



Cronfa Amaethyddol Ewrop ar
gyfer Datblygu Gwledig;
Ewrop yn Buddsoddi mewn Ardaloedd Gwledig
European Agricultural Fund for
Rural Development;
Europe Investing in Rural Areas

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



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Welsh Government

Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020

INDICATOR GUIDANCE

LEADER

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Glossary

Additionality	An impact arising from an intervention is additional if it would not have occurred in the absence of the intervention.
Agricultural Area	"Agricultural area" means any area taken up by arable land, permanent grassland and permanent pasture or permanent crops as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013
Beneficiary	A public or private body and, for the purposes of the EAFRD Regulation and of the EMFF Regulation only, a natural person, responsible for initiating or both initiating and implementing operations. Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
Case Level Indicator	Indicators set by the Welsh Government to compliment and add values to EC indicators covering EAFRD funded activity.
CLLD	Community-Led Local Development
Completed operation	An operation that has been physically completed or fully implemented and in respect of which all related payments have been made by beneficiaries and the corresponding public contribution has been paid to the beneficiaries. Completion is determined by the last payment made. See also <i>Operation</i> .
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EIP	European Innovation Partnership
Enterprise	Any entity engaged in an economic activity, irrespective of its legal form. This includes self-employed persons and partnerships or associations regularly engaged in an economic activity.
ESI	European Structural & Investment Programmes (consisting of ERDF, ESF, EAFRD & EMFF funds)
Focus Area	Six EU Rural Development policy priorities provide the basis for rolling out support from the EAFRD to rural areas. These broader EU policy priorities are broken down into specific areas of intervention, known as Focus Areas (FAs) of which there are 18 in total. See <i>annex 1</i> for further information on Priorities and Focus Areas.
Forest	"Forest" means an area of land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 metres and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ; and does not include land that is predominantly under agricultural or urban land use.
FTE	Jobs should be reported as Full-Time Equivalents (FTE), based on a 30 hour week. For example, if a post involves working 30 hours or more per week then it is 1 FTE. If a job is not full-time, then the hours worked each week will need be divided by 30 to give the proportion of FTE represented. For example, 18 hours per week would be 0.6 FTE.
Gender	The term "sex" refers to the biological and physiological characteristics that define men and women while the term "gender" refers to the social representation of male and female attributes. For the purposes of monitoring it is recommended that: - in cases where information is collected directly from participants the gender identity of participants should be recorded (i.e. the

	sex/gender that the participant wishes to be identified with) ; - In cases where information is taken from registers the existing records can be used without further enquiry.
Impact Indicator	Impact indicators refer to benefits both at the level of Measure or RDP/policy. There are 16 common impact indicators set by EC covering the CAP, of which 13 are applicable to Rural Development Programmes
LAG	Local Action Group
LDS	Local Development Strategy. Each LAG completed a Local Development Strategy at the start of the programming period. They set out a coherent set of operations to meet local objectives and needs, which contribute to meeting the European Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and which are implemented in partnership at the appropriate level.
LEADER	LEADER is a French acronym, standing for ' <i>Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Économie Rurale</i> ', meaning 'Links between the rural economy and development actions'.
LU	Livestock Unit: Livestock refers to domesticated animals, such as cows and sheep, usually raised or kept for their meat and/or produce. See Regulation (EU) No808/2014 Annex II for conversion rates
Measure	A set of operations contributing to one or more of the Union priorities for rural development
Operation	A project, contract, action or group of projects selected by the managing authorities of the programmes concerned, or under their responsibility, that contributes to the objectives of a priority or priorities.
Output Indicator	There are 27 output indicators set by the EC for Rural Development. These Measure activities implemented within RDP/policy. Some output indicators apply to all Measures (e.g. total public expenditure), some apply to several Measures (e.g. area supported etc.) others are Measure specific (LEADER etc.). Outputs measure the progress of the project activities. Outputs therefore have to be capable of being forecast and delivered as part of the project. Progress on delivering the outputs is monitored during the life of the project/operation.
Participant	'Participants' refer to persons benefiting directly from an intervention. Only those persons who can be identified and asked for their personal data and for whom specific expenditure is earmarked shall be reported as a participant.
Priority	There are six EU Rural Development policy priorities that provide the basis for rolling out support from the EAFRD to rural areas. These are; Knowledge Transfer and Innovation, Farm Viability and Competitiveness, Food Chain Organisation and Risk Management, Restoring, Preserving and Enhancing Ecosystems, Resource-efficient, Climate-resilient Economy and Social Inclusion and Economic Development. See annex 1 for further information on Priorities and Focus Areas.
Project	A 'project' is the lowest unit of organisation of EAFRD funded activity and covers an activity/ activities implemented within the

