

ACTIVITIES OF THE SLOVAK NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK

Slovakia

1. Annual Work Programme (AWP) 2012: priorities supporting RDP implementation

- The NRDN SR maintains an annual work plan, submitted by the NSU each year on October 31st. The AWP for 2012 was approved on 7th December 2011.
- The main priorities of the current AWP include:
 - In 2012, the focus will be on maintaining contact with members of the NRN, expanding the
 number of members, distribution of current information on rural development, the transfer
 of information from the level of the European Network of Rural Development, MA RDP 2007-2013, securing feedback, exchange of experience, networking support contacts for national and transnational cooperation, collection and presentation
 of good practices in implementing the RDP 2007-2013, both at national and regional levels through various information
 channels (printed matter, exhibitions, media).
- In 2012, an important part of NRN activities at national and regional support will be the transmission of information about the future of the CAP and rural development in Slovakia and the EU (creating space for debate stakeholders, assessment of local action groups, analysis and implementation of data collection on rural development with a focus on new programming period).
- The NRN's activities designated for these priorities include:
 - · Collection and provision of information;
 - · Educational and informative activities;
 - National and transnational cooperation;
 - · Propagation.

2. Thematic Initiatives launched by the Network

- The Slovak NRN considers the effective implementation of the RDP as the main priority and so is not particularly interested in the development of specific thematic initiatives at this time. In addition, the various stakeholders are also more interested in enhancing the efficiency of their RDP. However, the Slovak NRN is interested in rural entrepreneurship as a topic.

LEADER-related activities

- The NSU doesn't have staff dedicated to LAG support. LAG support is the main task of the regional offices. NRDN SR Central unit's activities aim to provide educational and training programmes for Local Action Groups.
- The NRDN SR central unit and regional offices organize different educational and practical activities throughout the year for LAGs. The events aim at helping LAGs with their problems and issues. Activities such as workshops, seminars, conferences and field trips with practical experience are provided in all Slovakian regions and also abroad.
- Information about these events is available on: http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php.
- Guidelines and supporting documents for LEADER are published on web sites of the Ministry of agriculture and rural development, NRDN and the Agricultural Paying Agency.
- Guidelines and supporting documents are available on:
 - http://www.mpsr.sk/index.php?navID=47&sID=43&navID2=1
 - http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=22
 - http://www.apa.sk/index.php?navID=348
- The NSU staff support inter-regional and transnational cooperation: national and transnational cooperation support is one of the main activities that the Central unit of the NRDN SR and the regional offices included in the work plans.
- The NSU events: the NRDN SR CU traditionally organizes its own exposition at the International fair Agrokomplex which takes place every summer in Nitra, Slovakia. The NRN also participates in rural international fairs in Czech Republic and in Poland. It also organizes LAG visits abroad.



ACTIVITIES OF THE SLOVAK NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK

Slovakia

- Information about these events is available on: http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php

3. Relevant Experiences/Good Practices

Identification and dissemination of EAFRD-funded projects representing relevant experience:

- After the completion of the project the final beneficiaries are obliged to register the supported activity (project) in the Agency for Rural Development, which is the host authority of the Slovakian National Rural Development Network.
- Registration is obligatory for projects implemented under measures from Axis 3 and Axis 4 (realized through LAGs) by filling out the registration form for the measures 3.1 Diversification into non-agricultural activities, 3.2. Encouragement of tourism activities, 3.4.1 Basic services for the economy and rural population, 3.4.2 Village renewal and development.
- On the basis of duly completed registration forms a confirmation of registration in the Agency for Rural Development is sent to the beneficiaries.
- From June 2011 the RDP Projects 2007-2013 Database is available online which contains information and photographs about almost 900 registered projects (October 2012). The Database is available in Slovak language.
- Relevant experiences/good practices are available on: http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=47

4. Communication

- The Managing Authority (MA) is responsible for the information and publicity of the Rural Development Programme (RDP) of the Slovak Republic, and the Communication Plan forms a part of the RDP.
- RDP in English available on: http://www.mpsr.sk/en/index.php?navID=7&id=30
- The communication tools mostly used by the Network are: e-mails, news published on web page, NRDN SR facebook page, printed materials, and video presentations.

5. Cooperation interests of the Rural Network

- · Fields in which the Network seeks or offers cooperation with other rural networks:
- NRDN SR is searching for cooperation partners rural networks, in the area of experience exchange.

7. Documents

· List of publications, info materials, videos, etc:

- NRDN SR CU newsletter (magazine) called "Spravodajca" issued 4 times per year all issues available online: http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=12&article=59
- Brochure "Activities of NRDN SR in 2011": http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=12&article=359
- Publication "LEADER access in Slovakia": http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=12&article=361
- Brochure from photo competition "The most beautiful photography from LAG territory" 2011: http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=12&article=302
- Brochure from photo competition "The most beautiful photography from LAG territory" 2012 , second year http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=12&article=451
- Photographs from NRDN SR CU activities: http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=14
- Videos from NRDN SR activities: http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=50
- Latest version of the NSP and RDP are available on:
 - NSP on: http://www.mpsr.sk/sk/index.php?start&language=sk&navID=2&navID2=2&sID=43&id=33
 - RDP on web (in English): http://www.mpsr.sk/en/index.php?navID=7&id=30