Tools to prepare CLLD in 2014-2020

To assist FLAGs and other stakeholders in preparing for the next programming period, a new section has been developed on the FARNET website, called "Local development 2014-2020".

This new section contains sample strategies, tools, guides, presentations and other material, which was published during the 2007-2013 funding period, but is still useful for preparing Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) in fisheries areas in the 2014-2020 period. The contents are sub-divided into what is relevant to Managing Authorities (MAs) and what applies to FLAGs. New tools and resources will also be added as and when they become available, including common guidance on CLLD (2014-2020) for local actors, which is being jointly prepared by DGs REGIO, AGRI, EMPL and MARE.

Women entrepreneurs and FLAGs meet in Andalusia

The project, "women entrepreneurs in Andalusia's fisheries areas" (EZPA), held a series of workshops in December and January during which women who recently started businesses, often with Axis 4 support, shared ideas and experiences. The aim of the event was to show that, despite facing many barriers, there are successful business women from fisheries areas and they can help to support and inspire others. The discussions explored various ideas for setting up small businesses (e.g. a fish restaurant, a crèche, an education centre) and also helped to identify the main challenges for women entrepreneurs in fishing communities, including: outdated perceptions of the role of women; access to finance and a dependency on their husband's support; low levels of education; and seasonality issues in relation to tourism businesses. The final workshop brought together the Andalusian FLAG managers to take the discussions a step further and propose future cooperation to foster more entrepreneurship among women in their areas.

Mapping FLAGs and their projects

With more than 6 000 Axis 4 projects now in existence across Europe, maps are increasingly being used by FLAGs as a tool to show their distribution and geographical scope. Whether on the web, for desktop researchers, or using a mobile-ready display, FLAGs and project holders can benefit greatly from the increased visibility generated by mapping tools. Some examples include project maps developed by the FLAG Aveiro in Portugal, and Bielska Kraina and North Kaszubia in Poland. Another mapping tool is the European Atlas of the Seas. Since 2010, it has evolved to become a powerful tool, showing the distribution of FLAGs and providing a wealth of information on FLAG areas that is regularly updated. The Atlas will soon enable users to overlap multiple layers of information. Does your FLAG have a map? If so, please let us know where to find it.

Students help to develop a FLAG logo

To promote Axis 4 and develop its visual identity, the FLAG Adriatico Salentino invited secondary schools in its six partner municipalities to participate in a competition to develop a concept for a FLAG logo. Approximately 300 students took part in the project, and 28 proposals were received. Prizes were awarded for the three best ideas, while the overall winning concept was transformed by a graphic designer into the eventual FLAG logo. By involving young people, this initiative helped to spread the word about the work of the FLAG in the community and helped to build its visual identity through a truly participative process.

Inseparable!
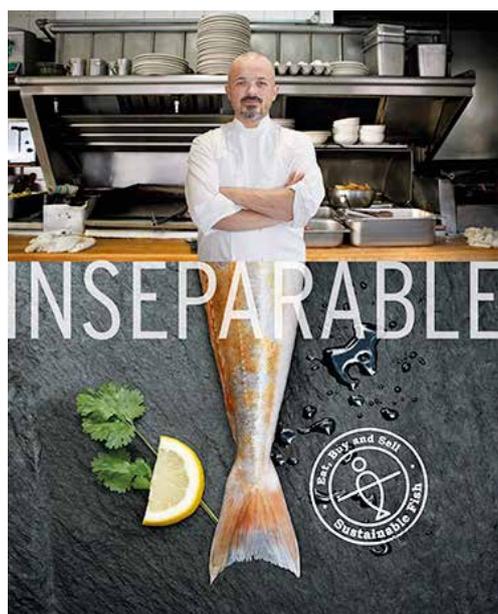
Two Axis 4 projects, Fisch vom kutter and Drecklyfish, feature in the European Commission's new Inseparable campaign, which encourages us to eat, buy, and sell sustainable seafood products. The campaign website and social media provide tips and resources to help consumers choose seafood that comes from healthy populations, is fished responsibly and produced sustainably. It also includes a series of inspirational stories for consumers, policymakers and producers (including the Axis 4 projects), as well as information on sustainable seafood in your country.

