



Newsletter

November 2015
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NEWS

ERP 2015 Press Release and Manifesto

The 2nd European Rural Parliament was held from 4 to 6 November in Schärding, Upper Austria. At this successful event were participating 246 Delegates from 24 Nations. You can read the final document "European Rural Manifesto" [here](#). More information is available in ERP Press Release and on ERP website.

Report from the second meeting of the European Rural Networks Assembly

The Rural Network's Assembly is the main governance body of the European Network for Rural Development (ENRD) and European Innovation Partnership – AGRI networks. The aim of the second meeting of the Assembly was to make the overview of the activities of the networks in the context of strategic framework, to discuss and make proposals for the priorities of work in 2016 in the light of the opportunities identified for improving implementation of Rural Development Programmes. As the main priority for 2016 stands for now the Simplification of RDP, emphasizing simplification of the financial management and Standard Cost Option. Already in January 2016 the Workshop regarding the Simplification will be organized, inviting Managing Authorities, Paying Agencies, Local Action Groups and some other stakeholders within the ENRD.

Report from the third meeting of the Structured dialogue group of experts regarding European Structural and Investment Funds

Representative of PREPARE attended the third meeting of the Structured dialogue with European Structural and Investment Funds group of experts in Brussels (ESIF SDG). The main topic of the meeting was Mainstreaming of the horizontal principles as laid down in the Common Provisions Regulation. More about the ESIF SDG [here](#).

Green light for remaining Rural Development Programmes in France and Italy and in Malta

On 24 November the European Commission has approved the remaining Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) for the 2014-2020 period in France, Italy and Malta. In global terms, these RDPs mean that 116 of the 118 different national and regional RDPs have now been approved (covering nearly 95% of the EU funding), and completed in 26 Member States, with the others expected to be adopted in the coming few weeks. [More ...](#)

Call for ENRD Thematic Group members

The ENRD Contact Point is looking for individuals interested in participating in and contributing to its thematic work on 'Smart and competitive rural areas' and 'Promoting the transition to a green economy' between November 2015 and July 2016. [More ...](#)

Interactive innovation in motion: Multi-actor projects and thematic networks under Horizon 2020

This workshop was organised in the context of the InfoWeek on Societal Challenge 2 calls 2016, following the publication of the work programme for 2016/2017 on 14 October 2015.

The workshop was aimed at potential applicants to Horizon 2020 funding for multi-actor projects such as scientists, farmer organisations, advisors organisations or other types of organisations, in particular those participating in the EIP-AGRI network. More ...

Facilitating the access to funding, internationalization and business acceleration in the Mediterranean area

On 12 November, the Med Lab meeting in Valencia brought together not only programme representatives but also thematic experts and stakeholders, territorial organization and networks, projects developers and representatives from the SMEs world. The day started with the Programmes presentation on their main achievements and lessons learned from the work developed on SMEs and entrepreneurship during the 2007-2013 programming period. More ...

Sustainability of Livestock Farming in Europe: A Question of Food Security, Climate and Innovation

The aim of this conference organised on 20 October in Brussels was to bring forward ideas and foster a discussion on policies that will enable a sustainable approach to agricultural production in Europe, with a specific focus on livestock. Ensuring food security by meeting current and forecasted demand is a challenge, especially given the need to do so in a sustainable way. We are already overusing the earth's resources, and the impact of agriculture on climate change needs to be reduced. Presentations from conference are available here.

EU Funding Documents and Seminars

Financial Instruments delivering ESI Funds: Seminar series in Member States, 2015-2016. More ...

Have your say - join the Simplify ESIF community! More ...

EIP-AGRI Brochure on Funding opportunities under Horizon 2020 - Calls 2016. Read ...

European Structural and Investment Funds application: Guidance for Member States and Programme Authorities. Read ...

Presentations from Worst Practice Workshop in H2020 project writing. Read ...

National/regional contact/info points in Interreg programmes: Experiences in 2007-2013 and plans for 2014-2020. Read ...

EU Funding Opportunities

EC-DG AGRI Support for information measures relating to the common agricultural policy (CAP) for 2016. Deadline: 30 November 2015. More ...

Culture for cities and regions - call for participation in study visits. Deadline: 4 December 2015. More ...

Interreg Mediterranean: 1st call for horizontal project proposals. Deadline: 11 January 2016. More ...

Interreg Danube Transnational Programme: the second step of the 1st call for proposals is foreseen to be open in April 2016. More

Competitions and Consultations

EC Public Consultation on the Needs for Internet Speed and Quality Beyond 2020. Deadline: 7 December 2015. More ...

Land and Soil Management Award 2015/2016. Deadline: 31 December 2015. More ...

Anders Wall Award 2015/2016: Celebrating rural entrepreneurs. Deadline: 31 December 2015. More ...

Newsletters and Publications

Newsletters

ENRD Newsletter, November 2015. Read ...

EIP-AGRI Newsflash, 23 November 2015. Read ...

