

Territorial tools in (EU) policies: Community-led Local Development (CLLD)



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Key terms

LEADER (from 1991)

- Links between actions for the development of the rural economy

CLLD (from 2014)

- Community-led local development

LAGs

- Local Action Groups

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

- EAFRD (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development)
- EMFF (European Maritime and Fisheries Fund)
- ERDF (European Regional Development Fund)
- ESF (European Social Fund)

Multi-funding

- Combination of more than 1 of the 4 ESI Funds



30 years of LEADER: evolution into CLLD

Stage	Period	Funds	No. of LAGs
LEADER I	1991-93	EAGGF, ERDF, ESF	217
LEADER II	1994-99	EAGGF, ERDF, ESF	821
LEADER+	2000-06	EAGGF	1153
LEADER axis	2007-13	EAFRD, EMFF	2200
CLLD	2014-20	EAFRD, EMFF, ERDF, ESF	3337
CLLD/LEADER	2021-27	EAFRD, EMFAF, ERDF, ESF+	?

Number of LAGs continuously increasing, which means:

- **Up to 100% coverage** of countries (urban areas eligible since 2014)
- **Quality of strategies and interventions**
 - Competitive selection procedures?
 - Political aspects make it difficult to reduce coverage
- **Innovative character** – or replacement for other EU- or domestic policies & funding?

