

# **Cohesion policy tools for integrated territorial development: CLLD and ITIs in rural areas**

Rural Pact Policy Action Lab  
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# 1 - CLLD (Community-led Local Development) in rural areas

- Local Action Groups (LAGs) in rural areas with budgets that use **EU Funds other than (only) EAFRD – 558 LAGs in 2014-20**
- **Combination of different EU Funds:**
  - rural funding (**EAFRD**) + one or more CP Funds (**ERDF** and/or **ESF**)
- All the rural CLLD cases (so far) are also **LEADER LAGs**
- In most cases, **rural funding is the dominant source of the LAG budget (2014-20)**
  - But **important CP contribution** to LAG budgets – highest CP shares: CZ (80%), SK (55%) and BG (50%)
  - **Significant average CP budgets** per LAG, e.g. BG (€3.6m), CZ (2.6m), DE (€1.6m)

# Use of rural CLLD in 2014-20

## 11 Member States made use of CP Funds via CLLD in rural areas

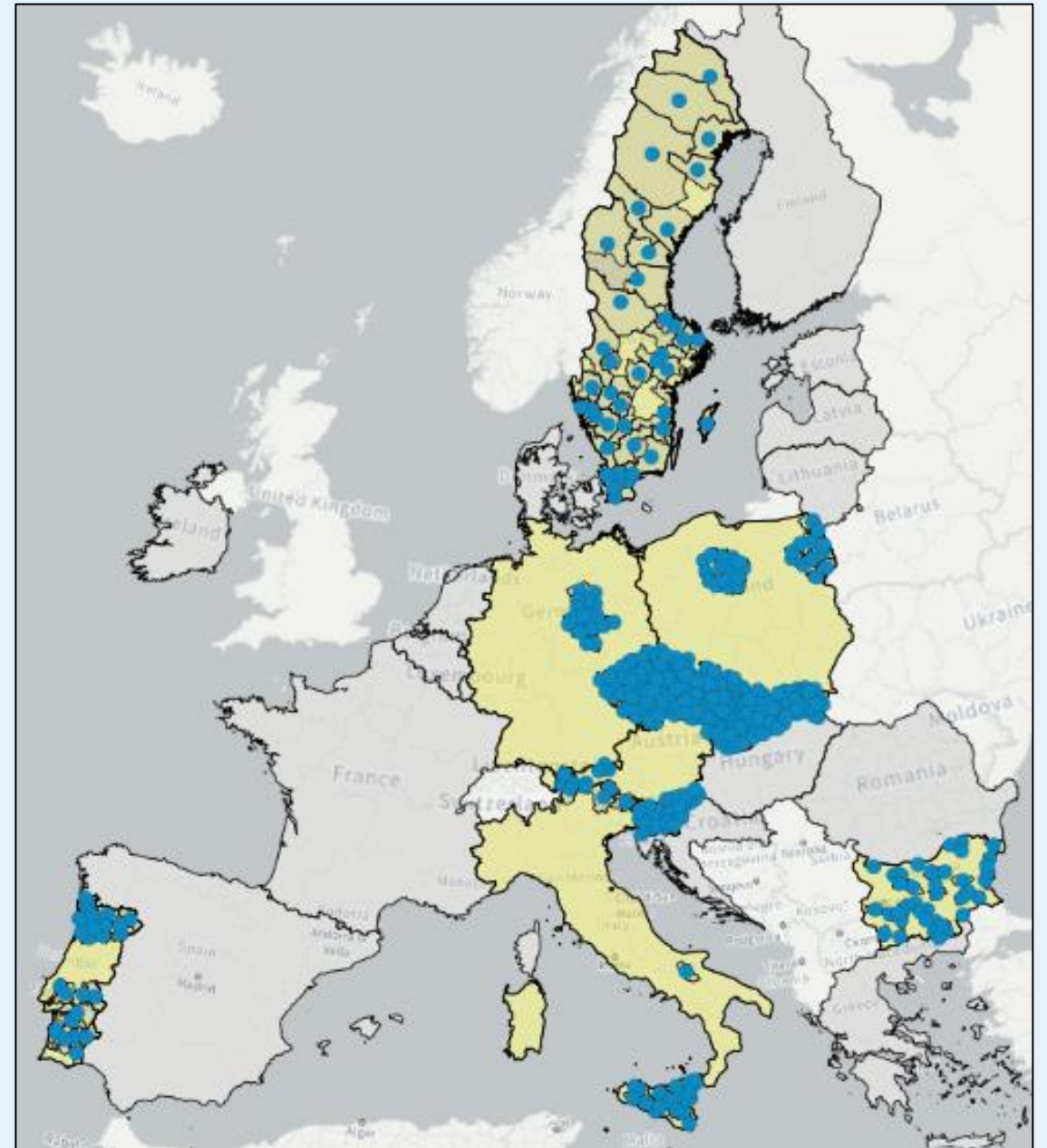
### ■ Nation-wide models:

- Bulgaria
- Czechia
- Portugal
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Sweden

### ■ Selected regions:

- Austria (Tyrol)
- Germany (Saxony-Anhalt)
- Greece (C. Macedonia, Crete, Epirus, Peloponnese)
- Italy (Puglia, Sicily)
- Poland (Kujawsko-Pomorskie, Podlaskie)

CLLD LAGs using CP Funds in 2014-20



Source: JRC STRAT-Board

# Use of rural CLLD in 2021-27\*

## 9 Member States plan to use CP Funds via CLLD in rural areas

### ■ Nation-wide models:

- Bulgaria
- Czechia
- Estonia - **new**
- Romania - **new**
- Slovenia

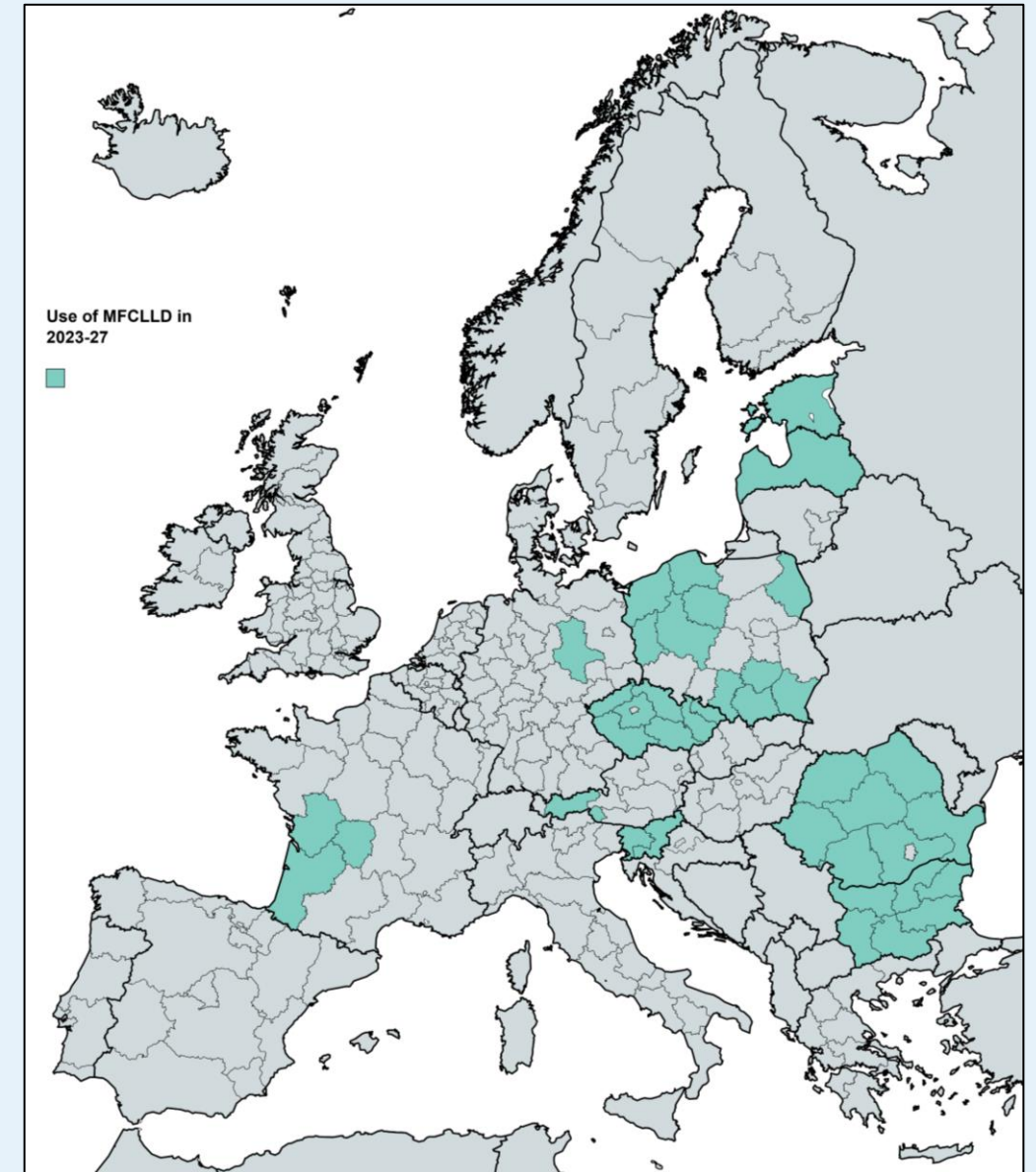
### ■ Selected regions:

- Austria (Tyrol)
- Germany (Saxony-Anhalt)
- France (New Aquitaine) - **new**
- Poland (10 regions) – 8 of these **new**

*\*collected in autumn 2023 as part of EU CAP Network [workshop](#) on LEADER and Multi-funded CLLD in October 2023*

*\*\* LV does not use CP Funds through CLLD in rural areas, but EAFRD & EMFF only*

## Regions planning to use CP Funds in rural CLLD in 2021-27\*\*



*Source: Kah (2023) Multi-funded CLLD. Experiences 2014-20 and state-of-play 2023-27*

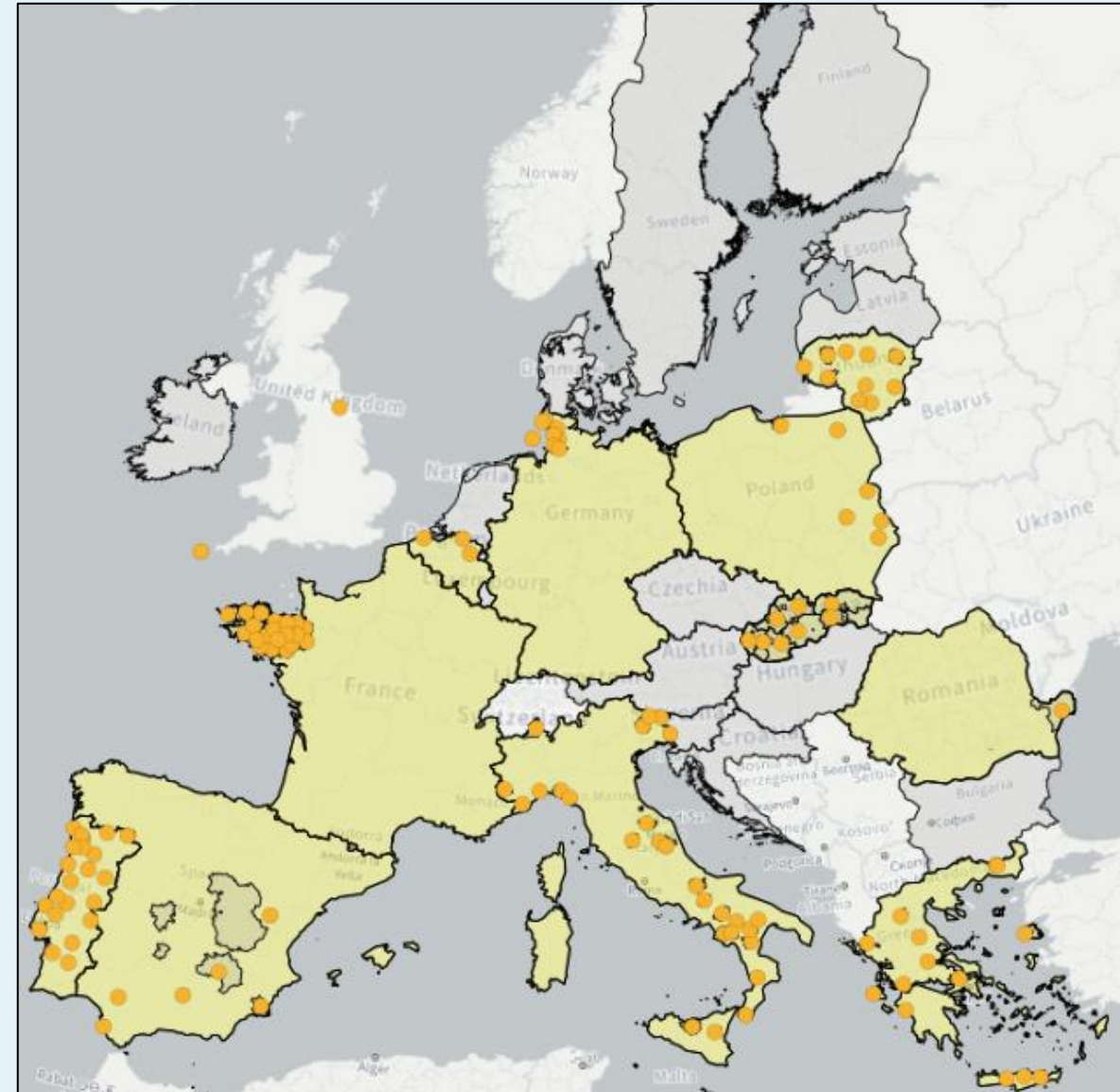
## 2- Rural Integrated Territorial Instruments (ITIs) in 2014-20

