions are available.
 - We identified only measures with a link to LC.
 - We distinguished three „contribution levels“:
 - *** → measure able to contribute directly to LC
 - ** → measure able to contribute indirectly to LC
 - * → measure able to contribute indirectly to LC (within an already well-established LC)



New approaches and instruments

- Some general remarks (II)
 - Substantial information per identified measure are described in the appendixes of the paper on:
 - Legal base
 - Rationale and objectives
 - Scope and actions to be funded
 - Eligibility criteria
 - Expected impacts
 - Additional remarks



New approaches: The EAFRD

- Affects member states of the EU
- Is the result of substantial evaluations: need for a more simplified and more targeted RD
- Council regulation 1698/2005 and others
- Symbiosis of EAGGF (guidance) and LEADER+
- Three major objectives and four axes



New approaches: The EAFRD

Axis 1: Improving the competitiveness of the agriculture and forestry sector

- 5 of 16 measures covered by the axis may contribute to LC
- ***: 1 measure
- **: 4 measures
- *: No measure



New approaches: The EAFRD

Axis 1: Improving the competitiveness of the agriculture and forestry sector

- Ex. ***: Article 30 of EC 1698/2005
Improving and developing infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry
- LC (in its narrow meaning!) is particularly mentioned!



New approaches: The EAFRD

Axis 2: Improving the environment and the countryside

- 7 of 13 measures covered by the axis may contribute to LC
- ***: No measure
- **: 4 measures
- *: 3 measures



New approaches: The EAFRD

Axis 2: Improving the environment and the countryside

- Ex. ** : Article 43 of EC 1698/2005
First afforestation of agricultural land
- Among others costs for ground plantations, mapping, establishing fire lines, etc. could be covered



New approaches: The EAFRD

Axis 3: Improving quality of rural life and diversification of the rural economy

- 4 of 8 measures covered by the axis may contribute to LC
- ***: 2 measures
- **: 2 measures
- *: No measure



New approaches: The EAFRD

Axis 3: Improving quality of rural life and diversification of the rural economy

- Ex. ***: Article 56 of EC 1698/2005
Basic services for the economy and rural population
- Among others costs for creating drinking and waste water systems and/or with respect to village renewal and development, etc. could be covered



New approaches: The EAFRD

Axis 4: LEADER





New approaches: The IPA

- Affects candidate countries and potential candidate countries of the EU
- Council regulation 1085/2006 and other forthcoming (!) regulations
- Replaces various “old” programs and (see figure above)
- Consists of several components, including the IPARD component



New approaches: The IPA

IPARD: Rural Development (component 5)

- Eligible countries: Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey
- Three objectives/axis mirroring the EAFRD
 - Priority axis 1: No measure able to contribute to LC activities
 - Priority axis 2: 2 interesting measures
 - Priority axis 3: 2 remarkable overlapping to EAFRD



New approaches: The IPA

IPARD: Priority axis 2

- Article 177 refers to Article 39 of 1698/2005
 - Agri-environment payments
 - Probably limited use due to “Contribution level” *
 - Pilot activities only!
- Article 178 refers to Article 61 of 1698/2005
 - Local action groups (LEADER-like activities!)
 - acquisition of skills, awareness raising, promotion



New approaches: The IPA

IPARD: Priority axis 3

- Article 179 refers to investments aimed at improving and developing rural infrastructure
 - water and energy supply, waste management, local access to roads of particular importance for local economic development, fire protection and other infrastructures
- Article 180 refers to Diversification and development of rural economic activities
 - creation and development of ... and rural tourism



New approaches: The IPA

IPARD: Some additional comments

- Mix of support (grants, experts, EU-projects, etc.)
- Formulation and negotiation of national programs and plans → Priority setting!
- Rather strong control and evaluation mechanisms



New approaches: The IPA

Four other components besides IPARD

- Transition assistance and institution building
 - Cross-border cooperation
 - Regional development
 - Human resource development
- All four components for candidate countries
→ First two for potential candidate countries, too!



New approaches: The IPA

Transition assistance and institutional building

- Covers respective actions related to the *acquis*
- Also in areas which easily can be linked to LC:
 - Public administration reform
 - Modernization of the regulatory framework
 - Support for self-organizations of economic actors
 - Establishment of information systems



New approaches: The IPA

Cross border cooperation

- Promoting sustainable economic and social development
 - Natural heritage
 - Joint small scale actions involving local actors
- In border regions only (see also CBC within the EFRD and ESF)!



New approaches: The ENPI

- Formulation and Programming of the approach is at an early stage → limited information is available
- Council Regulation (EC) 1638/2006 is basic document
- LC might be covered but depends on certain preconditions (national priority setting!)



Lessons learned

- Assign a priority to land consolidation while negotiating with the EU
- Evaluated existing legislation and amend if necessary
- Allow for integrated and flexible projects
- Allow for flexible divisions of tasks and responsibilities



Lessons learned

- Develop clear procedures and guidelines to allow for project initiation and implementation
- Develop clear procedures and guidelines for the funding of land consolidation projects
- Make use of the LEADER approach
- Develop an effective approach to assess impacts



Target questions

- What are the country experiences in the “field of LC” fitting/not fitting the paper’s arguments?
- Is there any missing information in the paper or information that can be misinterpreted?
- Which arguments need to be strengthened/deepened?



Thank you!

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