



# Added Value of Networking

## Success Story

Success Story title	"GeoGAL" and "GEOBANDI"		
Theme	1. Network communications;		
NRN	Italy	Coordinator	NRN- Task Force Leader
Partners	Support to LAGs and Italians MA		
Period	From February 2011	Resources	See the "additional information"
Beneficiaries	LAGs and MA		

### Background

The LAG manages public resources and has intrinsically public aims, though using legal forms of private law. From an "ethical" point of view therefore, at the head of the LAG a series of "responsibilities" has been identified including the reporting of results. Similarly, at the head of other subjects (citizens, socio-economic partnerships, municipal bodies, etc.) a series of "reporting" requirements has been identified (meaning "giving evidence of your own actions"). The issue of transparency is crucial for the credibility of the LEADER method; the more a process is open the more trustworthy it is. The LAG has a dual challenge. The first is to disclose certain information related to the organization, in line with the public authorities that is published on their websites (the "Transparency and financial statements"), i.e.: the organization chart, map services, all data related to the resources used in carrying out its activities: curriculum, salaries and other personnel data, absence rates, etc. The second challenge is the ability to report back on performance, namely the contribution that the LAG, provides through its action towards achieving the aims and objectives it has set in the Local Development Plan and, ultimately, the satisfaction of needs for which the organization was formed. A "LAGs georeferencing system" plays a key role in providing real-time data on performance, initiatives active in the area funded by the LAGs (including state financial progress), scheduled animation events, possible open calls and direct and indirect analysis of the satisfaction of the recipients.

The idea of creating a system of "LAGs geo-referencing system" is based on the initiatives anticipate the proposed provisions in the Regulations of the European Commission for 2014-2020, including the creation of a single national repository for all information regarding the use of funds (Article 105 EC Reg.). The opening of the data, their reusability and, above all, that provides advanced visualization of geo-referencing system will open a permanent window in real time on the performance cost of Priority 4 and ongoing operations. To realize the system it was necessary to share the goals with the LAGs and the MA. The mutual commitment between the NRN and the LAG is to transfer information that go beyond those required by the systems of monitoring and evaluation of EU regulations. The final objective is to optimize the use of all available information on LEADER produced by different actors: NRN, LAGs, MA, PA, etc.



### Main actions

The "GEOGAL" system, which is being tested, when fully implemented will provide a complete map of the LEADER approach in Italy with the ability to display information at the national, regional, territorial (LAG) up to the individual project funded under the Local Development Plan (LDP). The "GEOBANDI system" is already available. It collects and displays all the calls in a geo-referenced way by measure and territory. Currently, more than 600 calls have been published by LAGs and forwarded to the NRN.

In 2012, the current systems and GEOGAL / GEOBANDI will be "merged" into one system. It will integrate new sections with data from other information systems such as the system for LEADER monitoring and the database for LEADER projects in the 2007-2013 programming period.

To create the system the following activities were undertaken:

- Setting up of databases on 192 LAGs, LEADER areas, LDP;
- Setting up of databases on LAG calls and financial tables (at this time, in the system there were more than 600 calls included);
- Creating an ad hoc system for LEADER monitoring (the system collects, for each individual project, the necessary data to monitor the implementation and effects of the interventions proposed in the LDS. In the system is automatically included in the information database of the PA)
- Collection of all LAGs news, events, etc. ;
- Training activities for the MA and the LAGs (such as the summer school);
- Analysis of all the websites of the 192 LAGs and 21 MAs (methodology has been designed specifically for the assessment of websites and interviews were conducted with the LAGs and the MAs)

### Contribution of the NSU

The LEADER Task Force under the NRN was drained by the information sent by the LAGs and the Italian regions, while it implements databases, create the pages of the geo-referencing system; realizes the training for LAGs

### Contribution of the partners

- Italian LAGs and MA send the information to the LEADER TF for the implementation in the database
- SIN (informatics company supporting the Italian Paying Agency) has created a software for the monitoring of LEADER LAGs and regions have adopted and implement this system

### Success factors

- The LAGs and the MAs have become accustomed to constantly communicate with the network (178 of 192 LAGs; 20 of 21 MAs) by sending information and regular reports to the NRN;
- The LAGs and the MAs are improving their websites;
- Based on the results of the questionnaire administered by the LEADER TF of the NRN to the LAGs, the LAGs feel more involved in network activities; and,
- The overall system of communication between the LEADER actors is improving.

### Additional information

The software for the creation of geo-referencing system is available online for free (TF LEADER is using google maps). The cost can be estimated (two people working full time for 6 months of work to create and gather information for the databases, to develop software for system monitoring, and development of the pages on-line): about 25,000 Euros (excluding taxes)

"GeoGAL" (<http://www.reterurale.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPaqina/6825>)

"GEOBANDI" (<http://www.reterurale.it/flex/cm/pages/ServeBLOB.php/L/IT/IDPaqina/5308>)

