

Name of Rural Network

Det Nationale Netværk
for Udvikling i
Landdistrikter

Landdistrikter.dk



Contact Details

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Mission Statement and Strategic Objectives of the Rural Network

The objective of the National Rural Network (NRN) is to support the implementation of the RDP, to improve coherence between the axes and between the RDP, the European Fisheries Fund (EEF) Programme and other EU programmes.

Main focus and key objectives:

- Improving knowledge and circulation of relevant information among different actors, through the collection and dissemination of best practices;
- Supporting the acquisition of skills;
- Supporting the establishment of a multi-functional network, aimed at building a multi-functional (food) industry and improving diversification activities and the quality of the rural economy;
- Supporting Local Action Group (LAG) activities.

The network's activities should strive to bridge any gaps in communication between local, regional, national and international networks and stakeholders.

Participants in the Rural Network

The Danish NRN has a dynamic structure, involving numerous stakeholders working for the implementation of the objectives of the National Strategy Plan (NSP). It is also involved in networking activities undertaken under the EEF Programme.

The main groups of stakeholders involved in the network include:

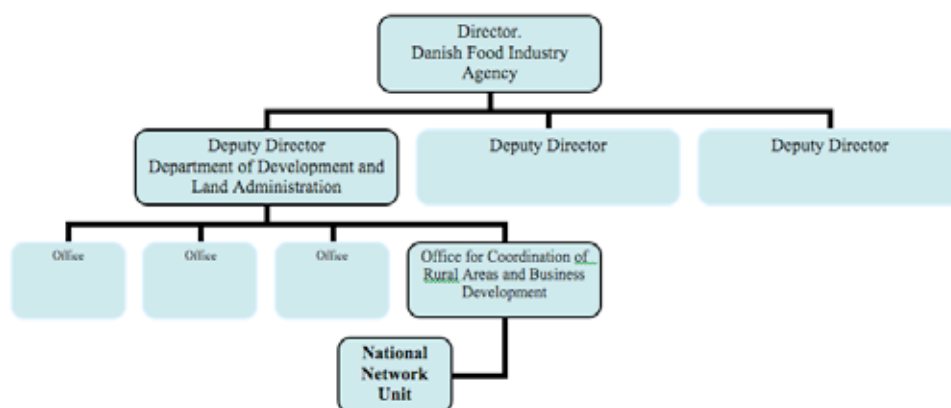
- Regional and local authorities;
- Other ministries involved in rural development;
- Rural development and fisheries monitoring committees;
- Organisations and NGOs involved in rural development;
- LAGs
- Research institutes;
- European organisations;
- Agricultural consultants;
- Stakeholders involved in fisheries activities;
- Others.

In total, 51 LAGs have been selected under the Danish RDP, 12 of which are also involved in fisheries activities.

Network Structure

The Danish Food Industry Agency, which is part of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, is the Managing Authority (MA) and the Paying Agency (PA) of the Danish RDP.

The NRN is located within the Danish Food Industry Agency and its structure includes a Network Support Unit (NSU), established on the 1st of March 2007, which operates as a national secretariat for the NRN as well as for the European Fisheries Areas Network (FARNET, established within the framework of the EFF Programme). The NSU has seven full-time employees.



Network Management

The overall activities and the action plan for the NRN and the Fisheries Network are identified and developed through consultation with organisations, local and regional authorities, LAGs, research institutions and other ministries in charge of rural development policy.

Amongst others, a Coordinator Forum has been set up for the LAG coordinators. The main scope of the forum is to ensure the exchange of information between LAGs and the MA, whilst at the same time providing inputs for policy development and the implementation of the Leader approach.

The NSU is responsible for maintaining links between the Coordinator Forum and the Rural Development and EFF Monitoring Committees.

The NSU also runs an information service (via telephone and e-mail), which provides a single access point of information on the programmes, for stakeholders and the broader public.

Cooperation Interests of the Rural Network

Amongst others, the Danish NRN is interested in developing cooperation activities in relation to the following topics:

- The wider experience of transnational cooperation and networking;
- Networking actions involving the local food sector and small food enterprises;
- Problems specific to remote rural areas – e.g. small islands etc.

In addition to the identified interests, the NRN is also interested in sharing experiences and developing understanding of different aspects of methodology which might be applied to:

- Transnational cooperation and networking;
- Evaluation, impact assessment and indicators;
- Entrepreneurship;
- Communication.

Network Budget for the period 2007–13:

Network budget	€	Budget breakdown	€
Total network funds	5 113 333	Work plan resources	100 000
National co-finance	2 301 000	Network running costs	5 013 000
EAFRD	2 812 333	Others (if appropriate)	5 113 333