Conference organisation

The expected number of participants is 60 – 80. Participation is free of charge, and a lunch buffet, coffee and after-conference drinks will be provided. Participants must bear the costs for accommodation and travel, and will receive further details and hotel information upon registration.

Date: Tuesday 15 June 2010

Conference Venue:

Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the European Union, Rue Montoyer 47, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Registration:

Please register online at http://www.rudi-europe.net/rudi_conference.html or send an e-mail to: conference@rudi-europe.net

Preliminary schedule

10 h	Welcome remarks	DG Research, Simone Schiller, RuDl
10.15 h	The EU perspective of Rural Development after 2013: DG Agri DG Regio	Invited speakers
10.45 h	The RuDI project – Overview of the research project and its main findings	RuDI team
	Walk, see and reflect – Case study presentations	Poster session during lunch
12.30 h	Lunch	
14 h	Insights into process effects: • Rural development policy – opportunities for change • Improving policy evaluation – improving evaluation policy	RuDI team facilitated discussion
16 h	Concluding remarks	OECD
1630 h	Post-conference informal exchange	





RuDI Final Conference

Beyond indicators: evaluating the processes of EU rural development policies

15 June 2010, Brussels*, Belgium



RUDI final conference

Context

With the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), the European Commission and Council are supporting a more strategic and objective-led approach to rural development policy. The research project 'Assessing the Impacts of Rural Development Policies (incl. LEADER)' (RuDI), carried out from 1 February 2008 to 31 October 2010, examines the formulation, implementation and impacts of European rural development policies across all member states in the 2007-13 programming period. The conference takes place at a time when the Commission is considering its proposals for the 2014-2020 framework period.

Objectives of the conference

- Better understanding of the diversity of EU Rural Development Programmes, their priorities, and implementation.
- Insight into the process effects of Rural Development programming, implementation and evaluation.
- Discussion of possible improvements of policies that more effectively target the challenges of Rural Development in Europe.
- Exchange and networking between Rural Development stakeholders and the RuDl consortium to foster mutual learning and knowledge sharing for the development of better policies.

Content of the conference

- Keynote speakers from DG Agriculture, DG Regio and OECD
- Presentation of the main findings and policy recommendations of the RuDI project
- Illustration by in-depth case studies of: Vertical and horizontal policy coordination issues; LEADER mainstreaming and evaluation; Sustaining marginal rural areas; New delivery systems for agri-environmental measures; Policy targeting and efficiency issues

- Comments from stakeholders from EU and national policy level, researchers, evaluators and other interested participants
- Discussion of the findings and recommendations with conference participants

Target group

- Policy decision makers from European countries
- Key actors and researchers in rural development institutions
- Representatives of DG Agri, DG Regio, the European Network for Rural Development, and the European Evaluation Network for Rural Development

RuDI is made possible by financial support from the European Commission. For further information about the **RuDI** project please visit www.rudi-europe.net



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