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.
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
IPARD II measures (2)

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

• Capacity building for potential LAGs

• Networking activities: providing support for the future implementation of a national rural network.
National Rural Networks in Member States and possibility under IPARD

NRN under IPARD – model from Member States, but approach not so demanding
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.
Objectives and tasks of the NRNs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks</th>
<th>Objectives/Tasks</th>
<th>Involve stakeholders</th>
<th>Improve the quality of RDP implementation</th>
<th>Inform the broader public and potential beneficiaries</th>
<th>Foster innovation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thematic and analytical exchanges between stakeholders, sharing and dissemination of findings</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Share and disseminate monitoring and evaluation findings</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networking activities for advisors and innovation support services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collection of examples of projects covering all RDP priorities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training and networking activities for LAGS</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publicity and information concerning the RDP, information and communication activities aimed at a broader public</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>Participate in and contribute to the ENRD activities</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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## Implementing Rules:
NRN Establishment and Functioning

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

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

NRN = National Rural Network
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