

Partnership between civil society and governments in rural development

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Vision of the theme

The Rural Parliament in Finland is a national network, which isn't how they should be. They have a national budget but also funding from the villages and regional funding.

Main issues

Some countries are very dependent on EU policy.
Regional networks have to become stronger and need to have more influence.

Suggested actions / policy – and who should implement

- Deep debate about rural issues, bottom-up and top-down
- Ministries have to work together
- Feed the initiatives of people
- Community empowerment stimulates rural development

How should ERP work in the future in this theme? What is the role of the ERP partners?

ERP events could be supported by these civil sector – government partnerships.

Amendments or messages to the manifesto

Promote rural proofing as a tool, use civil sector – government partnerships like the Finnish Rural Policy Council in national and EU level policy work and advocacy.

Messages to the Venhorst Declaration

Deepening the communication about this with the governments. How can we help each other?
Use the ERP as an instrument.

Ideas and case-study examples relating to the theme

Finland is a nice example