



Final Report

EUROPE FOR CITIZENS

Strand 1. European remembrance and

Strand 2: 2.1 Town-Twinning, 2.2 Networks of Towns and 2.3 Civil Society Projects

The final report should be submitted within 60 days of the end of the project period, except if stated otherwise in the grant decision.

Before you begin completing this eform:

- Try the test eForm that is published on the eForm homepage. This is a very brief eForm to help you become familiar with how the fields and tables work and to test that your software and internet connection allow an application to be submitted. In particular, **submitting the test eForm can help identify issues that might potentially prevent the submission of your real eForm.**

- Consult the 'Known Issues' section of the eForm homepage and take any necessary steps to prepare your computer for your eForm's submission. For example, it is very likely that you will need to adapt the security settings of your Adobe Reader software.

- Check that you have the latest available version of the eForm. In the event of a significant eForm problem arising, the Agency may decide to publish an updated i.e. corrected version of the eForm. Please check to see if a later version is available and to see details of any problems that have arisen and their impact.

All the above mentioned resources can be found on the Agency's eForm homepage, the links for which are found below:

- Agency's eForm homepage : http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/eforms/index_en.php
- Test eForm : http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/eforms/index_en.php#2
- Known Issues : http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/eforms/index_en.php#issues

Programme :	EUROPE FOR CITIZENS
Sub-programme :	Strand2: Democratic engagement and civic participation
Programme Guide / Call for Proposals :	PROGRAMME GUIDE 2014-2020
Action :	2.3: Civil Society Projects
Sub-action :	N/A
Reference number of the project (as indicated in the Decision) :	2014-3038
Reference number of the project (as indicated in the original application) :	558254-CITIZ-1-2014-1-SE-CITIZ-CIV
Project title :	European Rural Parliament
Project acronym :	ERPARL

Submission number:
20143038 - 1 - 1



Part A. Identification of the beneficiary

A.1 Organisation

Full name of the organisation :

RIKSORGANISATIONEN HELA SVERIGE SKA LEVA

Part B. Description of the project

B.1 Timetable of the project

Please indicate the total duration of the project from preparation to evaluation.

Project start date * : 01/12/2014

Project end date * : 31/05/2016

B.2 Venue(s) of the activities

Venue(s) of the activities * :

At least 130 different venues for local, regional and national meetings in a total of over 27 countries

X

Venue(s) of the activities * :

The town of Schärding in Upper Austria, plus (for study trips during the European Rural Parliament) many locations in Upper Austria and across the border in southern Bohemia (Czech Republic)

X

Add a venue

B.3 Participants

Country *	Participant by target group (number)						Total number of participants
	Distribution by age group			Disadvantaged participants *	Women *	Men *	
	< 30 *	30 - 65 *	> 65 *				
Albania	19	54	7	0	32	48	80
Austria	28	42	4	0	36	38	74

X

X

Submission number:

20143038 - 1 - 1



Europe for Citizens

Form version : 2.0 EN Adobe Reader version : 15.0102006

Belgium	0	2	1	0	1	2	3	X
Bulgaria	48	149	6	0	139	64	203	X
Croatia	26	156	26	0	113	93	206	X
Cyprus	21	75	12	0	53	63	116	X
Czech Republic	20	145	1	0	97	69	166	X
Denmark	6	35	5	0	17	29	46	X
England	1	29	4	0	20	17	37	X
Estonia	26	181	36	0	183	60	243	X
Finland	10	104	52	0	78	88	166	X
Germany	0	18	8	0	7	19	26	X
Hungary	5	37	7	0	16	33	49	X
Ireland	29	130	6	0	69	96	165	X
Latvia	16	143	8	0	135	32	167	X
Lithuania	36	110	13	0	76	83	159	X
Macedonia, FYROM	24	154	14	0	81	111	192	X
Netherlands	0	1	2	0	0	3	3	X
Northern Ireland	4	97	29	0	70	60	130	X
Poland	8	132	4	0	117	30	147	X
Portugal	8	176	2	0	71	115	186	X
Romania	0	6	0	0	2	4	6	X

