



European Network Activities

ENRD Contact Point activities since the 3rd Rural Networks' Assembly meeting (1 December 2016)

12/2016

Release of the new [LAG Database](#) on ENRD website

The LAG database currently contains over 1400 LAGs funded under the Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) from 16 EU countries.

06/12/2016
08/12/2016

[Achieving Results the CLLD Way: Putting the Method to Work](#) - Båstad, Sweden

The event focused on how to make the best possible use of the Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) method supported under Rural Development (EAFRD), Fisheries (EMFF), Regional Development (ERDF) and Social (ESF) Funds.

7/12/2016

ENRD Workshop on [Agri-environment Climate Measures](#) - Brussels, Belgium

The workshop discussed the design and implementation of result-oriented Agri-environment-climate Measures (AECM), collective approaches to AECM and support for input reduction.

14/12/2016

2nd TG meeting on ['Resource-Efficient Rural Economy'](#) - Brussels, Belgium

The meeting helped define the main areas of interest for improving implementation of the Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) to better support the resource-efficient rural economy.

20/12/2016

ENRD monthly newsletter – [December edition](#)

To receive the ENRD newsletter, please subscribe to the following link: <http://bit.ly/2dPWt3B>

12/2016

Rural Connections magazine – [Autumn 2016 edition](#)

The Autumn edition gives a lot of attention to what happened at the major European Conference on Rural Development in Cork, Ireland 5-6 September 2016 – known as 'Cork 2.0'.

01/2017

EU Rural Review 23 ['Green Economy – Opportunities for Rural Europe'](#)

This issue explores some of the ways in which social and environmental sustainability can contribute to economic growth in Europe's rural areas.

23/01/2017
24/01/2017

3rd TG meeting on ['Smart and Competitive Rural Businesses'](#) - Brussels, Belgium

The meeting focused on linkages between rural businesses and the wider rural community. The TG identified the most relevant aspects, potential recommendations and case studies to be developed during the final phase of the thematic work.



25/01/2017

ENRD workshop on '[Generational Renewal through Rural Development](#)' - Brussels, Belgium

The workshop focused on identifying how various Rural Development Programmes Measures could support generational renewal. It discussed challenges faced by young farmers and new entrants, such as access to land, finance, training, and knowledge.

26/01/2017

ENRD monthly newsletter – [January edition](#)

To receive the ENRD newsletter, please subscribe to the following link: <http://bit.ly/2dPWt3B>

09/02/2017

ENRD workshop on '[Social Hubs in Rural Europe](#)' - Brussels, Belgium

The workshop discussed ways to respond to demographic change and promote social inclusion in rural areas. The event explored existing hubs of activity and inspiring initiatives from across Europe around specific social inclusion and demographic change issues.

21/02/2017

[LEADER/CLLD Sub-group](#) - Brussels, Belgium

The fourth meeting of the LEADER Sub-group updated members on the state of play of LEADER programming and implementation, including relevant activities of the ENRD Contact Point, Evaluation Helpdesk and EIP-AGRI Service Point.

22/02/2017

ENRD workshop on '[Extending LEADER Innovation](#)' - Brussels, Belgium

The workshop focused on the different ways in which Local Action Groups (LAGs) and other actors can strengthen and improve LEADER's contribution to rural innovation at local, regional, national and EU levels.

28/02/2017

ENRD monthly newsletter – [February edition](#)

To receive the ENRD newsletter, please subscribe to the following link: <http://bit.ly/2dPWt3B>

07/03/2017

3rd meeting of TG on '[Resource-Efficient Rural Economy](#)' - Brussels, Belgium

The TG discussed emerging findings in relation to the contribution of the Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) to resource efficiency objectives, and considered the format of the final TG outputs.

15/03/2017

[7th National Rural Networks' meeting](#) - Azores, Portugal

17/03/2017

The meeting built on previous ENRD thematic work on 'Stakeholder Involvement' by exploring links between agricultural advisors and rural networks and ways to improve them in order to better support farmers and project beneficiaries.

