

# "RURAL AREAS IN PORTUGAL AND LEADER / COMMUNITY-LED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

VISIT OF THE SLOVENIAN LOCAL ACTION GROUPS TO PORTUGAL CONFERENCE ON COOPERATION BETWEEN SLOVENIAN AND PORTUGUESE LAGS VILA VERDE, ATAHCA, 03 - 10 - 2017 LUÍS CHAVES – MINHA TERRA









## **AGENDA**

- 1. Presentation of MINHA TERRA NETWORK;
- 2. Rural Areas in Portugal: concerns and aspirations;
- 3. From LEADER to CLLD in Portugal;



#### 1. Presentation of Minha Terra

MINHA TERRA NETWORK was founded in 2000 and represents all 60 Portuguese Local Action Groups (LEADER / Rural CLLD) in the Mainland, Azores and Madeira islands

O AD ELIA ÇOR

OARDE OASDEPR

GRATER

OBJECTIVES: networking, representation, lobbying, visibility, capacity building, training and technical support to members.

**ELARD** member



**BADRAT** 

MADRIL MAG

**MADRIMINHO** 

**O**AVEIRO SUL

OATAHCA

DBEIRA DOURO

OADRITEM
OAVEIRO NORTE

@CORANE

DESTEQUE

**DOURO HISTÓRICO** 

DOURO SUPERIOR
CLITORAL RURAL

DOLMEN

PROBASTO

SOL DO AVE

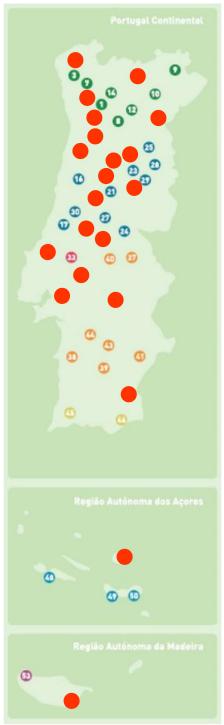


#### 2. RURAL AREAS IN PORTUGAL

The process in Portugal of consultation / participation to the European Rural Parliament 2015 was based in the activities of Local Action Groups in preparation of the Local Development Strategies, to operate under CLLD 2014 – 2020.

- Contributions from 24 LAG
- 168 meetings and workshops organized locally
- Online questionnaire





### 2. Rural Areas: concerns and aspirations (2)

#### **CONCERNS**

low birth rate, rural exodus, loss of population, aging population, unemployment, poverty and social exclusion, failure of vocational training, illiteracy, most qualified young people leave the rural communities, weakness of local economies, low added value activities and low incorporation of innovation and knowledge

#### **ASPIRASTIONS**

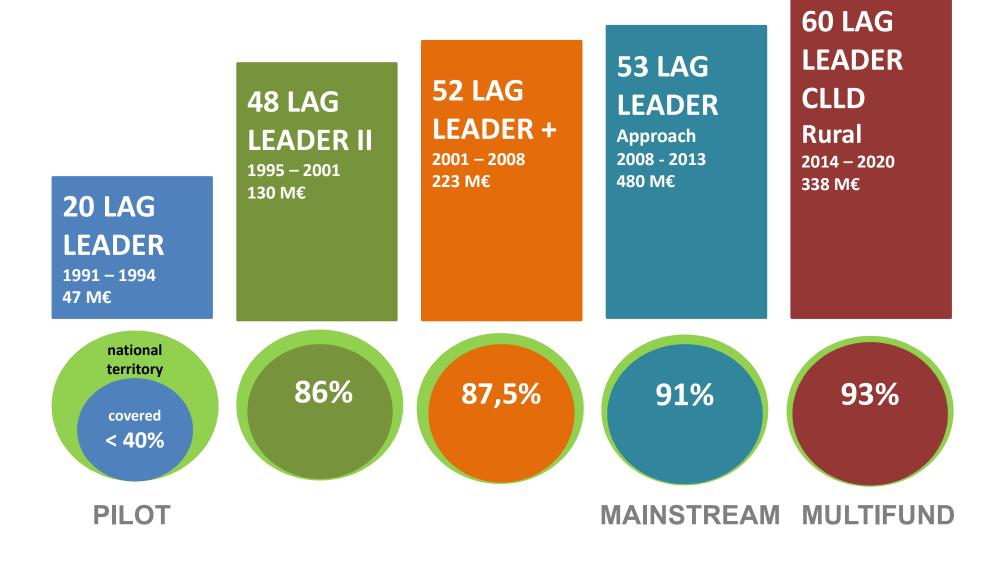
A large set of aspirations and expectations of rural communities contribute to the idea of "well-being" - "improving the quality of life", "better life", "quiet life" and "hope for a decent future".