Submission number:
20143038 - 1 - 1



Serbia	0	39	4	0	13	30	43	X
Slovakia	57	55	24	0	63	73	136	X
Slovenia	28	216	15	0	141	118	259	X
Spain	0	26	1	0	11	16	27	X
Sweden	7	81	32	4	54	66	120	X
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	4	0	0	2	3	5	X
Greece	0	5	0	0	1	4	5	X
Montenegro	8	13	6	0	12	11	23	X
Total	436	2 415	329	4	1 710	1 478	3 188	

B.4 Description of the activities

Please indicate the implemented activities and the methods used. (Max. 8 000 characters) *

Note reg. section B3 above : we do not have comprehensive information about the number of disadvantaged people who were included in the events recorded in this report. The reason for this is that most of the national partners felt that it was not appropriate to ask people, when they were registering for meetings or answering questionnaires, to declare whether they were disadvantaged, and they did not have clear criteria by which disadvantage can be assessed in other ways.

The project had four elements, as described in the application :

1. A simultaneous set of national campaigns – one in each partner country – in order to generate an 'upward cascade of ideas' which express the concerns and hopes of rural people. The aim was that, in each country, the 'cascade' would start at local level, be gathered at regional level and then synthesised at national level as input to the debates at the European Rural Parliament. The national campaigns were conducted in each partner country, and also in some other countries outside the geographic scope of Europe for Citizens. So, campaigns took place in 34 European countries or territories – Albania, Austria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Kosovo*, Latvia, Lithuania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Wales.

*this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the

Submission number:

20143038 - 1 - 1



Kosovo declaration of independence.

The national campaigns varied greatly in depth and detail. The most ambitious organised a series of regional meetings, sometimes followed by a national event. This was a familiar process for some of the partner organisations, such as Hela Sverige ska leva (the applicant Swedish partner), SYTY in Finland, Kodukant in Estonia, Landelijke Vereniging voor Kleine Kernen in the Netherlands. These organisations have a ramified membership, with well-established working links between the national headquarters, regional groupings and a wide network of village-level action groups. They use these links to organise consultations and upward cascades of ideas, particularly while preparing for events such as the biennial Swedish Rural Parliament and the Estonian Maapaev.

Some of the other national partners in the project were at earlier stages of developing networks of the kind described above, and needed to develop their own links and techniques for generating the upward cascade of ideas. For this reason, the project partners met in Estonia in September 2014 (before the project started) in order to exchange ideas about the methods which could be used for this purpose. They agreed that IT, including social media, webinar and other techniques, could be used in order to ensure that the 'upward cascade' process reaches out to a wide range of rural communities in each country; but they noted that many rural areas still had low levels of broadband connectivity, and would demand more traditional means of communication. Accordingly, they agreed that face-to-face contact with rural people should be achieved wherever possible. The outcome was that some national champions relied mainly on questionnaire processes, but most of the national campaigns included local or regional meetings: for example, the Portuguese LEADER Network MINHA TERRA organised more than 160 local or regional events, with a total of over 4000 participants (but here are just a few counted). Many campaigns included a national meeting where citizens from different regions could meet and work together in crystallising the ideas to go forward to the European event. National Rural Parliaments were held in Bosnia and Herzegovina (for the first time), Croatia (for the first time), Cyprus (for the first time), Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Slovenia and the Swedish-speaking community in Finland.

2. The gathering of ideas. In each participating country, the ideas generated through the process described above were brought together into a national report, presented in the national language, for use in future campaigning by the national champion. An English-language version or summary of this report was then submitted to the coordinators of the European campaign. The ideas from this full set of reports were then synthesized at European level into a 100-page report, entitled "ALL Europe shall live", which also took account of comparable information from countries around the Black Sea and of data on the state of rural Europe gathered by the European coordinators. The report then formed the basis for the production of a draft European Rural Manifesto. These two documents – the report, and the draft Manifesto – were sent for comment to all partners, amended as necessary, and circulated to all the prospective participants in the European Rural Parliament.

