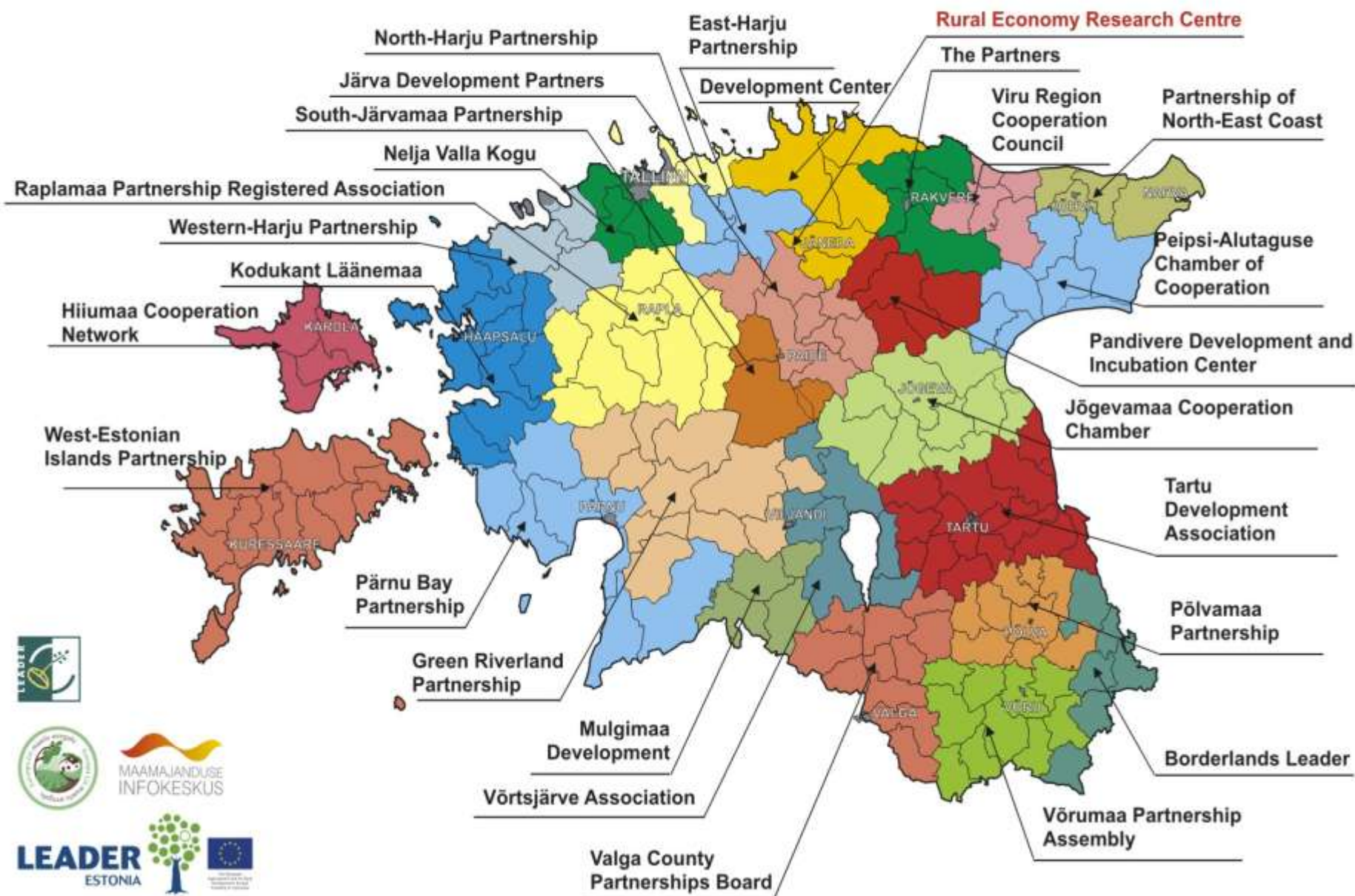




Leader approach and cooperation projects in Estonia

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LEADER ACTION GROUPS IN ESTONIA





- 26 action groups
- 99,9% of Estonian rural area (42 836 km²) is covered by local action groups
- Population of the territory covered by local action groups – 1/3 of total Estonian population



- Local action group operates as a non-profit association
- Size of the territory in which a local action group operates
- Members of a local action group
- Each member may belong to only one local action group

A total of 1718 members. On an average, each local action group has 66 members, varying from 33 to 101.