Newsletter on Agriculture & Innovation, issue 27, November 2015. Read ...

Forum Synergies Newsletter, November 2015. Read ...

IFOAM EU Newsletter, November 2015. Read ...

FiBL Newsletter, November 2015. Read ...

Danube Transnational Programme Newsletter, 1/2015. Read ...

The Beacon, October 2015. Read ...

Publications

Rural Connections, Autumn 2015. Published by: ENRD. Read ...

Food & Farming: Focus on Land. Published by: DG-AGRI, 2015. Read ...

Food & Farming: Focus on Jobs and Growth. Published by: DG-AGRI, 2015. Read ...

Food & Farming: Focus on Market Safety Nets. Published by: DG-AGRI, 2015. Read ...

Open farms – bridging the gap between town and country. Published by: DG-AGRI, 2015. Read ...

Toolkit "Green Destinations of South-East Europe". Published by: NALAS Sustainable Tourism Task Force, 2015. Read ...

Cultural Heritage-Possibilities For Spatial and Economic Development: Conference Proceedings (HERU Project). Published by: University of Zagreb, Faculty of Architecture, 2015. Read ...

Territorial Scenarios for Europe towards 2050. Published by: ESPON, 2015. Read ...

EVENTS

"The decline of rural areas? Demographic changes in the Alps", 30 November–1 December 2015, Villach, Austria

The Alps, with their biodiversity capital, water and wood reserves, are the natural, cultural, living and economic environment for nearly 14 million people and an attractive tourist destination for approximately 120 million guests every year. More ...

EU Agricultural Outlook Conference, 1-2 December 2015, Brussels, Belgium

This two-day event will provide an opportunity for a broad exchange of views on the state of agriculture, and the global issues which lie ahead. Some four hundred stakeholders will take part in the conference upon invitation by the Commission. They represent EU institutions, governments and international organisations, those involved in the food chain, the socio-professional sector, market experts, academics and think tanks, and the broader civil society. More ...

Organic Innovation Days, 1-2 December 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The aim of the Organic Innovation Days is to show the innovation potential of the organic food and farming sector. In that context, TP Organics has launched a call challenging researchers, companies and farmers to propose innovative solutions to one of the following needs of the organic sector: Innovative technologies for pest management in organic cropping systems; New organic processing concepts and technologies; New business models of value addition at the farm level. More ...

Connecting Regions and Cities: Making the Digital Single Market work for Europe, 2 December 2015, Brussels, Belgium

In light of the European Commission's new strategy for completing the Digital Single Market, this CoR conference will discuss the progress and future perspectives of the Digital Agenda on these aspects: Key elements of the Digital Single Market package with relevance to the local and regional level; The Digital Agenda and the territorial potential of ICT related projects in the new Investment Plan for Europe, Horizon 2020, EIB and other funding possibilities; Works and initiatives on regional and local level with regard to the Digital Agenda/Digital Single Market: showcasing- outreach for successful digital projects across regions and cities. More ...

"Rethinking the links between farm modernisation, rural development and resilience in a world of increasing demands and finite resources", 2 December 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The transdisciplinary research programme RETHINK is supported by the European Commission and funding bodies in 14 countries under the umbrella of FP7 and the RURAGRI ERA-NET. In RETHINK, alternative trajectories of agricultural development are explored, innovation opportunities highlighted and potential synergies between farm modernisation and sustainable rural development identified. More ...

ESPO Seminar "A world without borders - Refugees, cooperation

and territories", 8-9 December 2015, Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

This seminar is organised in cooperation with the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the EU within the framework of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme. The Seminar will address three policy themes as follows: Territorial aspects of refugee migration to Europe; Cross-border cooperation; European macro-regional strategies. More ...

Let's celebrate the launch of the INTERREG ADRION Programme, 9-10 December 2015, Bologna, Italy

Meet the challenge to build a better future in the Adriatic and Ionian area. Places are limited to 220 participants. For security reasons, on-line registration to the event is compulsory by 6th of December 2015. Only registered people will be allowed to enter to the event premises. More ...

1st Meeting of ENRD Thematic Group "Promoting the Transition to a Green Economy", 16 December 2015, Brussels, Belgium

The Thematic Group will aim to identify practical and proactive ways of supporting the transition to a more sustainable green rural economy using rural development tools and supporting the use of energy and resource efficient investments to stimulate jobs and growth. More info will be available soon on ENRD website.

International Green Week, 15-24 January 2016, Berlin, Germany

Established in 1926, International Green Week is taking place for the 81st time in 2016. The IGW is a one-of-a-kind international exhibition for the food, agricultural and horticultural industries. At the same time, the IGW is the point of origin for the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) with more than 70 departmental ministers. Producers from all over the world come to IGW to test market food and luxury items and reinforce their brand image. Following consumer trends, regional sourcing plays an increasingly important role. Renewable resources, organic agricultural, rural development and gardening continue to gain importance at International Green Week. 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

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

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