



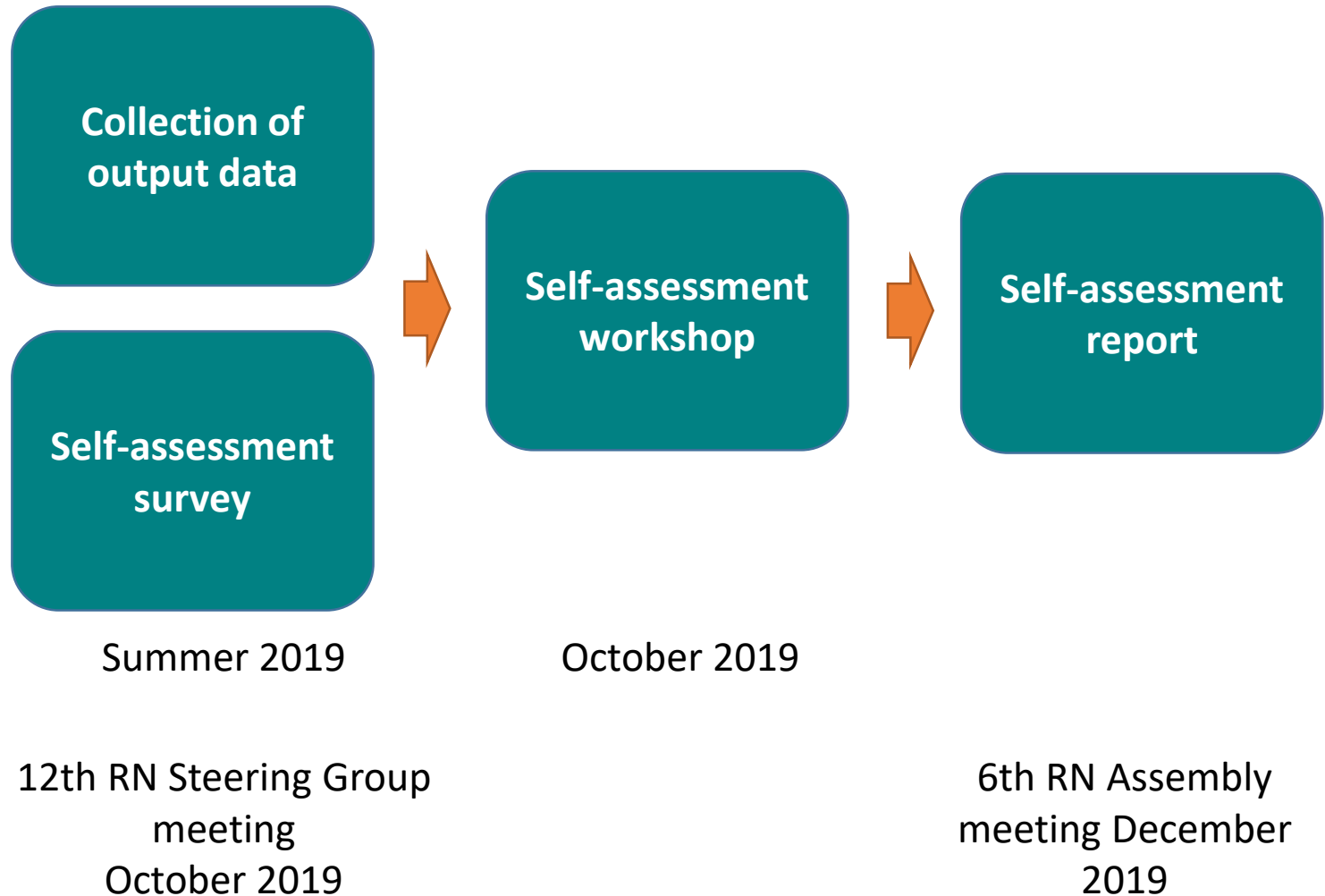
European Rural Networks'
Steering Group

**Rural Networks' self-assessment
draft report**
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12th Meeting
Brussels – 21 October 2019

