European Commission

ENRD Newsletter
November 2018

European Network for
Rural Development

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Project of the month

Find out how a young farmer from Murcia, Spain, benefiting from **agri-environment support** under the regional Rural Development Programme (RDP), increased the farm's profitability and contributed to improved environmental protection.

Find more good practices for **environmental protection** in our Project Database.

Bioeconomy Corner

ENRD Rural Bioeconomy Portal

The ENRD Contact Point launched on 6 November 2018 a new online Rural Bioeconomy Portal collecting resources such as relevant documents, links to tools, projects and organisations related to bioeconomy.

The portal is part of the ENRD thematic work on 'Mainstreaming the Bioeconomy' and focuses on the challenges and opportunities from developing the bioeconomy in European rural areas. It is freely accessible and allows users to suggest further content. The portal will soon be available in French, German, Italian, Polish and Spanish.

EU Bioeconomy Strategy: an update

The European Commission published in October 2018 its updated bioeconomy strategy and action plan to develop a sustainable and circular bioeconomy across the EU.

The new document is a revision of the 2012 bioeconomy strategy and aims to improve and scale up the sustainable use of renewable resources to address global and local challenges such as climate change and sustainable development.

For further information, see also a factsheet, infographic, booklet and video overviewing the updated strategy.

EU funding for bio-based innovation and bioeconomy

Several Horizon 2020 calls seeking to fund research and innovation projects on topics related to bio-based innovation and bioeconomy were launched in late October 2018 and will close on 23 January 2019.

The call topics include: circular bio-based business models for rural communities (find here); sustainable wood value chains (find here); and boosting knowledge and innovation-based bioeconomies (find here).

Find your way through the upcoming Horizon 2020 calls – read EIP-AGRI's [brochure](#) on funding opportunities in 2019.

Bioeconomy: data on growth and jobs

Explore statistics on jobs and growth of the bioeconomy in the 2009-2015 period! Read the latest [brief](#) produced by the European Commission's [Bioeconomy Knowledge Centre](#).

The brief highlights, among others, that in 2015 the bioeconomy generated 4.2% of the gross domestic product (GDP) of the EU and employed 8.2% of the labour force.

News

ENRD thematic work – join us on social media

Follow the ENRD thematic work on social media: join our Facebook [Smart Villages Community](#) and have a chat with us about rural [#Bioeconomy](#) on Twitter! Share your ideas, experience, initiatives or projects with us and others who are also interested in these topics.

Find out how the first [ENRD Twitter chat](#) on territorial and local approaches to rural bioeconomy went and follow our [webpage](#) for ongoing updates.

Browse through our rich collection of materials on [Smart Villages](#), more will be coming soon.

Studies on the 2021-2027 CAP

A series of studies published in October 2018 by the European Parliament's [Think Tank](#) explore the proposed [reform package](#) of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the 2021-2027 period.

The studies address the following topics:

- "**CAP Strategic Plans beyond 2020**: assessing the architecture in order to achieve the EU-wide objectives" (read [here](#));
- "**CAP support beyond 2020**: assessing the future structure of direct payments and the rural development interventions in the light of the EU agricultural and environmental challenges" (read [here](#));
- "**Sectoral approach in the CAP beyond 2020** and possible options to improve the EU food value chain" (read [here](#)).

LEADER in the Western Balkans

Find out how the LEADER approach is applied in Western Balkan countries in a recent [publication](#) produced by the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group in South Eastern Europe ([SWG](#)).

The publication overviews LEADER-like initiatives in countries of the region; national strategies, policy and legislative frameworks relevant for Local Action Groups (LAGs), networks, local partnerships, and territorial development; as well as specific national challenges and needs.

Funding for CAP communication activities

Do you communicate about EU support to agriculture and rural development through the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)? [Grants](#) for information measures are now [open](#) – the deadline for submitting applications is 14 December 2018.

The European Commission seeks to fund a wide range of communication actions that explain and raise awareness of CAP support and engage with farmers and other rural actors.

Recognising outstanding broadband projects across Europe

Get inspired to develop a project providing access to high-speed broadband internet in your area – browse through this year's winners of the European Broadband Awards!

Several projects delivering **rural broadband** in Croatia, Finland, Latvia, Poland, Spain, and the Netherlands have been awarded in the various categories.

This annual competition run by the European Commission highlights projects – big or small, rural or urban, private or public – that have successfully established broadband infrastructures. Explore the winning projects from previous years and a database of good practice examples.

