

Stakeholder Involvement Example

Scottish “Monitor Farms”



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Background

- Based on NZ self help groups, formed after removal of subsidy in 1980's
- Operating for 10 years in Scotland (>30 farms)
- Why?
 - Response to crises (BSE, FMD)
 - Stagnant productivity
 - Over-emphasis on CAP/ “dependency culture”

What is it?

- Farmers volunteer to host the self improvement group for 3 years
- Local farmer/stakeholder group selects one farm
- “Community Group” formed
- “Management Group” runs it with farmer
- 6 meetings per year
- Facilitators help make it happen and spread the learning
- Simple aim: All work together to improve profitability of the Monitor Farm and hence improve profits of all farms in the area

How does it work?



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Constructive criticism, identify the problems,
share experience, cost the options, set
targets, trial solutions



Spread the word...



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How funded?

- Mix
- Levy organisations (red meat, milk, cereals, potatoes) pump prime
- SRDP Skills Development/KT scheme applications
- Some from National Parks, industry sponsors, etc

How has it evolved?

- More power to Management Group
- More emphasis on developing people and local capacity
- Much more emphasis on numbers, KPIs, benchmarking sub-groups
- Legacy groups
- Widespread use of the model; beef and sheep, dairy, arable, pigs, renewable energy, agri-tourism, climate change

