

FLAG Cooperation in Greece

Introduction

Cooperation is strongly encouraged in Greece and the proposal of at least one (inter-territorial or transnational) cooperation project was a compulsory element of the application process for candidate FLAGs to receive EMFF funding.

Some of the themes emerging most strongly from the Greek local development strategies include cooperation around **tourism**, in particular developing and promoting pesca-tourism, thematic trails (e.g. around gastronomy, archaeology...) and also diving parks.

In terms of budget available for cooperation in Greece, each FLAG may dedicate the equivalent of up to 10% of their running costs and animation budget (although the money does not come out of this budget). This implies around approximately **€60 000 per FLAG**.

Number of FLAGs in Greece: 33 (31 of which are also Leader LAGs)

Organising Cooperation

- Cooperation is organized at FLAG level where designated monitoring committees, made up of key partners, are held to decide on projects to develop
- Cooperation proposals are then presented to the MA which evaluates the relevance (to the FLAG strategy), maturity and eligibility of the projects.
- They can be presented at any time and are evaluated on an ongoing basis

Possible Partners

- Cooperation projects in Greece must be implemented by the FLAGs themselves
- However, they can also involve specialised partners, for example institutes with an expertise in the relevant field
- Greek FLAGs can cooperate with partners in Greece or the EU but cooperation beyond the EU is not encouraged
- Greek FLAGs can cooperate with partners from CLLD groups funded by all European Structural and Investment Funds and/or with non-EU funded CLLD-type public-private partnerships.

Eligibility and Financing Rules

- Cooperation projects are subject to the same financing rules as any other FLAG project, though official documents from abroad may need to be translated in order to be paid.
- No specific arrangements have been made to fund preparatory support for cooperation projects in Greece. However, related activities such as visits and partner meetings are expected to be eligible from the FLAG's running costs and animation budget.

For any further information or assistance for cooperation in Greece...

There is no National Network in Greece but those interested in further information or in collaborating with Greek FLAGs can contact Mitza Edge from the Managing Authority: megke@mou.gr