

Sharing Best Practice



"One of the best, congratulations. We need more of this type of information session."

(Participant at UK National Rural Network event hosted by the Rural Network for Northern Ireland)

"Very useful, especially for anyone very new to all of this: concise information, clearly presented, enjoyable, useful"

(LAG training participant)



- In partnership with Calor implemented the CALOR Village of the Year Awards in Northern Ireland during its 5 year reign
- Delivery of Rural Challenge workshops as part of DARD Anti Poverty and Social Inclusion Programme 2009 and 2012
- On average 10 formal Presentations and invitations to speak on rural affairs per annum
- Development of DVD showcasing learning under the Maximising Community Space Programme
- A programme of 10 study visits under Maximising Community Space and Integrating Community Organisations
- Development of DVD showcasing learning under the Integrating Communities Programme
- On average 1575 visitors from over 140 countries accessing information on the RDC and Rural Network for Northern Ireland websites (www.rdc.org.uk and www.ruralnetworkni.org.uk)
- 6 issues of RURAL bi-annual newsletter issued and disseminated to over 200 contacts
- Rural Network for Northern Ireland contract secured October 2008
- 200 network members representing Local Action Groups (LAGs); Joint Council Committees (JCCs); Local and Central Government and other rural interests
- 57 training sessions delivered to 737 participants engaged in the delivery of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme
- Development and dissemination of biannual publication 'Rural Report'
- 9 factsheets developed and issued
- Ezines developed and disseminated to 240 users per month
- Hosted the first UK National Rural Network event attended by 190 from across UK, Ireland and Europe; active participation in UK National Rural Network activities
- Representative on ENRD Thematic Groups including: Focus Group 3: Implementation of the Measure Cooperation in LEADER European Working Group; and Youth and Young Farmers in Rural Areas Thematic Initiative
- Design and development of several sharing practice case study booklets showcasing Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme activities including Women in Rural Development, Village Renewal and Across Axes activities.
- Range of thematic activity on rural themes including Children & Young People; ICT; Local Food; Women in Rural Development; Access to Services; Enterprise; Social Economy, Social Farming
- Facilitation of a range of meetings to enhance communications across the Programme including Cluster Networking, Communications and Cooperation Working Groups
- Participating judge in the Drumfries and Galloway LEADER awards
- Management of 10 study visits for those involved in the delivery of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme
- Hosting of annual Networking residential with average attendance of 90 participants from across LAGs, JCCs and Managing Authority.

We do this:
So our lessons and the lessons of others can lead to future successes.