

The project «Strengthening Participation Among Rural Citizens in Europe 576807-CITIZ-1-2016-1-SE-CITIZ-CIV» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"
Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"
Strand 1 – "European Remembrance"

This report will include altogether 11 events which have been carried out and recorded within this project. The first 7 events being the events specifically described in the application and event 8 the preparation for this work. In addition to these events we report on a further 3 events, 9 to 11 with activities within the scope of work described in the Strand and in our application:

Event 1 – Rural Services

Event 2 – Young people in rural areas

Event 3 – Immigrants and refugees in rural areas

Event 4 – Poverty and Socially excluded citizens

Event 5 – Rural /sub regional economies

Event 6 – Integrated Rural Development – LEADER/CLLD

Event 7 – Pan European gathering – the 3rd ERP

Event 8 – Preparation of the events included in the project

Event 9 – National Rural Parliaments

Event 10 – Pan European gatherings within the three co-initiating bodies

Event 11 – Partners Activities within the scope of work defined in the application

By adding up the participation in the 11 events reported on, we achieve a number of 6,443 participants and with a conservative estimate of additional 4,400 indirect participants we reach an accumulative number of participants of 10,893.

Event no.	Direct participants	Indirect participants
1	467	150
2	227	300
3	229	400
4	243	600
5	212	150
6	281	1,700
7	278	300
8	22	
9	3,095	300
10	224	300
11	1,165	250

As can be seen from the events and sub events described in this report, these participants come from 43 different European countries, as follows:

Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and Wales.

If we correct for that England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales count as one country only: United Kingdom, we will have participation from 40 countries.

Besides also citizens from outside Europe have participated.

Event 1 – Rural Services

The subject for this event was to establish which rural services and infrastructure are the most important for people across rural Europe and how such services are provided.

The activities were started in the autumn of 2016, where ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) was appointed the lead partner of the event, and this was followed by setting up an international Partnership cooperating the activities.

The activities included virtual surveys and Face-to-Face meetings across Europe and results from these were presented and discussed at a pan-European Face-to-Face meeting in England in September 2017. Subsequently the results from this event were fed into the process of the 3rd European Rural Parliament (Event 7)

This event included activities – preparing and completing virtual surveys and Face-to-Face meetings – in 6 different countries. The event involved altogether 467 direct participants from across Europe, including participation from Armenia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Moldova, the Netherlands, Scotland, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and Wales. Besides this – we had also participants from outside the SPARCE-area: Turkey

As can be seen from sub-event 1.9 and 1.10 the result of the work within this event was used as contribution to other events. Participants from these events will not be included in the “number of participants”, and we have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event. Sub event 1.10 indicates some small part of this indirect participation – mentioning an international meeting where results from this event was shared with approximately 70 participants from many European countries. This it is an indication of the number of indirect participation and our conservative estimate on this will be 150 for this event

The activities within the event “1 Rural Service” will be described in more details as 10 Sub events: 1.1 to 1.11, see below.

Details of the 11 sub-events to be found below:

Sub event 1.1 – Pan European:

Participation: The initial virtual survey involved citizens from 17 countries: Armenia, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Moldova, Netherlands, Scotland, Slovakia, Sweden, Turkey and Wales. Most of these will be included in the sub-events mentioned below. 22 participants participated in the preparatory survey are not included below and will be included here.

Location / Dates: This first virtual survey was carried out by lead organisation as the first part of the event – additional information on other virtual surveys will be mentioned in the following sub-events

Short description: The aim of this first survey was to establish statistic as to the state of art of the services provided in rural areas additional to assist in developing the final survey for other participants.

Sub event 1.2 – in Wales, UK:

Participation: The virtual survey involved 56 participants from across Wales including 26 participants from the city of Pembrokeshire. 6 participants from the city of Conwy, 2 participants from the city of Denbighshire, 1 participant from the city of Flintshire, 1 participant from the city of Wrexham, 1 participant from the city of Gwynedd, 4 participants from the city of Powys, 1 participants from the city of Wales, 2 participants from the city of Ceredigion, 1 participant from the city of Monmouthshire, 1 participant from South Wales and another 10 participating from not specified parts of Wales, all representing Community associations. 41 Welsh citizens participated in the two face-to-face meetings.

Location / Dates: The virtual survey took place across Wales from February to March 2017 while the two Face-to-Face events took place in Pembrokeshire on the 13th and 14th March 2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to clarify key issues when considering rural services and infrastructure, identification of case studies to show how rural services can be sustained by

communal action. Agree a consensus on how citizens can participate in shaping policy and taking action. The event was partly a survey based on the ACRE-survey but translated into Welsh. The result of the survey was analysed and later presented and discussed at two Face-to-Face meetings held at Pembrokeshire. A full report was issued on the outcome

Sub event 1.3 – in Latvia:

Participation: The virtual survey involved 48 citizens from across Latvia. The two face-to-face events were attended by 10 citizens from Ropazi and 7 citizens from Alūksne

Location / Dates: The virtual survey took place in the early 2017 and the two Face-to-Face meetings took place in Ropazi on the 31st March 2017 and in Alūksne on the 12th April 2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to establish the state of art of the services provided in rural areas of Latvia. The result of the survey was analysed, and a full report was issued on the outcome. Additionally, the result was presented and discussed at two face-to-face meetings.

Sub event 1.4 – in Germany:

Participation: The virtual survey involved 62 citizens representing 54 municipalities in 12 rural districts, from across Germany

Location / Dates: The virtual survey took place across Germany in June 2017

Short description: The event was a survey based on the ACRE-survey but translated into German. The result of the survey was analysed and a full report was issued on the outcome and presented at the Face-to-Face meeting in Somerset, Bristol on the 6th September 2017

Sub event 1.5 – in Slovakia:

Participation: The virtual survey included 47 participants and 39 participated in the Face-to-Face meeting – representing 6 out of 8 Slovakian regions: Trenčiansky, Zilinský, Nitriansky, Banskobystrický, Prešovský and Košický

Location / Dates: The virtual survey as well as the Face-to-Face meetings took place during spring and summer of 2017 ...

Short description: The aim of the survey, virtual as well as Face-to-Face, was to establish the state of art of the services provided in rural areas of Slovakia to contribute to the pan-European survey carried out by ACRE

Sub event 1.6 – in Armenia:

Participation: The invitation to participate was sent to 70 Armenian communities, and 48 responded – these representing most regions of Armenia

Location / Dates: The virtual survey took place across Armenia in spring and summer 2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to establish the state of art of the services provided in rural areas, and find good cases of innovative developments

The Armenian partner works actively with more than 70 communities, and 48 of these responded to their survey. The respondents were village council, school and health clinic representatives.

Sub event 1.7 – in Moldova:

Participation: The event involved 47 citizens from different regions of Moldova

Location / Dates: The event took place in the spring of 2017

Short description: The virtual survey used the ACRE-questionnaire, translated into Armenian and the aim of the survey was to establish the state of art of the services provided in rural areas of Armenia. A report on the findings were submitted.

Sub event 1.8 – International meeting in England, UK:

Participation: The event involved All together 40 citizens including 28 participants from England, 3 participants from Wales and 2 participants from Scotland. Also 7 international guests participated including: 2 participants from Czech Republic, 1 participant from Germany, 1 participant from Ireland, 1 participant from Spain, 1 participant from Latvia, and 1 participant from Denmark.

Location / Dates: The main event took place in Somerset, UK on the 6th September 2017 with the additional Network-meeting taking place the day before on the 5th September 2017

Short description: The main part of the event was a full day workshop in the community hall in Somerset, and in addition arrangements were made for especially the international guests to arrive

and meet to network the day prior to the workshop and to join an excursion later on the 6th to visit two local projects providing alternative rural services. The aim of the event was to share, discuss and adopt the draft Report, hear about the role of the European Rural Parliament and wider European initiatives and to share information about local projects.

Sub event 1.9 – Presentation and Workshop in Venhorst in the Netherlands:

Participation: The findings was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament. Also a Workshop took place in Venhorst. The participants will not be reported in this event, due to these participants are all reported as participant in the Event 7– the pan-European event.

Location / Dates: The Presentation and workshop took place in Venhorst in the Netherlands on the 20th October 2017

Short description: The findings of the work done within this event was presented at the 3rd European Rural Parliament as well as was the findings presented and discussed in a workshop at the 3rd European Rural Parliament The aim was to conclude – to formulate a contribution to the message to rural areas of Europe and to the decisionmakers regional, nationally as well as Bra European. At this concluding workshop the theme-work and results were presented and after discussion recommendations were put to the ERP Steering Group to be included in the outcome of the 3rd European Rural Parliament: the Venhorst Declaration approved by all participants on the 21st of October 2017.

Sub event 1.10 – in Bruxelles in Belgium:

Participation: The event involved 70 citizens from across Europe. These participants will be counted as “indirect participants” only due to the meeting was after the timeslot for the event.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bruxelles in Belgium on the 26th October 2017

Short description: The event was the 1st Thematic Working Group meeting on Smart Villages arranged by ENRD, where the conclusions on the theme “Rural Services in Villages” of this event was presented together with the Venhorst declaration from the 3rd ERP

Sub event 1.11 – in Turkey:

Outside the SPARCE area during the summer 2017 also a virtual survey was carried out in Turkey with 58 participants, and also from here a report was submitted.

Event 2 – Young people in rural areas

The subject for this event – the 2nd of the thematic events within the project – was “Young people in rural areas”, and the event had a double purpose namely: suggesting ways to meet the needs of young people in rural areas and further to enable young people to participate actively, and to enable their voices to be heard by developing their own Rural Youth Parliaments. Topics stated in the Rural Manifesto agreed in 2015.

The event was led by Village Action Association of Finland (SYTY) and Latvian Rural Forum (LRF). and most of the activities within the event took place in Romania, Latvia and the Netherlands.

The activities took place in the timeframe from May to August 2017 – and the work initiated within this event has continued and is still ongoing. The activities involved altogether 227 participants from across Europe, including participation from Latvia, Estonia, Armenia, Moldova, United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Finland, Austria, Switzerland, Denmark, Albania, Ireland, Slovenia, Ukraine, Romania and Norway.

We have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event, but the work is still ongoing and network is being established with individuals and with other European youth-organisations, like MJARC and 4H. A conservative estimate of the indirect participation in this event would be 300.

The activities within the “Event 2 Young people in rural areas” will be described in more details as 9 Sub events: 2.1 to 2.9, see below.