#### POLICIES AND THE VOICE OF RURAL COMMUNITIES

A general idea is that most of the national public policies are inadequate in relation to the realities and needs of the population and rural communities: "rural communities concerns and expectations are not much" considered or are "not at all" considered in the definition of national policies".

#### 3. FROM LEADER TO CLLD IN PORTUGAL

THE "EVOLUTION"



# 3. FROM LEADER TO CLLD IN PORTUGAL (2) MULTI-FUND CLLD?

3 types of CLLD → 3 types of LAGs

**Funds** 

RURAL LAG [EAFRD + ESF + (LEADER) ERDF]

FISHERIES LAG [EMFF + ESF + ERDF]

**URBAN LAG** [ESF + ERDF]

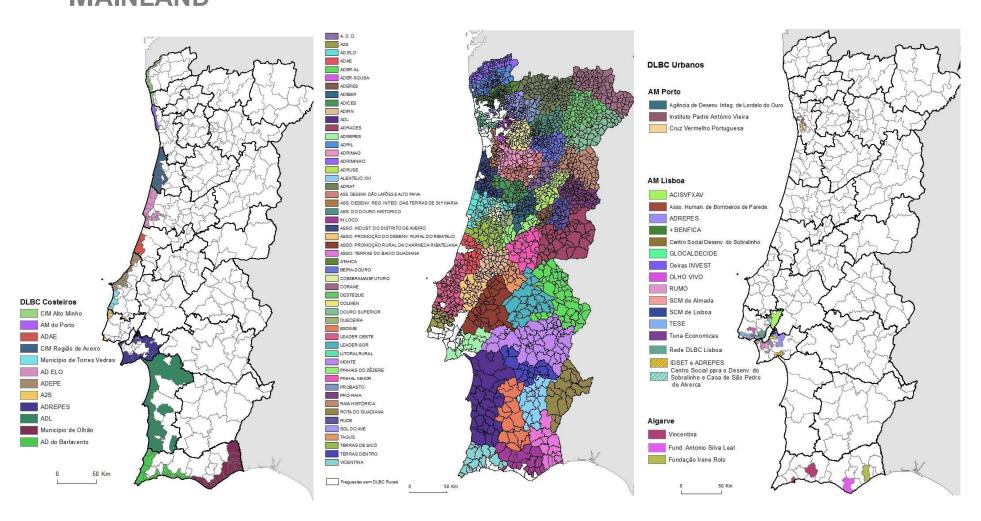
#### Objectives

Support of strategies which deepen sustainable economic diversification in rural areas and fishing/ coastal areas through entrepreneurship, promoting employment, rural-urban integration and social innovation, in response to problems of poverty and social exclusion

Promoting social inclusion by addressing the problems of poverty, social exclusion and early school leavers, with an emphasis on innovative actions and entrepreneurship in disadvantaged urban areas

## 3. FROM LEADER TO CLLD IN PORTUGAL (3)

## SELECTED LAGS UNDER MULTI-FUND CLLD 2014 > 2020 IN MAINLAND



12 Fisheries LAGs

54 Rural LAGs

23 Urban LAGs

# 3. FROM LEADER TO CLLD IN PORTUGAL (4) Scope of Funds in the RURAL LAGS LDS

**EARFD** 

- Simplified scheme of small farm investments
- Small investments in processing and marketing
- On-farm diversification
- Short supply chains and local markets
- Promotion of local quality products
- Village renewal [max. 10% of EAFRD LDS budget]

**ERDF** 

 Support for the development of business incubators and support for self-employment, micro-enterprises and business creation

[min. 40%]

of EAFRD

LDS budget]

 Conservation, protection, promotion and development of natural and cultural heritage

**ESF** 

- Creation of self-employment, entrepreneurship and business creation, including micro, small and mediumsized innovative companies
- Active inclusion, including the promotion of equal opportunities, active participation and the improvement of employment

# 4. CHALLENGES FOR THE FUTURE LESSONS FROM THE PORTUGUESE EXAMPLE

- 1. The complexity of the problems identified by rural communities requires a broad perspective of rural development;
- 2. Which calls for several areas of government and different resources;
- 3. Multi-funded CLLD needs stronger coordination between the different Funds managing authorities;
- 4. Administrative burden and budgetary constraints undermine the capacity for territorial animation;
- 5. LAGs are partners in implementation of rural development policies. Rebuilding mutual trust is essential to the renewal of LEADER.

