



# Newsletter

April 2016  
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## NEWS

### **ENRD Workshop on LEADER/CLLD and networking in support of social inclusion**

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The ENRD Contact Point organised a workshop on 'The role of LEADER/CLLD and networking in supporting social inclusion in rural areas' in Brussels on 17 March 2016. The workshop gathered representatives of Local Action Groups, Network Support Units, EAFRD and ESF Managing Authorities, European institutions and other stakeholder organisations. Presentations are published here.

### **Fourth Meeting of Structured Dialogue with partners at Union level**

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On 26 April 2016 took place the fourth meeting of Structured Dialogue group of experts. The Structured Dialogue is a mutual trust building mechanism in order to bring the ESI Funds closer to civil society, assist the Commission in the development of this policy in the different areas of expertise and to discuss the implementation of the ESI Funds. The meeting's agenda and presentations are published here.

### **European Countryside Movement conference**

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On 19 April 2016 in Brussels European Countryside Movement organised the conference for a rural agenda in the programming period post 2020. ELARD representatives prepared a brief report from the event.

### **Congress of European Municipalities and Regions**

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Calls to rethink the European project dominated the closing plenary of the CEMR 2016 Congress in Nicosia, with participants in the panel debate suggesting that a new practice of local and European policy will re-invigorate a desire for Europe that "has dried up". More ...

### **BioEconomy Utrecht 2016**

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BioEconomy Utrecht 2016, the fourth BioEconomy Stakeholders' Conference, was held on 12 and 13 April 2016 at Rabo Nederland in Utrecht, the Netherlands under the auspices of the Dutch EU Presidency. This high - level European meeting was co-organised by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs and by the European Commission. The conference was a part of the European Bioeconomy Strategy and Action Plan, and served as an important input to the future orientation of the European Bioeconomy Strategy. Conference presentations are available here.

### **Agriculture holds key to UN Sustainable Development Goals**

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In 2015 the United Nations adopted its post-2015 agenda, setting out 17 Sustainable Development Goals to tackle contemporary global challenges by 2030. The goals span the whole range of policy areas, from rural poverty to global hunger, climate resilience, and population growth. Nine of them are directly or indirectly connected with farming, conferring a special multi-dimensional status to agriculture. More ...

### **Let it Grow campaign**

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Let it Grow is a public engagement campaign run by Ecsite (European Network of Science Centres and Museums) jointly with EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquaria) andBGCI (Botanic Gardens Conservation International). The campaign's goal is to raise people's awareness of their local biodiversity and get them involved in its protection. More ...

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## **EIP-AGRI Workshop on 'New value chains from multifunctional forests'**

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EIP-AGRI is looking for participants (foresters, farmers, advisers, researchers, entrepreneurs ...) to attend the EIP-AGRI workshop on new value chains from multifunctional forests, which will take place in the second week of November 2016 in Vienna, Austria. The call is open until 13 May 2016. More ...

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## **Change of directors at IFOAM EU**

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On 8 April 2016 long-term IFOAM EU (International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements) director Marco Schlüter officially stepped down and Eduardo Cuoco was appointed to be the new director. More ...

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## **New Climate-Smart Agriculture portal**

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The new CSA Guide is a one-stop-shop for everything you need to know. The site covers the basics (what is CSA and why do we need it?) and offers detailed guidance on CSA planning, finance, and case studies from around the world. If you are interested in specific practices, systems approaches or policies, you can dig in via a number of entry points. The site is aimed at practitioners, decision-makers and researchers who work with or are interested in CSA. The website was developed by the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) with contributions from experts at the World Bank, CGIAR and many other institutions working on these issues. More ...

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## **EU Funding Documents and Seminars**

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EuroparlTV: EU funding for your project? More ...