Sub event 2.1 – Study visit:

Participation: The event involved 21 citizens, including 1 participant from Cluj-Mopa, 6 participants from Aiud, 1 from Letroman, 1 from Roya Montavo, 1 from Bagau, 3 from Cinnbrud, 1 from Jinver, 1 from Cartalani, 1 from Hrsa, 1 from Petelca, 1 from Uitai, 1 from Sancrsi, 1 from Hapica, 1 from Bögüer, all Alba County, Romania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Ciumbrud, Alba County, Romania, on 18th May 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to facilitate a value chain itinerary / study visits (from production to marketing) for agricultural high school students. (Ciumbrud Agricultural High School)

Sub event 2.2 – Study visit:

Participation: The event involved 14 citizens, 1 participant from Dlăigte, 1 from Styerir, 4 from Turda, 1 from Ocolis, 1 from Abrud, 1 from Sömerein, 1 from Scarisoapa, 1 from Bäian, 2 from Albac, 1 from Bitou-Colognie, all Cluj County, Romania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Turda, Cluj county, Romania, on 18th May 2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to facilitate a value chain itinerary / study visits (from production to marketing) for agricultural high school students. (Turda Agricultural High school).

Sub event 2.3 – Study visit:

Participation: The event involved 19 citizens, 1 participant from CLUJ, 8 participants from Prejmer, 4 from Teliu-Brasov, 1 from Lana Belniaki, 1 from Breitner, 1 from Aeiati, 1 from Lölandrai, 1 from Brobon, 1 from Sömiater, all from the Brasov County, Romania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Prejmer, Brasov County, Romania on 24th May 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was The aim of the event was to facilitate a value chain itinerary / study visits (from production to marketing) for agricultural high school students from Prejmer Agricultural High School

Sub event 2.4 – value chain itinerary:

Participation: The event involved 12 citizens, 4 participants from Slatina, 1 from Streysti, 2 from Optasi-Masura, 1 from Jatulesti, 1 from Ica-Omr, 1 from Bramcegeni, 1 from Plovicani, 1 from Optas-Magura, all from the Olt County, Romania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Slatina, Olt County, Romania, on 25th May 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to facilitate a value chain itinerary (from production to marketing) for agricultural high school students. (Carol I Agricultural High School)

Sub event 2.5 – LEADER promotion:

Participation: The event involved 7 citizens, all from Satu Mare County, Romania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Cărășeu, Satu Mare County, Romania, on 29th May 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to promote the LEADER program to local leaders from Somes Codru Local Action Group.

Sub event 2.6 – Study visit:

Participation: The event involved 13 citizens, all from Husi, Vaslui County, Romania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Husi, Vaslui county, Romania, on 8th June 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to facilitate a value chain itinerary / study visits (from production to marketing) for agricultural high school students from Husi Agricultural High School.

Sub event 2.7 – Virtual Survey:

Participation: The virtual survey involved 53 young participants (all younger than 30 years) mainly from 3 countries; United Kingdom, Romania and Finland.

Location / Dates: The event was virtual and was initiated in May 2017

Short description: The aim of the virtual survey was to establish a network and to enable the organisers better to prepare for the 1st European Rural Youth Parliament. It was important, that the topics for the 1st ERYP were decided by the youngsters themselves.

Sub event 2.8 – The 1st ERYP:

Participation: The event involved 88 citizens, including 10 participants from Latvia, 2 participants from Estonia, 2 participants from Armenia, 1 participant from Moldova, 21 participants from United Kingdom, 11 participants from Germany, 2 participants from Italy, 7 participants from Finland, 5 participants from Austria, 5 participants from Switzerland, 4 participants from Denmark, 1 participants from Albania, 5 participants from Ireland, 5 participants from Slovenia, 1 participants from Ukraine, 4 participants from Norway.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Ligatne municipality, Latvia, on 11th August 2017.

Short description: This sub event was the 1st European Rural Youth Parliament with the purpose to gather young people from Europe rural areas and discuss the challenges of the 21st century rural youth in an interactive way.

The focus of ERYP was on both young people who are currently living in the rural areas and those who have left rural areas for various reasons.

The outcome of the event was to provide suggestions as how to create conditions that would allow young people to successfully develop business ideas, to ensure their personal fulfillment by still living in rural areas?

The results of the event was presented by one of the participants at the 3rd European Rural Parliament in Venhorst, the Netherlands (Event 7 of this project)

Sub event 2.9 – Presentation and Workshop in Venhorst, the Netherlands:

Participation: The findings was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament. Also a Workshop took place in Venhorst. The participants will not be reported in this event, due to these participants are all reported as participant in the Event 7.

Location / Dates: The Presentation and workshop took place in Venhorst on the 20th October 2017 as part of the 3rd ERP (see Event 7)

Short description: The findings of the work done within this event was presented at the 3rd European Rural Parliament as well as was the findings presented and discussed in a workshop at the 3rd European Rural Parliament and the output contributed to the Venhorst Declaration approved by all participants on the 21st of October 2017.

Event 3 – Immigrants and refugees in rural areas

The subject for this event – the 3rd of the thematic events within the project – was “Immigrants and refugees in rural areas”, and the aim of the event was to strengthen the potential for rural communities and organizations to be able to welcome refugees and migrants in Europe. More specifically, the objectives were, to clarify key issues of integration and inclusion of newly arrived people in rural areas and to identify and document case studies of successful integration through community action.

This event included two virtual events (survey and webinar) together with several Face-to-Face meetings. The result from this event was presented and discussed at the 7th event: The pan-European 3rd European Rural Parliament.

The event was led by Hele Sverige Skal Leva and the activities within this event took place in Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The activities took place in the timeframe from March to September 2017 – and even after the time frame of this event activities were carried out. The event involved altogether 229 direct participants from across Europe, including participation from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, England, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Netherlands, Sweden and Turkey

We have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event, but due to it's high relevance we expect the interest would have been big. A conservative estimate of the indirect participation in this event is 400.

The activities within the “Event 3 Immigrants and refugees in rural areas” will be described in more details as 8 Sub events: 3.1 to 3.8, see below.

Sub event 3.1 – Refugees and Friendly Neighbors, Hobro, Denmark:

Participation: The event involved 28 citizens, including 1 from London, UK, 1 from the Netherlands, 4 from Copenhagen, 1 from Roskilde and the remaining 21 from different parts of Mid- and Northern Jylland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Hobro, Denmark, on 2nd April 2017.

Short description: The event was a full day face-to-face meeting initiated in collaboration with Active Voices, and the aim was to share experiences as to best welcome refugees in Denmark.

Sub event 3.2 – Virtual survey:

Participation: The virtual event (survey) involved 38 citizens, including 8 participants from Turkey, 5 participants from Finland, 8 participants from Sweden, 1 participant from Hungary, 11 participants from Austria, 2 participants from Denmark, 1 participant from Germany, 3 participants from Greece.

Location / Dates: The event took place between March and May 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to conduct a survey regarding the theme Welcoming refugees and migrants among the ERP partners.

Sub event 3.3 – Social Inclusion:

Participation: The event involved 20 participants in two workshops. The participants were from many different countries, but will not be reported here, because we do not have appropriate lists and signatures of the participants.

Location / Dates: The two workshops were part of the event “Social Hubs in Rural Europe” which took place from Brussels, Belgium on 9th February 2017.

Short description: The two workshops were part of the event “Social Hubs in Rural Europe” arranged by ENRD. The aim of the event was to find response to the demographic changes we see and to promote social inclusion in rural areas. The workshops had the title: “Integration of migrants and refugees in rural areas” with a very similar focus as this event, and with a specific focus on the role of rural networks.

Sub event 3.4 – Lecture in Stockholm, Sweden:

Participation: The event involved 32 citizens, including 3 participants from Norrbotten, 2 from Skaraborg, 1 from Västra Götaland, 2 from Kalmar län, 4 from Stockholm, 1 from Skåne, 2 from Västernorrland, 2 from Norberg, 3 from Hindås, 2 from Vedum, 1 from Blekinge, 2 from Östergötland, 1 from Jämtland, 1 from Halland and 5 from Dalarna, all in Sweden.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Stockholm, Sweden on 6th May 2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to Conduct a lecture about the Refugees project.

Sub event 3.5 – Webinar hosted by HSSL, Stockholm, Sweden:

Participation: The virtual event, (webinar) involved, 21 citizens, (one of which had participated in previous sub-event 3.2 – only 20 to add to participation) including 2 participants from Oslo, 1 from Trøndelag, 1 from Nordland, all Norway. 1 participant from Madrid, Spain, 2 participants from Enköping, 1 from Bjuråker, 3 from Stockholm, 1 from Umeå, 1 from Halmstad, 1 from Storuman, 1 from Kristinehamn, all in Sweden, 1 participant from Tartu, Estonia, 1 participant from Tórshavn, Faroe Islands, 1 from a not specified place, both from Denmark, and 2 participants from Iceland.

Location / Dates: The virtual-meeting (via Zoom) took place on 30th August 2017.

Short description: The title of the Webinar was: “From migrants to workers” The aim of the event was to share knowledge and inspire to future action on the issue of including immigrants and refugees into the labor market.

Sub event 3.6 – Lecture in Leppävirta, Finland:

Participation: The event involved 7 citizens, (one of which had participated in previous sub-event – only 6 to add to participation) including 1 participants from Yuvieska, 1 from Kimito, 2 from Seinäjoki, from Mikkeli and 1 from Sastamala, all in Finland,..

Location / Dates: The event took place in Leppävirta, Finland, on 2nd September 2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to Conduct a lecture and workshop about the ERP and Refugees project at the Finnish Rural Parliament

Sub event 3.7 – Lecture at the Immigrant Integration in Varberg, Sweden:

Participation: The event involved 105 citizens, including 49 participants from Sweden, 22 participants from Austria, 8 participants from Germany, 23 participants from Finland and 2 participants from Hungary. Beside also 1 participant from Turkey was involved.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Varberg, Sweden, on 19th September 2017.

Short description: The event was titled: “Immigrant Integration to rural areas” and was arranged by CLLD Halland, to enable a combination of their TransNational Refugee-project with the findings of this event. The aim of the lecture at the conference was to pass on the experience and results found through the activities in the event.

Sub event 3.8 – Presentation and Workshop in Venhorst, the Netherlands:

Participation: The findings was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament. Approximately 30 participated in the Workshop. Neither of these participants will be reported via this event, due to these participants are all reported as participant in the Event 7.

Location / Dates: The Presentation and workshop took place in Venhorst on the 20th October 2017 as part of the 3rd ERP (see Event 7)

Short description: The findings of the work done within this event was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament

The findings were presented and discussed in a workshop at the 3rd European Rural Parliament on the 21st of October 2017.

