



7TH FORUM OF THE GREEK LEADER+ NETWORK

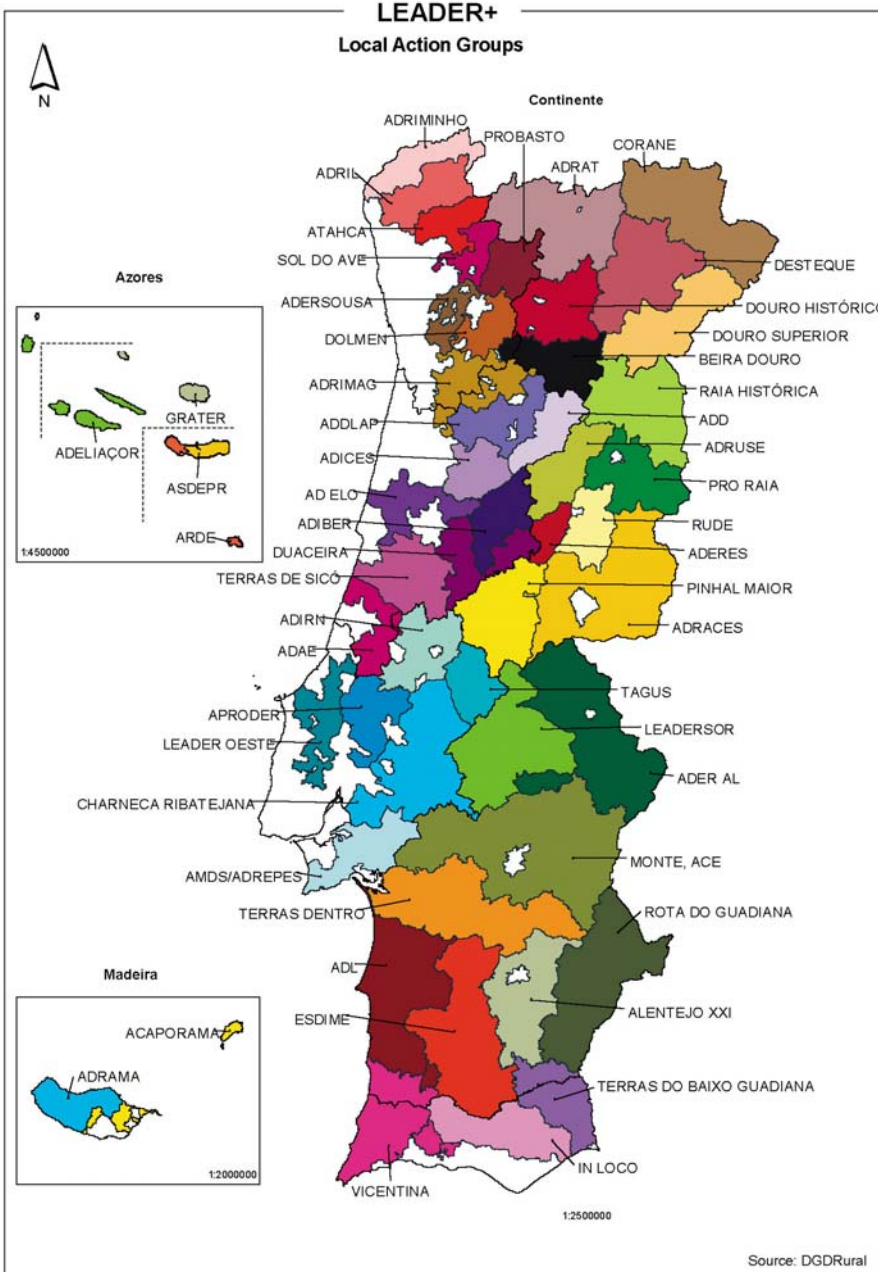
8 - 9 JULY 2006

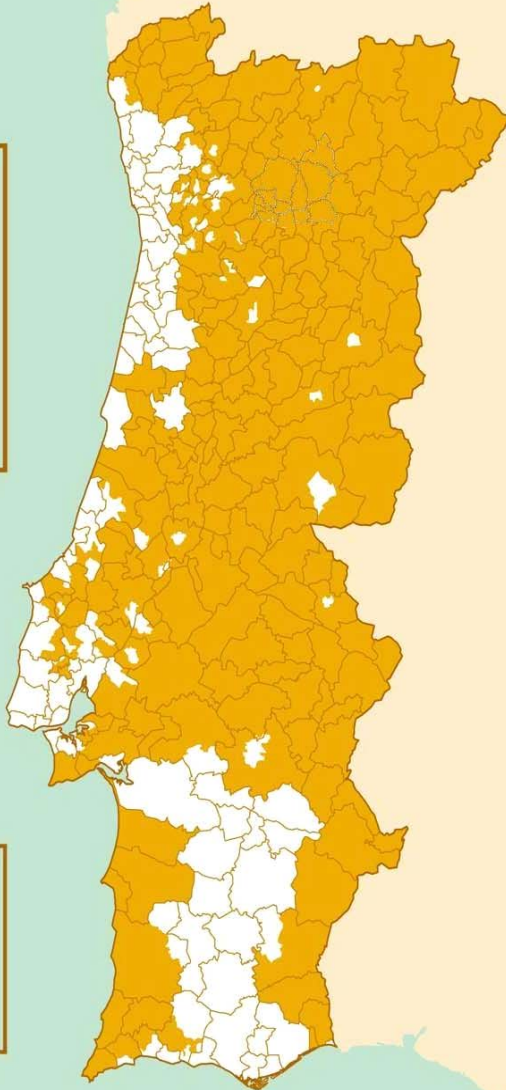
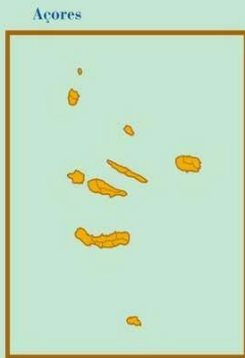
Neos Marmaras – Chalkidiki - GR



LEADER+ IN PORTUGAL

- 2001– 2006
- 52 rural territories / LAG's
- 87,5% of national territory
- LAG = partnerships = Local Development Associations





- **ORIGIN:** February 2000
- **MEMBERS:** 48 Local Development Associations, managing rural development programs all over the country (LEADER+ LAG's)
- **OBJECTIVES:** Networking; representation, lobbying and technical support to local development initiatives
- www.minhaterra.pt

IMPLEMENTING NETWORKING ACTIVITIES (1)

Under LEADER+ axis 3:

- 1 seminar on cooperation (May 2003)
- 7 (in 2004) + 4 (in 2005) training actions on “control and auditing – internal procedures” to LAG
- 1 seminar (Dec. 2004) on Rural Development and Landscape Management to LAG and other
- Exhibition on Rural Development and Desertification in the Portuguese Parliament (June 2006) UN – IYDD
- 2 training actions on Project Management (Oct. 2006)





Under LEADER+ axis 2

The “Seeds for the future” project

In Portugal 46 LAG’s built a national cooperation project with MINHA TERRA to:

- Follow-up the European rural development policy
- Promote the mainstreaming of the LEADER approach in the national rural development policies
- Find / design alternative funding to local development activities in rural areas

Under other programs

- **7 training actions on Project Management and Financial Management (2005-2006)**

- **5 EQUAL projects (dissemination)**
 - **Entrepreneurship and alternative financing**
 - **Eco tourism**
 - **Third sector capacity building**
 - **Rural development training kit**
 - **Equal opportunities for disadvantaged people**



THE PRIORITIES IN THE AGENDA

The Portuguese National Strategic Plan for Rural Development 2007 - 2013

- **Should be finished until the end of July 2005**
- **FEADER Axis**
 - **Axis 1: 45-55%**
 - **Axis 2: 35-45%**
 - **Axis 3 10-20% (“mostly” managed under LEADER approach)**
- **Transition areas are out of axis 3 and LEADER**
- **Financial autonomy and payments ??**
- **“New LEADER” starting in the middle of 2007**

