

News

PREPARE activities

Next PREPARE **Organising Group meeting** will take place on Sunday, 9. September at 8.00 am in Ronneby / Sweden (Premises of the Swedish Rural Parliament).

The report and other relevant documentation from the **PREPARE Workshops about Rural Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina** and in **Turkey** held in June and July are now available on the **PREPARE website**.



PREPARE Workshop in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 18., 19. July 2012

The Good Food March has started!

Bike tours from the Netherlands, Austria and Germany have already set off on their journeys to Brussels, with routes from France and Belgium due to start soon, and national events are taking place in different locations across Europe. There are still many ways for you to get involved! Everyday, more and more people are taking part: joining the bike tours, attending events, or making plans to join us in Brussels on **September 19th - the final day of the March**. There is also still time to **send a photo message with your demands** for the future of food and farming policy in the EU to photo@goodfoodmarch.eu.

For all the latest news, follow the [Good Food March Blog](#).



Scottish Rural Parliament.

You can find all the reports to date, including a video of the seminar on the Scottish Rural Parliament web-page: www.ruralgateway.org.uk/en/rural-parliament



Project ODYSSEUS to promote the return and employment of youth in rural areas

Associació d'iniciatives Rurals de Catalunya (ARCA), the regional network of Leader Local Action Groups in Catalonia (Spain) started in 2011 the project **ODYSSEUS** to promote the return and employment of youth in rural areas. In the framework of Odysseus, they are planning to organise a **transnational seminar** within the Youth in action programme (action 4.3) to exchange with other European countries about youth policies and initiatives to promote the return of youth to rural areas and their employability. The main idea is to discuss and exchange experiences already in course in 4 European countries; Catalonia-Spain and 3 more countries around Europe. They look for partners as regional Leader networks or Local Action Groups which are interested and/or work in youth and employment but also other organisations which work on the topic. More information at tecnic1@arca-dr.cat (Gemma Estany)



5th edition of the EESC Civil Society Prize

The 2012 prize will reward civil society projects which have proved that innovative initiatives in sustainable production and/or consumption have led to the creation of green jobs in Europe. The deadline for submitting applications is 30. September 2012. [More](#)



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". [More](#)

Slovenian Rural Parliament 2012

16. and 17. October 2012, Terme Zreče, Slovenia

Slovenian Rural Development Network together with Slovenian Ministry for Agriculture and Environment is organizing second Slovenian Rural Development. Two day event is dedicated to the CAP in the next period 2014-2020.

Conference „Rural Community: Challenges and Opportunities for Rural Development in Romania 2014- 2020“

12-13 September 2012 in Bucharest, Romania

The conference, organized by the Romanian National Rural Network and the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, will tackle subjects of outmost interest concerning rural development and the future CAP, in the context of the new programming period 2014-2020. The event will also focus on best practices from National Rural Development Programme for Romania and on creative and innovative success stories from Romania's rural areas that show dynamism and entrepreneurship. [More](#)

Farmers' Women, Local Products and Short Supply Chains – Practical Experience, Strategic Perspectives

8-9 October 2012, Eisenberg an der Raab, Burgenland/Austria

Women farmers from Austria, Slovenia and Hungary will discuss local products and short supply chains in the future CAP. You can register at www.netzwerk-land.at by 1. October.

EVENTS REMINDER

EESC high level conference »Step up for a stronger Europe!«

25. September, Brussels, Belgium. [More](#)

The European Food Security Conference

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

4th European Congress on Rural Tourism

5.—9. October, Neamț county, Romania. [More](#)

ELARD Workshop on LEADER in CoR Open Days

9. October, Brussels, Belgium. [More](#)

LEADER cooperation offers

Project titles (country of promoter):

- **Development of a local energy efficiency chain in a openfield area** (France). [More](#)
- **Stimulation of innovative entrepreneurship in rural areas** (Latvia). [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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