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VERSLAG

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datum: 7 april 2016

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afwezig met kennisgeving: Ariane Van Den Steen
voorzitter: ENRD
verslaggever: Alexander Spriet
onderwerp: European Rural Networks' Steering Group

ALGEMEEN

The meeting had the following main objectives:

- To strengthen the involvement of SG members in Rural Networks' activities and ensure that they are as useful as possible for the different rural stakeholders' groups they represent.
- To further fine-tune the priorities of the EU Rural Networks for 2016.
- To reinforce the synergy and complementarity between activities carried out by the EU Rural Networks.
- To make progress on the development of a simple and effective method for monitoring and assessing the results of EU Rural Networks' activities.

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

DG AGRI

Veel werk gedaan sedert Assembly

=> RDP conference, workshops, thematic workgroups ...

Focus of the meeting

- Coordinating capacity building en activities of NRNs – how can networks contribute to better RDP by different types of SH
- Strengthening involvement and building synergy between the thematic work of the rural networks
- Assessing results



Mathias Langemeyer:

Overview of activities RN

- Cap building: OGs, NRNs (workshop on innovation), support for nat/reg events
- Smart & competitive: seminar data driven business models; Workshop cities and food
- Transition to green economy

=> [see presentation Mathias Langemeyer](#)

Capacity-building activities to support the implementation of the RDPs

Paul Soto:

[Capacity building and peer exchange to support better RDP implementation](#)

Consultation => RDP conference (1 feb) => 1st EFSI WS (23 Feb) => Selection criteria WS (15 Mar) => 2nd EFSI WS (19th April) => WS on M16 (May)

Overview results RDP conference

- Main tools are there
- Big potential through joint working at all levels
- Recognition of role of networks

What NRNs can do:

- Actions to unlock RDP potential:
- Working together
- Capacity building
- Guidance
- Effective outreach
- CLLD

Duitse spreker:

- Need for closer communication between administrative services
- Simplified cost options and umbrella projects: good, but need to improve them
- Need more discussion with auditors

Pacome Elounda – EIP AGri

- Publications (OGs, Innovation Support Services, EIP-Agri Network, Participatory approach)+ events (past and future)
 - Past events:
 - 3 seminars (mainly MA, also NSU/NRNs) => outcome: reports, articles, new contacts => gradual set-up of the network
 - 5 regional workshops (MA, NSU/NRNs, relevant SH) => outcome: toolkit for OGs in EIP website (soon)
 - Working together with NRNs

- Future events
 - Exchange of experiences regarding RDP implementation
 - WS 'OGs: first experiences' => mainly for MA and partners in OGs (20-21/4 in Italy)
 - WS for NRNs focusing on EIP-AGRI – October 2016 (Budapest – HU)
 - Disseminations of Focus Groups outcomes
 - Crucial for achieving EIP-AGRI objectives
 - Good practices already in place in some MS
 - Need to reach OGs in the ground
- ⇒ [Presentation of Pacôme Elouna Eyenga](#)

Comments on innovation subgroup

⇒ [zie link op website EIP \(rond set-up OG\)](#)

Hoe OGs in Horizon 2020 (benieuwd naar de samenwerking hierin in de toekomst)

Paul Soto – How to ensure that these activities impact on the Programs?

- “champions” –mensen die goede kennis hebben en niet doorverwijzen
- No common understanding on implementing measures (e.g. M16)
- Challenge of language e.g. outcomes of focus groups => more need for dialogue between the actors and face-to-face meetings
- M2 (advisory services) – bring actors of different levels (MS ...) together
- EIP-AGRI focus more on OGs (instead of Focus Groups) => by toolkit,

PAUZE

Capacity-building activities to support the implementation of the RDPs

Strengthening the role of the NRNs

Overview of NRN-meeting in Bled

- Focus on NRN objective to improve RDP implementation
- Discuss next steps with regard ...

Overview WS: young farmers, cooperation measure, short supply chains

⇒ [see report NRN meeting](#)

Operation of NRNs

- NRN self-assessment
- NRN evaluation
- NRN action plans
- Regional NRN structures

Margarida Ambar, EIP-AGRI Service Point

[See PPT Margarida](#)

In general, EIP-AGRI is looking for

- Good collaboration with NRN
- Establish regular cooperation
- ..

Jurmala points:

- Make results of FG more attractive, make available contacts of FG members
- Create collaborative area for NRNs/NSUs
- Collect and share info about OGs (what, where, how, RDPs screenings, create database)
- Produce a mapping on how each NRN is dealing with EIP

NRN action points

- Participate in test groups to provide feedback on EIP-AGRI website
- Support initial set up of OGs
- Disseminate EIP info / data (crucial role for NRNs)

EIP-AGR network action points:

- Regular meetings with NRNs
- Include in collaborative area
- Prepare targeted communication materials for farmers
- Support TNC and transnational OGs
- Inform NSUs about national SH participating EIP-AGRI events
- Share good practices

NRNs action points:

- Translate EIP publications
- Develop EIP webpage, IT tools, social media
- EIP events at national and regional level

Paul Soto – LEADER Subgroup

[See report LEADER Subcommittee](#)

Buzz Groups to discuss

Capacity building activities to support the evaluation of RDPs

By the Evaluation Helpdesk

- Get a common understanding of how we evaluate RDP
- Discuss challenges linked to the implementation of the common monitoring and Evaluation System
- Ensure comparability of evaluation outcomes

Capacity building on:

- the system to CMES
- Setting up answer EQs
- Evaluation of LEADER/CLLD
- Evaluation of National Rural Networks

Questions

- Who needs to build evaluation capacity in your Member State?
 - Ook evaluators opleiden / evalueren
- On what topics does capacity in evaluation need to be built in 2016?
 - Employment
 - Environmental / socio-economic impact
 - How to follow up
 - Building tools => how to build database
 - How to translate evaluation to policy and in understandable way
- How can networks support the building of evaluation capacity in your Member State?
 - MA and ENRD
 - NRNs can collect good practices, on good evaluation and bring results
 - See 'evaluation system for LEADER'

NAMIDDAG

Strengthening involvement and building synergy between the thematic work of the rural networks

Smart and competitive agriculture and rural areas (Pacôme Alouna Eyenga)

- WS on cities and food
- Data driven business models
- Benchmarking farm performance

⇒ [See presentation](#)

Workshop – two topics

- **Smart and competitive agriculture and rural areas**
- Promoting the transition to the green economy

Two questions:

- How to feed in and out of each other's work (EIP and ENRD)
- What activities to ensure better take-up and use by different types of stakeholder in the SG?

First question:

- Representative of EIP and ENRD in each other's meetings (EU-level)
- ENRD => disseminate information in comprehensible language (EIP is very technic)
- NRN als tussenpersoon van doorstroming informatie
 - EIP/ENRD ⇔ NRN ⇔ LAGs/stakeholders/farmers

Second question:

- Which target group for which event => who do you want to involve/set target groups
- Have less groups at regional level
- Presentations beforehand to prepare better and questions
- Study visits, excursions, ... for farmers => more exchange between regions
- Possibility to include social media to replace meetings – bottom-up approach
- Open space for discussions
- Videos of results on the thematic WG
- EIP results on website DG AGRI

Assessing results of the European Rural Networks – Edina Ocsko

⇒ [See presentation](#)

Upcoming events – Matthias Langemeyer (DG AGRI)

⇒ [See presentation](#)