

**News**

**PREPARE activities**

**Charles Steward Mott Foundation** approved the proposal of the **PREPARE network** for activities in the period 2012 – 2014. PREPARE network will therefore continue with similar activities in the Europe and its neighbouring countries as in the previous years. Fruitful co-operation of Charles Steward Mott Foundation and PREPARE network exceeds 10 years!

PREPARE coordinator took part at the **conference Alternative and new approaches on rural development in Istanbul / Turkey**. After the conference Turkish Initiative for Rural development had the meeting, where discussion about further steps of integration into European networking was discussed. PREPARE coordinator presented options of the involvement of Turkish NGOs into the European civil society movements. Members of the meeting of Turkish nongovernmental Initiative for rural development agreed to continue with transfer of knowledge, information and active participation of activists at the forthcoming events of PREPARE.

Representatives of PREPARE were present at the **LEADER Sub-committee meeting** held on 22. November in Brussels. [More](#)

**Advisory group for Rural Development** had a meeting on 23. November. PREPARE representatives took part at the meeting and participated at some working group meetings before that.

[Report on Working Group 3](#)  
[Report on the DG Agri RD Advisory meeting](#)  
[More](#)

Commissioner **Dacian Cioloş** visited Slovenia in November. Among other information at his meeting with more than 300 Slovenian representatives from Agriculture and in Rural development of Slovenia, the conclusions from the 2. Slovenian Rural Parliament were presented to him. Conclusions from the 2. Slovenian Rural Parliament are important input co-designing the future CAP in Slovenia.

**ARC2020 launched Good Food Good Farming campaign!**

In 2012 **ARC2020** launched [Good Food Good Farming campaign](#) to mobilise citizens to take action, and demand good food and good farming across Europe. The biggest action of the campaign to date was the **Good Food March to Brussels**. Organised together with the European Milk Board, European Coordination Via Campesina, Friends of the Earth Europe, IFOAM EU Group, Meine Landwirtschaft, PAC2013 and Slow Food, the event saw farmers, consumers and young people from across Europe travel to Brussels (many by bike) for a day of action on September 19th 2012.

With a strong European network now in place, the campaign is set to go on with a **number of new actions on the horizon**. The **photo action** which was launched during the Good Food March will **continue to run**. The action allows ANYONE to express their hopes and demands for the future of food and farming in Europe. These **messages** will be communicated to decision-makers in Brussels: The first 1000 have already been presented to all EU Agricultural Ministers, and many MEPs, in a book of citizen testimonials. [More](#)



**EU Council supports territorial development**

ARC2020 warmly welcomed the news that the Council of Ministers has reached agreement on the regulations related to Territorial Development. These regulations, which also have support in the European Parliament, provide a basis for achieving, throughout Europe from 2014 onwards, a far more integrated approach to local development than has been possible under the present regime of fragmented action under the different EU funds. [More](#)



**ENRD is inviting: participate in building the agenda of 2013 LEADER event on opENRD!**

Set at the crossroads between the current and the future programming period, the ENRD's 2013 LEADER event is being discussed by rural development stakeholders across Europe – on [opENRD](#), the ENRD's online discussion forum! People talk about the necessity to put in place a toolkit for the start-up of the new programming period, to get a better understanding of the **Community-Led Local Development concept** and its role in building more comprehensive LAGs and a stronger commitment to inter-territorial and **transnational cooperation**. Join the [online discussion on opENRD](#) about what the focus of the 2013 LEADER event should be! It's your chance to shape this key gathering of the European LEADER community.



**ELARD's Exchange Diary of the second edition of LAG Staff Exchange**

After the success of the pilot edition, ELARD decided to offer a new opportunity to LAGs in order to exchange their experiences, best practices and formation and to promote potential transnational cooperation, and published the first **Exchange Diary**.

The second edition kicked off in March 2012 with the collection of the applications from LAGs and most of the exchanges were held between August and October. ELARD coordinated the staff exchange by working as a contact point helping LAGs with similar interests to get in touch. To learn more about ELARD's Exchange Program, click [here](#).