3. The second European Rural Parliament was held on 4-6 November 2015 in the small town of Schärding in Upper Austria. Participating were 232 people from 39 countries or regions, including rural citizens, representatives of all the project partners and other rural organisations and networks, governments, European Commission staff (including Mihai Dumitru, Deputy Director General DG Agri), the European Network for Rural Development, the Economic and Social Committee and others. The event included one day of field visits to rural initiatives in the surrounding rural region (including one group which visited Southern Bohemia, Czech Republic); and two days of debate in working groups and plenary sessions, focused on the ideas contained in the report "ALL Europe shall live" and the draft European Rural Manifesto. The final session of the Parliament included line-by-line discussion and (where agreed) amendment, and finally the adoption by acclamation, of the 6-page European Rural Manifesto.

4. Follow-up activity. The follow-up activity has included translation of the European Rural Manifesto into 27 languages; publication and wide distribution of the Manifesto; and publication, through the European Rural Parliament website, of the report "ALL Europe shall live" and all the national reports which contributed to it. The European Rural Manifesto is being used by the project partners and other national champions to inform and energise their networks and in their advocacy on behalf of rural people to their governments. The co-initiating bodies of the European Rural Parliament are using the Manifesto as the basis for ongoing advocacy and as a starting-point of a continuing campaign focused on promoting participation and activism by rural communities and partnership between those communities and



governments.

B.5 Eventual changes of the original application

*Please indicate any changes between your original application and the final outcome of the project in terms of the timetable, partners, participants or activities. Please also provide reasons for these changes. (Max. 3 000 characters) **

Timetable. There was no change in terms of the overall timetable, except that the project was completed earlier in April 2016.

Partners. We started the project with a total of 19 partners, including three European organizations (ECOVAST, ELARD and ERCA) and 16 national or regional partners (including the applicant). As the numbers of national or regional champions grew, and we wished to use the project funds to support their activities, we sought and received the permission of EACEA to add further partners, until we had a total of 31 formal partners to the project. Further organisations contributed to the activities in European countries outside the scope of EfC funding and without receiving financial support from the EfC grant.

Participants. The total number of participants directly involved in the events was significantly higher than the original estimate of 5,050 (section C.3 of the application). At least 6 437 persons were involved in Event number one. But we don't have complete data on all these participants (regarding the age span), so we can only count the number 2 956.

Activities. The project was implemented as described in the application, except that 'Event 1' was transformed (with the permission of EACEA) into a wide series of events in many countries. The application stated that "At one of the national meetings, all partner countries will be represented" : this proved to be impractical, so we chose instead to hold a significant number of national meetings and thereby to ensure that all partners were represented in at least one such meeting. This significantly enhanced the total participation and the impact of the project.

As explained in section C.4 below, we were not able to create the proposed Task Force, of which the intended role was to gather systematic data on the state of rural Europe, as a counterpoint to the ideas offered in the national reports. Some work of this kind was achieved, with results which are included in the report "ALL Europe shall live". But that report is weaker, in that respect, than we had hoped, and we expect to make good this weakness in the course of the continuing campaign.



Part C. Project implementation

C.1 Objectives and priorities

*Describe how your project achieved the objectives (general and specific) planned in the original application. (Max. 8 000 characters) **

The stated aim of the project was :

- To enable the voice of the rural people of Europe to be heard at European level, and ensure that the interests of rural communities are reflected in national and European policies
- To promote self-help, solidarity, exchange of good practice and cooperation among rural communities throughout Europe.

This aim was closely aligned to the following objectives, aims and annual priorities of the Europe for Citizens programme, which we earmarked in our application :

General objectives

To contribute to citizens' understanding of the Union, its history and diversity.

To foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level.

Specific aim

To encourage democratic and civic participation of citizens at Union level, by developing citizens' understanding of the Union policy-making process and promoting opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement and volunteering at Union level.

