



European Network for
Rural Development

Rural development policy: Accomplishments since Cork II Prospects post 2020

Reflections from the experience of rural networking

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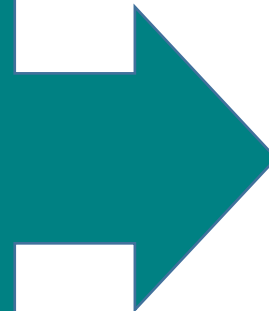
Joint Event of the European Economic and Social Committee and the
European Rural Parliament

14th March 2019, Brussels

- 1. The potential of European Rural Networking**
- 2. Networking for Cork**
- 3. Challenges/opportunities for the future**

Why network in rural areas

- Lack of scale, low density, distance
- Low skills, no knowledge centres
- Digital divide/opportunity
- Growing importance of value chains, productive networks, clusters....

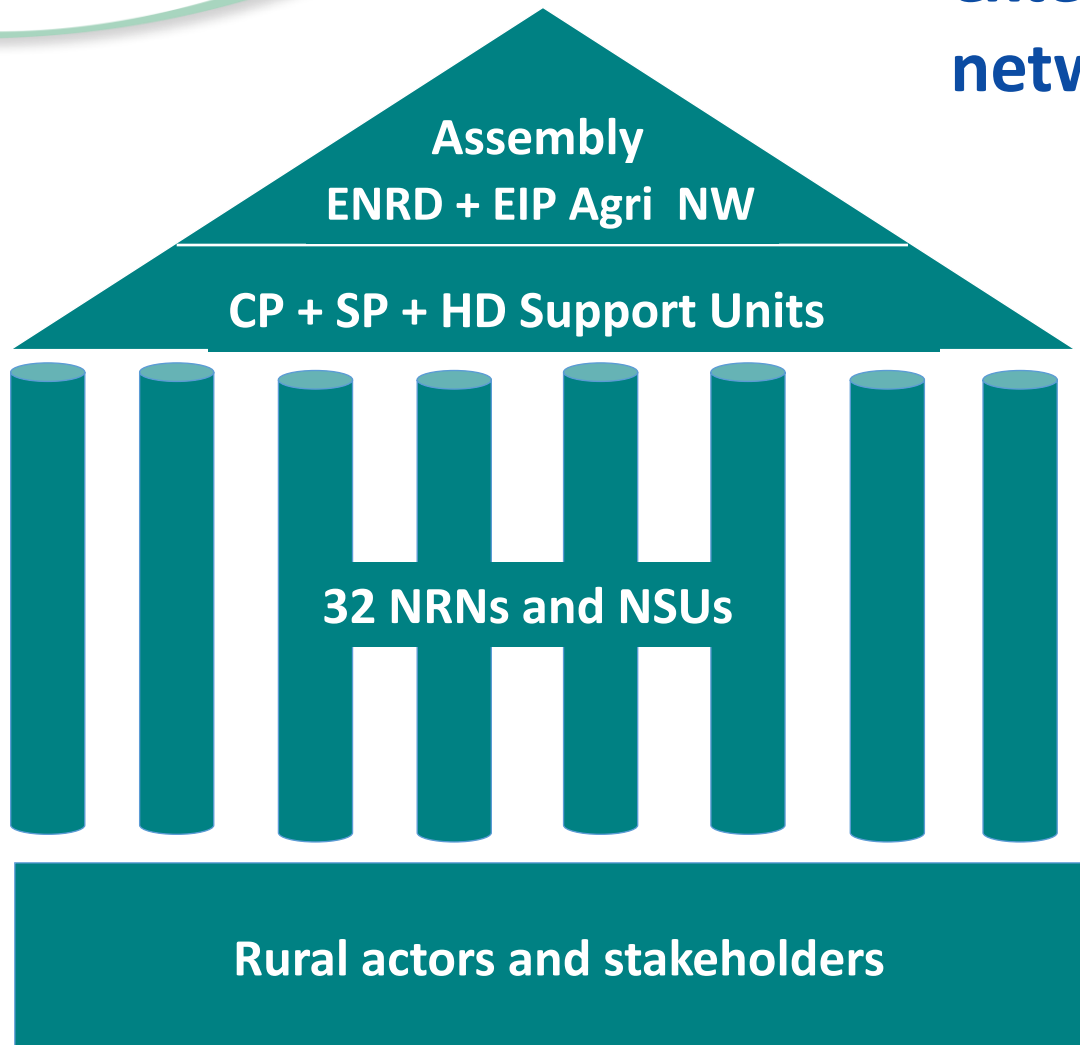


Policies do not just trickle down to rural areas.