F@RNET.apps

The "à l'Ostendaise" Axis 4 project has developed an app, *À l'Ostendaise*, which brings together local fishermen and restaurants to create and promote a new market for local fish. Promoted by Ostend's Tourism Office, the project also aims to attract visitors and owners of second homes to spend more time in Ostend outside of the peak season. The app leads users to a series of local historical and gastronomical hotspots, providing both a traditional and modern perspective on local fisheries. The total cost came to around €9 000 and the app runs on both Android and Apple devices.

State of play: 6 498 projects and counting!

By March 2014, the 307 FLAG now active across 21 Member States had supported an estimated 6 498 projects[1].

6 498 Axis 4 projects

- Number of projects
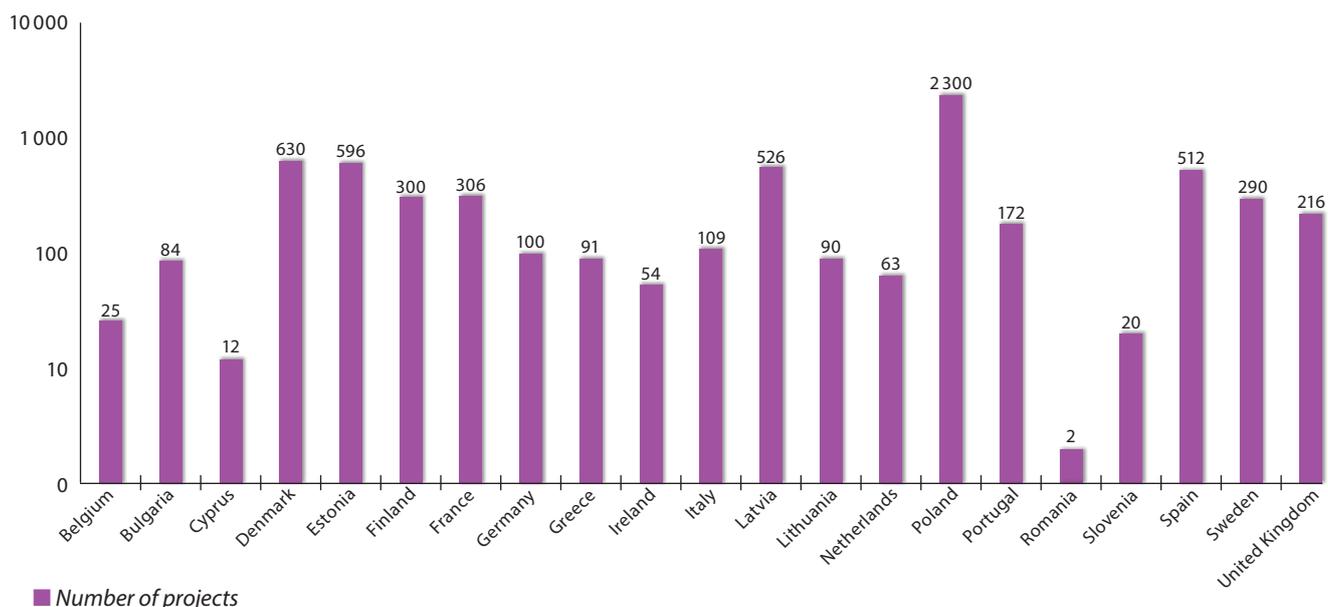
Forthcoming events and activities

22-25 April 2014	Global Oceans Action Summit for Food Security and Blue Growth	The Hague (NL)
6-8 May 2014	European Seafood Exposition	Brussels (B)
19-20 May 2014	European Maritime Day 2014	Bremen (D)
8 June 2014	World Oceans Day	worldwide

---

1   This figure is based on information provided voluntarily by managing authorities up to March 2014.

Other news

EU plan to harvest renewable energy from the seas

The European Commission has unveiled an action plan to help harvest more renewable energy from Europe's seas and oceans. The plan aims to boost the emerging "blue energy" sector – which includes technologies that can capture the energy from waves, tides and temperature variations in the water – by bringing together knowledge and expertise under a new Ocean Energy Forum. http://ec.europa.eu/news/energy/140122_en.htm

Public consultation on CFP technical measures

On January 24, the European Commission launched a consultation on a new framework for technical measures in the reformed Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). Technical measures are a broad set of rules which govern how, where and when fishermen can fish, and are established for all European sea basins. The consultation aims to gather the views of the main stakeholders on how to achieve the objectives of the reformed CFP, considering these technical measures and the governance structure within which they operate. The deadline for submissions is the 24 April 2014. Further details

Follow FARNET on

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