#RNSteeringGroup

RN self-assessment elements



Conducted

Summer 2019

October 2019

Presented

12th RN Steering Group
meeting
October 2019

6th RN Assembly
meeting December
2019



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Draft report

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Draft report

Purpose

- Illustrates the outputs and results of the activities carried out by the networks within the Strategic Framework of the EU Rural Networks

Based on

- Self-assessment survey: 13 June - 1 August 2019
 - 12 questions collecting key stakeholder views on
 - i) fulfilment of the objectives of the Strategic Framework of the EU Rural Networks,
 - ii) experiences with Rural Networks' outputs and
 - iii) ideas for improvement of the Rural Networks' work
 - 139 respondents from 28 Member States
 - RN Assembly, LEADER sub-group, Innovation sub-group, Expert Group on Monitoring and Evaluating the CAP (Grexe)
- Result indicators collected by the Support Units





Outputs and results of the EU Rural Networks

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EU RN – main outputs

Main Events

	Number
ENRD workshops & conferences	39
ENRD NRN meetings	14
ENRD TWG meetings	37
ENRD thematic seminars	5
ENRD Evaluation capacity-building events	136
EIP Innovation workshops & seminars	32
EIP Focus Groups	38

Main Publications

	Number
ENRD newsletters	28
ENRD magazines	10
ENRD thematic publications	10
ENRD Project Brochures	9
Evaluation working documents	4
Evaluation Guidelines	6
EIP reports	86
EIP brochures	44
EIP factsheets	47

The ENRD & EIP-AGRI
events had a total of
16 141 participants

The total number of newsletter subscribers was
18 826, of which:
ENRD 7 332
ENRD Evaluation 3 851
EIP-AGRI 7 643



GO1: Enhance participation

Survey results

- ENRD activities lead to a greater involvement of various stakeholders in rural development and these activities address their needs (71%)
- Participation in ENRD activities led to improved knowledge and capacity on the implementation of rural development policy (72%)
- EIP-AGRI Network has succeeded in establishing a dialogue between farmers and the research community (62%; 74% Innovation sub-group)
- EIP-AGRI Network activities help to launch research activities based on farmers'/foresters' needs (57%; 70% Innovation sub-group)

Preliminary result indicator

- The outcomes of all ENRD events were rated as good (3.1 – 3.4) by the participants of the events



GO2: Improve policy quality

Survey results

- ENRD is successful in improving rural development policy quality (77%)
- EU RN activities facilitate the exchange of expertise and good practice (general ENRD 88%; EIP-AGRI 79%)
- Information produced by the EU Rural Networks is used and shared (ENRD general 71%; EIP-AGRI 68%). Dissemination is typically carried out via email, website, social media, newsletter, events and/or meetings.
- ENRD events and TGs support improved quality of the RDPs
- ENRD evaluation-related activities support the evaluation of RDPs (58%; Grexe members 67%)

Preliminary result indicator

- The participants' level of knowledge increased as a result of every capacity building – event organised by the Evaluation Helpdesk



GO3: Increase awareness

Survey results

- Activities of the EU Rural Networks help to increase awareness about the benefits of the rural development policy (81%)
- General ENRD publications (79%) and website (75%) play a role in increasing awareness about the benefits of the rural development policy

Preliminary result indicators (ENRD general)

- 7 332 newsletter subscriptions
- 1 509 490 page views, 493 848 unique visitors and 171 366 downloads



Summary

GO1: *Greater engagement of stakeholders, more thematic actions*

- Increase the involvement of non-core stakeholders
- More joint activities, as well as specific and geographic events
- Increased focus on thematic work and fostering of thematic networks

GO2: *More capacity-building and targeted materials*

- More capacity-building for evaluators and stakeholders
- More events and materials for non-farming rural stakeholders
- Development of good practises & guidelines for dissemination to different target groups

GO3: *Communication*

- EU RN social media presence and usage could be improved
- Increased use of webinars

EU Rural Networks

- Improve cooperation, coordination and synergies between the two EU Rural Networks



Collaboration between EU RNs

Survey results

- 44 % consider collaboration between the ENRD and EIP-AGRI Networks as complementary and synergetic, 45 % answered 'neutral'
- Opposing views on the future of the networks
 - Combining the networks into one European Rural Network in the future
 - Two different networks with different focus and stakeholders





Thank you!

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