

**ENRD Seminar on
Stakeholder Involvement**

Brussels, 26 March 2015

**Ecological Collection and
Distribution Centre for Vegetables
– Healthy Life**

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SRDN is the association, which is in addition to the integration of stakeholders in the Slovenian countryside, also a representative association of Slovenian LAGs.

We are a non-governmental organization and a strong interlocutor to national government authorities, which proved also in preparation for the new programming period 2014-2020.

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Slovenian LAGs carried a lot of projects in the field of organization of producers and suppliers of agricultural products:

- Arrangements and organization of local markets
- Networking and education of local producers and suppliers
- Short supply chain
- Cooperation with the school kitchens and other public institutions, which is very specific in Slovenia

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One of the most successful projects was **Ecological Collection and Distribution Centre for Vegetables**, which was designed and implemented by organic farmers in the area of LAG Heart, in the center of Slovenia.

Location and proximity to large markets (the capital of Slovenia - Ljubljana), very good project preparation and support from the programme Leader, has made a great success for the project.

Ecological Collection and Distribution Centre for Vegetables – Healthy Life

Ecological Farmers Association conducted animation workshops and professional education for growers of ecological vegetables. The Ecological Farmers Association also presented itself at the Nature and Health Fair and also created a brochure with the presentation of the Centre. During the project, the partner set up the collection and distribution Centre for ecological vegetables (construction of a cold store, purchase of equipment).

Main purpose - *Why?*

- To increase the diversity of supply of ecological farms
- To increase the share of ecological farms in the area
- To increase the volume of production of ecological vegetables for the market
- To connect and organize local growers of ecological vegetables
- To increase storage and refrigeration facilities in the area

Stakeholders concerned - *Who & how?*

Involved stakeholders and cooperation:

- Growers of Ecological Vegetables – animation workshops and professional education
- Partner in project (ecological farm) – collection and distribution centre for ecological vegetables (construction work, purchase of equipment)
- Ecological Farmers Association – promotion of the distribution centre

Challenges of stakeholders involvement

- What worked well & what worked less well (questions/ challenges identified)
- Established chain of suppliers for collection and distribution centre for ecological vegetables
- Seasonal offer does not allow year round operation
- Lack of offers prevents entering into commercial centers