



*European Economic and Social Committee*

**Section for Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment**

***DRAFT PROGRAMME***

**Public Hearing**  
**Leader as a tool for local development**

**20 June 2011**

***EESC, meeting room JDE 51\****

**Interpreting (8/5):** ES/CS/DE/EN/FR/IT/NL/PL into CS/DE/EN/FR/PL

10.00 a.m. Hearing chaired by **Mr Hans-Joachim Wilms**, President of the Sustainable Development Observatory, EESC

**Welcome address**

- **Mr Mario Campi**, President of the Section for Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment, EESC

**Intervention by**

- **Mr Juraj Chmiel**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic

10.15 a.m. **Introduction and presentation of the EESC preliminary draft opinion on the Leader approach**

- **Mr Roman Haken**, EESC Rapporteur on LEADER and its principles

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10.30 a.m.	<b>The principles of the Leader approach; lessons learned and future potential for local rural development.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ DG Agriculture and Rural Development, European Commission</li></ul>
10.50 a.m.	<b>Examples of Leader in practice. Case studies and lessons learned</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Mr Gérard Peltre</b>, president of the international association Rurality-Environment-Development (R.E.D)</li><li>▪ PREPARE NETWORK (tbc)</li></ul>
11.20 a.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.40 a.m.	<b>Cohesion policy support for local development: the role of local partnerships and funding aspects</b> (title tbc) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Mr Christian Svanfeldt</b>, DG Regional Policy, European Commission</li></ul>
12.00 a.m.	<b>Leaderization of European space? Challenges and opportunities.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Mr Oldřich Čepelka</b>, Czech National Rural Observatory</li></ul>
12.20 a.m.	<b>Panel discussion: Lessons learned from the application of the Leader approach in rural development and potential for mainstreaming.</b>
12.45 p.m.	<i>Conclusions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Mr Hans-Joachim Wilms</b>, President of the study group, EESC</li></ul> <b>End of the hearing</b>
1.00 p.m.	<i>Buffet lunch offered by the European Economic and Social Committee</i>
2.30 p.m.	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Study Group Meeting of NAT/502 Leader and its principles</b>
6.00 p.m.	<b>End of Study Group Meeting</b>