Formally, **there are no rural ITIs**, but only urban and “other” ITIs

There are 128 “non-urban” ITIs. Most...

- ...have an **urban rationale**, e.g. focusing on small functional urban areas (LT, FR, PL)
- ...are covering **larger administrative regions** (SK, BE, ES)
- ...have **very large budgets** and broad scope including infrastructure (Danube Delta, several Spanish cases)
- **Most relevant, small-scale rural cases can be found in Greece, Italy and Portugal**

Non-urban ITIs in 2014-20



Source: JRC STRAT-Board

# Rural ITIs (2014-20)

## Greece

- 15 rural ITIs
- ERDF, ESF
- €234 million EU funding allocation



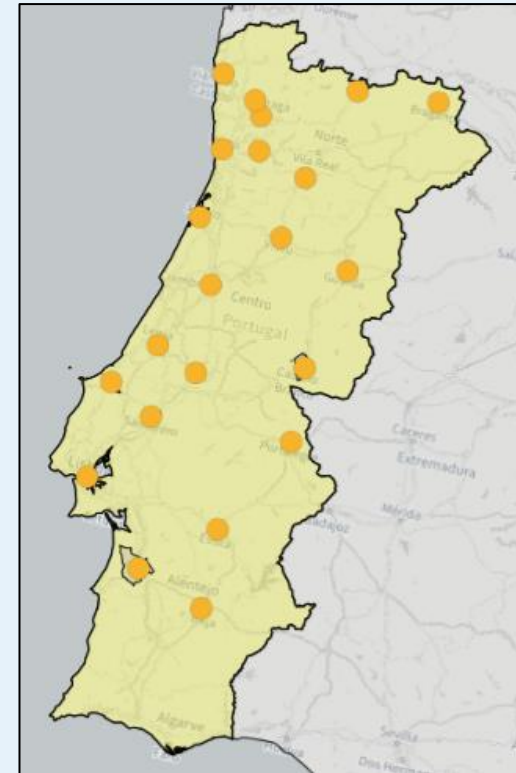
## Italy

- 26 rural ITIs
- ERDF, ESF, EAFRD
- €273 million EU funding allocation



## Portugal

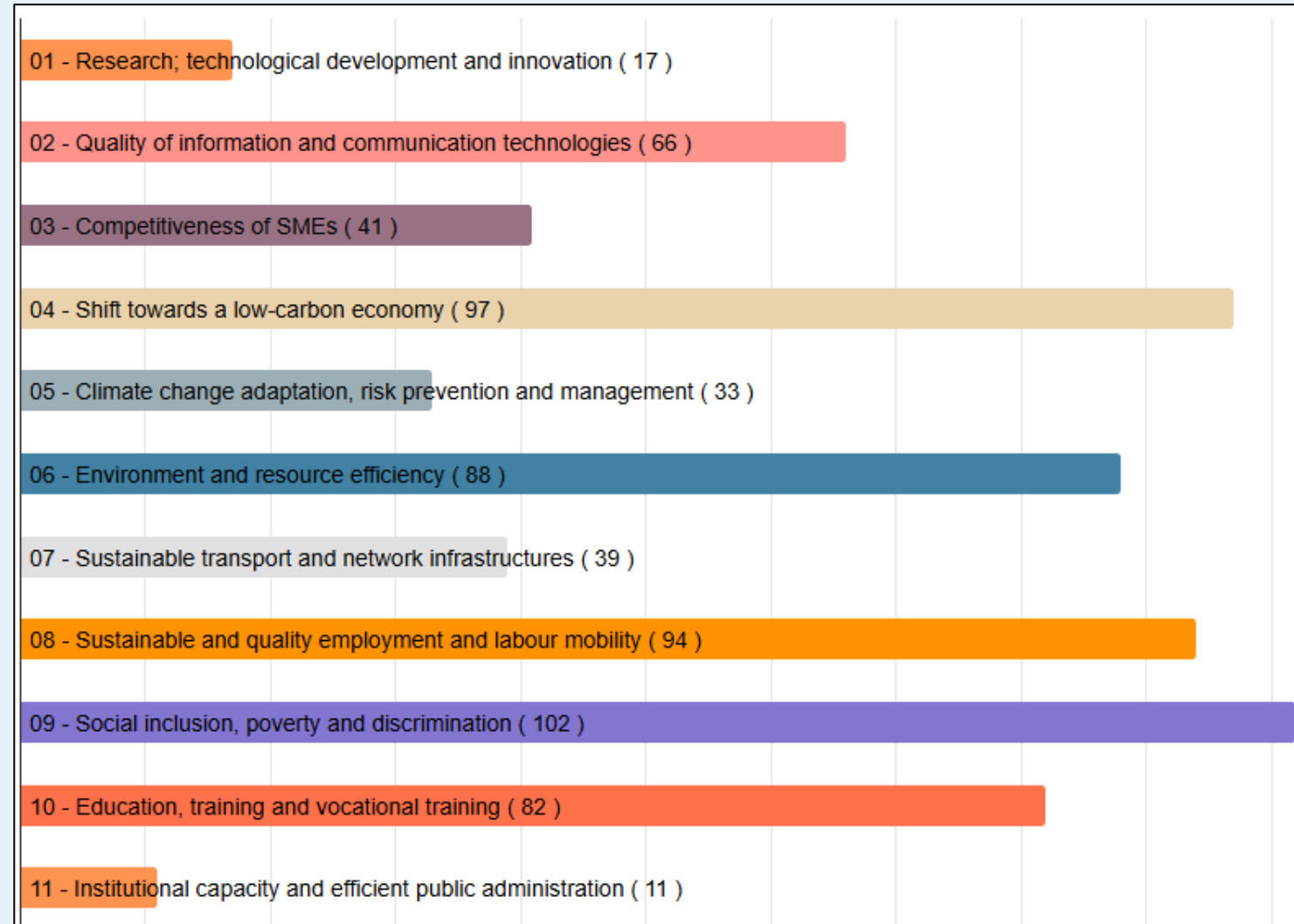
- 22 rural ITIs – but some urban in character!
- ERDF, ESF, CF, EAFRD
- €1,183 million EU funding allocation



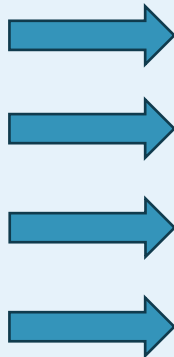
Source: JRC STRAT-Board

# Green Transition? Thematic orientation of rural ITIs in 2014-20

Number of CLLD strategies addressing specific Thematic Objectives



Relevance to  
**Green Transition**  
- especially but  
not exclusively  
here



Source: JRC STRAT-Board