

New guide on CLLD for local actors

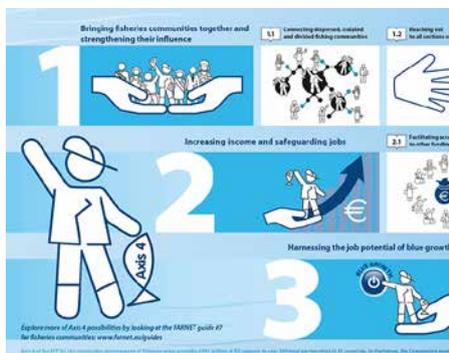


The European Commission is currently working on a new guide for local actors on Community Led Local Development (CLLD) in the next EU funding period.

This follows an earlier [CLLD guidance document for managing authorities](#) and it should be available on the [Europa website](#) in the autumn of 2013. The aim is to provide practical guidance for both new and existing partnerships on when, why and how to use CLLD. As Member States submit draft versions of their Partnership Agreements and Operational

Programmes, it is becoming clear that CLLD will be widely applied in the EAFRD and the EMFF, with the likelihood of more coordination between these two Funds. There is also interest in exploring the use of CLLD in the ERDF and the ESF, although the extent of this and the level of coordination between the Funds is still an open question.

Axis 4 in a nutshell



A new, user-friendly [leaflet](#) is now available, which summarises the key messages contained in the recently published FARNET guide, "[Axis 4: a tool in the hands of fisheries communities](#)". The leaflet explains the main features of Axis 4 and how it can be used to help fishermen, their families and communities. It provides a simple way for FLAGs and other stakeholders to better understand Axis 4, and to be better able to communicate its benefits within their community. The leaflet is available in 14 languages and will be distributed at all major FARNET events in the coming months. To order copies for distribution, please contact the FARNET Support Unit.

Successful programming



Around 40 representatives of Axis 4 managing authorities (MAs) from across the EU met in Brussels on the 24-25 September as part of the regular programme of meetings hosted by FARNET and DG Mare. This meeting focused on the topic of 'successful programming' and built on a survey of MAs conducted over the summer. Four main themes were discussed: selection criteria, procedures for defining areas and preparing local development strategies, network development, and the definition and allocation of roles within the delivery system. The meeting also heard from the consultants at CapGemini who are conducting a

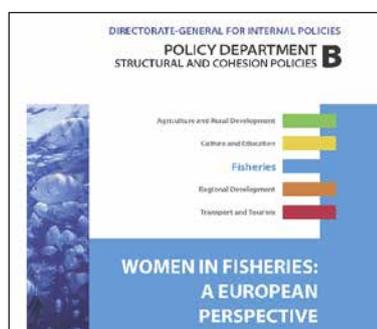
study of Axis 4 for DG MARE. This fed into a session on strengthening the approach to evaluation and the relevance to MAs and FLAGs. [More details...](#)

Fourth meeting of French FLAGs



The fourth annual meeting of [French FLAGs](#) took place from the 16-18 October 2013 in Ciboure, St Jean de Luz. The event provided an opportunity to reflect on the work of the FLAGs and, with the French managing authority and the European Commission, to discuss present and future challenges. Hosted by the FLAG Sud Landes, the FLAGs present also renewed their call for cooperation with other European FLAGs interested in developing joint projects in the present period, or setting the basis for future cooperation in the EMFF. Cooperation ideas can be sent to FARNET via e-mail, LinkedIn or Facebook.

EP report assesses FLAGs' gender performance



"[Women in fisheries: a European perspective](#)" is the title of a recent report from the European Parliament, which gives an overview of the current situation faced by women in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Europe, and the prerequisites for improved gender mainstreaming. Part of the data collection for the report included a survey of 111 FLAGs, which showed that 50% of FLAGs employed a female manager, while 22% of FLAG board members were women. At the same time, 29% of FLAG surveyed claimed to have a specific focus on women in their strategies while 19% of approved projects were either led by women or targeted at women.

Communities and sustainable rural tourism



Researchers and practitioners of sustainable tourism met in the coastal town of Kotka (Finland) on the 10-11 September for the conference, "[Communities as a part of sustainable rural tourism – Success factor or inevitable burden?](#)" A co-organiser of this event was the SEPR Development Association, which manages the South of Finland FLAG, as well as a LEADER LAG. The conference concluded that while tourism presents risks for communities, if it is managed correctly, and respects local concerns, it can also bring many benefits. As one speaker suggested, the goal must be to create "better places to live and better places to visit – in that order". One session of the event focused on "Fishing tourism", featuring case studies from Finland, Italy and Estonia.

F@RNET.apps



More and more FLAGs and Axis 4 projects are reaching out and targeting their audience online, through web-tools, social networks and now also through dedicated apps. In this and forthcoming editions of the newsletter, we will feature a selection of these apps, starting with *Catchdrive*, an app developed as part of a direct sales project supported by the FLAG Flevoland (NL). Catchdrive enables users to keep track of the day's catch, the boats involved in the scheme, register as a client, request prices, place orders and even learn a little bit about the EFF. It can be downloaded from [Googleplay](#) or the [Apple store](#).