Event 4 – Poverty and Socially excluded citizens

The subject for this event – the 4th of the thematic events within the project – was “Poverty and Socially excluded citizens”, and the aim of the event was to strengthen the rural potential for enabling inclusive and sustainable solutions in an attempt to fight poverty and social exclusion. More specifically, the aims were, to identify key issues: What are the main causes of rural poverty and exclusion in rural areas? and which groups are mainly affected? (identified via survey, virtual debate and workshop) and in addition to identify possible solutions: Who are the (possible) key actors and what can they do (Identified via surveys, virtual debate and workshops)

This event included a virtual debate together with a number of both virtual and Face-to-Face meetings. The result from this event was presented and discussed at the 7th event: The pan-European 3rd European Rural Parliament.

The event was led by Polish Rural Forum, FAOW in cooperation with universities and researchers. The activities within this event took place in Latvia, Hungary, Serbia, Poland and Netherlands.

The activities took place in the timeframe from March to early autumn 2017. The event involved altogether 243 direct participants from across Europe, including participation from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium, Czech, Denmark, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Serbia, Slovenia and Wales. The virtual debate was attended by approximately 800 users and on top of this other activities were noted as a result of the different meetings. We do not know the level of the virtual involvement and altogether set a conservative estimate of the indirect participation in this event to 600.

The activities within the “Event 4 – Poverty and Socially excluded citizens” will be described in more details as 7 Sub events: 4.1 to 4.7, see below.

Sub event 4.1 – Virtual Debate:

Participation: The virtual debate had 57 directly active participants (32 men and 25 women), from 10 countries.

Location / Dates: The virtual debate was managed from Poland and Belgium from May 2017 until the end of the project period

Short description: The event was a virtual debate on an internet-based discussion forum, and the aim was to exchange experience and knowledge on rural poverty and social exclusion, and apart from the 57 contributors from ten countries who wrote posts, the forum attracted more than 800 users.

Sub event 4.2 – Conference in Krakow, Poland:

Participation: The event involved 58 citizens, including the following from Poland: 1 participant from Kraljevo, 2 from Moreny, 1 from Charuzsa, 1 from Bielko, 4 from Opolskie, 1 Iodezecs, 1 from Vremia, 2 from Warszawa, 2 from Poznan, 13 from Krakow, 1 from Wron, 1 from Umelicz, 2 from Konin, 1 from Moloncsa, 1 from Nalopolska, 1 from Weljin, 2 from Maropolska, 1 from Wranski 1, 1 from unspecified place, Poland.

16 international guests participated as follows: 2 participants from Tirana, Albania, 1 from Wales, UK, 2 from Kazbegi, Georgia, 1 from Lispenhautador, Hungary, 4 from Bercel, Hungary, 1 from Hungary, 1 from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1 from Serbia, 1 from Czech Republic, 1 from Stonacj, Slovenia, 1 from Levice, US.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Krakow, Poland, from 25th to 27th 2017.

Short description: The event was a two-days conference. The aim of the event was to conduct the main theme event Poverty and Social Exclusion.

Sub event 4.3 – Virtual meeting in Latvia:

Participation: The event involved 22 citizens, including 2 participants from Gulbene, 3 from Riga, 1 from Marsneni, 1 from Rucava, 1 from Balvi, 1 from Strenci, 1 from Bronci, 1 from Aizkraukle, 1

from Kuldiga, 1 from Aluksne, 1 from Smārde, 1 from Smiltene, 1 from Kikava, 1 from Dundaga, 1 from Kandava, 1 from Svetciems, 1 from Jaunpils, 1 from Salacgriva, 1 from Talsi, all Latvian.

Location / Dates: The virtual event took place in Latvia, from 23rd to 31st 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was an virtual meeting on Poverty and Social Exclusion in Latvian Rural Areas.

Sub event 4.4 – 5 meetings in Latvia:

Participation: The event involved 46 citizens, all from unspecified places in Latvia.

Location / Dates: The events took place in Jaunpils, Gالياos, Nedelia Blidené, Nedelia Oemgalé, Latvia, from 26th to 31st 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was a series of five face-to-face debates on Poverty and Social Exclusion in Latvian Rural Areas.

Sub event 4.5 – Virtual workshops in Hungary:

Participation: The virtual event involved 35 citizens, including 5 participants from Edeleny, 1 from Finke, 2 from Miscolc, 5 from Abaujszanto, 2 from Padragkut, 1 from Magyarpolany, 2 from Ajka, 1 from Zalakaros, 2 from Zalamerenye, 1 from Sormas, 2 from Galambok, 2 from Nagykanisza, 3 from Acs, 1 from Jegespuszta, 1 from Ercsi, 1 Eger, 1 from unspecified place, Hungary.

Location / Dates: The events took place in Hungary during 1st September to 31st October 2017.

Short description: The events were virtual workshops. The aim of the virtual workshop was to examine Poverty and Social Exclusion in Hungarian Rural Areas via virtual workshops.

Sub event 4.6 – Virtual workshop in Serbia:

Participation: The virtual event involved 25 citizens, including 1 participant from Nis, 17 from Svrljig, 1 from Vrsac, 3 from Kraljevo 3, Serbia.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Serbia, during 2017.

Short description: The event was a virtual workshop and the aim of the event was to examine Poverty and Social Exclusion in Rural Areas of Serbia.

Sub event 4.7 – Presentation and Workshop in Venhorst, the Netherlands:

Participation: The findings was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament. Also a Workshop took place in Venhorst. The participants will not be reported in this event, due to these participants are all reported as participant in the Event 7.

Location / Dates: The Presentation and workshop took place in Venhorst on the 20th October 2017 as part of the 3rd ERP (see Event 7)

Short description: The findings of the work done within this event was presented at the 3rd European Rural Parliament as well as was the findings presented and discussed in a workshop at the 3rd European Rural Parliament and the output contributed to the Venhorst Declaration approved by all participants on the 21st of October 2017.

Event 5 – Rural /sub regional economies

The subject for this event – the 5th of the thematic events within the project – was “Rural /sub regional economies”, and the aim of the event was to estimate the potential of the local and sub-regional economies in the rural areas and to identify successful case-study examples of how rural economies can be strengthened and diversified. Additionally to find out which are the most significant drivers of success, which are the main motives of stakeholders to join the common initiatives, and how citizens can participate in shaping policy and taking action related to local initiatives (local economies).

This event included a virtual survey and a Travelling workshop/Conference. The result from this event was presented and discussed at the 7th event: The pan-European 3rd European Rural Parliament.

The event was led by the Slovenian Rural Network and the activities within this event took place in Slovenia and the Netherlands.

The activities took place in the timeframe from July to September 2017. The event involved altogether 212 direct participants from across Europe, including participation from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Montenegro, Poland, Slovenia and UK

We have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event, but a conservative estimate of the indirect participation in this event is 150.

The activities within the “Event 5 – Rural /sub regional economies” will be described in more details as 3 Sub events: 5.1 to 5.3 see below.

Sub event 5.1 – Virtual survey:

Participation: The virtual survey involved 124 citizens, including 1 participant from Brezice, 4 from Celje, 1 from Cerknica, 2 from Cirkulane, 1 from Divaca, 1 from Ilirska Bistrica, 1 from Kamnik, 1 from Kocevje, 1 from Kozjansko, 4 from Krsko, 1 from Lasko, 2 from Lenart, 72 from Ljubljana, 2 from Ljubno ob Savinji, 1 from Ljutomer, 2 from Maribor, 1 from Mezica, 1 from MirnaPec, 2 from Moravske Toplice, 2 from Murska Cobota, 3 from Novo Mesto, 4 from Pivka, 1 from Ptuj, 1 from Raduha, 1 from Ribnica, 2 from Sentrupert, 1 from Svibno, 1 from Tolmin, 1 from Zagreb, 2 from Zala, 1 from Zasavje, all Slovenia, 1 participant from UK, 1 from Poland, 1 from Bosnia and Hercegovina .

Location / Dates: The virtual survey took place during the autumn of 2017.

Short description: The event was a virtual survey, and the aim of the event was to estimate the potential of the local and sub-regional economies in the particular areas involved

Sub event 5.2 – Conference in Šentrupert, Slovenia:

Participation: The event involved 88 citizens, including 1 participant from Ajdovscina, 2 from Brezice, 3 from Cromelj, 1 from Dol pri Ljubljani, 2 from Domzale, 1 from Idrija, 2 from Kocevje, 1 from Kozjansko, 6 from Krsko, 3 from Lenart, 1 from Litija, 15 from Ljubljana, 3 from Ljubno, 3 from Ljutomer, 2 from Loski Potok, 4 from Maribor, 2 from Murska Cobota, 6 from Novo Mesto, 1 from Pivka, 1 from Rakek, 1 from Ravne na Koroskem, 2 from Rodine, 1 from Sentjur, 2 from Slovenska Bistrica, 4 from Trebnje, 1 from Zasavje, 1 from Slovenska Istra, and 6 not specified, all from Slovenia., 2 from Slavonia, 1 from Brodski Stup, all Croatia, 1 from Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1 from Brussels, Belgium, 1 from North Jutland, Denmark, 1 from Tartu, Estonia, 1 from Warsaw, Poland, 1 from Montenegro and 1 from Hungary.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Šentrupert, Slovenia, on 21st September 2017

Short description: The event was a one-day combined travelling workshop and conference The aims of the event was to - clarify key issues on the theme local and sub-regional economies and initiatives, - identify successful case-study examples of how rural economies can be strengthened and diversified; - find out which are the most significant drivers of success, which are the main

motives of stakeholders to join the common initiatives, and how citizens can participate in shaping policy and taking action related to local initiatives(local economies).

Sub event 5.3 – Presentation and Workshop in Venhorst, the Netherlands:

Participation: The findings was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament. Also a Workshop took place in Venhorst. The participants will not be reported in this event, due to these participants are all reported as participant in the Event 7.

Location / Dates: The Presentation and workshop took place in Venhorst on the 20th October 2017 as part of the 3rd ERP (see Event 7)

Short description: The findings of the work done within this event was presented at the 3rd European Rural Parliament as well as was the findings presented and discussed in a workshop at the 3rd European Rural Parliament and the output contributed to the Venhorst Declaration approved by all participants on the 21st of October 2017.

Event 6 – Integrated Rural Development – LEADER/CLLD

The subject for this event – the 6th of the thematic events within the project – was “Integrated Rural Development – LEADER/CLLD (Community Led Local Development)”, and the aim of the event was to clarify to what degree development of rural areas is done in an integrated process involving both local stakeholders and central, regional and local authorities, and to identify and describe case studies to show the differences between top down and integrated development. The topics “Integrated Rural Development” and “LEADER/CLLD” are both raised by the ERP-partners and stated in the Rural Manifesto.

This event included preparing, completing and analysing 2 virtual surveys in combination with several Face-to-Face meetings where the results were presented and discussed.