	context of an operation. For the purposes of EAFRD a project and operation can, but not necessarily be one and the same.
Result Indicator	There are six complementary results indicators for the RDP. These Measure direct and immediate effects of RDP/policy and are linked to Focus Areas (Priorities 2 through to 5). Result indicators are intended to represent the change anticipated as a direct consequence of the intervention(s) through the CAP.
SME	<p>A micro, small or medium sized enterprise as defined in Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC.</p> <p>SME is an undertaking that employs less than 250 employees (based on full-time equivalents) and has an annual turnover not exceeding 50 million euros and/or an annual balance sheet total not exceeding 43 million euros. Part-time staff and seasonal workers should be treated as a fraction of a full time equivalent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SMEs consist of 3 sub-categories of enterprises: micro, small and medium; - micro enterprises employ less than 10 employees, small enterprises less than 50 employees, medium enterprises less than 250 employees; - the size of the enterprise also refers to the annual turnover and annual balance sheet total in certain situations.

Introduction

This guidance sets out the definitions of the indicators, and the data you will need to provide to Welsh Government for operations funded through the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme (WGRC-RDP) 2014-2020. It includes suggestions for the evidence you will need to collect to support your claims.

Monitoring

Monitoring is the observation of programme implementation and performance through a continuous and systematic process of generating quantitative and in some cases qualitative information.

Monitoring helps to detect and quantify any deviation from initial plans and targets and is a requirement of EAFRD funding. In addition to monitoring expenditure, monitoring progress against performance indicators enables outputs, such as the number of enterprises or participants supported, and results¹ to be measured.

Organisations delivering EU-funded operations are required to provide data to enable the progress of activities, including performance against key targets, to be monitored.

Monitoring data (output indicators and result/target indicators) should be compiled from data items recorded at an operation level. Data will need to be provided to support claims. Beneficiaries should collect additional monitoring data to enable evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the operation.

The data should be provided via WEFO online as a part of the claims process for socio-economic Schemes within the Programme. The Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 Programming document is available at:

<http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingandcountryside/cap/ruraldevelopment/wales-rural-development-programme-2014-2020/?lang=en>

This sets the overall aims of the programme within which operations/activities will take place.

Evaluation

Whilst monitoring can demonstrate what has been delivered, i.e. show the before and after situations, in order to attribute that change to the activities of the project you will need to undertake evaluation.

Evaluation examines the implementation and impact of the activities that have been delivered, to what extent the outputs and results can be attributed directly to those activities and looks at whether the anticipated effects and benefits have been realised.

¹ 'results' is the EU terminology for 'outcomes'.

All Local Action Groups (LAGs) are required to undertake an independent evaluation of the delivery of their Local Development Strategy (LDS).

Guidance on this can be found at:

<https://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/farmingandcountryside/cap/ruraldevelopment/wales-rural-development-programme-2014-2020/evaluation-guidance/?lang=en>

For further information on monitoring & evaluation please email the Strategy Team:
RDPMandE@gov.wales

Priorities and Focus Areas

Those delivering EU-funded projects are required to provide data to enable the progress, including performance against key targets, to be monitored.

