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NEWS

▶ On the 17-18 April 2013 around 500 representatives of the LEADER community from 34 countries in Europe gathered in Brussels for the third annual [ENRD LEADER Event](#) 2013. The [event newsletter](#) summarises the key event activities and outputs. To get a real flavour of the bridge-building and networking atmosphere check out the LEADER Event [video](#) and the [photo album](#) that are now available on the ENRD website.



▶ The [Communication Rural Development Gateway](#) continues to expand thanks to your contribution. Over 150 examples of great rural development communication are now available to inspire and broaden your communication activities. If you have a communications success story to share with the rural development community, let us know!




▶ The [Communication Awards on the Common Agricultural Policy](#) are now open! National, regional and local authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), professional organisations, research institutes, media and communication professionals are invited to apply for the [Communication Awards](#). You can be a potential winner!




▶ The [European Innovation Partnership \(EIP\) "Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability"](#) provides a working interface between agriculture, bio-economy, science and others at EU, national and regional level. The call for the first EIP focus groups was [launched recently](#). In all, six focus groups are to be set-up to explore practical innovative solutions for: organic farming; protein crops; animal husbandry; genetic resources; organic matter content of soils; and integrated pest management.




 The [ENRD](#) is now on [Facebook!](#) [Like our page](#) and stay connected with latest news from the rural development community across Europe.




 As the rural development community moves towards a new programming period, how can the ENRD support RDP design and implementation? Join the [discussion on opENRD forum](#) and tell us what you think is the most important contribution the ENRD could make in shaping successful future rural development programming...




 The outcomes of the two [ENRD Pilot NSU Peer-to-Peer Training Programme Modules](#) organised in Hungary and Sweden at the beginning of the year are now published in the [NRN Tool-kit](#). The latest [peer-to-peer event](#) – about communications - took place in Portugal on 7 June.



 Innovation has become increasingly important to rural development policy framework. The ENRD's [Research and Innovation Gateway](#) is a great starting point to learn more. For example, check out the [executive summary of the initial findings of the ENRD's Focus Group on Knowledge Transfer and Innovation](#).




 A joint [11th Coordination Committee and 18th NRN Meeting](#) took place on 6 June 2013 in Tomar, Portugal. Keep an eye on the [event page](#) for further updates about these meetings.

EVENTS

 **11 – 13 June 2013** : The [fourth transnational LINC event](#) created great opportunities for networking between European LEADER areas in an innovative way. LINC reinforces the LEADER spirit based on a strong faith in the power of doing things together. Hosted by a different country each year, the [LINC event](#) comprises three parts: a seminar/workshop, a light-hearted sports competition and field trips.



 **19 June 2013**: ENRD Thematic Initiative on Youth
The [First meeting of the ENRD Youth and Young Farmers in Rural Areas Thematic Initiative](#) provided opportunity to take stock of the progress of the work carried out so far, particularly the collection of examples and information at national level, to reflect upon preliminary findings and discuss about what should be improved in the next programming period for the implementation of RDPs which are closer to young people's needs. For more information, check out the [Initiative's Gateway](#).

 **20 - 21 June 2013**: [LeaderFEST 2013](#)
This event was about exchanging knowledge and experience focused on education in rural areas. It was the fourth meeting of LAG representatives and other representatives of rural space who apply the LEADER method in Czech Republic.

 5 - 7 July 2013: [LAG Summer Festival](#)

The main goal of this [festival](#) is to give an opportunity to local authorities, tourist boards, small and medium enterprises, artisans and family farms to exhibit products and services to 20 000 tourists, in the touristic centre of Croatia's Adriatic coast.

Use the [ENRD online calendar](#) to stay up-to-date with all the latest events!

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