Demonstrating the Added Value of Networking

There is a consensus among 'rural networkers' that networks can, and in most cases do, make a valuable contribution to rural development, and in particular to the improvement of Rural Development Programme implementation.

However, the added value of networking is often not understood outside of the 'networking circle'. Managing Authorities in particular need to understand how NRNs can be used as a tool to improve policy. Therefore, networks are facing the specific challenge of demonstrating the added value of networking for those not directly involved in it.

The table below aims to provide support and guidance regarding the added value of networking, listing relevant resources developed and/or shared by the ENRD, in chronological order (from 2014 onwards) in the table below.

Title of resource	Source	Type of resource	MS	Date	Summary	Link
Demonstrating the Added Value of Networking' chapter of 'NRN Guidebook - Networks in transition'	ENRD archive website	Reports & Guidance	All	1/07/2014	The Chapter on 'Demonstrating the Added Value of Networking' highlights the importance of networking as a tool for policy-making. It is particularly important that networks are able to demonstrate the added value of networking, in particular to show how it can be used by MAs as a tool for improving policy.	http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/enrd-static/app_templates/enrd_assets/pdf/guidebook/chapter5.pdf
ENRD 'Stakeholder Involvement' Seminar	Events webpage	Reports & Guidance	All	26/03/2015	During the 1st ENRD Seminar on 'Stakeholder involvement' a specific workshop (No 5) has been devoted to 'Networking as a tool for shaping rural development policy and implementation' and lessons have been drawn in the final report based on outcomes (see in particular p.7 of the report).	https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/sites/enrd/files/uploaded-files/s1_final-report_20150326.pdf

6th NRN Meeting on Stakeholder engagement	Events webpage	Reports & Guidance	All	08/11/2016	The 6th NRNs' meeting discussed network governance in terms of structure and role of the NRNs. It further addressed links with stakeholders and how exchanges are fostered within and between EU Member States. The main ENRD CP tools in support of NRNs were also presented and discussed.	https://enrd.ec.europa.eu/news-events/events/6th-nrns-meeting_en