The result from this event did provide an essential contribution to be included in the Venhorst Declaration, one of the outcomes of the 7th event: The pan-European 3rd European Rural Parliament.

The Event was led by ELARD (European LEADER association for Rural Development) and most of the activities took place in Estonia and Belgium.

The activities took place in the timeframe from August 2016 to September 2017 – and continued after the time of this events activities were carried out. The event involved altogether 281 direct participants from across Europe, including participation from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

We have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event. Sub events 6.1 and 6.4 indicate some part of this indirect participation. We presume the results have been – and will be – shared among thousands. A conservative estimate of the indirect participation in this event is 1700.

The activities within the event Integrated Rural Development – LEADER/CLLD will be described in more details as 7 Sub events: 6.1 to 6.7, see below.

Sub event 6.1 – Virtual survey from Estonia:

Participation: The virtual survey involved LEADER Networks (Networks of LAG’s – Local Action Groups) from 20 European countries, and we know of that 1746 LAG’s have been invited to participate. We do not have records of how many of these LAG’s were indeed involved, but we expect the number to be more than 400, which we in the statistics will include as indirect participants only.

Location / Dates: The virtual survey took place during August and September 2016

Short description: The aim of the event was to establish the state of play of rural development and LEADER/CLLD in the involved countries and to define the main bottlenecks and equally important define the potentials in using integrated development. The outcome of the survey was used as starting points for workshops in Sub-event 6.2. The result of the survey was analysed and presented in the report: “Analysis of Integrated Rural Development and LEADER/CLLD”.

Sub event 6.2 – in Tartu in Estonia:

Participation: The event involved 129 participants and 11 organisers – all together 140 - from 25 different countries, as follows: 3 from Austria, 4 from Bulgaria, 2 from Croatia, 2 from Czech, 1 from Denmark, 75 from Estonia, 5 from Finland, 2 from France, 1 from Germany, 1 from Greece, 1 from Hungary, 3 from Ireland, 8 from Latvia, 4 from Lithuania, 2 from Netherlands, 3 from Northern Ireland, 3 from Poland, 4 from Portugal, 1 from Romania, 2 from Scotland, 1 from Slovakia, 2 from Slovenia, 2 from Spain, 5 from Sweden

Outside the SPARCE area the event also had participants from Nepal and Ghana

Location / Dates: The event was a two and half day event which took place in Tartu in Estonia, from 21st to 23rd November 2016

Short description: The event was called: “Renewing LEADER/CLLD for 2020+ - Celebrating 25 years of LEADER in Europe” and the aim of the event was to make use of the survey results found

in 6.1 and through presentations and discussions to establish visions and improvements for rural development and to the administration of LEADER/CLLD methodologies. The topics of interest found through the previous survey was to be presented and discussed during the event and specific focus was given to the moderation of the workshops, to ensure qualified output, which would subsequently provide input for the TARTU-declaration.

Sub event 6.3 – Preparing the Tartu Declaration:

Participation: 24 persons and organisations were invited, and responses were received from 20.

Location / Dates: The preparation and discussion took place as a combination of virtual face-to-face meetings and this was managed by the office of the ELARD presidency in Tartu, Estonia, from December 2016 to February 2017

Short description: The outcome of the survey prior to the Tartu event (Sub event 6.2) was analysed together with the results of the workshops taken place at the Tartu event. All this was used to draft a declaration, which was subsequently discussed with participation from both stakeholders and decisionmakers to produce the final Tartu Declaration, which has ever since been disseminated to all relevant partners. (This document can be found at [here](#).)

Sub event 6.4 – Dissemination of the Tartu Declaration:

Participation: The event involved mails, social media as well as face-to-face- meetings with stakeholders as well as decisionmakers at both regional, national and European level. More than 100 were directly involved. The Tartu Declaration has since frequently been presented as the shared statement relative to the future of LEADER and CLLD. We do not have a record of the number of people who have received the declaration, but a conservative estimate would be 2,400, which would be if just one person in each of the European LAG's have been involved. Some of these might be the same people participating in the original survey (including an estimate of 500 indirect participants) To ensure a conservative estimate of the indirect participation we take only half of the LAG's and we therefor estimate the indirect participation to be 1,300.

Location / Dates: The Dissemination of the Tartu Declaration started upon completion (January 2017), and is still ongoing – even after completion of this project (As an example: The latest dissemination to mention is the document was attached to a mail send to all the ELARD members 28th March 2018 – expected to be send further to all 2,500 European LAG's).

Short description: The dissemination has taken place both via mails and social media (Website plus Facebook) and as paper copies to be handed out at different gatherings. The dissemination was managed by the office of the ELARD presidency in Tartu, Estonia until end of 2017, after which this was taken over by the new Portuguese presidency.

Sub event 6.5 – Collecting case-studies:

Participation: The collection of case-studies was done in cooperation with several ERP-partners and not exclusively ELARD-members. Approximately 100 were invited to participate, and 24 replied with cases used in the further work.

Location / Dates: Managed from Estonia and taking place during June to September 2017

Short description: The aim of this sub Event was to collect cases to illustrate the state of play of Integrated rural development and LEADER/CLLD throughout Europe in the involved countries

Sub event 6.6 – Meeting in Bruxelles in Belgium:

Participation: The event involved 77 participants- from 21 different countries, as follows: Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scotland, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden

Location / Dates: The event was a one-day event which took place in Bruxelles in Belgium on the 31st May 2017.

Short description: The event was called: “Role of bottom-up approach renewing ESI Funds for 2021 to 2027” and the participants were a very good mix of representatives of local stakeholders and decisionmakers from all levels: regional, national and European.

The aim of the event was to present findings from survey as well as cases, and to discuss the EU political agenda and future directions for rural development. Especially with focus on Integrated rural development and LEADER/CLLD presenting the local and regional experience. Also pan-European organisations and statements were presented to get the full picture of the stakeholders.

Position papers/Declarations presented were: European Rural Manifesto, Cork 2.0 Declaration, Tartu Declaration, ECM Rural Agenda and Båstad positions.

Sub event 6.7 – Presentation and Workshop in Venhorst, the Netherlands:

Participation: The findings was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament. Approximately 40 participated in the Workshop. Neither of these will be reported, due to these participants are all reported as participant in the Event 7.

Location / Dates: The Presentation and workshop took place in Venhorst on the 20th October 2017 as part of the 3rd ERP (see Event 7)

Short description: The findings of the work done within this event was presented to all the 278 participants of the 3rd European Rural Parliament

The findings were presented and discussed in a workshop at the 3rd European Rural Parliament and the conclusion of this meeting was included in the Venhorst Declaration approved by all participants on the 21st of October 2017.

Event 7 – Pan-European gathering – the 3rd ERP

The subject of this concluding pan-European event was to draw conclusions about the ways to promote, strengthen, and further extend the participation of rural citizens in the shaping of policy, and the taking of action, for the well-being of rural people, at national and European level. This event enabled the full benefits of the overall project to be achieved, through reaching and disseminating a wide consensus on the means by which the participation of citizens can be promoted. It brought together the outputs of the theme-based initiatives and other related activities of the partners; assemble, and celebrate, a wide range of case studies of active participation by rural citizens; and draw conclusions to policies.

The event was led by LVKK and the activities within this event took place in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany (the last two for expeditions only).

The activities took place in the timeframe from August 2016 to September 2017.

The event involved altogether 278 direct participants from across Europe, including participation from Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Former Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and United Kingdom

We have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event, but we experienced a very high level of local participation in Venhorst as well as at the different sites for excursions, and this together with the sub-events mentioned below, of which one is a press release, we would give a conservative estimate of the indirect participation for this event to be 300.

Sub event 7.1 – 3rd European Rural Parliament in Venhorst, the Netherlands:

Participation: The event involved 278 citizens, including 10 participants from Albania, 1 participant from Armenia, 3 participants from Austria, 2 participants from Belarus, 7 participants from Belgium, 3 participants from Bosnia-Herzegovina, 5 participants from Bulgaria, 7 participants from Croatia, 5 participants from Czech Republic, 5 participants from Denmark, 8 participants from Estonia, 8 participants from Finland, 5 participants from France, 7 participants from Georgia, 6 participants from Germany, 1 participant from Greece, 9 participants from Hungary, 4 participants from Iceland, 4 participants from Ireland, 5 participants from Italy, 4 participants from Latvia, 4 participants from Lithuania, 3 participants from Former Republic of Macedonia, 1 participant from Malta, 6 participants from Moldova, 4 participants from Montenegro, 77 participants from Netherlands, 7 participants from Poland, 2 participants from Portugal, 13 participants from Romania, 4 participants from Serbia, 5 participants from Slovakia, 7 participants from Slovenia, 4 participants from Spain, 10 participants from Sweden, 2 participants from Turkey, 20 participants from United Kingdom

Location / Dates: The event took place at Venhorst; Region of North Brabant in the Netherlands, from 18th to 21st October 2017.

Short description: The event was a full 3-days event with a very strong connection between the village hosting the conference and the participants. A huge number of locals were volunteers at the event and approximately 100 of local citizens welcomed an equal number of participants to stay at their private homes during the event. The group of volunteers took care of registration, guiding, serving etc. ...

The aims of the event were to share vision; knowledge and experiences of citizen initiatives in the rural area from all over Europe and to update the European Rural Manifesto, proclaimed at the 2nd European Parliament in Schärding (6-11-2015) and to formulate and agree on the Venhorst Declaration with proposals of how to take action to tackle the present and future obstacles for citizens in rural areas. In addition, the concrete meetings and networking between the participants were important parts.

The event consisted of a full day excursions, with options to visit citizen initiatives in the southern part of the Netherlands as well as in the neighbouring parts of Germany and Belgium, workshops with a number of themes – within these also the outcome of event 1 to 6, plenaries with

presentations (of event 1 to 6 as well as event 9), discussions and approvals and Marked-space and similar exhibitions with options for networking.

Sub event 7.2 – Press-release from 3rd ERP:

Participation: The Press release was mailed to all our partners and other relevant actors – approximately 80 mails – we do include these participants as indirect only

Location / Dates: The press release was sent out the 26st October 2017

Short description: The press release included a description of the event together with the Venhorst Declaration.

Sub event 7.3 – CDG in Bruxelles, Belgium:

Participation: 45 participated in the event – we do include these participants as indirect only

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bruxelles on the 21st November 2017

Short description: This was the second meeting of the Structured Dialogue Group with European Structural and Investment Funds' partners group of experts, and the ELARD, ERCA and PREPARE representatives for ELARD and PREPARE were given time to present the outcome of the 3rd ERP (This event 7) and also a hardcopy of the Venhorst Declaration was given to each participant.

