

Évora / Portugal
Conference Venue: Évora Hotel

**26th–28th
September
2018**

+ info
<http://leaderconference.minhaterra.pt>
<http://www.elard.eu>



LEADER RELOADED

**The ELARD conference
on the heartbeat
of the LEADER community**



European Leader Association
for Rural Development
Brussels, www.elard.eu

Portuguese
Presidency
2018 – 2019



PROGRAMA DE
DESENVOLVIMENTO
RURAL 2014 - 2020



2021 is approaching at a rapid pace – and with that the beginning of a new programme period.

Therefore, questions that will be discussed will include the following:

- *What is the present state of play of CLLD, and which future policies and tendencies will affect us and how, especially in the context of the new legislative proposals by the Commission and the financial framework for post-2020? What are the strengths of multi-funded CLLD and how will local development benefit from that? How we can make it work well and simple? How can we more and better cooperate?*

In this conference organised by **ELARD** under the 2018/19 Portuguese presidency the participants will be able to engage in a mix of discussions, analysis work and creativity, including the construction of cooperation initiatives between rural territories of the EU.

Topics to be discussed will include the new approach imposed by the smart villages concept, exchanges on how to face the demographic changes, to ensure that young people stay in or move to rural areas, and how **LEADER/CLLD** and **LAGs** can contribute to these challenges, last but not least by cooperating with each other. The Portuguese **LEADER** groups want to discuss these topics with all the other European **LEADER** groups in a creative atmosphere and they also want to show their work!

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It is now time to analyse, to reflect and to become creative!

But the conference will also be a moment to reflect on the experience with more than 25 years of work with the **LEADER** approach: When looking back to the Final Conference of the **LEADER+** Community Initiative which took place on Evora in 2007, is it true that many of us in the **LEADER** areas happier. How did we make it work then and how did we think about our rural areas at that time? What happened when the **LEADER** approach was mainstreamed? For this, the conference will make use of the outcome of the 2007-conference “**LEADER** achievements: A diversity of territorial experience”, enabling us to better understand what has happened to the **LEADER** method since then.



Programme

26 September

Afternoon

Arrival of the participants, from travelling workshops hosted by Portuguese LAGs and study visits *

15:00–22:00

Registration

27 September

08:00–09:00

Registration

Conference moderators

- Pedro Brosei, Advisor to the Portuguese ELARD Presidency
- Rui Batista, Board Member of LAG Terras Dentro, Portugal

09:00–10:30

Welcome and Setting the scene

Speakers

- Maria João Botelho, President of ELARD and Minha Terra Federation
- Miguel Freitas, Secretary of State of Forestry and Rural Development, Portugal
- Ângelo de Sá, President of LAG Monte, Portugal
- Carlos Pinto de Sá, Mayor of Évora
- Josefine Loriz-Hoffmann, European Commission, Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development
- Peter Toth, Policy Analyst, ENRD Contact Point

Keynote

- Robert Lukesch, Local Development Expert and European Evaluator

10:30–11:15

Coffee break & visit of the delegations' stands and exhibition area

11:15–13:00

Moderated panel discussion

– with participants of different countries and LEADER generations reacting on the keynote speech and the challenges provided by the perspectives post 2020

Panelists

- Yves Champetier, Former director of the European LEADER Observatory
- Josefine Loriz-Hoffmann, European Commission, Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development
- Hannes Lorenzen, Senior Adviser to the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Parliament
- João Carlos Pinho, Manager of LAG ADRIMAG, Portugal
- Joanna Gierulskia, Director of the Rural Development Department of the Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Radim Sršen, Member of ELARD Council, Representative of Czech National Network of LAGs in ELARD