29/03/2017

ENRD workshop on '[Farm Resilience](#)' - Brussels, Belgium

This ENRD workshop discussed how the Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) can foster farm resilience, generate and stabilise farm income, and reinforce existing initiatives.



30/03/2017

ENRD seminar on 'Revitalising Rural Areas through Business Innovation' – Brussels, Belgium

The Seminar explored how rural businesses – both farm and non-farm – can innovate in ways that “create the conditions for future prosperity and vitality” as articulated in the Cork 2.0 Declaration.

30/03/2017

ENRD monthly newsletter – March edition

To receive the ENRD newsletter, please subscribe to the following link: <http://bit.ly/2dPWt3B>

03/2017

EAFRD Projects Brochure 'Transition to Greener Rural Economies'

This edition explores how people in rural areas have used Rural Development Programme (RDP) funding - co-financed by the EAFRD - to support actions that can be part of the 'Transition to Greener Rural Economies'.

27/04/2017

ENRD monthly newsletter – April edition

To receive the ENRD newsletter, please subscribe to the following link: <http://bit.ly/2dPWt3B>

Selected ENRD Evaluation Helpdesk activities since the 3rd Rural Networks' Assembly meeting (1 December 2016)

12/2016

Publication of Factsheet – 'Danish Case Study - LAG Operations Database for the Monitoring and Evaluation of LEADER/CLLD'

This factsheet explores the PROMIS – Project Result Oriented Management Information System. This factsheet further highlights potential strengths and weaknesses of LAG Operations Databases.

12/2016

Publication of Factsheet – 'Italian Case Study - Evaluation of the National Rural Network Programmes 2007 – 2013'

This factsheet highlights the complexities in evaluating NRNs and delivers recommendations on how to meet these challenges.

12/2016

Publication of Factsheet – 'Estonian Case Study - The Evaluation of Agri-environment Schemes' Biodiversity Objectives'

This factsheet highlights the case of Estonia, which offers a unique example of innovative evaluation methods focusing on protecting and enhancing biodiversity through the use of complementary indicators.

12/2016

Publication of Factsheet – 'Finnish Case Study - Evaluation of Climate Stability in Finland'

This factsheet showcases a case study from Finland, which focuses on the evaluation of the impacts of EU rural development measures and programmes on climate stability at the macro level using a multi-regional dynamic partial equilibrium modelling approach.



12/2016

Publication of Factsheet – [‘Finnish Case Study - NRN Self Assessment Tools to Demonstrate Achievements and Progress Towards Objectives in Finland’](#)

This factsheet highlights NRN self assessment tools to demonstrate achievements and their use for evaluation.

12/2016

Publication of Factsheet – [‘LEADER/CLLD Evaluation at a Glance’](#)

This factsheet provides a brief understanding of the evaluation of LEADER/CLLD.

12/2016

Publication of Factsheet – [‘LEADER/CLLD Evaluation: Laying the Conceptual Foundation of the Approach’](#)

This factsheet describes how the findings and recommendations of various LEADER evaluations proves that this policy tool has played a critical role in improving and developing the conceptual foundation of the LEADER approach.

2/12/2016

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Valletta, Malta

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

2/12/2016

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Rome, Italy

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

05/12/2016

06/12/2016

[Good Practice Workshop on data-management for evidence based RDP evaluations](#) - Bordeaux, France

This Good Practice Workshop was aimed at providing a forum for the transfer of knowledge, discussion and exchange of useful practices on different Monitoring & Evaluation Systems. The main targeted audiences were Managing Authorities, Paying Agencies, LAGs, Data Providers, and RDP evaluators.

07/12/2016

08/12/2016

[Achieving Results the CLLD Way: Putting the Method to Work](#) – Båstad, Sweden

This event was hosted by the Swedish Board of Agriculture and organized by the European Network for Rural Development – Contact Point. The Helpdesk helped to facilitate multiple working groups and conducted an interactive session in the market place of the seminar (titled: “Evaluation café”).

