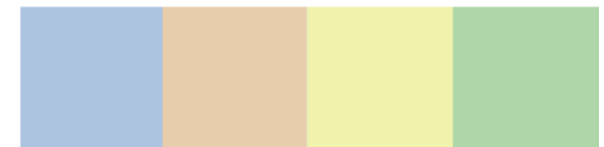


European Network for Rural Development (EN RD) 2007-2013

'Support services and activities including the Leader axis'

Seminar – National Rural Networks for Malta

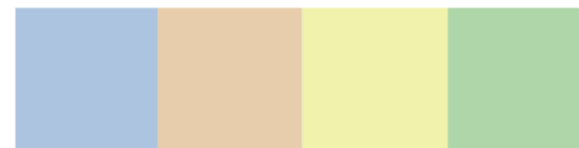
Martin Law, Group Leader, EN RD Contact Point

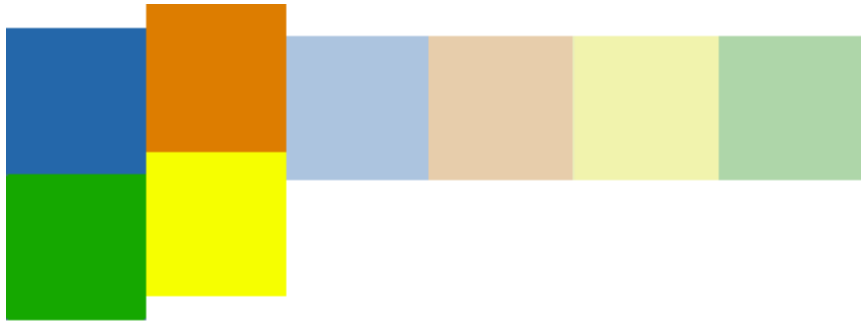




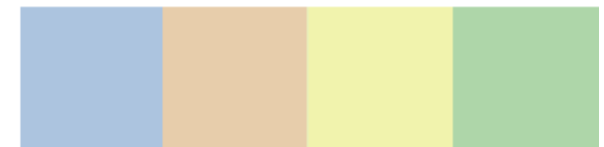
Outline of presentation

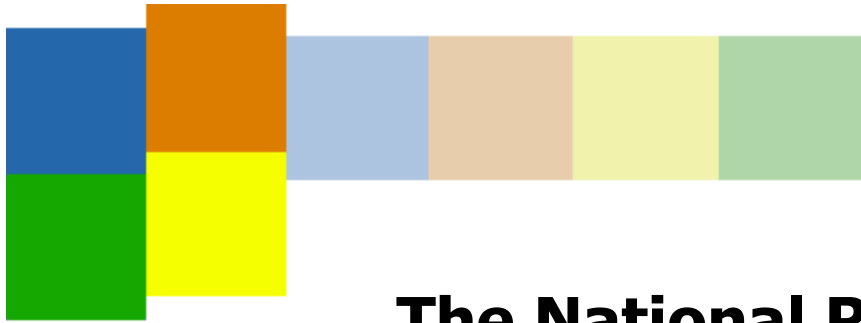
- **Legal basis and structures** of the EU and the national rural networks.
- **The Contact Point** of the European Network for Rural Development.
- **Overall organisation of the EN RD.**
- **Support services and activities 2009.**
- **Interlinks with the National Rural Networks.**





(1) Legal basis and structures of the EU and National rural networks





The National Rural Networks (1)

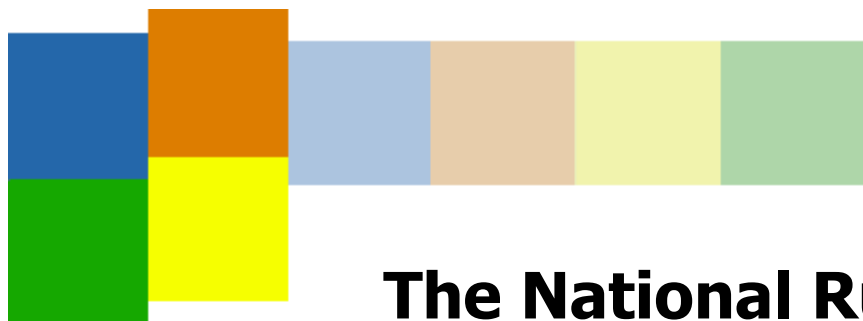
As part of the EU rural development policy for 2007-2013, each MS shall establish a *national rural network*, which groups the organisations and administrations involved in rural development.

Funding:

A part of the Technical Assistance of the Rural Development programmes

(1) Regulation 1698/2005 Article 68

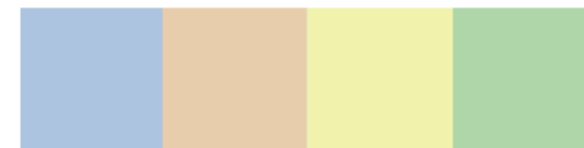




The National Rural Networks

Their action plan shall contain at least:

- the identification and analysis of good transferable practices and the provision of information about them,
- network management,
- the organisation of exchange of experience and know-how,
- the preparation of training programmes for LAGs in the process of formation,
- and technical assistance for inter-territorial and transnational cooperation.



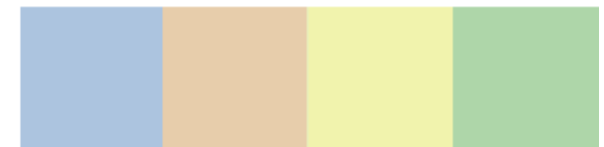


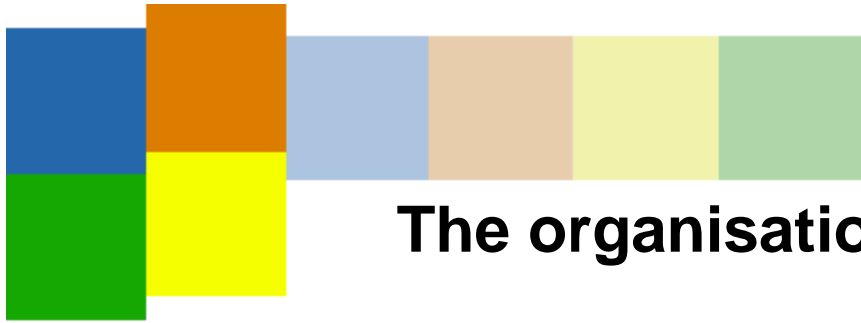
The European Network for Rural Development (EN RD)

Article 67 of Regulation 1698/2005 establishes a ***European Network for Rural Development*** for the networking of **national networks, organisations and administrations** active in the field of rural development.

Aims:

- To collect, analyse and disseminate information on RD measures;
- To consolidate good rural development practice
- To provide information on developments in rural areas;
- To organise meetings and seminars;
- To set-up and run rural expert networks (notably for evaluation);
- To support the national networks and transnational co-operation initiatives.





