

The MEN-D Office

The MEND-D office aims to develop and support a National Monitoring and Evaluation Network for Agrarian Structure and Rural Development in Germany. Established in 2009 and set to continue operations through 2014, the office is financed by the German Federal Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Consumer Protection (BMELV) through the joint task, "Improvement of Agricultural Structures and Coastal Protection" (GAK).

The work of the MEN-D office is demand-driven. Key network actors define specific tasks within the framework of an annual work program. These key actors include:

- The BMELV
- The evaluators of the 2007 – 2013 rural development programs
- The regional program and budget coordinators of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and Improvement of Agricultural Structures and Coastal Protection (GAK)

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More information on MEN-D and the work of the MEN-D Office can be found online at:

www.men-d.de



National Monitoring and Evaluation Network
Agrarian Structure and Rural Development Germany



MEN-D Background

As a national framework, the GAK joint task constitutes a fundamental part of the Federal States' individual programs, funded by the EAFRD, which in turn partially funded by the EU.

The BMELV coordinates the regional implementation of the EAFRD and thus, the GAK, on the State level through the National Strategy Plan and a national monitoring committee. An emphasis is placed on the coordination and harmonization of national monitoring and evaluation requirements related to GAK and rural development programs, as laid out in the Common Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (CMEF). The CMEF strives for the harmonization of indicators and survey methods on all levels as well as the aggregation of indicators on both a national (in terms of the National Strategy Plan) and EU level.

MEN-D Goals

1 Networking

The overall goal of MEN-D is the establishment and support of a national monitoring and evaluation network for agrarian structure and rural development.

2 Improvement

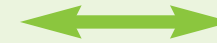
The BMELV and the Federal States will be supported in the implementation and continuous improvement of current monitoring and evaluation (M+E) requirements with respect to GAK programs and their implementation through the EAFRD.

3 Revision of M+E

The aim is to revise and, where possible, to simplify the current M+E system for measures in the field of fostering agrarian structure and rural development, funded by GAK and EAFRD. Options that are not at all or only partially possible within the current M+E framework and that are in line with the post 2013 funding period will be developed and demonstrated.

MEN-D Tasks and Tools

- Collection of current evaluation practices of GAK measures and their implementation through EAFRD
- Thematic workshops and annual events
- Continuous exchange with key national and EU level actors through events, internet tools, newsletters



- Support with the coordination of the implementation of the existing M+E requirements
- Development of proposals for improving the current M+E methods
- Standardization of data collection for indicators in terms of simplification, the division of labor, availability and aggregation
- Support of the BMELV and Federal States in the monitoring and evaluation of GAK and the national framework
- The feeding of results to EU level



- Advancement of M+E methods and processes so as to increase simplicity, transparency and efficiency ("think-tank function")
- Revision of the M+E approach to ensure coherence with other funding programs
- Support of the BMELV and the Federal States in implementing evaluation results
- The feeding of results to EU level