49% of members represent the non-profit sector

39% are undertakings

12% represent local governments

42% are diversifiers of rural economy

40% are promoters of local development

15% represent agriculture and forestry and the agricultural and forestry products processing industry

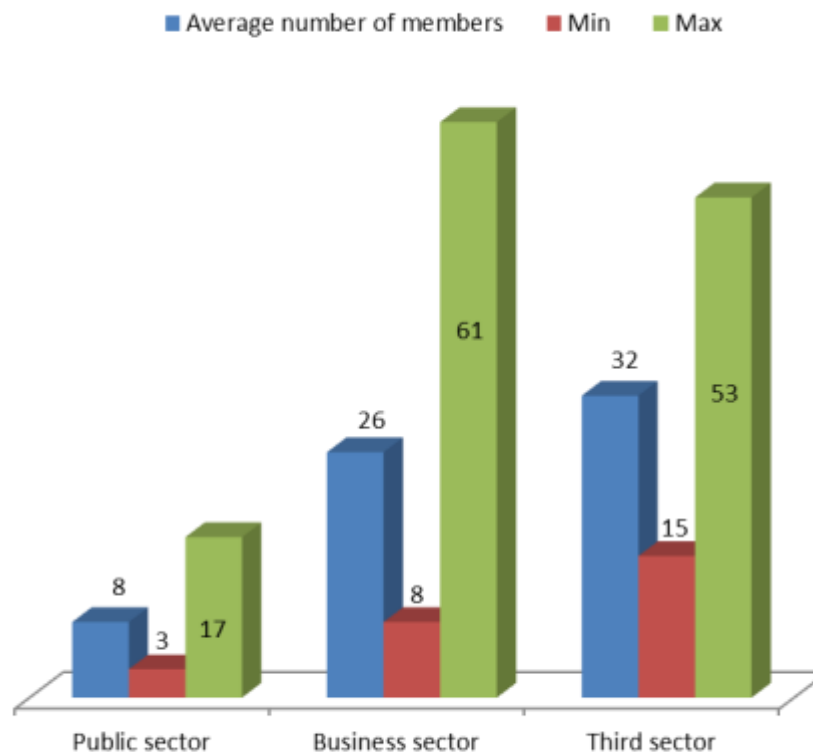
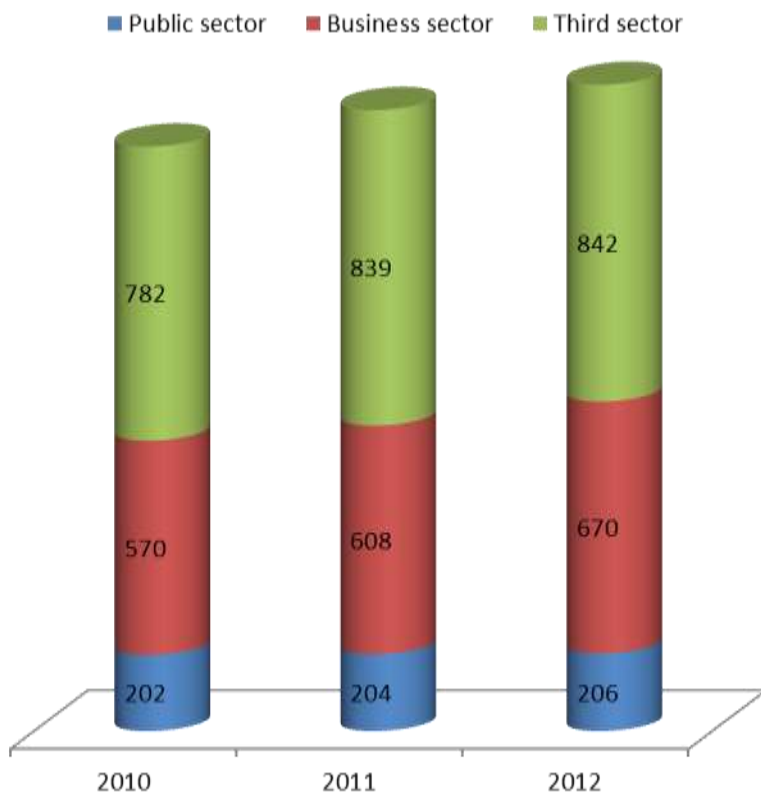
On an average, local action groups are able to cover 4-5% of economic units and there is