Any intervention funded through the Programme must fit within the Priorities, the Focus Areas and the Measures as outlined within the Wales Programming document.

Proposed projects will need to be aligned to one of the Focus Areas under the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020. All Focus Areas have to contribute to the cross-cutting objectives of innovation, environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Further information on Priorities and Focus Areas can be found in the Scheme Guidance Notes issued to you and also on the RDP website pages.

Focus Areas – Reporting

All operations must align with a Focus Area within the Programme. It should be reported under the Focus Area (FA) which it belongs to (receives funding through). The purpose is to monitor what has been programmed. One operation should not be broken down, the expenditure and output indicators linked to that operation are entirely attributed to the relevant Focus Area.

In general, the Focus Area is known before the implementation. In the RDP, types of operations or Sub-Measures have been designed to address specific Focus Area(s) to respond to a need identified and in accordance with the programme strategy. This is the 'main' Focus Area for reporting monitoring and financial progress.

For each operation approved, additional contributions to other Focus Area(s) (if any) should also be reported on given the multi-purpose dimension of rural development operations it is important to monitor this secondary contribution. For the secondary Focus Areas (outside the Focus Area under which it is programmed and monitored), double counting is permissible (e.g. for expenditure; 100% of the total public expenditure of the operation is reported under the Focus Area(s) to which it has an additional contribution).

Indicator Definitions

Programme Indicators

The Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 is funded by the European Union's European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and by the Welsh Government. Within the Programme there are a range of Programme indicators² against which Welsh Government is required to report to the European Commission for activities funded through the EAFRD.

These indicators form part of a revised and streamlined monitoring system put in place by the European Commission and build on the 2007-2013 Rural Development Programme arrangements of monitoring and guidance.

The European Commission's (EC) monitoring of Programmes³ focuses on a core number of common output and result / target indicators that capture the progress of interventions towards agreed Programme objectives. These Programme indicators apply to all Member States and Managing Authorities which deliver EAFRD programmes to allow aggregation at an EU level.

In general;

- *Common Context (baseline) and output indicators* will be measured through information collected at the point of delivery, generally through administrative records to measure the direct activity realised within the interventions although there may be occasions when the information is better obtained by carrying out surveys.
- *Result and Target indicators* may be measured either through administrative records or through evaluation methods such as sample surveys to measure the intermediate effect of the programme.
- *Impact indicators*, on the other hand, will be determined at the evaluation stage at the end of the programme period, using input, output and result information but also other tools and wider sources of data to build up a picture of the net impact of the programme on its wider strategic objectives. It is important, at the start of your intervention, to consider the information required to calculate impact indicators so that data is available at project closure and evaluation stage.

² The EC mandated monitoring system as listed within EU Regulation 808/2014 contains: 45 common context (baseline) indicators; 26 Output indicators; 13 Performance Framework indicators; 25 results indicators; 24 target indicators; 16 impact indicators and 30 Common Evaluation Questions (CEQs).

³ Further information on monitoring and evaluation framework for Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) which includes Rural Development can be found at:
<http://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regexpert/index.cfm?do=groupDetail.groupDetailDoc&id=21095&no=3>

A list of LEADER Programme level indicators can be found below:

- O.1 Total Public Expenditure (data to be captured through claims)
- O.19 Number of LAGs selected
- O.18 Population covered by a LAG
- O.20 Number of LEADER projects supported
- O.21 Number of cooperation projects (inter-territorial / transnational)
- O.22 Number and type of project promoters
- O.23 Unique number of LAGs involved in cooperation projects

As the EC Programme indicators for the Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 capture high level information, supplementary Wales level ('case level') indicators have been developed to better capture the activity delivered (see section on 'Welsh Government - Case Level indicators' below).

Case Level Indicators

Recognising that the Programme indicators set by the European Commission may not fully capture the effects of the programme, additional (case level) indicators have been developed. These provide the opportunity to capture other important performance information regarding the performance of Schemes within the Programme and record the performance of project (operation) activity.

