

## Name of Rural Network

Le réseau rural français



## Contact Details

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## Mission Statement and Strategic Objectives of the Rural Network

- The general objectives of the rural network include:

- To facilitate relationships between actors in rural areas;
- To support the design of integrated projects;
- To improve quality and expertise for projects financed, amongst others, through EAFRD.

- The French rural network aims at being close to actors' concerns and at adjusting its actions in line with their needs. The French NRN is a technical network, targeted at concrete and operational actions. The network thanks to his knowledge and experience can also help the transition to future policies at local or national level. The attractiveness of territories was defined as the major thematic axis for the actions of the network.

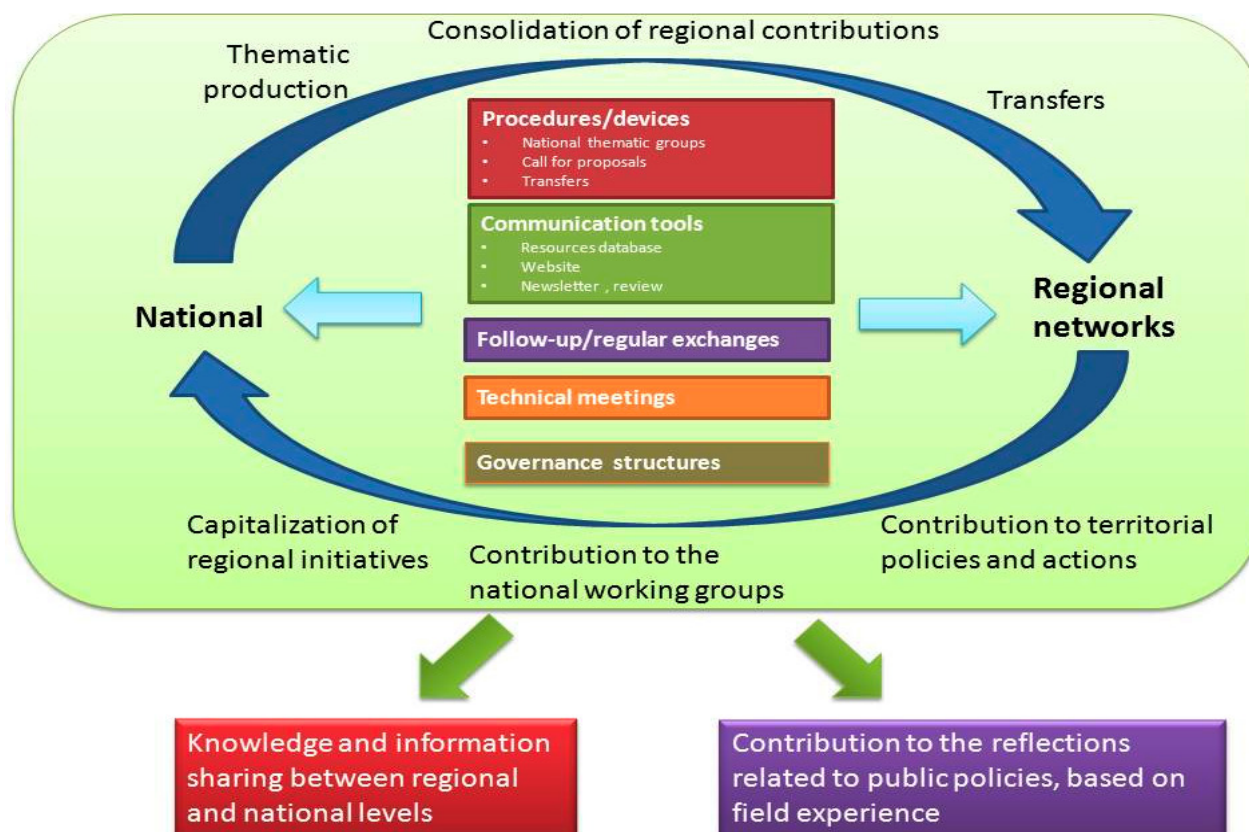
## Participants in the Rural Network

- The network is characterized by an informal on-going membership open to the public sector (administrations) and to stakeholder organizations (unions, associations, universities, etc.). The membership is not open to individuals.

## Network Structure

- The French Network Support Unit (NSU) is not established within the Managing Authority and is not delegated to a ministerial agency or other institution but it is outsourced.
- France has several regional NSUs, which are either within the Managing authority, delegated to other regional institution or outsourced.
- The NSU's Human Resources include:
  - Networking, meetings, communication: 3 full time
  - Webmaster, capitalization of best practices: 1
  - Support to cooperation: Part-time officer

- Organogram of the network:



## Network Management

- The collegiate composition of the General Assembly and Standing Committee ensures the involvement of all actors in the decision-making process (seven colleges and 25 members for the Standing Committee). The Standing Committee defined three work themes of the national network to be addressed in the first two years. The work themes are based on the discussion work lead during the seminar that launched the network in December 2008 and they are important topics identified by the work programs of the 26 regional networks.
- New subjects for the national thematic groups have been determined for next year. The thematic groups will be: services, green

building sector, entrepreneurship, spatial planning.

- Working groups are national and bring together actors from national level and representatives of interested regional networks. All together they will ensure coordination and consistency with local operations.
- Information on actions and dissemination of the results are presented in the national website, which is the main communication medium for the network.
- From 2010, a communication plan has been developed and implemented by the NSU. The plan includes the renovation of the web site, the launch of a newsletter and a magazine, the construction of tools for the dissemination of video reports for the capitalization of best practices and experiences, etc.
- Every 3 months, a special committee (Comité d'Orientation Stratégique) allows national authorities to assign the NSU with priorities. At regional level every network uses its own decision-making procedures.
- Internal communication is ensured by the 26 regional correspondents, who relay the national information to local level, and vice versa. As an average, the correspondents meet every three-month with the NSU.
- Monitoring and assessment procedures for the whole network activities are carried out externally, supported by the national monitoring committee of the EAFRD.
- The NSU follows up the decision-making process, works with the members to make proposals and to prepare all decision-making process steps.

### Network Budget for the period 2007–13

Network budget		€	Budget breakdown		€
Total network funds (Public Cost)		40.000.000	Total Network funds (Public Costs)		40.000.000
National co-finance		20.000.000	Work plan resources		/
EAFRD		20.000.000	Network running costs		/
EAFRD Co-financing %		50 %	Others (if appropriate)		/