

Cork 2.0 Action Plan

Version March 2017

On 5-6 September 2016, 340 rural stakeholders met in Cork, Ireland and developed the "[Cork 2.0 Declaration](#)". Under the headline "A Better Life in Rural Areas", the declaration sets out ten policy recommendations. This Action Plan sets out a number of concrete initiatives which the Commission, the rural networks as well as rural and agricultural stakeholders are taking to turn the aspirations of the Cork Declaration into real change on the ground.

This action plan is a living document. You will be able to check for progress of the actions carried out by the Commission in the status section. Where available further information is provided by link. If you would like to share your events and initiatives in the Action Plan, please send suggestions to agri-cork-2-conference@ec.europa.eu



Cork Recommendation	Action	Status
<p><u>Cross-cutting</u></p> 	<p>The Cork declaration to be reflected in the Commission work on the Modernisation and Simplification of the Common Agricultural Policy.</p> <p>Extensive work on dissemination and implementation of the Cork Declaration under the European Network for Rural Development</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p><u>1</u></p> <p>Promoting Rural Prosperity</p> 	<p>DG AGRI participation in work on the Territorial Impact Assessment tool (Rural Proofing)</p> <p>ENRD workshop on farm resilience</p> <p>ENRD thematic work on smart and competitive rural areas</p> <p>ENRD thematic work on social inclusion</p> <p>Work to ensure effective implementation and roll out of RDP measures for diversification, investments and CLLD (RD Managing authorities)</p> <p>Dedicated campaign and thematic working group on "entrepreneurship (FI) and support to innovations for entrepreneurship (SE)</p> <p>LAG support and events on rural tourism or the promotion of local products and local investments</p> <p>Events and support for farm diversification and business development (eg. IE and UK)</p> <p>ENRD project brochure on integration of migrants in rural areas</p> <p>European NRNs Working group on integration of migrants and refugees in rural areas (e.g. SE, FI, AT, DE)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>



<p>2</p> <p>Strengthening rural value chain</p> 	<p>ENRD thematic work on Greening the Rural Economy</p> <p>Research on rural value chains (e.g. ES) and quality products (e.g. SI)</p> <p>Simplified public food procurement for healthier and cheaper food through short supply chains (e.g. SI)</p> <p>Charter of Mountain, quality food products (EUROMONTANA)</p> <p>Supported local food networks e.g. seminars, weekly information, database (e.g. EE NRN)</p> <p>Promoted agricultural products to tourists (various LAGs)</p>	
<p>3</p> <p>Investing in rural viability and vitality</p> 	<p>Development of a smart villages action plan (several DGs) to be published in April 2017</p> <p>Smart eco-social villages pilot project – tender to be published by DG AGRI</p> <p>Launch of the EU support facility for the Broadband Competence Offices,</p> <p>Raised the profile of periurban areas and outlined the importance of rural-urban linkages (PURPLE)</p> <p>Focus on young farmers e.g. good practice collection (EE NRN) and events (UK-SCOT NRN)</p> <p>Supported land stewardship activities (ECPA)</p> <p>Provided access to higher education through IT platforms (e.g. Brie'Nov, FR)</p>	<p>April 17</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Preserving the rural environment</p> 	<p>Natura 2000 User Forum focused on biodiversity and environment (ELO, CEPF, COPA, FACE)</p> <p>Supported conservation of high-nature value farmland and extensive farming systems, permanent grasslands conservation (various)</p> <p>PEGASUS: H2020 project on ecosystem services</p> <p>Publication of a brochure on 'Environmentally friendly agriculture' (EE NRN)</p> <p>Supported initiatives to recover river edges</p>	



<p>5</p> <p>Managing natural resources</p> 	<p>Commission inter-service work AGRI/ENV on water issues</p> <p>EU H2020 project “Agroforestry Innovation Network (AFINET)” (EURAF)</p> <p>NRN working group on the topic of ‘natural resources management’ (RO)</p> <p>Activities to support water use efficiency in agriculture (PT)</p> <p>Initiatives to support and improve bio-economy developments (various)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Encourage climate action</p> 	<p>DG AGRI/ENV work on nutrient management plans</p> <p>Research project and an event on the contribution of organic farming to climate change mitigation measures in CAP (IFOAM)</p> <p>NRN thematic working group on ‘environment and climate’ (FI)</p> <p>Climate change mitigation centre with demonstrations and engagement with EIP-AGRI (Stulginskis University LT)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Boosting knowledge and innovation</p> 	<p>Horizon 2020: Calls on Rural Renaissance – innovation and business opportunities</p> <p>New EIP AGRI Focus Groups: open call on "New forest practices and tools for adaptation and mitigation of climate change" and "Grazing for Carbon"</p> <p>EIP AGRI workshop addressing the biggest stumbling block for digitisation; who owns the data, who uses the data and who gets the benefit of the new technical possibilities in April 2017.</p> <p>EIP-AGRI event to prepare for Digital Innovation Hubs in the agriculture sector in June 2017.</p> <p>Joint EIP-AGRI-Portuguese authorities conference on innovation in rural development policy in October 2017</p> <p>Capacity building/training of actors in innovation (various advisory services and MAs)</p> <p>Knowledge transfer and exchange of good practices on innovation from research (various)</p>	



	<p>Seminars on innovation (e.g. ES, PT)</p> <p>Innovation support unit within the NSU (e.g. UK-SC)</p> <p>H2020 project SIMRA: promoting Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas</p>	
<p>8</p> <p>Enhancing rural governance</p> 	<p>Promotion of the development of Financial instruments through fi-compass</p> <p>Multifunded CLLD strategies (in various countries)</p> <p>Declaration on the future of CLLD (ELARD)</p> <p>Launch of a 'LEADER 2030 process' to rethink the future of LEADER (FI)</p> <p>Supported European & national Rural Parliaments (e.g. UK-SC, EE)</p> <p>Thematic Working Groups and events on CLLD (e.g. NRN SE, CZ)</p> <p>LEADER Cooperation conferences (e.g. Baltic region, UK-NI&IE)</p>	On going
<p>9</p> <p>Advancing policy delivery and simplification</p> 	<p>DG AGRI working group exploring possibilities for a more performance-based delivery model, shifting focus from compliance to result orientation.</p> <p>Proposals for simplification for beneficiaries in Omnibus proposal</p> <p>Included Simplified Cost Options in the RDPs (various MAs)</p> <p>Simplified RDP implementation rules (e.g. CZ)</p> <p>Use of e-government for RDP measures (e.g. BE-Flanders)</p> <p>Collective approaches for greening and agrienvironmental- climate schemes (e.g. NL, HU)</p>	On going



<p>10</p> <p>Improving performance and accountability</p> 	<p>Communication campaigns on rural development achievements to increase stakeholder/citizen awareness (various)</p> <p>Translated important information into national languages of (e.g. PT)</p>	
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