



VCS role in EU funds

One East Midlands

Nov 2015



Building the capabilities and capacity of the VCS to deliver services that increase economic growth in the region (through ESIF)

ESIF/ERDF

England ESIF

Growth programme 2014 – 2020

Value >EU6bn (£+/-):-

ERDF >EU3bn (£+/-)

ERDF Programme (EM* Value £500m+/-)

Background to TA need 07-13

Lack of sector understanding and engagement:-

- Eligible activities
- Understanding local economies
- Jargon & terminology
- Rules - for e.g. not FCR
- Increasing impact and scale required
- Funding advisor skills, availability and role
- Result = reduced sector momentum



Reach & Impact

Project overview

Timescale: July 2012 – Sep 2015

Funders: As above logos

Partners: EMC/Local VCS infrastructure/DCLG/BIS/Cabinet office/Local Enterprise Partnerships

Focus: Improving third sector awareness of ERDF
Improving third sector access to ERDF
Improving collaborative opportunities – public sector, universities, third sector
Preparing for the 2014-20 programme

Reach & Impact

Focus (ERDF 07-13 Technical Assistance - TA)

How?

- Introductory Sessions
- Local Workshops (Funding Advisers/Others)
- Case Studies/Marketing
- Other Events/Annual Information Event
- Support PA2 District Officers
- Align Match Funding – building skills of Funding Advisors

Successes 1

Equal Opportunities and Anti-Discrimination across the East Midlands:

An analysis of projects funded
within the 2007-2013
ERDF Programme

- Analysis of impact in 2007-13 programme.
- 8 recommendations for ESIF improvements.
- Addition of 'equalities assessment' to project selection criteria
- Footprint for national sub group

Successes 2

D2N2 SOCIAL INCLUSION FRAMEWORK

2014

- Detailed research into inclusion needs
- Shaped priorities for BBO
- Shaped procurement principles for D2N2
- Social Inclusion Advisory Group (SIAG)

Successes 3

D2N2 COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

(CLLD Light)

2015

- ESF / ERDF combined programme
- Identified need, model and methodology
- Identify potential match and delivery chain
- Supported by LEP Board and SIAG
- Moving towards implementation

(i) Contextual vs (ii) Systematic

(i) Contextual solutions to economic and social exclusion (funded through 07-13 ERDF programme).

**Eg: - Utilise ERDF to support the start-up of social enterprise through quite narrow definition.
Start-up support for new arrival communities/young people.**

(ii) ERDF (through LEPs) wants durable inclusive growth through systematic solutions

Collaboration/Partnerships and bids that can help to solve systematic economic market failure.



Understanding your local economy

Utilise flip chart board and paper for this one, to demonstrate eg of systematic approach.

It's who you know, and if you don't know, it's who you know that knows! (Come back to this point)



E, E, E

- Need to show them (commissioners) that you have an economic solution to a range of problems that a local authority (eg) faces.
- What is (going to) cost(ing) them a lot of money/intervention now/in the future (economic)?
- What going to help them generate revenue (council tax – reduce house benefit, rates, improve older people being more independent, reduce youth unemployment)



The Way Forward - Influence

- It's who you know, and if you don't know, it's who you know that knows!

TA – 14/20

- One East Midlands x
- National Council Voluntary Organisations X
- European Funding Network x
- East Midlands Councils x
- Department Communities and Local Government ✓ & X
- Local Enterprise Partnerships ✓
- VCS – do you know?



Reach & Impact

**Examples of existing
successful projects**

WISE Project – Leicester City

- Led by CASE (the Cooperative and Social Enterprise Development Agency) and delivered in partnership with the University of Leicester and Voluntary Action Leicestershire.
- The WISE project was set up to support new and existing social enterprises and voluntary and community groups in Leicester. The project also co-ordinates a graduate/student placement scheme in social enterprises.
- The project, funded by an ERDF grant of £389,000 and match funded by the three partners own income, started 1 July 2011 and will run until 30 June 2015.

Further information on WISE can be found on the partners websites as follows:
CASE www.case-da.co.uk University of Leicester www.le.ac.uk Voluntary
Action Leicestershire www.valonline.org.uk

Leicester 4 Business

- Skills for Enterprise (not for Profit Enterprise Agency)
- B-inspired (VCS LEAD)
- Pro-active Resolutions (Private Sector)
- Highfields Community Association (VCS)
- Business in the Community (Charity)
- Co-operative and Social Enterprise Development Agency (Social Enterprise Cooperative)
- Excalibur (Private Sector)
- Leicester African Caribbean Business Association (VCS)
- Ekonomia Ltd (Private Sector)



Current programme

- **Worth circa £1.2m**
- **Delivering business support across 50% of Leicester**
- **Support for start-ups and existing businesses**
- **Business ideas generation**
- **Start Up Now: start-up workshops, one to one support**
- **Small business workout: workshops, seminars, diagnostic support**
- **Additional offer of access to ERDF Grants programme**



TA Support

- Only DCLG can provide post ESIF project approval compliance, unless you want to pay for it!

