

PROPOSAL OF TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECT

NATIONAL RURAL NETWORK - CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2009

Promotor institution	Rural Development Association Aranjuez – las Vegas region (ARACOVE)	
Country	SPAIN	
Region	COMUNNITY OF MADRID	
TITLE OF THE PROJECT	<p align="center">EUROPEAN NETWORK FOR THE TRANFER AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL AREAS CLOSE TO BIG CITIES</p>	
Type of cooperation	Transnational co-operation project	
Project Justification	<p>In a region such as the Comunidad de Madrid, which is not very large and contains some towns and villages with a clearly urban profile and others with an essentially rural nature, the fundamental objective is to develop networks of transnational co-operation between European regions where there are similar territorial features and to foment action aimed at fostering synergies and minimising problems between rural areas and nearby urban areas.</p> <p>The need to take advantage of endogenous resources, increase opportunities, assess the areas with low density and redress differences explains the need to establish a set of objectives and a joint action strategy.</p>	
Main objective; of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To create networks of co-operation between European regions interested in fomenting synergies and minimising problems in rural areas near to large cities 	

<p>the Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To foment investment linked to sustainable rural tourism taking into account the needs of the population in the nearby towns and cities - To transfer knowledge and resources aimed at assessing the natural and cultural wealth, taking advantage of the synergies between the rural areas and the nearby urban areas - To increase efforts in collaboration between European regions with similar territorial features in order to achieve a balanced development of agriculture in regions close to urban areas - To encourage revaluation and competitiveness of traditional agricultural and food products, as well as the ecological sector, taking advantage of the proximity of urban markets
<p>Proposed activities</p>	<p>A few examples of possible action to be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fomenting of a network of rural territories close to large cities for exchange of experiences and initiatives for sustainable development - Fomenting of rural tourism in urban spaces, adapted to the needs of the population and encouraging investment - Assessment of the cultural and natural wealth of rural areas by means of co-operation activities - Fomenting of opportunities for employment and social development in rural areas - Development of markets for traditional and ecological products on local and urban markets - Development of conservation, management and assessment strategies for the natural environment and cultural wealth in the regions - Fomenting of electronic commerce for local agricultural and food products - Fomenting of communication of environmental affairs and distribution of materials - Development of measures and training programmes for the local population - Development of the entrepreneurial fabric of the agro-ecological industry - Organisation of a training and leisure programme for children living in rural and urban areas, using games to allow them to get to know rural regions

Possible partners	Mainly Local Action Groups from the areas of influence of European cities, as well as other regions in Spain with similar territorial characteristics.
Duration	2009 – 2013 (4 years)