

European Rural Networks' Assembly

Workshop 1: Feedback

Rural Networks: Contributing to
smart and competitive rural areas

2nd Meeting

Brussels – 26 November 2015

#RNAssembly2015

WS1: Key messages

- **Many rural areas face a spiral of decline as more people leave and more services close.**
- **When we say smart and competitive, we (should) mean viable and sustainable rural areas.**
- **Sustainable and viable rural areas require integrated territorial approaches – not isolated initiatives.**
- **Entrepreneurship is key. Innovation can be small and it can be social (e.g. community-run services).**



Workshop 1: Rural Networks: Contributing to smart and competitive rural areas

Suggested priorities for 2016

Viable villages/territories (demographic decline; services; territorial approaches) (13)

Knowledge sharing (including between OGs) (12)

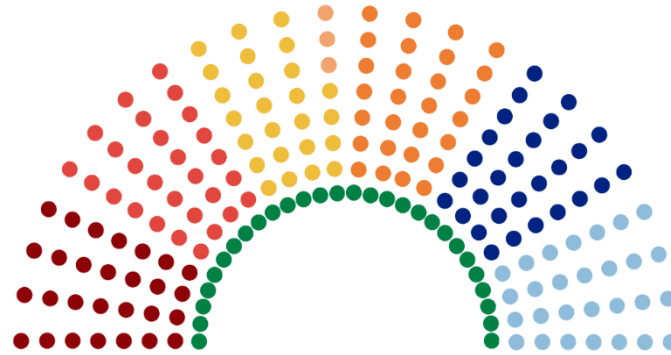
Support for **entrepreneurship** (6)

Using **big data** (aggregating info on markets, systems etc.) (6)

Rural **broadband** (5)

Added value to products and chains (5)





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Workshop 2: Feedback

Advancing the green economy

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WS Nr 2: Key messages

- Mobilise local resources by involving people and share and stimulate their enthusiasm.
- Show it is not Utopia; it is happening!
- The social process is the fuel for the movement.
- Identify RDPs with strong support for green economy.
- Show the links to green economy and the possibilities of RDP.



WS Nr 2:

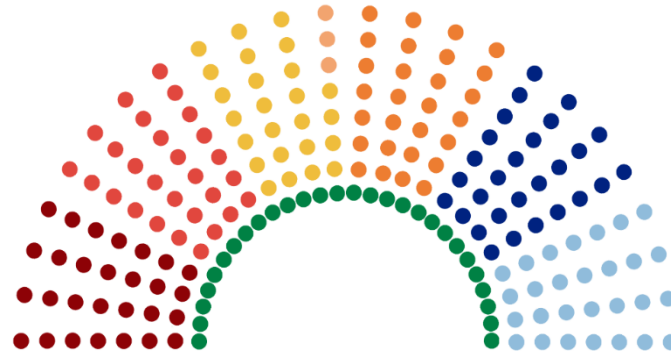
Advancing the green economy

Suggested priorities for 2016

Identify RDPs and measures and use them as a starting point for the work!

Tools, guides, examples for dealing with the topic of green economy e.g. method by Hilikka Vihinen





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Workshop 3: Feedback

Tackling key issues in RDP implementation

(including a simpler and more effective rolling out of LEADER/CLLD)

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WS Nr 3: Key messages

- 4 relevant examples & commitment to act on them
- Themes remain relevant, strong focus on simplification
- Networks as a coordinator between different types of actors & ensuring they act as partners (including COM involvement)
- Communication – two-way, simple language



Topics	Indicated Relevance
1. Focus on individual measures: M 16 Cooperation	2nd
2. Public procurement	
3. Empowering advisory services	
4. Setting up and running Monitoring Committees	
5. Communication plans	
6. Information and publicity strategy / Awareness raising	
7. Usage of selection criteria/ Arranging selection processes	2nd
8. Financial instruments	
9. Managing challenges faced by member states with two or more RDPs	
10. Simplification – Financial Management	1st
11. LEADER - TNC	
12. Pillar 1 – Pillar 2 linkages	
13. The potential of the EFSI for rural areas	
14. SCO	1st

Further topics proposed: xxxxxxxx