one organisation belonging to a local action group per 1000 inhabitants in Estonia.





Membership (2012)



- RDP 2007 – 2013 Leader-measure budget makes up 10% of the RDP funds or ca 86 million euros
- Basic part
 - Size of population + area + receipt of individual income tax + island life
 - Quality of the strategy (the strategy evaluation committee and an expert group)
- Budgets of local action groups between 2,0-5,1 mln.€



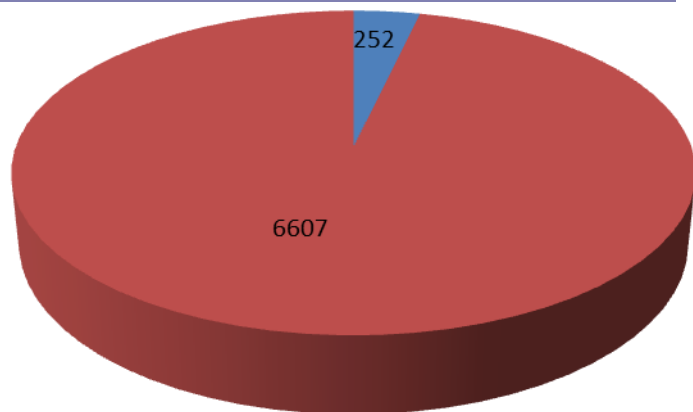
A local action group has an opportunity:

- to choose **all** the measures provided in Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 in order to implement the strategy
- to design the content of measures (or strategy measures) themselves, i.e. an action group may reduce maximum support amounts and rates, designate the target group of applicants, establish additional requirements for the documents to be submitted etc. according to the needs proceeding from the local development strategy
- the list of eligible activities is not final



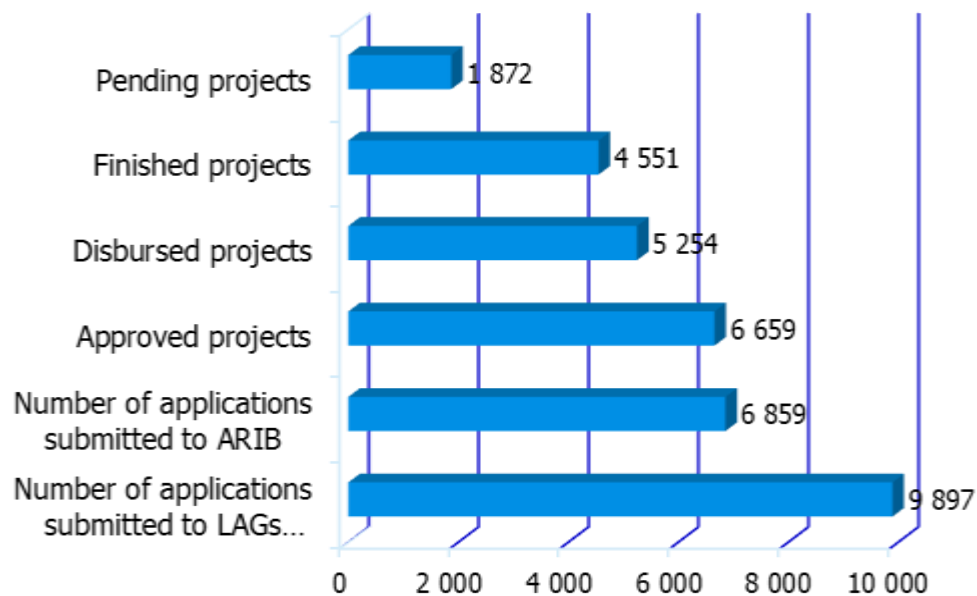


- Conformity to the content of the rural development regulation
- Code of a measure provided in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1974/2006 is an important connecting link between the strategy measure and the measures of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- Conformity to eligible costs provided in 1698/2005



