

EN RD Contact Point support to Transnational Cooperation (TNC) between Local Action Groups (LAGs)

The EN RD website (<http://enrd.ec.europa.eu>) will be the place where LAGs will find the core support tools for TNC. Hosted by the European Commission's Europa Internet portal, the EN RD website will provide a package of transnational cooperation facilities and guidance tools to address the needs of LAGs seeking to start developing TNC projects in the current Rural Development Programme (RDP) funding period.

Web-based Integrated European Guide for Transnational Cooperation

A variety of guidance materials have been produced in the past about rural development and TNC. Many of these have been prepared by National Rural Networks and provide a mix of useful methodological or technical advice on TNC approaches. These materials have now been distilled and re-packaged in one 'Integrated European Cooperation Guide', which aims to provide an effective cooperation tool tailored to the needs of the current 2007-2013 programming period.

The Guide, which is planned to go on-line in March 2010, will cover a range of relevant TNC information focusing on two core aims:

- to clarify what cooperation is and the benefits it can bring; and
- to present a comprehensive step by step series of methodological guidance, that clearly explains concepts linked to planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of cooperation projects.

A download option will be offered later this year. This pdf-version will integrate features of a print publication, allowing project promoters to consult the Guide offline.

Databases and dynamic tools

The Contact Point plans also to make available online during spring 2010 structured databases and an interactive feature to facilitate TNC. These include:

- a European LAG database;
- a partner search tool (PST), where LAG will be invited to post their rural development project ideas, for which they are searching for transnational partners;
- a database of TNC projects approved to date by the Managing Authorities.

For further information please contact the Contact Point: cooperation@enrd.eu, +32 2 235 20 20