



PREPARE
Partnership for Rural Europe
www.preparenetwork.org

NEWSLETTER

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CURRENT NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARE GATHERING 2010

from 30 August to 3 September 2010 in Ohrid (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 planned events comprise:

Opening session: Building of Rural Networks - presentations and discussions on the situation of rural civil society, and preparing for EU membership of the accession countries and the new neighbour countries;

Conference: Common Agriculture Policy Reform after 2013 – description of the process of changes and discussion about positions toward policy in the period 2014-2020;

A series of **“Travelling Workshops”** – study visits of small groups focusing on good practices in sustainable, rural development initiatives in Macedonia;

Exchange among participants for the future cooperation and brainstorming for future action of the PREPARE programme, with particular attention to South-Eastern Europe.

Programme and registration form are available at www.preparenetwork.org

PREPARE position paper on CAP reform post 2013

PREPARE published position paper on CAP reform post 2013, which presents an important contribution of rural civil society from at least 10 European Member states and several pan-European NGOs.

The document is available on [PREPARE web site](http://www.preparenetwork.org).

Enlarged Advisory Group meeting of EC DG Agri

Enlarged Advisory Group meeting EC DG Agri, which took place on 3. June 2010 in Brussels, Belgium, has showed great necessity of reinforced Pillar II of the new CAP reform post 2013. Two members of PREPARE network (Goran Šoster and Michael Dower) participated the meeting. They have presented the position of NGOs from 11 European countries and 2 pan-European NGO networks.

CAP reform post 2013 is a hot topic of discussion in Brussels

The **joint meeting of four Thematic Working Groups (TWG) and the Coordination Committee of the EN RD** took place on 7. and 8. June 2010 in Brussels, Belgium. The position of PREPARE Network has been presented by Goran Šoster, PREPARE coordinator.

Each of the four TWG presented the results:

- TWG 1: Targeting territorial specificities and needs in rural development programmes
- TGW 2: Agriculture and the wider rural economy
- TWG 3: Public goods and public interventions
- TWG 4: Delivery mechanisms of European rural development policy

A summary of work undertaken so far by the Thematic Working Groups was also presented as well as the activity report of EN RD for the period (July 2008 – July 2010).

PREPARE is invited to "CAP post-2013" Conference organised by DG Agriculture and Rural Development of the

European Commission

PREPARE received invitation for the Conference "CAP post-2013" from European Commission, Directorate General for Agriculture and Rural Development and will give a lecture at the event by a PREPARE representative.

The aim of the conference, which will take place on **19-20 July 2010 in Brussels, Belgium**, is to bring together the varied elements of contributions presented during the debate period and to provide the opportunity for further discussion around the following broad themes: Why do we need a common agricultural policy? What do citizens expect from agriculture? Why reform the CAP? What tools do we need for the CAP of tomorrow?

The conference will also be an important step in the Commission's preparations for a Communication to be issued later in the year that will prepare the ground for proposals for the CAP post-2013.

More information about the conference can be found [HERE](#).

4th Leader subcommittee of EN RD

The presentations of the 4th Leader subcommittee, which took place on 20 May 2010 in Brussels, Belgium, are available at [EN RD web page](#).

More than 5000 contributions to public debate on future of the CAP

European Commission has closed the internet-based **public debate on the future of the EU's Common Agriculture Policy** launched by Agriculture & Rural Development Commissioner Dacian Cioloş on April 12.

In the course of the 2-month period, there have been more than 5 000 contributions received from the general public and various organisations. The most responses have come from Germany, Poland, France, Latvia, Austria and Spain. These figures also include contributions from NGOs and Think Tanks, confirming the interest of civil society in these issues. [More info](#)

ARTICLES, PUBLICATIONS

Summaries of various National and/or Regional Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) are available on EN RD web page

They include information such as the policy priorities and the financial allocations by axis/measure. To access the latest RDP Summaries, [click here](#).

MEP own-initiative papers adopted by Parliament

A mini plenary was convened in Brussels on the 5 and 6 May, at which MEPs adopted three agriculture-related own-initiative reports. The reports on agriculture in Less Favoured Areas (LFAs), the Animal Welfare Action Plan and EU agriculture and climate change were drafted by Italian MEP, Herbert Dorfmann (EPP), Swedish MEP, Marit Paulsen (ALDE) and French MEP, Stéphane Le Foll (S&D) respectively. (Source and more info: [CAP2020](#))

European Parliament resolution of 18 May 2010 on simplification of the CAP

To make things easier for farmers, MEPs suggest simplifying payment application processes and ensuring fines for errors in payment claims are proportionate. [More info](#)

Employment in the agriculture sector down by 25% between 2000 and 2009 – Agriculture income fell by 11.6 % in 2009

Between 2000 and 2009, employment in the agricultural sector in the EU27 decreased by 25%, the equivalent of 3.7 million full-time jobs, according to a new [report by EUROSTAT published today](#). It fell by 17% in the EU15 and by 31% in the 12 New Member States (NMS). [More info](#)

New European Commission's analysis looks at the impact of recession on agriculture trade

The global economic and financial crisis that emerged in 2008 had a dramatic impact on world trade in goods and services. Although world agricultural trade was relatively less affected, it still fell by 13% in value and 3% in volume in 2009. This was also an exceptional year for EU agricultural trade, as it reversed the growth pattern of the previous years, with a decline both in imports and exports. [More info](#)

EVENTS

July

Building sustainable rural future: The added value of systems approaches in times of change and uncertainty 4 - 7 July 2010 in 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 in 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 in Brussels (Belgium). [More info](#)

Conference "CAP post-2013"

19 – 20 July 2010 in Brussels (Belgium). [More info](#)

August

Conference "Green Care in Agriculture"

24 – 26 August. Witzenhausen (Germany)

The main objective of the Action is to increase the scientific knowledge on the best practices for implementing green care in agriculture with the aim of improving human mental and physical health and the quality of life. The management committee consists of experts from more than 20 European countries. [More info](#)

PREPARE Gathering 2010

30 August – 3 September in Ohrid (Macedonia). [More info](#)

September

High Nature Value Grasslands: Securing the ecosystem services of European farming post 2013

7th to 9th September 2010 in Sibiu (Romania). [More info](#)

October

Seminar "Semi-subsistence farming in the EU: current situation and future prospects"

13 - 15 October 2010 in Sibiu (Romania)

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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