

DELIVERABLE 9.2 (preliminary)

Questionnaire to prepare D9.2 'Systematisation and codification of the identified best practices in a user-friendly way on the Scarled web-site'

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Partners involved	
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SCARLED Consortium

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1 INTRODUCTION

This deliverable has as main objective to codify best practice lessons in managing the rural and agricultural transformation following EU accession into a user-friendly form. It is based on the conclusions from the case studies analysis provided by WP8 and D9.1 “Best practice lessons in managing the rural and agricultural transition following EU membership” (see www.scarled.eu). To achieve this objective a Policy Delphi structured questionnaire was constructed and piloted at Newcastle University.

Additionally, the best practice lessons were subject to scrutiny and feedback during a workshop organised by the SCARLED coordinators during the IAMO Forum 2009. The workshop which had as main focus to conduct the Policy Delphi exercise took place in Halle on the 19 June, 2009. Some 30 experts participated and contributed to this workshop. All the responses were analysed by the UNEW partner and discussed with the SCARLED coordinators and another round of piloting took place at Newcastle in early July. Following, the Policy Delphi questionnaire was improved and its final version is presented in Section 2. This is accompanied by a cover letter addressed to a panel of experts selected from both established and new member states.

The questionnaire will be send out during the following three months to experts from both established and new member states and it will be available on the Scarled website.

2 POLICY DELPHI INSTRUMENT FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Cover Letter

Dear Expert,

One of the main objectives of the SCARLED project (Structural Change in Agricultural and Rural Livelihoods, a 6th framework project funded by the European Commission) is to understand the patterns behind rural "success stories" in selected EU15 case countries, identifying and codifying best practices, and drawing recommendations for the new member states. As part of this project, the Centre for Rural Economy (CRE) at Newcastle University is conducting a Policy Delphi exercise with experts from both established and new EU member states. As a relevant expert, we ask for your help by completing the attached questionnaire.

The aim of this exercise is to verify and refine the lessons in managing agricultural and rural transition following EU accession. In particular we seek to understand success factors for managing agricultural and rural transition in an enlarged EU, which can support the design of rural development policy recommendations for the new EU member states. The questionnaire consists of three major parts: (i) major factors/driving forces for changes in rural areas; (ii) lessons of best practice for implementing rural development policy and (iii) possible future policy options for rural development. The questionnaire should take 10 minutes to complete.

The process follows the Policy Delphi approach. All expert responses will remain anonymous and data collection proceeds as a series of rounds. Thus, you will be given the opportunity to revise your views at a later date. All participants will receive summary information on the views of others participants (*e.g.* corresponding mean value of the panel's opinion). The data will be analysed by the CRE who will supply the overall outcome to all panel's members. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We would like to thank you in advance for your time and cooperation. More information and details about the project can be found on the SCARLED website at <http://www.scarled.eu> or please contact

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Delphi Instrument on Agriculture and Rural Development

1. Please rate on a scale from 1 to 5 the importance of the following factors in stimulating economic development of rural areas in your region since EU accession (please tick or cross)

not important at all = 1 << 2 << 3 >> 4 >> 5 = very important

	1	2	3	4	5
a) National economic growth	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b) Economic growth in country's main urban areas	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c) Access to the EU Single Market	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d) Regional strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e) Globalisation and knowledge economy	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f) Foreign Direct Investment	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g) CAP Pillar 1					
• market support	<input type="checkbox"/>				
• direct payments	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h) CAP Pillar 2 (e.g. agri-environmental & Less Favoured Area payments and LEADER)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
i) Agricultural Research and Development	<input type="checkbox"/>				
j) Natural (resources) endowment	<input type="checkbox"/>				
k) Demographic changes (e.g. migration, ageing)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
l) Quality of labour force (e.g. skilled, flexible, adaptable and young)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
m) Local initiative and small businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>				
n) Social capital (networking/cooperation)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
o) Attractiveness of environment and the conservation of countryside	<input type="checkbox"/>				
p) Infrastructure development	<input type="checkbox"/>				
q) Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Additional Comments

2. Thinking about lessons of best practice for implementing rural development policy in your region, please rate the extent to which agree or disagree with the following statements (please tick or cross) :

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
a) Responsibilities for planning and implementation of rural policy should be decentralised to the regional level	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Design and implementation of rural policy should be based on a territorial approach	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Rural development policy should ensure a more balanced distribution of funds between agricultural and non-agricultural measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) New <i>national</i> structures and institutions capable of attracting and administering and monitoring EU funds should be created	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) New <i>regional</i> structures and institutions capable of attracting and administering and monitoring EU funds should be created	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Rural development policy should be embedded within a clear regional strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Capacity building is weak in my region and should be enhanced at all levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) A lack of social interaction/networking constrains rural development in my region; social capital should thus be improved at all levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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- | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| i) A considerable share of rural funds should be invested in human capital through education and training in rural areas | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j) Local stakeholders and regional authorities should be involved to develop and implement projects, such as with LEADER | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| k) Participation of local entrepreneurs in the rural development process should be encouraged | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| l) Other (please specify) | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Additional Comments

3. Assume that you can control the allocation of funds under CAP Pillar 2 for your particular region. What percentage of the total amount of funds would you allocate to each Axis to best stimulate rural development:

Axis 1 (Improving the competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector) _____%

Axis 2 (Improving the environment and countryside) _____%

Axis 3 (Quality of life in rural areas & diversification of rural economy) _____%

Axis 4 (LEADER) _____%

Note: % should add up to 100.

4. Assuming the objective is to promote rural development in your region, we are interested in your views regarding potential reforms of the CAP. Please rate on a scale from 1 to 5 the following policy options

not attractive at all = 1 << 2 << 3 >> 4 >> 5 = very attractive

	1	2	3	4	5
a) A reduction of expenditure on CAP Pillar 1 by 20%, the money from which is transferred to Pillar 2	<input type="checkbox"/>				
b) A reduction of expenditure on the CAP Pillar 1 by 20%, with no transfer of saved funds to the Pillar 2	<input type="checkbox"/>				
c) A substantial reduction of expenditure on the CAP Pillar 1 (e.g. 80%), the money from which is transferred to Pillar 2	<input type="checkbox"/>				
d) A substantial reduction of expenditure on the CAP Pillar 1 (e.g. 80%), with no transfer of saved funds to Pillar 2	<input type="checkbox"/>				
e) A replacement of current Pillar 1 instruments with payments for environmental services and food security measures	<input type="checkbox"/>				
f) A complete removal of both Pillar 1 and 2 of the CAP (liberalisation)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
g) National co-financing of CAP Pillar 1 (similar to Pillar 2)	<input type="checkbox"/>				
h) No change of current CAP structure and amount	<input type="checkbox"/>				
i) Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>				

5: Background Information

5.1 Region and Country for which the responses relate to

5.2 Gender: Male Female

5.3 Age: Aged under 25 Between 40-54
Between 25-39 Aged 55 and over

5.4 What is your current occupation?

Policy officer national/regional level
Academic/Researcher Private Consultant
Farm Union Manager/Member Local Action Group
Manager/Member
Farm adviser/extension service Other (please specify)

Email address _____

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE