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# **2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP on integrated community development**

**LEADER, as an approach for local rural  
development**

**Experiences with LEADER from an EU country**

**Āris Ādlers**

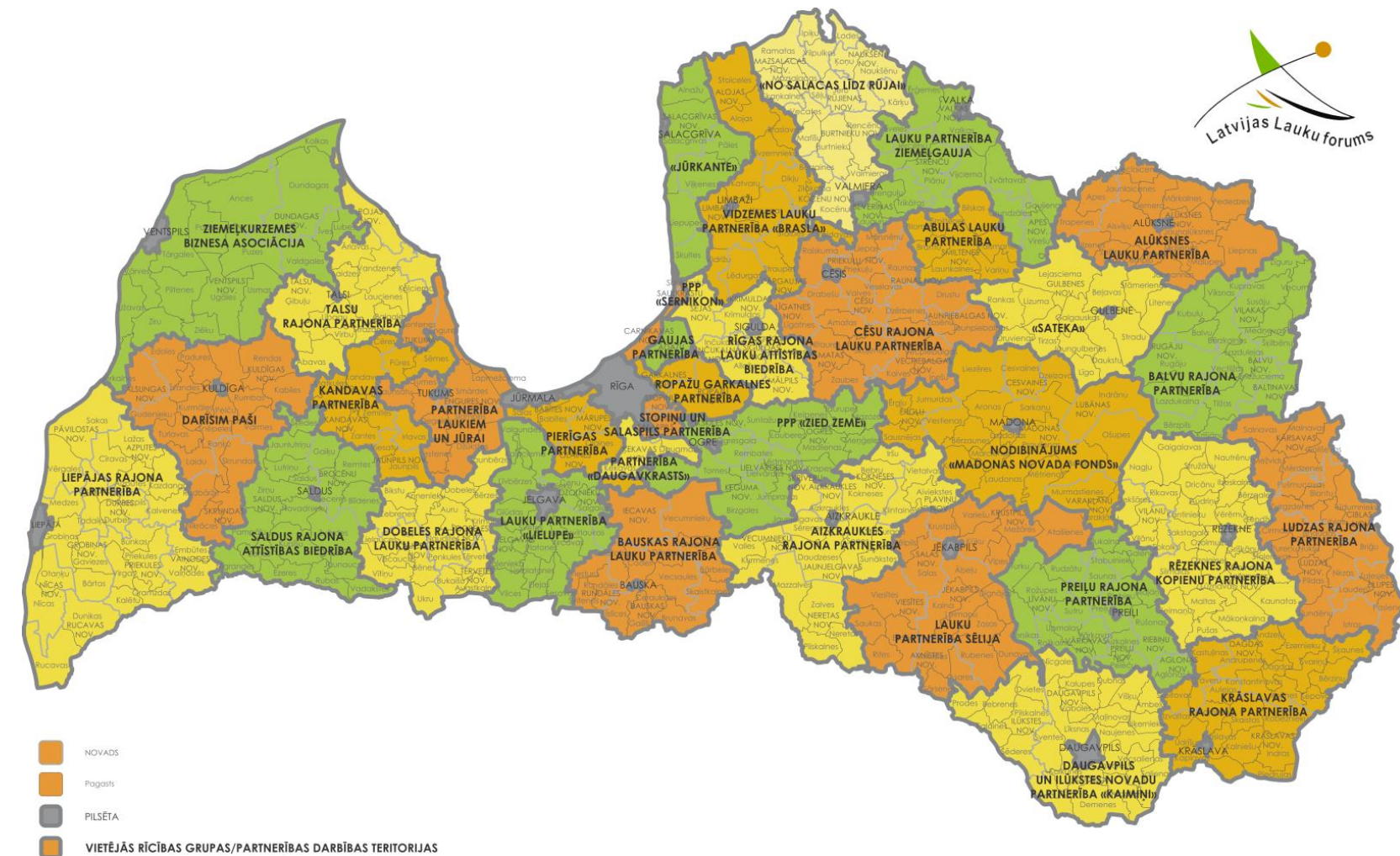
**International LEADER/CLLD expert**

**22-24 June**

**Budapest, Hungary**



# LEADER in Latvia



Currently – 35 areas



22-24 JUNE, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY



# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## In numbers

LEADER = 62,8 milj.  
EUR  
+ 2/7 (Transition period)

Additionally EU Fishery fund  
for CLLD groups

- 2857 Implemented Projects
  - ^ 1228 Strengthen Local Economy
  - ^ 1629 Improving the potential of a place
- 2651\* Jobs created (261% of planned)

Data of MoA on the beginning of 2021



# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Strengthen Local Economy

- Fixed assets
  - Services
  - Production
- Construction
  - Tourism
- Sports and recreation
  - Forestry
- Selling markets
  - Other





# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Launching and developing services

- Veterinary
- Health and social
- Car, moto service
- Art and culture
  - Catering
  - Other
- Tourism

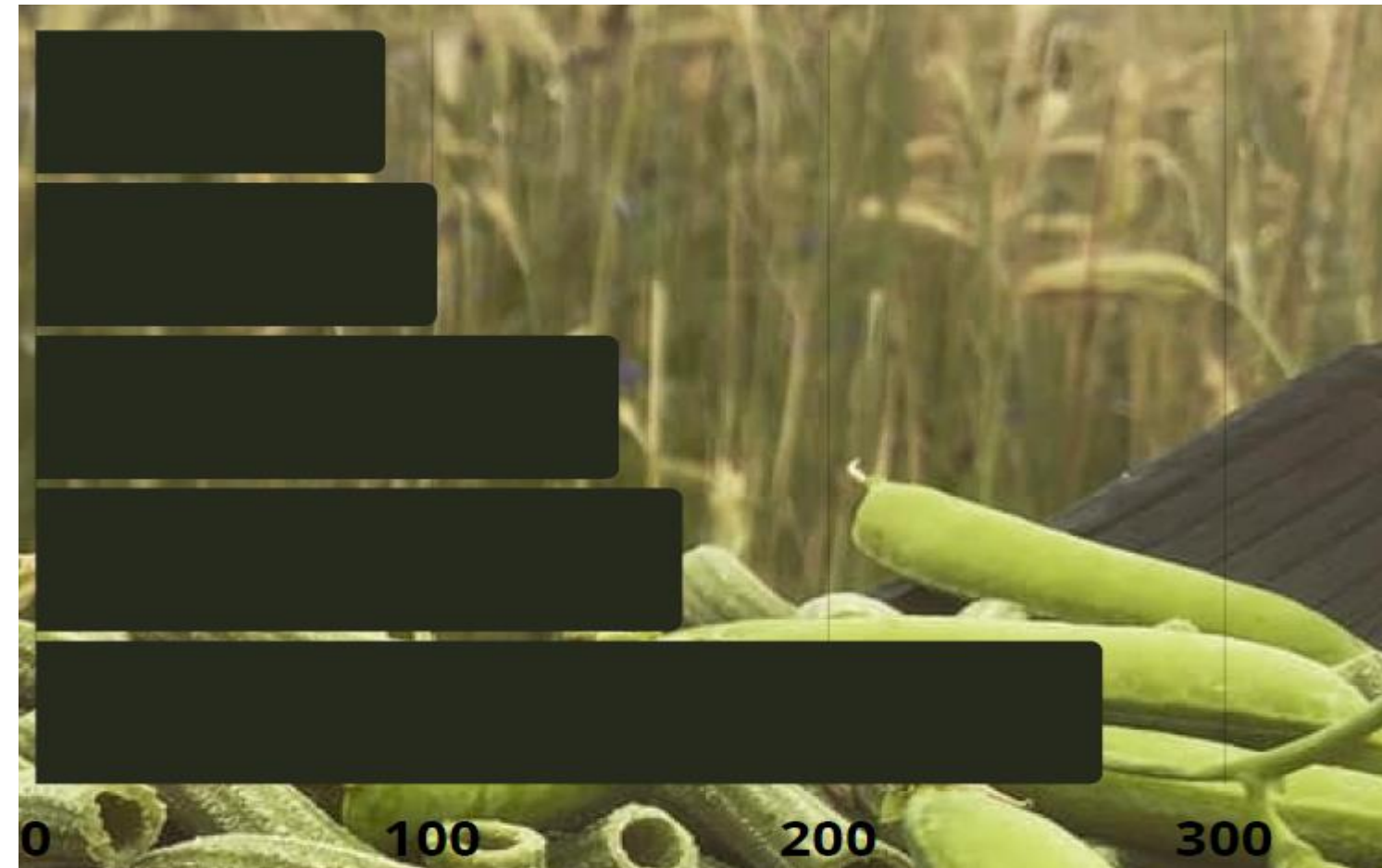




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## Start - up and development of production

