



WORKSHOP ESTABLISHING OPERATIONAL GROUPS
27 FEBRUARY 2014 - LISBON, PORTUGAL



Workshop "Establishing Operational Groups under Rural Development Programmes"

27 February 2014

**Organised by the European Commission and hosted by
the Portuguese National Authority for EAFRD and by the Portuguese Rural Network
at Tivoli Oriente Hotel, Lisbon, Portugal**

The European Innovation Partnership on "Agricultural Productivity and Sustainability" (EIP-AGRI) aims to boost innovation in agriculture and forestry all over the EU. To implement EIP projects, Rural Development offers a dedicated tool: the operational group.

In this context, DG AGRI organizes **a workshop that will focus on establishing Operational Groups under Rural Development Programmes**, which will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, on Thursday 27 February 2014 and will be kindly hosted by the Portuguese National Authority for EAFRD and by the Portuguese Rural Network.

The workshop aims to give stakeholders practical information on how to set up operational groups and will concentrate on:

- Introducing the key principles for practical implementation of the EIP AGRI, with a specific focus upon setting-up Operational Groups with RDP funding
- Providing specific examples of the form and function of Operational Groups and the necessary Innovation Support Services
- Facilitating the exchange of knowledge and experience between potential "EIP multipliers" participants
- Identifying practical next steps for "EIP multipliers" participants to stimulate / promote the practical implementation of the EIP AGRI
- Connecting any potential Operational Group partners that are participating



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Draft Programme

- 08:15 - 09:00 Registration
- 09:00 - 09:30 Welcome and Introduction
- 09:30 - 10:30 **Setting the Scene**
General principles and practice of the EIP-AGRI, including a brief overview about the general state of play with RDP / EIP programming in the participating countries (by DG AGRI)
Specific state of play with RDP / EIP programming in Portugal (by the Portuguese National Authority for EAFRD)
- 10:30 - 11:00 Break
- 11:00 – 13:00 **Putting Principles into Practice**
Concrete examples of projects for inspiration
- 13:00 – 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Think tanks (country group discussions)**
Country groups will be guided through a set of questions focusing on the setting up of Operational Groups
- 15:30 – 16:00 Break
- 16:00 – 16:45 **Feedback and Practical (SMART) Next Steps**
Conclusions from discussions in groups with the aim of identifying common key issues, reinforce important messages and highlight practical next steps
- 16:45 – 17:00 **Keeping in touch with the EIP-AGRI Service Point**
What the EIP-AGRI Service Point can do for you (by the Service Point)

The hosting organisations are offering all participants a **cooking show with Portuguese specialties** (a food tasting session with a Chef) the evening before the workshop, **26 February**. All participants are kindly requested to be ready to leave the Tivoli Oriente Hotel 26 February at 19:00. Further details will be sent later on. Please send us an email to let us know that you'll be joining to margarida.ambar@eip-agri.eu until the 20th February, otherwise we'll assume that you won't join this social event.