



**Transnational seminar  
“Implementing CLLD across the ESI Funds”  
Edinburgh, 9-10 December 2015**

# Integrating CLLD Funds

**The Lesvos island example of the different ways EU Funds are already used or combined in practice**

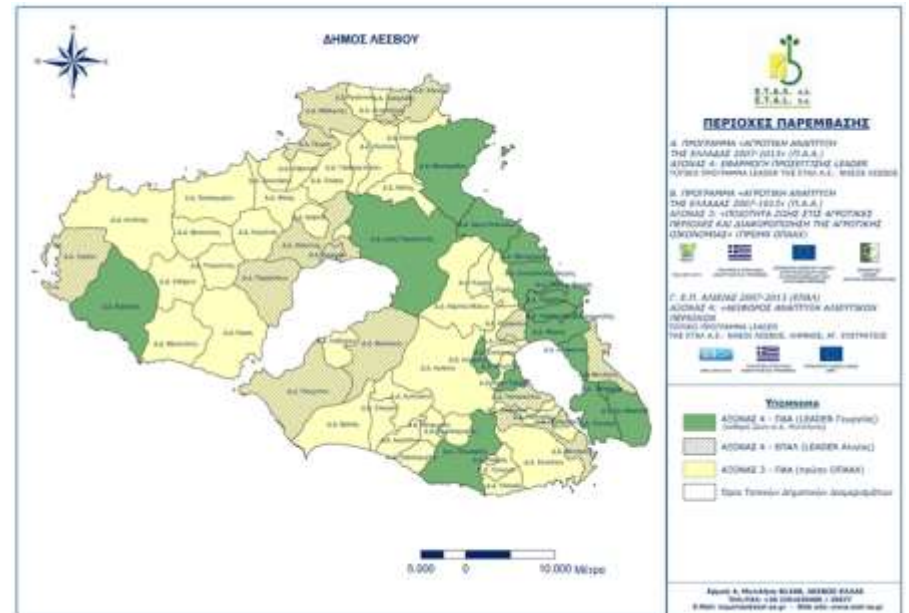
*LESVOS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY S.A. - [ ETAL S.A. ]*

*Island of Lesvos – GREECE*

*Anastasios M. Perimenis – Gen. Manager*

# LESVOS island

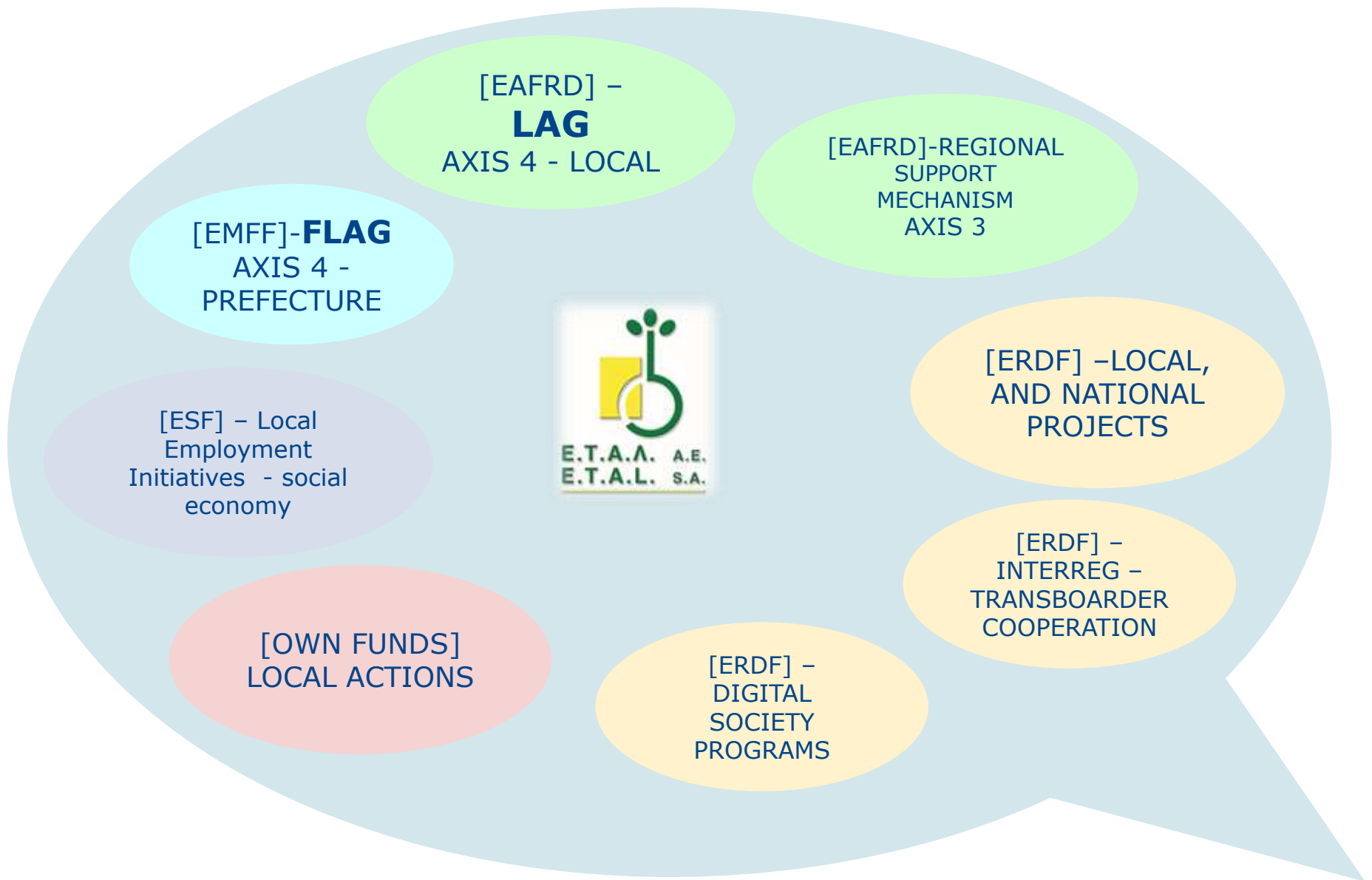
- ▶ Lesvos is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest Greek Island, situated in the North East part of the Aegean Sea, Mytilini is the Capital.
- ▶ One Island, One Municipality
- ▶ It belongs to the Lesvos-Limnos-Ag. Eftratioi Prefecture, part of the “NORTH AEGEAN REGION”, 90.643 inhabitants in 1.632,82 km<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ A rural Economy, 0.76% of GNP - Ranks 172<sup>rd</sup> region of the 179 regions of Europe in terms of GNP per capita...(E.U. regional objective 1 area).
- ▶ Characteristics...Insular, remote, rural, unemployment (app. 15%), outmigration, transportation difficulties, not well advanced infrastructure...