**Future...Food...Farmers**

is an European-wide campaign which aims to raise public and political awareness of the impending age crisis in European agriculture. The organisation behind the campaign is the non-for-profit, non-governmental organisation CEJA, the European Council of Young Farmers. CEJA's objective is to shape EU legislation and regulation to make the European agricultural sector accessible to young people, and the most relevant policy field to this aim is the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Since the lack of generational renewal in European agriculture is simply too serious a problem to overlook or ignore, CEJA thinks it is essential that the issue of young farmers and the age crisis does not get lost in the sea of negotiation and bargaining. [More about the campaign](#)



**Conference "The EIP on Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability – Priorities and Delivery Mechanisms"**

The European Innovation Partnership (EIP) wants to link innovative farmers with researchers to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability. True to the spirit of the new EIP, the aim of this conference was to tap into the collective knowledge of the stakeholder and research communities. It provided a forum for a genuine brainstorming on the challenges and opportunities to be addressed by the EIP with a particular focus on the functioning and funding of Operational Groups. The outcome of the conference will feed into the work of the Steering Board for the EIP. [More](#)



**12th Agricultural Policy Forum (APF): "Policy perspectives on environmentally sustainable agriculture and rural development in South Eastern Europe"**

The APF 2012, organized on 17th – 18th October 2012 in Ohrid, Macedonia, once again served as a platform for international dialogue on policy settings and perspectives of common interest to agricultural policy makers and stakeholders. The Forum addressed the implementation of future EU agricultural and rural development policies and the reflection towards the countries of SEE. The Forum focused on environmentally sustainable agriculture and rural development, climate-related challenges and territorial and regional cooperation. As an outcome, the Forum formulated the **Ohrid Agenda 2012** providing guidelines on environmentally sustainable agriculture and rural development, climate-related challenges and territorial and regional cooperation in SEE.

**Sustainable Urban Rural Partnership European Conference 2012 (Metz, France) — reports**

All speaker presentations delivered during the event can be found [here](#).

**Salone del Gusto and Terra Madre United**

Organizers deemed the event, organized in Torino at the end of October, a huge success and a sign that, despite the financial crisis, the public understood the political importance of the event, the central role of food and agriculture as well as the need for a paradigm shift within the food system. Over 16,000 people, both Terra Madre delegates and the general public, took part in 56 conferences organized by Slow Food. In packed rooms, they listened to debates on topics ranging from health and labeling to water and social issues, with panels of food producers, experts, food community representatives and youth from all over the world. [More](#)



**ENRD Website Survey**

The ENRD website was recently revamped. Through this survey we would like to get your impressions about its new design, services and ease of finding information. [More](#)



**ENRD Magazine – Autumn Edition 2012**

Enjoy stunning [Images of Rural Europe](#), delve into rural finance or find out about innovative rural development projects happening around Europe. [More](#)

**Events**

**2014-2020: Which future for our islands and mountains?**

**29. November 2012, Brussels, Belgium**

Both mountains and islands offer great opportunities for return on investments, provided their development can be approached in an integrated manner. So, what will be the tools on which these territories can count on the new EU programming? We will ask this question to EU policy makers during this public hearing. The recent institutional proposals on the future of the cohesion policy will be presented, analysed and discussed with the audience. [More](#)

**We've had enough! Good Food and Good Farming now!**

**19. January 2013, Berlin, Germany**

A huge demonstration against industrial agriculture (*Wir haben es satt – We've had enough*) will take place in Berlin in January 2013. Coinciding with International Green Week which sees all EU agricultural ministers and Commissioner Cioloş come together in the city, and just days before COMAGRI will hold their final vote on the CAP reform, the demonstration couldn't come at a more crucial time. With our new EU-wide strong network from the Good Food March, we hope that this year will be a truly international event, with well over the 23,000 people that came in 2012. Find more information [here](#).



**Towards a resource efficient agriculture in Europe: the role of research and technology for safe and healthy food**

**6. December 2012, Brussels**

This conference aims to start a useful discussion whether Europe is ready and willing to increase the investment in research and technologies — innovative products, applications and machinery which can allow farmers to grow more with less, or more and better. Topics to be discussed: water use and protection, the possibilities to use more effective fertilizers and the way to use them more efficiently and the concept of nutrient recycling etc. [More](#)

**Conference: "Poverty and Inequality in Societies of Human Rights: the paradox of democracies - Proposals for an inclusive society"**

**21-22 February 2013, Strasbourg**

The Conference organized by Council of Europe is open to all people interested in the issues raised including public authorities, researchers, NGOs and civil society organizations. The event aims to analyse these growing phenomena through the prism of Human Rights and Democracy. It will also explore paths for a renewed strategy to fight poverty and inequalities based on Common Goods and the sharing of social responsibilities, whilst avoiding waste. [More](#)

**EVENTS REMINDER**

**Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development**

**3.—4. December 2012 in Brussels, Belgium. [More](#)**

**Coordination Committee of the ENRD**

**6. December 2012 in Brussels, Belgium. [More](#)**

**Successful Rural Development programming for 2014-2020**

**7. December 2012 in Brussels, Belgium. [More](#)**

**Partner search offers**

Proposal for a partnership to measure 421 "Inland and international cooperation" program for rural development in Bulgaria. [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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