The organisational structure of the EN RD

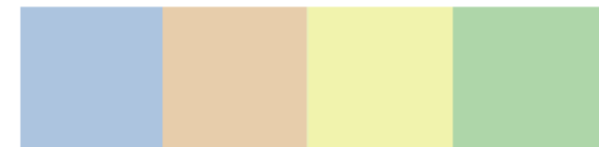
The implementing rules for organisational structure (**Commission Decision 168/2008**) establish:

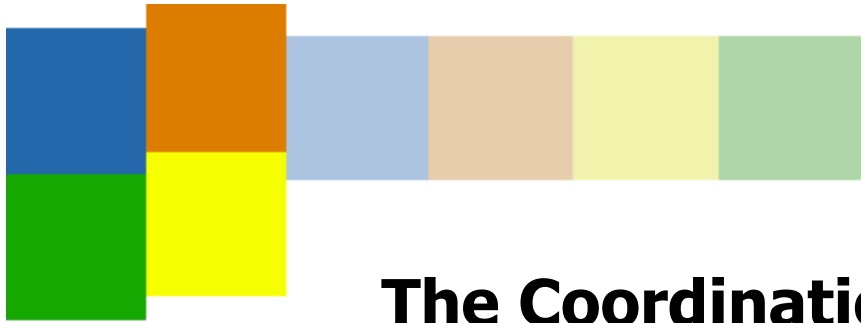
- 1) A Coordination Committee
- 2) A Leader Sub-Committee
- 3) Thematic working groups

- Supervision: AGRI G.3
- Support: Contact Point

- 4) *An Evaluation expert committee*

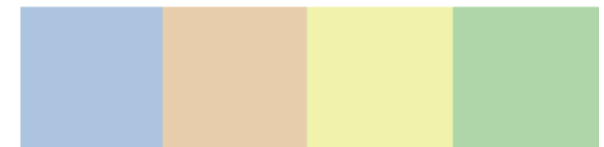
- Supervision: AGRI L.4
- Support: Helpdesk





The Coordination Committee

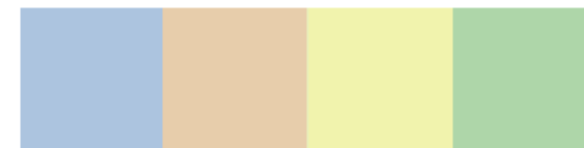
- **Composition (69 members):**
 - 27 from MS authorities + 27 from national networks
 - 12 from EU-wide organisations (covering the 4 Axis)
 - 2 from Leader sub-committee + 1 from EU-wide LAG-s organisation
- **Tasks:**
 - **To assist** the Commission in the preparation and implementation of network activities;
 - **To ensure coordination** between the EN RD, national rural networks and organisations active in rural development at Community level;
 - **To advise** the Commission on the **annual work programme** of EN RD, contribution to choice and coordination of thematic work;
 - **To propose** the creation of thematic working groups.





Leader sub-Committee

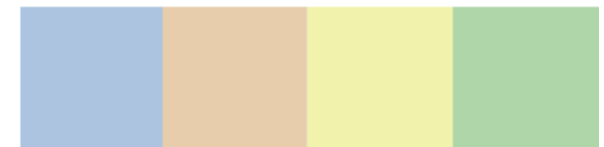
- **Composition** (67 members - *same organisations as in the CC, but possibly different nominees*):
 - 27 MS authorities, 27 national networks
 - 12 organisations active in RD
 - 1 EU-wide organisation representing LAGs
- **Tasks:**
 - Contributes to the work of CC, concerning the Leader Axis
 - Support the Commission in monitoring the implementation of transnational cooperation projects

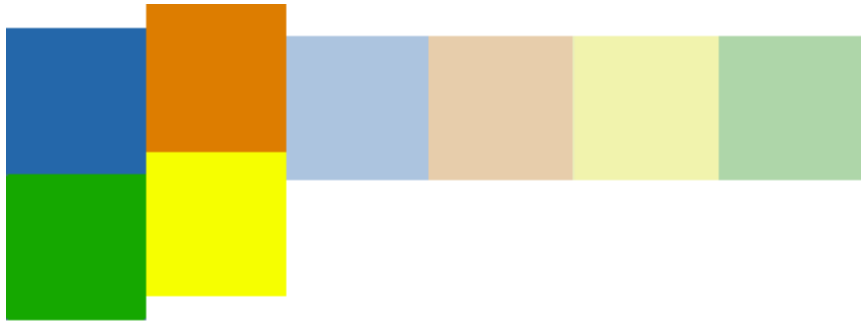




Thematic working groups

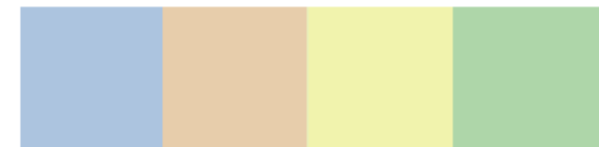
- Defined mandate, chaired by a representative of the Commission.
- Max 15 members, designated by the Commission, taking into account proposals made by the Coordination committee.
- Regular reporting to the Coordination committee on the subjects covered by their mandate.
- Final report – to the Coordination Committee at max two years after creation

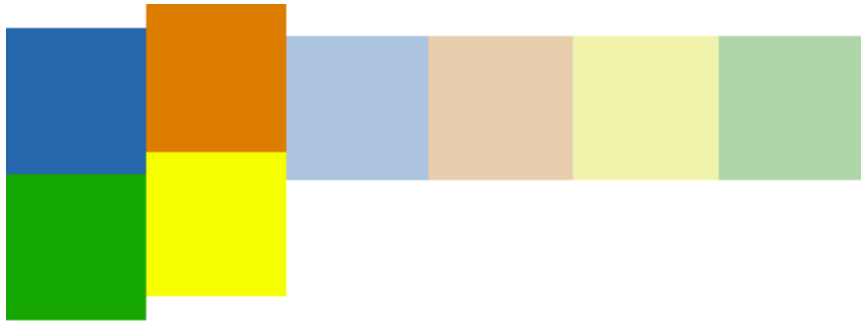




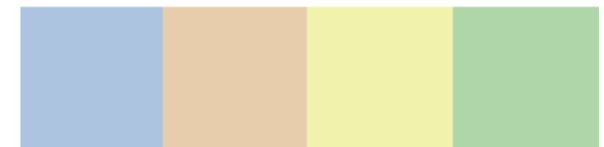
The evaluation expert committee

- Different composition than CC (2 representatives from each national competent authority)
- Different contact point (Evaluation Help desk)
- Different supervision in AGRI (lead: AGRI/L.4)



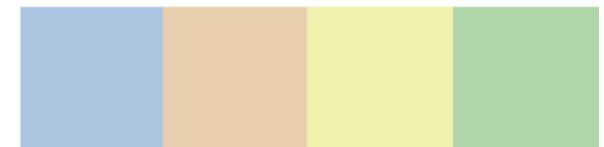
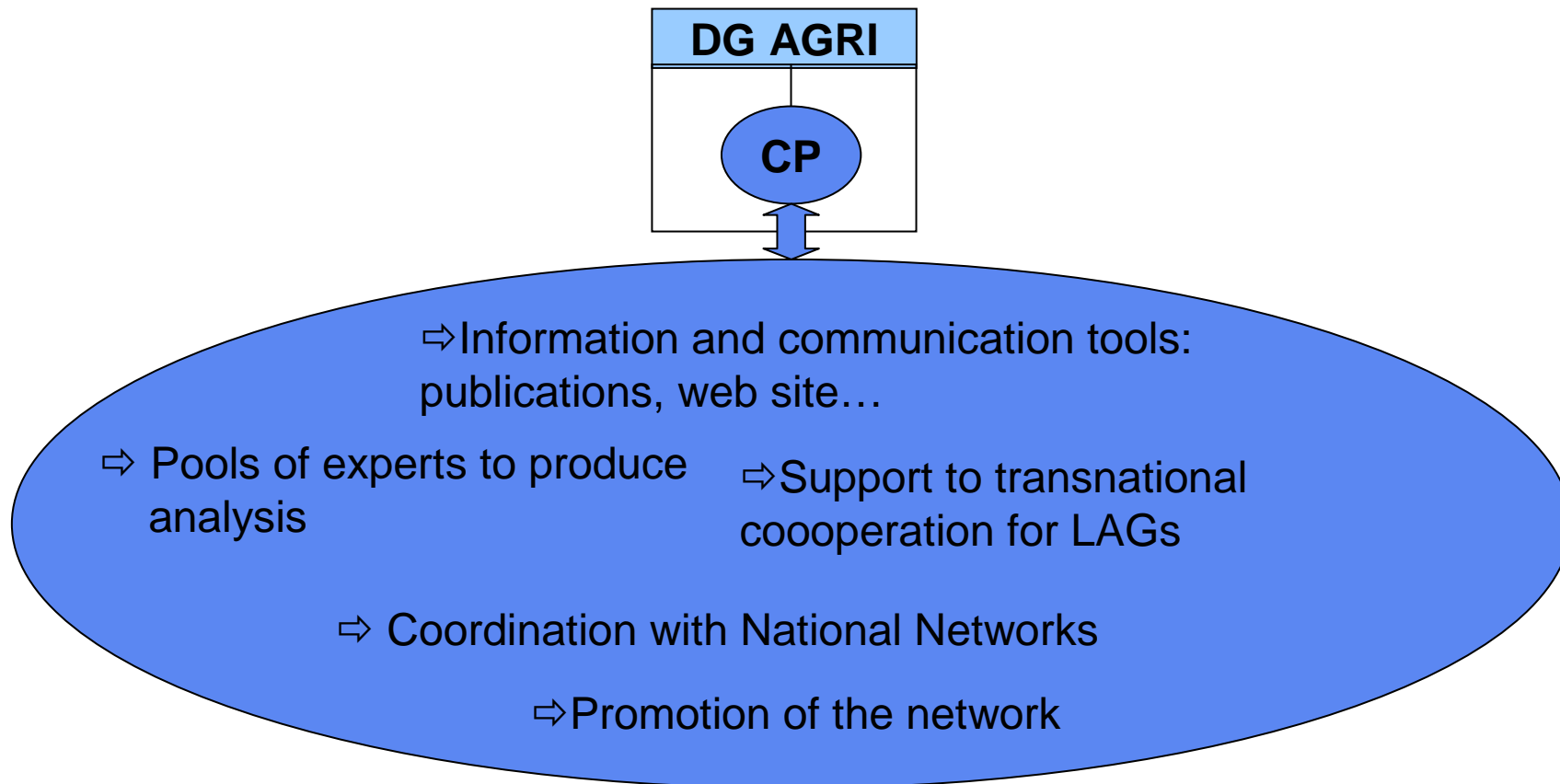