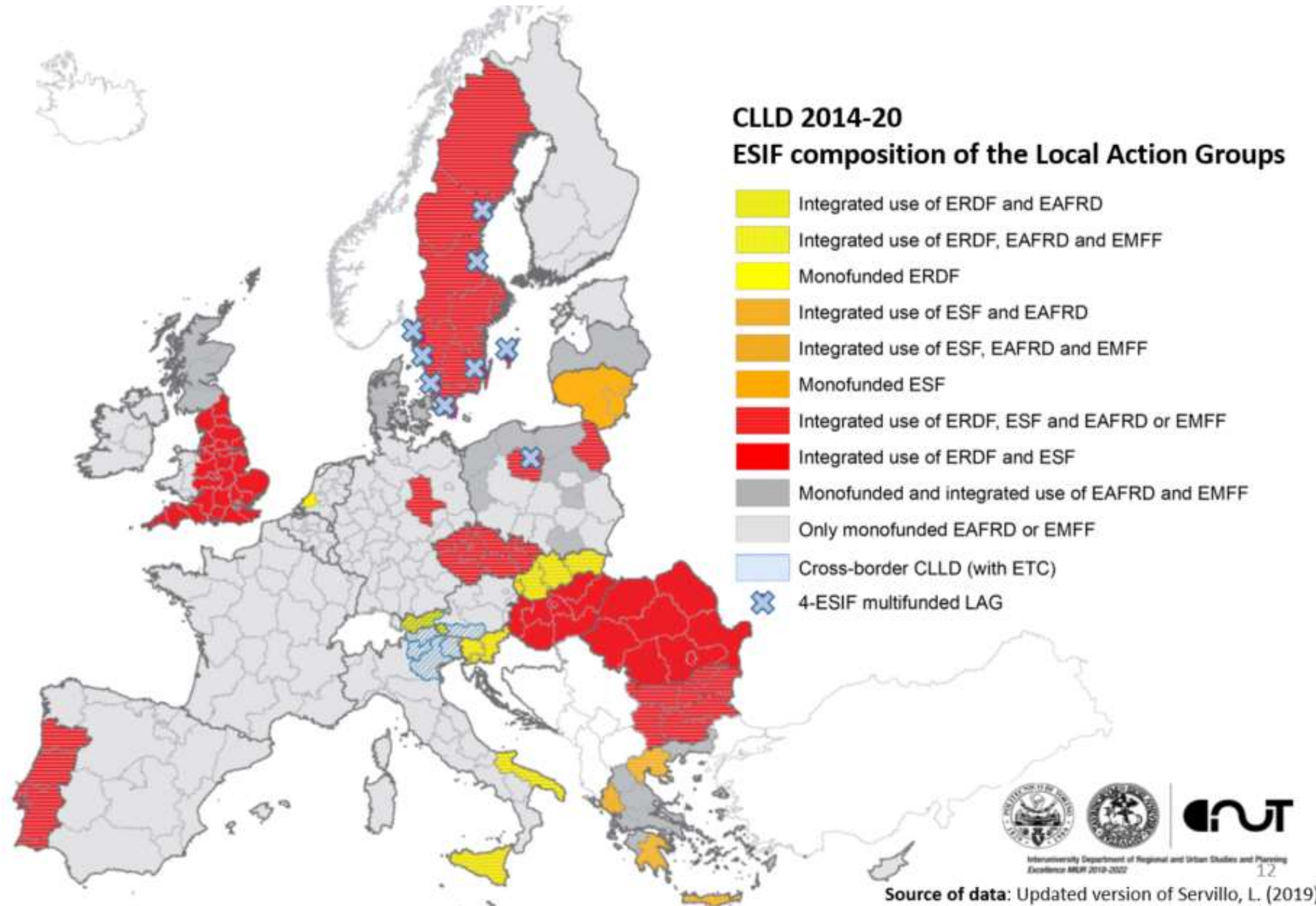
Use of ESI Funds by CLLD LAGs 2014-2020

Country	Mono EAFRD	Mono EMFF	EAFRD-EMFF	Mono ERDF	Mono ESF	Mono ETC	EAFRD-ERDF	EAFRD-ESF	EMFF-ERDF	EMFF-ESF	ERDF-ESF	EAFRD-EMFF-ERDF	EAFRD-EMFF-ESF	EAFRD-ERDF-ESF	EMFF-ERDF-ESF	All 4	Total LAGs
Austria	69						8										77
Belgium	32																32
Bulgaria	25	9					4	6						29			73
Croatia	54	14															68
Cyprus	4																4
Czechia							27							151			178
Denmark	19	3	7														29
Estonia	26	8															34
Finland																	64
France																	53
Germany																	50
Greece																	53
Hungary																	02
Ireland																	36
Italy																	46
Latvia																	35
Lithuania	46	10	3		39												98
Luxembourg	5																5
Malta	3																3
Netherlands	20			1													21
Poland	251	24	11		7						1			29		1	324
Portugal	6	3									16			54	12		91
Romania	239	22									37						298
Slovakia							110										110
Slovenia							33					4					37
Spain	251	41															292
Sweden	2	4					3	2					1	28		8	48
UK	129	11	8								24						172
CBC AT-IT						4											4
TOTAL	2206	265	66	1	48	4	208	12	0	0	177	4	11	314	12	9	3337

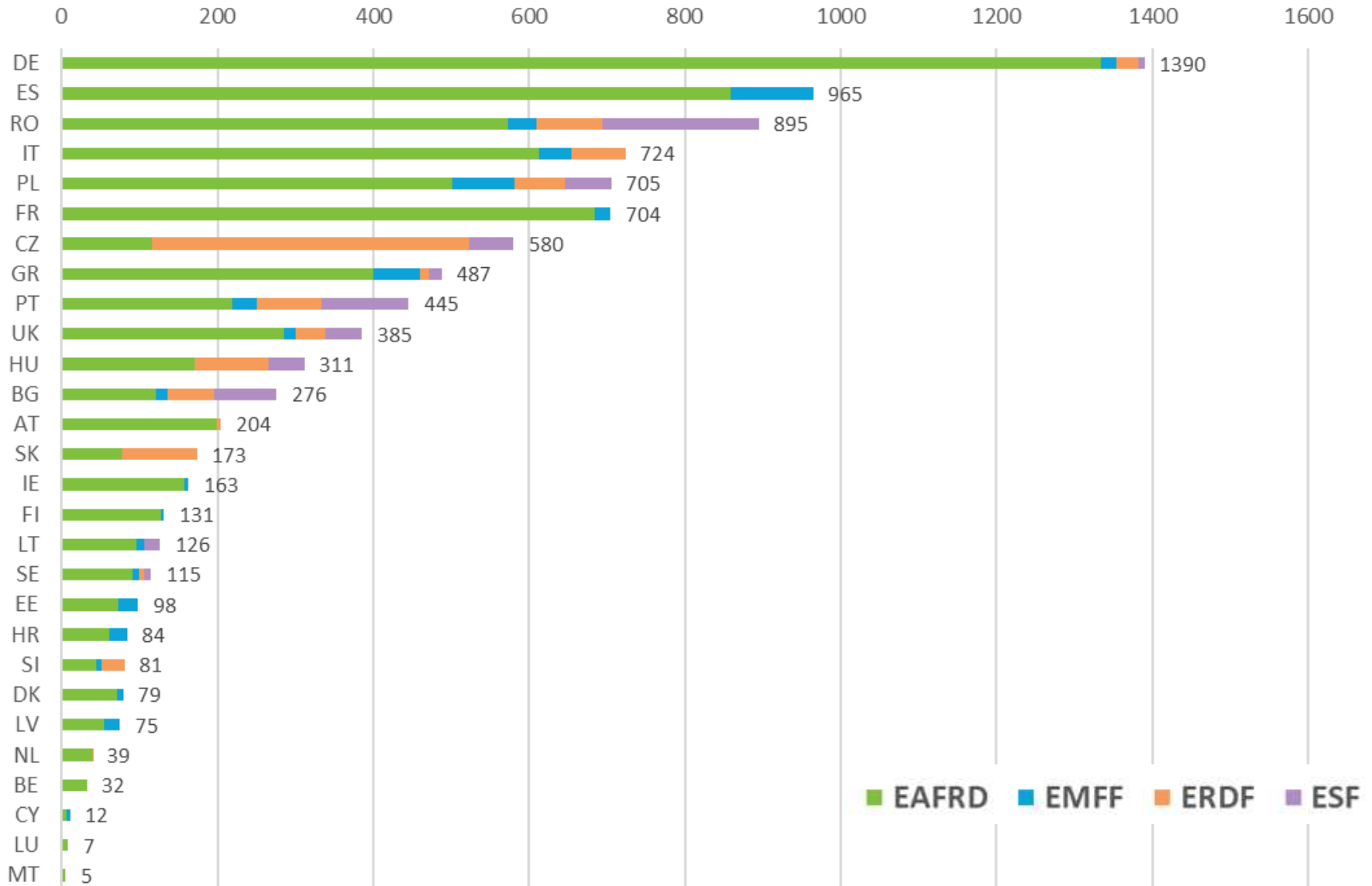
Out of 3337 LAGs:

- 2206 (66%) are traditional LEADER LAGs (EAFRD only)
- 2537 (76%) only use rural/fisheries funding (EAFRD and/or EMFF)
- 800 (24%) use Cohesion Policy funding (ERDF and/or ESF)

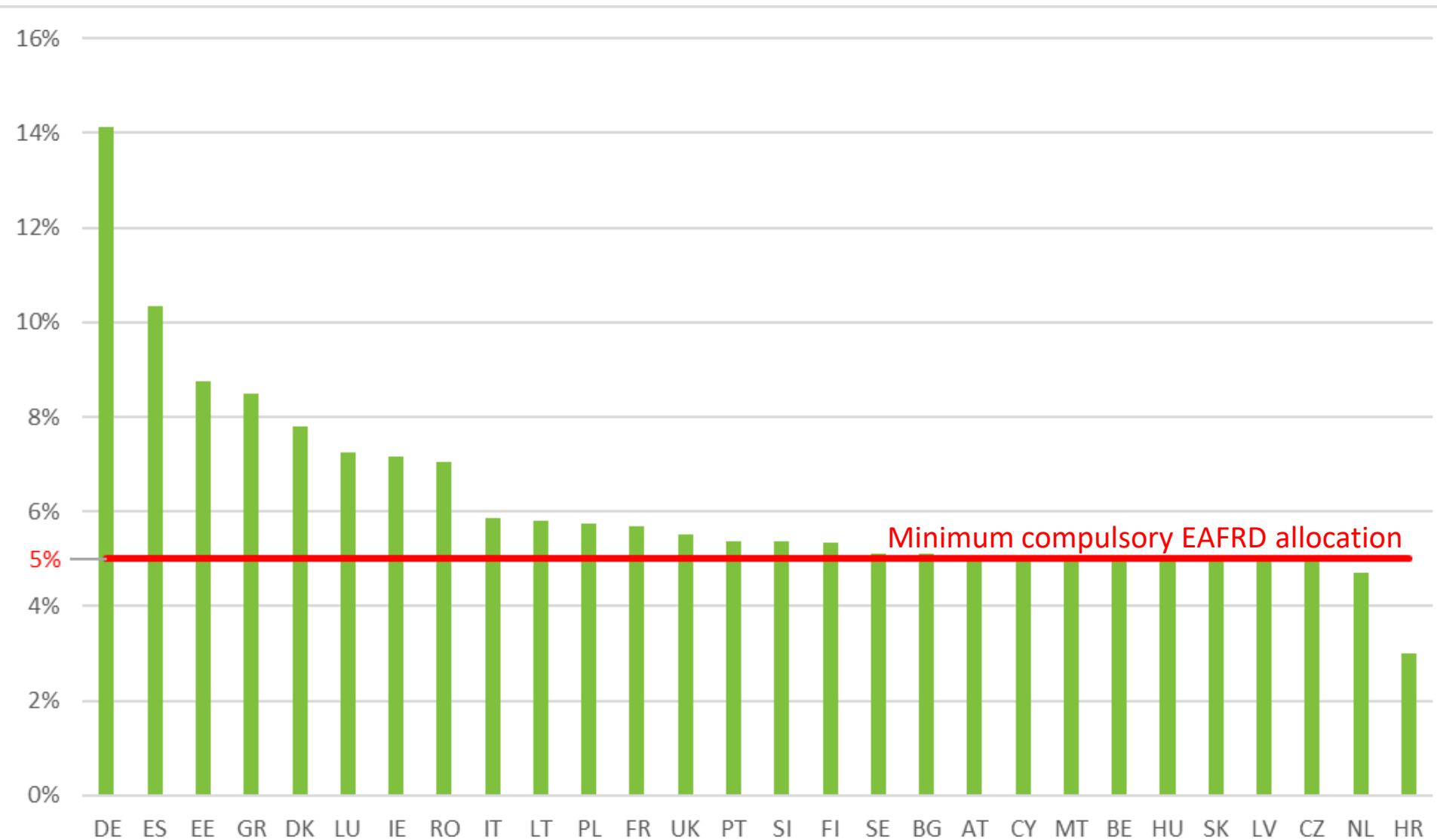
What type of CLLD and where?