Sub event 7.4 – CDG in Bruxelles, Belgium:

Participation: 42 participated in the event – we do include these participants as indirect only

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bruxelles on the 12th December 2017

Short description: This was the second meeting of the Civil Dialogue Group Rural Development of this year and the representatives for ELARD and PREPARE were given time to present the outcome of the 3rd ERP (This event 7) also a hardcopy of the “message to Rural Europe – short version” was given to each participant.

Sub event 7.5 – Meetings with DG and cabinets in Bruxelles, Belgium:

Participation: 19 participated in the different meetings – we do include these participants as indirect only

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bruxelles on the 13th December 2017

Short description: The event was a series of meetings where ERP Steering Group members were able to communicate directly with the political level of the European Council and with Directorate General and promote the outcome of the 3rd ERP. The Venhorst Declaration together with both the short and long version of “The message to Rural Europe” was handed over during the meetings.

Sub event 7.6 – Rural Network Assembly in Bruxelles, Belgium:

Participation: 110 participated in the meeting – we do include these participants as indirect only

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bruxelles on the 14th December 2017

Short description: Representative from ELARD (also member of the ERP Steering Group) was given the floor to present the outcome of the 3rd ERP and specifically describe the model for future EU financial support as described in the Venhorst Declaration (as a result of both event 6 and 7) Hardcopies of the model were handed to the participants.

Event 8 – Preparation of the events included in the project

This event describes the work done by HSSL (as applicant) in cooperation with the ERP Steering Group and Coordinating Team and other ERP partners.

The applicant, HSSL, planned and proceeded with the overall activities in the SPARCE project together with the ERP Coordinating Team. This included initiating the work within the different events described, and this was done by delegating the work to some of the ERP partners, based on a questionnaire where the partners indicated which events (Themes) they could be interested in participating in or leading.

This work resulted in the 7 events were led by the following partners:

- Event 1 Rural Services led by ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) in England
- Event 2 Young people in rural areas led by SYTY (Suomen kylätoiminta ry) in Finland together with LLF (Latvijas Lauku forums) in Latvia
- Event 3 Immigrants and refugees in rural areas led by HSSL (Hela Sverige Skal Leva) in Sweden
- Event 4 Poverty and Socially excluded citizens led by FOAW (Forum Aktywizacji Obszarów Wiejskich) in Poland
- Event 5 Rural /sub regional economies led by DRSP (Društvo za Razvoj Slovenskega Podeželja) in Slovenia
- Event 6 Integrated Rural Development – LEADER/CLLD led by ELARD (European LEADER Association for Rural Development)
- Event 7 Pan European gathering – the 3rd ERP led by LVKK (Landelijke Vereniging voor Kleine Kernen) in the Netherland

Work descriptions were agreed with all partners and for the biggest and concluding event – no. 7 the 3rd European Rural Parliament representatives from HSSL and ERP met with the Lead partner to sign the contract (Sub-event 8.1)

While the main work was left with these lead-partners HSSL together with the ERP Steering Group and Coordinating Team provided assistance and ensured results from the different events were fed into the preparation for the concluding event – the 3rd ERP.

This was done mainly via mail-correspondence and virtual meetings, but also a few Face-to-Face meetings took place for this purpose only – some of these are mentioned in sub-events below.

The activities took place in the timeframe from August 2016 to October 2017 and involved altogether 22 participants from 13 countries as follows: Austria, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Scotland, Slovenia and Sweden

Event 8.1 – Visit to Venhorst, the Netherlands:

Participation: The event involved 8 citizens, including 3 participants from North Brabant and 2 from other parts of the Netherlands, 3 participants from Sweden and 1 participant from Scotland. The main part of these participants is included in other events and will not be added here.

Location / Dates: The event was a two-day visit including meetings and excursions and took place in and around Venhorst, The Netherlands.

Short description: The aim of the event was to finalize the details and sign the contract to have LVKK being the lead partner for the 7th event in the SPARCE project.

Event 8.2 – ERP Steering Group Meeting in Bruxelles, Belgium:

Participation: The event involved 9 citizens, including 2 participants from Hudiksvall, Sweden, 1 participant from Aalborg, Denmark, 1 participant from Cromarty, Scotland, UK, 1 participant from Uusimaa, Finland, 1 participant from Ljutomer, Slovenia, 1 participant from North Brabant, the Netherlands, 1 participant from Limburg, the Netherlands and 1 participant from Berlin, Germany. Most of these participants have been involved in previous sub-events and only 5 will add to the participation from this sub-event.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Brussels, Belgium, on 10th November 2016.

Short description: The event was one of the few Face-to-Face meetings including both the host and the ERP Steering Group and the aim was to prepare the ERP process and project, including all themes into the final event 7 the 3rd Rural Parliament in October 2017.

Event 8.3 – Visit to North Brabant, the Netherlands:

Participation: The event involved 35 citizens, including 23 from the Netherlands (mainly North Brabant), 1 participant from England, 1 participant from Denmark, 1 participant from Finland, 3 participants from Sweden, 2 participants from Estonia, 2 participants from Austria, 1 participant from Scotland and 1 participant from Slovenia.

Some of these participants have been involved in other events and only 9 will add to the participation from this sub-event.

Location / Dates: The event was a two-day visit including meetings and excursions and took place in and around Venhorst, The Netherlands, on 11th to 12th April 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to prepare and discuss further the final event 7, the 3rd European Rural Parliament October 2017.

Event 9 – National Rural Parliaments

Participation: The events under this point involved all together 3095 citizens, including participants from the following 24 countries: Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Wales

Location / Dates: The 18 events reported took place in 10 different countries: Scotland, Slovakia, Croatia, Latvia, the Netherlands, Estonia, Finland, Slovenia, Lithuania and Albania within the timeframe from the 5th October 2016 to the 30th September 2017. Most of the events were for two or three days.

Short description: The aim of each event is described further at each Sub-event below.

We have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event, but due to it's high relevance we expect the interest would have been big. A very conservative estimate of the indirect participation in this event is 300.

The activities reported under this event have supported the SPARCE project in either collecting or sharing information, disseminating the results and/or strengthening the network within the partners of the project. None of the activities have received any economic support from the SPARCE project.

Sub event 9.1 – in Brechin in Scotland:

Participation: The event involved 357 citizens. (The signed list of registration of the participants are with the Scottish Rural Forum, but due to British law we are not able to share this information) Most of these 357 participants were from all regions of Scotland.

Amongst the participants were also 1 citizen from Sweden, 2 citizens from the Netherland, 1 citizen from Denmark, 1 participant from Wales and 2 participants from Croatia,

Location / Dates: The event was the 2nd Scottish Rural Parliament and it took place in Brechin in Scotland, from 5th to 8th October 2016

Short description: The event was a 3-day event. The event included excursions, workshops, networking, sharing knowledge and experience. The aim of the event was formulating and deciding on input to the later formulated Manifesto for Rural Scotland and prioritise issues of importance and produce an Action Plan of activities to be carried out in 2017-18 to further the empowerment of rural people and improvement of life for rural communities. The event brought rural citizens together with decision-makers to debate and decide matters of key importance. The Manifesto contains 21 themes of importance and 4 themes were voted to be the priority areas: digital connectivity, land, business and democracy.

Sub event 9.2 – in Sliac in Slovakia:

Participation: The event involved 89 citizens from all over Slovakia, including 1 participant from Mikensove, 1 from Polomka, 2 from Totkomlos, 4 from Kanpina, 4 from Bratislaw, 3 from Banska Stidvnica, 1 from Skwel, 14 from B Bjbicon, 2 from Banovernik, 10 from Zvolen, 1 from Kontiz, 2 from Sliac, 1 from Nibon, 1 from Breml, 1 from Bryslica, 1 from Pliad, 1 from Vitaron, 1 from Nastkamizsa, 1 from Bjudar Lattime, 1 from Nab Knici, 5 from Banski Bystrka, 7 from Nitra, 1 from Sahy, 1 from Epeina, 1 from Zilina, 1 from Blina, 1 from Lucenec, 1 from Phettvee, 1 from Ziac Brony, 1 from Poltar, 1 from Dlate Merance, 1 from Trnavka, 1 from Scrbie, 1 from Metra hika, 3 from B Btcidce, 1 from Cerka, 4 from Leyice, 2 from Rimavska Sabota, 1 from Vnatin.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Sliac, Slovakia from 25th to 26th November 2016

Short description: The event was the 9th Slovakian Rural Parliament. It was a two-day event arranged by The Rural Parliament of Slovakia, VIPA (Vidiecky Parlament na Slovensku) and it included workshops, networking, sharing knowledge and experience and also formulating input to the ERP process. The aim of the event was to gather rural people throughout Slovakia to discuss relevant issues, proposals and requests directed at different levels nationally and to the. The outcome: "The tasks of Rural Parliament in Slovakia for the years 2017 – 2018" formulates statements on Youth, Potentials relative to Europe, Countryside: a source of energy and space for relax and Food grains for a sustainable future.

Sub event 9.3 – in Sveti Martin na Muri in Croatia:

Participation: The event involved 330 citizens. The participation could have been bigger, but that was the limit of the venue – and the registration had to be stopped, when that number was reached. The participants were representing all regions of Croatia and also a very broad range of the various stakeholders

Also 10 international guests participated, these were from: 1 from Albania, 1 from Slovenia, 1 from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2 from Wales and 4 from the Netherlands

Location / Dates: The events took place in Sveti Martin na Muri, Croatia, from 20th to 22nd April 2017.

Short description: The event was the 2nd Croatian Rural Parliament. The 1st CRP had focus on “How to keep young people in rural areas” whereas the theme for this 2nd CRP was “Cooperation as a prerequisite for integrated development” with the aim of a smart, sustainable, and integrated development of rural areas, which is necessary to develop various forms of cooperation that can bring about solutions to key challenges population in rural areas are faced with.

It was a three-day event arranged by the Croatian Rural Development Network, HMRR (Hrvatska Mreža za Ruralni Razvoj) and it included workshops, networking and approval of the Rural Declaration.

Sub event 9.4 – in Kandava in Latvia:

Participation: The event involved 211 citizens from all regions of Latvia

Location / Dates: The event took place in Kandava in Latvia, from 15th to 18th May 2017

Short description: The event was the 3rd Latvian Rural Parliament. It was a four-days event arranged by the Latvian Rural Forum (Latvijas Lauku forums) and it included presentations, workshops and networking. During the event items were discussed – conclusion later to be found in the “All Latvia shall live” Resolution, such as: Taking on the responsibility for development – rural, regional and sustainable, Delegating responsibility for achieving common goals, Responsibility for each other and an inclusive society, children and youth, Responsibility across borders and changes in the community. The last day was spent on excursions to get hands-on experience with some of the good cases to inspire the future work.

