

A new life begins



LEADER PROGRAM



The acronym 'LEADER' originates from the French "Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Économie Rurale". The name refers to the initiative role of this new rural development approach of the European Union.

- All of us prefer making decisions on our own, especially when they're about our personal lives. But have you ever tried to define your own scope of authority? Are you concerned about taking part in the elaboration of ideas and strategies affecting your everyday life? Do you care about the future of your own village and area?
- If your answer is yes, this is your chance: the new LEADER program supported by the European Union with approximately 70 billion forints (about 280 million euros).

By taking part, together with your friends, neighbours and other inhabitants of your village or town, you can form a local community that plans, discusses and decides the future of the place where you live. It is you who can decide what is necessary to create a liveable place for you and your children, with a secure source of income.

Your local government, a local NGO matching your field of interest, or even your own – as yet only imaginary – enterprise may receive funding from the LEADER program if your own development ideas are harmonised with the development strategy accepted by the local community. This is how LEADER works on local level: everyone adds a little piece to what forms an integral entity.

- Do believe: the development of your area is in the hands of active and conscious citizens, like you!

PARTICIPATE!



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Growth



➤ LEADER is to be used to improve the quality of life and employment opportunities in rural areas. If during the four-month planning period you manage to elaborate a valid and comprehensive development strategy that allows the Managing Authority of the New Hungary Rural Development Program to select your community to be one of the approximately 70 LEADER local action groups, your ideas may lead the way of your area's development until 2013.

➤ The development plan of your community may be successful if:

- it is based on the characteristics of your area, improving and enhancing them,
- it contributes to a higher business activity in the area,
- it is as comprehensive and complex as possible,
- it is supported by the entire community.

➤ What could be the focus of your development plan?

- *Many a little makes a mickle*: local business development by improving micro and small enterprises
- *Nothing works alone*: networking, skill acquisition, training and education
- *A part in the whole*: setting up economic and cultural cooperative networks within and beyond the area borders
- *Based on a number of activities*: diversification into non-agricultural activities
- *Invent yourself*: carrying out a number of individual projects linked to and complementing each other
- *We are our environment*: seeking and presenting the natural and cultural values of the area
- *Competitive countryside*: ensuring the high quality of the local products and services, their marketing
- And your own ideas...

FREE YOUR MIND!



LEADER PROGRAM

Development



Briefly: PARTICIPATION + COOPERATION = OPERATION

➤ Almost a hundred communities have been established all around the country, with the participation of all settlements entitled to take part in the LEADER Program. You'll find information on the communities in your area that you may join in the Local Rural Development Office closest to you, as well as at www.hvi.hu.

Starting from January 2008, each local community completes its own local development strategy in a process open for all stakeholders, including all inhabitants of the settlements concerned. If this strategy will be among those selected by the Managing Authority, you won. Your area will be entitled to distribute a funding up to billions of forints to be spread on local level, until 2013. If selected, the communities may announce calls for applications this summer and you will also be able to experience how much LEADER contributes to the realization of individual plans fitting the community aims.

➤ Now you can decide together what the future should be like! The planning team is expecting everyone's useful suggestions and is counting on you too if you could help the team with any kind of (economic, legal, cultural, planning) expertise to form a more competitive plan – and a future offering real prosperity.

Let's join! Take part in the joint work, follow the elaboration and implementation of the development plan step by step! For more information on the time and location of the next community planning information session, forum or open meeting, please contact the Local Rural Development Office.

PLAN AND IMPLEMENT TOGETHER!



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Cooperation



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Pre-approved local development communities in Hungary:



For further information please contact the New Hungary Rural Development Program Managing Authority (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development; 1055 Budapest, 11 Kossuth square, phone: +36 1 301 4538, e-mail: horvathz@fvm.hu), the MARD Rural Development, Educational and Advisory Institute (1119 Budapest, 47-49 Andor street, phone: +36 1 464 7730, e-mail: info@vkszi.hu), or the closest Local Rural Development Office.

Web:



MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT

www.fvm.hu



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