Projects will be required to provide Welsh Government with targets for each of the indicators selected. These targets will need to be broken down so that progress can be measured at various points during the lifetime of the project and projected forecasts of achievements provided.

A list of LEADER case level indicators can be found below:

- Number of Feasibility Studies
- Number of Networks established
- Number of jobs safeguarded
- Number of pilot activities undertaken/supported
- Number of Community Hubs
- Number of information dissemination actions to raise awareness of the LDS and/or its projects
- Number of promotional and/or marketing activities undertaken to promote the LDS and/or its projects
- Number of stakeholders engaged
- Number of participants supported
- Number of preparatory Technical Support projects supported
- LEADER Theme

Cross Cutting Themes

Welsh Government is required to collect and report financial and indicator data against all supported projects. This includes how projects will maximise their contribution towards the Welsh Government's Cross Cutting *Themes* of:

- Equality of Opportunity,
- Sustainable Development,
- Tackling Poverty and Social Exclusion
- Welsh Language.

This is in addition to the three European Commission set Cross Cutting *Objectives* for the Programme of:

- Innovation
- Environment
- Climate Change adaption and Mitigation

Many of the European set indicators capture information which can be used to report against these headings. Demographic information on individuals/businesses assisted and supported will be collected for relevant Schemes, in line with those used by the other ESI funds, this includes the following characteristics where applicable:

- Gender;
- Disability;
- Ethnicity; and
- Welsh language

O.18 Population Covered by LAG

This is the total population in all Local Action Groups (LAG) areas funded under LEADER in the country/region of the rural development programme. This indicator should not be attributed to any Focus Area (FA).

The definition of the benefiting population is the potential users: size of the population in the area (e.g. municipality, group of municipalities...) benefiting from the service/infrastructure

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – Number of habitants

Source of data and timing of reporting

Reported when LAG selected - Total rural population covered: recorded at selection of local development strategies (LDS) by MA/LAG. Application form plus confirmation/amendment on completion of operation if needed

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence:

National Statistics

O.19 Number of LAGs Selected

This indicator covers the total number of LAG's selected & number of LAG multi-funds. This indicator should not be attributed to any Focus Area (FA).

Additional Reporting:

Additional breakdown by Number of LAGs Selected is required for all Sub-Measures for this indicator. When reporting on WEFO Online, the figure in the breakdown should not exceed the total e.g. if the value for "Number of LAGs Selected" is 1, then 1 would also be recorded in the additional breakdown below:

- For all Sub-Measures the following Number of LAGs Selected breakdown will be required:
 - LAGs – multi funds
 - LAGs – other

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Reported when LAG selected

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence:

Selection by Welsh Government following application process

O.20 Number of LEADER Projects Supported

Number of LEADER projects supported – for each project, the LAG managers should identify what is the main objective of the project by using the list of Focus Areas (FA), the project is flagged with the most relevant/predominant FA to which it contributes).

LEADER is programmed entirely under Focus Area 6B although individual LEADER projects can contribute to different Focus Areas. When a LAG selects their operations, it is expected that, for each project selected, the LAG should identify the main objective of the project (by using the list of Focus Areas – see **Annex 1**, the project is flagged against the most relevant Focus Area). This indicative monitoring information will allow a link to be established between the LEADER achievements and the mainstream RDP monitoring. This data will be added to the achievements of the mainstream RDP to demonstrate the result of the RDP as a whole.

