

# PRESS RELEASE FROM THE RuDI PROJECT

May 2010

## Major European Conference - 'Beyond Indicators: Evaluating the Processes of EU Rural Development Policies'

European policy makers, member states representatives, researchers and other key actors in the field of rural development, will be gathering at the final conference of a major European rural development research project in Brussels on Tuesday 15 June 2010, entitled 'Beyond Indicators: Evaluating the Processes of EU Rural Development Policies', which will present the main findings and policy recommendations of a major European rural development research project.

The research project – Assessing the Impacts of Rural Development Policies (including Leader) (RuDi) - has involved a ten-country consortium conducting a major analysis of the design, implementation and emerging impacts of Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) funded under the so-called second pillar of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy over the period 2007-13.

The conference aims to provide a better understanding of the diversity of EU Rural Development Programmes, their priorities, and implementation. It will also give an insight into the process effects of Rural Development programming, implementation and evaluation and will provide a forum for discussion of possible improvements of policies that more effectively target the challenges of Rural Development in Europe. The conference takes place at a time when the Commission is considering its proposals for the 2014-2020 framework period.

Dr Janet Dwyer (project leader for the CCRI team) says: "We feel that our study has really got under the skin of what rural development policy means, in Europe today. The RuDI conference will be an important opportunity to debate and discuss how to improve the policy, and how best to learn lessons from effective policy evaluation, for the future beyond 2013.'

The conference will also provide an opportunity for networking between Rural Development stakeholders and the RuDI consortium to foster mutual learning and knowledge sharing for the development of better policies. The keynote speakers are from DG Agriculture and DG Regio. To consult the conference schedule go to the link [http://www.ccri.ac.uk/News/RuDI\\_conference\\_schedule.doc](http://www.ccri.ac.uk/News/RuDI_conference_schedule.doc)

The conference will take place on Tuesday 15 June 2010, at Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the European Union, Rue Montoyer 47, 1000 Brussels, Belgium  
Participation is free of charge. You can register online at [http://www.rudi-europe.net/rudi\\_conference.html](http://www.rudi-europe.net/rudi_conference.html) or send an e-mail to: [conference@rudi-europe.net](mailto:conference@rudi-europe.net)

**ENDS.**

**Information for Editors:**

## The consortium

### Project coordination



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