13:00–14:30

Networking Lunch

14:30–16:15

Mini-plenaries (MP) on the following topics

MP 1 LEADER/CLLD advocacy and the objective of Europe closer to citizens

Moderator

- Kristiina Tammets, Vice-President of ELARD and Manager of LAG Tartu, Estonia

Rapporteur

- Michael Dower, Rural and Local Development Expert

Panelists

- Kim Smedslund, Member of ERCA/PREPARE, Joint Coordinator in the European Rural Parliament
- Roman Haken, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee
- Anastasios Perimenis, Manager of LAG Lesvos, Greece
- Marta Marczis, Rural and Local Development Expert, President of AEIDL

MP 2 LEADER/CLLD and the social

& environmental challenges in rural areas

Moderator

- Maria José Murciano, ELARD Council Member, Coordinator of REDR (Spanish Rural Development Network)

Rapporteur

- Teresa Pinto Correia, International researcher, Professor of the University of Évora

Panelists

- Enrique Garcilazo, Head of the Regional and Rural Policy Unit of the Centre for Entrepreneurship, SME's, Regions and Cities of the OECD
- Eamon O'Hara, Coordinator of the ECOLISE Network
- Charlotta Heimersson, Manager of LAG Leader Norra Mälarstranden, Sweden
- Secundino Caso Roiz, President of REDR (Spanish Rural Development Network)

* A A Bus will leave from Evorahotel at 15:00, 15:30 and 16:45 to visit projects of LAG MONTE in and nearby Évora and be back around 18:30 and 19:15

MP 3 LEADER/CLLD and the “Smart Villages”

Moderator

- Kirsten Birke Lund, ELARD Council Member

Rapporteur

- Anita Selicka, Executive Director of the Latvian Rural Forum

Panelists

- Paul Soto, Senior Policy Expert of the ENRD Contact Point
- Hartmut Berndt, ELARD Council member, Chairman of BAG LAG (German LEADER Association), Manager of LAG Göttinger Land
- Stefan Niedermoser, Chairman of the LEADER forum Austria (the Austrian LAG Network), Manager of LAG Pillerseetal-Leukental-Leogang
- György Mudri, Parliamentary Adviser and Assistant to the Member of the European Parliament Tibor Szanyi

MP 4 Evaluation of the Local Development Strategies in a results-oriented programming

Moderator

- Marion Eckardt, ELARD Council Member, Manager of LAG Halland, Sweden

Rapporteur

- Custódia Correia, Coordinator of the Portuguese Rural Development Network Support Unit

Panelists

- Karolina Jasinska-Muehleck, Horizontal Coordinator for LEADER in DG AGRI, European Commission
- Magda Porta, Rural Development Evaluator
- Urszula Budzich Tabor, Thematic and Horizontal Coordinator in FARNET Support Unit
- Goran Šoster, Rural Development Expert, Representative of the Slovenian LAG network in ELARD
- Robert Lukesch, Local Development Expert and European Evaluator

16:15–16:45

Coffee break

16:45–18:30

Transnational cooperation: partner search, project ideas, match-making – interactive session

Moderators:

- Kristiina Tammets, Vice-President of ELARD and Manager of LAG Tartu, Estonia
- Marion Eckardt, Vice-President of ELARD and Manager of LAG Halland, Sweden
- Peter Toth, Policy Analyst, ENRD Contact Point

20:00

Networking dinner at M'AR De AR
Muralhas Hotel (city centre)

28 September

09:30–11:00

Restitution of the mini-plenaries with analysis by experts – main messages and debate with the participants

Analysis by

- Joanna Gierulska, Director of the Rural Development Department of the Polish Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Hartmut Berndt, ELARD Council Member, Chairman of BAG LAG (German LEADER Association), Manager of LAG Göttinger Land
- Jean-Michel Courades, former Administrator in the European Commission, DG AGRI

11:00–12:00

Closing session

Panelists

- Maria João Botelho, President of ELARD and Minha Terra Federation
- Josefine Loriz-Hoffmann, European Commission, Director, DG Agriculture and Rural Development
- Nelson de Souza, Secretary of State of Development And Cohesion, Portugal

Last words

- Robert Lukesch, Rural Development Expert and European evaluator

12:00

Light lunch & Departure

