



Europees Landbouwfonds
voor Plattelandsontwikkeling:
Europa investeert
in zijn platteland

**VLAAMS
RURAAL
NETWERK**



RN Flanders (BE)

**Workshop on 'Developing common activities among NRN's
operating in MS with regional RDP's'**

Rome, 14 February 2018

General information

- ▶ **BE:**
 - Flemish and Walloon network (regional NSU)
 - Flemish network (= national NSU)
- ▶ **Flanders versus Wallonia:**
 - Different rurality and agriculture within the MS
 - Different languages (Flanders = Dutch, Wallonia = French): which can cause problems in organizing joint events
- ▶ **Similarities**
 - Small regions
 - Proximity of our stakeholders (events, meetings, etc...)

General information

▶ Structure and members Rural Networks

→ Flanders: open membership, anyone can join the network and most of the network's activities

→ Wallonia: theoretically open membership but the majority of actors are already involved on request. Anyone can join most of the network's activities

▶ Team and NSU:

→ Flanders: NSU inside the ministry

Team: 3 FTE

→ Wallonia: outsourced NSU

Team (8): 3,75 FTE

General information

► Communication tools

→ Flanders:

- × Website
- × Youtube
- × Newsletter (4 times/year)
- × Twitter → social media very limited, choice of Flemish NSU (staff, time)

→ Wallonia:

- × Website
- × Magazine
- × newsletter (12 times/year)
- × Youtube
- × Facebook & Twitter → high use of social media
- × Video & TV programma

Annual plan of activities (Flemish NSU): events

- ▶ Stakeholder needs analysis
 - For whom? Open to all stakeholders
 - 15 and 22 February
 - Preparation for the next programming period
 - × Environmental analysis → SWOT → needs analysis
- ▶ Experiential platform
 - For whom? Managing services
 - March: M06 business startup for young farmers
 - May: M10 'agro-environment-climate': examples from other MS
 - Nov: M? (tbc) examples from other MS
- ▶ EU-Day (May)
 - Annual event with all the EU-funds
 - For whom? Broad public



Annual plan of activities (Flemish NSU): events

- ▶ **Stakeholdermeeting**
 - For whom? Specific stakeholdergroup per theme
 - March: Agricultural training
 - Nov: Agriculture and nature / biodiversity
- ▶ **Leader: 'Learning in Network' (June and Okt)**
 - For whom? Leader coordinators from the LAGs
 - × Theme (tbc) cooperation projects Leader (Wall & FI)
- ▶ **Seminar/excursion (May):**
 - For whom? agricultural journalists + NRN members (Wall & FI)
 - Presentation of the NRNs + EIP Agri
 - Discussion corners on innovation
 - Farm visit



Annual plan of activities (Flemish NSU): events

- ▶ Excursion (Okt)
 - Smart farming / agriculture in the future
- ▶ Study days
 - Okt: Water quantity
 - Jan 2019 (Agriflanders): innovation – results EIP
 - Jan 2019 (Agriflanders): CAP post 2020
 - For whom? all interested people
- ▶ 2019?
 - Depends on the annual survey among the stakeholders



Cooperation with other MS

▶ Potential issues?

→ RDP 2014-2020 (implementation issues, good practices), Future CAP, future RDP,.....

▶ Practical proposals of activities:

→ Activities? Ad hoc

- × Bilateral consultation
- × Exchange of experiences

→ For whom?

- × MA, NSU

Future international event: Wallonia

European seminar: fostering innovation 'Meet the challenges of rurality' (17-18 May 2018)

→ Objectives:

- × To analyse European approaches that aims at stimulating innovation in rural areas;
- × To analyse case studies, their innovative aspects, their achieved results and the new opportunities hence created;
- × To experiment methods and tools to fostering innovation;
- × To set out recommendations to foster innovation in Wallonia.

→ 4 themes:

- × Approaches and methodologies to foster innovation
- × Stimulating innovation: virtue of the constraint
- × Opportunities and innovations created by digitization
- × Innovate to reinforce resilience

→ 16 workshops among which Smart farming, Knowledge systems and advice services, Approaches & solutions to aging people, Territorial management of skills & jobs, Food territorial systems, Adaptation to climate change in the agriculture and forestry sector,...



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Contact

- vlaamsruraalnetwerk@vlaanderen.be
- Website: www.ruraalnetwerk.be



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