1st Meeting of the European Rural Networks' Assembly

Brussels - 26 January 2015

European Network for Rural Development

eip-agri
AGRICULTURE & INNOVATION

European Commission

Introduction to the parallel workshops

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Objective of the parallel workshops:

To identify priorities and subjects for the thematic work to be carried out by the ENRD and EIP-AGRI network, particularly for 2015.

Strategic Framework for the EU Rural Networks

Strategic framework

Enhance participation	Increase the involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of rural development *(Art. 52.2.a)*	**Understanding RD stakeholders and their needs:** Stakeholders diverse needs and potential for involvement **Increasing stakeholder capacity for meaningful involvement:** • The Networks provide a platform where targeted exchanges take place	• 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
	Establish a dialogue between farmers and research community *(Art. 53.2.b – 1st part)*	**Promoting adoption of innovations:** • Findings from research are translated better and faster into practical farming applications • Research agendas are based more on actual needs of farmers	• Targeted stakeholders involvement • EIP-AGRI Focus Groups • Seminars and workshops on specific innovation topics
	Facilitate the inclusion of all stakeholders in the knowledge exchange process *(Art. 53.2.b – 2nd part)*	**Knowing how innovation works:** Stakeholders are familiar with the opportunities to stimulate innovation **Connecting partners:** • Stakeholders are able to find other stakeholders relevant at national and EU level **Cooperating effectively:** • Different types of stakeholders, research project groups, thematic networks, Operational Groups	• Knowledge exchange and communication tools based on the outputs of stakeholders' mapping • Joint actions with stakeholders • Participation in events organised by stakeholders • Identification and use of stakeholders' communication tools and channels
	Facilitate the exchange of expertise and good practice *(Art. 53.2.a – Art. 52.3.c)*	**Diffusing of innovations, projects and practices:** • Information on successful innovative activities is more easily available by systematic collection	• "Good practices", innovative actions and projects • EIP-AGRI Focus Group
Improve policy quality	Improve the quality of RDP *(Art. 52.2.b)*	**Increasing awareness of the opportunities and needs for improving RDPs:** • Common understanding of the real opportunities for improving RDPs **Identifying promising approaches at EU level:** • Promising approaches to RDP improvement are identified, analysed **Consolidating and developing communities of practice for improving RDPs:** • Stakeholder groups including RDP managers actively exchange and transfer methods and tools **Informing better RD Policy:** • Networks outputs are used to improve RD policy both now and in the future	• Individual, comparative and thematic analyses of RDPs • EU level thematic Groups carrying out analyses on specific aspects of RDP implementation • Implementation of joint actions with national and regional rural stakeholders on specific aspects of improving RDP programming and implementation • Setting-up online tools and information sharing and exchange platforms to support 'communities of practice' • Targeted and active dissemination of results
	Support the evaluation of RDPs *(Art. 52.2.d)*	**Improving evaluation capacity of all actors involved in RDP evaluation** Evaluation stakeholders in the Member States and at EU level **Consolidating and developing communities of practice for RDP evaluators:** • RDP evaluators actively exchange and transfer evaluation methods and tools **Informing rural development policy decision-making** • Evaluation results provide valuable information feeding in future RD policy development	• Databases, glossaries and guidance documents on evaluation. • EU-level thematic working groups producing guidance or developing methodologies to address issues related to the evaluation of RDP • Technical support and training activities • Meetings and events related to rural development evaluation • Setting-up communication tools, including electronic
Increase awareness	Play a role in informing the broader public on the benefits of rural development policy *(Art. 52.2.c)*	**Communicating the benefits of RDPs:** • There is greater awareness of the benefits of RDP for major societal challenges • Success stories from RDP implementation **Disseminating and sharing the knowledge generated by the Networks:** • The Networks activities and outputs are communicated and shared	• Identification and communication of 'human interest' RDP stories (magazine, Facebook) • Identification and dissemination of good practice examples (various channels) • Regular communication of news (Websites, Twitter, newsletters)

Strategic Framework for the EU Rural Networks

➤ Enhancing participation

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		Increasing stakeholder capacity for meaningful involvement: • The Networks provide a platform where targeted exchanges take place	• NRN and stakeholder surveys • Thematic Group(s) on stakeholder participation • National stakeholder needs and opportunities analyses
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W1. "Better Networking with ENRD/EIP-AGRI" - *How rural policy networks complement other forms of networking*

W2. "Farmers in Innovation" – How *to ensure that farmers become more involved in EU Networks*

Strategic Framework for the EU Rural Networks

➢ **Improving policy quality**

W3&4. "Networking priorities" - *What are the priority themes that the Networks should address*

W5. "What should come first in innovation" - *What are the priority innovation themes that the Networks should address?*

Strategic Framework for the EU Rural Networks

➢ **Increasing awareness**

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W6. Better communication with stakeholders" - *How can the Networks communication activities complement existing awareness raising activities*

Parallel workshops on:

Enhancing participation

Workshop 1. "Better Networking with ENRD/EIP-AGRI" - *How rural policy networks complement other forms of networking*

- What are stakeholder needs?
- What channels and methods for more effective participation?
- What are the areas for common action?

Workshop 2. "Farmers in Innovation" – How *to ensure that farmers become more involved in EU Networks*

- What could be effective communication channels for the EU Networks?
- What should be main messages (terminology, aspects etc.) to address?
- How can stakeholders in EU Networks contribute to this?

Parallel workshops on:

Improving policy quality

Workshops 3&4. "Networking priorities" - *What are the priority themes that the Networks should address*

- Identify priority themes the Networks should address. Themes may be:
  - **sectoral** (e.g. value chain, results oriented AEC activities)
  - **horizontal** (e.g. access to finance, improving 'delivery' performance, end user simplification)
- How important can networking be to address any given theme or challenge?

Workshop 5. "What should come first in innovation" - *What are the priority innovation themes that the Networks should address?*

- What are possible innovation themes?
- What are the priority innovation themes?
- How can the EU networks contribute to addressing such themes?

Parallel workshop on:

Increasing awareness

Workshop 6. Better communication with stakeholders" - *How can the Networks communication activities complement existing awareness raising activities*
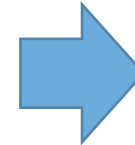
- What are the priority rural development communication goals?
- Which activities should be prioritised by EU Rural Networks taking note of other institutions' existing activities and opportunities for synergy?
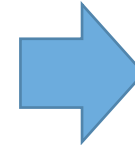
Where?

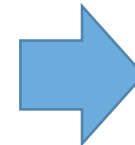| Workshop	Room
Workshop 1. "Better Networking with ENRD/EIP-AGRI"	0C
Workshop 2. "Farmers in Innovation"	0B
Workshop 3&4. "Networking priorities"	1C
Workshop 5. "What should come first in innovation"	1D
Workshop 6. "Better communication with stakeholders"	2C