

Future cooperation of two European networks: PREPARE and ELARD

Representatives of PREPARE Network recently met with old and new leaders of the ELARD Network (www.elard.eu) and agreed to launch some common activities. In the near future both networks will check their capacities for the common project in the field of rural development.

Commission Communication on the CAP towards 2020

The Commission Communication "The CAP towards 2020: Meeting the food, natural resources and territorial challenges of the future", which was presented on 18 November 2010, launches the institutional debate and prepares the ground for the legal proposals to be adopted by the Commission during 2011.

The objective of the Communication is:

- to highlight the key challenges and the major policy issues regarding EU agriculture and rural areas. The CAP needs to anticipate the economic, environmental and territorial challenges.
- to outline possible policy orientations and options for the future. The CAP needs to be more sustainable, balanced, targeted, simpler, effective and accountable. Faced with these key challenges the CAP needs to improve current CAP instruments and design new ones.

The Communication and other material is available at ec.europa.eu

PREPARE at extended LEADER Sub-committee - 5th meeting

5th LEADER sub-committee took place on **12th November 2010 in Brussels**. Four thematic working groups gave the reports from their two years work. Representative of PREPARE suggested to arrange the separate scheme for LEADER programme in the future and pledged for constructive dialogue with national Managing Authorities to simplify the LEADER administration. More on the event can be found at enrd.ec.europa.eu

ARC's Final Communication from Civil Society to the European Union Institutions on the future Agricultural and Rural Policy

Gathered in Brussels for a two-day conference in beginning of November, the ARC network has put the final touches on its **Communication of Civil Society to the European Union on the Future of Agriculture and Rural Policies**. The final Communication was submitted to the European Commission, the European Parliament and other EU institutions the day before the Commission published its own Communication on the CAP post 2013. The document is available at www.arc2020.eu

PREPARE at European Meeting Day in Paris

The French LEADER Network and the APFP with the support of the French Ministry of Agriculture, the French MA and the ASP, have organized European Meeting Day in Paris on 24th November with the theme of transnational cooperation and the future of the European policy on post 2013 rural development. PREPARE position paper toward future CAP was translated into French and disseminated in the area, where PREPARE was not present yet. French LAGs are known to have rich experience in LEADER TNC (transnational cooperation). That was excellent opportunity to meet LAGs and colleagues from Greece, Ireland, Finland, Spain, Portugal, Slovenia, Poland, Czech Republic and Hungary. They were looking for possible transnational cooperation among their local action groups.

Conference: how can we green the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)?

Around 100 participants from more than 30 countries have gathered at the Conference in Bled, Slovenia in mid November organized by the Avalon Foundation. The conference focused on the question: how to improve the existing efforts to green the CAP, and adjust it to the real needs of the New Member States and non-EU countries aspiring to EU membership. Speakers' presentations can be found at www.avalon.nl.

The Special Report of Court of Auditors on Leader

is now available on the website of the Court in all languages at eca.europa.eu.

The EN RD LAG database has been revamped and expanded

LAGs are invited to check that all information is correct and up-to-date and to amend or add any information as necessary. Click [here](#).

EVENTS

II. European Periurban Leader Meeting

2. – 3. December 2010, Alcochete, Portugal. www.adrepes.pt

The main objective of the event, organized by Association for Rural Development of the Peninsula of Setúbal, is to continue the debate begun last year in Le Mans on innovative solutions to enable the implementation of development strategies for periurban territories.

Seminar on Public Goods and Public Intervention in Agriculture

10. December 2010 in Brussels, Belgium. enrd.ec.europa.eu

The objective of the seminar, organized by the European Network for Rural Development (ENRD), is to present the outcomes of the work of Thematic working group 3 "Public goods and public intervention" to a larger group of stakeholders, and to clarify the notion of Public Goods to a wider audience. It will also demonstrate that the conceptual framework of public goods provides for common grounds in discussions about the CAP and Rural Development. Attendance is by invitation only.

New approaches to rural areas, new public policies

16. – 17. December 2010 Agen, France. www.reseaurural.fr; www.uknationalruralnetwork.org.uk

French National Rural Network is organizing an event which will gather all rural stakeholders and enable:

- exchange on the expectations of rural actors and the recent changes in the rural policies;
- put forward the work achieved by the rural network and to present its resource centre;
- facilitate exchanges between French and European actors; and
- highlight good practices, formulate proposals for action and make recommendations for the future national and European policies.

International Green Week (IGW)

21. – 30. January 2011, Berlin, Germany. www1.messe-berlin.de

Around 100,000 specialties from over 56 countries will be experienced at the IGW. From food and nutrition to agriculture and forestry to horticulture – this is where you'll find an impressive variety that will suit your taste. Changing annual themes typically include such topics as renewable resources or scientific livestock breed.

Seminar »Evidence-Based Agricultural and Rural Policy Making: Methodological and Empirical Challenges of Policy Evaluation«

17. – 18. February 2011, Ancona, Italy. eaae-seminar.univpm.it

The Seminar focuses on the evaluation of agricultural and rural policies, its methodology and practical experiences, with specific attention to the challenges raised by new emerging objectives of agricultural and rural policies in developed countries. Though the Seminar does not limit its focus on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), still both pillars of the CAP and their recent evolution are exemplary of the need for robust evaluation approaches and promote policy evaluation as a scientific.

Seminar Youth's role in integrated rural development (IRD)

1.-3. March 2011, Nurmijärvi, Finland. www.emory.fi

Five LEADER groups in Southern Finland are organising a seminar 1-3 of March 2011 on youth employment and

participation issues. Seminar's programme includes working groups, field visits, a political panel, rural networking, a development market with project dating possibilities and a country exhibition where you can meet the other actors. The seminar is limited to 70 international guests and 30 national guests.

Inspiring People - Shaping Regions, The 25th International Leadership Workshop for Rural Youth

12. – 28. July 2011, Herrsching, Germany. www.international-herrsching-seminar.de

Every two years, the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection hosts the ILWRY. The International Workshop brings together leaders of rural youth associations from all around the world at regular intervals to provide them with theoretical support and ideas for practical measures to implement rural youth work. As a result of the workshops, countless important ideas for initiatives to improve rural youth work have been put into practice over the past few decades.

ARTICLES, PUBLICATIONS

Leaked CAP2020 Proposals: Reading the Runes

The fortifications around the old CAP are being lowered and we are starting to witness the birth pangs of the new one. The [leaked DG Agri Communication](#) on the future of the CAP is not the most transparent [paper](#) and has been criticised from several different sides – not perhaps itself an unhealthy sign. However, beneath the sometimes conflicting signals there is a sense of clearer objectives than the present policy and some willingness to tackle the shibboleths that have constrained progress for so long.

Read whole [article](#).

Rur@I News Issue 11 now online

Issue 11 of the EN RD newsletter 'Rur@I News' is now available online. This month reports on the semi-subsistence seminar recently held in Romania, as well as all the usual EN RD related news and events. Click [here](#).

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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