

Key outcomes of the ENRD Workshop on 'Stakeholder Involvement: Monitoring Committees and the Partnership Principle'





'Seminar on CAP Strategic Planning'
Brussels, 4 December 2019

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#FutureOfCAP

Workshop's objectives

-  to provide a platform **to share current practices, relevant experience and lessons learned of stakeholder involvement in the RDPs**, particularly on the functioning of the Monitoring Committees
-  to exchange on the **state of preparations for the future CAP Strategic Plans**, and specifically regarding the steps taken towards ensuring effective involvement of relevant stakeholders
-  to discuss different **tools and approaches for ensuring the effective organisation and functioning of Monitoring Committees** and for the communication of their work
-  to collect and share opinions, ideas, tips and other useful inputs

Structure and attendance



- ✓ **~60 participants** from **21 Member States** - including Managing Authorities, Paying Agencies, European institutions, farmer associations, environmental and nature conservation organisations, local and territorial organisations



- ✓ AM session: Managing Authorities' perspective:

Experiences and lessons learned about the involvement of stakeholders throughout the process of designing and implementation of the current RDPs **and in preparation for the future CSP** presented by **DG AGRI** and **Managing Authorities** (BE, ES, IT, NL, UK)



- ✓ PM session: other stakeholders' perspective:

Experiences of involvement in RDPs and expectations for the future CSP (COPA-COGECA, SEO/BirdLife, ELARD, Euromontana, other civil society representatives)

Group discussions

MA's perspective:

- ✓ Identification and composition of the Partnership
- ✓ Stakeholder engagement in prioritising needs
- ✓ Monitoring Committees



Other stakeholders' perspective:

- ✓ How to make **stakeholders' contributions more valuable and effective** and how MAs can help stakeholders to contribute meaningfully
- ✓ How to encourage an **active involvement of all partners** of the 3 main CAP/RD dimensions: agricultural, environmental, social

Key outcomes: Lessons Learned

Monitoring Committees

- ✓ **Voting rights** within the Monitoring Committee
- ✓ **Online sharing of supporting documents ahead of MC meetings**
- ✓ **Length of formal meetings**
- ✓ **Informal opportunities for exchanges**
- ✓ Participation of the **independent evaluator** in MC meetings
- ✓ **Training opportunities for MC members**

General remarks

- ✓ **Workable balance between inclusiveness and effectiveness**
- ✓ **Organising the work by issue** rather than by RD measure
- ✓ **NRNs' role**

Key outcomes: Ideas and suggestions for the future

- ✓ **Review and widen the partnership**, as necessary, to reflect new aspects introduced by the CSP and involve all the relevant stakeholders
- ✓ Clarify the **‘rules of the game’**: participation procedures, guidelines and criteria for the selection of stakeholders
- ✓ Define the **role and functions of the MC** as soon as possible
- ✓ Be clear about **voting rights**, and as inclusive as possible
- ✓ Ensure the **involvement of non-agricultural social stakeholders**, to take into account rural development needs beyond agriculture
- ✓ Involve stakeholders engaged in the implementation of other EU funds to ensure **synergy and coordination**
- ✓ Use a combination of **electronic platforms** as well as **face-to-face meetings**, and smaller **working groups** for specific issues, to manage a high number of partners

All PPT presentations and report available at the dedicated webpage:

<https://bit.ly/33AnrEJ>



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ENRD Workshop 'Stakeholder Involvement: Monitoring Committees and the Partnership Principle'



Dates: 22/10/2019 - 09:30 Location: Brussels, Belgium
Event type: Workshop/Capacity building Organiser: ENRD Contact Point

When preparing their CAP Strategic Plans, Member States are required to involve a broad range of partners, including public authorities, environmental authorities, professional farming organisations and other economic and social partners, civil society representatives/ non-governmental organisations. These partners should subsequently also be involved in the activity of the Monitoring Committee, supervising the implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans.



In response to stakeholders' increasing interest in the future CAP Strategic Plans, this workshop mainly discussed:

- > current practices and lessons learned of stakeholder involvement in the RDPs of the current programming period, with a particular focus on the setting up and functioning of RDP Monitoring Committees, from different perspectives;
- > the state of preparations for the future CAP Strategic Plans regarding the steps taken towards ensuring effective involvement of relevant stakeholders;
- > different tools and approaches to ensure the effective organisation and functioning of Monitoring Committees.

The workshop's topic and timing helped to attract a large proportion of national CAP-related authorities and representatives of stakeholder organisations who had not previously attended ENRD events. Such interest from 'new' ENRD stakeholders demonstrates the value of the information about CAP programming that continues to be discussed and networked through the ENRD.









