

Added Value of Networking



Leader FEST

Basic information	
NRN:	Czech Republic
Theme:	Meeting of European Local Action Groups - Good practice
Coordinator:	Managing Authority Department for RDP Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic
Partners:	All LAGs in CR via National Network of Local Action Groups in the Czech Republic
Beneficiaries:	Representatives of LAGs and other actors of rural development in the CR and other European countries (e.g., Poland, Slovakia, Hungary)
Resources:	In 2011: 44 000 € (EAFRD contribution - 19 800 €)
Period:	Annually in May
Main element of networking:	Support for cooperation and joint actions
Other elements of networking:	Building common understanding of common policies

Background

The need to improve cooperation between Local Action Groups is recognised as one of the most important areas of work of the Czech National Rural Network. Consequently rural development actors from other European countries were invited to a meeting of Local Action Groups from the Czech Republic – “LeaderFEST” - to support the development of cooperative actions. This event is a follow-up to the successful initial LeaderFEST 2009 conference held in Hradec and Moravici, which was attended by representatives from eight European countries. This latest LeaderFEST is being held to continue the preparations for the new planning period after 2013 and to help meaningfully coordinate the activities required.

Main activities

- A full-day of short presentations and workshops on the topic of the Leader Programme focusing on examples of good practice,
- A rural fair of traditional crafts and products,



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- Cultural performances - demonstrations of rural culture from different European nations (music, dance, theatre),
- A full-day of short audio-visual programmes on the topic of rural areas,
- Field workshops on various topics related to the development of rural areas,
- An optional excursion to interesting places nearby (activities related to regional and supra-national cooperation),
- Presentation of examples of Rural Development Programme practices.

Main results/benefits

- Exchange of information among actors involved in rural areas (the conference provides a place for various rural groups to hold meetings - approx. 240 participants),
- The presentation of attractive places and projects in rural areas within the excursions contribute to the growth of tourism and the initiation of activities related to regional and supra-national cooperation,
- Presentation and collection of information and data about examples of good practice within the LEADER approach,
- Exchange of opinions and suggestions focused on the future of the Leader programme and the development of rural areas during 2014-2020.

Success factors

n.a.

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Thanks to this event information about best practice within the LEADER approach was collected across European countries and joint conclusions for the future of the LEADER programme after 2013 were formulated (the conclusions from the thematic workshops). It ultimately also contributed to the promotion of specific rural areas of the Czech Republic and other European countries and of the interesting projects which are taking place.

Contribution of the NSU

The Czech National Rural Network provided information (know-how) on how to organise this event and

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encouraged participants to become involved in specific issues surrounding the LEADER approach.

Contribution of the partners

The partners of the Czech National Rural Network arranged the event both from the organizational as well as expert perspectives and the individual LAGs participated in it directly.

Additional information

n.a.

Pictures



Picture 1: Rural fair of traditional crafts and products

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Picture 2: Workshops

Source: Czech Republic National Rural Network

Last Update

April 2013