

NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK SUMMARY INFORMATION

Hungary

Name of Rural Network

Magyar Nemzeti Vidéki Hálózat (Hungarian National Rural Network)



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Mission Statement and Strategic Objectives of the Rural Network

- The primary goal of the network is to support the implementation of the Hungarian Rural Development Programme, putting particular emphasis on the economic and social development of rural areas. Furthermore the HNRN's aim is the networking of the rural development stakeholders, to implement the work plans of the 4 sections, to develop workshop topics, to involve the rural development stakeholders to its activities and to organize trainings.
- The specific aims of the rural network include :
 - Deliver useful and sustainable services and via the network registration to reach as many rural stakeholders as possible;
 - Ensuring the possibility to exchange experiences and know-how, disseminating the best practices, launching and managing a project database;
 - Ensuring assistance to facilitate territorial and international cooperation;
 - · Represent the interests and values of the nation at European level;
 - · Ensuring the harmonized operation of the HNRN;
 - Ensuring the personal and material conditions of the operation;
 - Cooperating with the Managing authority of NHRDP;
 - Cooperating with the Paying Agency and other contributing authorities;
 - Facilitate the cooperation of rural development institutions and organizations;
 - Participating in the work of ENRD and cooperating with other National Rural Networks;
 - Generate discussions amongst the political, public and professional organizations;
 - Implement common goals with other organizations through cooperation agreements.

Participants in the Rural Network

- The network is characterized by an on-going formal membership open to the public sector, to the stakeholder organizations and to individuals.
- Registration for membership is open to anyone involved or interested in agriculture and rural development, including: individuals; local governments; micro-regional associations; medium, small and micro-businesses; registered societies, social and interest groups; higher education institutes; professional and commercial chambers; and legally registered religious groups. There is no membership fee and no obligation arising from registration.

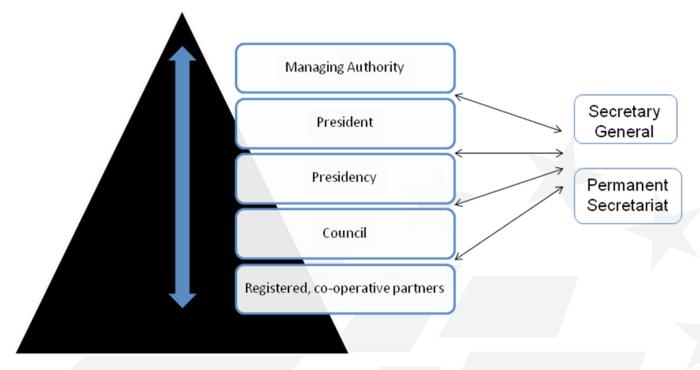


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Network Structure

- The NSU (the Permanent Secretariat of the Hungarian NRN) is not outsourced and operates within the National Agricultural Advisory, Educational and Rural Development Institute (NAERDI). Network services are provided by the Permanent Secretariat with the support of the NAERDI. The Permanent Secretariat, led by the Secretary General is the operative body of the HNRN acting in accordance with its scope of tasks and duties:
 - Ensures the creation of an intense direct relationship of governmental bodies, rural economic and social organizations;
 - Ensures the exchange of information between the Council, the Presidency and those registered by the HNRN;
 - Liaises with the participants of the European Network for Rural Development (ENRD), international organizations and institutions with a similar function.
- The tasks of the Project Coordination Unit of the HNRN Networking and Project Coordination Directorate are associated with the calls for proposal for implementation of rural development projects and with the operation of application system. It also controls the enforcement of implementation of project and the efficient and proper use of the managed funds.
- The network does not have regional NSUs.
- NSU's Human Resources include:
 - One Director of the HNRN Networking and Project Coordination Directorate.
 - One Head of Unit of the HNRN Permanent Secretariat and 5 full-time staff.
 - One Head of Unit of the Project Coordination Unit and 9 full-time staff.
- Present structure of the HNRN:





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Network Management

- Management decisions in the network involve more or less a formal decision-making process. The HNRN decision-making process involves the NSU formulating the NRN action plan, forming opinions and taking position on relevant issues. It expresses its opinion to the Government and to the relevant Ministries relating to rural development strategy.
- The Presidency participates in the formation of the action plan of HNRN, forms opinion in professional issues, and takes a position on different issues. It offers its opinion about strategic issues of rural development upon the request of the Government or the ministers. The president represents the unity of professional and civil bodies of HNRN. The elected president is academician Bálint Csatári. The president represents the HNRN, leads and represents the Presidency, and the Council. He engages in a dialogue with the organizations interested in rural development.
- The Council is the supreme interest reconciliation body of the HNRN, held its statutory meeting on 30th September, 2011. It can form its opinion on national, European and international rural policy, and as result of its composition it can act as a mediator at a national level of the interests of parties interested in rural policy. Its responsibility is to ensure that proposals for improvement in relation to the countryside should be formed, and a useful dialogue, joint action and international relationship to promote the development of the countryside. It currently has 120 organizational and private members with a voting right. The council's meetings are public, are open to visitors.
- The Secretary General Dávid Mezőszentgyörgyi PhD, leads the implementation of the action plan of the HNRN, the operation of HNRN and the Permanent Secretariat. He mediates between persons, organizations interested in rural development. He makes proposals related to the scope of services to be offered for the registered and participating parties.
- The Permanent Secretariat led by the Secretary General is the operative body of the HNRN.
- Coordination tasks are the responsibility of the Secretary General of the HNRN. Stakeholder consultation is conducts through the HNRN registration process and through the work and involvement of the NRN Council. Delivery of network services and in particular the organization of events, training, study trips, network stimulation and the provision of member services are undertaken by the NSU, together with the NAERDI.