



# RDPE Network: Delivering Success through Local Action

3rd and 4th February 2010

Dunchurch Park Hotel and Conference Centre

The purpose of the RDPE Network is to support the delivery of the RDPE, by sharing ideas, knowledge, experience, and practice. This event has been shaped by Local Action Groups and those organisations that work with them and aims to:

- Provide a structured networking opportunity for LAGs and their associates to meet and share their ideas, knowledge, experience and practice at a national level;
- Build understanding about the role of the RDPE mid-term evaluation;
- Share the different approaches and models that LAGs are developing to bring projects forward, engage LAG members in delivery, capture and assess the benefits of their activity to their rural areas and engage in transnational and inter-territorial cooperation; and
- Provide an update on the information, support and services available from the RDPE Network and an opportunity to shape and inform the activities of the Network in 2010-2011

## WEDNESDAY 3rd February (OPTIONAL)

- 18.30 Pre-dinner networking and fringe activities
- 19.45 Welcome and Network Dinner
- 21.00 Delivering Success through Local Action, A European Perspective – Professor Michael Dower, University of Gloucestershire

## THURSDAY 4th February

- 09.00 Registration and tea and coffee on arrival**
- 09.30 Welcome and format for the day – Rebecca Frost, RDPE Network, Commission for Rural Communities
- 09.40 Update on the RDPE Network's activity in 2009 – Rebecca Frost
- 09.50 The Leader approach: Progress to date and challenges ahead – Amanda Desmond, Defra
- 10.10 Introduction to the workshops and table discussions – Rebecca Frost
- 10.15 Table discussion 1: Linking regional and national networking activities
- 10.45 Refreshments and fringe activities**



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11.15 Workshops:

**Workshop 1**

Different ways to bringing projects forward (2 groups) led by:

- a) Ivan Hewitt – Northumberland Coast and Lowlands
- b) Paul Crompton – Northern Lincolnshire LAG

This workshop will explore the different methods available for engaging potential project applicants. Participants will consider target audiences, what is required to engage them, what key messages need to be communicated and how this could be done.

**Workshop 2**

Engaging LAG members in delivery (2 groups) led by:

- a) Bob Watters - Forest of Dean
- b) Judy Bell - Lindsey Action Zone

This workshop will explore how to keep LAG members interested and involved in the work of their LAG. Participants will consider the roles and responsibilities of LAG members and how these can be developed to ensure that the LAG makes best use of the knowledge and expertise of those who work within it.

**Workshop 3**

Practical methods of capturing & assessing delivery of RDPE opportunities through LAGs (2 groups) - led by:

- a) Kate Forrest - Southern Oxfordshire Leader and Liz Byrne - EMB Consulting Ltd
- b) Cath John - adventa LAG, Monmouthshire

This workshop will look at how LAGs can assess the impact of their activity on their local area. It will explore how project outcomes that may sit outside and complement the current Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (CMEF) may be captured and used to assess the full value of LAG activities. Participants will consider how LAGs may capture this information as efficiently as possible so as not to detract from their delivery responsibilities or duplicate existing CMEF data.

**Workshop 4**

Trans-national & inter-territorial cooperation (1 group) – led by:

- a) Thomas Mueller – Sauwald LAG, Austria

This workshop will share case studies and encourage discussion around the benefits of transnational and inter-territorial cooperation, offering practical advice on how to get started, what is involved and what pitfalls to avoid.

**12.30 Networking lunch and fringe activities**



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## THURSDAY 4th CONTINUED

13.30 Workshops repeated:

### **Workshop 1**

Different ways to bringing projects forward (2 groups) led by:

- c) Ivan Hewitt – Northumberland Coast and Lowlands LAG
- d) Paul Crompton – Northern Lincolnshire LAG

### **Workshop 2**

Engaging LAG members in delivery (2 groups) led by:

- c) Bob Watters - Forest of Dean
- d) Judy Bell - Lindsey Action Zone

### **Workshop 3**

Practical methods of capturing & assessing delivery of RDPE opportunities through LAGs (2 groups) - led by:

- c) Jenny Archard - Making it Local, Blackdown Hills and East Devon
- d) Cath John - adventa LAG, Monmouthshire

### **Workshop 4**

Trans-national & inter-territorial cooperation (1 group) – led by:

- b) Thomas Mueller – Sauwald LAG, Austria

14.45 Reconvene and brief report back from the workshops – Rebecca Frost

### **15.15 Refreshments and fringe activities**

15.40 Introduction to table discussions – Rebecca Frost

15.45 Table discussion 2: Shaping the activity of the RDPE Network in 2010-2011 (top 3 priorities)

16.05 Brief report back from tables on priorities identified – Rebecca Frost

16.15 Conclusions and next steps - Sarah McAdam, Chief Executive, Commission for Rural Communities

**16.30 Close**

*(Continued overleaf)*



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## **Fringe Activities available 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> February**

- Information Exchange – an area to share leaflets, publications and display banners
- Question Boards – for posing your queries on RDPE delivery or the RDPE Network
- Website corner – an opportunity to explore what is available via the RDPE Network website and add your feedback and ideas for its development
- LAG map – a visual aid to highlight the LAG areas throughout England
- Washing Line – a place to air examples and ideas that might help others with their delivery!
- Delivering the forestry priorities in your LDS – find out what information and tools are available via the RDPE Network website to help delivery of RDPE forestry priorities.

For further information please see the RDPE Network website  
[www.rdpnetwork.org.uk](http://www.rdpnetwork.org.uk), e-mail [rdpnetwork@ruralcommunities.gov.uk](mailto:rdpnetwork@ruralcommunities.gov.uk) or tel: 01242 534054



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