- Crafts
  - Other
- Wood product
- Domestic production
  - Food

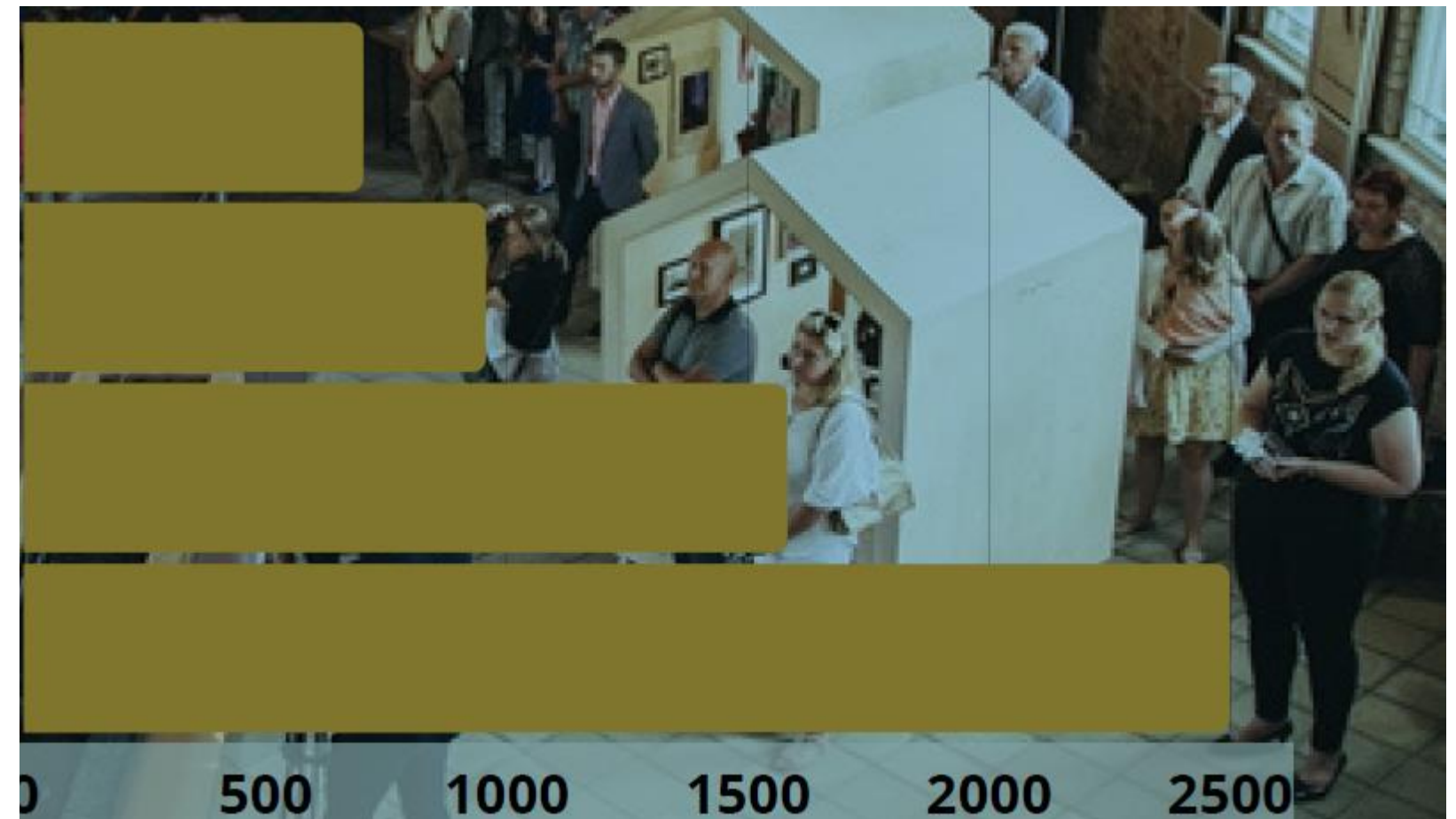




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## Public Services

- Education
- Preservation of cultural and historical heritage
- Public involvement initiatives
  - Landscaping

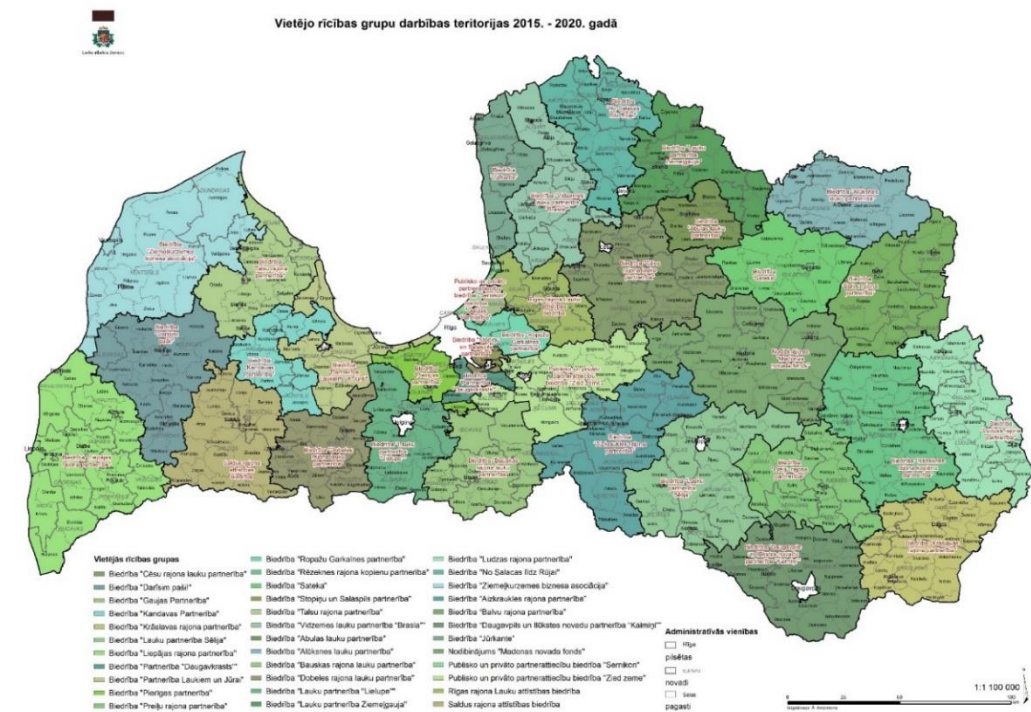




# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Next Planning period 2023+

- 10 % from All Rural Dev. Programme
- 80 % to Local Economy (At least 50%) and 20 % to Local Potential improvement (Including Smart Villages)
- 20 % for Green Public Procurement







# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Practicalities- Who does what in Latvia?

