



II. EURÓPAI LEADER EXPO * II. EUROPEAN LEADER EXPO 4-7 March 2010 BUDAPEST

Szervező Bizottság * Organizing Committee

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To:

All Registered LAGs, LEADER Networks, Rural Networks, Rural Development Program Managing Authorities and Specialised Rural Development Organizations

Europe

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to inform you that the already verbally announced II. European LEADER Expo will be held from 4 to 7 March 2010 in Budapest, Hungary. Similar to the previous LEADER Expos, the venue is the HUNGEXPO modern exposition site (Albertirsai út 10, Budapest, 10th district, Hungary). The Organizing Committee of the Hungarian LEADER Alliance, ELARD and the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development invite LEADER Local Action Groups, Rural Development Communities, European and National Rural Networks from EU member states, candidate members and other eligible organizations. It is our firm belief that the European LEADER communities can demonstrate their unity and cooperation in partnerships and transnational cooperation.

LAGs, Regional and National Networks are invited to pre-book their exhibition space. Detailed condition list is being released by 1 February 2010.

On 6 March 2010, an International Conference is being held in the Expo Centre to discuss pros and contras of rural as well as territorial development concepts, in light of the LEADER approach and likely options for the Pillar 2 of CAP beyond 2013.

Hungarian LAGs will be hosting their foreign cooperation partners during the Expo. Similar to the last year LEADER Expo, volontaire rural excursions may be organized to Hungarian, and eventually to Slovakian and East-Austrian LAGs on the 1st day of the Expo, i.e. 4 March 2010.

The brief activity programme of the Expo is the following:

02-03 March: proposed arrival of foreign participants, registered exhibition participants. Building up/organizing their own exhibition stand, which should be ready by the evening of 03 March.

04 March: First (technical and excursion) Day of the II. European LEADER Expo (and the formal opening of the International Tourism Fair). Since the first day of the Expo is a kind of „technical day”, **foreign delegations will be invited by their Hungarian partners to visit their respective LAGs.**

05 March: Formal Opening of the Expo by H.E. The Minister of Agriculture, Hungary. Folk art performances by Hungarian and Foreign Groups.

06 March: International Conference on the future of LEADER vs. Territorial approach in the CAP beyond 2013.

Free LEADER and Rural Forum for Hungarian and Foreign participants. Networking on transnational cooperation in the Expo.

07 March: closing day, with direct exchanges among participants, and folk-performances. Partial departure of delegations



As indicated earlier,

1. Under their existing bilateral agreement, foreign LAGs will be hosted by their respective Hungarian LAG partners, for the Rural Excursion. The Organizing Committee will facilitate „twinning” contacts between LAGs.
2. Exhibition space in the EXPO will be given at discounted price to foreign LAG partners.
3. All foreign guests will be registered and supplied with a personal entry (chip) card to the Expo. Those who are not registered should purchase their own entry ticket.
4. All foreign guests are invited to attend the Opening Ceremony on 05 March (exact info will be given at the registration desk)
5. All registered foreign guest delegated by LAGs, NRNs will be invited to attend the International Conference on 06 March 2010.
6. Foreign guest will be invited time to time to enjoy Hungarian rural food and hospitality at the Expo, offered by Hungarian LAGs and sponsors.

Important Notice: Registration of exhibition space, International travel cost and any other local travel are the responsibility of foreign participants.

Things we need from you as soon as possible:

1. **Indication about your interest to participate in the II. European LEADER Expo.**
2. **Inform us about the tentative size of your delegation**
3. **Inform us about eventual folk dance/singing/music or other performanc group, type of performance, number of people involved.**
4. **Inform us if any of you plan to bring food items for open degustation at the LEADER Expo (which require prior approval by the Hungarian Food Safety Authority – not applicable for fruits and drinks)**

If you have any further query, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Budapest-Kozard, 20 Januray 2010.

Dr. Pal Hajas
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