



EN RD Thematic Working Groups 1, 2 & 3

Results as at December 2010

5th Coordination committee meeting

Brussels, 9 December 2010



Connecting Rural Europe



Content of the presentation

1. Phase 1: TWG 1, 2 & 3 overview and results to date
2. Phase 2: Communication and Dissemination



Thematic Working Groups 1, 2 & 3

PHASE 1: Overview and results to date

- Launched between February – April 2009
- Analytical work completed
- Results now finalised
- Final reports of TWGs now available





TWG1

Targeting territorial specificities and needs

- Concepts of rurality vary significantly between MS and the OECD definition used in only ~40% of cases
- Considering territorial needs - strong awareness found of the potential for complementarity – with other funds particularly with ERDF – ESF – EFF
- Overall a fair level of coherence was found in the different programming stages including the definition of territories



TWG1

Targeting territorial specificities and needs

- Considering 9 factors and over 20 specific indicators
- **Three common 'Building Blocks' for a possible new typology of rural areas have been developed**

based on

- Physical handicap
 - Environmental sensitivity
 - Socio-economic (dis)advantage
- Additionally, consideration has been given to specific typology factors relevant for the 'new challenges'





TWG2

Agriculture and the wider rural economy

- In depth quantitative and qualitative (survey based) research in 18 rural NUTS 3 regions around the EU
- At programming level:
 - ✓ limited policy coherence and consistency in the support of the linkages between agriculture and the wider economy
 - ✓ Initiatives (supported by RD funds) able to create successful linkages would benefit from a more cross-cutting and integrated approach





TWG2



Agriculture and the wider rural economy

- At project level:
 - Wide range of projects found to promote, create or strengthen linkages
 - Local people / entrepreneurial spirit are key main drivers in building linkages
 - High impact of local institutional arrangements
- Possible policy implications to consider include:
 - For the current programming period – possibility for improved selection criteria and technical support at the project level
 - For the future – [more] explicit recognition of the multiplier effect of agriculture - 'embedding' linkages between agriculture and other sectors of the economy in the programming framework – more focussed territorial targeting





TWG3

Public Goods and public intervention

The '**Conceptual framework**' underpins the rationale of public goods:

- The **characteristics of public goods** (non-excludability and non-rivalry) imply free-rider behaviour (use without payment). In the absence of incentives, societal needs are **not matched by supply**.
- With missing markets, **policy intervention** is needed to secure a desirable level of provision of public goods such as:
 - **Food security**: retaining the capacity to produce
 - Managing **natural resources**: water and soil
 - **Climate stability**: carbon sequestration and emission reduction
 - **Resilience** to **flooding** and **fire**
 - Preserving farmland **biodiversity and landscapes**
 - **Rural vitality**: Place-based customs, skills, and social capital



TWG3

Public Goods and public intervention

EAFRD provides an important **programming framework** for the provision of public goods. Screening of 88 RD programmes identified a wide range of **relevant measures** within the following categories:

- Area based **land management payments** incentivise farmers to provide specific public goods
- **Investments** in physical assets and infrastructure underpin the provision of specific public goods
- **Training, knowledge transfer,** and **capacity** building represent the very basis for rural viability.

SMART targeting, consistent programming, transparent administration, effective monitoring and evaluation, and sufficient budgetary resource were identified as main **criteria for successful delivery.**

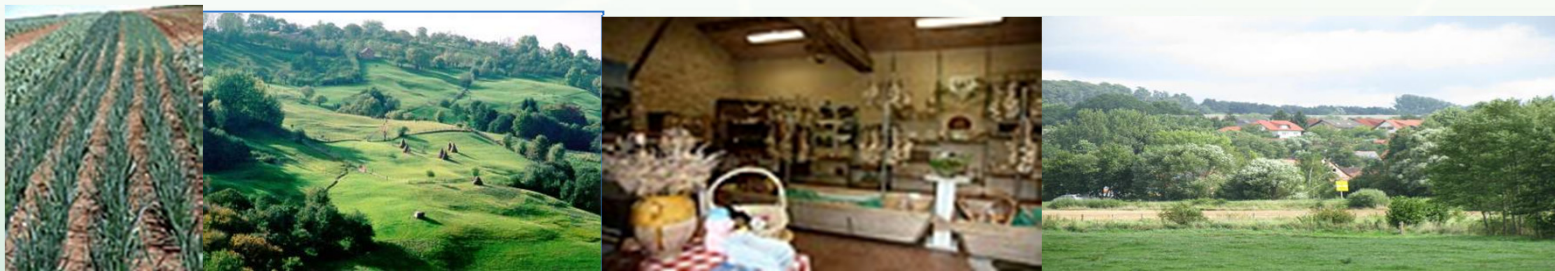




Thematic Working Groups 1, 2 & 3

PHASE 2: Communication and dissemination

- **TWG1:** Summary report and presentation focusing on the typology 'building blocks', themed articles and case studies
- **TWG2:** Synthesis report, articles on selected regions, 24 project case studies (2007-13 projects included in the EN RD Projects database)
- **TWG3:** Synthesis report finalised (based on screening of 88 programmes); brochure produced; PG seminar ([tomorrow!](#)), Rural Review issue devoted to PGs





For more information please visit EN RD website:

- **TWG1:** http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/thematic-initiatives/twg1/en/twg1_home_en.cfm
- **TWG2:** http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/thematic-initiatives/twg2/en/twg2_home_en.cfm
- **TWG3:** http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/thematic-initiatives/twg3/en/twg3_home_en.cfm