The Contact Point of the European Network for Rural Development 2007-2013





The CP will be the operational instrument of the network





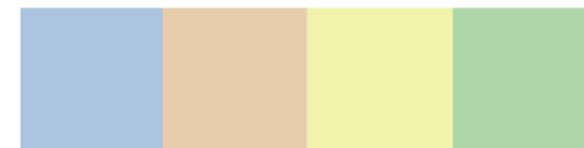
CP services and tools

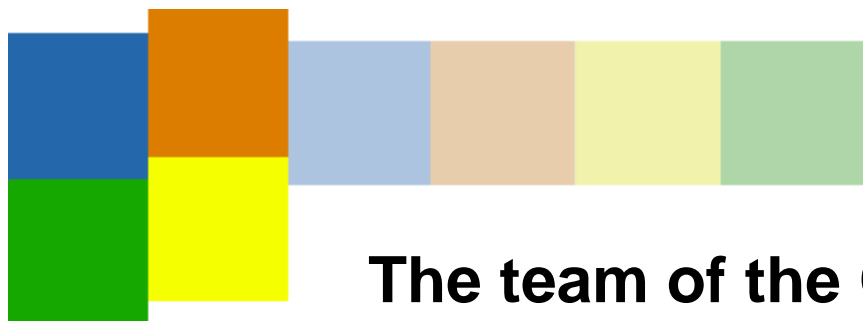
Services:

- Secretariat of ENRD structures + thematic groups
- **Support to LEADER transnational cooperation**
- Coordination with national networks
- Promotion and representation
- Good practices database
- (Support in analysis of monitoring indicators)

Communication tools :

- Information line
- EN RD Website (including Extranet facility)
- Seminars / conferences
- Publications (e-newsletter, periodicals, best practices, thematic publications)





The team of the Contact Point (CP)

■ **Contact details**

Contact Point of the EN RD

Rue du Marteau, 81

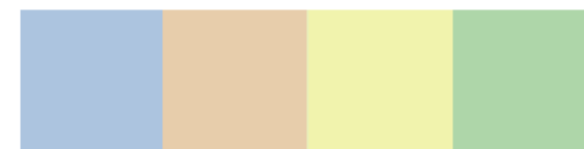
B - 1000 Bruxelles

Tel: +32.(0)2 235 20 20 -- Fax: +32.(0)2 280 04 38

E-mail: info@enrd.eu

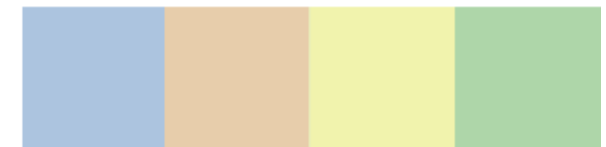
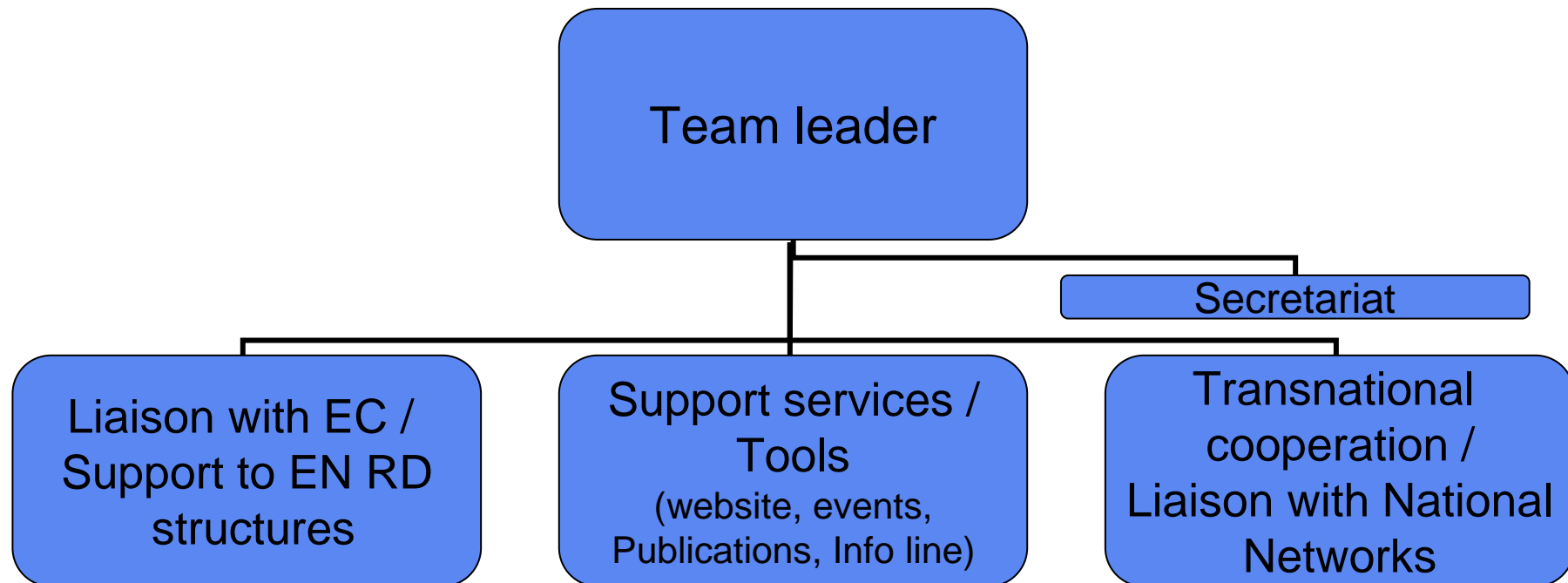
■ **Human resources:**

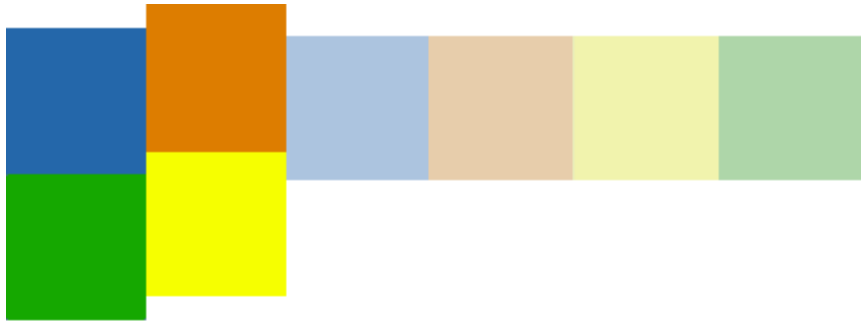
- 21 permanent staff
- A pool of non-permanent experts
- A team organised around three groups, each with allocated responsibility for the different services and tools