Sub event 9.5 – in the Netherland:

This event is presented in two sub-sub-events. The Netherlands normally have their Dutch Rural Parliament in the autumn – mid November every second year. In 2017 the event was arranged to be in the summer and not November, due to the European Rural Parliament was held in the Netherland in 2017 (Event 7) The Dutch also arrange regional rural parliaments in 6 Dutch Regions – or – as they call them: “Inspiratiebijeenkomst” (Inspiration meeting) normally also in the autumn and in the years without the National Rural Parliaments

Participation: The events involved all together 282 citizens, from all regions of the Netherlands

Sub event 9.5.1 – National Parliament in Bronckhorst:

Participation: The event involved 224 citizens from all over the Netherlands (A signed list of the participants are with LVKK (Landelijke Vereniging voor Kleine Kernen), but due to Dutch law we are not able to share this information)

Location / Dates: The event took place in the municipality of Bronckhorst, on the 20th June 2017 (Shifted to be a summer event due to the 3rd ERP in October – Event 7)

Short description: The event was the 7th Rural Parliament in the Netherlands. It was a one-day event arranged by LVKK in cooperation with the Bronckhorst Municipality and it included workshops and networking to share experience, to inspire for future work and to contribute also to the 3rd ERP.

Sub event 9.5.2 – Regional Inspiration meeting in Limburg:

Participation: The event involved 58 citizens, mainly from the Limburg region

Location / Dates: The event took place in the region Limburg, on the 12th October 2017

Short description: Due to no elections the meeting was more informal and arranged as an inspirational meeting. It was a one-day event arranged by VKKL (Vereniging Kleine Kernen Limburg) with focus on presentation of cases for inspiration for all the participants for future work.

Sub event 9.6 – in Vana-Võidu, Viljandi County in Estonia:

Participation: The event involved 350 citizens. Most of which were from all regions of Estonia. There was participation from all the Estonian counties and also 25 international guests participated – these were; 13 citizens from Finland, 5 citizens from UK, 3 citizens from the Netherlands, 2 citizens from Latvia, 1 citizen from Sweden, 1 citizen from Denmark and 1 citizen from Germany.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Vana-Võidu, Viljandi County in Estonia, from 4th to 6th August 2017 – and for international participants even extended to the 3rd to 7th August.

Short description: the 12th Estonian Rural Parliament was a full three-day event including presentation, panel-discussions, workshops, networking and Presentation of the update of the Estonian Manifesto. It is worthwhile noticing, that amongst the participants were the Estonian President, the Estonian Prime minister, the Spokesman of the Estonian Parliament and the Minister for Rural affairs. The communication between the rural citizens and the government is very much strengthened by this event. This and the immense Estonian experience was presented at the 3rd European Rural Parliament (Event 7)

Sub event 9.7 – in Leppävirta in Finland:

Participation: The event involved 567 citizens (Participant-lists checked but not signed), most of which were from all regions of Finland: including 57 participants from the West regions, 38 participants from the East regions, 14 participants from the Central-North regions, 18 participants from the North regions, 150 participants from the South regions, 116 participants from the Central regions, 5 participants from the Central-West regions, 1 participant from the Central-East region 31 participants from the Central-South regions and 134 not specified also 3 international guests participated – these were all from Sweden

Location / Dates: The event took place in Leppävirta Finland, from 1st to 3rd September 2017

Short description: The event had the title: “Turning the Impossible to an Opportunity” and was the 1st Finnish Rural Parliament. It was a three-day event arranged by the Finnish Rural Development organisation: SYTY (Suomen Kylätoiminta) and it included presentations, workshops and networking. The aim of the event was to gather rural people throughout Finland to discuss relevant issues, proposals and requests directed at different levels nationally and to input also into the ERP process.

Sub event 9.8 – in: in Novo mesto in Slovenia

Participation: The event involved 159 citizens, including 149 participants from all regions of Slovenia. Also 3 participants from Hungary, 2 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1 participant from Estonia, 1 participant from Denmark, 3 participants from Croatia, 1 participant from Montenegro, 1 participant from Belgium, 1 participant from Poland and 1 participant from UK

Location / Dates: The event took place in Grm Novo mesto – at the Center for Biotechnology and Tourism, on the 22nd September 2017 and was a continuation of an international event in Šentrupert on the 21st September 2017

Short description: The event included presentations, workshops and networking. The aim of the event was to gather rural people throughout Slovenia in the 4th Slovenian Rural Parliament to discuss relevant issues, proposals and requests directed at different levels nationally and to the ERP process.

Sub event 9.9 – in Taurajėnai, Ukmergė region in Lithuania:

Participation: The event involved 169 citizens from all over Lithuania, including 2 participants from the Alytus region, 2 participants from the Anykščiai region, 1 participant from the Biržai region (Lithuania); 4 participants from the Druskininkai region, 3 participants from the Jonava region, 4 participants from the Joniškis region, 5 participants from the Kaišiadorys region, 6 participants from the Kaunas region, 10 participants from the city of Kaunas, 5 participants from the Kazlų Rūda region, 7 participants from the Kėdainiai region, 3 participants from the Kelmė region, 3 participants from the Klaipėda region, 5 participants from the Lazdijai region, 7 participants from the Marijampolė region, 1 participant from the Mažeikiai region, 4 participants from the Molėtai region, 2 participants from the Pakruojis region, 4 participants from the Panevėžys region, 4 participants from the Pasvalys region, 5 participants from the Plungė region, 4 participants from the Prienai region, 4 participants from the Radviliškis region, 7 participants from the Raseiniai region, 3

participants from the Šakiai region, 4 participants from the Šiauliai region, 4 participants from the Šilutė region, 5 participants from the Širvintai region, 1 participant from the Švenčionys region, 5 participants from the Tauragė region, 10 participants from the Ukmergė region, 1 participant from the Utena region, 3 participants from the Varėna region, 5 participants from the Vilkaviškis region, 5 participants from the Vilnius region, 10 participants from the city of Vilnius, 5 participants from the Vilkaviškis region, 5 participants from the Vilkaviškis region.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Taujėnai, Ukmergė region, Lithuania, from 22nd to 23rd September 2017

Short description: The event was a two-day event arranged by the Lithuanian Rural Communities Union (Lietuvos Kaimo Bendruomeniu Sajunga) and it included workshops, networking and sharing experiences/good cases. The aim of the event was to gather country's community movement leaders to discuss rural development processes and to solve the strategic Lithuanian rural future tasks directed at different levels nationally and also to input to the ERP process. As part of the event a Declaration was formulated and approved.

Sub event 9.10 – 6 different places in Albania

This Sub-event 8.10 included several events, the first seven of these being part of the preparation for the first Albanian Rural Parliament, which is the latter of the eight events.

Participation: The events involved all together 581 citizens, most of these from all regions of Albania and the last involved also participation of international guests from the following countries: Slovenia, Serbia, Italy, Macedonia, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Belgium.

The series of events and the process involved was organised by ANRD, Albanian Network for Rural Development in cooperation with the Agricultural University of Tirana (AUT)

Shortly after the final event: The 1st Albanian Rural Parliament late September 7 of the Albanian participants joined the 3rd European Rural Parliament in Venhorst in the Netherland

Sub event 9.10.1: KickOff meeting:

Participation: The event involved more than 80 citizens representing the stakeholders of the Rural Development

Location / Dates: The event took place at the Agricultural University in Tirana, on the 14th April 2017

Short description: The event was the Kick-off meeting initiating the preparation for the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament. It was a one-day event arranged by the ANRD in cooperation with the Agricultural University of Tirana. The aim of the event was to initiate the process towards the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament enabling stakeholders to influence the agenda of rural development in Albania and to support and accelerate its reforming process in approximating EU policy of LEADER and Community Led Local Development (CLLD).

Sub event 9.10.2: Regional meeting in Durres:

Participation: The event involved more than 22 citizens

Location / Dates: The event took place in Durres on the 31st of May 2017

Short description: The event was the first of the six regional events held to prepare for the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament, and it was a one-day workshop arranged by the ANRD. The purpose was to consult with local stakeholders and to identify the advantages, difficulties and obstacles in relation to Rural Development for the Region

Sub event 9.10.3: Regional meeting in Diber:

Participation: The event involved more than 22 citizens

Location / Dates: The event took place in Diber on the 5th of June 2017

Short description: The event was one of the six regional events held to prepare for the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament, and it was a one-day workshop arranged by the ANRD. The purpose was to consult with local stakeholders and to identify the advantages, difficulties and obstacles in relation to Rural Development for the Region

Sub event 9.10.4: Regional meeting in Tirana:

Participation: The event involved more than 12 citizens

Location / Dates: The event took place in Tirana on the 7th of June 2017

Short description: The event was one of the six regional events held to prepare for the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament, and it was a one-day workshop arranged by the ANRD. The purpose was to consult with local stakeholders and to identify the advantages, difficulties and obstacles in relation to Rural Development for the Region

Sub event 9.10.5: Regional meeting in Lezhe:

Participation: The event involved more than 45 citizens

Location / Dates: The event took place in Lezhe on the 11th of July 2017

Short description: The event was one of the six regional events held to prepare for the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament, and it was a one-day workshop arranged by the ANRD. The purpose was to consult with local stakeholders and to identify the advantages, difficulties and obstacles in relation to Rural Development for the Region

Sub event 9.10.6: Regional meeting in Pogradec:

Participation: The event involved more than 54 citizens

Location / Dates: The event took place in Pogradec on the 18th of July 2017

Short description: The event was one of the six regional events held to prepare for the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament, and it was a one-day workshop arranged by the ANRD. The purpose was to consult with local stakeholders and to identify the advantages, difficulties and obstacles in relation to Rural Development for the Region

Sub event 9.10.7: Regional meeting in Vlore:

Participation: The event involved more than 36 citizens

Location / Dates: The event took place in Vlore on the 26th of July 2017

Short description: The event was the last of the six regional events held to prepare for the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament, and it was a one-day workshop arranged by the ANRD. The purpose was to consult with local stakeholders and to identify the advantages, difficulties and obstacles in relation to Rural Development for the Region

Sub event 9.10.8: The 1st Albanian Rural Parliament:

Participation: The event involved more than 310 citizens representing rural stakeholders from all over Albania. Civil society organisations, Local and National government authorities and academia was represented. Also 30 international guests participated – these were 5 from Slovenia, 3 from Serbia, 4 participants from Italy, 4 participants from Macedonia, 3 participants from Croatia, 2 participants from Kosovo, 1 participant from Montenegro, 1 participant from Switzerland, 4 participants from Germany, 1 participant from Denmark, 1 participant from Bosnia and Herzegovina and 1 participant from Belgium

Location / Dates: The 1st Albanian Rural Parliament was a three-days event and it took place at the Agricultural University in Tirana, on the 28th to 29th of September 2017 and in the Albanian Parliament on the 30th of September 2017

Short description: The event was a combination of plenary sessions and workshops with ample opportunity to discuss, network and transfer know-how and exchange ideas and best practices on rural development – locally, regionally and internationally. The third day of the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament was held at the Albanian Parliament where the Joint Declaration of the 1st Albanian Rural Parliament was read and finally handed to government representatives – the Joint Declaration is a vision for rural communities and a set of recommendations addressing the development priorities of rural communities in Albania. This was followed by public debate. The process involved in arranging this 1st Albanian Rural Parliament was presented at the 3rd European Rural Parliament (Event 7)

Event 10 – Pan European gatherings within the ERP partners and co-initiating bodies

The activities within this event “10 – Pan European gatherings within the three co-initiating bodies” are related to the activities described in the application as to “strengthen the European networks behind this application, and the national and regional civil society organisations who are partners in the project; and to widen the outreach of all these organisations to rural citizens.”

