

News

PREPARE activities

In mid of October **2. Slovenian Rural Parliament** took place. Event was successful, exceeding expectations of the organizers, **Slovenian Rural Development Network** and Ministry for Agriculture and Environment. More than 300 participants gathered and discussed the future CAP. Highest representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture were present, as well as representatives from the European Commission, representative from European Network for Rural Development and some members of PREPARE network. Conclusions from the working groups and panel discussion will be built into the future Slovenian CAP and Rural Development policy 2014 – 2020.

Estonian Village Movement Kodukant organised 15th anniversary conference “**Get together**” on 27th October 2012 in Jarva County. Around 300 participants from all parts of Estonia took part in the working celebration, focusing on discussions about local initiatives, rural development involvement of elder people and about participative democracy. PREPARE coordinator **Goran Šoster** and representative from Latvian rural forum **Aris Adlers** contributed to the interesting conference with their presentations as foreign speakers. Among others distinguished guests of the conference **Mr. Siim Valmar Kiisler**, Estonian Minister of Regional Affairs congratulated to all Kodukant members for their great contribution to rural development.

In September **PREPARE coordinator** participated ENRD’s workshop **Coordination Committee Workshop on the Future of Rural Networking**. The objective of this event was to consider the future of European networking for rural development, and to help prepare for the new generation of rural development programmes with regards to the rural networks. Relevant documentation from the event is available [here](#).

In October **PREPARE coordinator** participated at the ENRD’s **Coordination Committee Workshop on Financial Instruments in the period 2014 - 2020**. More about event will be available on the [ENRD website](#).

State of play on CAP

European Parliament presented a document regarding the state of play of CAP Reform, questions and answers about the ongoing discussion on FEASR 2014-2020. It is available [here](#).



European Development Days 2012

Committee of regions and CEMR organized Open days in Brussels, where lively debate took place at 16 different workshops on the CLLD – Community Led Local Development. You can see the report from that event by one of the speakers prof **Michael Dower**, initiator of PREPARE network, [here](#).



Merger of two pan-European networks for rural development

The Swedish Rural Parliament, held in Ronneby September 6-9, was the focus for a development of European significance. The merger of two pan-European rural networks, the European Rural Alliance and European Rural Community Association will pave the way for a major network to enable the voice of rural people from across Europe to reach policy makers in Brussels. It will also enable the thousands of rural communities across Europe to forge links and share their experiences of making rural development work. [More](#)



ERA’s Open call: Project European Rural Think Tank

ERA invites all interested parties to take part in the Rural Think Tank project financed by the Finnish Rural Policy Committee, the Finnish Rural Network unit, All Sweden Shall Live and The Village Action Association of Finland (village movements in Sweden and Finland). You can find the process description and conditions of the call [here](#).

Project “Capacities over 50s as Rural Development tool”

Some of the members of PREPARE Network have been included in project titled »Capacities over 50 as rural development tool« that was successfully concluded in September after two years. The project has addressed the aging of rural population and low level of utilizing left capacities of experienced people over 50 aiming at activating the social capital of rural communities by learning partnerships. [More](#)



New LEADER video available in ENRD Media Gallery

Video titled “LEADER forward” highlights the essence of LEADER, features testimonials from the ground and calls for policy makers and other stakeholders to work together on the implementation of LEADER projects from the “bottom-up”. The video is available [here](#).

Events

Second National Cooperation Fair

8.—9. November in Montbrison, South East France

This event, organized by the French National Network, is made to help French and European actors sharing their experience and expectations to move their cooperation project and cooperation in their area onwards and upwards! The whole event is organized in order for each participant to have his tailor made programme, choosing from a rich menu: workshops linked either to themes or to cooperation methods and tools, meeting with new partners from France and from other Member States (notably using the thematic speed dating sessions), finding the technical assistance and support which they need, discovering local actors... [Program](#)



Conference on “Social Entrepreneurship – New Opportunities for the Rural Area”

13-15th November, 2012, in Trakai, Lithuania

The conference will focus on the need and opportunities granted for the rural residents and non-governmental organizations take up social business, which could be implemented by the LEADER method. Registration available till 6th November! [Registration form, agenda and invitation letter](#)



Conference: Agro-ecological Innovation and Knowledge Transfer

15. November in Brussels, Belgium

Agro-ecological innovation in partnership with IFOAM EU and TP Organics will organize a Dissemination Event about Agro-ecological Innovation and Knowledge Transfer. [More](#)



DG REGIO seminar Sustainable urban-rural partnerships

16. November in Metz, France

The European Commission wishes to launch a direct dialogue with Europe’s countries, regions and cities in order to discuss the role of rural-urban development in the cohesion policy for 2014-2020. A European seminar on "Sustainable Urban Rural Partnership" will bring together around 200 participants, including high level European policy makers and representatives of urban and rural networks, associations and European institutions. [More](#)



Leader Subcommittee Meeting

22. November in Brussels, Belgium

[More](#)

Conference “The effect of rural development subsidies on rural areas”

22-24th November 2012 in Búč village (at Vintop Karko), Slovakia

The main objective of the conference is to initiate an exchange of views and opinions on the implementation of rural development subsidies. Organisers are: AGRYA – Agricultural and Rural Youth Association Hungary and ASYF – Association of Slovakian Young Farmers. The event will be implemented in collaboration with the Hungarian National Rural Network.

2 registrations per member states can be accepted. Participation fee is 50 Euros/person, except guests coming from organisations participating in CERYC partnership. Travel costs are paid by participants.

[Program](#)

More information: callcenter@agrya.hu

Coordination Committee of the ENRD

6. December 2012 in Brussels, Belgium

The Coordination Committee Meeting of December 2012 will provide mainly updated information on the state of play of the CC focus groups. [More](#)

Successful Rural Development programming for 2014-2020

7. December 2012 in Brussels, Belgium

Following the Coordination Committee of the European Network of Rural Development, this wrap up seminar aims at inviting participants to debate upon the new challenges in the context of the rural development programming for 2014-2020. [More](#)

Parter search offers

Project titles (country of promoter):

- Activate Youth in village development through equestrian and horse related activities – horses considered as hobby and as an economical sector (Finland). [More](#)
- 'A young look on the countryside' (Flemish LAG). [More](#)
- "A Self-sufficient Village".(Finland). [More](#)
- "Establishment of destination management as a tool for the management of tourism in the region". (Czech Republic). [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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