



Partnership for Rural Europe

# Newsletter

May-June 2013

## NEWS

### PREPARE has published the book "COMMUNITY SPIRIT WINS"



The core of PREPARE's book titled **COMMUNITY SPIRIT WINS - How Civil Society Sustains Rural Europe** are thirty interviews with pioneers, key players and supporters of PREPARE as well as current and future partners that show a remarkable level of collective intelligence and compassion for a living countryside in and beyond Europe.

The book also includes some reflections at the end of each chapter from the editors, **Michael Dower** and **Hannes Lorenzen**, as well as a timeline of PREPARE key activities and events and a presentation of all national networks of PREPARE.

Description of the book is available [here](#).

For further information how to order the book, please contact Goran Šoster, PREPARE Coordinator, at [goran@preparenetwork.org](mailto:goran@preparenetwork.org) or visit website: [www.preparenetwork.org](http://www.preparenetwork.org).

### PREPARE Gathering 2013 announced



Preparations for the the main annual event of the PREPARE network - the **PREPARE Gathering 2013** - began. This year more than 100 participants from about 20 European countries will gather **in Jahorina** the mountain of Winter Olympic games in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** from **4th to 7th September** to meet, to exchange and to learn from each other with common objective: contribute to networking for sustainable rural development.

Save the date and visit [prepare website](#) to follow further news about the event!

### First Latvian Rural Parliament



**Latvian Rural Forum**, PREPARE member, organized the **First Latvian Rural Parliament** - the unique event when search of solutions for rural challenges in democratic way influences decision-making processes nationally and internationally.

**More**

### PREPARE at Conference "Rural Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina"

PREPARE Network and its member **Rural Development Network from Croatia** supported and contributed to the **Conference on Rural Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina**. More than 70 participants attended the conference in Sarajevo in the frame of the project ACoRD. **More**

## The first European Rural Parliament, ERP



**The first European Rural Parliament, ERP**, will be organized in Brussels on **13 November 2013**. It will speak for the many local development groups that represent and work for the good of all the inhabitants in their area. The European Rural Parliament is a place where decision makers and grass roots meet to discuss together ways to strengthen local development in rural areas.

Participation in ERP will be limited to 150 people: three participants from each country's national rural movement and network, and two representatives from each European rural network. An application form will be available from **August 15**. [More](#)

## NRN Thematic Cluster on CLLD

Under the coordination of the Hungarian National Rural Development Network and the European Network for Rural Development a new **Thematic Cluster** on the development and future implementation of **Community Led Local Development (CLLD)** across Member States has been established. The initiative's goal is to enhance cooperation and exchange of experiences about CLLD among the interested NRNs and potentially other key actors like Managing Authorities.

In order to support the establishment and development of this Thematic Cluster the **Mapping Report** has been prepared, which seeks to summarise available policy information and identify the current state of play of CLLD and the multi-fund approach in Member States.

## Publication on ENRD's Leader event 2013



European Network for  
Rural Development

European Network for Rural Development has published a document dedicated to the **Leader event 2013** which took place in the middle of April in Brussels. It is available [here](#).

## CLLD guidance - updated version

Updated and revised document - **Guidance on CLLD** takes into consideration Member States comments following CLLD seminar of 6. February and the results of trilogue discussions available so far. [More](#)

## Search for experts participating in Focus groups of the EIP on "Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability": Call for expression of interest



The European Commission's Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development asked the EIP Service Point to set up Focus groups on specific agricultural topics to facilitate innovative actions in the field. Focus groups will be set-up on the following topics: Organic farming (optimizing arable yields), Protein crops, Animal husbandry (reduction of anti-biotic use in the pig sector), Genetic resources, Organic matter content of soils, Integrated pest management (IPM). [More](#)

## EVENTS

### LeaderFEST 2013



**20. – 21. June 2013 Velké Meziříčí, Czech Republic**

It is the fourth meeting of LAG representatives and other representatives of rural space who apply the Leader method. The meeting is a follow-up to previous three annual meetings held in Hradec nad Moravicí, Stramberk and Levoca in Slovakia. [More](#)

## LAG Summer Festival, Croatia

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### **5.- 7. July 2013. Biograd na Moru, Croatia**

Main goal of this Festival is to affiliate "green and blue" in a different way in order to give opportunity to all local authorities, tourist boards, small and medium enterprises, artisans and family farms to exhibit its products and services directly in front of 20.000 tourists, in a town known as touristic centre in the heart of Adriatic coast. [Agenda](#)

## TP Organics Stakeholder Forum 2013: Organic Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture

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### **25. June, from 3-6 pm at the European Parliament, Brussels**

The half-day event will gather experts from the organic and low-input food & farming sector, SMEs, public institutions, other technology platforms, and civil society organisations to set the priorities for the first Horizon 2020 working programmes and the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) for 'Agricultural.

[Agenda](#)

[Please register before 12 June.](#)

## Events reminder

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**12-14 June. Knowledge Transfer Conference 2013.** Dublin, Ireland

**11-13 June. 4th transnational LINC event.** Northern Savo, Finland

**20. - 21. June. LeaderFEST 2013.** Velké Meziříčí, Czech Republic

**25. June. TP Organics Stakeholder Forum 2013.** Brussels, Belgium

**5. - 7. July. LAG Summer Festival.** Biograd na moru, Croatia

**13. November. The first European Rural Parliament, ERP.** Brussels, Belgium.

### **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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