

## Background

According to Article 84 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), the 90 national and respectively regional Rural Development Programmes as well as four National Rural Network Programmes are subject to ex ante, mid-term and ex post evaluations.

The four countries with specific National Rural Network Programmes are Germany, Italy, Spain and Portugal. During the analysis of the mid-term evaluations of these programmes it has become clear that the Common Indicators and Evaluation Questions are not sufficiently developed to evaluate Network Programmes. This made it necessary to introduce programme-specific indicators and evaluation questions which are consistent with the overall and specific objectives of the NRNPs.

Concerning indicators, mainly outputs have been assessed, using mostly qualitative methods and narratives to reflect the progress made. Besides problems posed by the late start of the programme (particularly in Portugal) the definition of quantifiable indicators has been seen as a major challenge.

The MTEs' conclusions and recommendations focused on action plan delivery, management issues, networking, monitoring and evaluation. They rarely address the programme design.

Read more:  
<http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/evaluation/>

## How to reach the meeting venue?



## Contact

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for Rural Development  
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## Good Practice Workshop

# Evaluation of National Rural Network Programmes

**Brussels, 7 February 2012**  
**9:00 to 16:30**

**Venue information:**  
Evaluation Helpdesk

*Participation is limited to 35 persons and  
is therefore subject to confirmation.*

Please [register online](#)  
or write to [jela@ruralevaluation.eu](mailto:jela@ruralevaluation.eu)



## Background

The Helpdesk of the European Evaluation Network for Rural Development has organised in May 2010 a first workshop "Evaluation of National Rural Network Programmes" in order to discuss key elements of the evaluation of NRNPs. A Working Paper has been published in July 2010.

## Objective

After the mid-term evaluation it is now time to

- reflect on the evaluation approaches taken for evaluating National Rural Network Programmes
- exchange about strengths and weaknesses of methodologies used;
- draw key lessons learned for ongoing and ex post evaluation.

## Main target audience

Evaluators, Managing Authorities of National Rural Network Programmes.

## Method

Interactive discussions animated by thematic experts. Working language: English

## Outcome

The workshop documentation will be published on the website of the Evaluation Expert Network and feeds into the update of the Working Paper and the future framework for monitoring and evaluation.

## Agenda morning

### 09.30 Introductory session

- Opening and Welcome H. Wimmer
- Expectations of the participants - exercise J. Tvrdonova
- Introductory Presentation A. Sanopoulos
- Added value of networks - exercise A. Sanopoulos  
J. Tvrdonova

### 10.15 Coffee break

### 10.30 Exchange session

- Intervention logics of NRNPs A. Sanopoulos  
Evaluators
- Discussion of findings in plenary

### 12.00 Lunch

## Agenda afternoon

### 13.30 Analytical session

- Addressing the assessment of impacts of NRNPs – group exercise A. Sanopoulos  
J. Tvrdonova

### 15.00 Coffee break

### 15.15 Summary session

- Presentation of group work results A. Sanopoulos  
Evaluators
- Discussion in plenary

### 16.00 Closing the workshop

- In which way will the workshop results be used? H. Wimmer
- Outlook to future