Need to build linkages, outreach, relays,.....

NETWORKS,
COOPERATION...

One of the most extensive policy networks in the EU

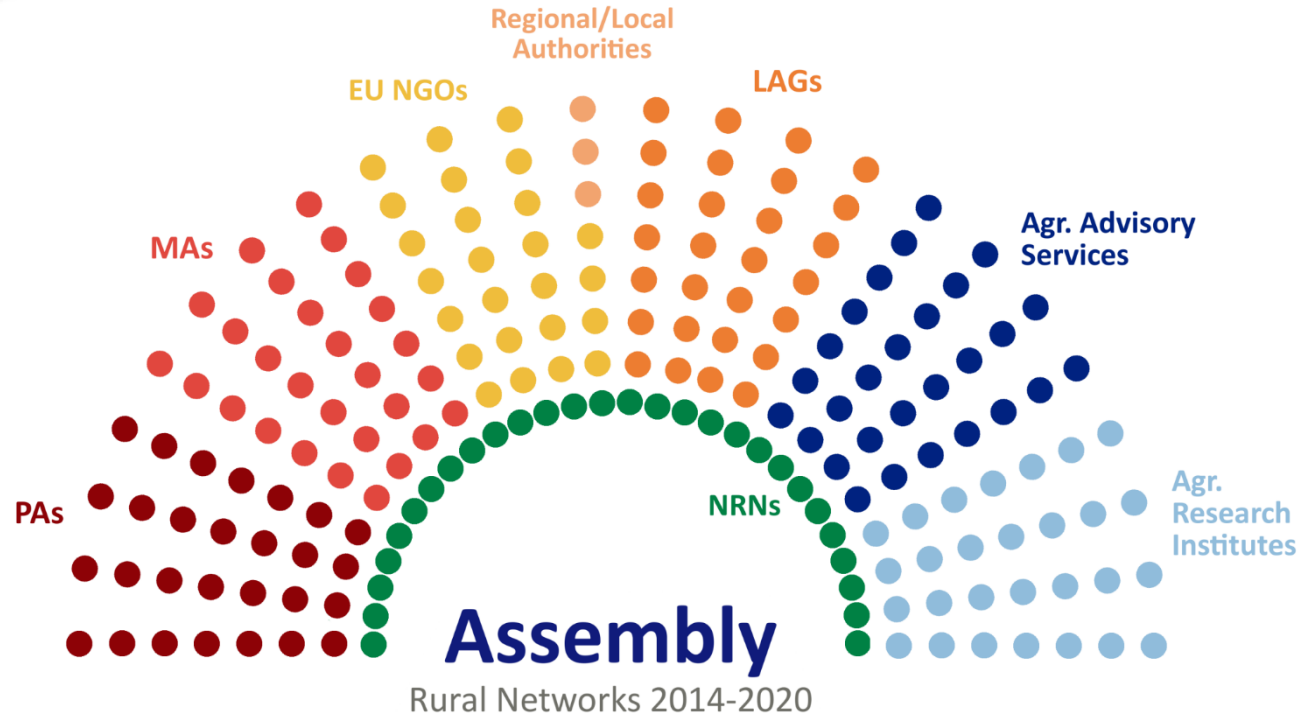


More stakeholder
participation

Better policy

Greater awareness

RN Assembly – bringing rural stakeholders together



'Governmental' representatives

- 28 Managing Authorities
- 28 Paying Agencies

'Civil + Local' representatives

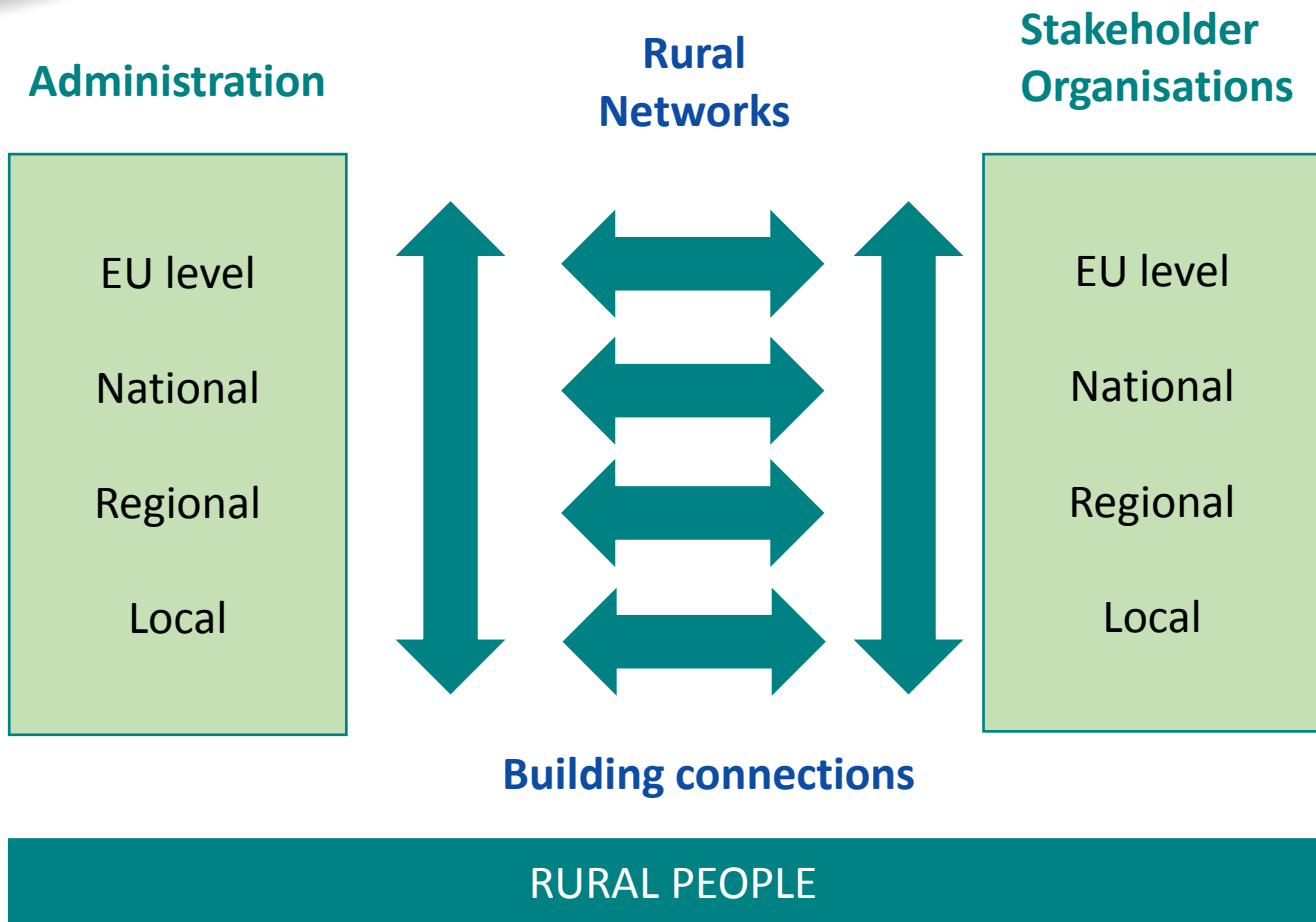
- 25 EU NGOs
- 3 Regional/Local Authorities Organizations
- 28 LEADER Local Action Groups

'Innovation' representatives

- 28 Agriculture Advisory Services
- 28 Agriculture Research Institutes

All categories representatives ● 28 National Rural Networks

How can rural networks help?



RN Assembly

Cork 2.0

1. Simplification	1. Promoting rural prosperity
2. Advisory services-knowledge transfer-innovation	2. Strengthening rural value chains
3. Local food- short supply chain-urban-rural, small farms	3. Investing in rural viability and vitality
4. Pillar 1- Pillar 2 linkages	4. Preserving the rural environment
5. Demographic change + social inclusion	5. Managing Natural resources
6. Multifund approaches	6. Encouraging climate action
7. Green economy, jobs + growth	7. Boosting knowledge and innovation
8. Starting up NRNs	8. Enhancing rural governance
9. Evaluating network activities	9. Advancing policy delivery and simplification
10. Climate change	10. Improving policy delivery and accountability