Activities covers virtual as well as Face-to-Face meetings for the ERP Steering Group together with Pan European gatherings arranged by partners or co-initiating bodies of the ERP Network.

The activities took place in the timeframe from September 2016 to November 2017 in Estonia, Netherland, Luxemburg and Belgium. The event involved altogether 224 direct participants from 29 countries across Europe, including participation from Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom. Besides also 6 from outside Europe: from Algeria, Australia, Brazil, Israel and New Zealand participated.

We have no records of the indirect participation initiated by this event, but sub-event 10.4 includes quite a few – and more will have been the outcome of the recorded sub-events; a conservative estimate on the indirect participation will be 300

The activities reported under this event have been supportive of the SPARCE project in either collecting or sharing information, disseminating the results and/or strengthening the network within the partners of the project. None of the Pan European gatherings (10.2 to 10.6) has received any economic support from the SPARCE project.

Sub event 10.1 – Steering Group Meetings:

Participation: The event included 12 participants from 8 countries: Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, Netherlands, Scotland, Slovenia and Sweden.

Location / Dates: The ERP Steering Group has had 10 meetings during the SPARCE project, where the project has been part of the agenda. 5 of these meetings have been Face-to-Face meetings: 10th November 2016, 11th and 12th April 2017, and 2 more just before and just after the 3rd ERP, on 18th and 22nd October 2017. The Steering Group has had 6 Virtual meetings: 29th September 2016, 20th June 2017, 5th October 2017, 28th November 2017 and 26th January 2018. 9-12 persons participated at each meeting.

Sub event 10.2 – ELARD GA, Estonia:

Participation: The event included 29 participants from 17 different countries – as follows: 1 from Austria, 1 from Belgium, 1 from Czech Republic, 1 from Denmark, 3 from Estonia, 1 from Finland, 1 from Germany, 2 from Greece, 2 from Ireland, 2 from Latvia, 2 from Lithuania, 2 from Poland, 2 from Portugal, 1 from Scotland, 1 from Slovakia, 1 from Spain, 4 from Sweden and 1 from Wales,

Location / Dates: The event took place in Tartu, Estonia, on 21st November 2016

Short description: The event was a half-day Face-to-Face event for representatives for all ELARD's members plus other guests. The aims of the meeting were to discuss and decide on the activities of ELARD for the next year – At this meeting the tasks included in Event 6 of this report was presented and discussed.

Sub event 10.3 – ELARD GA, Bruxelles, Belgium:

Participation: The event included 26 participants from 19 different countries – as follows, 1 from Austria, 1 from Belgium, 1 from Czech Republic, 1 from Denmark, 2 from Estonia, 2 from Finland, 1 from France, 1 from Germany, 1 from Greece, 1 from Hungary, 2 from Ireland, 2 from Latvia, 1 from Lithuania, 1 from Poland, 1 from Portugal, 1 from Slovakia, 1 from Slovenia, 1 from Spain and 1 from Sweden. Only 10 of these participants can be added to the accumulative participants, due to 16 of the participants attended also the Sub event 10.1

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bruxelles, Belgium on 21st of February 2017

Short description: The event was a half-day Face-to-Face event for representatives for all ELARD's members plus other guests. The aims of the meeting were to discuss and decide on the

activities of ELARD for the next half year – At this meeting the progress of Event 6 of this report was presented and discussed.

Sub event 10.4 – LINC, Luxembourg:

Participation: The event included 296 participants from 17 different countries – as follows: 57 from Austria, 9 from Belgium, 2 from Croatia, 2 from Czech, 92 from Estonia, 26 from Finland, 16 from Germany, 6 from Hungary, 3 from Italy, 44 from Latvia, 4 from Lithuania, 22 from Luxembourg, 1 from Netherlands, 1 from Poland, 21 from Romania, 5 from Slovakia and 3 from Sweden
We do not have signed signatures for these participants, and will therefor include them only as indirect participants.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Vianden, Luxembourg, on 9th to 11th May 2017

Short description: The event was a three-day Face-to-Face event for LEADER representatives from all over Europe to join, to learn and to network – like the name of the conference: it is very much about “Linking”. The event included both presentations, workshops and study tours presenting both the environment and the local produces.

Sub event 10.5 – Open days Bruxelles, Belgium:

Participation: The event included 156 participants (four of these have participated in previous listed sub-events – so only 152 to add up for participation) from 28 different countries – as follows, 2 from Austria, 1 from Belarus, 21 from Belgium, 1 from Bulgaria, 1 from Croatia, 3 from Czech Republic, 4 from Denmark, 2 from Estonia, 4 from Finland, 12 from France, 3 from Germany, 10 from Greece, 3 from Hungary, 1 from Ireland, 15 from Italy, 2 from Latvia, 1 from Lithuania, 2 from Luxembourg, 10 from Netherlands, 7 from Norway, 15 from Poland, 1 from Portugal, 2 from Romania, 1 from Serbia, 2 from Slovakia, 13 from Spain, 6 from Sweden, 11 from United Kingdom, Besides 6 participants from outside Europe: from Algeria, Australia, Brazil, Israel and New Zealand

Location / Dates: The event took place in Bruxelles, Belgium on 10th October 2017

Short description: The title of the event was: “Communities as change agents: Local Development in the EU beyond 2020” and the findings from event 6 Integrated Rural Development and LEADER/CLLD” was used during the presentation. The event was a half-day Face-to-Face workshop arranged in a cooperation between LDNET and ELARD and as part of the European Week of Regions and Cities.

Sub event 10.6 – ELARD GA, Laulasmaa, Estonia:

Participation: The event included 39 participants from 21 different countries – as follows: 1 from Austria, 1 from Bulgaria, 1 from Croatia, 1 from Czech Republic, 1 from Denmark, 3 from Estonia, 2 from Finland, 3 from France, 1 from Germany, 4 from Hungary, 1 from Ireland, 2 from Italy, 2 from Latvia, 1 from Lithuania, 2 from Netherland, 2 from Poland, 2 from Portugal, 2 from Romania, 1 from Slovakia, 2 from Slovenia ,1 from Spain and 3 from Sweden

Only 21 of these participants can be added to the accumulative participants, due to 18 of the participants attended also the Sub event 10.1 or 10.2

Location / Dates: The event took place in Laulasmaa, Estonia, on 23rd November 2017

Short description: The event was a half-day Face-to-Face event for representatives for all ELARD's members plus other guests. The aims of the meeting was to discuss and decide on the activities of ELARD for the next year – At this meeting the tasks included in Event 6 of this report was reflected on – and the future work and cooperation with the ERP-partners was discussed and settled.

Event 11 – Partners Activities within the scope of work defined in the application

This event includes activities carried out in the different ERP partner-countries with the aim to encourage citizens in rural areas all over Europe to actively participate in improving their living conditions.

The events took place in the timeframe 1st December 2016 to 1st December 2017 and in 7 different countries, as follows: Czech Republic, Denmark, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. The events had altogether 1,165 participants from 13 different countries, as follows: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Georgia, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden.

We have no records of indirect participation, but a low estimation would be 250 citizens.

The activities reported under this event have been supporting the SPARCE project in either collecting or sharing information, disseminating the results and/or strengthening the network within the partners of the project. None of the activities have received any economic support from the SPARCE project.

Sub event 11.1 – in Hlinsko, Czech Republic:

Participation: The event, both Face-to-Face and virtual, involved 124 citizens, including 1 participant from Strakonice, 1 from Volyně, 1 from Vodňany, 1 from Týn nad Sázavou, 1 from Veselí nad Moravou, 3 from Písek, 1 from Kovořov, 1 from Rimov, 1 from Lmelice, 1 Hlwbokw, 1 from Totbnsico, 1 from Netulicko, 1 from Hodonín, 2 from Tisov, 1 from Kivov, 1 from Hočín, 8 from Vitkov, 1 from Niemanice, 2 from Roudnice, 1 from Hryneves, 1 from Destina, 1 from Ronna, 1 from iHradec, 1 from Besin, 2 from Tsviny, 1 from Ostro, 1 from Rakov, 1 from Veselicko, 1 from Hlvsoice, 1 from Prerov, 1 from Nemlicgnih, 1 from Dolcicsbn, 1 from Opava, 2 from Prava, 1 from Oreem, 1 from Vysecim, 1 from Hanium, 1 from Aschetirane, 1 from Stvency, 1 from Libnatov, 1 from Holin, 1 from Klacny, 1 from Holestrecy, 1 from Kvicanez, 1 from Plezen, 1 from Mdaveckr, 1 from Chrudim, 1 from Grtgov, 1 from V Tinec, 1 from Yametnamen, 1 from Demice, 1 from Voka Bistolice, 1 from Ceskebude, 1 from Skomer, 1 from Eclac, 1 from Adanov, 1 from Boshemice, 1 from Bestovie, 1 from Hvozdec, 1 from Prostějov, 1 from Dolni Skdook, 2 from Znojmo, 1 from Breslau, 1 from Bodzovie, 1 from Halj, 1 from Huiusb, 1 from Ceska cipa, 1 from Cermenice, 1 from Bokovani, 1 from Liberckyr, 1 from Vesenik, 1 from Borovhiy, 1 from Budejoki, 1 from Svizy, and 1 from Hradý, all in the Czech Republic and 2 participants from Austria, 6 participants from Georgia, 4 participants from Slovakia, 3 participants from Croatia and 20 participants from Poland,
Location / Dates: The event took place in Hlinsko, Czech Republic from 30th May to 1st June 2017, both Face to Face and virtual.

