



Leader Cooperation

in Région Sud-Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur



UNION EUROPÉENNE
Fonds Européen Agricole
pour le Développement Rural



L'EUROPE INVESTIT DANS LES ZONES RURALES

Leader and Leader Cooperation in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur

Leader is a program initiated and co-funded by the European Union. It is aimed at rural areas that take forward a Local Development Strategy set up locally by a group of public and private partners gathered within a Local Action Group (LAG).

Leader Cooperation is a component of this program and a major asset for rural areas: it widens local views and bring new knowledge to the area in order to improve local strategies. It has additional benefits related to mutual learning and exploring new solutions to solve common issues with other territories, in France, in another EU Member States or even territories within third countries.

Cooperation is a way to:

- **Reach the critical mass** needed to strengthen networks or services
- Discuss, collaborate and pool resources and expertise so as to **address similar issues and challenges**
- Develop **joint initiatives** between areas sharing a common heritage

Leader Cooperation brings support to cooperation projects set up and undertaken:

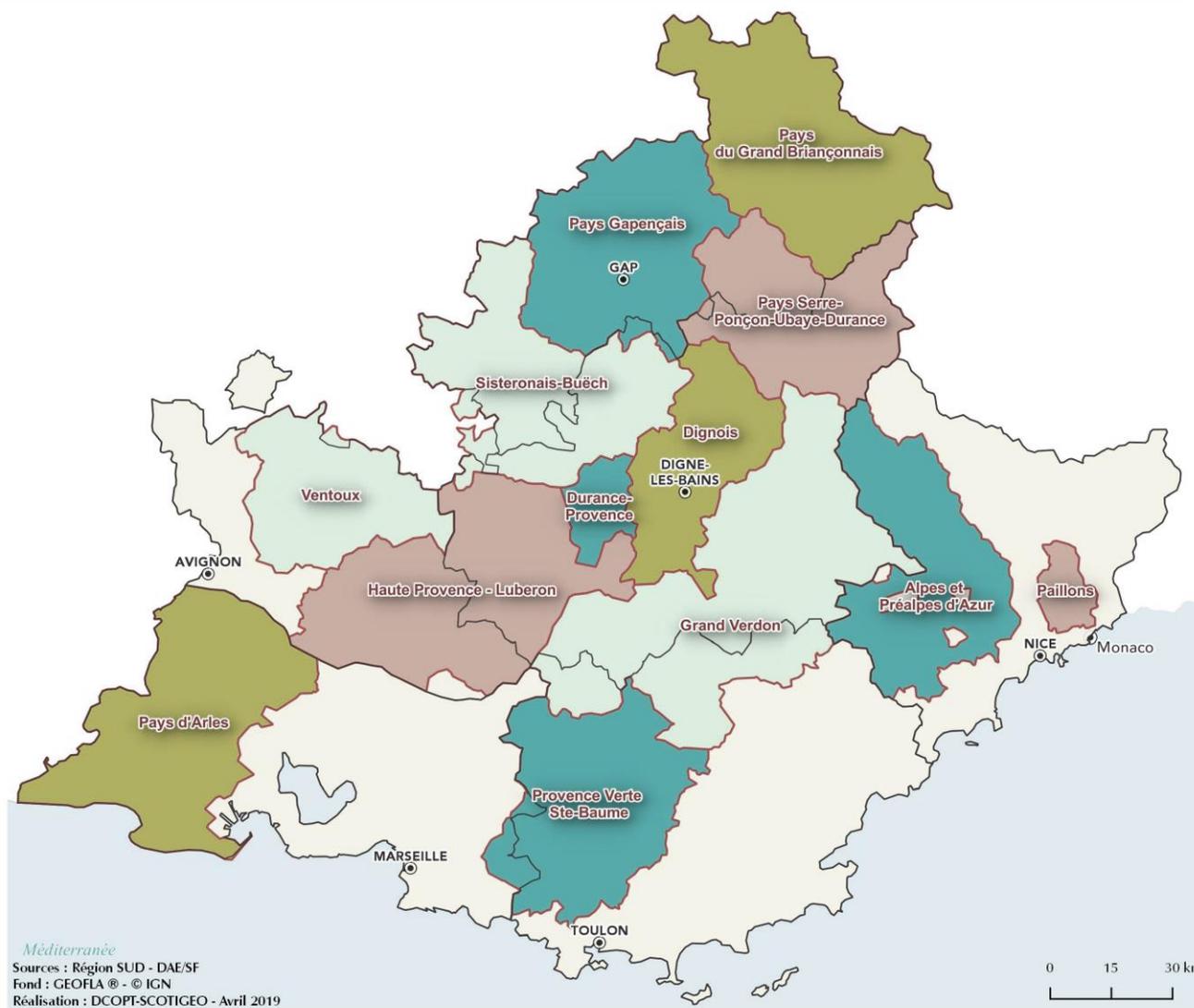
- > within a Member State (MS): **interterritorial cooperation**
- > or between territories in several MS or with territories in third countries: **transnational cooperation**

Cooperation with other territories is based on a partnership that shall lead to joint actions. The cooperation agreement reached mentions the project objectives, the role of each partner, the actions to be undertaken and the financial means activated consequently. This collective framework encourages the sharing of experience and good practices thus benefitting to local stakeholders involved in the joint actions. These joint actions may be very different from one another: holding a common event, creating a collective website, planning a shared cultural program

Local Action Groups in Région Sud-Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur have chosen to allocate the Cooperation measure, an average of approximatively 8% of their Leader total budget.



