



## European Leader Program

The Bergerac Area:  
Host territory,  
a **key** to your **projects!**





### Our Local Action Group

The association Pays du Grand Bergeracois includes the Local Action Group, responsible for the Leader program, 2008-2013. We fulfil several local development missions for public groups and private actors in our territory.

Our members are local elected officials, associations, businesses and citizens.

Join us on our website  
<http://www.pays-de-bergerac.com/english/>

### Cooperating in Europe is Our Ambition!

We wish to develop joint projects with other European territories to enhance our strategy and expand our actions.

Feel free to contact us!  
[leader@pays-de-bergerac.com](mailto:leader@pays-de-bergerac.com)

## The Pays du Grand Bergeracois, in Dordogne-Perigord

The Pays du Grand Bergeracois is located in the Dordogne département, in the southwest of France, around and including the city of Bergerac.

The Dordogne is the former province of Perigord, a region famous for its historical heritage. For example, in the Middle Ages, many castles, abbeys and new towns called Bastides were built. The Dordogne river flows through the heart of our territory, while on the slopes are splendid forests and the vineyards of Bergerac and Monbazillac.

In recent years we are witnessing the arrival of new populations, from major French cities or other European countries, in search of quality of life offered by our resources and landscapes. They are the human resources in creating economic activities and strengthening social bonds in our country.

#### ■ Environment

High-quality resources and landscapes, weakened by the pressure of urban development;  
A strong desire to develop eco-housing, ecoconstruction.

#### ■ Economy

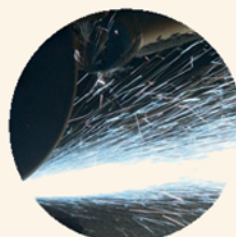
The potential to attract businesses or cottage industry, but an inadequate host organization;  
A strong and growing tourism sector, but highly seasonal;  
Agriculture has a strong image (wine, foie gras, strawberry ...) but a very worrisome decline.

#### ■ Services

Emerging services to meet new needs of the population and access difficulties of certain of the public;  
A good density of cultural and recreational associations ensure strong social bonds.

#### ■ Digital tools

Equipment on the right track, effective Internet communication;  
But the uses to go with them, to make them a tool of social and territorial cohesion.





## What is the Leader Program?



From right to left, Serge FOURCAUD and Philippe DUCENE : President and General Secretary of the 'GAL Pays du Grand Bergeracois'.

Leader, which means "Links among Actions for Rural Economic Development", is a local development program, co-financed by the European Union, for the benefit of the Pays du Grand Bergeracois. Europe recognizes it as a Local Action Group (LAG) until 2013.

Through these means, many project initiators can be supported to undertake innovative initiatives for rural development. We want this program to have a true host policy, targeting the preservation, arrival and integration of populations, and therefore activities, in a long-term way. The Leader program will help you!

## A Proactive Strategy

By establishing a host policy for people and businesses, the Pays du Grand Bergeracois' Leader program will meet the following challenges:

- Ensuring the quality of life and maintaining the balance among different uses of rural areas
- Developing new sources of employment,
- Meeting new needs of the population in terms of service
- Controlling and increasing our territory's attractiveness
- Expanding and sharing our project with other territories through cooperation.

## Selection Criteria

Each project must comply with several of the following items:

- Be run collectively around a strong partnership,
- Bring innovation to the area: a new product, service or new partnerships,
- Contribute to the maintenance or creation of jobs,
- Endure over time,
- Be able to be spread to other geographic areas,
- Have an intermunicipal impact,
- Help reduce its environmental impact.

The involvement of women and youth, or the use of digital tools, are all assets.

## LAG Program Planning Committee

This is the entity responsible for the proper implementation of the program. It decides the appropriateness of projects and the commitment of aid. It ensures the program's financial monitoring and the realization of its goals. As requested by the European Union, it is composed of a majority of "private" socio-professional members of the Development Council of the Pays du Grand Bergeracois (association leaders, business leaders, chambers of commerce, ...) and "public" (elected officials).

In all, there are 64 members, representing Bergerac's geographic areas and various activities.



## Projects Funded by Leader

### Project initiators

Depending on the nature of the project, they may be:

- public: communes, communities of communes, chambers of commerce, etc ...
- or private: associations, cooperatives, businesses, farms, etc ...

### Funding History

From 2008 to 2013, the Pays du Grand Bergeracois has a budget of 1.55 million euros from EAFRD (European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development). European aid is calculated based on other public compensation, while maintaining a maximum level of public support per project. In total, the Pays du Grand Bergeracois wants to help 145 projects with a total cost of 4 million euros.

### To learn more:

- [www.pays-de-bergerac.eu](http://www.pays-de-bergerac.eu)
- [www.reseaurural.fr](http://www.reseaurural.fr)
- <http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/>

The actions that the Leader program can support are described in data sheets. These actions are summarized below:

### Ensuring the quality of life and "Living Together"

#### Sheet 1

Communicating in order to know resources and create a link among people (events, training and communication materials meant to improve knowledge of local resources ,...).

#### Sheet 2

Managing resources and country sides for an attractive region (study management conditions for sensitive areas, promotion and development of ecoconstruction, ...).

### Creating jobs through innovation and partnership

#### Sheet 3

Helping the development, networking and handing over of companies (setting up local networking among businesses and local groups, help in creating, handing over and recovery of businesses, ...).

#### Sheet 4

Promoting work, the source of social integration (actions to publicize unfilled vacancies, ...).

### Anticipating and meeting the population's new needs

#### Sheet 5

Creating social ties through culture, sport and recreation (development help for socio-cultural and leisure events for particular audiences: young, elderly, disabled, ...).

#### Sheet 6

Improving access and the quality of services to the population (creating services closer to the people: mobility; response to emerging needs: addiction, temporary accommodation, ...).

### Organizing for an area that is always attractive

#### Sheet 7

Affirming our identity "Bergerac, host area" (regional promotion, events to attract new residents and new businesses, ...).

### Expanding and sharing our project through European Cooperations

#### Sheet 8

Cooperation.



### Contact

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