ENRD Seminar on Stakeholder Involvement

Brussels, 26 March 2015

Thematic working groups within the framework of the Austrian Monitoring Committee



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The practice in 3 lines!

- Monitoring Committee (MC): rules of procedure allow establishment of working groups to certain topics upon request
- 3 thematic working groups have been implemented with the support of the NRN: on equal opportunities, youth & employment (2009)
- **active** involvement and cooperation of a representative sample of stakeholders in the working process

Main purpose - why?

Thematic working group on equal opportunities:

- → assist MA and MC with developing & implementing concrete measures on the topic in order to:
- Improve know-how & raise awareness for equal opportunity issues
- Increase involvement of women and young people in regional and local decision-making bodies & project work
- Increase number and quality of projects on this topic in the long-term

Stakeholders concerned - Who & how?

- Decision for establishment made at 4th meeting of MC upon request of Network of Austrian Counselling Centers for Women and Girls
- 12 members:
 - NRN (chair)
 - National & regional MAs
 - Chambers of Economics, Agriculture and Labour
 - NGO (dealing with equal opportunity issues)
 - LEADER-manager & Local Action Group (LAG) representative
 - Expert on regional management & gender issues
 - Youth representative
 - External experts (on demand)
- 4 workshops, organized and chaired by NRN (March-October 2010)
- active participation, discussion, development of specific recommendations and measures

Lessons

- MA has always underlined importance of topic
 has been brought forward by MC and
 stakeholders
- Everyone involved has been highly committed to achieve concrete results
- Involving a range of different stakeholders has proofed to be very valuable for the process:
 - → solution-oriented way of working
 - → identification of **local needs** including **local experts**
 - → information exchange & input from representatives from different areas and administrative levels
 - → decision making takes longer but support is stronger

Achievements/Results

- Preparation of a report with specific recommendations / measures as part of the annual NRN work programme (2010)
- Special training on equal opportunity issues for granting & administrative bodies (2011)
- Workshop: "Regional development from a female point of view"
- **Excursions** to projects focussing on equal opportunity issues
- Presentations on equal opportunity issues during annual LEADER conference (2011)
- Contest on "Equal opportunities in rural areas" (2012)
- Publication: Good practice examples promoting equal opportunities within the RDP 07-13 (2013)
- → all organized & implemented by NRN
- Cooperation between NRN and private academy for women:
- Management course for women from rural areas in managing / leading positions (2013)
- Recommendations, results have also been taken into account for new programming period e.g. workshop on equal opportunities in context with RDP 2014-2020 (2014)



Thank you very much for your attention! martin.leitner@bmlfuw.gv.at







Sinn. Voll und Erfolg. Reich

Management-Lehrgang für engagierte Frauen in ländlichen Regionen Eine Maßnahme im Rahmen des Programms LE07-13.