

**CAIRNGORM
LOCAL ACTION GROUP
EU LEADER PROGRAMME
2007-2013**



LEADER 2007-13

- LEADER : EU Fund which aims to promote economic and community development within rural areas
- Three previous programmes
- Now part of Scottish Rural Development Programme but administered separately by a Local Action Group (LAG)

Cairngorms Local Action Group

Revitalising Communities

- Strengthen and Develop rural communities
- Building community capacity, training, personal development
- Environmental projects, path networks, interpretation
- Community consultation and planning

Progressive Rural Economy

- A Diversified and Competitive rural economy
- Economic development of community enterprises,
- Product development, marketing
- Information and Communication Technologies
- Community Enterprises

Principles of LEADER

- Local involvement
- Community benefit
- Equal opportunities
- Innovation
- Sustainability
- Value for money
- Sharing lessons learned

CLIENT GROUP/CUSTOMERS

Constituted community groups, public agencies, constituted partnerships, social enterprises, clubs communities etc.

Specific target groups are also identified

- Young people (14 – 25)
- Women
- Social Enterprises/Business Co-operatives

CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK

- LEADER & CONVERGENCE FUNDS
- Cairngorms National Park Funds
- Scottish Natural Heritage Funds

- One local LAG 50% community 50% agency
- Fast track for projects of less than £5k
- Total £2.17m for the area

Grant Funding

West Cairngorms & Moray

- LEADER Convergence match 54% public to 41% EU funds minimum 5% Private

East Cairngorms & Angus

- LEADER match £1 for £1
- Level of grant is project specific with a maximum 45%

Project Support

- Kingussie Paths, Bridge & Interpretation
- Youth Shinty Coaching Programme
- Braemar Highland Games Centre Feasibility
- Red Kite Viewing
- Glen Buchat Community Exhibition
- Hostels & Crafts Business Plans
- Boat of Garten Book Festival
- Gaelic Awareness Weekend

Project Opportunities

- Aviemore/Ballater Walking Week - extend
- Culture & Heritage – develop & link
- Ceilidh Trail Performances – expand
- Farmer's Markets - extend
- Food Product Development - links
- Green tourism development – attract EU
- Cairngorms Quality identity - establish

General Information/Issues

- Match funding for LEADER 50%, Convergence 54%
- Lottery is acceptable as match funding
- LAG funding can prepare for SRDP work
- LAG funding cannot match SRDP funds, at present
- LEADER officers can provide support for applicants
- Application process simple, draft applications can be submitted
- Businesses are acceptable in co-operative organisations
- LAGs can work with each other in UK & Europe

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