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TOOLS

-  myENRD
-  Project Database
-  LAG Database
-  CLLD Partner Search
-  LEADER Toolkit
-  Smart Villages Portal
-  Rural Bioeconomy Portal
-  NRN Toolkit



Event Information

Date: 22 October 2019
Location: Brussels, Belgium
Organiser: ENRD Contact Point
Participants: RDP Managing Authorities, Paying Agencies, EU institutions, representatives of farmer associations, environmental and nature conservation organisations, local and territorial organisations.

Outcomes: Exchange of experiences and lessons learned as well as of ideas on how to involve stakeholders in the preparation and implementation of the future CAP Strategic Plans.
Web page: https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/enrd-workshop-stakeholder-involvement-monitoring-committee-and-partnership-principle_en

The Managing Authorities' role in the organisation of stakeholder involvement

José Manuel Hernández Luque from the European Commission's DG AGRI opened the workshop with a scene-setting presentation which provided the context for the workshop discussions. He noted that there is a proposal to extend the partnership principle of stakeholder involvement to cover the full CAP after 2020. The involvement of economic and social partners in the CAP Strategic Plans, covering both the EAGF and EAFRD, would ensure greater transparency in decision making. It is also intended to enhance the collective ownership of the CAP, and to increase the available knowledge and expertise when designing and implementing the CAP Strategic Plans.

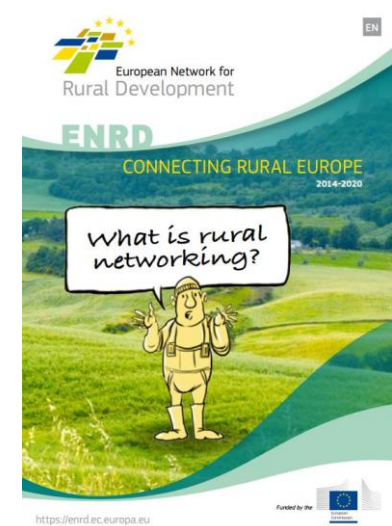
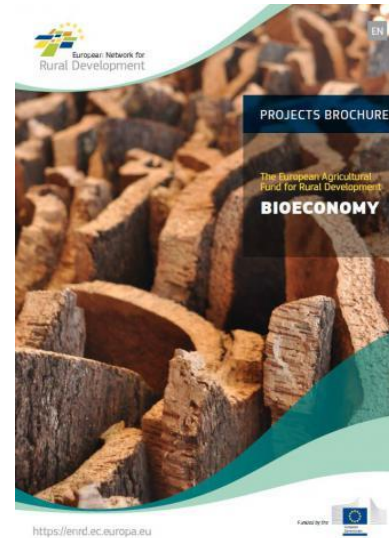
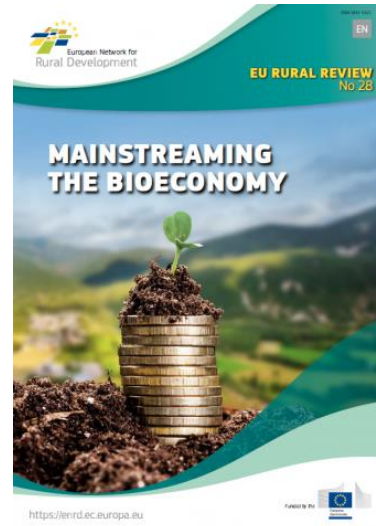
Member States are expected to involve a broad spectrum of stakeholders in the preparation phase for the future CAP Strategic Plans, including the SWOT analysis and in target setting. This will be particularly relevant for the CAP's increased focus on results, as the interventions will deliver better results on the ground if final beneficiaries are involved in their design. Many Monitoring Committee (MC) members also have valuable 'outreach' networks which can be used for CAP communication purposes as multipliers to inform citizens about progress in CSP activity.

The Welsh experience

Ruth Studley, from the Welsh RDP Managing Authority advised that good personal relationships help MC stakeholders to work together and appreciate different perspectives within the group. MC relations can be improved by limiting the time between face-to-face meetings (e.g. holding meetings at least twice a year) and facilitating dialogue in between meetings, through an online group. MC meetings in Wales are organised outside the capital city and often include informal opportunities for networking, exchanges and field visits. For instance, in 2019, a workshop on the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) was organised to allow members to have informal discussions before approving the AIR. This allowed for extensive engagement and answered many stakeholder questions.

The Flemish experience

Lies Heijvers, from the Flemish RDP Managing Authority highlighted the activities carried out in preparation for the post-2020 CAP: stakeholders were involved in transforming the environmental assessment, the SWOT analysis, the assessment of needs, the strategy, and the design of interventions, through several channels, including a public online survey and through working groups. However, it is not always possible to accommodate all stakeholders and in future it may be challenging to include additional stakeholders, such as sectoral organisations - which are becoming increasingly important for the CAP Plans.



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