12/12/2016

[Kick-off meeting for the Thematic Working Group 4 ‘Evaluation of Innovation’](#) – Brussels, Belgium

The Helpdesk kicked off its new Thematic Working Group 4 on the evaluation of innovation. The Helpdesk’s permanent team was joined by members of DG AGRI and experts in the field to discuss the conceptualisation of future Guidelines to be written.

14/12/2016

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Stockholm, Sweden

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.



15/12/2016

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Ljubljana, Slovenia

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

16/12/2016

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Paris, France

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

19/12/2016

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Helsinki, Finland

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

22/12/2016

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Sofia, Bulgaria

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

01/2017

[Release of NEW Evaluation Helpdesk eLibrary on the ENRD website](#)

The new Evaluation Helpdesk eLibrary provides stakeholders with the ability to easily find all the documents they need using advanced search options.

10/01/2017

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Namur, Belgium

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

17/01/2017

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Germany

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

18/01/2017

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Dublin, Ireland

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

19/01/2017

Publication of Report – ‘[Targeted data management for evidence based evaluation of Rural Development Programmes 2014-2020](#)’

This report summarises the major outcomes of the Good Practice Workshop, “Targeted data management for evidence based evaluation of RDPs 2014-2020”, which took place on 5 - 6 December 2016 in Bordeaux, France

23/01/2017

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Athens, Greece

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

25/01/2017

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Tallinn, Estonia

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.



10/02/2017

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Warsaw, Poland

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

22/02/2017

[EvaluationWORKS! 2016](#) – Bratislava, Slovakia

This Helpdesk capacity building event was focused on getting prepared for the evaluation to be reported in the Annual Implementation Report submitted in 2017.

03/2017

Publication of Factsheet – ‘[Productivity Effects of CAP Investment Support: Ex post evaluation from Sweden using Matched Panel Data](#)’

This factsheet presents a study that used firm-level micro data to estimate the productivity effects of investment support (measure 121). The recently developed Coarsened Exact Matching (CEM) method was used to model the selection bias attached to the assignment of support and to estimate the causal effects.

22/03/2017

[Sounding Board Meeting for the Thematic Working Group 4 ‘Evaluation of Innovation](#) – Brussels, Belgium

The Helpdesk invited members of the innovation community including researchers, NRNs, evaluators and DG AGRI to discuss the background document on the ‘Guidelines: Evaluation of Innovation in RDPs 2014 – 2020’.

23/03/2017

Publication of the [Rural Evaluation NEWS No 6](#)

This issue includes experiences from the Member States of the Helpdesk’s EvaluationWORKS! 2016 capacity building events; preparing the evaluation of innovation in RDPs 2014-2020; an overview of the Fourth Good Practice Workshop: 5-6 December Bordeaux, France; and evaluation at the local level

27/03/2017

SCAR SWG AKIS 4 – 4th Meeting – Bratislava, Slovakia

28/03/2017

This event was organised by the Standing Committee on Agricultural Research. The Helpdesk presented the state of play of its Thematic Working Group 4 ‘Evaluation of Innovation’ and further led an interactive session to collect feedback from participants.

27/04/2017

2nd Meeting of the Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group – Madrid, Spain

This event was organised by the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment (MAPAMA). The Helpdesk presented on the High Nature Value (HNV) farming indicator and how to complete common evaluation questions related to climate change (CEQ 14 and CEQ 15)

10/05/2017

[11th Meeting of the Expert Group on Monitoring and Evaluating the CAP](#) - Brussels, Belgium

This event was organised by DG Agriculture and Rural Development. The Helpdesk presented on the Thematic Working Group 3 “Guidelines: Evaluation of LEADER/CLLD” and informed about the new Thematic Working Group 4 “Guidelines: Evaluation of Innovation”.



EIP-AGRI Network activities since since the 3rd Rural Networks' Assembly meeting (1 December 2016)

25/10/2016

Rural Networks' Steering Group – Brussels, Belgium

The 6th Meeting of the European Networks Steering Group, will consider the actions for the Rural Assembly, and actions deriving from the Cork 2.0 European Conference on Rural Development.