To monitor the contributions of the LEADER projects to the Focus Areas (FA), one indicator per project is collected. The indicator to be collected depends on the main FA the project contributes to. List of indicators to be collected depending on the most relevant objective of the LEADER project:

FA 1A	-
FA 1B	<p>Number of cooperation operations</p> <p>This indicator should record the number of cooperation operations supported other than EIP. One operation could either be equal to one project (e.g. drawing up of forest management plan) or not (e.g. non-CLLD local strategies...). One operation supported (group, network/cluster, non-CLLD local strategies ...) would probably implement several projects.</p>
FA 1C	<p>Number of participants trained</p> <p>This is the number of people who attend and complete a training course. For this indicator the same participant could be counted as many times as they participate in different training activities (double counting allowed). However the unique number of participants who attend the training should be recorded within a database as evidence of the training(s) and include information such as; name, date of birth, type of participant (farming, food, forestry etc.), gender, personal and unique identification number for each participant, number of hours of training received (per participant), a unique identification number of the training, information on the content of the training and a unique identification number of the training provider, along with a field indicating whether or not the application/training has been approved and whether it was completed.</p>
FA 2A & 2B	<p>Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported</p> <p>Beneficiaries are individuals or entities other than farm holdings which received support. If holdings and beneficiaries are supported under the same Sub-Measures, they are added up</p>

	with no distinction. Additional breakdown by Age and Gender should be recorded
FA 3A & 3B	Number of holdings supported or participating in supported schemes The number of farm holdings participating / receiving support
FA 4A, 4B & 4C	Total area (agriculture)
FA 4A, 4B & 4C	Total area (forestry)
FA 5A	Total area
FA 5B & 5C	Total investment Total investment equals the sum of all public and private expenditure (eligible expenditure only) of all the tangible and/or intangible investments made for completed operations supported under a particular investment Measure/Sub-Measure. If no private part is invested, the total investment should equal the total public expenditure value. Unit of reporting: Financial (£ GBP) - For expenditure all figures should be rounded to the nearest whole value.
FA 5D	Total area or number of Livestock Units (LU)
FA 5E	Total area
FA 6A	-
FA 6B	Population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures Total population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures. This output indicator will count the potential population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures, including breakdown between non-ICT operations, broadband and other ICT. It will count population several times if several operations are supported in the same municipality (double counting). However, the unique population benefitting should also be recorded where municipalities and related population are counted only once (no double counting). The 'population that will benefit', referred to in the indicator is dependant on the size and reach of the project in question
FA 6C	Population benefiting from improved ICT services /Infrastructures Total population benefiting from improved ICT services/infrastructures (broadband, other ICT or others). This output indicator will count the potential population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures, including breakdown between non-ICT operations, broadband and other ICT. It will count population several times if several operations are supported in the same municipality (double counting). However, the unique population benefitting should also be recorded where municipalities and related population are counted only once (no double counting). The 'population that will benefit', referred to in the indicator is dependant on the size and reach of the project in question

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only (projects supported)

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application – reported when completed

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19.2

Audit Evidence:

Confirmation from LAG admin body

O.21 Number of Cooperation Projects Supported

This indicator records the number of cooperation projects supported broken down by either inter-territorial cooperation or transnational cooperation. The indicator should not be attributed to any Focus Area.

Additional Reporting:

Additional breakdown by Type of Cooperation Project is required for this indicator.

When reporting on WEFO Online, the figure in the breakdown should not exceed the total e.g. if the value for “Number of Cooperation Projects Supported” is 1, then 1 would also be recorded against the additional breakdown as shown below:

- Cooperation inter-territorial
- Cooperation transnational
- Cooperation preparatory technical support

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application – reported once first payment made.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19.3

Audit Evidence:

Confirmation from LAG admin body

O.22 Number and Type of Project Promoters

A breakdown by the number and type of Project Promoter (beneficiary of funding) is required for projects.

Additional Reporting:

When reporting on WEFO Online, the figure in the breakdown should not exceed the total e.g. if the value for “Number of project promoters” is 1, then 1 would also be recorded against the additional breakdown shown below:

- Non Government Organisation (NGOs)
- Local Action Groups (LAGs)
- Public bodies
- micro, small or medium sized enterprise (SMEs)
- Others (e.g. voluntary organisations)

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application – reported once first payment made

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19.2

Audit Evidence:

Confirmation from LAG admin body

O.23 Unique Number of LAGs Involved in Cooperation Project

A breakdown by of the unique number of LAGs involved in Co-operation projects is required.

