



"Informing. Networking. Innovating.
Inducing."

NRN objectives

The Lithuanian NRN specified **one** **main objective**.



To **improve the quality of implementation** of the RDP.

Further **specific objectives** were defined to achieve the main objective.



To **inform** the general public and the potential beneficiaries of the RDP implementation, agriculture, forestry and rural development policies.



Promote participation in rural development in order to have more actively involved stakeholders in agriculture, forestry and rural development processes and the implementation of the RDP.



Provide **support to EIP operational groups**, publish information about their activities, and promote innovation in agriculture, food production, forestry and rural areas.



Implement the **EU Baltic Sea Strategy on "bio-economy"**.



Provide **assistance and training to LAGs**.

The NSU and RDP management

The NSU and the Managing Authority

The NRN secretarial functions are delegated to the Managing Authority. All network activities are supervised by the Secretariat.

The NSU and the Monitoring Committee

- ✓ The Monitoring Committee (MC) members are involved in the NRN meetings and working groups, and can always submit proposals for the creation of temporary working groups.
- ✓ The NSU gives publicity to the RDP MC protocols and meetings.
- ✓ The MC feeds-back to the NRN information or analysis needs (in terms of studies, research or trainings) when identified.



Membership

In order to ensure a smooth transition between programming periods, the members of the 2007-2013 NRN received an electronic survey to confirm their intention to continue in the NRN for the 2014-2020 period.

Who are the members?

Up to 31 May 2016 there are 330 **registered members in the Lithuanian NRN**:

- ✓ More than 62% (207 members) classified themselves as ‘forming part of a rural community’.
- ✓ There are 41 members from national organisations: state institutions and organisations; other institutions and organisations involved in the implementation of the programme, rural development, agricultural, forestry and food sectors; bodies representing civil society, including environmental partners and NGOs;
- ✓ 60 members are from regional organisations: LAGs, municipal institutions and organisations;
- ✓ 20 members from institutions of science and education sectors;
- ✓ 2 members from advisory bodies.

How to become a member?

- ✓ Membership is open to any public legal bodies, who are either involved in RPD implementation or other rural development and agricultural policy.
- ✓ Membership is formalised through an application process.

- ✓ Members of the network can take part in permanent and temporal thematic **working groups** (including LEADER, EIP, Organic Farming, Forest Sector, Less Favoured Areas). The thematic working groups aim to solve issues related to rural development policy and the Programme, and to make proposals regarding their initiatives.

How to get involved?

- ✓ Members are also actively involved in **communication activities** (see below).

NRN Governance



The NRN
Coordination
Group



- ✓ The Network Coordination Group gives proposals on rural development policy-making and development; submits proposals to the NSU to ensure an effective operation of the NRN; and generates innovative ideas.
- ✓ The Work Programme for 2014-2020 and annual action plans are developed, established and reviewed by the Coordination Group.
- ✓ The Coordination Group has 46 members of a broad and balanced representation of different sectors and of all NRN members.
- ✓ Members include umbrella organisations, LAG network, FLAG network, Rural Communities Association, Farmers’ Union, Young Farmers Union, Organic Agriculture Association, MoA , NGO’s, science institutions, Lithuanian Ministry of Environment and other competent regional, local, urban and public authorities (total 46 representatives).

Working Groups



- ✓ When necessary, members of the Network, the Network Coordination Group or the NSU may initiate a temporary or special network working group for a specific task or certain rural development or RDP implementation issues (e.g. RDP evaluation; rural youth business promotion; innovation and research in rural areas; environmental protection, community promotion, etc.).

On the 28th of September the Lithuanian NRN action programme was approved by Steering Committee

Communication



Events: Thematic meetings, round-table discussions, conferences, competitions, awards events, etc.



Publications:

- ✓ Paper and electronic publications: collection of information, creation of texts, photographs artwork acquisition, editing, layout, translation, printing and distribution;
- ✓ Printed and handout materials: books, brochures, newsletters, flyers, cognitive-training manuals, booklets, brochures, posters, calendars.



Audio-visual media: dissemination of short-movie creation and broadcasts through internet



Public advertising:

- ✓ Information at public events: participation to distribute handouts on the RDP and the NRN; building stands with network and RDP logo; interact directly with the rural community members and other target groups.
- ✓ Public space advertising: publications, television and radio, internet portals, windows, stands.
- ✓ Network publicity: items to publicise the network (stickers, pens, caps, etc.).



E-marketing tools:

- ✓ marketing in social networks
- ✓ online video advertising & online advertising portals (advertising banners, articles, games, etc.)
- ✓ advertising by e-mail
- ✓ content marketing (blogs, electronic images, 3D tours of the RDP projects, etc.)



Website: The network web service and info actualisation at www.kaimotinklas.lt



Stakeholder involvement:

- ✓ In order to develop partnership, ensure more efficient communication and dissemination of good practice, the NRN Secretariat has decided to involve NRN members in the implementation of the communication plan.
- ✓ NRN members would submit proposals (project ideas) to implement RDP communication projects.
- ✓ The accredited National Paying Agency would assess the proposals; After the approval of the support for the communication project, the NSU would implement a communication project together with the NRN member.

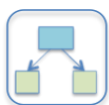
Timeline of NRN Workplans





NRN Self-assessment

The network activity is monitored through an **internal self-assessment**. The NSU plans to prepare the system of monitoring and assessment of the NRN.



At the very start a clear **interventional logic and assessment framework** of the network will be established.



Indicators will be identified for measuring the implementation of the objectives of the network.



The main **quantitative data** on the activities of the network will be supplemented by qualitative assessment and case studies.

NRN Resources

Financial resources (2014-2020)

	Budget (€)
Total NRN public funds:	4 633 920
Out of which national co-financing:	695 088
Out of which EAFRD:	3 938 832



Human resources (NSU)

	No
Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff	2

Main contacts

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