25/10/2016
26/10/2016

1st meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on 'Diseases and pests in viticulture' – Porto, Portugal

This focus group will discuss on how to increase the resilience of grape vines to pests and diseases and support the productivity of the sector in sustainable ways. This meeting is being organised with the support of the Portuguese NRN and Sogrape Vinhos.

11/2016

Four summaries of up-to-date studies, research reports and other data on agricultural innovation and "areas of innovative action" for EIP-AGRI'

The topics of these summaries are: optimizing resource use in mushroom production; transforming grass into animal protein in cold and alpine climates; certifications to help market wild forest products; How to build skip proof electric fences that protect sheep from wolves.

09/11/2016

Publication Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation | edition 39 | November 2016

10/11/2016
11/11/2016

EIP-AGRI Workshop 'New value chains from multifunctional forests' – Vienna, Austria

This workshop is dedicated to the promotion of new forest value chains and the aim is to present existing examples and explore concrete opportunities for developing innovative value chains of forest products and services which are currently under-used. This includes food products, non-food products, agroforestry and leisure and recreational uses. The workshop is organised with the support of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management.

15/11/2016
16/11/2016

2nd meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on 'Nutrient recycling' – Leuven, Belgium

This focus group is dedicated to the main question: How to improve the agronomic use of recycled nutrients (N and P) from livestock manure and other organic sources? The second meeting is organised with the support of the Boerenbond.

23/11/2016
24/11/2016

1st meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on 'Robust and resilient dairy production systems' – Zagreb, Croatia

This focus group is dedicated to the main question: How to create good conditions for dairy cattle husbandry in different production systems?



30/11/2016
01/12/2016

[1st meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on 'Agroforestry: introducing woody vegetation into specialised crop and livestock systems'](#) – Melle, France

This focus group will discuss the main question: How to develop agroforestry as a sustainable farming system which can boost agricultural productivity and profitability? This meeting is being organised with the support of the French Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

01/12/2016

[Rural Networks' Assembly](#) – Brussels, Belgium

The sixth meeting of the Rural Networks' Steering Group (SG) will look at activities of the networks to ensure their relevance for SG member organisations in the light of the Cork 2.0 Conference and its declaration.

12/2016

Four summaries of up-to-date studies, research reports and other data on agricultural innovation and "areas of innovative action" for EIP-AGRI'

The topics of these summaries are: Disinfection treatments for mushroom cultivation ; Organic fungicide from Larix spp. Bark; Decision trees to control parasites in grazing ruminants; Working with herd protection dogs to protect herds against wolves.

13/12/2016

[Publication Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation | edition 40 | December 2016](#)

01/2017

Four summaries of up-to-date studies, research reports and other data on agricultural innovation and "areas of innovative action" for EIP-AGRI

The topics of these summaries are: training tool to visually estimate the legume percentage in a legume-grass mixture; ROTOR – a planning tool for organic crop rotations; More environmentally-friendly and profitable rape seed productions; Resources for learning about agroforestry techniques.

01/2017

[Publication Focus Group Report 'Farm benchmarking data to improve productivity and sustainability'](#)
[Publication of factsheet on Ecological focus area](#)

10/01/2017

[Publication Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation | edition 41 | January 2017](#)

02/2017

Four summaries of up-to-date studies, research reports and other data on agricultural innovation and "areas of innovative action" for EIP-AGRI'

The topics of these summaries are: A tool to estimate the costs of wood harvesting operations ; Know your soils to protect them; Automatic milking – tips to ensure animal welfare and milk quality; reducing-weed-movement contributes- to economic crop production.

02/2017

[Publication factsheet on Water Management](#)
[Publication factsheet on Cities & Food](#)
[Publication Workshop Report on 'Cities & Food'](#)



01/02/2017
02/02/2017

[2nd meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on ‘Sustainable mobilisation of forest biomass’ – Ljubljana, Slovenia](#)

The aim of this Focus Group is to discuss on how to improve the sustainable mobilisation of biomass from our forests in the EU. This meeting was organised with the support of the Finnish NRN.