Additional Reporting:

When reporting on WEFO Online, the figure in the breakdown should not exceed the total e.g. if the value for “Unique Identification Number of LAG Involved in Cooperation Project” is 1, then 1 would also be recorded against the additional breakdown shown below:

- Cooperation inter-territorial
- Cooperation transnational

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Reported once first payment made

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19.3

Audit Evidence:

Confirmation from LAG admin body based on information contained within the cooperation partnership agreement

R.24/T.23. Jobs Created Through Supported Projects (LEADER)

Number of jobs created in Full Time Equivalents (FTE) through support for implementation of operations under the Local Development Strategy (LDS) funded through the Programme under LEADER. A job 'created' is a completely new job that would not have existed without LEADER funding.

Jobs created through support for implementation of operations under the LDS under LEADER should record the gender of the job holder. The target set in the RDP is not broken down by gender but data collected during the implementation should be broken down by gender.

Only new jobs actually created should be counted, which excludes jobs maintained. It relates to employment when the project is up and running, i.e. if the project is creation of a farm shop, it does not include employment created during the design/construction building phase – consultant/architect/builders, but the employment which is created when the shop is running (manager, sales assistants, etc.).

Voluntary work should not be counted but self-employment is included. Indicator is calculated in FTE; therefore, if an existing halftime job is transformed into a full time job, the value of the indicator is 0.5 (a half job is considered created).

To count one job created, the duration of the contract should be one year or more (e.g. a six month contract at 100% is 0.5).

Unit of reporting

Numerical – one decimal place

Source of data and timing of reporting

Recorded at selection of projects (business plans), provided by LAGs to MAs at the completion of the projects and validated through sample of completed projects, which will also assess the gender of job holders. A project is deemed to be completed when the final payment to the project promoter has been issued. Indicator data should be submitted in quarter 1 of the year after the project was completed.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against Focus Area 6B the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

All of the following:

- Written confirmation from the beneficiary supported by the RDP that a FTE job has been created
- Written confirmation of the division by SOC and sector
- Job description

Number of Jobs Safeguarded Through Supported Projects

Jobs safeguarded are where jobs are known to be at risk over the next 12 months.

Jobs should be scored as FTE and permanent (a seasonal job may be scored provided the job is expected to recur indefinitely; the proportion of the year worked should also be recorded). The job itself should be scored, not an estimate of how many people may occupy the job.

If the job is not fulltime then the hours per week will need to be divided by 30 to find the proportion of FTE represents (e.g. 18 hours per week would be 0.6 FTE). Gender of the post holder should also be recorded.

Unit of reporting

FTE – numerical one decimal place

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application forms/business plans (expected outcome); validated through sample of completed projects (accounts – payroll)

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

All of the following:

- Written confirmation from the supported project that a FTE job has been safeguarded
- Written confirmation of the division by SOC and sector

Number of Participants Supported

Participants: number of people who attend an event to disseminate information, etc.

Please note that the number on receipt of any kind of mail-shot associated with the dissemination of information (e.g. the distribution of a report summary) cannot be counted as participants.

For example;

Participants in an awareness session.

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form (expected outcome), ongoing reporting, plus confirmation / amendment on completion of the operation.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

All of the following:

- Written record of the number of participants.
- event details; evidence that event was supported by the RDP e.g. invoice and proof of payment

Number of Networks Established

This indicator records the number of formal networks that are formed/created due to a common interest as a direct result of advice, assistance or financial support from the RDP and were not in existence prior to programme involvement.

(Each network can be scored only once over the life of the approved programme)

For example: A creation of special interest network.