- ▶ An island of un-spoilt rural-agricultural environment...
- ▶ An Island of Culture, poets, musicians, artists...
- ▶ An island with the largest olive grove in Greece and excellent quality of olive oil...
- ▶ The origin of world famous OUZOU, and Kalloni sardines...
- ▶ Quite pace in the rhythms of everyday life, emphasis in family, neighbor and community ties...





## What we believe it takes among many other things

Using Local resources, natural and cultural in order to make examples-pilot actions of how the island can be a prime destination and how there can be quality of life in its local communities. Get the PRIVATE SECTOR going around a common target, give incentives and be there in order to facilitate, make the way somehow easier...

- ✓ Listening to local needs, be close to local people while planning
- ✓ Simple management systems
- ✓ LEADER approach features
- ✓ Focus on Local Development Strategy
- ✓ Potential recognition, diversification
- ✓ Involvement of Communities and Stakeholders in governance
- ✓ Consultation, animation, empowerment
- ✓ Networking - cooperation

## A «mix» of funds, how we have already seen the multi fund approach in our area

By “multi fund”, we mean the use of various funds in one area under a main strategy without over lapping risk. The idea of public “investments” as we call the public projects.

In 2002, under the LEADER+ program, we made a major study about a well defined and signed network of “WALKING TRAILS” around which a whole strategy for the area was built IN ORDER TO DIVERSIFY TOURISTIC ACTIVITIES and create a better a more adapted to the identity of the area touristic product which will complement and work with the actual rural identity of the island. And we followed it in every programm we applied for. So for ten years the “multi fund” mix has as follows:

- 2003-2007 – EFRD – LEADER+ - LAG (private and public expenditure)
- 2007-20013 – EFRD – axis 4 – expansion of the network on the EASTERN part of the island, more targeted private projects.
- 2007-20013 – EFRD – axis 3 – expansion of the network on the WESTERN part of the island
- 2007-20013 – EFF – AXIS 4, expanding the concept to the sea “DIVE IN OUR ISLANDS”, that is creating a network of 5 diving areas in Lesvos-Lemnos-Ag. Efstratios, initiating the idea of pesca tourism, get fishermen involved.
- 2012-2013 – ESF – Vocational Training program for “trail guides” and entrepreneurs and enterprises in tourism
- 2013-2015 – ERDF – DIGITAL applications on the use of the walking trail, diving trails, trails and maps
- 2014-2020 – ERDF – COSME program, H.O.S.T. – FOOT, among other actions on diversified tourism, there will be one of 4 major sport events in the trails (Transnational Cooperation with Italy, Malta, Slovenia, Greece)
- 2014-2020 – CLLD - ?