Annual priorities of the Programme

Citizens' participation in the democratic life of the EU.

The future of Europe.

The key element in the project was the generation, in each country, of an 'upward cascade of ideas', springing from the reality of rural life and the perception of citizens. The networks of the European and national partners enabled them to generate a truly participative process, in which citizens and local organisations felt that they were genuinely expressing their own local concerns and needs within a European context.

This encouraged civic and democratic participation at four levels – local, through village-level action groups and participative democracy; regional, through county federations and similar mechanisms; national, through the national partner organisations and the meetings which they held in the course of the project; and European, through the European Rural Parliament. The citizens who took part knew that they were part of a joined-up process, which linked them vertically from local to European level and horizontally within each country and to rural areas elsewhere in Europe. They knew that this process was designed to influence the policies and programmes of national governments and of the European Union. In this way, the project has strengthened the networking among citizens, within each country and between countries, and has enhanced their understanding of the Union, its diversity and its unified mission.

The European Rural Parliament itself, as the climax of the project, was a 'public space' at which a multiplicity of local issues and perspectives were discussed and debated in a European context and from a European standpoint. It enabled delegated citizens from rural communities throughout Europe to meet representatives of European institutions, and to take part in shaping a Manifesto which vividly expresses the aspirations, needs and hopes of rural communities throughout Europe and states what these imply for the policies of the European Union and member states. The whole process has strengthened the ability of the three co-initiating European networks, and of the national partner organisations, to play an active and positive role in their continuing relations with governments and their participation in EU policy-making.

Submission number:

20143038 - 1 - 1



C.2 Impact of the project

*Please indicate the impact of the project on the target groups and the possible future development of sustainable cooperation networks. (Max. 4 000 characters) **

The aim of the project was :

- To enable the voice of the rural people of Europe to be heard at European level, and to ensure that the interests of rural communities are reflected in national and European policies
- To promote self-help, solidarity, exchange of good practice and cooperation among rural communities throughout Europe.

Accordingly, the target groups were (a) the rural communities and (b) the rural networks whose tasks include the promotion of self-help, solidarity, exchange of good practice and cooperation among rural communities throughout Europe. These networks were the European and national partners to the project.

The project has indeed enabled the voice of rural people to be heard at European level, and also with increasing strength in many of the partner countries, in a way which will significantly benefit rural communities through higher profile and greater awareness of their needs among governments and the European institutions. Until recent years, the consultative processes which operate at European level in the field of agriculture and rural development have largely been dominated by the legitimate, but essentially sectoral, interests of commercial farmers, cooperatives, food processors and distributors or environmental lobby groups. Rural communities, including significant minorities such as subsistence farmers and Roma people, have had only a muted voice in these processes. The project, and the action which is planned to follow it, will enable that voice to be strengthened, by gathering the concerns and hopes of many rural communities and the objective evidence which is needed in order to underpin these concerns. The long-term effect should be that the voice of rural communities will be more fully heard within the consultative processes at national and European level, with beneficial impacts upon the content and delivery of national and European policies and programmes.

The project has also contributed to the strengthening of networks at national and European level. For the national networks, the national campaigns improved their understanding of the aspirations and concerns of rural communities, provided ideas to be incorporated in their actions and their advocacy, and raised their profile. Their participation in the European exchanges, including the European Rural Parliament itself, and their co-ownership of the European Rural Manifesto (already translated into 27 European languages) further strengthens their hand and the cooperation between them. In some countries which have the least developed civil society network in rural areas, the ERP process has triggered a much more significant networking effort than would otherwise have happened. For example, new NGO-based national rural networks have been created in Albania and in Austria, and are planned in Cyprus and Turkey. For the European Networks – ERCA, PREPARE and ELARD – the project has vindicated their close cooperation within the project and has significantly strengthened the overall network of national and regional organisations comprised within their overlapping memberships. They are committed to working together on the continuing European Rural Parliament programme.

