

Smart and Competitive Rural Areas Thematic Group

Introduction

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Aims of CP thematic groups

- To bring together an informed group of rural stakeholders to share knowledge about the state of play on a rural development topic
- To propose further EU work and activity on this topic and analyse results
- To make practical recommendations, provide examples, tools and methods which improve implementation
- To disseminate and support the application of results through EU and national network organisations.





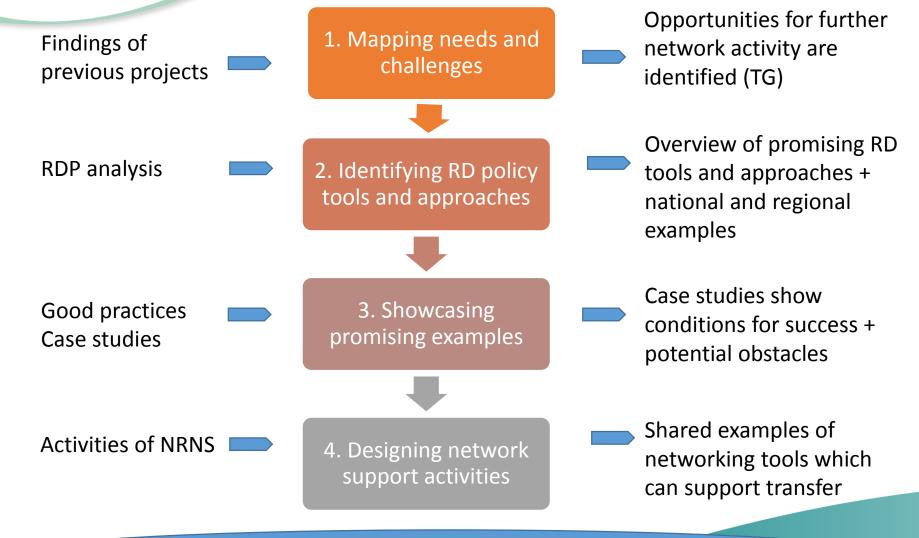
Characteristics of ENRD Thematic Groups

- 3- 4 one day meetings.
- 25-30 Informed RD stakeholders.
- Balance of roles in RD implementation + geographical balance depending on subject
- Participants bring and share ideas, examples, methods; propose and contribute to further work; support dissemination and implementation through their own organisations
- Draws on CP inputs RDP analysis, good practices, thematic expertise + those of participants
- For outputs uses CP dissemination channels Review, Seminar, Report, WS, NRNs + those of participants





FIVE STEPS OF ENRD THEMATIC GROUPS









KEY QUESTIONS

- 1. Mapping needs and challenges
- What are the main lessons from previous projects?
- What are the gaps and opportunities for work by EU Networks?
- 2 Identifying RD policy tools and approaches
- What are the main strategies, focus areas, measures, approaches?
- What countries and regions are exploring interesting approaches?
- 3. Showcasing promising examples
- What are the main lessons, conditions for success and obstacles?
- What type of support is needed to extend this kind of practice?
- 4. Designing network support activities
- Where can networking contribute to developing and delivering the appropriate tools?
- What support can be given to help develop these tools?

5. Dissemination

- Messages, recommendations, practical guidelines, examples?
- · What methods of communication are preferred?