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## **EU Funding Opportunities**

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Call for proposals: Promotion of EU agricultural products. Deadline: 28 April 2016. More ...  
Interreg Adrion: Call for independent evaluators. Deadline: 13 May 2016. More ...  
Interreg Europe: 2nd call open until 13 May 2016. More ...  
EC: European Neighbourhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development in Georgia (ENPARD II) - Pilot Rural Development measures (phase II). Deadline: 16 May 2016. More ...  
Central European Initiative: Call for Proposals for co-financing CEI Cooperation Activities. Deadline: 23 May 2016. More ...  
EASME: Call for proposals: Blue Careers in Europe. Deadline: 31 May 2016. More ...  
EC: Raising public awareness of development issues and promoting development education in the European Union. Deadline: 1 June 2016. More ...  
EC: Actions to boost the demand and supply side of the finance market for social enterprises. Deadline: 13 June 2016. More ...  
FP7 ERA-NET Sumforest call for research projects: "Sustainable forests for the society of the future". Deadline: 17 June 2016. More ...  
Interreg Central Europe: 2nd call for project proposals open until 23 June 2016. More ...  
EIT's 2016 Call for Knowledge and Innovation Communities (KIC) Proposals. Deadline: 14 July 2016. More ...

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## **Competitions and Consultations**

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European Voluntary Service Opportunities at IFOAM EU. Deadline: 30 April 2016. More ...  
Preparation of a sustainable bioenergy policy for the period after 2020. Deadline: 10 May 2016. More ...  
Fourth European Quality of Life Survey: Preparatory phase. More ...

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## **Newsletters and Publications**

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### **Newsletters**

Forum Synergies Newsletter 1/2016. Read ...  
ENRD Newsletter, April 2016. Read ...

Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation, issue 32, April 2016. Read ...  
IFOAM EU Newsletter, April 2016. Read ...  
Arche Noah Newsletter, April 2016. Read ...  
Alpine Space Programme Newsletter, April 2016. Read ...  
Interreg Europe Newsletter, April 2016. Read ...

### **Publications**

Rural Connections, Spring 2016. Published by: ENRD. Read ...  
Research for AGRI Committee -The Role of the EU'S Common Agricultural Policy in Creating Rural Jobs. Published by: European Parliament, 2016. Read ...  
State of Play of Risk Management Tools Implemented by Member States During the Period 2014-2020: National and European Framework. Published by: European Parliament, 2016. Read ...  
Cooperating for genetic resources. Published by: EIP-AGRI, 2016. Read ...  
Universities promoting regional innovation across Europe. Published by: European University Association, 2016. Read ...  
Private Sector for Food Security Annual Report 2015. Published by: EBRD, 2016. Read ...

## **EVENTS**

### **Swedish Rural Parliament, 27–29 May 2016, Gotland, Sweden**

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The Swedish rural parliament is one of the largest gatherings for rural development in Europe. All Sweden Shall Live (Hela Sverige ska leva), a PREPARE member organization, has arranged this event every second year since the mid 90s. The theme of 2016 gathering which will be on in Gotland is "Towards a balanced country". More ...

### **Thematic Seminar 'Bioeconomy - Challenges for the EU Regions', 29 April 2016, Brussels, Belgium**

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This seminar on Bioeconomy-related Research and Innovation (R&I) aims to raise awareness and foster exchange of information and best practice between the European Commission and the EU regions as well as among the regions themselves. More ...

### **5th National Rural Networks' Meeting, 11-12 May 2016, Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

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The meeting will have a particular focus on arts and culture initiatives aimed at stimulating rural development in Europe. The aim is to discover how to reconnect these worlds. The examples showcased during the event aim to demonstrate how the approach and perspectives of cultural workers and artists can help to re-connect and communicate more effectively with rural stakeholders. More ...

### **EU Funds 2014-2020: Increasing the Efficiency of Communication Activities, 18-19 May 2016, Warsaw, Poland**

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The content of the event is built around very practical experiences and case studies of the speakers and participants focusing on the most pressing challenges and practical examples of day-to-day work of EU fund communicators. More ...

### **ENRD Seminar on Smart and Competitive Rural Areas, 26 May 2016, Brussels, Belgium**

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The Seminar will explore how smart specialisation, strategy and policy can be integrated within the Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) to make an effective and positive change throughout the supply chain. More ...