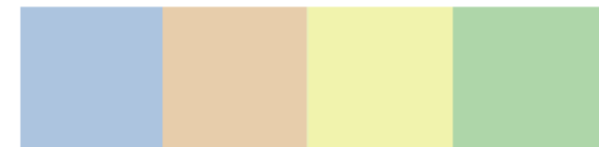


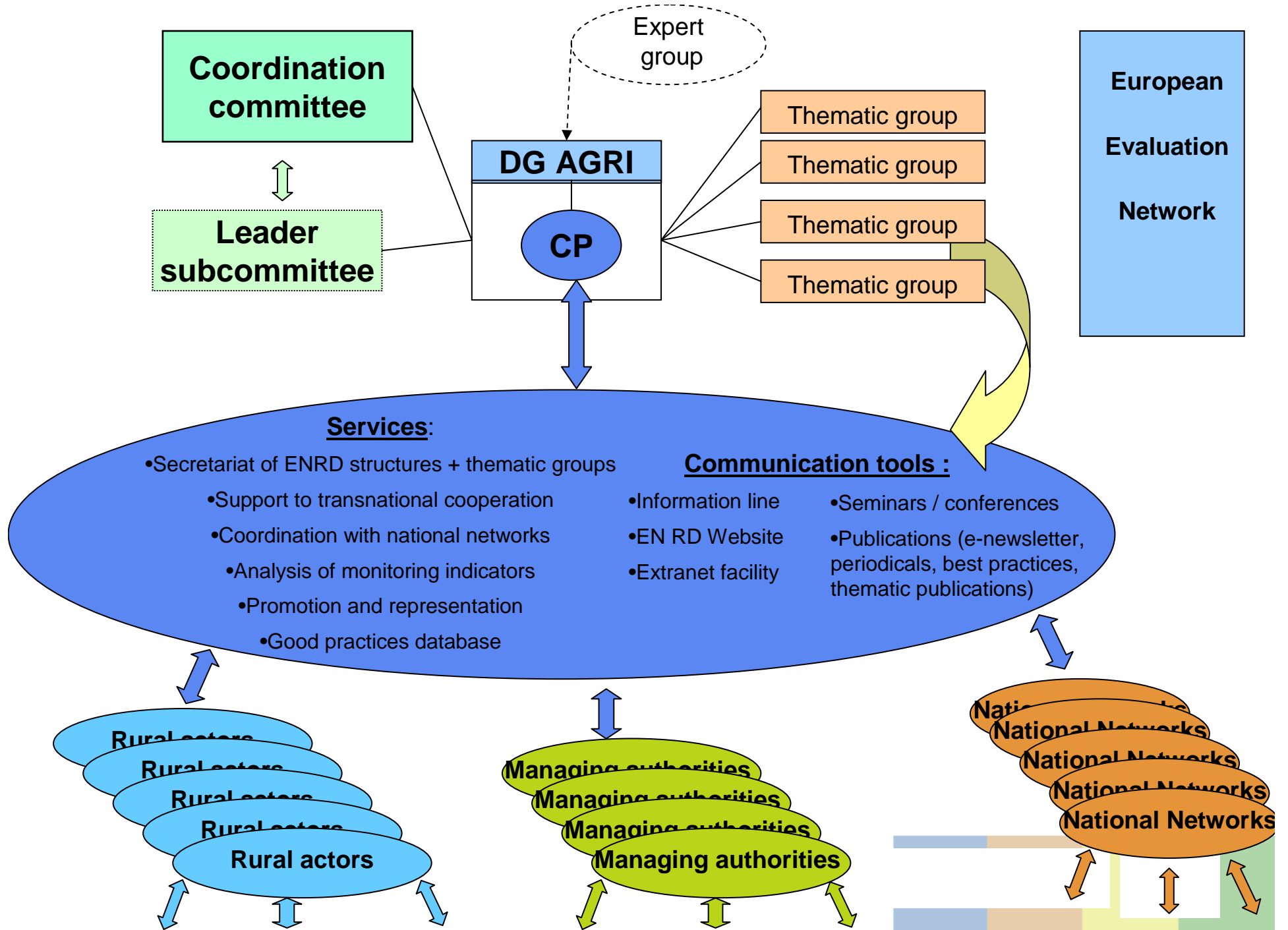
The team structure of the Contact Point

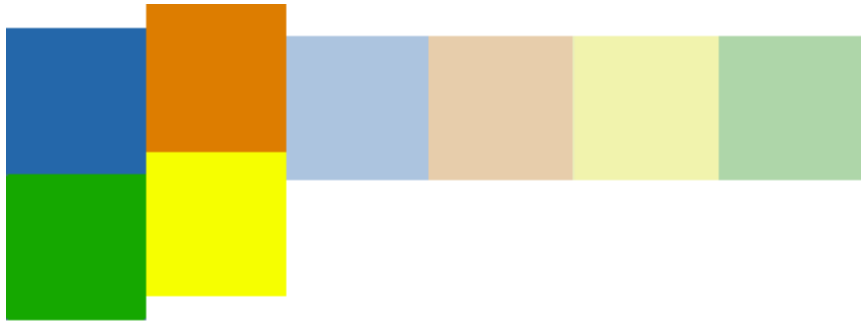




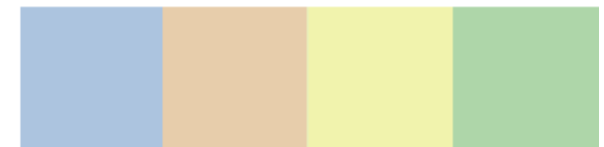
Overall structure of the European Network for Rural Development

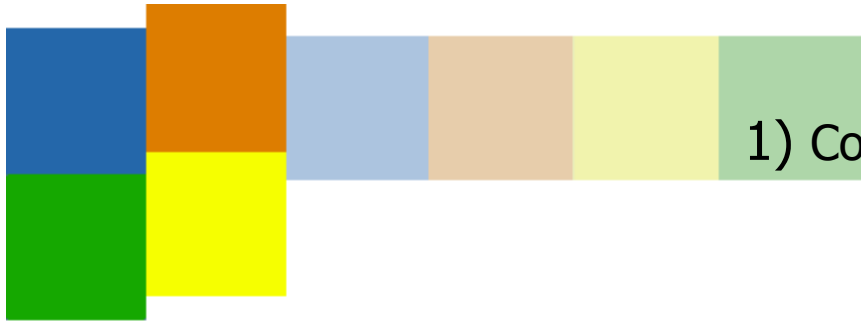






The proposed specific activities 2009

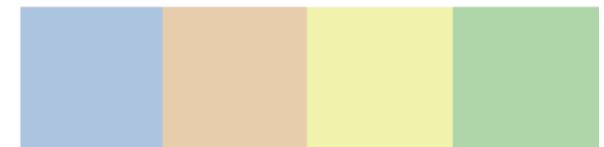


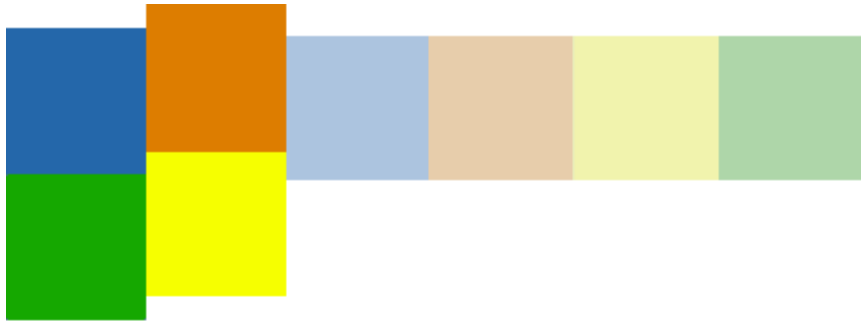


1) Coordination meetings

- **Coordination Committee :**
 - First meeting on 1st October 2008
 - **2nd meeting: 19 May 2009**
 - 3rd meeting in the Autumn 2009 (to be confirmed)