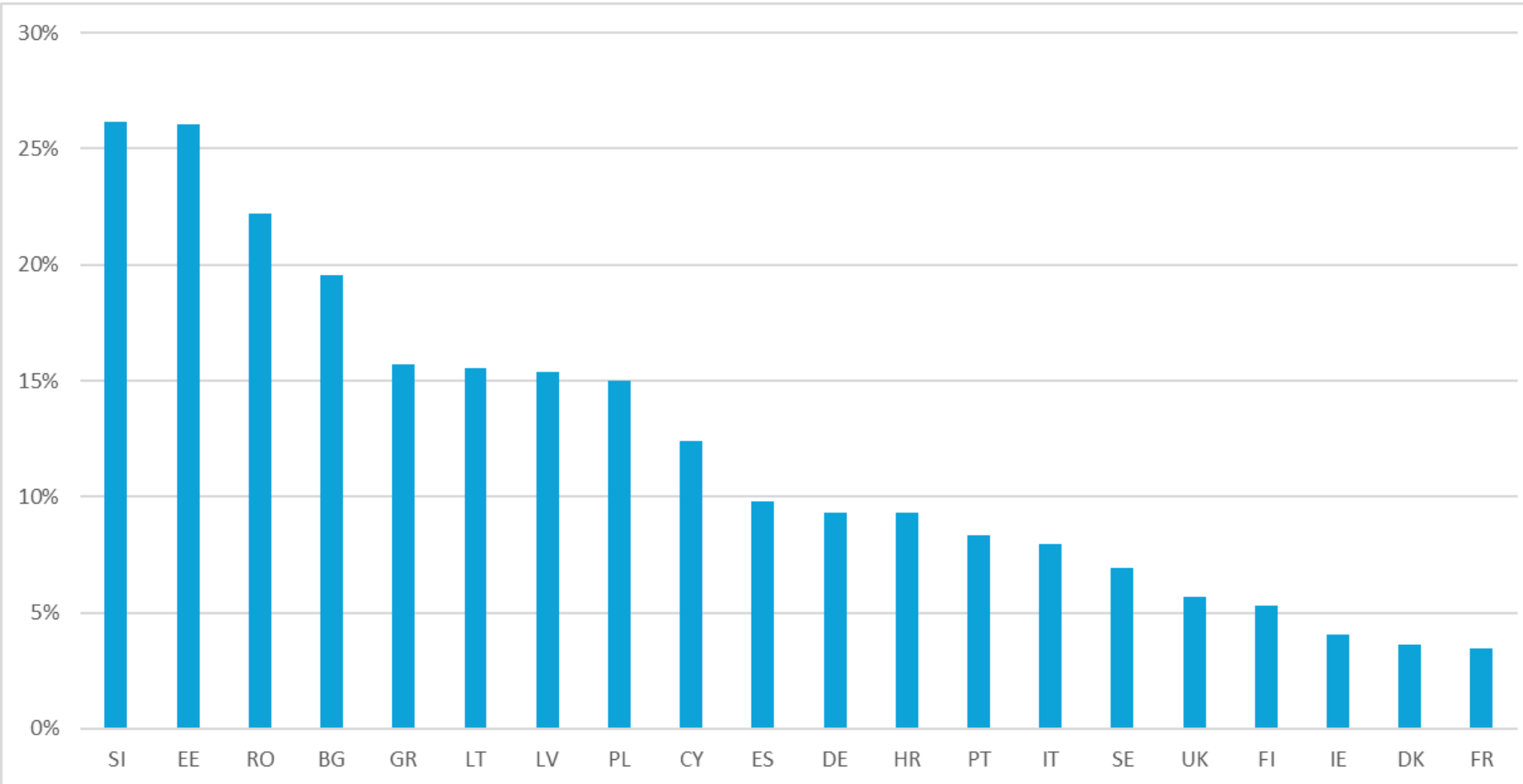
CLLD allocation by ESI Fund in each country (€ millions)