C.3 Visibility and follow-up of the project

*Please indicate the results achieved in raising awareness of the project among the general public and how their dissemination has been ensured. Please also provide the number of indirectly reached public. (Max. 4 000 characters) **

Throughout the duration of the project, its contents and progress were publicised at national and European level. The national campaigns were publicised by the national champions through their websites, newsletters and networks.



Europe for Citizens

Form version : 2.0 EN Adobe Reader version : 15.0102006

Raising of awareness in rural communities was an integral part of the process of gathering the 'upward cascade of ideas'. In smaller countries, and particularly in those (such as Sweden, Estonia and Cyprus) which have formal networks reaching down into rural communities, this publicity reached a high portion of the rural population. In larger countries, such as Poland or Germany, awareness was on a more local or regional basis. When the ideas were synthesised into national reports, these reports were publicised through the networks of the national partners.

At European level, the campaign was publicised through the ERP website, www.europeanruralparliament.com, which was remodelled and greatly enhanced during the campaign and which includes a Facebook page. Immediately after the European Rural Parliament, we produced on 7 November 2015 a Press Release which was disseminated to the European media, together with the English version of the European Rural Manifesto. The Press Release and Manifesto were immediately translated and used by many of the national partners, followed later by almost all the other partners. The Manifesto, in its 27 languages, has been widely disseminated. We send a regular Newsletter to a wide network of interested people.

We cannot say precisely how many people have been indirectly reached by the ideas of the campaign, but we believe that it numbers tens of thousands, bearing in mind the many language versions of the Manifesto and the widespread networks of many of the national partners, for example 5,000 village-level action groups in Sweden.

If one or more of the communication tools below have been used in the project, please indicate the number, the content, the format and the means in place for dissemination.

	Number	Content	Format	Website address	Date of the publication and name of the media organisation	Other details
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publications	30	National reports, Report "ALL Europe shall live", European Rural Manifesto	PDF	www.europeanruralparliament.com	November 2015, February 2016 ERP partners	Subtab: National champions - national reports First page: the Report All Europe shall live - First page: the Manifesto translated to many languages
<input type="checkbox"/> DVD/CD-ROM						

Submission number:

20143038 - 1 - 1

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Website with direct link to the information template	2	Summary of National events and the European Gathering	PDF	http://www.helasverige.se/fileadmin/user_upload/HSSL_Kansli/ERP_information_template_final_list.pdf and on www.europeanruralparliament.com	End of April 2016	Information Template on both websites. www.europeanruralparliament.com Subtab: About
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Media / TV/ Newspapers / Radio	27	Multiple Press Releases, articles	PDF	www.europeanruralparliament.com	November 2015- March 2016	Subtab: National champions

C.4 Additional information and key lessons learned

Give any additional information, observations, comments or recommendations that may be useful for future projects. Describe specific difficulties you encountered in implementing your project. (Max. 4 000 characters) *

Diversity and commonality. This project has gathered ideas from rural communities in over 40 European countries, within and beyond the EU. These communities differ widely in their geographic setting, ethnic character, social structure, traditions etc. But the ideas show a very striking commonality in the underlying concerns and aspirations of rural communities everywhere in Europe. In the words of the European Rural Manifesto, these communities :

- share a high concern "that many regions are affected by narrowness of rural economies, the lack of opportunities for satisfying and fairly-paid work, the loss of population as young people move away, the consequent demographic imbalance, the decline in services, poverty and social exclusion among disadvantaged people or ethnic minorities, and environmental degradation"
- "... believe passionately that these challenges must be addressed, for the benefit not only of the rural communities but also of the whole population of Europe
- offer a "vision for the future of rural Europe ... of vibrant, inclusive and sustainable rural communities, supported by diversified rural economies and by effective stewardship of high-quality environment and cultural heritage."

This realisation – of diverse communities with common aspirations and demands – can have crucial implications for future projects. In particular, it points to the high value of exchanges of ideas and practical experience between people from many countries, within and outside the EU.