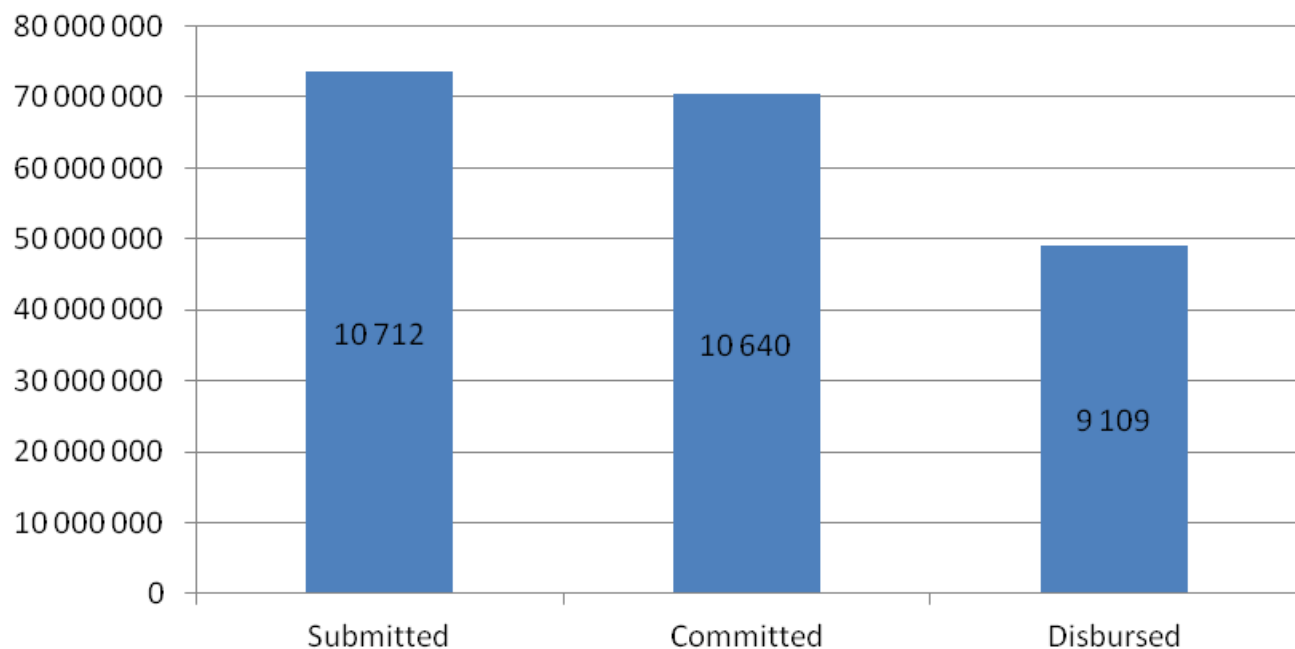
■ Axis I projects ■ Axis III projects

Number of projects



