

European Manager of Intelligent and Responsible Territories (GETIR) PROJECT

PROJECT NUMBER: 510283-LLP-1-2010-1-ES-LEONARDO-LMP

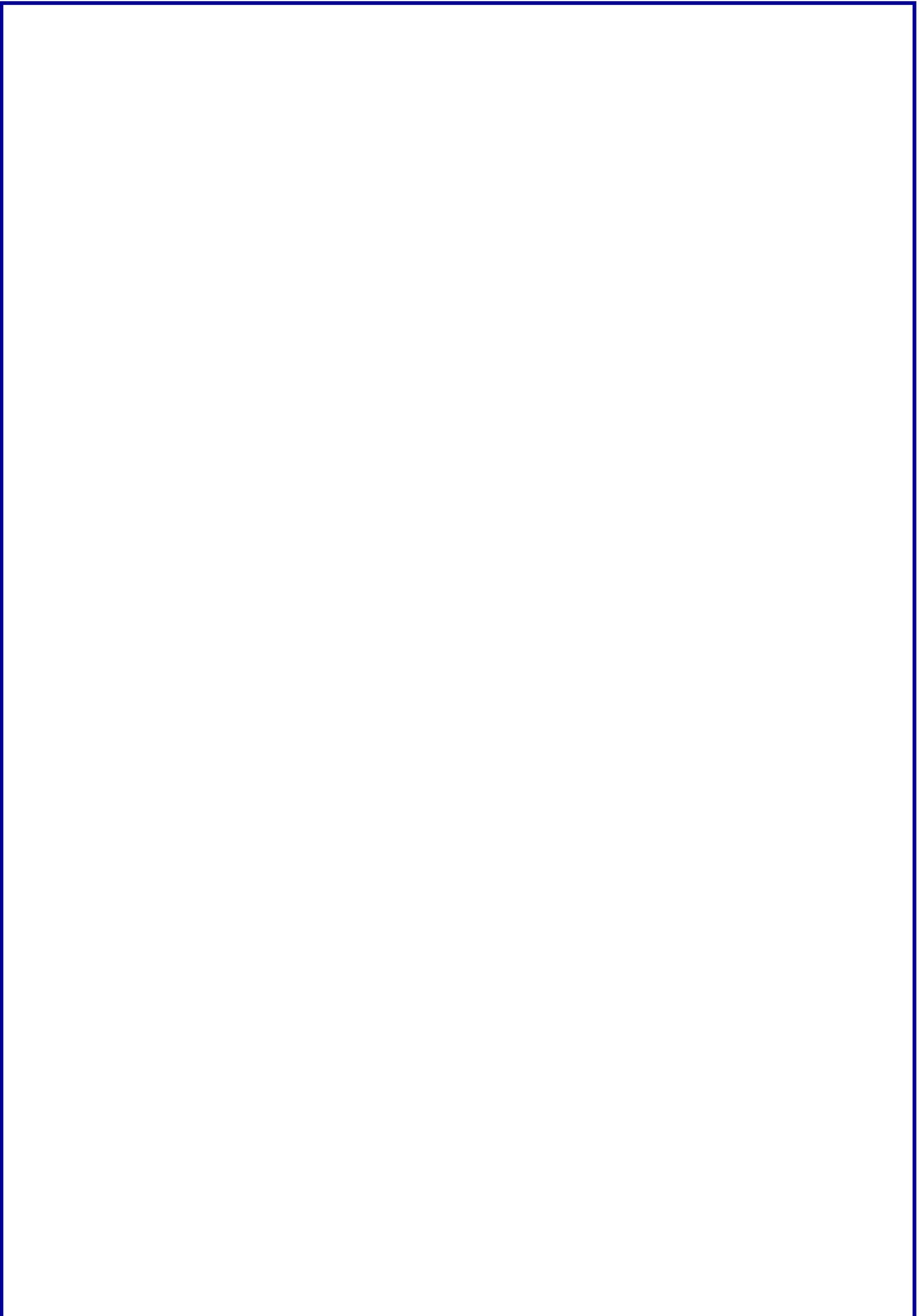
EX ANTE EVALUATION REPORT

Promoter and Internal Evaluation:



Financed by:





INDEX

INTRODUCTION	1
METHODOLOGY	3
GETIR EX ANTE EVALUATION	5
INITIAL REASONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT	5
PROJECT COMPREHENSION AND FORESEEN IMPLEMENTATION	5
ANY OTHER COMMENT	6
MAIN CONCLUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	6

INTRODUCTION

European Manager of Intelligent and Responsible Territories - GETIR project is a European Project approved under Lifelong Learning call in 2010. This, at least, means that:

- There is a partnership or consortium at European level which will be in charge of the development of the whole project
- That partnership is made of independent organizations:
 - From different countries
 - With different expertise and background
 - With different experience in working in EU projects
 - Of different sizes
- Some partners know each other and have worked together in the past but some others don't so:
- The partnership as a whole is a NEW partnership and all together will have to implement a 2 years project.

The success of the project will depend on several different factors, but there are some which can be identified and evaluated from the very beginning of the project and it will allow the partnership to define and develop ways and tools to avoid future problems.

