

ENRD Workshop

Social Hubs in Rural Europe

Responding to demographic change & promoting social inclusion

9 February 2017

L42, Rue de la Loi 42, Brussels 1040

DRAFT AGENDA

Background

‘Responding to demographic change and promoting social inclusion’ is **one of the working themes of the ENRD Contact Point** during 2016-2017 – see more information here: http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/themes/social-inclusion_en.

This workshop is a second in a series (the first ENRD Social Inclusion workshop was organised in March 2016). ‘**Social hub**’ refers to a committed set of organisations who work together to address social and demographic change issues in rural areas.

The main objectives of this workshop are:

- To present, promote and discuss the **work of ‘social hubs’** (on migrants & refugees, Roma people, youth, women and the role of arts and culture);
- To **inspire each other**, through a wide range of examples of European initiatives, on what can be done at different levels (local, national and European) to respond to demographic change and promote social inclusion;
- To develop **joint actions and cooperation** among various stakeholders working on the same theme, with specific focus on exploring how Rural Development Programmes can be used as tools for responding to demographic change and promoting social inclusion.

Agenda items

Time	Session
9.00	Welcome by DG AGRI and the ENRD Contact Point (CP) Keynote speech: Social hubs in rural areas , (<i>speaker tbc</i>) Purpose and structure of the day , Edina Ocsko (ENRD CP) Introduction of the Social Hubs by ‘Hub Leaders’
10.00	Social Hubs: Parallel sessions on the work of various social hubs (see details below): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The integration of migrants and refugees• The role of arts & culture in social inclusion• Youth in rural areas• Women in rural areas• Roma in rural areas

Time	Session
12.00	Social inclusion and demographic change initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from the Social Hub sessions • European Solidarity Corps, Orsolya Frizon Somogyi (DG AGRI) • Introduction to the open space stands
13.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00	Open Space Session - social inclusion and demographic change initiatives, including the Social Hubs, LEADER projects and other rural initiatives
15.30	Closing session: Lessons, conclusions and action points
16.00	<i>End of event</i>

Social Hubs (session 10.00 – 12.00)

Name of Hub	Description	Presentations
The integration of migrants & refugees	<p>Hub: National Rural Network Cluster on the Integration of Migrants & Refugees</p> <p>Context: This ‘hub’ is centred around the work of a set of NRNs (Sweden, Finland, Austria, Germany and Greece) who set up an NRN cluster/ exchange platform around the topic of integration of migrants & refugees. Within this session, they will present the situation in their countries, the work of the NRNs and various initiatives to better integrate migrants and refugees in rural areas.</p>	<p>Introduction: Nils Lagerroth (Swedish NRN)</p> <p>Examples (tbc):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Austrian NRN Thematic Group on migrants & refugees > LEADER cooperation project on ‘Immigrant Integration to Rural Areas’
The role of arts and culture for social inclusion in rural areas	<p>Hub: Network of experts, artists and organisations engaged with arts & culture in rural areas</p> <p>Context: This session is a follow-up of the Amsterdam Rural Forum (organised in May 2016, http://netwerkplatteland.nl/kamer/amsterdam-rural-forum-5th-nrn-meeting) that aimed to bring together rural networks, artists, scientist and entrepreneurs around the theme of ‘re-connecting’ (through arts & culture). Among others, the Amsterdam Rural Forum presented a range of examples where arts and culture can make a difference regarding social inclusion in rural areas. The hub will highlight such initiatives and plans for future events and activities.</p>	<p>Introduction: Jan Hartholt (Netherlands) – expert</p> <p>Example (tbc)</p> <p>Jana Svobodova (CZ) – Arts initiatives with migrants, asylum seekers and Roma people</p>
Youth in rural areas	<p>Hub: South East Cork Area Development (SECAD) and associated organisations including youth services and volunteer-led services</p> <p>Context: This session will focus on how youth-focused strategies can target social exclusion</p>	<p>Introduction: Ryan Howard (SECAD)</p> <p>Example (tbc):</p>

Name of Hub	Description	Presentations
	issues (including depression and youth suicide) through the provision of an integrated programme; linking social inclusion, rural development, mental health and community development.	Youth initiatives in the South East Cork Area (presented by youth project promoter & coordinator)
The role of women in rural areas	<p>Hub: Various stakeholders working on the theme of the role of women and women entrepreneurship in rural areas, including the Ireland and Northern Ireland Rural Networks, COPA-COGECA and the European Parliament</p> <p>Context: The session would explore the role of women in rural areas, with particularly focus on what can be done through the RDPs and other tools for creating better job opportunities and women entrepreneurship.</p>	<p>Introduction: Maura Farrell (NUI Galway & Irish Rural Network)</p> <p>Examples (tbc):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Ireland's ACORNS Project > Example of women farmers (Italy)
Roma in Rural Areas	<p>Hub: ERGO, its members and LAGs</p> <p>Context: Better integration of Roma people in rural areas is not only a social but also a demographic and economic issue. The European Roma organisation (ERGO) has been working actively to use bottom-up/ partnership-based approaches (such as LEADER) as a tool to engage Roma people more actively in shaping the future of their rural areas. In this session, successful examples of Roma integration will be presented and discussed.</p>	<p>Introduction: ERGO</p> <p>Examples (tbc):</p> <p>Successful LAG strategies on Roma integration</p>

tbc = to be confirmed