

# Innovative governance models: examples from Finland

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# Governance – partnership at all levels

- Integrated approach & a cross-sectoral body
  - Connects actors from public, private and voluntary sectors
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- 1) Rural Policy Committee
  - 2) LEADER-method



# Rural Policy Committee

- Cooperation body appointed by the Government
- Network of rural policy actors
  - Promoting integrated, multi-level rural policy
  - Implementing broad rural policy
  - Rural research and expertise
  - Promoting rural proofing
  - Reinforcing civic action, promoting rural entrepreneurship
  - Promotion of discussion on rural policy



# Rural Policy Committee

- Evaluating, assessing and developing the method further
- NRP is implemented in Finland
- Two types of tasks: ideological and practical
- What is the home of RPC?
- What is the role of RPC and what tools there are in rural policy?



# Leader-method in Finland

- LEADER-principles (bottom-up, partnership, multi-sectoral, co-operation...)
- 55 LAGs, all rural areas in Finland
- Multi-fund CLLD → in 2014+ LEADER also in cities?
- New tasks – a way to enhance local democracy
- Finnish LAGs active in international co-operation



# Ladoga Initiative 2011-2013 (ENPI)

- 1 region in Finland, 3 regions in Russia
- Objective: promotion of rural development in selected Russian regions on the basis of knowledge transfer from the Finnish partner
- Traditional top-down governing → new governance with bottom-up approach
- No lack of local initiatives, but lack of interaction between inhabitants and government



# Dissemination of Leader-method

- "Good bottom-up does not need less, but rather another style of top-down: enabling and encouraging instead of command and control."
- Transferring know-how – not exporting a finished product or concept
- Local level responsibility and empowerment
- Begin with small scale projects → tangible results → building trust & motivation



# Summary

- We are doing the right things, but we need to develop the methods further and pay attention to how RD is communicated and marketed
- Partnership and participation
- Horizontal network
- (New) RURAL paradigm / mainstreaming

