



One network, 3 policy principles

Inform

One of the NRN's missions is to disseminate information about its activities and about rural development in France. In addition to organised events, the NRN's main communication tool is the reseau rural.fr website.

Mobilise

In order to meet their objectives, the different rural networks bring together a variety of stakeholders : associations, project leaders, LEADER local action groups and EIP operational groups.

Capitalise

The NRN's actions include organising discussions on the challenges facing rural areas, launching calls for proposals to gain clearer insight into a particular issue and come up with collective, tangible solutions, and publishing its newsletter and magazine.

The NRN supports rural areas

Rural networks are a European initiative. They have been set up in each Member State for the 2014-2020 programming period¹.

Designed by the regional councils, the rural development programmes are part of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, and address six policy priorities :

fostering knowledge transfer and innovation

improving the viability and competitiveness
of all types of farming

promoting food chain organisation, animal welfare and
agricultural risk management

restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems

promoting the efficient use of resources and supporting the
transition to a climate-resilient economy

promoting social inclusion, poverty reduction
and economic development

¹ Pursuant to Article 54 of Regulation (EU) No 1305/2013 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

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www.reseaurural.fr



rrf@reseaurural.fr



C'est ensemble que se construit l'avenir des territoires

FRENCH NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK

Working for rural areas' interests

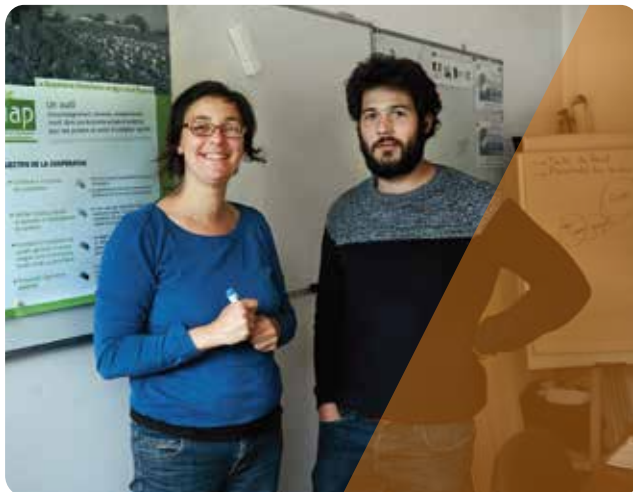


What is the rural network ?

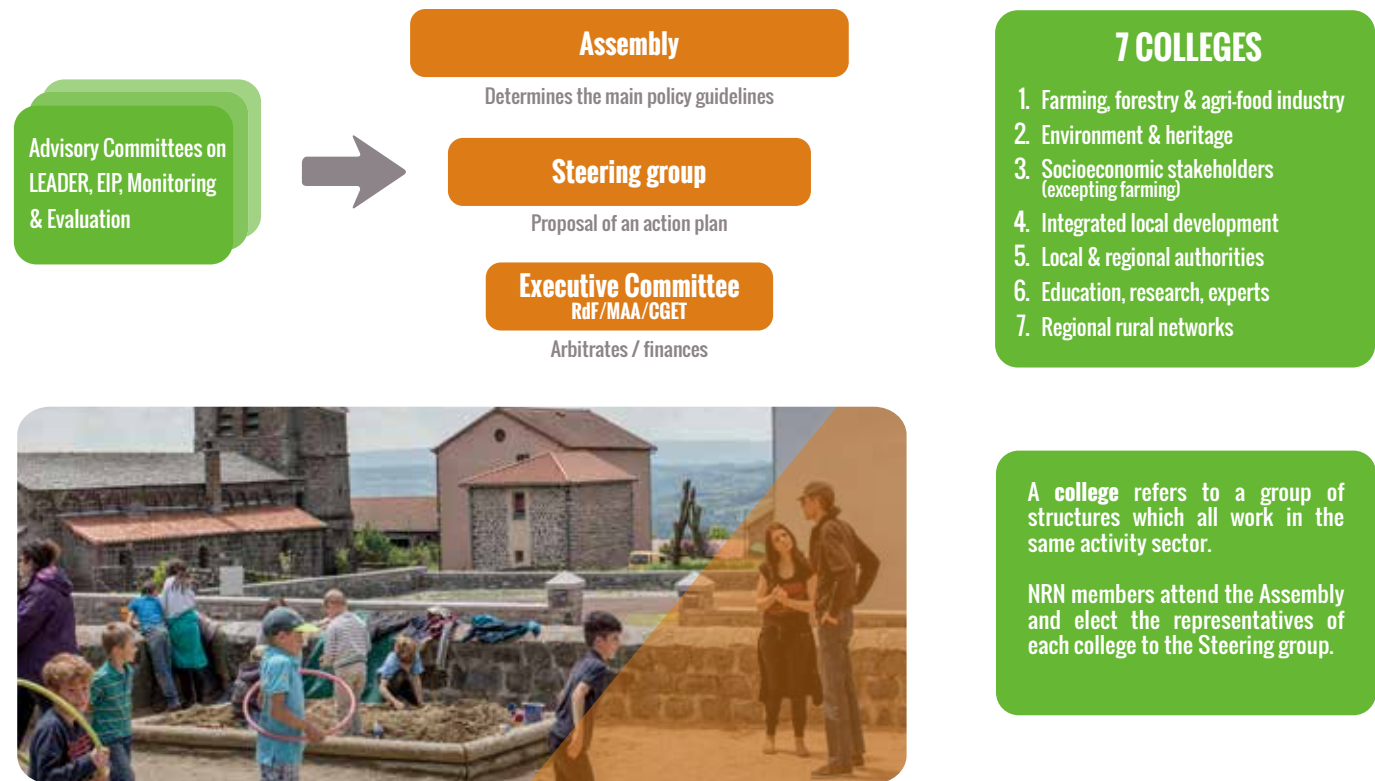
Part of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) finances development projects in rural areas. In France, €11.4bn are being raised for the 2014-2020 period through the 27 rural development programmes managed by the regional councils.

In this context, the national rural network (Réseau rural national/NRN) contributes to discussions, and debates on rural areas and policies serving their development. It facilitates dialogue between stakeholders and promotes local best practices. To support the regional rural networks, it is charged with pooling the activities fitting the needs of rural areas and with ensuring the coordination and correlation of local initiatives and the dissemination of results. Lastly, it works with the European Network for Rural Development (ENRD) alongside the other Member States.

The NRN is jointly overseen by the Ministry in charge of Agriculture (MAA), the General Commission for Territorial Equality (CGET) and the French Regions Association (RdF).



Organisation of the French National Rural Network



The national support unit ensures that the initiatives and activities of the network's members are promoted and capitalised on. It reports to the Executive Committee.

LEADER, European initiative supporting rural development projects at local level

This approach helps rural stakeholders, Local Action Groups (LAGs), boost the potential of their local area over the long term. It encourages the implementation of integrated local development strategies and fosters the experimentation of new practices.

European Innovation Partnership (EIP)

The EIP is aimed at developing interactive innovation by supporting partnerships particularly between stakeholders in the field. It is implemented in two ways :

- through projects or networks bringing together stakeholders from at least three Member States;
- at a regional level, through Operational Groups (OGs) in which a diverse range of stakeholders are involved.

Monitoring, evaluation and training

Together with a committee of national experts, the Ministry in charge of Agriculture carries out training activities as well as *in itinere* monitoring of the NRN. It is assisted in this task by the Rural Development Observatory (ODR), which particularly helps regions evaluate the implementation of their rural development programmes.