



ENRD Thematic Working Group 4

Delivery mechanisms of EU Rural Development Policy



Connecting Rural Europe

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Chairperson

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Members

Download the list of the TWG4 Members: [PDF [en](#)]

Mandate and specific objectives

The overall mandate of TWG4 "Delivery mechanisms of EU rural development policy" is to reflect on possible solutions to improve the design and implementation of EU rural development policy, making the policy delivery more efficient and effective. The specific aim is:

to review the delivery mechanisms of EU rural policies, in selected Member States, at all relevant institutional levels, in order to identify those aspects that are working well and less well, good practices and suggestions for desirable improvements.

Delivery mechanisms may be considered as the set of processes and procedures which are employed to translate the objectives of the policy into the final implementation actions by the recipients of the funds. They are a key factor in achieving the objectives of EU rural policy and directly impact on the overall value added of the policy. Two dimensions are considered by the TWG4:

1. the way in which different stages of the programming cycle for rural development are managed (the issues);
2. different tiers of actors (administration, stakeholders and beneficiaries) involved in the policy implementation.

TWG 4 assesses the variety of delivery mechanisms put in place for the different stages of the programming cycle and, through all the steps, between relevant levels of the governance system from the top to the bottom (EU, national, regional, sub-regional, obligations of final beneficiaries).

Activities

12 Member State case studies have been conducted in two steps to assess the delivery mechanisms of the EU rural development policy. They were selected in order to include a range of differentiated delivery systems:

Step 1

Austria
Bulgaria
Ireland
Italy - Emilia Romagna region
Latvia
Spain – Catalonia region

Step 2

Denmark
France – Hexagon (i.e. mainland France)
Germany – Rhineland Palatinate Länder
Greece
Hungary
Poland

The main source of information for the TWG has been therefore the 12 case studies. However other relevant findings coming from the analytical work conducted by ENRD was also taken into account to complement the analysis. These include findings from the Thematic Working Group 1 and the Leader subcommittee Focus Groups.

The Final report of the group presents the findings of this extensive analytical activity and includes:

- A summary of the case studies by topic (delivery step) highlighting:
 1. Who does what
 2. Assessment of difficulties and how they have been dealt with
 3. What has worked well and suggestions for future improvements
- Conclusions identifying possible areas for improvement in the delivery mechanisms of the EU rural development policy