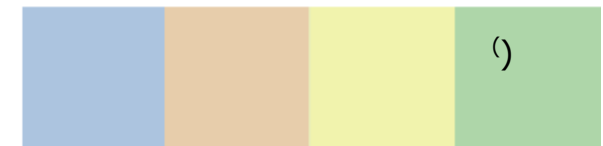
- **Leader sub-committee :**
 - First meeting on 26 November 2008
 - **2nd meeting: 28 April 2009**
 - 3rd meeting in the Autumn 2009 (to be confirmed)

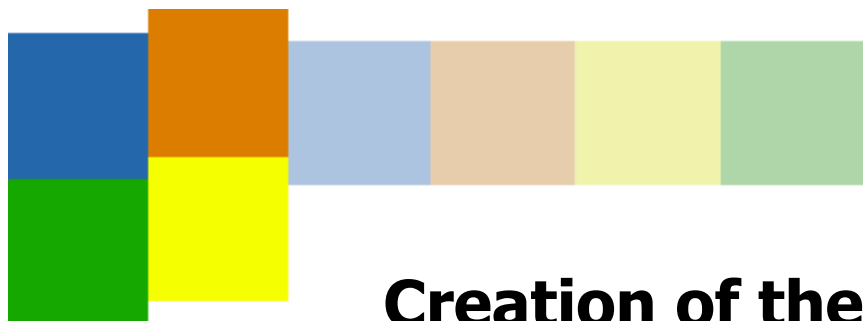




Progressive implementation of services of the CP

- The EN RD Website <http://enrd.ec.europa.eu>
- Support to **LEADER transnational cooperation** : setting-up of an on-line partner search tool, preparation of a database of LAGs, of a database of projects under approval...
- Preparation for the identification of **good practices**
- Support for the **monitoring of the RDPs**
- **Publications**: e-newsletters (4th issue to come), magazines (1st magazine to come), a compendium with a presentation of the NRNs, a summary of the RDPs, etc...
- Regular coordination **meetings with NRNs**





Creation of the first thematic working groups

Theme 1: Targeting territorial specificities and needs in RD programmes (pre-meeting on 11 March)

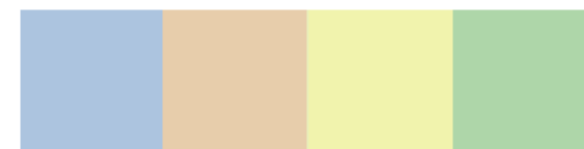
(An efficient targeting of territorial specificities and needs in RD programmes and a more balanced development of rural areas across Europe)

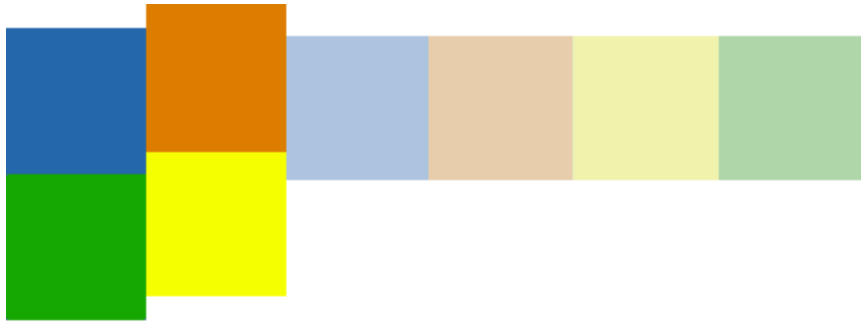
Theme 2: Agriculture and the wider rural economy (pre-meeting on 12 March)

(Identification and description of the relationships and potential synergies/conflicts between, on the one hand, agriculture and, on the other hand, the wider rural economy).

Theme 3: Public goods and public intervention (April 27)

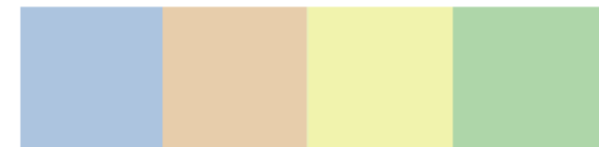
(RD interventions can enhance the provision of public goods for the benefit of society).

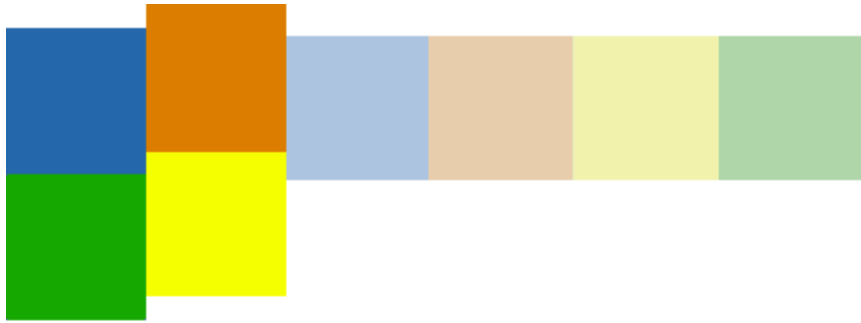




Specific seminars 2009

- Seminar on « Capacity building for national rural networks - The challenges of national rural networks to efficiently support the implementation of EU rural development policy» - **30-31 March in Bruxelles**
- Seminar on « Modernisation of semi-subsistence farms » - **date to be confirmed**

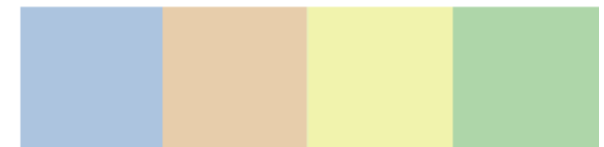


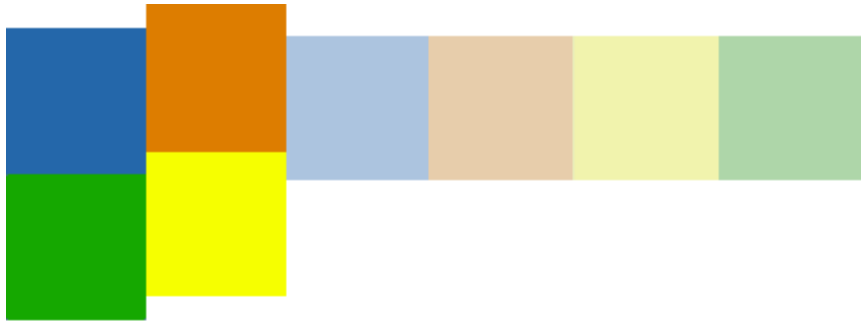


EN RD support and services for transnational cooperation under the Leader axis

There are four main initial areas of activity:

1. An inventory of needs and of existing guides
2. Development of an '*Integrated European Cooperation guide*'
3. Preparation and setting-up of databases
4. Prospective work on potential direct support to project holders



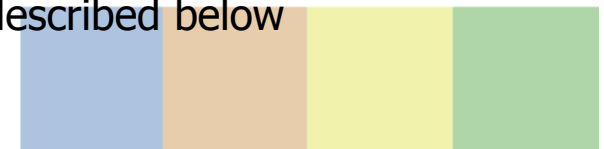


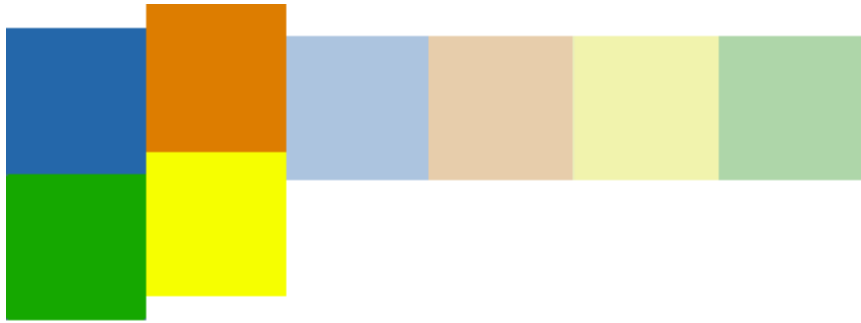
1. An inventory of needs and existing guides:

Based on a survey and interviews with NRNs and LAGs in order to identify and understand needs and priorities:

- To ascertain factual information regarding state of art: existing databases of TNC projects; cooperation guides; contacts; level of expertise/experience in different countries
- To help to identify needs and priorities of NRNs and LAGs and to help target the various support services
- It will involve classifying information according to different needs
- Involve the primary stakeholders; NNUs; LAGs, but may also take account of stakeholders from e.g. Nature Parks, Farming Associations; and other local development structures

The findings of this enquiry feed into activities 3 and 4 described below

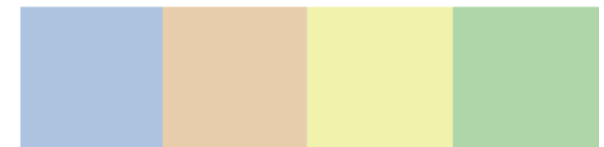


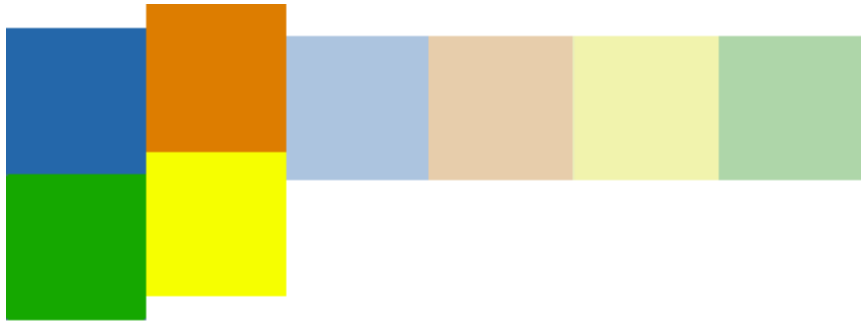


2. Development of an '*Integrated European Cooperation guide*'

The objective is to create an "Integrated European Cooperation Guide" based on existing guides to promote and facilitate transnational cooperation during the 2007-13 programming period, as a complement to the administrative guide "*GUIDE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MEASURE COOPERATION UNDER THE LEADER AXIS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES 2007-2013*" (already prepared by the EC).

It will provide practical information at project level, and should be considered as a support manual for the beneficiaries (LAGs and possibly project holders).

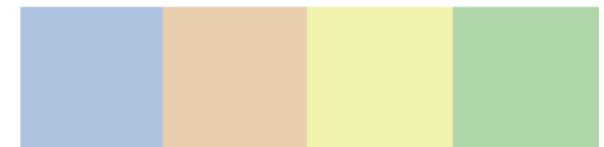


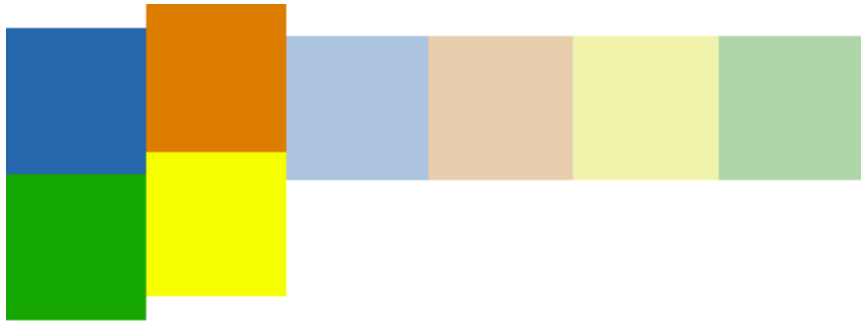


2. Development of an '*Integrated European Cooperation guide*' (continued)

Based on the results of the 'needs enquiry/inventory':

- This guide will address a wide range of rural stakeholders with different levels of experience in EU-27;
- It will be developed as a 'web-based' application to ensure that the guide is dynamic, can be easily updated; and can provide links to other sources.





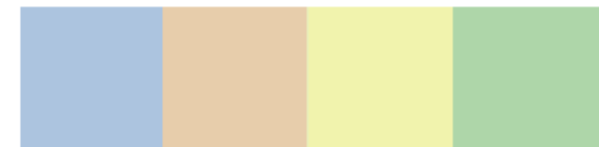
3. Preparation and setting-up of databases:

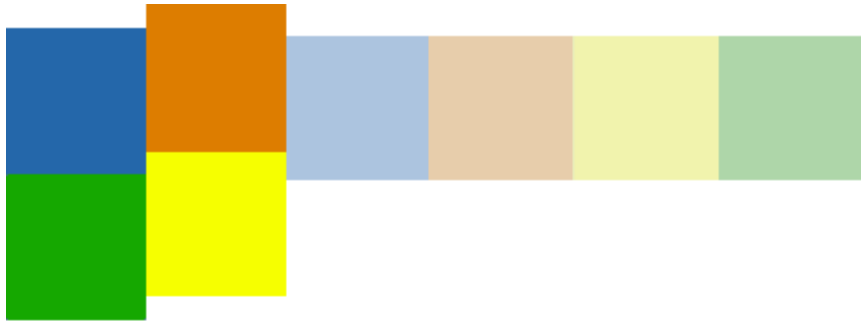
The objective is to establish structured databases that facilitate transnational cooperation by:

- Developing a partner search tool as a priority
- Preparations for regular updating of information about approval notifications
- Database of TNC projects approved by the Managing Authorities

In addition

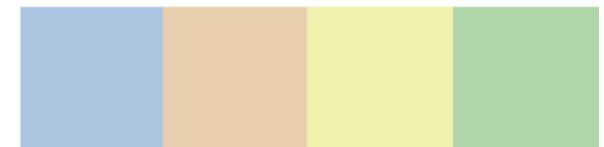
- Encourage partners to use and contribute to such databases as the PST
- Improve efficiency by facilitating contact during events; via the Newsletter etc.
- Continuous updating of information

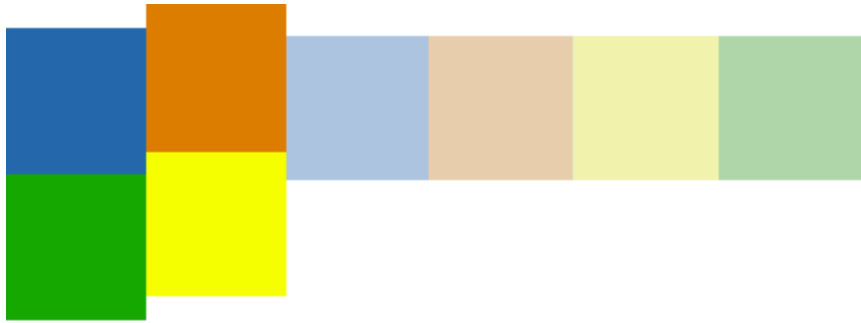




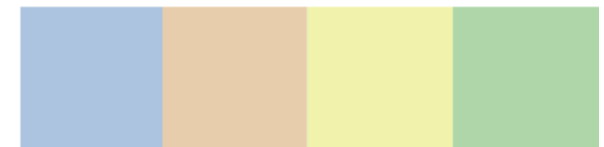
4. Prospective work on potential support to project holders:

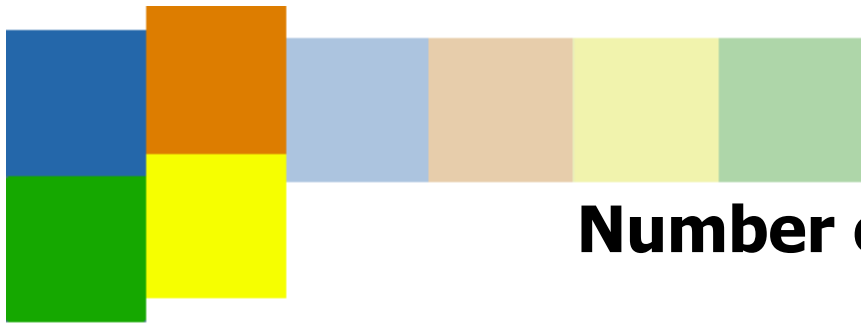
Means preparatory work until July 2009 to examine the possibilities for different kinds of support that may be made available for project holders (assistance for feasibility studies, contributions to trainings etc), and how any potential support could be delivered.