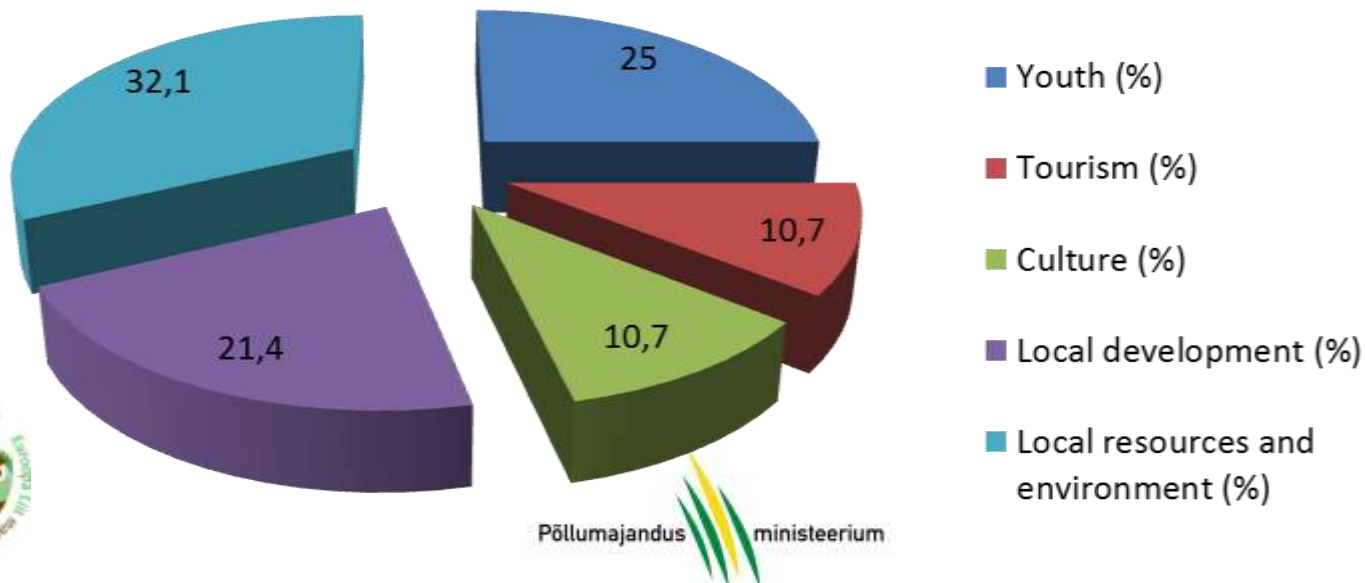


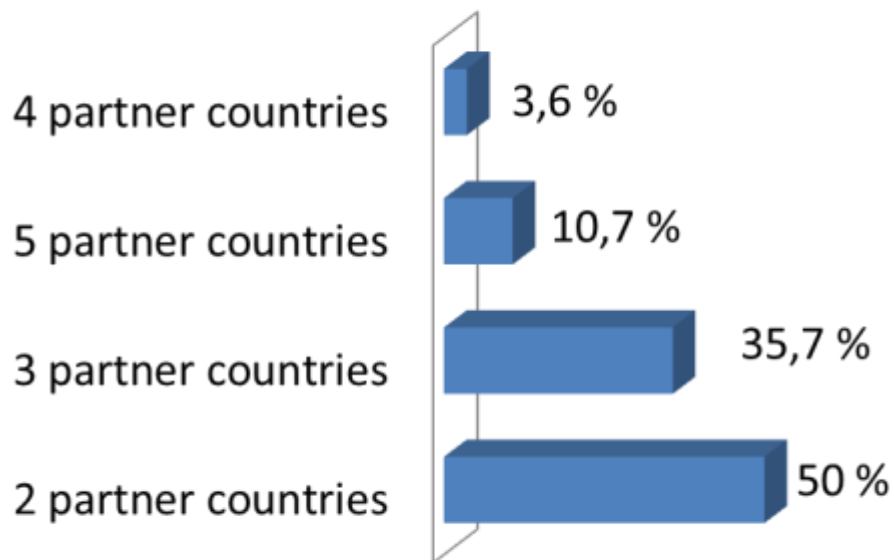
Support amount (eur)



