



European Economic and Social Committee - EESC

- **Advantages of the Community-led Local Development (CLLD) approach for integrated local and rural development**

(Exploratory opinion, 12/2017)

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Current situation:

- Community-Led Local Development is the update of the more than 28-year-old LEADER method
- Main differences:
 - the more tightly integrated approach
 - the diversified financing model (funded by one fund only or up to four funds)
 - Implemented in all typea of territories (rural, fisheries, urban!: CLLD-U)

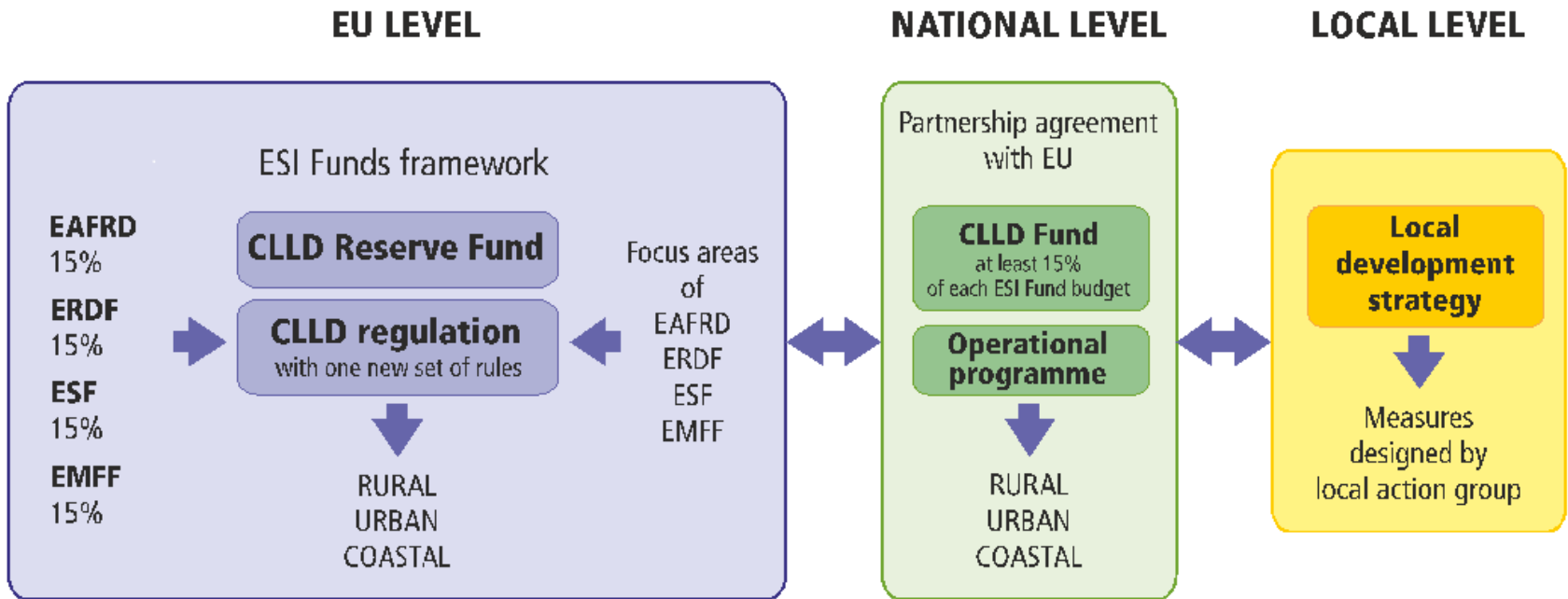
What has to be changed to reach considerable improvement according to the EESC opinion :

- EESC urges the European Commission to explore and analyse in depth opportunities to create a **reserve fund for CLLD at EU level**.
- Irrespective of this, the European Commission should ensure that all Member States have a national CLLD Fund with contributions from all four ESI Funds (EAFRD, ERDF, ESF and EMFF).
- A clear vision for an obligatory multi-funded CLLD implementation in the European Union has to be established, ensuring a widespread use of the CLLD approach (in all types of territories in all Member States)

What has to be changed to reach considerable improvement according to the EESC opinion :

- Recognising that CLLD gives Member States a unique opportunity to develop their areas in a more inclusive, sustainable and integrated way in partnership with local stakeholders.
- In order to achieve greater impact, **enough financial means** have to be provided for the implementation of CLLD in the programming period 2021-2027. To do this, the EESC urges the European Commission to establish a mandatory requirement for Member States to allocate at least 15% from each ESI Fund budget to the CLLD Fund, which must also be supported with sufficient national resources.

Structure of CLLD post-2020 according to the EESC opinion:



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Thank you for your attention!

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