The Leader axis 2007-2013

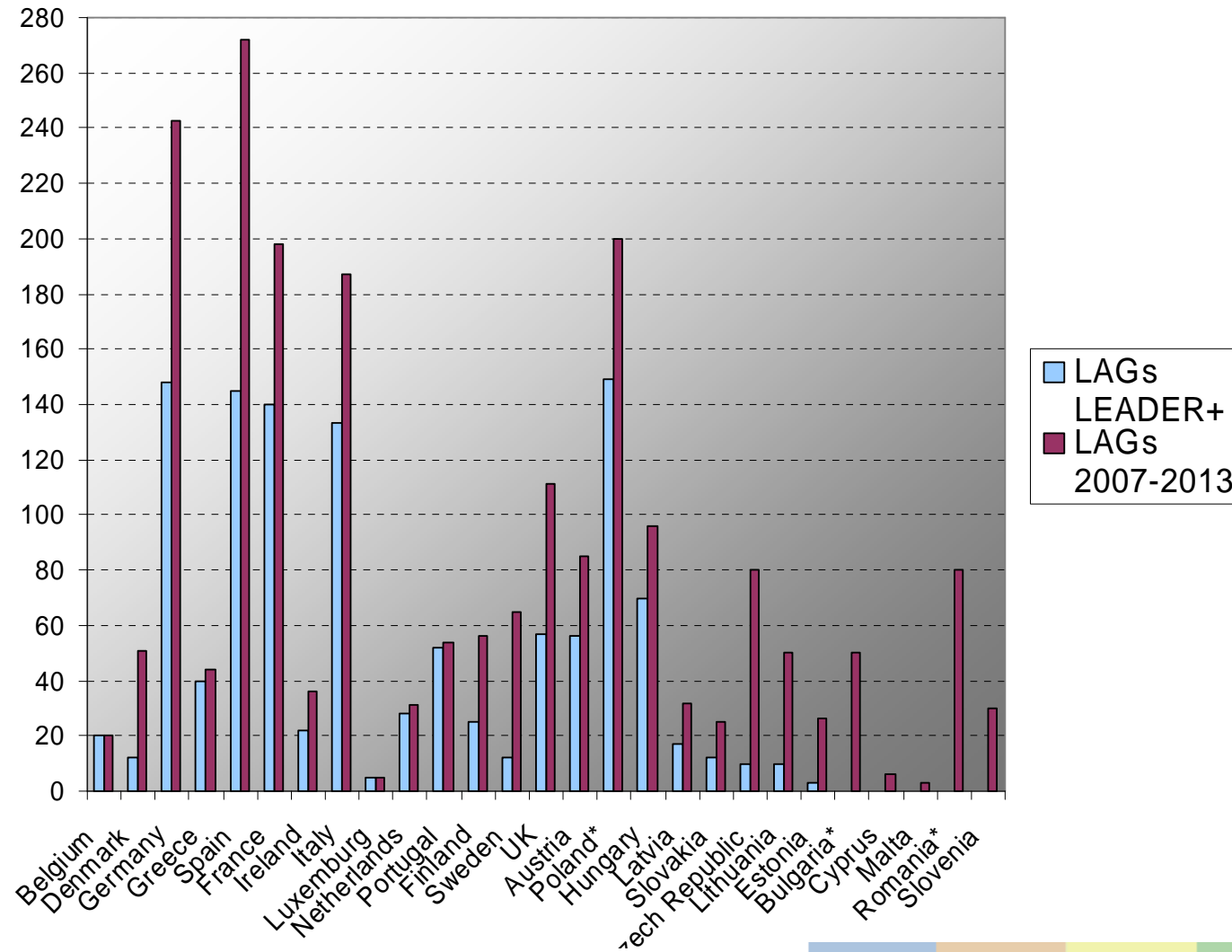




Number of LAGs 2007-2013

In 2007-2013, 2 100 LAGs are expected

80 % more LAGs than under Leader+

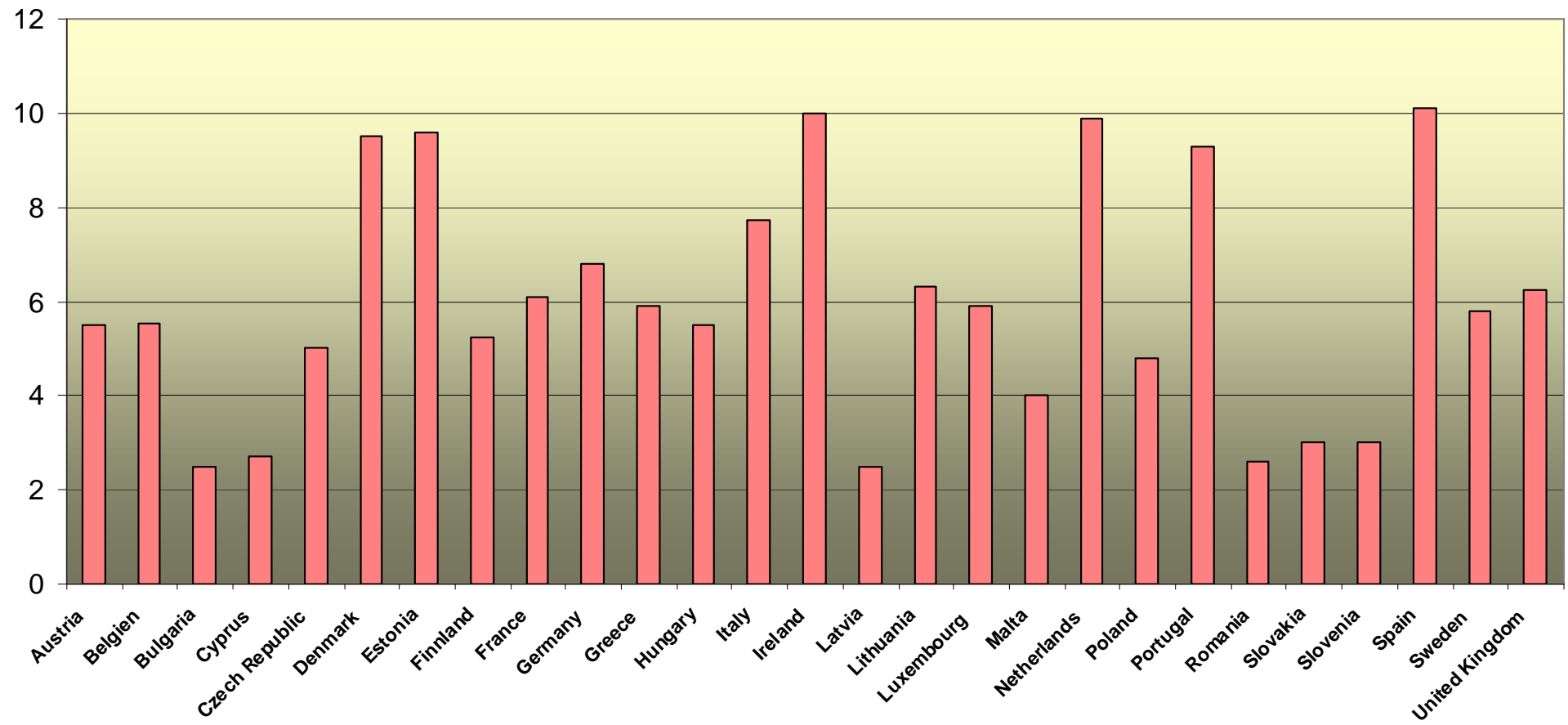


* These countries have not finished their selection procedures yet



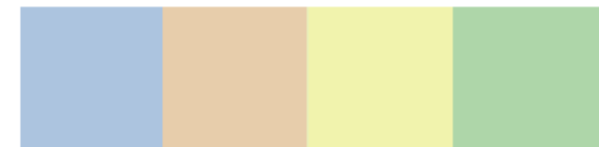


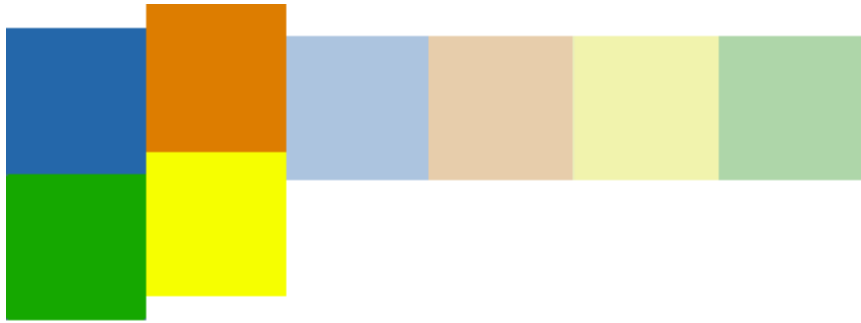
Leader budget as % of total EARDF per Member State



