

3rd ENRD Seminar on Stakeholder Involvement

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European Network for
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Networks as tools for organizing stakeholder representation

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Contents

- Focus on how networks can facilitate the stakeholder-constituency relationship
- Different types of constituencies
- Representativeness of stakeholders
- Stakeholders and networks
- Formal and informal coordination of stakeholders
- Some suggestions and some good practices

Stakeholders should represent well-defined constituencies (groups of actors)

- Public authorities (national, regional local) of administrations, education & training, advisory services, research, in charge of application of horizontal principles (i.e. equal opportunities)
- Economic and social actors, national, regional, local, of sectors or territories, organized or not
- Civil society, environmentally concerned, ONGs
- Local action groups

Criteria for inclusion is that of being affected or likely to be affected by interventions of EAFRD

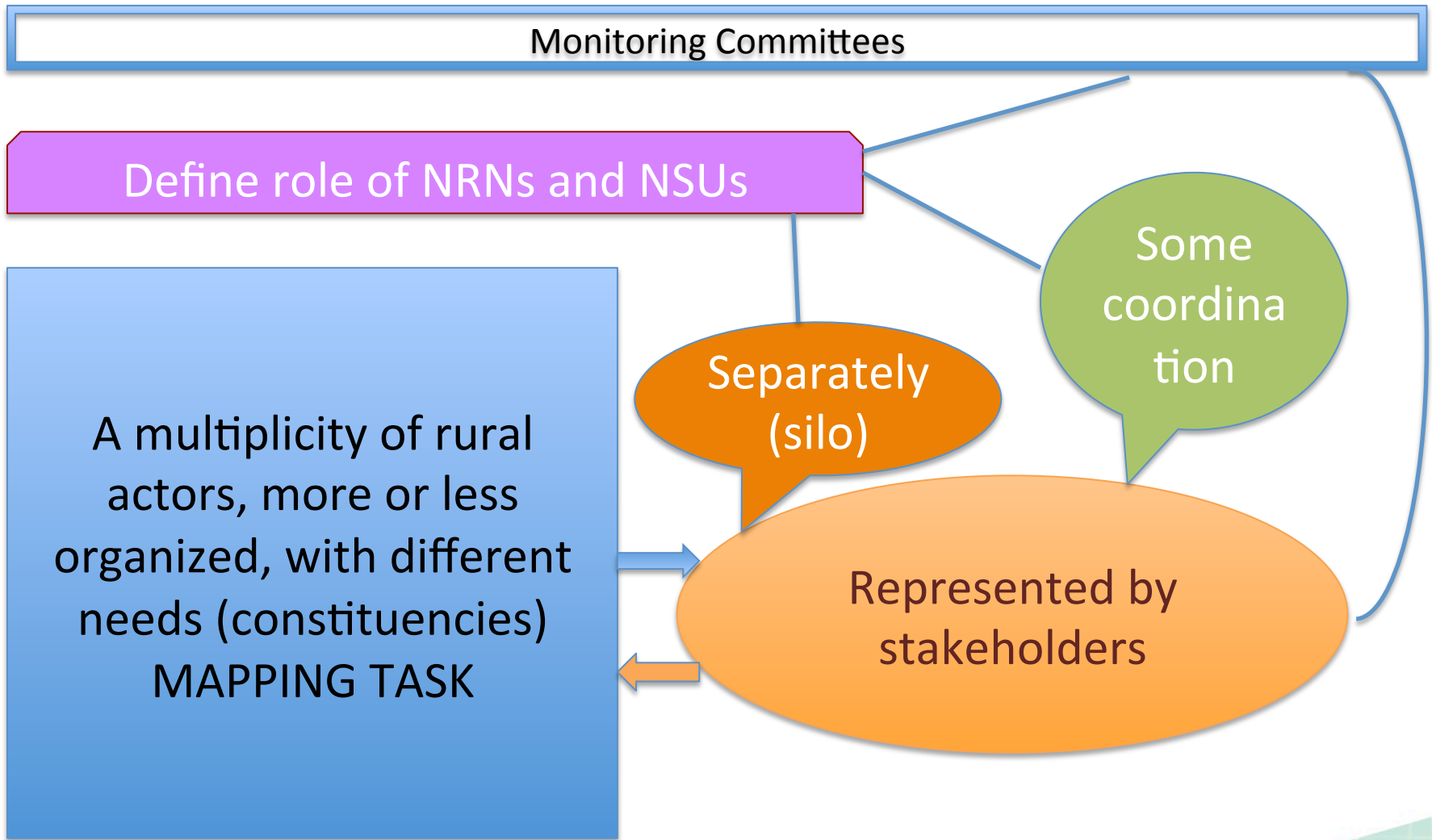
Good representation implies:

- that stakeholders chosen should be the most representative: competent, capable of participating actively, maintaining contact and providing feedback to their constituencies
 - Represent fairly the needs entrusted to them
 - Have good knowledge of RDP priorities and measures, as well as implementation procedures
 - Provide feedback on the results of their action
 - ✓ *This implies both a top down information task and a bottom up needs representation*
 - ✓ *A need for capacity building, participatory practices*

Stakeholders and networks

- Networks are expected to play a key role in promoting and facilitating stakeholder involvement, regulations support it;
- This is not a new role: Leader experience a very useful one, some NRNs have it also with wider range of actors
- This role may be interpreted by MS and MAs in different ways:
 - Involving only the stakeholder-constituency tier
 - Also intervening in the stakeholder-partnership tier
 - With or without coordinating tasks for all SHs

Actors, stakeholders and networks



Formal and informal coordination of SHs by networks

- Formal and/or informal role is established by MAs in NRNs & NSUs mandates
- For the stakeholder-constituency tier, both are needed
- Lack of formal role weakens informal role (why go to meetings if there is no follow up)
- Capacity building of NRNs needs should not be underestimated: implementation procedures, all measures of RDPs, evaluations, MC functioning...

Some suggestions

- Stakeholder involvement requires a step by step approach
- it is politically sensitive, changes established practices, networks are now mostly within or near MAs, so:
 - Start from delimited issues, use well-known techniques and tools, address widely-felt needs, then build on successful practices with newer ones
 - Involving SHs and keeping them involved needs to go beyond informing, including representation and **coordination of rural needs**

Some useful experiences as reference

How the Swedish NRN is working with
stakeholders on:

- Thematic/measure improvement
- Improvement of implementing procedures



Thanks for your attention
Comments very welcomed