Leader areas and facilitator contacts in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur :



Leader facilitator contacts

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GAL Grand Verdon

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Leader Cooperation : priorities for action

	Support to local products and networks	Tourism and territorial marketing	Cultural and architectural heritage enhancement	Energy transition/ environmental management	Economic development	Rural mobility and transport	Social inclusion/ services provided to the population
GAL Alpes et Préalpes d'Azur	++	++	+++	++	+	+	+
GAL Digneois	+++	+++	+++	+	+	++	+
GAL Durance Provence	++	+++	++	+++	++	+++	+++
GAL Grand Verdon	+++	+++	+	+	++	+++	+
GAL Haute Provence Luberon	+++	++	++	+++	++	+	+
GAL Pays d'Arles	+++	+++	+	+	+	+	+
GAL des Paillons	++	++	+++	++	++	+	
GAL Pays Gapençais	++	+++	+++	+	++	+	++
GAL Pays du Grand Briançonnais	+++	+++	++	+++	++	++	+++
GAL Sisteronais Buëch	++	++	++	++	++	+	+
GAL Provence Verte Sainte-Baume	+++	++	+++	++			+
GAL Pays Serre-Ponçon Ubaye Durance	++	+	++	+	+++	++	+
GAL Ventoux	+++	+++	++		+		+

LAGs priorities for action regarding Leader Cooperation as of January 2019

Legend:

+++	Top-level priority for Leader Cooperation actions The topic is seen as strategic target and a top priority for Leader Cooperation activities in the area. Cooperation projects ideas and holders have been identified by the LAG in this field.	+	Possible theme for Leader Cooperation actions The topic is seen as very interesting but cooperation projects and holders have not yet been identified in the area. Or, conversely, the topic is seen by the LAG as moderately relevant although some cooperation projects and holders have been identified.
++	Central theme for Leader Cooperation actions Cooperation projects ideas and holders have been identified and the topic is seen as very interesting by the LAG.		Secondary or irrelevant priority for Leader Cooperation actions There is no cooperation project ideas or holders identified so far by the LAG on this topic. Besides, the relevance of this topic is seen as rather low.

Support to local products and networks



- > Actions related to local food systems (promotion of agricultural short supply chains...)
- > Organization, development and labelling of local networks (farming test areas; R&D activities regarding non-timber forest goods; labels)
- > Promotion of local agricultural products (e.g. truffle)
- > Forest resource management and enhancement

Tourism and territorial marketing



- > Tourism diversification: touristic routes; cycling, ornithology...
- > Exploring solutions to structural challenges as regards tourism (seasonal work)

Cultural and architectural heritage enhancement



- > Educational activities and communication related to cultural and architectural heritage (promotion of local know-how, conferences, presentations in schools)
- > Development of exhibitions and cultural events (festivals, photography exhibition...)
- > Restoration and rehabilitation of cultural monuments and sites (e.g. dry-stone heritage...)

Energy transition / environmental management



- > Development of a local network for sustainable construction and renovation (green construction training programs)
- > Energy efficiency (e.g.: renewable energy production by farmers)
- > Raising environmental awareness (waste management, circular economy)

Economic development



- > Business competitiveness (training for cooperative businesses; development of trade and commercial links between French and Italian businesses, business planning...)
- > Development of new forms of business: telecentres, female entrepreneurship, new ways of management...

Rural mobility and transport



- > Development of alternative non-polluting transportation means (electric, car-sharing)
- > Communication and promotion of solutions towards improved mobility in rural areas

Social inclusion / services provided to the population



- > Mobile services (youth, disabled public...)
- > Development and strengthening of services provided to the people (health services in rural areas, sharing resources and pooling tools)

Eligibility conditions under Leader Cooperation

Leader Cooperation support shall be granted to the following activities:

- > **Preparatory technical support** enables potential partners to meet, develop a project application and cooperation agreement as preparation of the cooperation project. The costs made eligible might include: costs related to meetings with potential partners, project pre-development costs (e.g. consultancy and expert services, travel costs, training, staff costs...). The amount of public aid for preparatory support is limited to 6,000.00€ maximum per project.
- > **Support for the Cooperation project implementation:** concrete joint activity with clearly identified deliverables or outputs producing benefits for the different LAGs or partners concerned. Projects can be focused on a broad range of actions: capacity building and transfer of experience through common publications, training seminars, etc., and leading to the adoption of common working methods or to joint or coordinated development work. Eligible costs are: consultancy services, salary costs, travel costs, purchase of equipment, up to 90% of public funding at most.

Eligible Leader Cooperation project holders in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur are the following:

- Public bodies
- Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)
- Businesses within a group of local public and private partners
- Any group of local public and private partners implementing a local development strategy
- Organizations bearing the LAGs (i.e. LAGs supporting structures)

The management scheme for these projects in Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur is specific on the following main aspects:

- > Applications for financial aid are entirely completed by LAGs (except whenever the LAG body is the project promoter itself)
- > The selection of Leader Cooperation project is based on calls for proposals launched by each LAG. Please contact LAG facilitator or the Rural Network if you have any further question related to Cooperation calls for projects.

SUD-PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR RURAL NETWORK

The Regional Rural Network aims at:

- > Encouraging the exchange of experience and ideas as well as raising new projects
- > Exploring new issues and challenges, such as the maintenance and development of businesses in rural areas, the protection and promotion of local resources, financial instruments, access to services or local food supply
- > Supporting Leader areas, especially regarding facilitation skills, governance, communication, evaluation and cooperation matters

If you want to find out more about Leader Cooperation in Région Sud-Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and the Regional Rural Network:

<https://reseau rural.maregionsud.fr/>

To take part in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Rural Network activities:

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