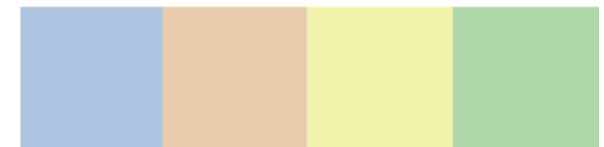


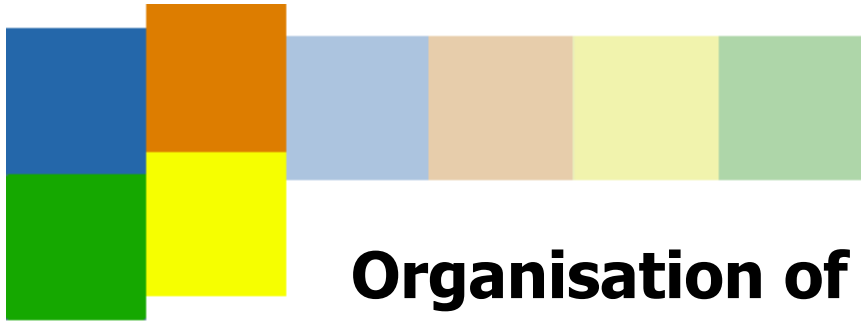
- Available budget:
 - EUR 265 m = 4.8% of the Leader budget
 - Member States with the largest budget: Italy (Eur 45.7 m), Spain (Eur 33.8 m) and Germany (Eur 30.2 m)





Interlinks with the National Rural Networks

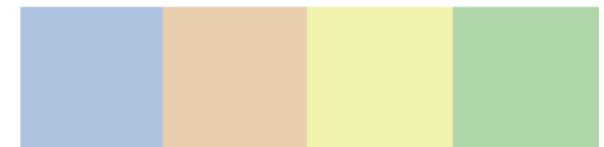




Organisation of the National Rural Networks

(indicative data currently being updated)

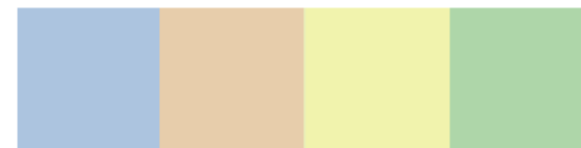
- **Within the Managing Authority**
BE-FL, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, FI, GR, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, PL, PT, SI,
ES, SE, UK- WAL.
- **Outsourced:**
AT, BE-WAL, BG, IE, NL, RO, UK NRN, UK-NIE, UK-ENG, UK-
SCO
- **Partially outsourced:**
SK, HU, FR.
- **With or without regional sub-structures**

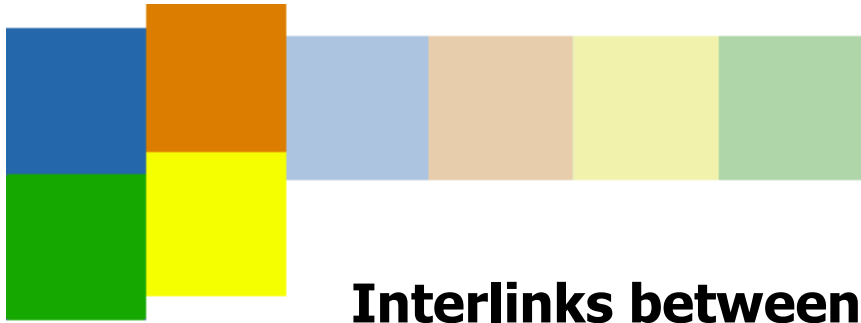




Examples of activities of the National Networks

- Training – different fields, topics, beneficiaries;
- Information, communication, dissemination and exchanges between rural actors (with instruments, such as: web-site, leaflets, newsletters, seminars, other promoting methods);
- Analytical / thematic work (working groups, projects, etc.)
- Support for cooperation (study and exchange visits, tools to search for the partners);
- Development of database of good practices.





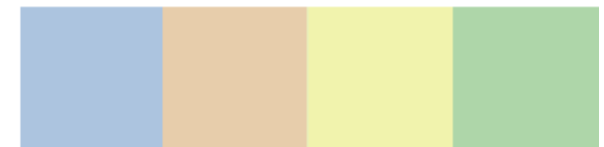
Interlinks between the EN RD and NRNs

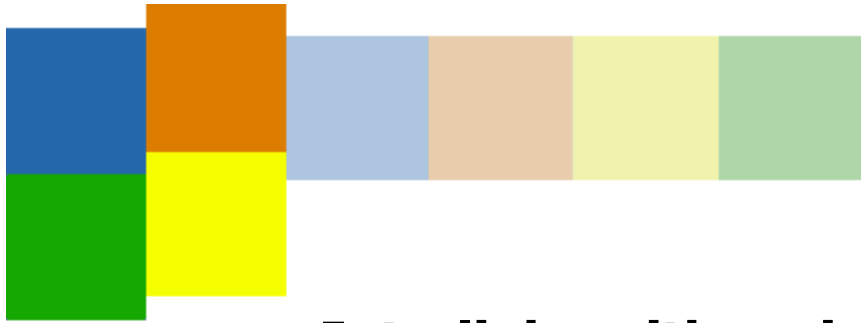
- Necessary for all thematic activities AND for services and tools (databases etc.).

Through:

- The meetings of the CC and Lsc
- Regular meetings of NRNs with the Contact Point of the EN RD
- Questionnaires, regular exchanges
- Links through websites

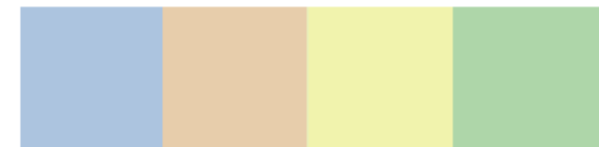
↪ In March 2009: specific seminar on capacity building of NRN

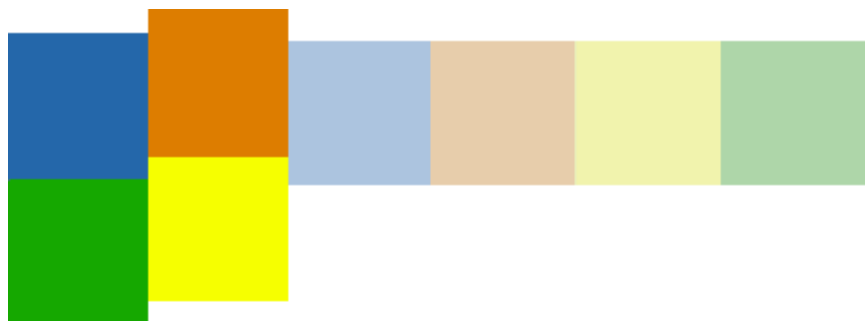




Interlinks with various rural stakeholders networks

- Necessary for both the EN RD and the NRNs
- Through:
 - Committees / groups directly consulted on the activities of the EN RD and NRN
 - Meetings and events (seminars, conferences, trainings...)
 - Services and tools (database, web sites, publications...)
 - Information actions
 - Development of expertise (thematic working groups etc.)
 - Various consultations ...





Grazzi għall-attenzjoni