07/02/2017
08/02/2017

[EIP-AGRI Workshop ‘Tools for environmental farm performance’ – Zagreb, Croatia](#)

This workshop is dedicated to how can environmental sustainability tools for farmers be promoted? Farmers met with developers and other users of sustainability tools to address this question at this EIP-AGRI workshop

14/02/2017

[Publication Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation | edition 42 | February 2017](#)

16/02/2017

[7th Meeting of Innovation Sub-Group – Brussels, Belgium](#)

03/2017

Four summaries of up-to-date studies, research reports and other data on agricultural innovation and “areas of innovative action” for EIP-AGRI

The topics of these summaries are: tools for weed management on organic farms; organic production systems can diminish weed pressure; enhancing environmental benefits when afforesting; monitoring environmental parameters to improve apple production.

14/03/2017

[Publication Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation | edition 43 | March 2017](#)

21/03/2012
22/03/2017

[2nd meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on ‘Agroforestry: introducing woody vegetation into specialised crop and livestock systems’ – Portogruaro, Italy](#)

This focus group will discuss over the main question: How to develop agroforestry as a sustainable farming system which can boost agricultural productivity and profitability? This meeting is being organised with the support of the French Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry.

03/2017

**[Publication factsheet on ‘Benchmarking’](#)
[Publication Workshop report on ‘New value chains from multifunctional forests’](#)**

04/04/2017
05/04/2017

[2nd Meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on ‘Diseases and pests in viticulture’ – Cluj-Napoca, Romania](#)

This focus group will discuss on how to increase the resilience of grape vines to pests and diseases and support the productivity of the sector in sustainable ways. This meeting is being organised with the support of the Portuguese NRN and Sogrape Vinhos.



04/04/2017
05/04/2017

[EIP-AGRI Workshop 'Data sharing'](#) – Bratislava, Slovakia

This workshop is dedicated to which arrangements are needed to enable an effective, fair and valuable access to – and reuse of – agricultural data? Key players in the data sector of European agriculture met to disentangle this question at this EIP-AGRI workshop

19/04/2017
20/04/2017

[2nd meeting of EIP-AGRI Focus Group on 'Robust and resilient dairy production systems'](#) – Edinburgh, UK

This focus group is dedicated to the main question: How to create good conditions for dairy cattle husbandry in different production systems?

04/2017

[Publication IPM Brassica Brochure](#) [Report on EIP-AGRI Focus Group results assessment:](#)

An independent expert has reviewed how the results of EIP-AGRI Focus Groups have been used so far, as requested by the European Commission. The report shows that there is a clear interest in Focus Group results and that their task of providing inspiration for Operational Groups could be further improved

04/2017

Four summaries of up-to-date studies, research reports and other data on agricultural innovation and "areas of innovative action" for EIP-AGRI'

The topics of these summaries are: Weaning piglets – learning from the older ones?; diets containing carob and apple reduce diarrhoea frequency in piglets; trees in arable land; new added value products from spruce needles.

11/04/2017

[Publication Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation | edition 44 | April 2017](#)

05/2017

[Publication Factsheet Mixed Farming Systems](#) [Publication Focus Group Report on 'Mixed Farming systems'](#)

05/2017

Four summaries of up-to-date studies, research reports and other data on agricultural innovation and "areas of innovative action" for EIP-AGRI' (available soon)

09/05/2017

[Publication Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation | edition 45 | May 2017](#)

10/05/2017
11/05/2017

[EIP-AGRI Seminar 'Moving EIP-AGRI Implementation Forward'](#) – Athens, Greece

The seminar is dedicated to exploring and sharing the existing experiences with implementing the EIP-AGRI via Rural Development Programmes support throughout the EU. It focused on sharing current challenges that administrations are facing and possible ways forward inspired by positive experiences.

17/05/2017

[Rural Networks' Steering Group](#) – Brussels, Belgium

The 7th Meeting of the European Networks Steering Group, will consider the actions for the Rural Assembly, and actions deriving from the Cork 2.0 European Conference on Rural Development.