



NRN objectives

The German NRN defined **four objectives** in line with the mandatory objectives set by EU Regulation No 1305/2013, and a further NRN-specific objective.

 **Download Germany NRN Programme (DE)**

-  Foster the **participation of stakeholders** in implementing rural development programs
-  Make a contribution to the **quality** of rural development programs
-  **Inform** the broader public and potential beneficiaries concerning politics for rural development,
-  Facilitate **knowledge transfer and innovation** in agriculture, forestry, and food production
-  Be **active in networking** at European level

Regional NRN Structures

- Only **four federal states (Länder)** are running their own EAFRD (and mostly LEADER-related) networks, but the administration at Länder-level also provides RDP information.
- The German Network Unit (DVS) organises **exchange meetings** with these local networks in combination with other events like fairs or LAG-meetings.
- There is also a close contact with the elected **LAG spokesmen** at Länder-level and the **federal LAG umbrella organisation (BAGLAG)**. This provides good insights on the demands of LAGs (321 in Germany).



Membership

- **Informal membership** within the German Rural Network and no application process.
- Most relevant topics, implementation problems and informational needs are identified in cooperation with stakeholders from federal and Länder (federal states) ministries and representatives from NGOs, academia or practitioners.

*How to
become a
member?*

*How to get
involved?*

- All stakeholders can **participate** in the different initiatives, propose actions or cooperate in the development of activities.
- NRN funding is restricted to a set of decentralised **trainings and workshops** in different thematic fields. Interested parties have to apply with a minimum number of participants and in some fields with a described objective (twinning approach).
- Active partners in the network can cooperate in project **lines** from DVS (e.g. publications, events) and can so become part of the NRN action plan.

The NSU and RDP management

The NSU and the Federal Ministry

- The German Network Unit (DVS) is a **sub-division of the Federal Office for Agriculture and Food** (Bundesanstalt für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung, BLE).
- DVS is assigned by the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL)



The NSU and the Monitoring Committee

- DVS is present at Länder monitoring committees.
- Often project cooperation with DVS takes place at Länder-level or below.

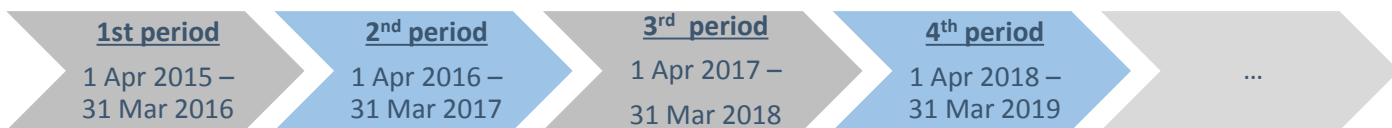
The NSU and Regional-level MAs

- Activities of the national rural network are **coordinated with the Managing Authorities of the regional RDPs** from the federal states (Länder).
- The German Rural Network organises **continuous exchange opportunities**, such as workshops related to key themes. Staff from the Managing Authority participates in these exchanges: there is close relationship, for example, with MA managers for the measures related to LEADER and Agri-environment.
- DVS staff takes part in several **coordination meetings and committees**: e.g. there is quite close relations with regional administrations.

NRN Governance

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- The **Network steering Committee** meets once a year and decides about the working programme (which is developed together with stakeholders, managing Authorities and other network-partners in advance).
 - The federal level is mostly represented by umbrella organisations. DVS itself is part of the steering committees on Länder-level (13 programs in Germany).
 - The German NRN also participates in many **working groups of network partners**.

Timeline of NRN Workplans



 [Download: Annual Work Programme of the German Network \(DE\)](#)

NRN Self-Assessment



Self-evaluation is carried out mainly through **feedback forms** from participants to events and **surveys** to readers from publications/web-users.

Communication

Intensity of providing information for different target groups

Information provided



1st level:
Basic information provision

Basic information is provided by the NSU media for a broader public concerning introductions to specific and cross-cutting themes, but also on scientific and political developments.



2nd level:
Analysis and dissemination of approaches & projects

Second level is to **analyse and disseminate innovative measures, approaches and projects**. Identified and processed – partly through partners – and disseminated by media, events and trainings.



3rd level:
Engagement of stakeholders

Third level is **attendance and transfer of integrated and cooperative approaches**. Besides analysis and transfer, this might be cooperation with people in charge for specific measures, a series of accompanying events, support concerning decision making and partnering including LEADER and EIP.

NRN Resources

Financial resources (2014-2020)

Budget (€)

Total NRN public funds:	10 000 000
Out of which national co-financing:	5 000 000
Out of which EAFRD:	5 000 000

Human resources (NSU)

No

Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) staff	17
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Main contacts

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