



Newsletter

August 2015
Newsletters Archive

NEWS

2nd European Rural Parliament

Second European Rural Parliament will take place from 4th to 6th November 2015 in Schärding (Austria). PREPARE, ERCA and ELARD are co-organizers of the important event for rural civil society. Approximately 300 participants from 40 countries are expected to join the debates about the key issues, concerning rural population in Europe. More on [ERP website](#) and in [ERP Newsletter 1/2015](#).

3rd Slovenian Rural Parliament

Third Slovenian Rural Parliament will gather more than 300 participants from all parts of Slovenia and foreign guests to discuss open issues of the rural areas in Slovenia. In two days, 7. and 8. October, ten working groups will explore challenges and opportunities of rural areas in cooperation between NGO sector, public sector, politicians, scientists, farmers, entrepreneurs and other interested individuals and organisations. 3rd Slovenian Rural Parliament will conclude with Declaration.

Approval of Rural Development Programme for Wallonia marks half-way stage in RDP approvals

The adoption of the RDP for Wallonia (24 July), closely following that of Lombardia (Italy) and Cantabria (Spain), brings the total number of RDPs approved so far to 59 out of 118. The Commission has now adopted half the programmes, covering almost two thirds of the funding (€ 63.8 billion/64.1%). The approval of the Walloon programme completes the process in 20 Member States. [More ...](#)

Agri-food sector accounts for more than 7% of overall EU exports in 2014

The EU maintained its position as the world's No. 1 exporter in 2014, with agri-food exports representing more than 7% of all goods exported and with a net surplus of €18 billion. Currently, the top five destinations for EU28 agri-food exports are the US, Russia, China, Switzerland and Japan. [More ...](#)

New PEGASUS Website

The PEGASUS (Public Ecosystem Goods and Services from land management Public Ecosystem Goods and Services from land management) project aims to develop new ways of thinking about farmland and forest management to achieve the most appropriate level of environmental and social benefits from these activities in rural areas. The [new website](#) provides up to date information about PEGASUS, news about current project activities, a calendar of events and upcoming opportunities to get involved in the project, as well as information on the case studies that will take place during 2016. [More ...](#)

AgriSPIN – Space for innovations in Agriculture

The AgriSPIN project (started in March 2015) will examine the practice of innovation today by answering questions such as: How does the European farmer seek information and support? What competencies does he expect of his advisor? What kind of innovation support system is in place today? By doing a large amount of visits to practical examples of innovation projects, AgriSPIN will cross-fertilise existing practical knowledge on innovation processes. It will uncover best cases of innovation projects and processes, and identify the best brokering methods and type of innovation support systems that enable the most optimal innovation process. [More ...](#)

EU Funding Documents

European Academy for Education and Social Research: Courses in 2015. [More ...](#)

EU Funding Opportunities

EC: REFIT Platform – Call for expressions of interest. Deadline: 1 September 2015. [More ...](#)

EACEA: Europe for Citizens - Town twinning 2015. Deadline: 1 September 2015. [More ...](#)

EACEA: Europe for Citizens - Networks of towns 2015. Deadline: 1 September 2015. [More ...](#)

EIP-AGRI: Call for Focus Group Experts. Deadline: 7 September 2015. [More ...](#)

Interreg MED: 1st call for modular project proposals. Opening Date: 1 September. Closing Date: 2 November 2015. [More ...](#)

EC: Call for experts: Structured Dialogue under ESI Funds. Deadline: 14 September 2015. [More ...](#)

Interreg Danube Transnational Programme: The first call for proposals will be implemented in two steps. The timeline of the first step is 23 September 2015 till 3 November 2015. [More ...](#)

EC: LIFE Action Grants 2015. [More ...](#)

Erasmus+ Calls for Proposals in 2015. [More ...](#)

Competitions

Photo Competition "Europe in my region". Deadline: 28 August 2015. [More ...](#)

ARGE Photo Competition "European Rural Benefits & Innovations 2020". Deadline: 15 October 2015. [More ...](#)

12th UNWTO Awards for Excellence and Innovation in Tourism. Deadline: 30 October 2015. [More ...](#)

The European Capital of Innovation Award 2016 – iCapital. Deadline: 18 November 2015. [More ...](#)

Newsletters and Publications

Newsletters

European Rural Parliament Newsletter 1/2015. [Read ...](#)

Forum Synergies Newsletter, August 2015. [Read ...](#)

ENRD Newsletter, August 2015. [Read ...](#)

Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation, August 2015. [Read ...](#)

Regio Newsletter, July 2015. [Read ...](#)

ARCHE NOAH Newsletter, August 2015. [Read ...](#)

Publications

Guidelines – "Establishing and implementing the evaluation plan of 2014-2020 RDPs".

