



Virtual Think Tank Session

*'Information flow, communication and coordination
for the CLLD delivery system'*

Preparatory document

CLLD Cluster
June 2014

Funded by the



ENRD *Connecting Rural Europe*
<http://enrd.ec.europa.eu>

Background of the event:

What? Virtual Think Tank (VTT) session for CLLD cluster members on:

Information flow, communication and coordination among key national stakeholders (Managing authorities of EU Funds supporting CLLD, Paying Agencies, National Rural Networks) in relation to planning and setting up CLLD delivery system

When? 14:00 – 16:00 (Brussels time), 27 May 2014

Who? Up to 10 people representatives of MAs, PA and NRN actively involved in the ENRD CLLD Cluster and responsible for implementation of and support to LEADER and CLLD 2014-2020

Objective Exchange information and ideas on communication and coordination mechanisms related to **CLLD programming, implementation and support** which can be further enhanced and disseminated among interested CLLD cluster members.

Background

A thematic cluster on CLLD was formed and launched in 2013 under the guidance of the Hungarian NRN. More information http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/themes/clld/en/clld_en.cfm. In addition an exchange forum on MyENRD was set. This VTT is conducted with the aim to support discussion among CLLD cluster members and their continuous efforts to assist preparation for CLLD in their respective member states.

Why this topic?

The system and methodology of CLLD is new and will be implemented in several countries as planned in their partnership agreements. There are various strategic decisions that each administration is making in relation to defining criteria for eligible areas for support, for selection of integrated LDSs which will receive funding from more than one funds, etc., intensified dialogue and exchange of information seems to be needed as a viable basis to make all those decisions. Mechanisms which allow for exchange of information, for consultation and for learning to help not to continuously re-invent the wheel seem to be an important basis for CLLD implementation in each country.

Discussion questions

- **What is the information that stakeholders need to exchange?**
 - Are these hard facts on expert-level
 - Should a FAQ (frequently asked questions) database be built up
 - Can we select in the VTT a few themes around “most needed”

- **What coordination is needed?**
 - This depends mainly on those who finally like to exchange information
 - What mechanisms on EU level could be useful?

Preparation of participants

- Each participant confirms participation through a subscription link on Doodle
- Each participants prepares input from their institutional and expert point of view on the discussion questions (3-5 minutes) to share in the first part of the VTT session
- Each participant conducts a short technology testing session (5-10 minutes) with the help of ENRD prior to the VTT
- The required technical equipment includes: **headphones with microphone and very good internet connection!** Required software: **Adobe flash player can be downloaded for free** prior to the meeting

Connecting for testing and participation

- In order to access the meeting room for testing and participation, the participant needs to **click on <http://emea71777839.adobeconnect.com/r9s1k7no9sq/> and write down his/her name.**
- Before speaking, participants must **activate the microphone button at the top part of their screen**
- Everyone will be muted during the meeting, they can listen to the discussion;
- Whoever wants to intervene, he/she activate/click on the **raise hand** button and he/she can be heard by the others
- The participants can also **use the chat to write down their ideas** (especially if there are technical problems)
- The meeting will be recorded for possible further sharing
- ENRD CP will contact all signed up participants to test technology the tool prior to the meeting which would not take more than 10 minutes

Facilitation and conducting of the meeting

The meeting will be supported by a **host and a secretary. The host for the VTT will be Thomas Muller, LAG Manager Austria**

Process of the meeting

- Presentation round
- Individual input
- Open discussion
- Final round
- Closing the Think Tank
- Follow up
- Finalizing the memo

Additional questions

- **What are the possible mechanisms to do this?**
 - Which information-systems should be installed for coordination: Skype, Social Networks, Adobe Connection, some kind of online-forum
 - Should it be an internal platform only for registered members, or can anyone take part in the information flow
- **Could a central forum/platform/group between MA's, PA's and NRN be helpful?**
 - Who should provide and finance this
 - What are the main forum themes
 - When should it start
- **Does this need professional knowledge-management or should it be only informal exchange?**
 - Who will be the editor of the content
 - Is a permanent host needed
 - Can public funding be used for a permanent staff editing/hosting the information flow
- **Which type of information/Know How can be exchanged?**
 - Experts Know How on all levels
 - Templates for forms, letters, applications
 - Information on webpages and other info-materials
 - Internal process-management – how to manage multiple fund application
- **What is the expected output/outcome of such a mechanism? Or what other mechanisms can be proposed?**
 - Who is the beneficiary of such an exchange
 - Are there alternatives (except regularly meetings somewhere, organised by the NRN or Contact Point or EC)
 - Does the outcome justify the high effort in installing and servicing such a system
- **Is it realistic, that MA/PA/NRN's will continuously share information, their innovation; do the professionals have enough time and motivation for this?**
 - Finally, if a permanent information system is installed, how can you get the guarantee that it will be not only be a lip service, that it will be animated and used on a high level
 - Would YOU use it and HAVE TIME to service it