



**European Rural Networks'  
Assembly**

**Rural Networks self-assessment  
Process & Recommendations**

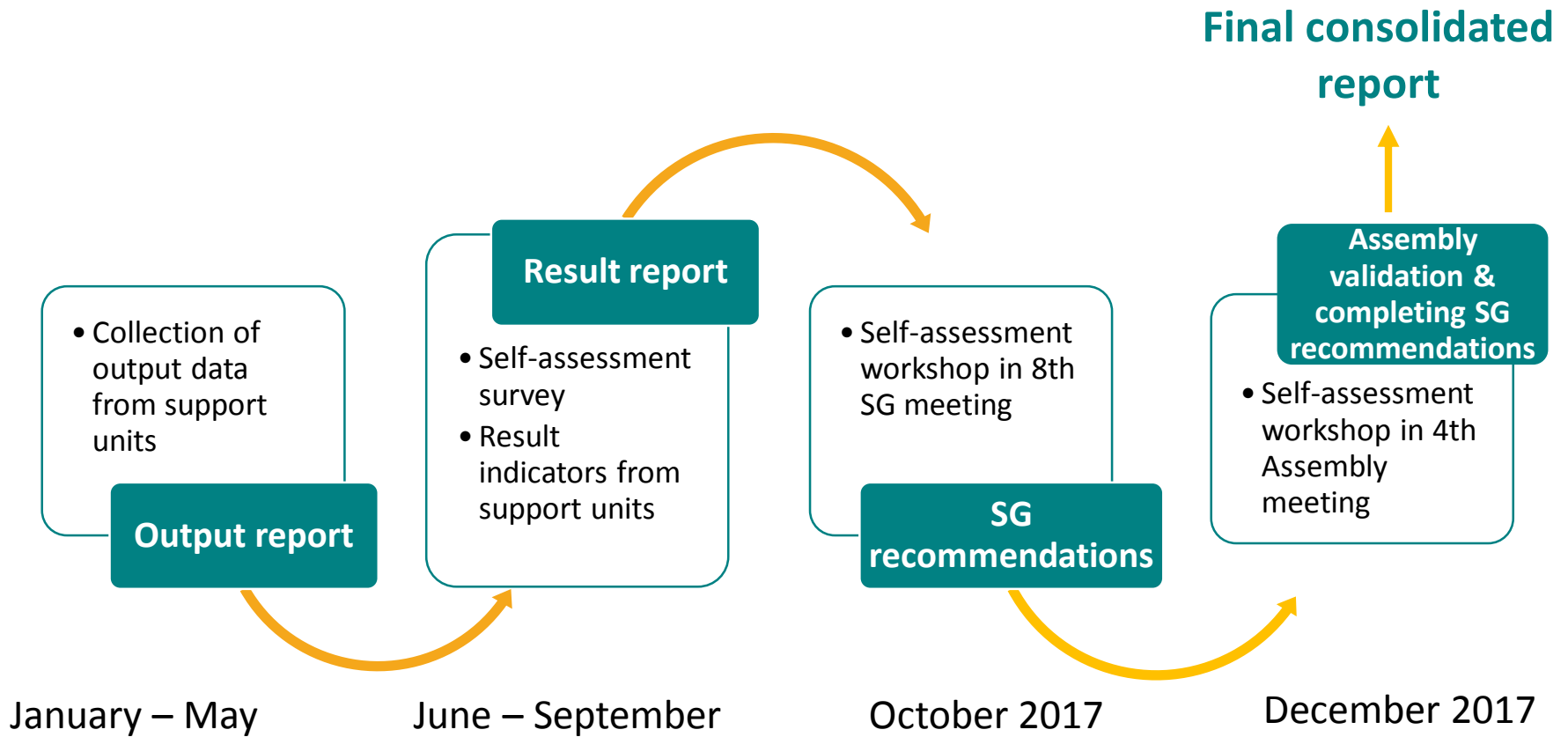
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**#RNAssembly**

# EU RN self-assessment process 2017



# 1: Enhance Participation

## Main recommendations for improvement

- Replicate EU level events at national or local level.
- Translation of information produced by the EU Networks by NRNs and communicating this in the right format to national stakeholders.
  - Mass translation of all materials is expensive and may be wasteful as a means of increasing participation. Consider selective translation, adaptation of materials to local contexts and use a variety of dissemination channels/media.
- Encourage NRN peer-to-peer support through geographical clusters or by twinning more advanced NRNs with those that are less advanced.
- Capture better the local stakeholders' inputs and needs by working with the local organisations that engage with them.
- Involve local practitioners in the National and EU Rural Networks activities to attract more practical knowledge.
  - Different responsibilities of network members should be recognised. NRNs should lead efforts to enhance participation, supported by MAs.



## 2: Improve Policy Quality

### Main recommendations for improvement

- Explore in detail the bottlenecks in policy delivery systems and address them at the right level.
  - Identify where implementation bottlenecks have been resolved. Share positive approaches in partnership with stakeholders and enable discussion in networks.
- Share information and experiences on multi-fund CLLD, to enable the development of solutions that can improve the implementation. A platform should connect local and EU levels.
- Create a common understanding of what defines a good practice and develop commonly agreed templates for their collection and dissemination.
  - Understand that there are different types of 'good practice', including good methodologies. Consider developing the concept of 'excellent practices'.
- Implement more evaluation capacity-building for different stakeholders.
  - Make sure that information is shared up and down the delivery chain and use experiences from other sectors and funds. To the extent practicable, NRNs should be able to interact with policy frameworks in seeking to improve delivery.



# 3: Increase Awareness

## Main recommendations for improvement

- Maximise the multiplier effect within the networks.
  - By targeting information to those stakeholders who understand the EU networks' role and how they work.
- Simplify communication.
  - Information needs to be concise, clear and simple to understand, targeted by types of audience and accompanied by good practice examples.
- Translate information to disseminate it from EU level to national/regional/local levels. Utilise NRNs in this work.
- Bring together Rural Development communicators.
  - Following the example from the NRN Innovation Camp held in Finland.



# EU RN self-assessment process 2017

1. Considering the recommendations which emerged from the first self-assessment, **are there topics where further progress is still needed?** If yes, which would be the **priority needs and/or future activities** you would suggest the RN to take forward?
2. Do you consider that the self-assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities of the Rural Networks undertaken in 2017 was a **useful exercise?** Are there any **lessons to be learned as regards the outcomes and/or the process?**
3. Do you consider that the exercise should be **repeated in 2019?** And if yes, should there be **any changes** as regards the approach used in 2017?





**Thank you!**

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