Basic information

1999/2185(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Rural development : guidelines for the the Community LEADER+ initiative **Subject** 3.10.01.02 Rural development, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	PROCACCI Giovanni (ELDR)	19/10/1999

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
RETT Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism	NOGUEIRA ROMÁN Camilo (V/ALE)	24/11/1999

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Agriculture and Rural Development	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
13/10/1999	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1999)0475	Summary
01/12/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
31/01/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
31/01/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0024/2000	
14/02/2000	Debate in Parliament		
15/02/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0048/2000	Summary
15/02/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/11/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/2185(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/5/12175

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0024/2000 OJ C 339 29.11.2000, p. 0005	31/01/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0048/2000 OJ C 339 29.11.2000, p. 0023-0052	15/02/2000	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1999)0475	13/10/1999	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1133/1999 OJ C 051 23.02.2000, p. 0085	08/12/1999	
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0327/1999 OJ C 156 06.06.2000, p. 0018	16/02/2000	

Rural development : guidelines for the the Community LEADER+ initiative

1999/2185(COS) - 15/02/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted the report by Mr. Giovanni Procacci (ELDR, It) on the resolution on the LEADER+ rural development programme by 498 votes for to 3 against, with 15 abstentions. It urges the Commission to adopt a flexible approach in the light of the CAP reforms and to consult fully with local representatives. In addition, the European Parliament stresses that an action plan must cover a large number of initiatives and proposals, so as to deal with local problems and meet local expectations. It calls upon the Commission and national and regional authorities to make their own accounting requirements known in order to simplify financial management of Leader +. The European Parliament also believes that the Commission should establish more detailed timetables, deadlines and procedures, to be binding on all parties in order to discourage the defaults and delays caused in large part by lack of efficiency at the level of the institutional intermediaries. Furthermore, the EP calls on the Commission to submit to the Parliament, as soon as possible, an evaluation report on Leader II and also inform it of any conclusions and implications relevant to the Leader + programme. This will also be useful for special Community programmes, particularly in order to take advantage in the future of the experience obtained and to help projects which have been concluded successfully under Leader as a whole develop into specialised EU programmes. Moreover, the EP

considers that the Commission should assume the tasks intended for the Observatory of Rural Areas as part of its duties and ensure that the progress of Leader + is mentioned. There were also a number of references made in the text to the importance of rural communities and the importance of 'bottom-up' participation in initiatives. In conclusion, the European Parliament stresses that the guidelines for Leader + must now be adopted as quickly as possible, so that local action groups in the Member States can draw up their projects and submit them in good time for approval to the Commission. In addition, this is to ensure that there is sufficient take-up of the funds made available in the budget before the end of 2000.

Rural development : guidelines for the the Community LEADER+ initiative

1999/2185(COS) - 13/10/1999 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : laying down guidelines for the Community Initiative for Rural Development (Leader+). CONTENT : the new initiative will complement the "mainstream" programmes by promoting integrated schemes created by active partnerships operating at the local level. The aim of LEADER+ is to encourage and support rural actors in thinking about the longer term potential of their area. It seeks to encourage the implementation of integrated, high quality, original strategies for sustainable development designed to encourage experimenting with new ways of enhancing the natural and cultural heritage, reinforcing the economic environment, in order to contribute to job creation and improving the organisational abilities of their community. LEADER+ will be structured around three actions : - action 1: support for integrated territorial rural development strategies of a pilot nature based on the bottom-up approach and horizontal partnerships; - action 2: support for cooperation between rural territories; - action 3: networking between all rural areas in the European Union, whether or not they are beneficiaries under LEADER+, and all rural development actors. Unlike LEADER I and LEADER II, all rural areas will be eligible under LEADER+. However, a limited number of areas will benefit from Community financial support under actions 1 and 2 after an open and rigorous selection procedure. The total contribution of the EAGGF Guidance Section for the period 2000-06 will be EUR 2020 million at 1999 prices.