



Official Participant

## Report Template for EU Events at EXPO

Event Title :	<i>Special Edition NRN Meeting The role of NRNs in supporting CLLD</i>	Date:	24 September 2015
Event Organiser:	H3/E5		
Event Target Group:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NSU<sup>1</sup> representatives</li> <li>• LAGs<sup>2</sup> (including some LEADER/CLLD subgroup members and others identified through NRNs),</li> <li>• MAs<sup>3</sup> (other than NSUs) &amp; PA<sup>4</sup> representatives</li> <li>• ENRD Contact point</li> </ul>		
Rapporteur:	Antonella Zona (antonella.zona@ec.europa.eu)		
<b>Event Concept</b>			
<p>The Special Edition National Rural Network (NRN) Meeting was part of a two-day event (24-25 September 2015) organised by the ENRD Contact Point and DG AGRI within the framework of Expo Milano 2015. The overall objective of the events was to improve LEADER/CLLD implementation, with specific focus on strengthening NRNs' capacity to provide support and guidance to LEADER/CLLD stakeholders and to boost transnational and inter-territorial cooperation.</p>			
<b>Expected Outcomes</b>			
<p>One of the main tasks of NRNs was 'to provide training and support for LAGs and, in particular, technical assistance for inter-territorial and transnational cooperation'. The main objective of the NRN meeting was to strengthen the capacity of Network Support Units (NSUs) &amp; NRNs to provide support and guidance to LEADER/CLLD stakeholders through mutual learning and exchange of relevant experience among Managing Authorities (MAs), NRNs and LAGs. More specifically, the meeting aimed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve NSUs' understanding of available tools and practices for providing support to LAGs and other LEADER/CLLD stakeholders;</li> <li>• Improve NSUs' understanding of the support needs of both MAs and LAGs;</li> <li>• Improve MAs' and LAGs' understanding of the potential of networks to improve LEADER delivery and the capacity of LAGs.</li> </ul>			
<b>Main Conclusions</b>			
<p>The contribution of this NRN meeting to Expo Milan is threefold;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to bring local development at the centre of the debate;</li> <li>- to emphasize the role of networks in supporting local development through Leader/CLLD</li> <li>- to effectively involve citizens at the local level in addressing international challenges such as increased inflows of migrants and asylum seekers.</li> </ul>			
<b>What follow-up actions emerged from this event?</b>			
<p>The ENRD will carry out a number of capacity building and peer-to-peer learning activities involving the NRNs and Local Actions Groups. The list of topics is not finalised yet but is likely to include activities on simplification and social inclusion.</p>			

<sup>1</sup> NSU - Rural Network Support Units

<sup>2</sup> LAGs – Local Action Groups

<sup>3</sup> MAs – Managing Authorities

<sup>4</sup> PA – Public Administration