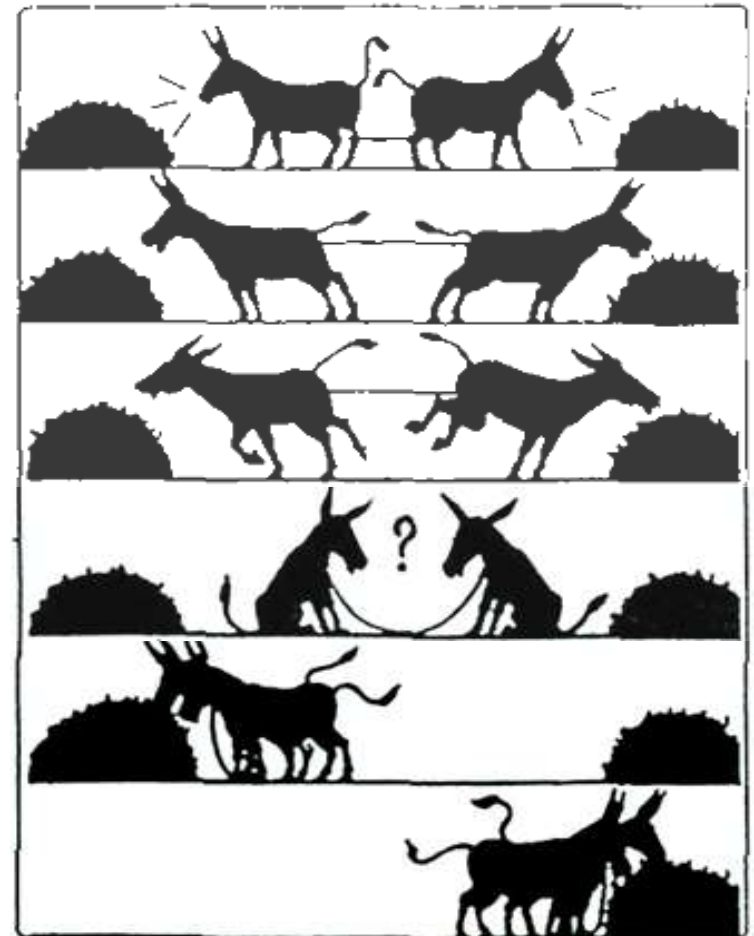
The whole strategy builds around it a wide range of private projects and the appropriate criteria for their selection. The publics investments are meant as a leaver for the private sector, and we have seen some brilliant examples and pilot actions. Actually LEADER , in all its forms or names, is the best way for someone locally to express novelty and ambition.

Different regulation and management systems can they work together?

“elaborate systems” - bitter taste and mistrust

MAs please harmonize your systems , simplify them and allocate responsibility.

People involved in MAs and auditory units should be allowed to be more often out in the field.



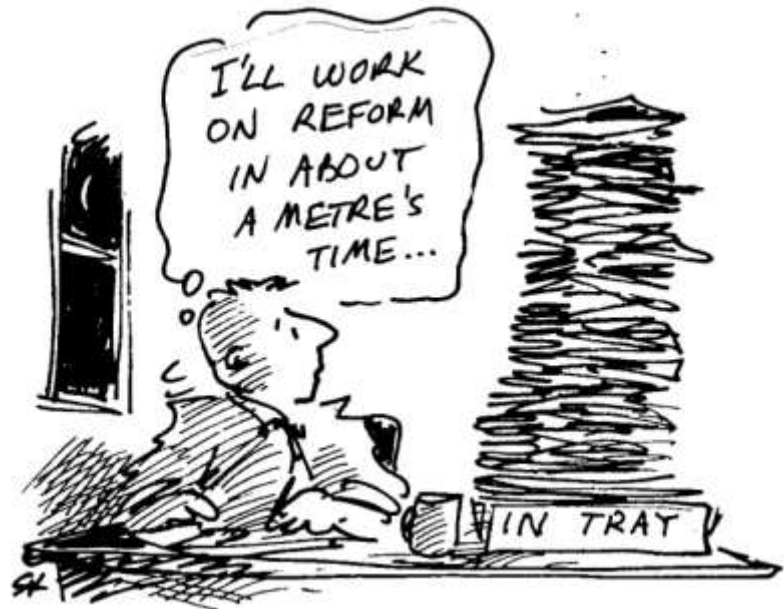
Mainstreaming “LEADER” made it loose its spirit...

# common problems...



**Unaccountable power, inequality of power,  
Bureaucracy as a tool for Domination**

- Intense and voluminous paperwork.
- Variance in procedures – a crazy melting pot of rules!
- Legal Framework
- Financial Problems – sources of Funds – Banking system
- Lack of trust... “ownership” of the LDS





# what we have dealt with and still deal with as LAG/FLAG...

## Bottom-Up feature -

*Are LAGS/FLAFGS really allowed to implement the Leader?*

## Local Public – Private Partnerships

The problem is the conflict of interest? Too many make a partnership less flexible?, What is the right mix? Is it really “public” against “private” ?

## Territorial Approach

The best LDS for an area when national regulations divide the areas according to just measurable criteria or lines on a map?

## Accountability.

*There must be clearly defined simple criteria, the LDS must show the way, Subjective vs Objective...*

## Evaluating Performance.

*How can we implement evaluation tools in order to learn from problems and even take corrective actions in time. Common feeling, how “invasive” and “pervasive” the program is in peoples.*

**We have to work to coordinate from the bottom up. Animation, mentoring, open doors, trust.**

# Finally, it all starts from the place “topos”, the needs of people, the changing conditions



**It is imperative for all to act locally thinking globally, care for real needs of people, keep in mind changing conditions**



Thank you,  
Anastasios M. Perimenis