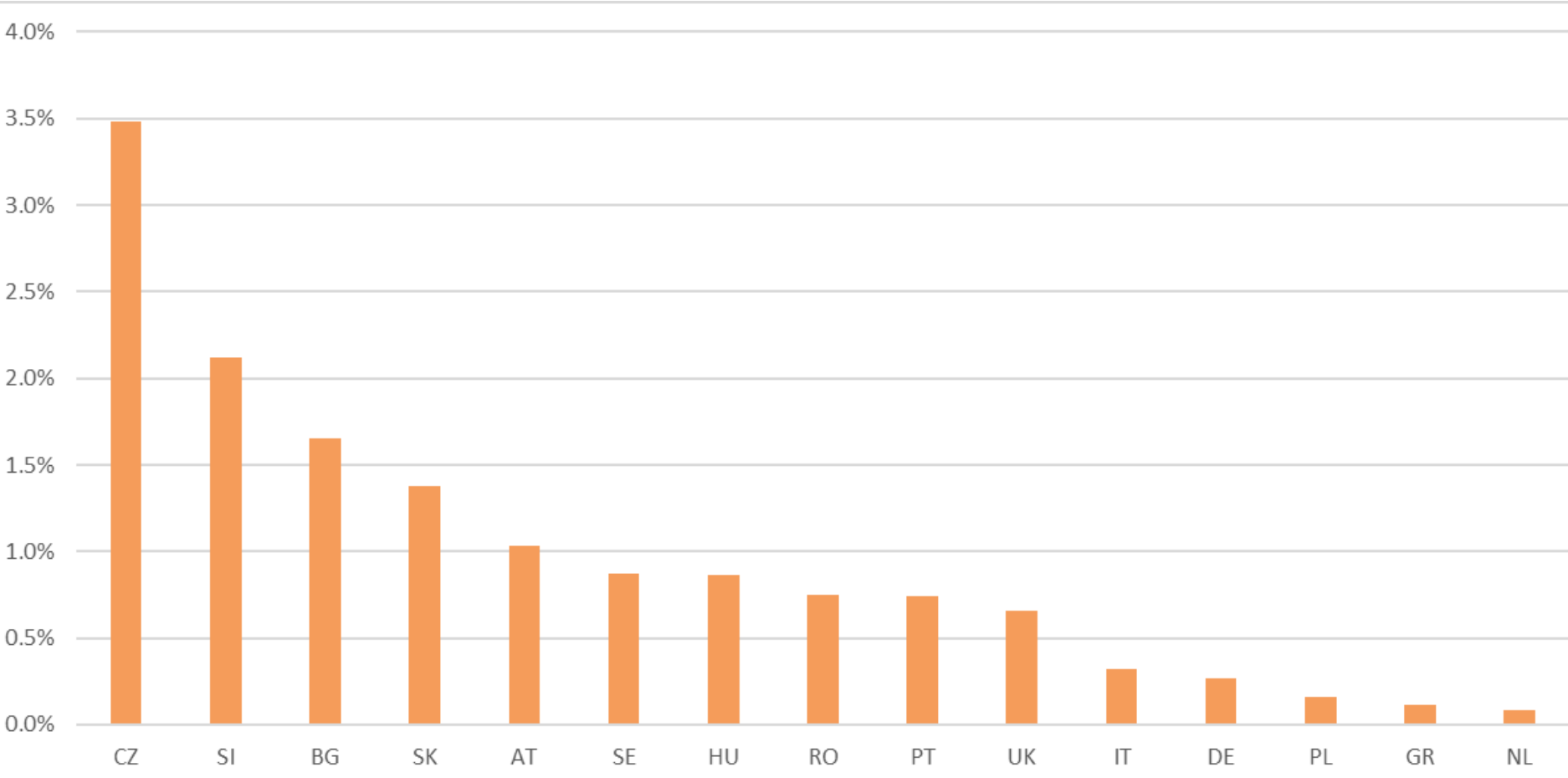
Share of CLLD (LEADER) allocation in EAFRD by country, 2014-20



