

News

PREPARE activities

Representatives from **Slovenian Rural Development Network** will visit rural NGOs in **Monte Negro** from 4. to 6. July to discuss the involvement of civil society in the process of rural development policy programming.

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PREPARE Network is preparing the workshop about rural development in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** on 18./19. July. More information available at info@preparenetwork.org.

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More than 40 representatives from different **civil initiatives from Turkey** and six Prepare member organisations attended the **PREPARE Workshop about Rural Development** in Kizilcahamam near Ankara in Turkey on 15. June. Fruitful exchange of experience from different European countries was the basis for discussion about position of civil society in Turkey. Several NGOs presented the results of their efforts in rural area. Excellent organisation of the event was supported by the experienced staff from **Heirich Boell Foundation** from Istanbul – HBF and from **Turkish Development Foundation** from Ankara. Stimulating working ambient contributed to the ambitious goals set by the participants, who meet twice a year to discuss the situation in rural development in Turkey. All participants agreed that cooperation with PREPARE Network would be advantage for civil society in Turkey.

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PREPARE representative took part at the **ENRD Coordination Committee** on 14. June in **Brussels**. Main topics were: environmental services, knowledge transfer and innovation, networking and programming. More information about the event can be found [here](#).

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The latest e-buletin of **Rural Development Network of the Republic of Macedonia** is available [here](#).

CALL FOR ACTION! Good Food March to Brussels 2012

In late May, **ARC2020** together with EMB, ECVC, FOE Europe, IFOAM EU, Meine Landwirtschaft, PAC 2013 and Slow Food launched a **Call to Action for the Good Food March to Brussels**. During August and September 2012 consumers, farmers and young people from all corners of Europe will march to Brussels by bicycle, tractor, and/or horse cart to call for a greener and fairer CAP. They will arrive on **19th September** to participate in a conference at the European Parliament organised by Slow Food and ARC2020. The event will take place under the patronage of the Commissioner for Agriculture Mr. Dacian Ciolos, Mr. Schultz, the Parliament's President and the Cypriot Minister of the EU Agriculture Council (tbc).



THE CAP WE WANT: We'll take your message to Brussels!

Organizers of Good Food March are inviting you **send your message about what you want from the CAP** and they'll take your message to Brussels. Just follow the simple instructions that are available [here](#).

More information about the action is available at www.goodfoodmarch.eu

Take part in a documentary focused on European rural development

Two Spanish freelance journalists, under the support of REDR (Spanish Network for Rural Development), have embarked in the creation of a documentary focused on European rural development. The purpose of this initiative is to document and put together best practices, projects and individual experiences in agricultural innovation, agro-tourism, active eco-tourism, micro-tourism and forestry. The main objective is to highlight the beauty and importance of European rural areas!

The documentary, which will go under the title "Around Europe in 80 Days" is sponsored by "Top Rural" and will be presented in Madrid in early 2013.

For further information on this as well as expressions of interest please contact Ms Ana Isabel Aranda and Mr Juan Manuel Alfonso at: europaen80dias@gmail.com

[More](#)

Video/photo competition: "RE:TURN TO THE FUTURE – AGRICULTURE"

This year's edition of the competition will try to capture the world of agriculture in Europe through imagery that connects the past and the future. The initiative recognizes the outstanding use of video and photography to tell compelling stories of the life of agricultural producers and the impact that their achievements have on the European citizens.

Video artists and photographers – professional and amateurs - are invited to submit images that embody the spirit of the European village and the remarkable local food products of the European states and regions in a variety of formats, also including posters, multimedia and art installations. [More](#)



Social Farming: Green care and social and health policies

On 6. June 2012, a public hearing on social farming took place at the **European Economic and Social Committee**. This aim was to examine its potential added-value and to provide an insight on the existing (and non) regulatory frameworks within which social farming initiatives are carried out.

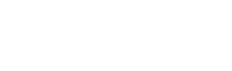
Relevant documents and reports from the event can be found [here](#).



ENRD Workshop on Community-led Local Development

The objectives of the **Workshop on Community-led Local Development** organized by **ENRD** on 1st June in Brussels were to exchange information and ideas on preparing for the future programming period and to identify the needs of stakeholders in this context and the possible role of networks in the preparatory phase.

More information about the workshop including documentation about the Community-Led Local Development and how to prepare better LAGs to the CLLD can be found [here](#).



8th Leader Subcommittee Meeting

The main topic of the event organized by ENRD on 31. May in Brussels was »community led local development«.

Relevant documents from the event can be found [here](#).



Events

Swedish Rural Parliament 2012

6.—9. September 2012 in Blekinge, southeastern Sweden

The Swedish Rural Parliament 2012 will pay special attention to the civil society and the role of local developers in rural areas. The theme of 2012 is: How do we build the country and who does the job?

For international guests there will be a programme in English throughout the congress. The theme for the international seminar is "**European Youth Policy as a rural development tool**". Some topics will be: "How do we get youth involved in the process of rural development", "How can we make rural areas more attractive for the young?" and "How can civic society use European Youth Policy Programs as a tool for rural development?". There will also be an optional study visit.

For more detailed information and registration, please visit the Rural Parliament website: <http://lbrd.helasverige.se/english/>



CAP conference: »The CAP towards 2020 - Taking stock with civil society«

13. July, Brussels, Belgium

Organizer: European Commission, DG AGRI

This event is being organised as a follow-up to the broad consultation on the challenges faced by European agriculture and the need for policy intervention, which took place in July 2010, on the initiative of Mr. Dacian Cioloş, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development. The conference will provide a forum for civil society to debate and discuss the CAP reform proposals for 2013 which were adopted by the Commission on 12 October 2011. [More](#)



International conference "Fisheries Areas Development Possibilities"

12-14 July 2012, South-West Coast of Latvia

Conference is organised by the association '**Liepāja District Partnership**' in cooperation with **Latvian Fisheries Network**. The aim of the conference is to discuss and to exchange experience on promoting sustainable development of fisheries areas among fisheries local action groups (FLAG's), fisheries sector representatives, local governments and social partners.

Registration is open until **28 June 2012**.

[Invitation and programme](#)

[Registration form](#)



XIII World congress of Rural Sociology

29 July - 4 August, Lisbon, Portugal

The event will gather a wide audience: more than 60 sessions and all relevant stakeholders, in order to have a broad discussion and exchange of information about rural development. In particular, there will be focus on communication and use of images in the rural world. [More](#)



EVENTS REMINDER

Locally Produced Food; What are we exactly talking about?

4. – 6 July 2012. Finland, Loimaa area (SW Finland). [More](#)

The European Food Security Conference

25. September 2012. Thon Hotel EU, Brussels. [More](#)

LEADER cooperation offers

Project titles (country of promoter):

- **Opportunity to organize and participate in International dance festivals** (Latvia). [More](#)
- **Education and integration of children with special needs** (Latvia). [More](#)
- **Real adventure** (Latvia). [More](#)
- **Ulbokas Music and Art School** (Latvia). [More](#)
- **Private accommodation's in rural areas** (Sweden). [More](#)
- **Creation of active society in densely populated suburban municipalities** (Latvia). [More](#)
- **Connecting regional cultures** (Austria). [More](#)

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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