RED – Governance, policy simplification, integration & evaluation

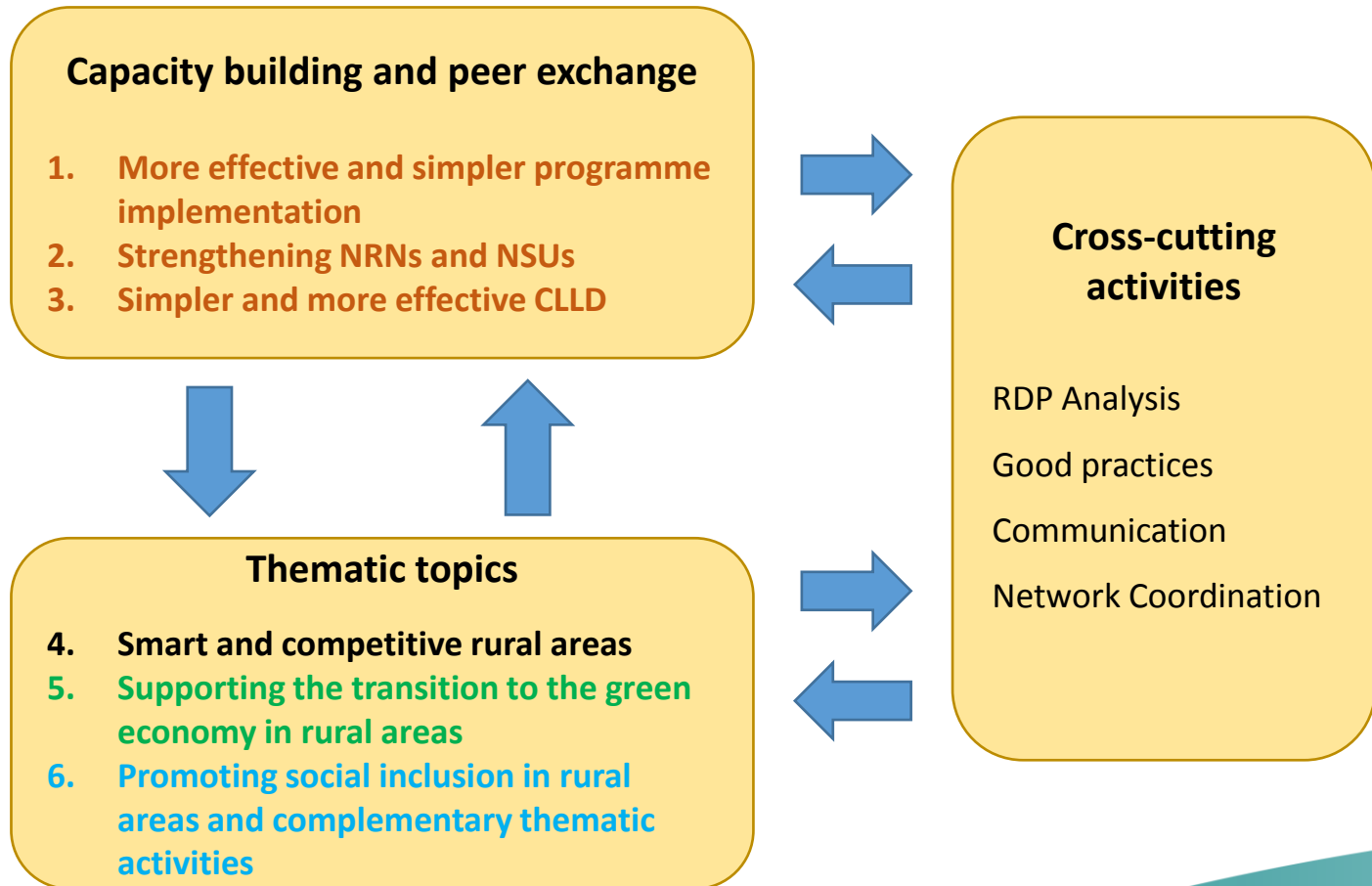
BLACK – Competitiveness

GREEN – Environmental

BLUE – Social

PURPLE – Innovation

Networking on Cork Priorities



Thematic alignment with Cork

Smart

**Food supply
chains**

Businesses

Smart Villages

Green

**Transition to
green
economy**

**Resource
efficiency
(water + soil)**

Bioeconomy

Inclusive

**Generational
renewal/youth**

**Social
inclusion**

Overcoming the divides:

- Between sectoral (farming) and territorial development
- Between public (municipal) and civil society (LEADER + others)
- Between urban and rural
- Between local and other levels
- Between formal + informal networks + institutions
(partnership)

Challenges/opportunities 2

Strengthening the framework of European Rural Policy:

- Promoting the rural voice within major EU policy initiatives. Use of Research and Cooperation – **Proofing**;
- Strategic deployment of the Rural Development **toolkit** of interventions in MS as a **catalyst** for:-
- **Integrated rural investment strategies** from **all** funds and (financial) instruments (joined up governance at different levels).
- **Performance based networks** for a performance based delivery system (prioritisation, capacity to follow-through.....)



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Thank you very much!

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