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form, ongoing reporting, plus confirmation / amendment on completion of the operation.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

All of the following:

- Details of objectives
 - Details of activities
 - List of members
 - Meeting dates, agendas & minutes.
-

Number of Feasibility Studies

Number of specific feasibility studies commissioned or undertaken through the project/programme to provide the background research for a specific problem or issue (within specific project/business/community group/community of interest) and the production of a comprehensive written appraisal of the issues, the alternative solutions, the financial costings, a detailed risk analysis and recommendations for the next steps.

For example;

A technical assessment or a plan for marketing a specific product/ service or a market infrastructure report; etc.

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form, ongoing reporting, plus confirmation/amendment on completion of the operation.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

- Hard copy of the final report.
-

Number of Stakeholders Engaged

Stakeholder:

A stakeholder is any group or individual who can affect or is affected by the achievement of the project objectives. These can be people, groups or entities that have a role and interest in the objectives and implementation of a project. They include the community whose situation the project or programme seeks to change.

Engagement:

Engagement is defined as stakeholders who become actively involved in the project's implementation at any stage.

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form, ongoing reporting, plus confirmation/amendment on completion of the operation.

For example;

A stakeholder engagement through Networking, animation, or consultation.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

- Details of the relevant engagement activities.
 - Attendance records if relevant.
-

Number of Pilot Activities Undertaken/Supported

A project planned as trial designed to test a given approach for a limited group of beneficiaries over a limited period; intended to attract future activity in the field/discipline or sector.

A pilot project can be deemed to be completed when a technical assessment has been completed. Number of pilot activities undertaken/ supported through the capacity building activities, broken down as follows;

- New approaches
- New products
- New processes
- New services

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only (pilots completed)

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form, ongoing reporting. Completion of the project, baseline evidence, evidence that pilot (and technical) assessment have been completed.

For example;

Testing a new approach(es) to a product/service marketing.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

A plan outlining all of the:

- The stages/ activities in the pilot.

Number of Community Hubs

The number of new community hubs that were formed as a direct result of the LEADER programme.

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form, ongoing reporting, plus confirmation/amendment on completion of the operation.

For example: Creation of a themed/specialist hub.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

All of the following:

- Details of objectives
 - Details of activities
 - List of members
 - Meeting dates, agendas & minutes.
-

Number of Information Dissemination Actions/Promotional and/or Marketing Activities to Raise Awareness of the LDS and/or Projects

The number of actions undertaken by the Local Action Group to raise awareness and explain the aim, objectives and activities undertaken via the Local Development Strategy to the rural population.

The number of planned and targeted activities undertaken by the Local Action Group that promote the Local Development Strategy and its projects OR the production and distribution of materials aimed at marketing and promoting the Local Development Strategy and its projects. This indicator is split into:

- Number of *information dissemination actions* undertaken to *raise awareness* of the LDS and/or its projects.
- Number of *promotional and /or marketing activities* undertaken to *promote* the LDS and/or its project.

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form, ongoing reporting, plus confirmation/amendment on completion of the operation.

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

- Hard copies of the materials.

LEADER Theme

Activities under LEADER must link with at least one of the five LEADER themes for Wales. The relevant LEADER Theme(s) should be selected:

- LEADER Theme 1: Adding value to local identity and natural and cultural resources
- LEADER Theme 2: Facilitating pre-commercial development business partnerships and short supply chains
- LEADER Theme 3: Exploring new ways of providing non-statutory local services
- LEADER Theme 4: Renewable energy at Community level
- LEADER Theme 5: Exploitation of digital technology

Source of data and timing of reporting

Application form, ongoing reporting, plus confirmation / amendment on completion of the operation.

Unit of reporting

Numerical (no decimal places) – whole values only

Source of data and timing of reporting

Reported when LAG selected

Measures to be reported against:

This indicator should be reported against the following Measure(s)/Sub-Measure(s):

19

Audit Evidence

Written confirmation from the LAG admin body as to theme(s) selected for each approved project

Priorities and Focus Areas

Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 (WGRC – RDP 2014-2020) is the programme delivering the second Pillar of the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) within Wales.

