**Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism**

**LEADER forum
Österreich**

SCOs in the Austrian RDP 14-20
status quo, experience and future in LEADER

Stefan Niedermoser (niedermoser@regio3.at)
LAG Manager regio³ (Tyrol)
President LAG network LEADER-forum Austria

Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism

LEADER forum
Österreich

bmnt.gv.at

SCOs in use for LEADER 14-20 (1)

throughout the RDP:

- **15% of the staff costs for overhead office costs** (off-the- shelf: Art. 68 (1) b CPR); In LEADER possible for the management, not for projects

- **Km-money for car travel expenses** (standard scales of unit costs: Art. 67 (b) CPR) → calculated by the ministry of finance (42 Cents per km)

- **staff costs with standard scales of unit costs**: follows the formula: *working hours x hourly rate*

Hourly rate (SSUC)= $\dfrac{\text{gross annual salary}^2 \text{ x payroll-related costs factor}^3}{\text{factor 1 or 2 for average working hours}^4 \text{ x factor for reduced working hours}^5}$

→ from ERDF (approved by DG Regio)

Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism

LEADER forum
Österreich

bmnt.gv.at

SCOs in use for LEADER 14-20 (2)

— Lump sum for **small projects (5.700 EUR) for 19.2.1 LEADER**:

- similar to European "Youth in Action" programme 2013
- Only possible for not competitive projects
- Max 5% of the total LAG budget and max 3 times the same applicant

How does it work:

1. Project applicant hands in the description with table of budget and output indicators to the LAG

2. LAG approves the content of the project and correlation with LDS and sets the amount of funding as lump-sum (mainly 70%)

3. LAGs sends the documents to the MA => formal approval by MA

4. Project owner executes the projects, hands in the project report (what was done) and receives the fixed lump-sum without showing any invoices etc.

Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism

LEADER forum
Österreich

bmnt.gv.at

SCOs in use for LEADER 14-20 (3)

– **Umbrella-projects up to EUR 200.000 for 19.2.1 LEADER**:

- Umbrella max. amount: EUR 200.000
- Projects in the umbrella: max. EUR 50.000
- Max 5% of the total LAG budget
- Only possible for non competitive projects in the field of climate, renewable energy, culture, social welfare, …

How does it work:

1. LAG sets the topic and opens the umbrella which is approved by the MA without many documents. Project applicant is always the LAG!!

2. LAG makes sub-contract with real beneficiary of the sub-projects under the umbrella

3. Every sub-project had to be done according the rules of "regular" projects.

=> Simplification is not on the side of LAG or MA, but on the side of project applicant

4

Experiences

- **Real simplification** achieved on all levels of the LEADER chain

- For MA/PA a **totally new way of thinking** is necessary → not so easy in the beginning

- LAGs have to work professional, LEADER should not be done along the way

- LEADER small projects: **new groups addressed,** who previously were not involved with LEADER because they did not have the capacity to handle the "normal" requirements

- **Umbrella projects:** LAGs are on the way from funding execution to regional development agencies

- **Look around!** Other funds (e.g. ERDF, ESF), other European programmes (e.g. ERASMUS)

Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism

LEADER forum
Österreich

Future ideas in discussion for simplification

- LAG-Management: flat rate of up to 40 % of eligible direct staff costs to cover the remaining eligible costs of the management

- use of draft budget option for LEADER projects up to EUR 100.000

- Data collection from 25 years of LEADER in Austria to have reference costs for common types of expenses (to simplify the plausibility check)

- Setting higher amounts for plausibilisation of costs or change date

- Minimum amount for eligible invoices (in combination with)

- 7% on-the-shelf of eligible direct costs for indirect costs (as shown in the CPR)

- EUR 5.000 flat rate for the initiation of a transnational cooperation projects

- One general online system for application and accounting for all levels

Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Sustainability and Tourism

LEADER forum
Österreich

Thank You!

Stefan Niedermoser (niedermoser@regio3.at)
LAG Manager regio³ (Tyrol)
President LAG network LEADER-forum Austria