



Newsletter

October 2014
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NEWS

[Report on "Empowering Rural Stakeholders in the Western Balkans": "We are not a burden for you, we are Europeans"](#)

The formal launch of a report published by DG AGRI of the EU Commission on "Empowering Rural Stakeholders in the Western Balkans" was well attended on 6 October at the European Parliament, including speeches of Commissioner Dacian Ciolos, the President of the EP's Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development Czeslaw Siekierski, and Ministers and State secretaries from the Western Balkan region and members of Parliament. [More ...](#)

[Agenda of 14th Agricultural Forum in Serbia](#)

Five representatives of PREPARE – Partnership for Rural Europe took part at the 14th Agricultural Forum in October in Kopaonik/Serbia and contributed to the consideration of the challenges and opportunities of rural areas and agriculture in South Eastern Europe (SEE) over the next period until 2020. Participants of the forum agreed on the "[Kopaonik Agenda 2014](#)". The presentations from the plenary discussions, working group results as well as the Joint Statement of the SEE countries on "Streamlining of agriculture and rural development policies of SEE countries in the EU Accession process" can be found [here](#).

[The New ENRD Contact Point is launched](#)

The new ENRD CP will focus on ever-more targeted support to rural development stakeholders. It will work to identify needs more clearly, prioritising and coordinating all the networking activities and tools to deliver real progress on RDP delivery. [More ...](#)

[Delegated and Implementing Acts on the CAP Reform](#)

At the end of December 2013 the [Basic Regulations for the reformed Common Agriculture Policy](#) were published in the Official Journal. This includes the regulations on Direct Payments, the Common Market Organisation, Rural Development and a Horizontal Regulation on the financing, management and monitoring of the CAP. As far as the implementation of the reform is concerned, the Commission has published delegated and implementing acts linked to support for rural development by the EAFRD (supplementing the "Rural Development" Basic Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013). Member States now have all the detailed elements they require in order to programme and implement rural development support. You can download the documents here: [Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) No 807/2014](#); [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 808/2014](#).

[European Masters Program for Rural Animators](#)

European Masters for Rural Animators is a on-line master in English that consists of four semesters. Contents have been developed by leading researchers on each field. The training does also include 10 days face-to-face seminar at the Canary Islands, work-placement in field-related institutions and the Thesis. The first edition of the course will begin on December 2014. [More ...](#)

[EU Guidance on Simplified Cost Options](#)

The purpose of this document is to provide technical guidance on the three kinds of simplified costs applicable to the ESI Funds and to share the best practices with a view to encouraging Member States to use simplified costs. The document is not a formally approved yet and is still in development. [More ...](#)

[European Union of Supported Employment Toolkit for Diversity](#)

The European Union of Supported Employment Toolkit for Diversity was a partnership of National Associations and Supported Employment organisations which adapted and development the model of Supported Employment for people from other disadvantaged situations in particular young people not in education, employment or training, offenders and ex-prisoners and people recovering from substance abuse. The adapted Supported Employment Toolkit for Diversity is available in 9 language on the [project website](#). More in project [Newsletter](#) and [Press-Release](#).

[Europe's Cultural Treasures Online: Opportunities Ahead](#)

The European Commission published on 2 October 2014 two reports to coincide with an international conference that is part of the Italian Presidency of the EU, urging cultural institutions in Europe put more cultural heritage online with government support. One report looks at how to digitise, make accessible and preserve culture online, the second report explains how our film heritage can be rescued from rotting cans. Digitised cultural material is a great common and free resource for developing cultural and educational content, documentaries, tourism applications, games, animations and design tools. This can help creative industries to grow beyond their current share of 4 % of EU's GDP. [More ...](#)

[Guide on EU funding for the tourism sector \(2014-2020\)](#)

As the third largest EU economic sector, tourism has a wide-ranging impact on economic growth, employment and social development. The European Commission is therefore constantly working on the development of new tools and services contributing to boost the competitiveness of the European tourism sector. [More ...](#)

[2015 Erasmus+ Call and Programme Guide](#)

The Erasmus+ Programme Guide for the 2015 General Call for Proposals was published in English on 6 October 2014, with further language versions to follow at the end of October. The Programme Guide provides detailed conditions for participating in the call for proposals, as well as information on the priorities for funding. It constitutes an integral part of the call for proposals. [More ...](#)

[CAP Communication Awards 2014](#)

Have you developed a communication action or campaign, in the field of agriculture and rural development, which you would like to showcase to an international audience? Do you want to share your experiences with other stakeholders in the field of CAP related communication issues? Deadline for applications: 31 October 2014, 12.00 CET. [More ...](#)

[Newsletters and Bulletins](#)

ARC2020 Newsflash, October 2014. Published by: Agricultural and Rural Convention 2020. [Read ...](#)

CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) Communication Network, October 2014. Published by: European Commission. [Read ...](#)