### **Managing Authority (national or regional) Also Paying agency**

- designs the rules for the selection of local partnerships and strategies
- publishes calls for local partnerships and strategies and selects the LAGs
- approves support to projects selected by the local group

### **Members of the LAG**

- define the area
- develop a local strategy
- define criteria and procedures for project selection
- encourage and support potential project promoters
- select projects
- monitor progress and adapt strategy or procedures as needed
- carry out self-evaluation and analyse reports of external evaluators (if relevant)

### **Employees of the LAG**

- prepare project application system
- prepare and disseminate information about funding possibilities
- undertake community outreach (animation) and help project promoters prepare their applications
- support the selection process (without the right to vote)
- carry out the administrative tasks of the local group (financed with running costs) and prepare reports
- collect data necessary for monitoring of progress
- work with external consultants, including evaluators (if relevant)

### **Other local actors**

- participate in the development of the local strategy
- express needs and develop ideas for projects
- submit applications for projects and carry them out, if the applications are approved
- participate in the evaluation of results and reflection on changes in the strategy if needed





# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Key steps to launch LEADER in Latvia

- Involving the key organizations and individuals relevant to area and establishment of partnership.

It can be a good idea to start with a relatively small group of people who are willing to contribute voluntary effort and who are interested in the well-being of the whole area, not only their individual business or organisation. With time, as the partnership builds trust and recognition in the area, further partners should be invited and encouraged to participate, ensuring decisions are not monopolised by a restricted group of people.

- Definition of the area

Proximity and critical mass. Also regionals and national rules

- Communication to the local community

This initial communication is essential to ensure transparency of your partnership's work and mobilise the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders





# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Key steps to launch LEADER in Latvia (Also for existing LAGs)

- **Local development strategy**

starting with an analysis of your area. define your strategic objectives and types of activities you will carry out, or support other actors to carry out, in order to reach these objectives. Your strategy is more than just an application for funding. Use cooperation projects to help achieve your strategic objectives.

- **Criteriaa and procedures for project selection**

The procedure should ensure transparency of decision-making and facilitate the application process for beneficiaries as much as possible. The criteria should provide clear guidance to beneficiaries and to the members of the decision-making body, enabling the development and selection of high quality projects that correspond closely to the needs and strategic objectives identified by the LAG

- **Animation and communication activities**

The role of the local partnership's staff and volunteers goes far beyond selecting projects for funding. Encouraging pottential beneficiaries to apply and helping them prepare their applications. To facilitate linkages between local stakeholders.

- **Office and administration of the local group**

Smooth implementation of the strategy and accountability for public funding require qualified staff and a well-organised office. Stability and motivation of your staff is a key success factor of the local strategy implementation





# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Important LEADER elements- Continuous improvement process

- bottom-up approach to socio-economic development that **brings local people together to decide** how they want to improve their area
- **Setting up and strengthen partnership** of civil society, businesses and public bodies
- **a focus on a specific area and its inhabitants** (rather than on a sector or type of activity).
- the Local Action Group, which is **the driver of change in the area** and which decides how LEADER funding should be used to achieve this change.
- a local development strategy developed in a **participative manner**, with the broad involvement of inhabitants and organisations active in the area, **including the most vulnerable groups**.





# 2ND REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## Community Development and Smart Village

- To organise adequate Bottom- Up approach, Self-generating Communities need to be developed in area
- Self-generating communities (Ability to generate needs, Ability to grow, Ability to realize communities needs)
- LAG can innitiate people to come together, speak, evaluate, acquire new knowledges and skills, help to atract recourses, implement actions, defend their interests
- Territirial self- generating communities can assure Territorial principle, Smart solutions, Ability to separate desires from needs, Representation of various interests, Additional resources for the municipality

**To stimulate the process, LAGs implementing cooparation projects**





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## Coordinated and focused process- Strategic goals Versus List of Project (Example from My Local Action group)

- What we want? Promote entrepreneurship!
- What entrepreneurship is relevant for us? Tourism- We are coastal area!
- What is our opportunities? Natural heritage!
- What will be our priority? Projects that integrate Natural and Cultural Heritage in the tourism activities!
- How we ensure implementation of priority? With animation and building partnership and evaluation criteria's
- What we do to make it work and create more value? Implementing cooperation projects to promote Coastal areas and Cultural/Nature Heritage, including food



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Vides dizaina parks

Restaurant







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Investing in rural people



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United Nations  
Decade of  
**FAMILY  
FARMING**  
2019-2028

# Thank You!