



PREPARE

Partnership for rural Europe

NEWSLETTER

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News from PREPARE

News from Latvian Rural Forum

Association "Latvian Rural forum" from Latvia in collaboration with „Asociace regionálních značek" from Czech Republic and "Rural development foundation" from Rumania are organizing **conference "Local Identity Product (LIP) - sustainable support systems for communities in Europe"**, which will take place in Latvia from **15.-18.02.2012.**

The conference will be great opportunity to gain new knowledge about different EU experiences in field of **local food support systems**, share your own experience within others, get acquainted theoretically and practically with situation of local food support systems in Latvia; taste all kind of Latvian local food and meet with people and organizations working and interested in this field not only from Latvia but all around Europe.

Deadline of the registration is 22th of January 2012.

More: www.vip.kompetences.lv

Transnational cooperation opportunities

Czech LAG searches for partners in education and employment project

we (LAG Spolecna cesta, South Moravia, Czech Republic) want to invite you to the project, which is focused for the **education and employment of mothers after their maternity leave and people 50+ (in rural areas)**. The project will be financed from the Czech part of ESF, we can pay all the costs of the experts from abroad and organize and pay your study trip to Czech Republic, or internship. We can cover all the costs of the participants from Czech Republic in your country. We can also cover all interpretation, international workshops or conferences, handbooks. Call for proposal is finished January 28th. If you have experiences in this field, and you want to be our project partner, contact us ASAP at mas.spolecnacesta@seznam.cz.

Italian LAG searches for partners in sustainable touristic promotion project

The Italian LAG "Consorzio Alto casertano" (member of the Cooperation group of the Italian Rural Network) is looking for partners within the transnational cooperation project **"Rediscovery and valorization of the Ruralità Mediterranea. A trans-national project for a sustainable touristic promotion.**

More

Finnish LAGs looking for partners in local food project

The Finnish LAGs Karhuseutu, Joutsenten Reitti and Aktiivinen Pohjois-Satakunta are currently planning a transnational cooperation project whose main idea is to explore **how local food has been used to build the local identity and brand as well as how local food brands have added value to local food production chains:** exchange of experience & transfer of best practices.

The first partnership meeting, which is open to anyone interested, will take place on the 16th and 17th of February in Pori, Finland.

[More](#)

News from Brussels

DG AGRI published report "Rural development in EU: Statistical and economic information 2011"

The document is available [here](#).

Other news

Studies in Agricultural Economics

Studies in Agricultural Economics volume 113 number 2 pages 121-177 can now be accessed and downloaded free of charge at www.aki.gov.hu/studies. Click on 'Current volume' in the drop-down menu. The invited articles published in this issue address the theme of 'The Role of Cohesion Policy in Rural Development'.

Issue 9 of EU Rural Review on Forestry Published

Issue 9 of the magazine EU Rural Review is now available to [download](#) from the ENRD website. This edition focuses on the issue of forestry and rural development.

Good farming practices for climate change mitigation

European young farmers are looking for ways to make food production more sustainable. Sustainable in the sense that the food is produced with less emission of greenhouse gases. As farmers of the future young farmers are part of the solution in providing the next generations with "climate friendly" food.

More:

www.najk.nl/ondernemende-jongeren

www.najk.nl/fileadmin

The Common Strategic Framework and its Impact on Rural Development - policy paper

This Policy Paper presents an analysis of the Common Strategic Framework and its potential impact on European rural development policy. Paper benefited from the outcomes of a conference organized by Notre Europe and Europuls in the European Parliament on 22 November 2011.

[More](#)

GEOSPECS stakeholder conference

On 8 December 2011, the GEOSPECS (Geographic Specificities and Development Potentials in Europe) stakeholder conference gathered representatives of mountain areas, islands, sparsely populated areas, coastal zones, border regions, Outermost Regions and inner peripheries in Brussels. In several group discussions, these stakeholders engaged in debates about the commonalities and differences of "their" geographic specificities, how to address these areas in policymaking, and the future of EU Cohesion Policy.

More: www.geospecs.eu

Events

International Summer School of Rural Development

Adult and Continuing Education Unit (AIKOPA) of Kajaani University Consortium organises the Summer School of Rural Development "Nature and modern countryside; treasures or threats?" in Mekrijärvi, Finland. The summer school is a part of the second Nordic Conference for Rural Research in Joensuu (mua.fi/ruralattheedge).

[More](#)

Series of Courses on the theme Essentials of Community Development

The Countryside and Community research Institute (CCRI) will now be re-running the successful series of four one-day courses on the theme of '[Essentials of Community Development](#)' in February and March of 2012 at University of Gloucestershire. The courses are designed to give understanding, tools and skills needed to explore, develop and manage activities leading to more sustainable community development.

More: www.ccri.ac.uk

Other events:

Conference "Local Identity Product (LIP) - sustainable support systems for communities in Europe"
15. - 18. February 2012. Latvia. www.vip.kompetences.lv

SAC-SEPA Conference - Valuing Ecosystems: Policy, Economic and Management Interactions
3. - 4. April 2012, Edinburgh, United Kingdom. www.sac.ac.uk

First European Market of Local products
10-12 May 2012, Auvergne, France. bsauvignet@haute-loire.chambagri.fr. [More](#)

Rural at the Edge - the 2nd Nordic conference for rural research
21. - 23. May 2012, Joensuu, Finland. mua.fi/ruralattheedge

The European Food Security Conference - Better farming for a sustainable European food supply
May 2012, Brussels, Belgium. www.eu-ems.com

About PREPARE:

The PREPARE partnership is a group of European and national non-government organizations. The partnership was created in 1999 and has expanded as new national rural movements have joined. The aim of PREPARE programme is to strengthen civil society and to promote multi-national exchange in rural development, with a main focus on the new EU member states of Central and Eastern Europe, as well as accession countries and the "new neighbours" of the enlarged EU. The main founder of PREPARE activities is Charles Steward MOTT Foundation.

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