Seminar Capacity Building for National Rural networks

Workshop A: Strategic Framework for national Rural Networks

John Lougheed
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Aim of Network
-Art. 67 of Reg. 1698/2005

- Collect, disseminate and consolidate at Community level good practice

- Provide information on developments in the Community's rural areas and in 3rd countries

- Organise meetings and seminars at Community level for those actively involved in Rural development

- Collect, analyse +disseminate information on Rural Development measures

Aims -continued

- Set up and run expert networks with a view to facilitating an exchange of expertise and supporting implementation and evaluation of the rural development policy

- Support the national networks and transnational cooperation initiatives.

How to Network – Art. 68 of Reg.

- Action plan
  - AWP for European Network
  - Action plan for National Rural Networks, containing <u>at least</u>:
    - Good transferable practices
    - Network management
    - Organisation of exchange of experience + know-how
    - Preparation of training courses for LAGS in formation
    - Technical assistance for inter-territorial and transnational cooperation.

How ambitious should we be?

Commission expectations

- To collect structured feed-backs from implementation of Rural development, reflecting territorial, thematic and operational concerns.

- To develop activities based on common goals, with a strong potential to promote training and knowledge development.

- To reinforce the efficiency of the rural development policy, contributing to the better designing of rural development programmes by:
  - accurately targeting the needs identified in the national strategy plans,
  - and responding to the European strategic guidelines for rural development.

- To create dynamic meetings and debates on shared concerns for the present and for the future of rural areas.

- To secure communication between stakeholders at all levels.

Issues to be resolved

Balance of work

- European/national/regional/local

- Issues to be tackled

- Methods of networking

- Individual/group/traditional/electronic/formal/informal

- Resources of time, funding, support organisations.

Strategic approach

- Strategy concentrating effort on key issues

- Formal structure involving stakeholders

- Based on consultation of stakeholders

- Balance of issues, methods

- Deployment of resources

- Use of different media and methods

- Use of support structures (national, Contact Point, existing organisations).

- Prioritising work