Published by: European Evaluation Helpdesk for Rural Development, June 2015. [Read ...](#)

Tourism Supporting Biodiversity: A Manual on applying the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development. Published by: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2015. [Read ...](#)

CCAFS Annual Report 2014: Acting locally, informing globally. Published by: CGIAR Research Program, Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). [Read ...](#)

EVENTS

2nd European Rural Parliament, 4-6 November 2015, Schärding, Austria

The second European Rural Parliament will be held in the beautiful small town of Schärding in Austria, 4 to 6 November 2015. 300 delegates are expected, from over 40 European countries. [More ...](#)

Special session during ERSA meeting: Towards a Smart Rural Europe, 25-28 August 2015, Lisbon, Portugal

The aim of this special session is to identify the main conditions for an enlarged definition of a Smart Rural Europe, given the regional dynamics, facts and figures, the profound changes in rural areas and the new regional and rural policies. [More ...](#)

The territorial impact of EU policies - a consistent and inclusive approach, 9 September 2015, Brussels, Belgium

In Europe as elsewhere, areas with untapped development potential coexist with overexploited urban and peri-urban spaces. Due to increasing congestion costs, economic activities are gradually spreading to rural regions, but market forces alone cannot provide the necessary incentives to redress the prevailing trend: decentralisation policies, decisions and actions at every level of government are required. [More ...](#)

ICOLLE 2015: The Lifelong Learning Assessment and Quality Increase within European Context, 15-16 September 2015, Křtiny, Czech Republic

To assess and discuss quality of education within the Czech Republic and European Union is the aim of the international scientific conference ICOLLE 2015. Themes as assessment and increasing of education quality at secondary schools, pedagogical and members of academic staff, further education, and senior education will be focused on. [More ...](#)

25 Years of INTERREG, 15-16 September 2015, Esch-sur-Alzette, Luxembourg

In 2015, Interreg celebrates its [25th anniversary](#). A quarter of a century playing an active role in regional development and European cohesion, improving the life of people and supporting local economies. More than ever, this celebration of the 25 years of Interreg is a great opportunity for programmes to promote all year long their achievements over the years. This will be made even easier thanks to the new joint brand allowing Interreg achievements to be visible and promoted all over Europe. [More ...](#)

LEADER-CLLD Conference on Co-operation, 25 September 2015, Milan, Italy

The main objective of the conference is to exchange on how to support inter-territorial and transnational co-operation (TNC) within the EU and with third countries. The conference is organized by The ENRD Contact Point and DG AGRI. [More ...](#)

LINC Congress 2015, 29 September-1 October 2015, Maratea, Basilicata Region, Italy

LINC – Leader Inspired Network Community – is a European Conference which combines European exchange of experience with sport events and the European culinary tradition. LINC Conference 2015 marks the beginning of the new European Programming Period: the conference will be a great chance to share ideas and proposals and to start new cooperation projects. Deadline for registration: 28 August 2015. [More ...](#)

OPEN DAYS 2015: 13th European Week of Regions and Cities, 12-15 October 2015, Brussels

With the headline of 'Europe's regions and cities: partners for investment and growth' 2015 will be structured around three thematic priorities: 1. 'Modernising Europe': The regions in the energy Union and the single digital market; 2. 'Regions open for business': SME development, innovation and job creation; 3. 'Places and spaces': Urban and rural development; urban-rural integration. [More ...](#)

DANUBIO 2015: Sustainable Rural Development: Organic Farming And Eco-Agritourism, 19-22 October 2015, Novi Sad, Vojvodina, Serbia

The conference programme will provide valuable information and networking opportunities for participants to discuss on any research, education and applied aspects related to organic production in the Danube region and Mediterranean, organic animal production and beekeeping, food quality, sustainable rural development, organic R&D, organic marketing and policies for rural development and organic production. [More ...](#)

Editor-in-Chief of PREPARE Newsletter: Goran Šoster
Contact: goran@preparenetwork.org, info@preparenetwork.org

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

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

You are currently subscribed to PREPARE NEWSLETTER mailing list. To unsubscribe click [here](#).