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Project of the month

NECT'ARTS - Artists and wine-growers share their local passions

Discover [NECT'ARTS](#), a transnational cooperation project (TNC) between three wine-producing regions in France and Romania, which involved a series of actions to connect local know-how (savoir-faire) and engage artistic creativity to promote wine production, by comparing and exchanging experiences, and organising study visits and exchanges between wine-producers.



Study on result-based carbon farming mechanisms

The European Commission published the [final report](#) of a two-year study on how to set up and implement carbon farming in the EU. Building on this study and on the input from several EU-funded projects and events, the Commission plans to launch the carbon farming initiative by the end of 2021.



The 'Technical Guidance Handbook – setting up and implementing result-based carbon farming mechanisms in the EU' explores key issues, challenges, trade-offs and design options to develop carbon farming and existing schemes that reward climate-related benefits in various areas.

European State of the Climate 2020

The [European State of the Climate](#) report provides a detailed analysis of 2020, with descriptions of climate conditions and events, and explores the associated disparities in key climate variables from across all parts of the Earth system.



Europe saw its warmest year, winter and autumn on record. Wet and dry conditions varied substantially across the region and the year. The European State of the Climate 2020 was compiled by the Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S), implemented by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) on behalf of the European Commission.

How might the European bioeconomy look in 2050?

Four alternative scenarios for the EU bioeconomy in 2050 have been prepared by the Joint Research Centre in collaboration with DG Research and Innovation.



Each scenario describes the world, Europe and the bioeconomy in 2050 and to what extent each scenario would contribute to the objectives of the EU Bioeconomy Strategy and to selected United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Discover more about the potential of a sustainable bioeconomy to: "[transform Europe's agricultural and industrial base and create new jobs, whilst enhancing our natural resources and ecosystems.](#)"

Territorial approaches for sustainable development

A [report](#) by GIZ - the German international cooperation agency - reviews good practices in territorial approaches to sustainable development.

This stocktaking report documents good practices in Africa, Asia and South America, describes their benefits, identifies lessons learned and offers recommendations for future implementation of territorial approaches. The report is written primarily for policy makers, programme managers and practitioners who are looking for examples of successful territorial approaches and the means by which success was achieved.



OREKA MENDIAN: Booklet of good practices is online!

In April 2021, the LIFE project [OREKA MENDIAN](#), which aims to develop a preservation strategy for mountain grasslands in the Basque country (France & Spain), has published [a booklet of good practices](#) showcasing 31 inspiring examples for the sustainable management of mountain grasslands gathered across 18 European countries. These good practices will inspire farmers, breeders and other local actors to increase the biodiversity of mountain grasslands, tackle climate change impacts and market their products better, along with other things. In September 2021, the LIFE OREKA MENDIAN project will publish a study of the current status of mountain grasslands throughout Europe. Stay tuned!



UNWTO Rural tourism start-up competition

The World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has launched a [new competition](#) to identify the best ideas that will help rural communities recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Competition aims to support rural tourism as a key tool to fight depopulation, promote inclusion and reduce regional inequalities in income and development. Applications are now open for four categories:

- People –Leaving no one behind
- Planet – Building back better
- Prosperity - Opportunities for growth
- Propulsion of Rural Tech

The deadline for applications is **1 July 2021**.



Delivering quality education and health care to all

This [OECD report](#) examines the nuances specific to the delivery of education and health care to people everywhere, offering recommendations on how to better adapt provision to the realities of today and the emerging realities of tomorrow, to face the challenges of demographic change and fiscal belt-tightening.

The report also examines digital connectivity issues in rural and remote regions, recognising the significant scope for digital delivery of services to mitigate challenges related to distance. Finally, the report looks at governance issues, including fiscal issues, through which the delivery of these critical services is administered and paid for.



LEADER project competition in Latvia

The Latvian Rural Forum organised the 10th edition of its competition '[Dižprojekts](#)' ('The grand project'), rewarding successful LEADER projects.

The [winners](#) were selected from 29 candidate projects identified by Latvian Local Action Groups and chosen by the LAGs, an expert jury and the general public. The first prize went to the project '[Digitals tools for innovative services in Jaunauce Manor](#)' implemented by the association Mēs-Jaunaucei in the Saldus Municipality. This [project](#) used augmented reality to make a unique art collection, which disappeared during World War II, available to the public. The second place was



awarded to the project '[The development of historic tourism in Pasieste windmill](#)' and the third place went to the project '[Cheese Factory "Pakalnieši"](#)'.

New guidance on food storage safety times

New EFSA [guidance](#) is available to help food suppliers decide what information to give consumers about storing food and time limits for consumption.

Date marking gives a useful guide on how long food can be kept before it begins to deteriorate or become unsafe to eat. Clear information on packaging can also help reduce food waste in the EU. In December 2020, [experts developed a tool](#) to help food business operators decide when to apply the 'use by' or 'best before' date to their products. Infographics related to the guidance's advice about thawing food are available in: [English](#), [French](#), [German](#), [Italian](#) and [Spanish](#).



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Networking goes digital!

The ENRD CP office in Brussels remains closed until further notice due to the COVID-19 outbreak but ENRD activities are all going ahead using digital approaches adapted to the new context. The team is as busy as ever networking, organising and delivering virtual events, producing publications and keeping you abreast of the latest news. We invite you to keep an eye on the [Upcoming Events](#) section of our website, where we list relevant forthcoming events. Feel free to contact us at any time!