So, that's one of the main aims of this ex ante evaluation:

To analyze interests, feelings, expectations and fears of all partners from GETIR's partnership regarding:

- The partnership itself
- The project's definition / foreseen implementation
- The project's defined timetable
- The project's foreseen final products

As it has been already explained, one of the main components to success in a project development is the partnership itself in all terms (communication, relationship, fulfillment of expectations, etc...), and this is not important just for implementation but also –and even more- for some key transversal themes in all European projects:

- ***Internal Management and communication:***
Process of monitoring and reporting a project implementation, including relationship and exchange with project’s partners and European Commission.
- ***Monitoring and Evaluation (Participatory):***
Evaluation (at project level) is a crucial phase for projects since it allows a review and qualitative and quantitative assessment of: 1) the results achieved against the aims (as regards activities/products); 2) the means used to achieve these results in relation to the contractually agreed budget.¹
Participatory monitoring and evaluation (PM&E) is the joint effort or partnership of two or more stakeholders (such as researchers, farmers, government officials, extension workers) to monitor and evaluate, systematically, one or more research or development activities².
- ***Valorization (Dissemination and Exploitation):***
Process of disseminating and exploiting the results of projects with a view to optimizing their value, strengthening their impact, transferring them, integrating them in a sustainable way and using them actively in systems and practices at local, regional, national and European levels³
- ***Sustainability:***
Process by which crucial activities and results of the project are maintained and continue to deliver benefits to the target group, structure, sector or system after the end of the EU funding⁴

¹ The Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013 – Glossary. (European Commission, DG Education and Training) http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/llp/guide/glossary_en.html

² Vernooy et al., 2003

³ *Dissemination and Exploitation of Results*. (European Commission, DG Education and Culture, Directorate Communication and culture, Unit C3)

⁴ *TRANSFER OF INNOVATION. Sustainability of European Cooperation Projects in VET*. Check list for Project Coordinators. (European Commission, DG Education and Culture, Lifelong Learning Programme, Leonardo Da Vinci)

As it can be achieved from previous definition all of them imply involvement of all partners which makes always easier the best implementation of the project. In this way a good (not only in terms of right partners but also in terms of quality in the relationship and common goals) partnership will:

- make it easier for the coordinator, avoiding extra efforts and resources waste
- jointly solve possible problems or deviations from original plan and learn together during the process
- make a wider dissemination and exploitation plan with bigger impact at EU level and a common message
- find future possibilities to exploit project and products in different sectors, countries...

But for these it is necessary to share aims, to understand the project in the same way, to implement systematic and clear communication system and, most of all, to share it.

And this brings us to the second aim of this ex ante evaluation:

To analyze and share among the partnership:

- Reasons of each organization / person for becoming a partner in the project
- Expectations and fears

Which will allow us to compare with the interim evaluation and final one and check whether those expectations were jointly achieved or not.

METHODOLOGY

For the ex ante evaluation we will avoid filling in questionnaires as much as possible, working with it in an informal way and helping the partners to know each others' feelings. Evaluation is a share monitoring but also learning activity and, from our point of view, it is very important to know what the rest of the partners think, feel, expect, desire or fear and check how much we share it or how much we can solve together.

With that premise, the evaluator will propose and show a power point slide with an “itinerary” of themes to be answered by all people attending and involve in the project. This “itinerary” will include next issues:

INITIAL REASONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT

All partners have always a strong reason to participate in the project, the aim of this question is to know what that reason was -which is usually link to the partner’s general expectations for the project- and check whether the proposal was fully understood and compare, at the end of the project with final evaluation, whether that reason / expectation was fulfilled or not.

- Why did you decide to participate in this project?

PROJECT COMPREHENSION AND FORESEEN IMPLEMENTATION

It seems that even when proposal has been written together by all partners, or at least shared before preparing and submitting, it is always easier to write it than implementing and it comes that once the project is approved there are some things that seem not to be as clear as they were, some others that could have been misunderstood or some which seemed to be more difficult when writing that now. With the first part of implementation, timetable and final products / results we want all partners to share expectations and fears and work with it as a kind of positive and less positive feelings’ thermometer.

- What are your expectations regarding the project:
 - Implementation and timetable
 - Final products / results
 - Partnership
- What are your fears regarding the project:
 - Implementation and timetable
 - Final products / results
 - Partnership

ANY OTHER COMMENT

Let’s give all of us the opportunity to share any other thing you have in mind!

The ex ante evaluation will take place during the last day of the kick off meeting and once the project has been already explained and clarified by the promoter / coordinator. The reason is that the partners have already had some time to present themselves one to another, to go through all working plan in detail, to check monitoring and financial issues... so whole information should be now much clearer than the first day of the kick off meeting, first time in the morning, and it should be clear enough to start working step by step in the project; better to share it now, that we still have time to work, than later.

Those were the reasons why we proposed to do it as a joint out loud activity during the kick off meeting in Noja, with presence and participation of all partners.

GETIR EX ANTE EVALUATION

INITIAL REASONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE PROJECT

PROJECT COMPREHENSION AND FORESEEN IMPLEMENTATION

What are your EXPECTATIONS regarding the project:

- Implementation and timetable
 -
 -
- Final products / results
 -
 -
- Partnership
 -

What are your FEARS regarding the project:

- Implementation and timetable
 -
 -
- Final products / results
 -
 -
 -
- Partnership
 -

ANY OTHER COMMENT

-

MAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