Short description: The aim of the event was to support cooperation in the rural space on the national as well as international level. Participants discussed possibilities in cooperation in different fields important for rural development and for ERP.

Sub event 11.2 – in Karklė, Klaipėda region, Lithuania:

Participation: The event involved 393 citizens, including: 60 participants from the Biržai region, 19 participants from the Druskininkai region, 20 participants from the Joniškis region, 40 participants from the Marijampolė region, 154 participants from the Raseiniai region, 20 participants from the Švenčionys region, 20 participants from the Vilkaviškis region, 40 participants from the Pagėgiai region, 20 participants from the Tauragė region, all in Lithuania.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Karklė, Klaipėda region, Lithuania, from 16th to 18th June 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to develop good practice sharing and partnership among rural community organizations, to promote community movement initiatives in the country, to discuss about common rural development problems in Lithuania and EU. To promote idea of National and European rural parliament.

Sub event 11.3 – in Poland:

Sub event 11.3.1 – Virtual event in Ossa (Rawa Mazowiecka), Poland

Participation: The virtual event involved 196 citizens, including 26 participants from Wielkopolska, 12 from Podkarpackie, 20 from Kujawsko-Pomorskie, 12 from Warmińsko-Mazurskie, 19 from

Lower Silesia, 9 from Silesia, 9 from Mazovia, 16 from Lubuskie, 17 from Małopolskie, 5 from Świętokrzyskie, 8 from Warsaw, 4 from Mazovia, 12 from Opolskie, 11 from Łódzkie, 3 from Pomerania, 9 from Western Pomerania, 4 from Podlaskie, all in Poland.

Location / Dates: The virtual event took place in Ossa (Rawa Mazowiecka), Poland, from 1st December 2016 and forward.

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss the ERP Manifesto and future of EU rural policies during the LAG conference organised by the Polish Rural Forum and Ministry of Agriculture.

Sub event 11.3.2 – Virtual event in Poland:

Participation: The event involved 53 citizens, including 2 participants from Śląskie, 18 from Mazowieckie, 3 from Dolnośląskie, 3 from Kujawsko-Pomorskie, 3 from Lubuskie, 2 from Łódzkie, 3 from Małopolskie, 1 Opolskie, 3 from Podkarpackie, 3 from Podlaskie, 3 from Podmorskie, 2 from Świętokrzyskie, 1 from Warmińsko-Mazurskie, 2 from Wielkopolskie, 3 from Zachodniopomorskie, 1 from Lubelskie, Poland.

Location / Dates: The virtual event took place in Poland on 17th October 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss on the current experience and future direction of the LEADER approach in Poland and in the whole EU. 7th meeting of the LEADER thematic working group under the Polish National Rural Network – Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Sub event 11.4 – in Spain:

Sub event 11.4.1 – virtual event in Spain:

Participation: The virtual event involved 160 citizens, including 8 participants from Sevilla, 7 from Córdoba, 6 from Málaga, 5 from Almería, 5 from Huelva, 7 from Jaén, 4 from Cádiz, 6 from Granada, 9 from Zaragoza, 6 from Teruel, 6 from Huesca, 6 from Asturias, 6 from Cantabria, 7 from Ciudad Real, 6 from Albacete, 5 from Cuenca, 2 from Guadalajara, 6 from Toledo, 1 from Valladolid, 1 from Burgos, 2 from Segovia, 1 from Soria, 1 from Salamanca, 1 from León, 1 from Palencia, 5 from Lleida, 2 from Barcelona, 2 from Girona, 3 from Tarragona, 7 from Cáceres, 9 from Badajoz, 1 from A Coruña, 2 from Islas Baleares, 1 from Las Palmas, 1 from Santa Cruz de Tenerife, 3 from La Rioja, 1 from Madrid, 3 from Murcia, 4 from Navarra and 1 from Álava, all in Spain.

Location / Dates: The virtual event took place in Spain, on 24th May 2017,

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss the partner organisation REDR:s input to the ERP process, especially: young people and entrepreneurship and jobs creation in rural areas and wider interventions between citizens of rural and urban areas.

Sub event 11.4.2 – virtual event in Spain:

Participation: The virtual event involved 22 citizens, including 1 participant from Medina, 2 from Andalucía, 1 from Sierra, 2 from Aragón, 1 from Canaria, 1 from Asturias, 1 from Cantabria, 7 from Madrid, 1 from La Manga, 2 from La Carolina, 1 from Menorca, 2 from other places, all in Spain.

Location / Dates: The virtual event took place in Spain, on 21st March 2017,

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss the partner organisation REDR:s input to the ongoing ERP process, especially input to the 3rd ERP in Venhorst and to the Manifesto.

Sub event 11.4.3 – virtual event in Spain:

Participation: The event involved 55 citizens, including 7 participants from Madrid, 1 from Logroño, 2 from Sevilla, 2 from Santander, 5 from Extremadura, 7 from Andalucía, 4 from Castilla, 2 from Aledo, 1 from Asturias, 2 from Baleares, 2 from Catalunya, 8 from Cuenca, 1 from La Rioja, 1 from San Sebastian, 1 from Segovia, 3 from Baskien, 1 from Zaragoza, 1 from Lleida, 1 from Villarojo, 1 from León, 1 from La Manga, all in Spain and 1 participant from Belgium.

Location / Dates: The virtual event took place in Madrid, Spain, on 7th November 2017,

Short description: The aim of the event was to discuss the power of bottom up approach in rural and local development policies, in order to reinforce partnerships of public, private and civil society actors in the AG REDR, Annual Conference together with an ERP exposition.

Sub event 11.5 – in Sweden:**Sub event 11.5.1 – Hela Norden in Stockholm, Sweden:**

Participation: The event involved 7 citizens, including 1 participant from Bjuråker, 1 participant from Grundsund, 1 participant from Kumla, all in Sweden, 1 participant from Bærum, Norway, 1 participant from Åland, 1 participant from Helsingfors, both Finland and 1 participant from Reykjavik, Iceland.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Stockholm Sverige on 1st December 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to present ERP to Hela Norden ska levas annual autumn meeting and Board meeting.

Sub event 11.5.2 – HSSL in Stockholm, Sweden:

Participation: The event involved 54 citizens, including 1 participant from Hillared, 7 participants from Stockholm, 1 from Järvsö, 1 from Jämsjö, 1 from Timrå, 1 from Kramfors, 1 from Sundsvall, 2 from Örebro, 1 from Kronoberg, 2 from Östergötland, 3 from Dalarna, 1 from Göteborg, 1 from Halmstad, 1 from Kungsbacka, 1 from Åmål, 1 from Munkedal, 1 from Gotland, 1 from Viksta, 1 from Stavby, 1 from Forshaga, 1 from Hedemora, 1 from Luleå, 1 from Boden, 1 from Baksjöleden, 1 from Ambjörnarp, 1 from Månstad, 1 from Larv, 1 from Trosa, 1 from Östersund, 1 from Backe, 1 from Frösön, 1 from Los, 1 from Bjuråker, 1 from Grängesberg, 1 from Västmanland, 1 from Nyköping, 4 from Västerbotten, 1 from Västra Götaland, 1 from Skaraborg, all Sweden.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Stockholm, Sweden on 28th November 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to present the ERP process to Hela Sverige ska levas annual autumn meeting.

Sub event 11.5.3 – in Lysekil, Sweden:

Participation: The event involved 52 citizens, including 6 participants from Uppsala, 3 from Lysekil, 5 from Bohuslän, 4 from Västra Götaland, 1 from Åmål, 5 from Munkedal, 1 from Mellerud, 1 from Klädesholmen, 2 from Trollhättan, 1 from Värnamo, 2 from Lidköping, 1 from Lerdal, 1 from Stora Mellby, 1 from Grundsund, 1 from Styrsö, 2 from Göteborg, 1 from Sigtuna, 1 from Ulricehamn, 1 from Hagfors, 1 from Högsäter, all in Sweden.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Lysekil, Sweden from 12th to 13th October 2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to present the ERP process and gather input to the coming ERP event in Venhorst, the Netherlands, especially regarding local economy.

Sub event 11.6 – in Portugal:

Participation: The event involved 63 citizens, including 1 participant from Alcagovas, 1 from Felocingar, 1 from Serta, 1 from Trau Cilo, 2 from Cab de Basio, 1 from Arouca, 1 from Tomar, 1 from Guimarasoz, 1 from Pombal, 2 from Avgero, 3 from Lairig, 1 from Lousa, 1 from Coinber, 1 from Guarda, 1 from Gois, 3 from Alentejo, 1 from Cona da Peira, 2 from Ribadejo, 2 from Geriorda, 2 from Setubal, 1 from Lounes Matre, 1 from Cal-Val, 1 from Santial, 1 from Dao Lugos, 1 from Porta deGada, 1 from Terceira, 6 from Alentijs, 1 from Tuas, 1 from Tiobuter, 1 from Alcagovas, 1 from TerrasDeutro, 2 from Dolmer, 2 from Terras Baixo, 1 from Tenan, 1 from Adritem, 1 from Pruhais, 1 from Adiber, 1 from Adruse, 1 from Desteone, 2 from Destegue, 2 from Douro, 3 from Corane, 1 from Adril, 1 from Ltural, 1 from Adrinimbo, 1 from Aproder, 3 from unspecified places in Portugal.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Pedrógão Grande, Portugal, on 24th October 2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to show the developed action to widen the outreach of ERP, sharing with the Portuguese Local Action Groups the results of the European Rural Parliament 2017 event, including the main conclusions of The Venhorst Declaration and the European Rural Manifesto.

Sub event 11.7 – Denmark:**Sub event 11.7.1 – Re-think the village Grundfør in Denmark:**

Participation: The event had 50 different stalls with 2-4 exhibitors for each stall. During the day more than 1,000 paid a visit to the event. We do not have signed lists – and will include participation only from the exhibitor list: 75 participants from different regions of Denmark.

Location / Dates: The event took place in the village Grundfør, Denmark on 23rd September 2017

Short description: The event was a full day / full village experience. The 50 stalls were set up in 5 different hubs as an integrated part of the village – and activities were running parallel: at Marked Square, Sport, Culture, Creativity and Assembly house, providing offers to all family members throughout the day. The stalls representing a wide variety of the rural stakeholders.

Sub event 11.7.2 – Rural annual meeting Egtved, Denmark:

Participation: The event involved 81 participants from all regions of Denmark

Location / Dates: The event took place in Egtved, Denmark, on 31st March 2017

Short description: The event was a one-day Face-to-Face meeting arranged by the Rural Council and the aim was to bring focus on growth and development in rural areas. Participants were from rural stakeholders as well as municipalities, politicians and Central Managing Authorities.