



JRC MACRO-REGIONAL INNOVATION WEEK

*The role of CLLD in supporting innovation and industrial modernization in the agro-food sector and for rural development.
AREA Science Park and the Karst LAG case-study*

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AREA SCIENCE PARK: KEY FACTS

Public national research institution, supervised by **MIUR**. A leading science and technology park established in 1978.

Hosts **82 R&D High-Tech Centres**
74 private companies
8 public research bodies

Develops innovative start-ups through its **incubator** Innovation Factory



Turnover: 17M€/year
4 M€/year innovative projects on competitive funds only

130 staff in AREA
2.600 staff in tenant centres

2 campuses
for R&D activities

Sectors of our tenant organizations:

- life sciences
- energy
- environment
- new materials
- digital technologies

We deal directly with

- innovation management in several industrial sectors;
- enterprise creation through our certified incubator;
- policy development, capacity building for innovation actions;
- valorization and management of technological platforms.



What happens when a Local Action Group and a science and technology park meet?



Karst LAG

Programme: LEADER (est. 2008) CLLD

Area: 255 Km²

22% population

Partners: 13 municipalities (some partially), 1 bank, 8 stakeholder organizations, 2 county authorities



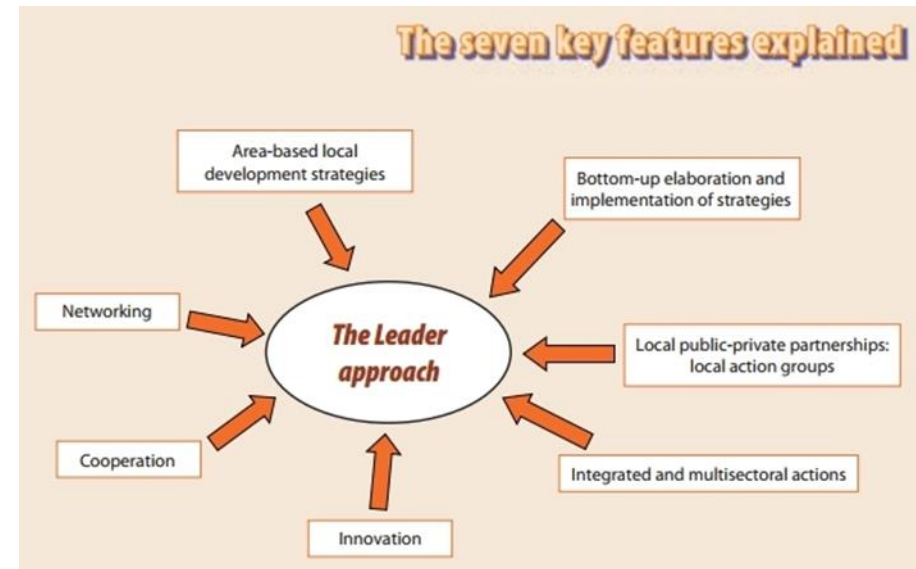
What we share:

- TERRITORY: AREA's 2 campuses in the Karst
- INNOVATION: focus on product and process innovation in rural development
- SMART SPECIALIZATION STRATEGY (FVG REGION): 3/5
 - Agro-food;
 - Smart health;
 - Culture, creativity, tourism.



Preparing the Karst Local Development Strategy

- **Desk analysis** (geographic, socio-economic, sector-specific data and trends)
- **A 'harvest of ideas'** (questionnaires, 83+ meetings in the territory > over 150 ideas)
- **Definition of strategic sectors of intervention and objectives**



Sustainable innovation for

- Development and competitiveness of local agro-food production chains
- Sustainable tourism
- Social inclusion

Sectors of agro-food production:

- viticulture;
- olive growing;
- officinal herbs;
- apiculture;
- pig, cow, sheep, horse breeding;
- local produce distribution;

How innovation meets rural economy in the Karst territory: a few examples

AREA Science Park's job: matching needs with technological solutions for product, process and organizational innovation bridging the gap between the R&D world and rural economy



1) DSS and Smart Technology for Agricultural Crops monitoring and Water Risk management

Wi-for-Agri solutions



Qualitative and quantitative growth



Reduce pesticide use and saving water



Optimization of crop management



Reduction of the environmental impact



2) DNA profiling for traceability, identification of pathogens



3) Electronic nose for cork contamination screening



4) Wireless fencing for free-range livestock husbandry



Conclusions

**Industrial modernisation in the agro-food sector and for rural development:
a quadruple helix approach**



Wide-ranging policies
(CAP, IPARD, LEADER,
regional & national S3)

Sustainable innovation

Thank you for
your attention!



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