TA Support

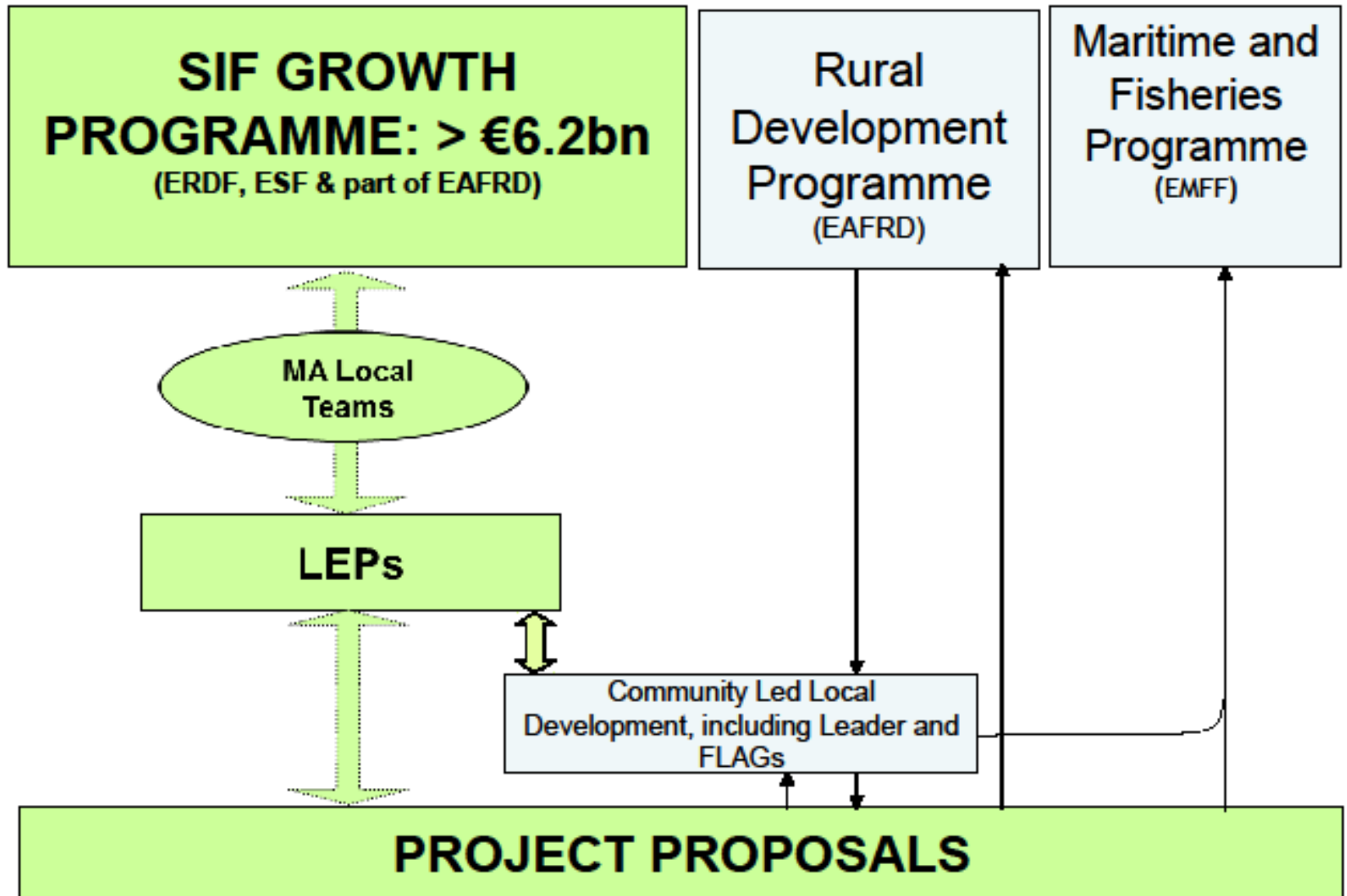
- <http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=38c419b74d4bb7775b5dcb565&id=9fb0051127&e>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/european-structural-and-investment-funds/european-funds-european-structural-and-investment-funds>

TA Support

- <https://www.gov.uk/european-structural-investment-funds><https://www.gov.uk/>
- <http://www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk/reachandimpact>

ENGLAND EU SIF PROGRAMME 2014-2020



EU STRUCTURAL & INVESTMENT FUNDS CORE THEMES

CORE THEMES	Minimum spending levels at national level required by the regulations		
	Less Developed Regions	Transition Regions	More Developed Regions
Innovation	At least 50% ERDF must be spent on these 4 themes, of which approx 12%? on low carbon (% tbc)	At least 60% ERDF must be spent on these 4 themes, of which approx 15% on low carbon (% tbc)	At least 80% ERDF must be spent on these 4 themes, of which at least 20%? on low carbon
SME Competitiveness			
Low Carbon			
ICT			
Climate Change Adaptation			
Environmental Protection			
Sustainable Transport			
Employment	At least 60% ESF must be spent on up to 4 sub-priorities within these themes	At least 70% ESF must be spent on up to 4 sub-priorities within these themes	At least 80% ESF must be spent on up to 4 sub-priorities within these themes
Skills			
Social Inclusion (at least 20% value of ESF)			
<i>Institutional Capacity</i>			