IPARD 2014-2020 and National Rural Networks

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Main changes over the current IPA

- ✓ Comprehensive country strategies
- ✓ Supported by relevant national sector strategies
- ✓ No differentiation between countries in access to assistance (access to IPARD II by both candidate and potential candidate countries)
- ✓ Sector agriculture and rural development: capacity building + rural development programme

IPARD II

- ✓ Policy continuation with improvements
- ✓ Multiannual programme with measures
- ✓ Managing Authority, IPARD Agency, National Authoring Officer retain their core roles
- ✓ Measures and eligibility conditions set out in Commission's guidelines
- ✓ Programmes to be adopted by end 2014.

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IPARD II measures (1)

✓ Investments in physical assets in agricultural holdings

✓ Support for the setting up of producer groups

✓ Investments in physical assets concerning processing and marketing of agricultural and fishery products

✓ Agri-environment

✓ LEADER

✓ Investments in rural public infrastructure

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IPARD II measures (2)

✓ Farm diversification and business development
✓ Improvement of training
✓ Technical assistance
✓ Advisory services
✓ Forestry

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Main adjustment in the measures

- Investments on farms / processing: gradual adjustment to EU standards, more flexibility for conditions on national standards

- Diversification: higher rate intensity

- New measure for advisory services both in agriculture and beyond

- New measure for forestry: a wide set of actions

LEADER measure (1): actions

Acquisition of skills, animating the inhabitants of LAG territories for capacity building and animation of selected LAGs;

Implementation of local development strategies: running selected LAGs and implementation of small projects from "Start-up tool kit";

Cooperation projects for inter territorial or transnational projects; to be implemented at a later stage, by more experienced LAGs.

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LEADER measure (2): small projects / start-up kit

- Selection and management of small projects shall be explained in LDSs and proposed actions shall be in line with LDS.

- Operations of the small value: EUR 1 000 – 5 000 should support, e.g. cultural events, promotion of local products, renovation or construction of cultural and natural heritage, investment in cultural goods, etc.

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Technical assistance

- Capacity building for potential LAGs

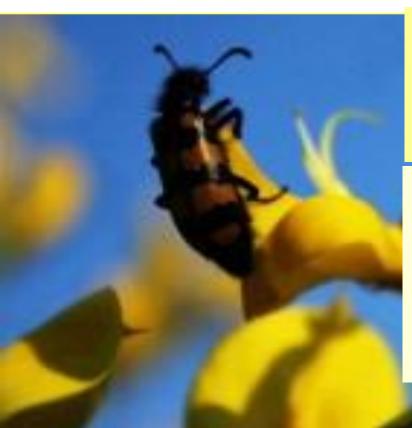- Networking activities: providing support for the future implementation of a national rural network.

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National Rural Networks in Member States and possibility under IPARD

NRN under IPARD – model from Member States, but approach not so demanding

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The **NRN groups the organisations and administrations involved in Rural Development [Article 55(1) of RDR].**

The **NRN must include the Partnership under Article 5 of the Common Provisions, *i.e.:***

✓ **competent public authorities;**

✓ **economic and social partners;**

✓ **bodies representing the civil society.**

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Objectives and tasks of the NRNs

Objectives/ Tasks	Involve stake-holders	Improve the quality of RDP implementation	Inform the broader public and potential beneficiaries	Foster innovation
Thematic and analytical exchanges between stakeholders, sharing and dissemination of findings	✓	✓	✓	
Share and disseminate monitoring and evaluation findings	✓	✓	✓	
Networking activities for advisors and innovation support services		✓		✓
Collection of examples of projects covering all RDP priorities		✓	✓	
Training and networking activities for LAGS	✓	✓		✓
Publicity and information concerning the RDP, information and communication activities aimed at a broader public		✓	✓	
Participate in and contribute to the ENRD activities	✓	✓	✓	✓

Implementing Rules:
NRN Establishment and Functioning

National Rural Network	Start at <u>the latest 12 months</u> after the approval of the RDP: • Organisation • Action Plan
	<u>Sufficient resources</u> should be allocated to NRN activities
Network Support Unit	<u>Structure</u>: • within the national authorities • by selection through tendering • by a combination of both
	<u>Tasks</u>: • NSU must be able to perform all tasks (as in Basic Act)

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Implementing Rules: Programming in Member States

RDP Technical Assistance Measure	a) Procedure and timetable for establishing the NRN
	b) NRN Organisation (e.g. governance bodies, membership)
	c) NSU structure and procedure
	d) Main categories of activity to be undertaken by the NRN
	e) Resources available

NRN Guidance:
Structures and governance

NRN membership	• **Openness (wide membership)** • **Open access to activities**
NRN governance	• **at least a coordinating body** • **thematic groups**
NSU	• **Continuity of activities** • **Good coordination**

Thank you and have a successful workshop

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