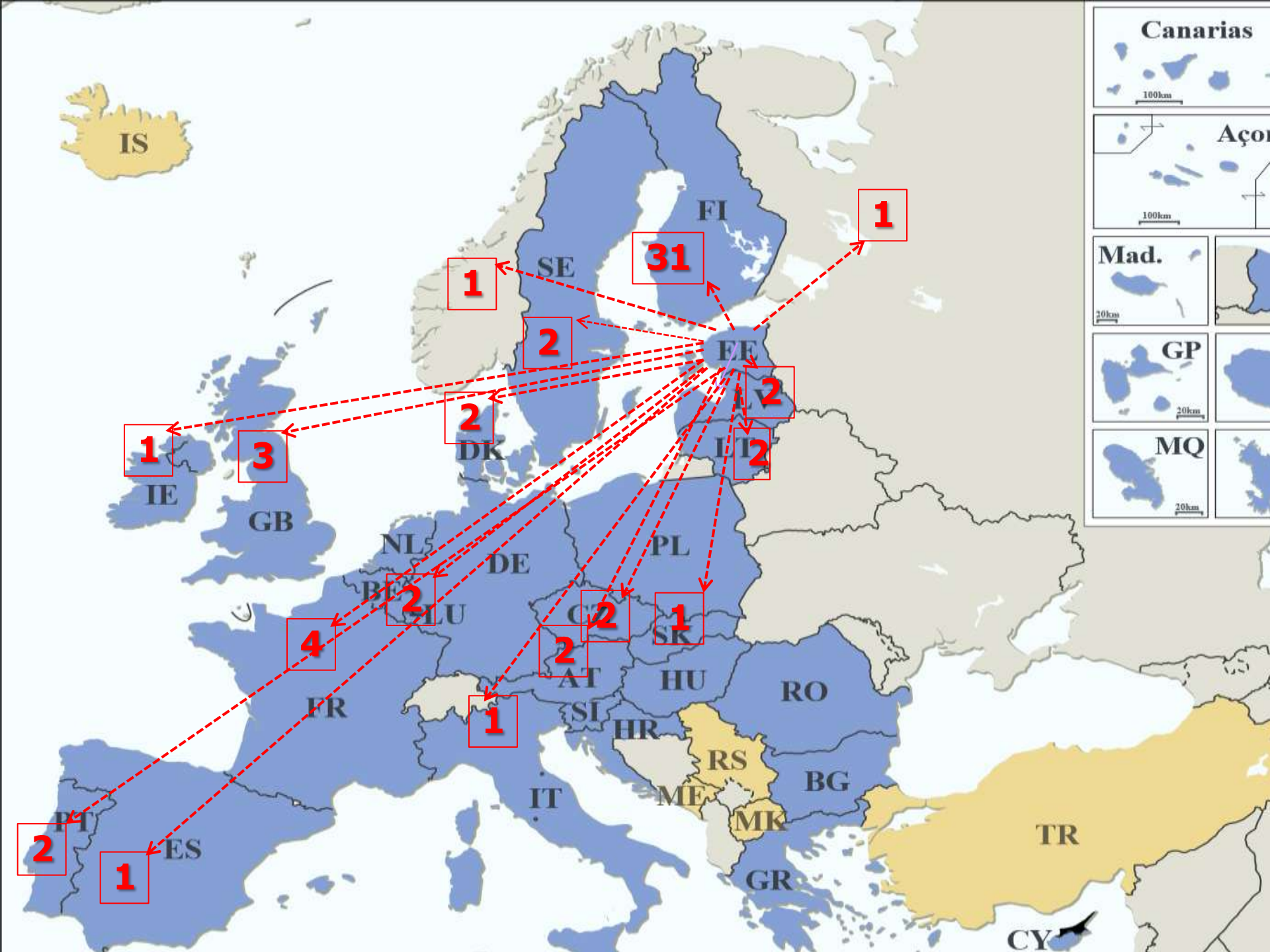


	Number of cooperation projects	Support amount applied for	Disbursed support amount
International projects	28	676 760	325 941
National projects	29	295 259	101 460
Total	57	972 019	427 402





- 19 Estonian local action groups have participated in international cooperation projects
- Estonian local action group has been the leading partner in 6 international cooperation projects
- 4 cooperation partners per one project on an average
- The biggest project involves 10 partners (5 EST + 5 FIN), incl. one fisheries action group





Why is a cooperation project good? It gives an opportunity:

- to introduce your region to others for better common understanding
- to exchange experience and to acquire new skills
- to establish new contacts both with organisations and individuals
- to improve project participants' cooperation skills and awareness
- to disseminate new knowledge and to introduce good local practices
- to help smaller undertakings find new markets in a simpler way
- to introduce good ideas applied to one another as an idea applied at home may prove to be innovative in a partner's region



Thank You for Your attention!

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