### **European Sustainable Development Week, 30 May – 5 June 2016**

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The European Sustainable Development Week (ESDW) is an initiative to facilitate the organization of activities that promote sustainable development and make these efforts visible on a common platform. The recently adopted global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) articulates key issues that call for urgent action at all levels and by all stakeholders. The ESDW contributes to this ambitious, universal and transformative agenda by promoting the organization of bottom-up activities that have a thematic link to and support the SDGs. More ...

## **Conservation Agriculture and Sustainable Land Use, 31 May-2 June 2016, Budapest, Hungary**

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The application of Conservation Agricultural Systems is spreading worldwide. New results in the field of scientific and practical applications are accumulating continuously and therefore it seems to be important to present and discuss about the new achievements. More ...

## **SMART REGIONS Conference, 1-2 June 2016, Brussels, Belgium**

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This High-Level Event will highlight the key role of regions in developing new growth dynamics for Europe, based on bottom-up entrepreneurship and innovation. It will mark the mobilisation of this potential for transformation in priority areas, e.g. energy transition, digital growth, circular economy, agro-food or industrial modernisation. More ...

## **LeaderFEST 2016, 8-10 June 2016, Karlova Studanka, The Czech Republic**

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LEADER Fest is traditional meeting of local action group representatives alongside with other European stakeholders active in rural development practicing the method of Leader. LeaderFEST 2016 JESENÍKY is mainly focused on examples of good practice and experience sharing. The time will be devoted also to the future of program LEADER for the period of 2014-2020. More ...

## **Sustainable Foods Summit, 9-10 June, Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

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Sustainable ingredients, food waste and marketing developments will be featured in the European edition of the Sustainable Foods Summit. Like previous editions, the summit will bring together leading organisations involved in eco-labels and sustainability in the food industry. More ...

## **EU Sustainable Energy Week 2016, 13-17 June 2016, Brussels, Belgium**

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EU Sustainable Energy Week brings together public authorities, energy agencies, research organisations, NGOs, businesses, and private consumers to share best practices and inspire ideas on secure, clean and efficient energy. More ...

## **5th AIEAA Conference, 16-17 June 2016, Bologna, Italy**

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The fifth AIEAA Conference aims at providing a scientific contribution to these issues by expanding the knowledge base on the fundamentals of better regulation, and by promoting a critical debate on the underlying theoretical and methodological issues and policy implications. More ...

## **Forum Synergies Civic Dialogue workshop, 23-26 June 2016, Poland**

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The focus of Forum Synergies Civic Dialogue workshop will be "How have you implemented in your country, participation and stakeholders dialogue in EU procedure such as Natura 2000, CLLD-Leader, Water framework (or other ones specific to the country/region.)? More ...

## **15th Summer Academy On "Social Economy and Sustainable Rural Development", Mouzaki, Karditsa, Greece, 16-23 July 2016**

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The 15th Summer Academy of the Euracademy Association aims to explore the contribution of social enterprises and cooperatives to rural areas, but also focus on ways to enhance their formation and trading success as well as demonstrate courses of action through best practice examples collected from across Europe. More ...

## **Landscape and cultural heritage: The power of case studies, 5-9 September 2016, Innsbruck and Seefeld, Austria**

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This open session wants to collect and exchange experiences, case studies and good practices of landscape and heritage from all over Europe. The papers presented by the participants will give input to the overall discussion to come up with a list of take-home and key messages to be used in future landscape and heritage projects on different scales. More ...

## **AlpWeek: Alps & PeopleLiving culture!, 11-15 October 2016, Grassau, Germany**

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The manifold aspects of the relationship between the Alps and the people who live, work and recreate there will be the main focus of the fourth edition of the AlpWeek in October 2016 in Grassau/Achental (Germany). 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.

**More about PREPARE:** [www.preparenetwork.org](http://www.preparenetwork.org)

The main founder of PREPARE activities is **Charles Steward MOTT Foundation**.

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