It is a joint programme with the European Commission as the Welsh Government has to co-finance the European allocation in order for it to be drawn down.

For the Welsh Government the key objectives for the WGRC – RDP 2014-2020 are to:

- Deliver and support healthy, functioning biodiverse ecosystems;
- Increase skills, knowledge and innovation;
- Promote strong, sustainable economic growth;
- Support strong, resilient and vibrant communities; and
- Satisfy the need to address short term issues whilst supporting action that addresses the implications for the longer term.

The parallel European objectives are set out in Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 on support for Rural Development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and are as follows:

- The competitiveness of agriculture
- Ensuring the sustainable management of natural resources, and climate action;
- Achieving a balanced territorial development of rural economies and communities including the creation and maintenance of employment.”

These objectives are then supported by **6 Priorities** which have been further broken down into **18 Focus Areas (FA)**:

Priority 1: Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture, forestry, and rural areas

FA 1(a) Fostering innovation and the knowledge base in rural areas

FA 1(b) Strengthening the links between agriculture and forestry and research innovation

FA 1(c) Fostering lifelong learning and vocational training in the agricultural and forestry sectors

Priority 2: Enhancing competitiveness of all types of agriculture and enhancing farm viability

FA 2(a) Facilitating restructuring of farms facing major structural problems, notably farms with a low degree of market participation, market-oriented farms in particular sectors and farms in need of agricultural diversification

FA 2(b) Facilitating generational renewal in the agricultural sector

Priority 3: Promoting food chain organisation and risk management in agriculture

FA 3(a) Better integrating primary producers into the food chain through quality schemes, promotion in local markets and short supply circuits, producer groups and inter-branch organisations

FA 3(b) Supporting farm risk management

Priority 4: Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems dependent on agriculture and forestry

FA 4(a) Restoring and preserving biodiversity, including in Natura 2000 areas and high nature value farming, and the state of European landscapes

FA 4(b) Improving water management

FA 4(c) Improving soil management

Priority 5: Promoting resource efficiency and supporting the shift towards a low carbon and climate resilient economy in agriculture, food and forestry sectors

FA 5(a) Increasing efficiency in water use by agriculture

FA 5(b) Increasing efficiency in energy use in agriculture and food processing

FA 5(c) Facilitating the supply and use of renewable sources of energy, of by-products, wastes, residues and other non-food raw material for purposes of the bio-economy

FA 5(d) Reducing nitrous oxide and methane emissions from agriculture

FA 5(e) Fostering carbon sequestration in agriculture and forestry

Priority 6: Promoting social inclusion poverty reduction and economic development in rural areas

FA 6(a) Facilitating diversification, creation of new small enterprises and job creation

FA 6(b) Fostering local development in rural areas

FA 6(c) Enhancing accessibility to, use and quality of information and communication technologies (ICT) in rural areas

All these priorities have to contribute to the cross-cutting objectives of innovation, environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

LEADER is programmed under Focus Area 6b ('Fostering local development in rural areas') however for each individual project the LAG should identify what the main objective of the project and attribute to the most relevant Focus Area, recording progress against the one indicator for that Focus Area.

The list of indicators to be collected depending on the most relevant objective of the LEADER project is provided below:

FA 1A	-
FA 1B	Number of cooperation operations
FA 1C	Number of participants trained
FA 2A & 2B	Number of holdings/beneficiaries supported
FA 3A & 3B	Number of holdings supported or participating in supported schemes
FA 4A, 4B & 4C	Total area (agriculture)
FA 4A, 4B & 4C	Total area (forestry)
FA 5A	Total area
FA 5B & 5C	Total investment
FA 5D	Total area or number of LU
FA 5E	Total area
FA 6A	-
FA 6B	Population benefiting from improved services/infrastructures
FA 6C	Population benefiting from improved ICT services / Infrastructures

For more information see indicator '[Number of LEADER projects supported](#)'