Social innovation in mountain areas

Find out how rural communities capitalise on the natural and social assets in mountainous areas in terms of community life, living environment, and dynamic approaches to governance in the latest brochure of the Horizon 2020 project SIMRA.

SIMRA (Social Innovation in Marginalised Rural Areas) is continuously working to identify and disseminate good practice examples of social innovation – explore their online database.

Rural Networks' Steering Group discusses post-2020 networking

What rural networking under the post-2020 Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) will look like was a main discussion topic at the 10th meeting of the European Rural Networks' Steering Group (SG) of 22 October 2018, Brussels, Belgium.

The European Commission's legislative proposals for the 2021-2027 policy give 'CAP networks' at the national and European levels a reinforced role in supporting the implementation of the new CAP Strategic Plans, bringing together the two CAP Pillars in a single document.

Events

02 - 14 December 2018
UN Climate Change Conference COP 24, Katowice, Poland

03 December 2018
The New CAP: Optimal Distribution of Resources in the Regions, Berlin, Germany

03 - 05 December 2018
Financial Instruments Campus Event, Brussels, Belgium

04 December 2018
CEJA 60th Anniversary Celebration, Ypres, Belgium

04 December 2018
European Biodiversity Conference, Brussels, Belgium

04 December 2018
Climate Policy and Forest Bioeconomy, Brussels, Belgium

04 - 07 December 2018
European Forests – Our Cultural Heritage, St. Georgen am Längsee, Carinthia, Austria

05 December 2018
Enhancing Rural Innovation Capacity and Performance, Hamburg, Germany

05 December 2018
6th Meeting of ENRD Thematic Group on 'Smart Villages', Brussels, Belgium

05 December 2018
European Blue Bioeconomy Forum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

06 - 07 December 2018
EU Agricultural Outlook Conference 2018, Brussels, Belgium

10 December 2018
ENRD Workshop on 'Attracting Young Farmers and Fostering Generational Renewal in Rural Areas', Brussels, Belgium

11 December 2018
5th Rural Networks' Assembly Meeting, Brussels, Belgium

12 - 13 December 2018
Multi-level Strategies for Digitising Agriculture and Rural Areas, Antwerp, Belgium

12 - 13 December 2018
Approaches to Assess Environmental RDP Impacts in 2019, Bratislava, Slovakia

13 December 2018
What Innovations to Ensure Food Security for All?, Paris, France

14 December 2018
French NRN Assembly, Paris, France

17 January 2019
2nd Meeting of Thematic Group on 'Mainstreaming the Bioeconomy', Brussels, Belgium

17 - 19 January 2019
Global Forum for Food and Agriculture, Berlin, Germany

18 - 27 January 2019
International Green Week, Berlin, Germany

29 January 2019
ENRD Workshop on Biodiversity, Brussels, Belgium

31 January 2019
6th Rural Networks' LEADER/CLLD Sub-group Meeting, Brussels, Belgium

06 - 07 February 2019
Opportunities for Farm Diversification in the Circular Bioeconomy, Vilnius, Lithuania

15 - 17 February 2019
Agri Travel and Slow Travel Expo, Bergamo, Italy

19 - 20 February 2019
Food Safety Congress, Berlin, Germany

21 February 2019
13th NRNs' Meeting, Athlone, Ireland

22 February 2019
ENRD Workshop on Generational Renewal, Athlone, Ireland

23 February - 03 March 2019
Salon International de l'Agriculture, Paris, France

09 April 2019
Forum for the Future of Agriculture 2019, Brussels, Belgium

11 - 12 April 2019
networX. Inspiring Rural Europe, Brussels, Belgium

11 - 14 April 2019
Agraria Romania 2019, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

13 - 17 May 2019
EU Green Week, Brussels, Belgium

26 - 29 May 2019
International Conference on Biotechnology and Agriculture Engineering, Tokyo, Japan

16 - 20 June 2019
Advanced Technologies and Management for Innovative Greenhouses, Angers, France

25 - 27 June 2019
European Bioeconomy Week 2019, Viborg, Denmark

15 - 18 July 2019
International Symposium on Agricultural Research, Athens, Greece

10 - 13 September 2019
LINC Conference 2019, Pärnu, Estonia

29 September - 05 October 2019
Interconnecting Forests, Science and People, Curitiba, Brazil

06 - 09 November 2019
4th European Rural Parliament, Candás, Asturias, Spain

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