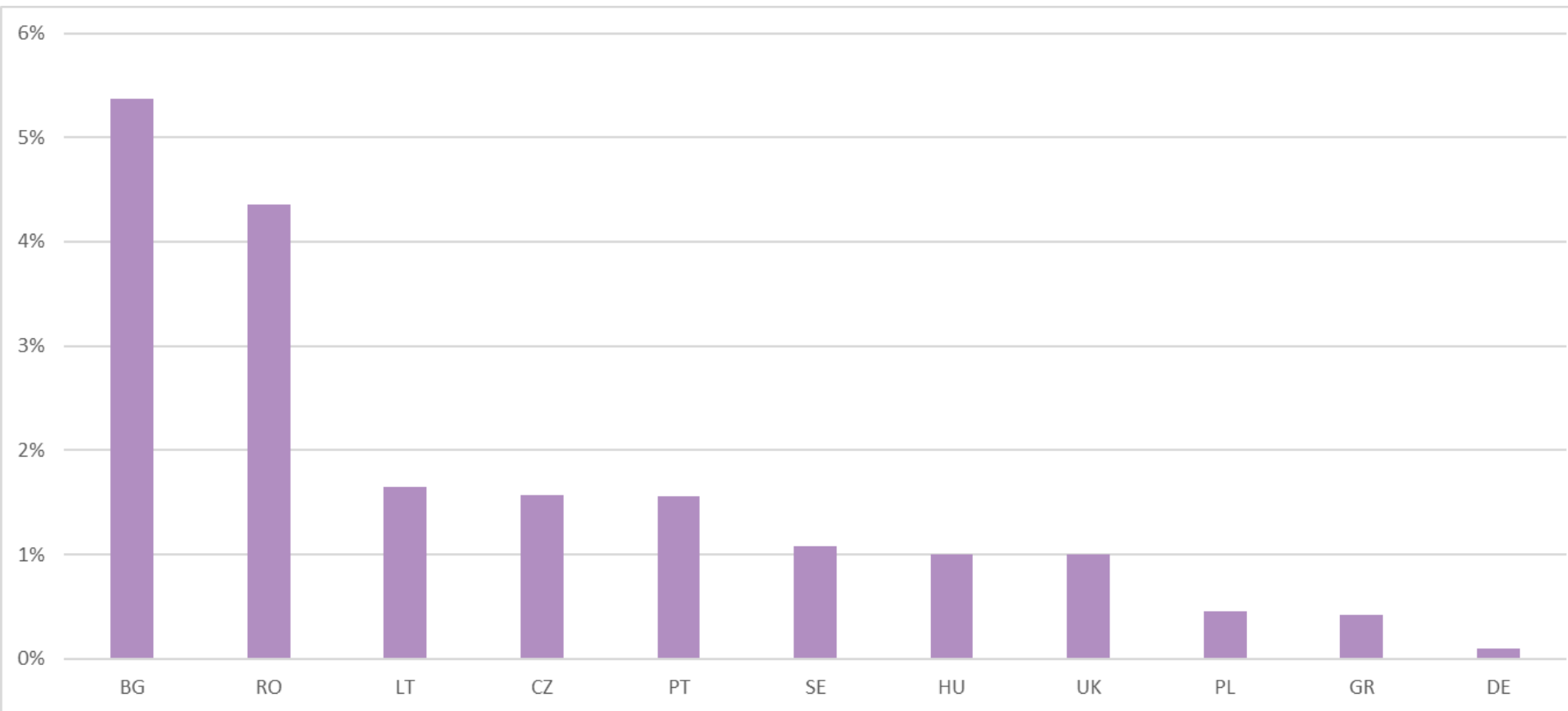
Share of CLLD allocation in EMFF by country, 2014-20



Share of CLLD allocation in ERDF by country, 2014-20



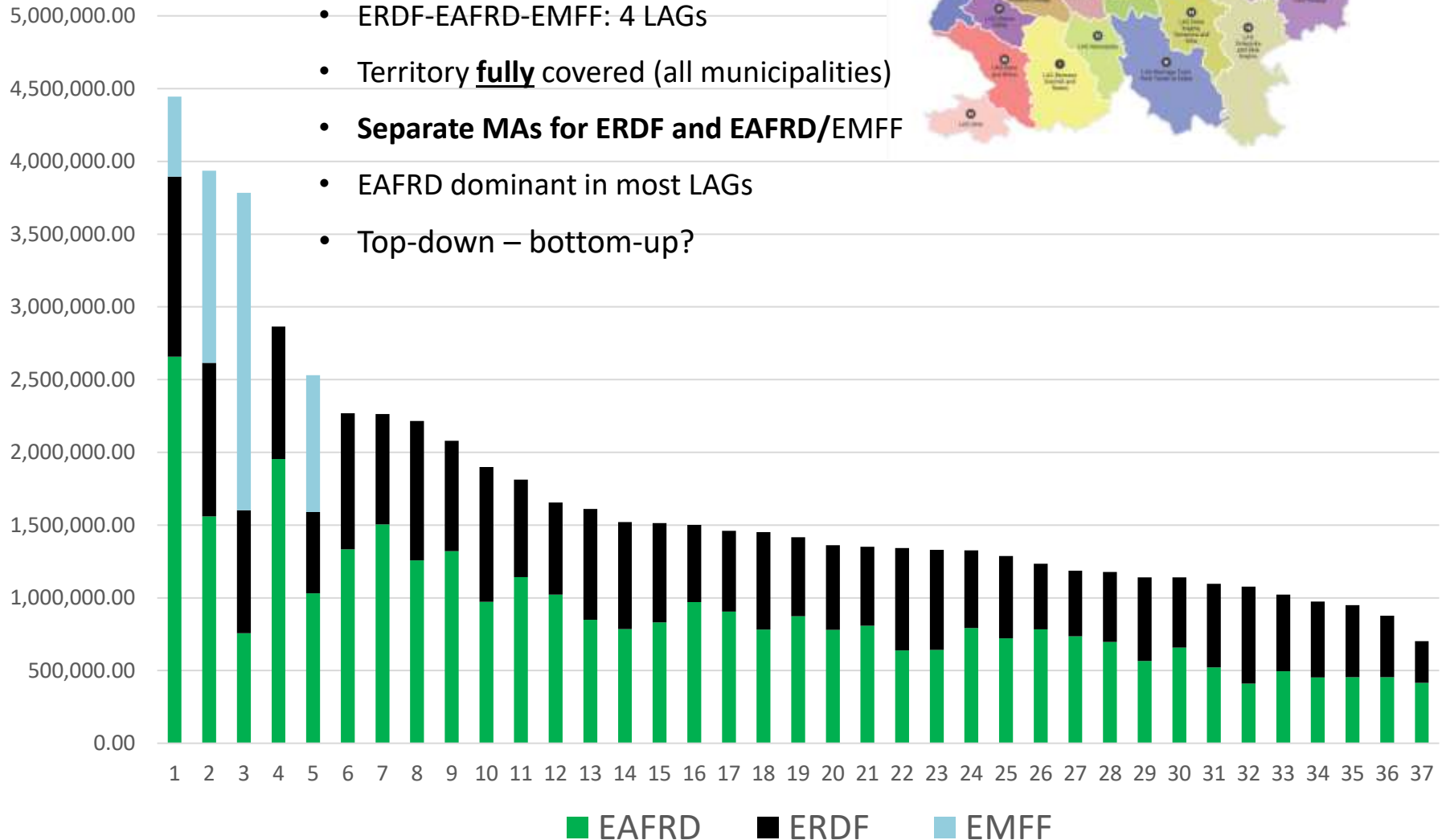
Share of CLLD allocation in ESF by country, 2014-20



