



European Rural Networks'
Steering Group

Assessing results of the European Rural Networks

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4th Meeting

Brussels – 4th March 2016

#RNSteeringGroup

The role of the Steering Group in assessing of the EU Rural Networks

*“assessing on an ongoing basis the effectiveness
and efficiency of the activities of the ENRD and of
the EIP network”*

Commission Implementing Decision (2014/825/EU)



EU Rural Networks Strategic Framework & governance bodies

Table 1. Strategic Framework for the EU Rural Networks

General Objectives	Specific Objectives <i>as per Regulation (EU) 1305/2013</i>	Operational Objectives	Types of Activities
<p>Enhance participation</p>	<p>Increase the involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of rural development <i>(Art. 52.2.a)</i></p> <hr/> <p>Establish a dialogue between farmers and research community <i>(Art. 53.2.b – 1st part)</i></p>	<p>Understanding RD stakeholders and their needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders diverse needs and potential for involvement in RDP implementation is widely understood <p>Increasing stakeholder capacity for meaningful involvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Networks provide a platform where targeted exchanges take place involving the relevant stakeholders at the most appropriate level Stakeholders have easy access to the information, training, web-tools and other exchange mechanisms required for effective involvement in the implementation of RDPs <hr/> <p>Promoting adoption of innovations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Findings from research are translated better and faster into practical farming applications Research agendas are based more on actual needs of farmers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Screening of RDPs for stakeholder involvement and measure targeting NRN and stakeholder surveys Thematic Group(s) on stakeholder participation National stakeholder needs and opportunities analyses Seminars, periodicals, magazines, social media exchanges on stakeholder participation Face-to-face meetings with NRNs, RD stakeholders <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted stakeholders involvement EIP-AGRI Focus Groups Seminars and workshops on specific innovation topics Publications, newsletters and media exchanges Face-to-face meetings with farmers, forest managers, NRNs, and



Assessment of the EU Rural Networks *[work in progress]*



General Objective 1: Enhance participation

Specific Objectives <i>as per Regulation (EU) 1305/2013</i>	Operational Objectives	Types of Activities	Output indicators	Preliminary 'result' indicators	Questions with regard to the achievements of the EU RNs
<p>Increase the involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of rural development (Art. 52.2.a)</p>	<p>Understanding RD stakeholders and their needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders diverse needs and potential for involvement in RDP implementation is widely understood <p>Increasing stakeholder capacity for meaningful involvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Networks provide a platform where targeted exchanges take place involving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys & needs analysis Stakeholder profiles Seminars, workshops and other events Periodicals, magazines, social media exchanges Website updates, including relevant toolkits Methodological good practices Thematic Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of survey reports Number of stakeholder profiles produced and/or updated Number (and type) of participants at events Number of editions of relevant publications produced Number of methodological good practices Number of visitors to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevance of event content Usefulness of events Improved skills/capacity of NSUs to involve NRN stakeholders Improved skills/capacity of targeted stakeholders to be involved in rural development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do networks and other stakeholders feel that their needs were well addressed? Were <u>examples/practices used by stakeholders in their national/ regional contexts?</u> Did stakeholders <u>disseminated</u> further the results of ENRD activities/ information produced? Have various

The role of the Steering Group members

Steering Group/ Assembly members are representatives of key rural development stakeholders

-> **Source of information** for EU RN assessment:
e.g. How RN outcomes are disseminated/used?

One of the key tasks of SG and Assembly is to assess EU RN

-> **“Drivers” of the assessment process**



Focus on results

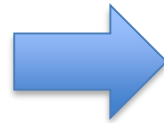
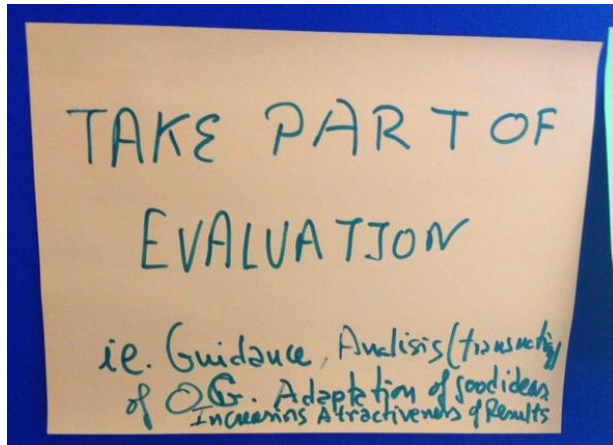
Examples of assessment questions:

- Were the examples developed and shared by the ENRD useful and practiced/used at national & regional levels?
- To what extent the EIP-AGRI network contributed to translating research results into farming practices?
- To what extent have the evaluation capacities been improved?

Methods/sources: stakeholder feedback, surveys –
e.g. **upcoming communication survey of the ENRD**

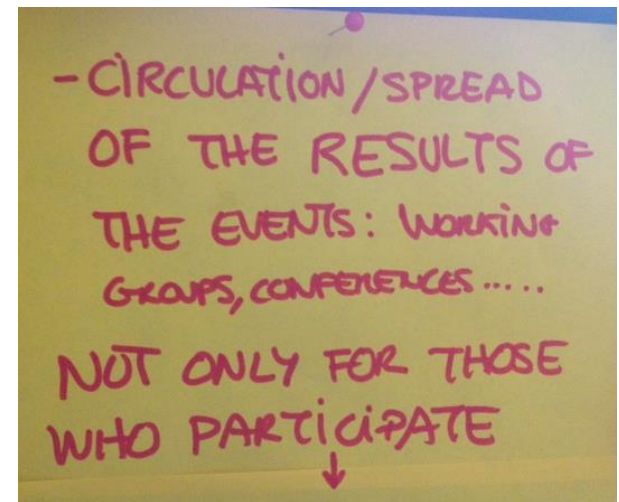


What you always wanted to know about EU Rural Networks...



To what extent the EIP focus groups informed the setting-up of Operational Groups?

How efficiently EU RN event results are disseminated to relevant stakeholders?



Discussion question

What would be valuable for you to know about the achievements of the EU Rural Networks?