Past Events

4th meeting of the Thematic Group on the European Green Deal and rural areas

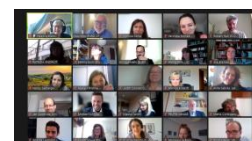
The fourth and final meeting of the TG explored tested experiences of promoting the green transition at the local or sub-regional level, including EAFRD-funded projects as well as other territorial initiatives. The participants discussed the factors that led to the successful engagement and uptake of sustainable practices as examples for the design and implementation of the CAP Strategic Plans.



Presentations from the day are available on the [event page](#).

4th meeting of the Thematic Group on the Long Term Rural Vision

The fourth and final TG meeting took stock of the main messages coming out of the ENRDs' Rural Vision Week organised in March 2021. Participants also discussed ways in which stakeholders can cooperate to make the future Vision become a reality at national, regional and local levels and considered how networks can provide the best support. There were inspiring examples from Ireland, France and Catalonia, Spain and a thought provoking presentation on rural engagement in the European Semester process.



Presentations from the day, background documents and useful links are available on the [event page](#).

Workshop for NRNs on Working together: linking Rural Networks

Participants in the ENRD Workshop for NRNs on 'Working together: linking Rural Networks' discussed ways to create linkages across geographies, themes and initiatives. They had the opportunity to share lessons on best practices and added value in collaboration and consider virtual linkages as well as foster new collaborative initiatives between NRNs. A noteworthy example is a collaboration between the French and Romanian NRNs. Together, they are promoting different initiatives, including webinars addressing topics of common interest, such as Simplified Cost Options (SCO) in implementing LEADER, Natural Resources Management and how CAP Strategic Plan can respond to local needs.



Presentations from the day are available on the [event page](#).

Getting the CAP Strategic Plans done: the voice of regions and stakeholders

The aim of the web-streamed event, organised by ENRD in close cooperation with the European Commission, was to share views and exchange experiences regarding the participation of regions and stakeholders during preparations for the future CAP Strategic Plans.



Presentation and recording from the day are available on the [event page](#).

LEADER funding made simpler

The 7th LEADER Thematic Lab on 'LEADER funding made simpler' explored how LEADER funding and implementation can be made simpler by the application of Simplified Cost Options during the transition period and under the CAP Strategic Plans.



Presentations from the day are available on the [event page](#).

Publications

EU Rural Review 30 'Climate action in rural areas'

Rural development stakeholders can make a major contribution to the European Green Deal, the roadmap for a sustainable EU economy. [This edition](#) of the EU Rural Review looks at how rural areas are making significant contributions towards climate action, also thanks to EAFRD support.



Using the CAP to upscale sustainable agriculture and forestry management practices

This ENRD [factsheet](#) looks at the opportunities that the design and implementation of relevant interventions, in the forthcoming CAP Strategic Plans, present for upscaling sustainable management practices and contributing to the European Green Deal (EGD) goals.



7th meeting of the EU Rural Networks Assembly: meeting report

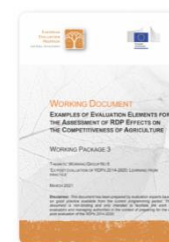
The [meeting report](#) of the 7th meeting of the EU Rural Networks Assembly (4 December 2020) is now available in English. It will soon be available in French and German.



'Fostering the Competitiveness of Agriculture' ONLINE!

['Fostering the Competitiveness of Agriculture' \(Workpackage 3\)](#) documents are now available online!

This is the final working package for Thematic Working Group 8 - Ex post evaluation of RDPs 2014-2020: Learning from practice.



Events

25 May – 8 June 2021

[Teachers bioeconomy summer school](#), BE-Rural, online

25 May – 10 June 2021

[European Climate Change Adaptation](#) – webinar series, European Commission, online

31 May – 4 June 2021

[EU Green Week 2021](#), the European Commission, online

1 June

[Zero pollution farms with biogas](#), the European Biogas Association, online

1 June

[Shaping the agriculture of tomorrow](#), Euractiv, online

3 June

[LEADER - 30 years and preparing for the future: Delivering LEADER's unique added value](#), ENRD Contact Point, online

7 June

[Vision for the future of rural areas](#), Ruritage, online

8 June

[Info-session: New call for proposals-Erasmus+ Alliances for Innovation 2021](#), European Commission, online

10 June 2021

[Preparing the CAP Strategic Plans: Operational Design](#), the ENRD CP, online

15 June 2021

[20th NRN Meeting](#), ENRD Contact Point, online

16 – 18 June 2021

[European organic congress](#), IFOAM Organics Europe and AGROBIO, online

22 June 2021

[ECCA 2021 - 5th European Climate Change Adaptation conference](#), European Commission, online

23 - 24 June 2021

[European Research and Innovation Days](#), DG Research and Innovation, online

28 – 29 June 2021

[A journey through evaluation plans: Learning from past experiences for the future CAP](#), ENRD Evaluation Helpdesk, online

30 June 2021

[Data-driven actions and sustainability in the EU dairy sector](#), Euractiv, online

6 July 2021

[The role of science in sustainable food](#), Euractiv, online

12 – 13 July 2021

[Promotion policy review Conference](#), DG AGRI

20 - 23 July 2021

[Raising the impact of agricultural economics](#), The European Association of Agricultural Economists - EAAE, online

6 – 10 September 2021

[Organic world congress](#), online

27 – 29 September 2021

[Agritravel and slowtravel expo](#), Bergamo, Italy

11 - 14 October 2021

[European Week of Regions and Cities](#), The European Commission

19 October 2021

[16th Rural Networks Steering Group Meeting](#), DG AGRI

25 – 29 November 2021

[EU Sustainable Energy Week](#), The European Commission, online

7 December 2021

[8th meeting of the EU Rural Networks Assembly](#), DG AGRI

10-14 April 2022

[European farming systems conference](#), The Mediterranean Institute for Agriculture, Environment and Development (MED)

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