Slovenia

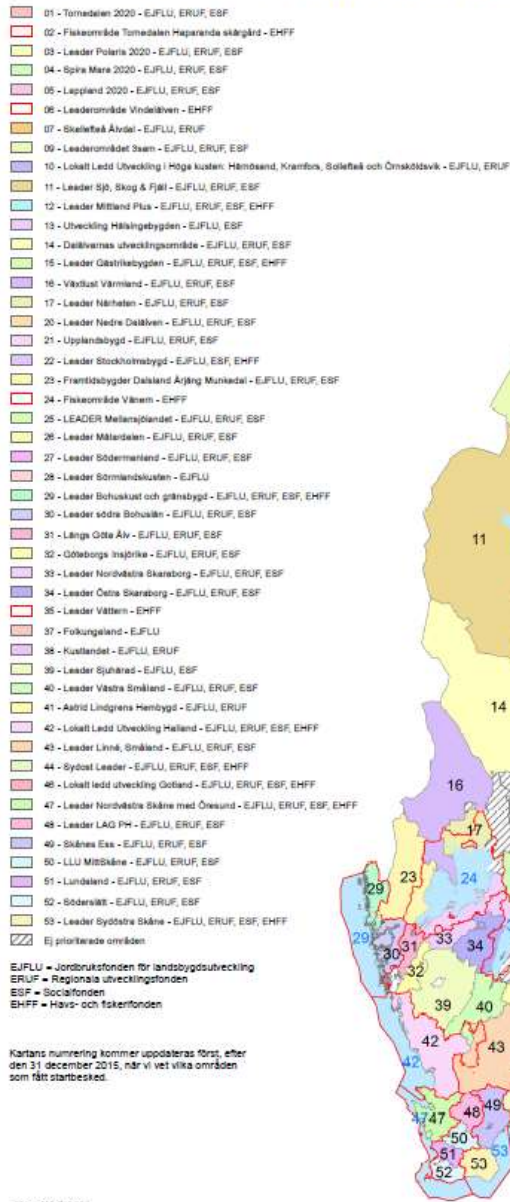
37 LAGs

- ERDF-EAFRD: 33 LAGs
- ERDF-EAFRD-EMFF: 4 LAGs
- Territory **fully** covered (all municipalities)
- **Separate MAs for ERDF and EAFRD/EMFF**
- EAFRD dominant in most LAGs
- Top-down – bottom-up?



