



FOOD
WITHOUT
BORDERS

Food without borders: meeting each other through flavours

LEADER Transnational Cooperation Project

Our mission: Bringing Europe together around the table

The Concept

A cultural bridge connecting rural areas in Europe through their culinary traditions. “Meeting each other through flavors.”

The Goal

Implement shared local development strategies, promoting the unique territorial identities of each partner.

The Approach

Exchange of best practices, study visits, and creation of a solid and lasting transnational network.



Strategic Objectives and Expected Results



Shared Digital Showcase

Creation of a shared website where each country can promote its local offerings using modern digital marketing tools.



Innovative Media Planning

Definition of a market-oriented media strategy aimed at specific targets to enhance the visibility of the territories.



Educational Tour

Organization of educational tours for national and international guests (journalists, bloggers, chefs) to experience local excellence firsthand.

A European Network Without Borders



Project Partners (1/2)

ITALY (Lead partner)



LAG and FLAG La Cittadella del Sapere

Legal Repres.: Franco Muscolino

Lauria (PZ), Basilicata

IRELAND



Waterford Area Partnership CLG

Legal Repres.: Liam Quinn

Waterford City

PORTUGAL (The Azores)



LAG ARDE - Associação Regional para o Desenvolvimento

Legal Repres.: Pedro Furtado

Ponta Delgada

PORTUGAL (Mainland)



LAG Associação In Loco

Legal Repres.: Sandra Rosário

São Brás de Alportel

Project Partners (2/2)

SLOVENIA



LAG Prlekija

Legal Repres.:
Goran Soster
Ljutomer

CROATIA (South)



LAG 5

Legal Repres.: Katarina Slejko
Korčula

CROATIA (North)



LAG Medimurski doli i bregi

Legal Repres.: Sanja
Krištofič
Nedeljšće

LATVIA



LAG Dobeles district rural partnership

Legal Repres.: Dace Vilmane
Dobeles

ROMANIA



LAG MVC

Legal Repres.: Cristian Gheorghe
Axente
Socodor (Arad County)

Operating Methodology of Cooperation

Financial Structure

The host partner covers the organizational costs of the meeting. The guest partners cover their own travel, food, and accommodation expenses.



Hospitality (Welcome Dinner)

Established tradition of offering a hot meal at the expense of the host LAG to welcome other countries' delegations.

Digital Coordination

Use of shared folders (Google Drive) for transparent management of budgets, schedules, and documents.



Duration of study visits

Standard 3-day format for study visits

Project Roadmap

October 2024

2025

March 2026

2026-2027

Signing of the
Cooperation
Agreement

Approval and
Planning Phase

Official Kick-off
Meeting (Italy)

Study visits and
local promotional
events



Start of the Activities: Spring 2026

Kick-off Meeting (Italy)



Date: 24 - 27 Marzo 2026

Location: Basilicata (LAG La Cittadella del Sapere)

Detail: Official launch, coordination and first educational tour.

First planned study visit (Croatia)



Date: 26 - 29 April 2026

Location: Host: LAG 5 (Korçula)

Detail: Workshop, Farmers market.

Integration with Local Events and Festivals



Slovenia (LAG Prlekija): Event 'Taste of our area' (end of May).



Ireland (Waterford): Harvest Festival (September 2026)



Latvia (Dobele): Dobele Apple Festival (October 2026).



Romania (LAG MVC): Study visit proposed for November 2026.

Digital Strategy and Promotion



1. Website: Shared platform for aggregating tourism and food and wine offerings.



2. Social Media: Coordinated campaigns for visibility of rural excellence.



3. Target: Attracting tourist flows through digital storytelling of traditions.



Challenges and lessons learned 1/3

Main challenges in the preparatory phase:

- Different administrative timelines: Manage different deadlines for each participating country, with impacts on overall planning
- Regulatory complexity: managing the specific documentation and administrative requirements required by the various national managing authorities.

Challenges and lessons learned 2/3

Lessons learned and solutions:

- Standardized documentation: inclusion of specific annexes and appendices to bridge the gap between different national bureaucratic requirements.
- Unified digital management: leveraging shared digital tools (e.g., Google Drive) for transparent monitoring of budget and administrative status.

Challenges and lessons learned 3/3

Suggestions for an improvement in the procedures:

- Early synchronization: creation of a shared calendar for administrative deadlines well in advance.
- Harmonization of templates: development of common pre-approved templates for annexes to be used in all countries in order to streamline the approval process.



**THANKS FOR
YOUR ATTENTION**



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