Difficulties. In broad terms, the project ran as we expected, and the outputs met our expectations. But it was not easy. For some national champions, the national campaigns posed a severe organisational or financial challenge, on top of their normal activity. The European coordinators asked that the English-language reports on the national campaigns be sent in by the end of June, so that we could synthesise the ideas during the summer and then consult the partners about the papers to go to the European Rural Parliament. In the event, the national reports came in gradually between July and September, which put much strain on the European coordinators and delayed the consultation on the papers. However, we achieved the intended outcome.

Partly because of the strain just described, we were not able to create the proposed Task Force, of which the intended role was to gather systematic data on the state of rural Europe, as a counterpoint to the ideas offered in the national reports. Some work of this kind was achieved, with results which are included in the report "ALL Europe shall live". But that report is weaker, in that respect, than we had hoped, and we expect to make good this weakness in the course of the continuing campaign.

Submission number:

20143038 - 1 - 1



C.5 Quality of the project

Please indicate whether your project has any innovative aspects and / or can be considered as "best practice" and provide arguments for this. (Max. 3 000 characters) *

The 'upward cascade of ideas'. We believe that the innovative approach applied to the gathering of ideas from rural communities, followed by synthesizing those ideas at regional, national and European level, is of high value in achieving a true connection with people and their aspirations and concerns. The partners in this project are civil society organisations or networks, whose aim is to express the voice, or serve the needs, of rural communities. To pursue that aim effectively, they must truly understand the aspirations and concerns of those communities. The more distant they are from the grassroots, the more danger there is that they will use generalisations or stereotypes when they speak about the needs of rural communities. An 'upwards cascade of ideas', starting at grassroots level, can provide a crucial reality check for organisations higher in the cascade. This principle can be applied in any field of public policy. This kind of participative democracy is a crucial counterpoint to the elective democracy which is the main basis of governance in much of Europe.

Shaping the programme for a network. The corollary of the upward cascade of ideas is the method that we have used to shape the on-going Action Programme for the triple network of cooperation between the European Rural Community Alliance, PREPARE Partnership for Rural Europe, and European LEADER Association for Rural Development. Each of these three networks has members or partners at national or regional level, including the partners in the European Rural Parliament initiative. There is some overlap between the membership in the three networks. Each of the networks is independent, and each of their members is also independent. So, the European Rural Parliament is simply one project which they are all undertaking. For this reason, it is vital to build a consensus within the partnership as to which projects should be undertaken within the continuing European Rural Parliament campaign.

The process described in this report is precisely designed to achieve that consensus. The upward cascade produced, from the bottom up, a wide range of ideas expressing the aspirations and concerns of rural communities. These ideas were gathered and crystallised at national level then at European level, and were fed directly into the consultation before the European Rural Parliament and the debates at the Parliament. The final shaping of the European Rural Manifesto was participative and rigorous, and led to a clear consensus which has been acclaimed as a true voice of rural Europe. The prescriptive elements in the Manifesto have been used as a starting point for the collective Action Programme, on which all the partners are commenting: the priorities for action will be based on the comments that they have made. We believe that this process contributes much to the positive spirit and high degree of trust which is found within the triple network.

C.6 Budget

Final grant requested (€) * : _____ 105 000

(Attention: This amount must match the amount declared in the Financial final report - Grant calculation sheet)



Part D: Implemented work programme

Event Number * : One, National campaigns

X

Date		Type of Activity *	Venue of the activity *	Quantity (number of participants, of copies, etc.) *
Start *	End *			
01/01/2015	31/10/2015	Local, regional and national meetings	Total of over 130 venues in at least 27 countries	2 956

Content *

(short description) (Max. 8 000 characters)

These meetings took place in the context of these simultaneous set of national campaigns which are fully described in paragraph 1 of our response Section B.4 above. The purpose of the meetings was to generate an 'upward cascade of ideas' which express the concerns and aspirations of rural people, and to contribute to the synthesizing of these ideas into a national consensus each country.

