



Added Value of Networking

Success Story

Success Story title	<i>Training for LAG managers</i>		
Theme	<i>Training</i>		
NRN	<i>Slovakia</i>	Coordinator	<i>National Rural Development Network (NRDN) – Central Unit</i>
Partners	<i>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the SR, Agricultural Paying Agency</i>		
Period	<i>6th-9th September 2011</i>	Resources	<i>7,115 Euro</i>
Geo-location	<i>Donovaly, Banská Bystrica region, Central Slovakia</i>		
Beneficiaries	<i>LAG managers, Coordinators of NRDN SR Regional Offices</i>		

Background

The selection of local action groups (LAG) for the implementation of Axis 4 LEADER of the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 was conducted in two rounds. In the first round (June 2009) 15 LAGs were selected and within the second round (April 2010) other 14 LAGs. A total of 29 LAGs have been selected and the process has been completed. The LAGs started the implementation of their development strategies soon afterwards.

The NRDN SK in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the Agricultural Paying Agency organised a training for managers of approved LAGs focused on the evaluation of applications for financial contribution from the Rural Development Programme 2007 - 2013, with focus on Axis 3 measures implemented through Axis 4.

Main activities

The training was divided into 5 thematic blocks with both presentations and discussions on:

1. The application form of non-repayable financial contribution (project) from the RDP 2007-2013, Axis 3 measures implemented through Axis 4 – essentials, annexes, formal control of the application – by LAG managers, administrative control of the application – by Selection Committee;
2. The application form of non-repayable financial contribution from the RDP 2007-2013, measure 3.4.1 Basic services for rural population; and measure 3.4.2 Village renewal and development, implemented through Axis 4;
3. The guidance procedure of final beneficiaries (eligible applicants) by the acquisition of goods, works and services;
4. The application form of non-repayable financial contribution from the RDP 2007-2013, measure 3.1 Diversification into non-agricultural activities, 3.3 Training and information, 3.2 –A,B Encouragement of tourism activities, implemented through Axis 4; and,
5. Measure 4.3 The operation of the LAGs.





Main results/benefits

The aim of the training was to provide comprehensive information on the issue of evaluation of applications for financial contribution to LAG managers. LAGs managers will use this information to evaluate and select the “application of non-repayable financial contribution” from a final recipient / beneficiary of the project within the implementation of the strategy.

Contribution of the partners

Representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and from the Agricultural Paying Agency were responsible for the thematic aspects of the training by holding presentations and managing the following discussions.

Success factors

The training was attended by representatives of the 27 approved LAGs. The information provided will facilitate LAG managers when evaluating and selecting final beneficiary projects. The training has also provided the opportunity for LAGs to open up a direct consultation with the Paying Agency and Managing Authority representatives, which helps LAGs to increase the quality of their work.

Additional information

Photos at: <http://www.nsrv.sk/index.php?pl=4&article=298>