Dealing with conflict of interest in Axis 4



The [FAQ section](#) of the FARNET website has recently been updated with information on how to deal with conflict of interest. A European Court of Auditors [report](#) on LEADER implementation identified conflict of interest as “one of the greatest risks for efficiency, the added value of the Leader programmes, and for the reputation of the EU.” The Court highlighted the need for robust procedures for project selection and decision-making, which demonstrate that decisions are taken in an objective way. It also underlined the need for procedures to be transparently evidenced and recorded. Guidance on how this issue can be addressed by FLAGs is presented in the FAQ section.

222 FLAG factsheets now available

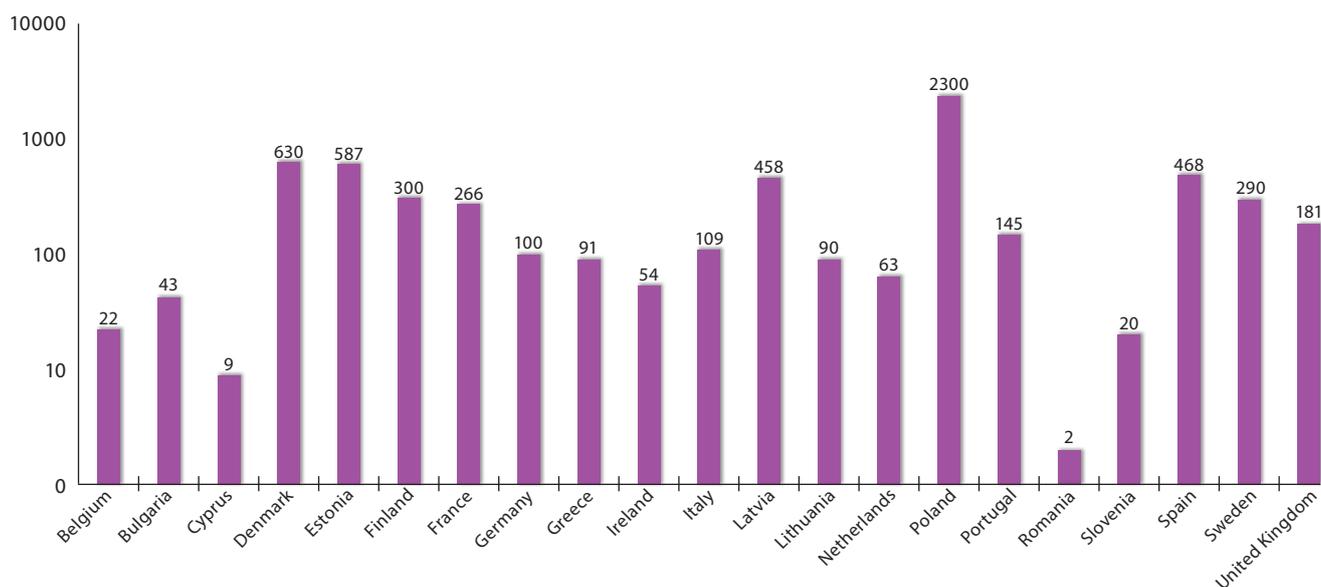


The FARNET website now includes [222 FLAG factsheets](#), which provide information on FLAGs and their areas, including the main socio-economic features, the key challenges faced, and the FLAG strategies and the local projects being promoted. The factsheets are designed to facilitate cooperation and exchange between FLAGs, as well as to provide information to the general public. Recent entries include [Darlowo](#), a small, rural community in Northwestern Poland, and [Mare delle Alpi](#), a popular tourist destination in the Italian region of Liguria. Since September 2013, the FLAG factsheets are also accessible from the FLAG layer on the EU's [Maritime Atlas](#).

State of play: 6228 projects and counting!

By October 2013, the 303 FLAG now active across 21 Member States had supported an estimated 6228 projects¹.

6228 Axis 4 projects



■ Number of projects

¹ This figure is based on information provided voluntarily by managing authorities up to November 2013.

Forthcoming events and activities

27-30 November	First Regional Symposium on Small Scale Fisheries in the Mediterranean and Black Sea	Malta
9-10 December 2013	Telling the story: communicating EU funds	Brussels (B)
6-8 May 2014	European Seafood Exposition	Brussels (B)
19-20 May 2014	European Maritime Day 2014	Bremen (D)

Other news

Learning from two decades of local action



The ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) network recently published a study documenting first-hand practitioner experiences of local initiatives for sustainability from across the globe in the two decades since the 1992 Earth Summit. The '[Local Sustainability 2012](#)' study looks at the main driving forces behind local sustainability processes, the key reference frameworks that influence the scope, ambition and impact of local action; and the extent to which change has been brought about. It also includes recommendations for leaders at the national, international and local level.

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Send us your news

The FARNET newsletter is a resource for all those engaged in building a more sustainable future for Europe's fisheries areas. Please send us news and information on your activities, which might be of interest to others working in this field. Contact: info@farnet.eu

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