Social Farming Newsletter, October 2014. Published by: Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Soziale Landwirtschaft (DASoL). [Read ...](#)

EVENTS

["Land grabbing: a wake-up call for Europe and implications for family farming", 4 November 2014, Brussels, Belgium](#)



The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) is currently preparing an own-initiative opinion on "Land grabbing – a wake-up call for Europe and implications for family farming". One of its objectives is to present relevant civil society proposals to address the multiple impacts of large-scale land investments in the EU. Registration deadline: 30 October

2014. [More ...](#)

[Food security: an interdisciplinary approach, 5 November 2014, Brussels, Belgium](#)

To address the complex issue of 'food security', researchers at the University of Warwick bring together issues of food production and supply, environmental and social sustainability, governance (including science and technology), complexity and tools for decision making, social justice, nutrition and public health. This interdisciplinary approach draws on crop production, cell biology, public health, political science, social policy, mathematics and statistics, history, philosophy and the performing arts. [More ...](#)

[1st Scottish Rural Parliament, 6-8 November 2014, Oban, Scotland, UK](#)



The Rural Parliament will bring together the people of rural Scotland and policy makers to enable better understanding, improve policy making and address rural issues. A series of smaller events are planned across Scotland in the run up to the Rural Parliament which will feed into the discussion and debate at the event itself. [More...](#)

[5th Green Economy Conference, 9 November 2014, Istanbul, Turkey](#)

The fifth Green Economy Conference of the Heinrich Böll Stiftung Foundation opens to discussion the shale gas phenomenon in the energy sector with its social dimensions. We are going to make comparisons between shale gas and other energy resources and elaborate on the effects of shale gas on agriculture, climate and environment. Is there enough shale gas in Turkey? Is it economically viable? If extracted, what impacts will it bring on the environment and especially on the water resources? All these questions and more will be discussed together with the experts of the area. [More ...](#)

[Final conference of the Project Philoxenia Plus, 12 November 2014, Brussels, Belgium](#)

Main objectives of the conference is to show convincing results of some local initiatives that can be transferred to other rural areas who suffer from slow demographic and economic decline. [More ...](#)

[ACRE's Annual Conference: Why rural matters - the case for investment, 13 November 2014, London, United Kingdom](#)

Its focus will be the increasing contribution that rural is making to the UK economy - and finding the key to unlocking future investment in our communities. The conference is aimed at community organisations, social enterprises, rural businesses and funders – as well as chief executives, chairs, directors and trustees from across the national ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) Network of rural community support agencies. [More ...](#)

[Info day: Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2, 21 November 2014, Brussels, Belgium](#)

The European Commission organizes Info day on the coming call for proposals under Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 - Food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and maritime and inland water research and the Bio-economy. Societal Challenge 2 covers three calls for proposals under which projects can apply for funding: Sustainable Food Security; - Blue Growth; Innovative Sustainable and Inclusive Bio-economy. [More ...](#)

[Final Transnational Seminar of AIM Project, 25 November 2014, Mestre \(Venice\), Italy](#)

Alpine space In Movement – AIM is a project funded under the Alpine Space Programme -

ASP initiative, and aims to capitalise the achievements of several ASP projects (2007-2013) dedicated to renewable energy production, water resources management and conservation of aquatic ecosystems. A special session of the conference will be devoted to the elaboration of project proposals that could be presented in the next Programme call (Alpine Space 2014–2020), identifying objectives, activities and possible partners. [More ...](#)

[3rd Annual Conference of the European Learning Network on Regions and Biodiversity, 10-11 December 2014, Barcelona, Spain](#)

This Conference links the Network for Regions and Biodiversity with the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process. It aims to bring together key players at local and regional government level and to showcase some of the best regional cooperation projects. The many practical examples presented at the knowledge market and during the workshops should provide a good basis and inspiration for the formulation of useful lessons learned and recommendations. [More...](#)

[OECD Rural Development Conference, 19-21 May 2015, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA](#)



BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

The conference will gather together a wide range of leading international and national experts on rural development. Building upon the New Rural Paradigm framework; Promoting Growth in all Regions; and Rural-Urban Partnerships, policy makers and high-level officials both from OECD and non-OECD countries will discuss modern rural policies, and how the implementation of such policies contributes to national growth and well-being. [More ...](#)

[International Conference Perth III: Mountains of Our Future Earth, 4-8 October 2015, Perth, Scotland, UK](#)

The Centre for Studies, in collaboration with the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI) and the Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment (GMBA), is organising a third conference – Perth III – on 'Mountains of Our Future Earth'. This is a contribution to the global Future Earth programme, a 10-year international research initiative that will develop the knowledge for responding effectively to the risks and opportunities of global environmental change and supporting transformation towards global sustainability in the coming decades. [More...](#)

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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**.

More about PREPARE: www.preparenetwork.org

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