



PREPARE

Partnership for Rural Europe

www.preparenetwork.org

NEWSLETTER

number 02/10
May 2010

CURRENT NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARE GATHERING 2010

from 30 August to 3 September 2010 in Macedonia

The PREPARE Gathering 2010 is a linked series of events in Macedonia, which aim to bring together representatives of civil society as well as public sector organisations, primarily from Central and South-Eastern Europe but also from EU member states. The main objectives are:

- to provide rural civil societies with an opportunity to discuss and express views on the current challenges of rural development in Europe and beyond it;
- to create a space for exchanging experience and ideas, in particular to stimulate an exchange between rural actors from those Central and Eastern European countries which are already EU members, and those which are preparing for accession, especially from the South Eastern European region;
- to promote dialogue between the public, private and NGO sectors.

More information about event available at www.preparenetwork.org

PREPARE is taking an active role in discussion on position on CAP reform post 2013

Draft version of PREPARE position is available on [PREPARE web site](http://www.preparenetwork.org) and will be finalized until the next week. On 3rd June that position will be introduced at the Enlarged Advisory Group meeting in Brussels and on 8th June at the ENRD Coordination Committee meeting in Brussels as well. The document will be one of the important contributions of rural civil society from at least 10 European Member states and several pan-European NGOs.

PREPARE is implementing interesting bilateral programmes of cooperation during this summer

Four PREPARE members are helping to the initiatives of civil society in the countries bordering with EU. Hungarian Rural Forum will work with Albanian NGO, Lithuanian Rural Forum will host Belorussian NGO, Slovenian Rural Development Network will be active in Macedonia and Estonian KODUKANT will work with the NGO from Ukraine.

PREPARE made significant contribution at Swedish Rural Parliament in Sunne, May 2010

A thousand people from Sweden and about 100 participants from 22 other EU state members, including PREPARE members, visited Swedish Rural Parliament 2010, which was held from 6th to 9th May 2010 in Sunne, a village in Värmland region. The event is being organized every two years, each time in different part of the state. The main organizer of the Parliament is national organisation All Sweden Shall Live!, which organizes the event from 1989. Other co-organizers of this year's gathering were Swedish Rural Development Network, Community of Sunne and other partners.

More information available at www.preparenetwork.org

PREPARE at SURE (Sustainable Urban and Rural Europe) Conference

The SURE Conference, which took place on 20. and 21. May in Krakow, Poland, draw on the wider expertise of participants, gathered good practice from around Europe, proposed how good practice may be mainstreamed, and showed what this implies for changes in the policy context. The resulting report, to be widely disseminated through SURE's supporting networks, will make a timely contribution to the worldwide effort to build on the discussions at the World Conference of Climate Change held last December in Copenhagen. It will also feed into the mid-term review of current EU policies and the political debate on the future EU programmes from 2013 onwards.

The Agriculture and Rural Convention (ARC) process was launched on 26 April 2010

The aim of ARC is to give civil society a strong voice and to prepare a powerful common message for a new European agricultural and rural policy, to be delivered to the European institutions. The ARC complements and enhances the "Your Ideas Matter" initiative launched by the European Commission on 12 April 2010. The ARC is an innovative process open to all those engaged for a reform of the CAP, facilitating discussions and negotiations on regional and thematic levels through working groups on the website www.arc2020.eu. To support the ARC process you can click on the « express your support » button on the website homepage and/or register as members and /or take part in the discussion by adding to /creating discussion groups.

ARTICLES, PUBLICATIONS

CAPRI model helps to assess CAP impacts

Understanding the likely economic, social and environmental consequences of changes in agricultural and rural development policies is a critical, yet complex, aspect of the policy development process. While economic models have been used for some time to predict the effects of changes in market support payments on the dynamics of global trade, production activity, producer and consumer prices, land use and so on, no EU-wide models exist to assess the likely effects of rural development policy in the EU-27. Finding ways of doing this is becoming more important as the economic, social and environmental impacts of rural development policy in rural areas have become more significant over time. [Read more](#)

A Greening of European Agricultural Policy is needed

The [German Advisory Council on the Environment](#) calls for a fundamental re-orientation of European agricultural policy in its statement on CAP-reform: "The present European direct payments system is outdated", says Professor Karin Holm-Müller, economist and member of the SRU. "Public money should in the future only be spent on public goods, especially for environmental protection and nature conservation. Subsidising agriculture with billions of Euros with the predominant aim of supporting the income of large farms cannot be justified." [Read more](#)

EVENTS

June

Green Week Conference 2010

1 – 4 June 2010. Brussels, Belgium. [More info](#)

European Consortium for the Barcode of Life (ECBOL2)

2 – 4 June 2010. Braga, Portugal. [More info](#)

World Heritage and Tourism: Managing for the Global and the Local

2 – 4 June 2010, Quebec City, Canada. [More info](#)

SAVE Energy, SAVE Water, SAVE the Planet

3 – 5 June 2010. Sofia, Bulgaria. [More info](#)

International rural tourism workshop: changing concept for quality

9 June 2010. Riga, Latvia

The workshop will bring together European professionals in rural tourism to summarize and evaluate the changes in the sector and highlight innovative, constructive and successful approaches to win the challenges presented to rural tourism by the economic situation in Europe. [More info](#)

European Cultural Heritage Summit

8-12 June 2010. Istanbul, Turkey

During the summit, organized by Europa Nostra, meetings will address the topic of "Cultural Heritage and NGOs in Europe". [More info](#)

Conference: Beyond Indicators: Evaluating the Processes of EU Rural Development Policies

15. June 2010. Brussels, Belgium. [More info](#)

Heritage 2010: 2nd International Conference on Heritage and Sustainable Development

23 – 26 June 2010, Évora, Portugal. [More info](#)

The 9th Summer Academy on the theme of "Social Innovation and Sustainable Rural Development"

27th June to 4th July 2010. Karhulanvaara, Suomussalmi, Finland.

The discussion themes include:

- Everybody speaks about Social Innovation – what does that actually mean
- The essence of social welfare and social movements – how to place these concepts in rural contexts
- Economic structures change – how is this reflected in Community Planning
- Rural Entrepreneurship and its potential to exploit Social Innovativeness, etc. [More info](#)

July

Building sustainable rural future: The added value of systems approaches in times of change and uncertainty 4 - 7 July 2010, Vienna (Austria)

5 themes will be addressed at the 9th European IFSA Symposium:

- Knowledge systems, learning and collective action,
- Transition, resilience and adaptive management,
- Energy production, CO2 sink and climate change,
- Sustainable food systems,
- Landscape and rural land use,

Within each theme, several workshops will address specific aspects of the theme. [More info](#)

Ecovillages and Sustainable Living Conference

6-11 July 2010. Damanhur, Italy.

This conference points towards solutions for a healthier and more fulfilling life, for humans and for the planet. Ecovillages as research and training centres for sustainable development within the wider society supply the framework for this purpose. This conference features cutting edge developments of the European ecovillage and sustainability movement, with an emphasis on social aspects. Includes Mini Workshops about: Art of Hosting / Participatory Leadership / How to structure community life etc. [More info](#)

EU Conference on CAP post 2013: Synthesis on the public debate

18/19 July. Brussels, Belgium. [More info](#)

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.

You are currently subscribed to PREPARE NEWSLETTER mailing list. To unsubscribe [click here](#).