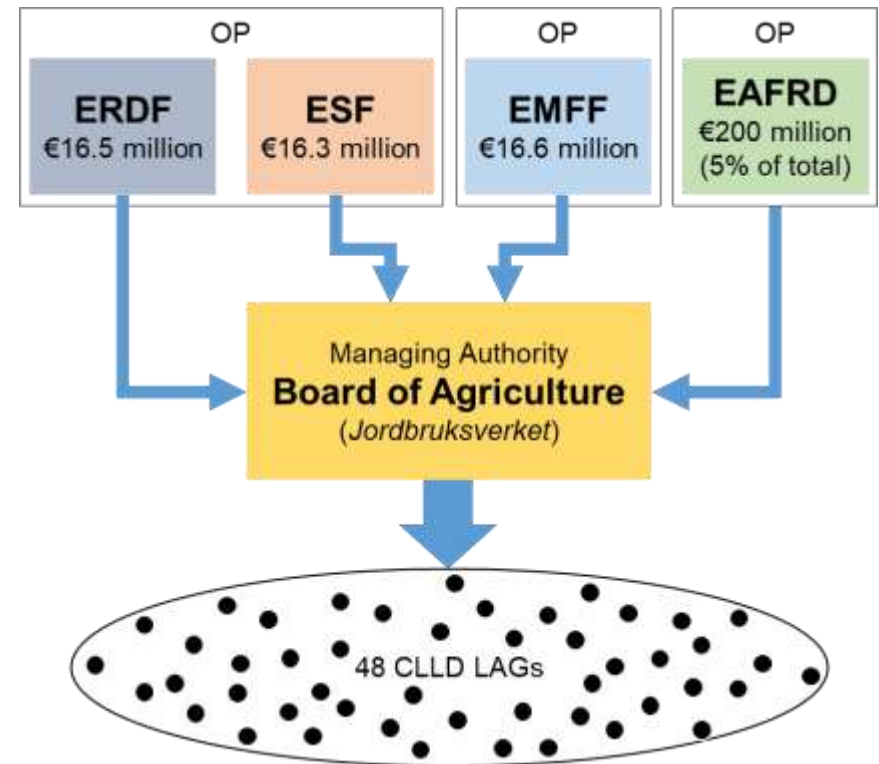
Sweden

Prioriterade områden inom lokalt ledd utveckling 2014 - 2020



48 LAGs

- All possible Fund combinations
- Incl. all 4 Funds (8 LAGs)
- Territory **not fully** covered
- Fully bottom-up
- **Specific ERDF-ESF OP for CLLD**
- **Single MA for all ESI Funds**



HOW URBAN IS URBAN CLLD?

Types of targeted areas

1. Areas within a city (districts)

E.g. Lisbon, The Hague, Bucharest, Timisoara, Miskolc...

2. Entire cities

E.g. Hungary, Lithuania, Romania – often smaller towns

3. Peri-urban contexts - not formally urban

E.g. Gothenburg, Slovenian cities

(e.g. Ljubljana, Maribor)



Source: JRC <https://urban.jrc.ec.europa.eu/strat-board/#/where>

MS	No. LAGs	ESI Funds
Netherlands	1	ERDF
Poland	9	Mostly ESF, also ERDF
Portugal	22	ERDF & ESF
UK (England)	24	ERDF & ESF
Lithuania	29	ESF
Romania	37	ERDF & ESF
Hungary	99	ERDF & ESF

Balance of power: urban LAGs are “mono-municipality” (vs. multi-municipality rural LAGs) -> requirement for a majority of non-public actors
-> but in practice?

EXAMPLE: URBAN CLLD ROMANIA

Eligible measures

ERDF

- social housing, health and educational **infrastructure**
- upgrading **public spaces and utilities**

ESF

- **education** (e.g. reducing early school leavers)
- accessing & remaining in **employment** (e.g. apprenticeships)
- integrated **services** (multi-functional centres, social services)
- fostering **entrepreneurship** both in the mainstream and social economy



CLLD 2014-20: some conclusions

- **Mixed experiences:** teething problems and delays – but now implementation in full flow
- Compared to LEADER, multi-Fund CLLD...
 - ...enables a **genuine bottom-up approach** (broader range of eligible themes)
 - ...allows targeting of **urban** territories
 - ...increases **synergies** between different policy areas
 - ...brings **simplification** (for beneficiaries!) by providing a one-stop-shop for project applicants
 - ...allows **capitalising on existing LEADER experience** and use expertise coming in from other ESI Funds
 - ...increases the **funding allocation** for LAGs (!)

Outlook into CLLD 2021-27

CLLD (beyond LEADER) will continue

- Loss of **regulatory integration**
- Some MS **likely to abandon CLLD**: e.g. Slovakia, Sweden, others?
- **Urban CLLD** as an innovative element is here to stay – and grow?

Funding

- EAFRD: min. **5% to LEADER**, but other ESI Funds not compulsory
- ERDF: min. **8% for urban areas** (up from 5%) - CLLD is one option on the “menu” to make use of the funding

Administrative effort

- For **programme managers and LAGs**
- Maybe “**mono-Fund**” (**beyond LEADER**) is easier – but better?
- **Ensure continuity to avoid delays** (limit change)
- **Exchange of experiences**: internationally through ENRD (EAFRD), FARNET (EMFF) - but how about ERDF/ESF?

Thank you for your attention!



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