

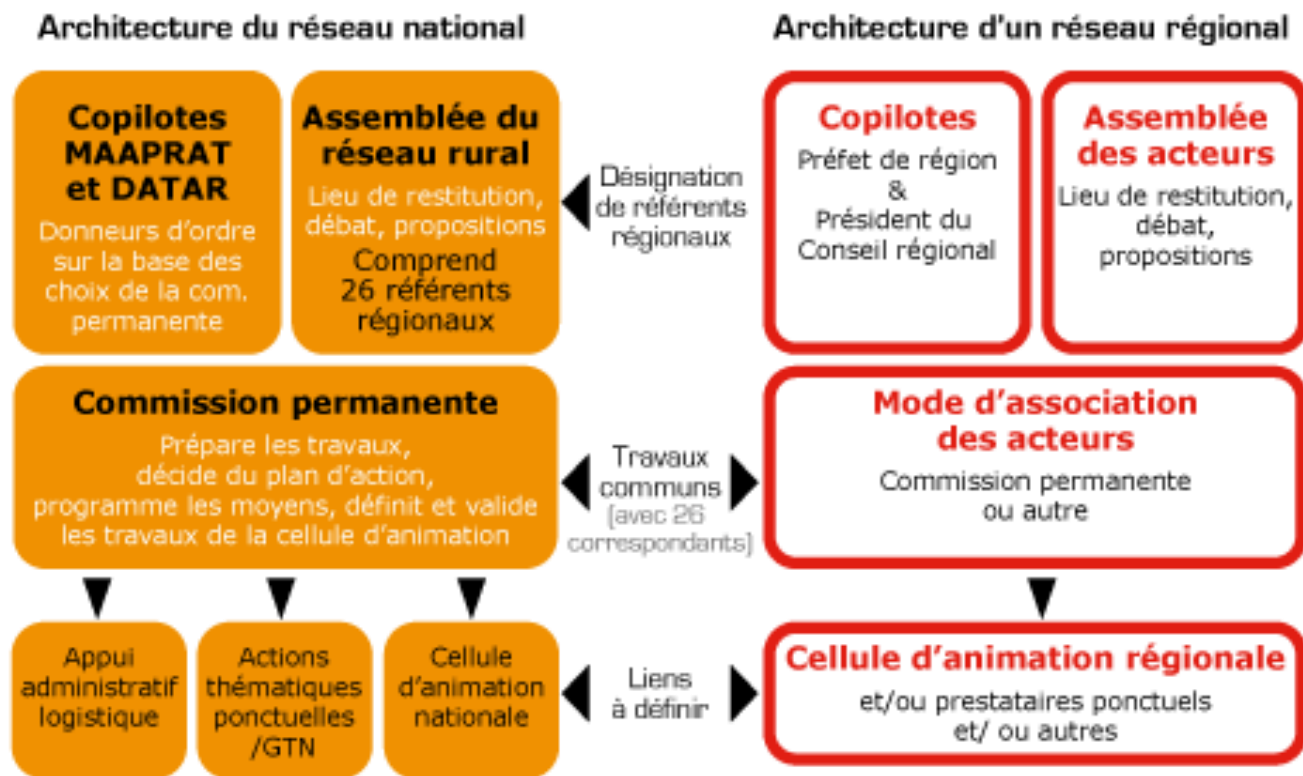
Connecting Rural Europe

Learning from the past: preparing for the future

2 June 2014

The french rural network 2007-2013

Réseau rural français =
Réseau national + 26 Réseaux régionaux + leur articulation



How the French NRN has engaged with the ENRD over 2007-2013

- **Participation in European meetings:** ENRD Coordination committee, Leader sub-committee, NRN meetings
- **Participation in working groups, focus group, clusters** (LEADER, Short supply chains...)
- **Host of the 20th NRN meeting in Dijon (Nov. 2013)**
- **Communication of good practices**

How useful have the activities of the ENRD been to the French NRN?

- The work has permitted:
 - To develop European tools in France
 - To better identify good examples from other countries
 - To promote the French experience
 - To support LEADER cooperation



Use of ENRD tools and methods

Found useful in France:

- Thematic focus groups
- Profile sheets prior to seminars
- Cooperation offers and 'appointments'
- Cooperation fairs



The ways of working



- Interactive animation methods that promote exchanges
- Sometimes requests at very short notice!
- Many useful products but a challenge to use them effectively



What worked well; what was missing

- Meetings and seminars have been really helpful
- What we missed :
 - seminars on cooperation early in the programme (to “decomplex” LAGs)
 - a strong European platform to support cooperation
 - videos: translated and that can be used as animation tools



Suggestions for future improvements

Some general suggestions:

- Strengthen the benchmarks between countries
- Facilitate cooperation between countries
- Create links with other regional networks (urban, coastal, border ...)



Suggestions for future improvements

Some operational suggestions:

- Thematic events earlier in the programming period
- Translation of documents and reports into more EU languages
- A directory of contacts from national rural networks
- A capitalization plan



Suggestions for future improvements

And of course continue to organize social events to strengthen partnerships !