As explained at section B5, at least 6 437 persons were involved in Event number One. But we don't have complete data on all these participants (regarding the age span), so we can only count the number 2 956.

Results achieved (Max. 4 000 characters) *

The outcome of these meetings was :

- A heightened awareness, among those rural people and organizations which took part, of their ability to take action to serve the well-being of rural communities and and to influence the policies of governments and European institutions related to that well-being
- A clear and diversified expression of the voice of rural people
- A growing consensus on the actions which might be taken, and the policies which might be pursued, by rural communities, their representative organizations, governments and others interested in the well-being of rural communities
- The production of national reports which have contributed both to updated action and advocacy by the national funds and to the European synthesis of ideas from rural communities which is expressed in the report "ALL Europe shall live" and in the European Rural Manifesto ... and thus in the on-going campaigning based on that Manifesto.

Event Number * : Two, European Rural Parliament

X

Date		Type of Activity *	Venue of the activity *	Quantity (number of participants, of copies, etc.) *
Start *	End *			
04/11/2015	06/11/2015	1 day of field trips Two days of workshops and plenary meetings	Schärding County, Austria	232

Submission number:

20143038- 1 - 1



Content *

(short description) (Max. 8 000 characters)

The second European Rural Parliament was held on 4-6 November 2015 in the small town of Schärding in Upper Austria. Participating were more than 232 people from 39 countries or regions, including rural citizens, representatives of all the project partners and other rural organisations and networks, governments, European Commission staff (including Mihai Dumitru, Deputy Director General DG Agri), the European Network for Rural Development, the Economic and Social Committee and others. The event included one day of field visits to rural initiatives in the surrounding rural region (including one group which visited Southern Bohemia, Czech Republic); and two days of debate in working groups and plenary sessions, focused on the ideas contained in the report "ALL Europe shall live" and the draft European Rural Manifesto. The final session of the Parliament included line-by-line discussion and (where agreed) amendment, and finally the adoption by acclamation, of the 6-page European Rural Manifesto.

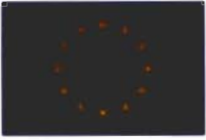
Follow-up activity. The follow-up activity has included translation of the European Rural Manifesto into 27 languages; publication and wide distribution of the Manifesto; and publication, through the European Rural Parliament website, of the report "ALL Europe shall live" and all the national reports which contributed to it. The European Rural Manifesto is being used by the project partners and other national champions to inform and energise their networks and in their advocacy on behalf of rural people to their governments. The co-initiating bodies of the European Rural Parliament – ERCA, PREPARE and ELARD – have shaped an ERP2016-17 Action Programme, based directly on the active verbs in the European Rural Manifesto. This Action Programme has been circulated in draft to all the partners in the 2015 campaign, and the projects within it will be prioritised according to their reactions. At the time of writing this report, we are in process of fund-raising towards the pursuit of prioritised projects. Formal presentations will be made to the European institutions.

Results achieved (Max. 4 000 characters) *

The European Rural Parliament achieved :

- a. A strong sense of solidarity among the 232 participants from 39 countries
- b. A valuable exchange of ideas between those participants
- c. A vigorous debate about the future of rural Europe, the aspirations and concerns of rural communities, and the actions and policies which are needed to secure the well-being of those communities
- d. A clear and hard-won consensus on these issues, expressed in a six-page European Rural Manifesto, which has been translated into 27 languages and widely distributed around Europe, and which forms the starting point for the ongoing European Rural Parliament campaign.

Add an event



Attachments

Declaration of Honour. PDF document only (pdf) *:

Document: declaration%2030april001.pdf

Financial final report - Grant calculation sheet. EXCEL document only (xls, xlsx) *:

Document: final_budget_calculation_sheet_civ_en-2.xlsx



Europe for Citizens

Form version : 2.0 EN Adobe Reader version : 15.0102006

20143038 - 1 - 1

Submission number :

Submission number:
20143038 - 1 - 1