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EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region and the Rural Development Programmes

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The idea of the Seminar



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- Rural Development – planning in cooperation between the Member States and the European Commission
- **To start the process of designing some common RDP measures of the Baltic Sea Region aiming at fulfilling common goals of the macro-region**





Agreed rural development actions in the EU Strategy



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- “Align available funding and policies to the priorities and actions of the EU Strategy”
- “Ensure fast broadband connection for rural areas”
- “Promote measures and practices which reduce nutrient losses from farming and address eutrophication”
- “Facilitate cross-sectoral policy-oriented dialogue” on integration of agricultural, environmental and rural development issues
- “Facilitate rural entrepreneurship”
- “Enhance the combined effects of the rural development programmes”





State of Play



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- DG AGRI letter to all Managing Authorities concerned in spring 2010
- A reference in annual reports, from 2010 onwards
- Priority 9 of the Strategy is up and running
Some other Priorities of the Strategy have also developed elements concerning rural development – first of all Priority 1, environment
- Several Pilot projects that concern Rural Development are going strong





Elements of Rural Development planning



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1. EU Strategic Guidelines
establishing the Community
Priorities

Strategic approach

2. National Strategies reflect EU-
priorities + those of the EU
Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region

3. Establishment of Rural
Development Programmes
2014-2020

4. Programme implementation
accompanied by monitoring and
ongoing evaluation based on a
Community framework





Rural Dev. co-operation in the macro-region



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- The European Network for Rural Development, incl. an expert WG for Baltic Sea Region?
- National Rural Networks of the Baltic Sea Region ► deepening of macro-regional co-operation
- Meetings and other contacts at the level of Managing Authorities
- Macro-regional projects of Local Action Groups





Joint monitoring & evaluation



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- Annual reporting together with DG Agriculture and Rural Development
 - A chapter in the annual report
 - An agenda point of relevant meetings
- Joint studies and monitoring
 - As part of the ongoing evaluation
 - Studies of RDP aspects of the macro-region
- Ex-ante evaluation of common RDP measures of the macro-region ?





Some expectations



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- Co-operation between the RDP Managing Authorities – synergies
- Use of the EU Strategy as a reference and allocation of future funding accordingly
- Ongoing pilot or flagship projects as inspiration; funding of future projects
- Positive impact of the future streamlined agri-environmental measures on the situation of Baltic Sea

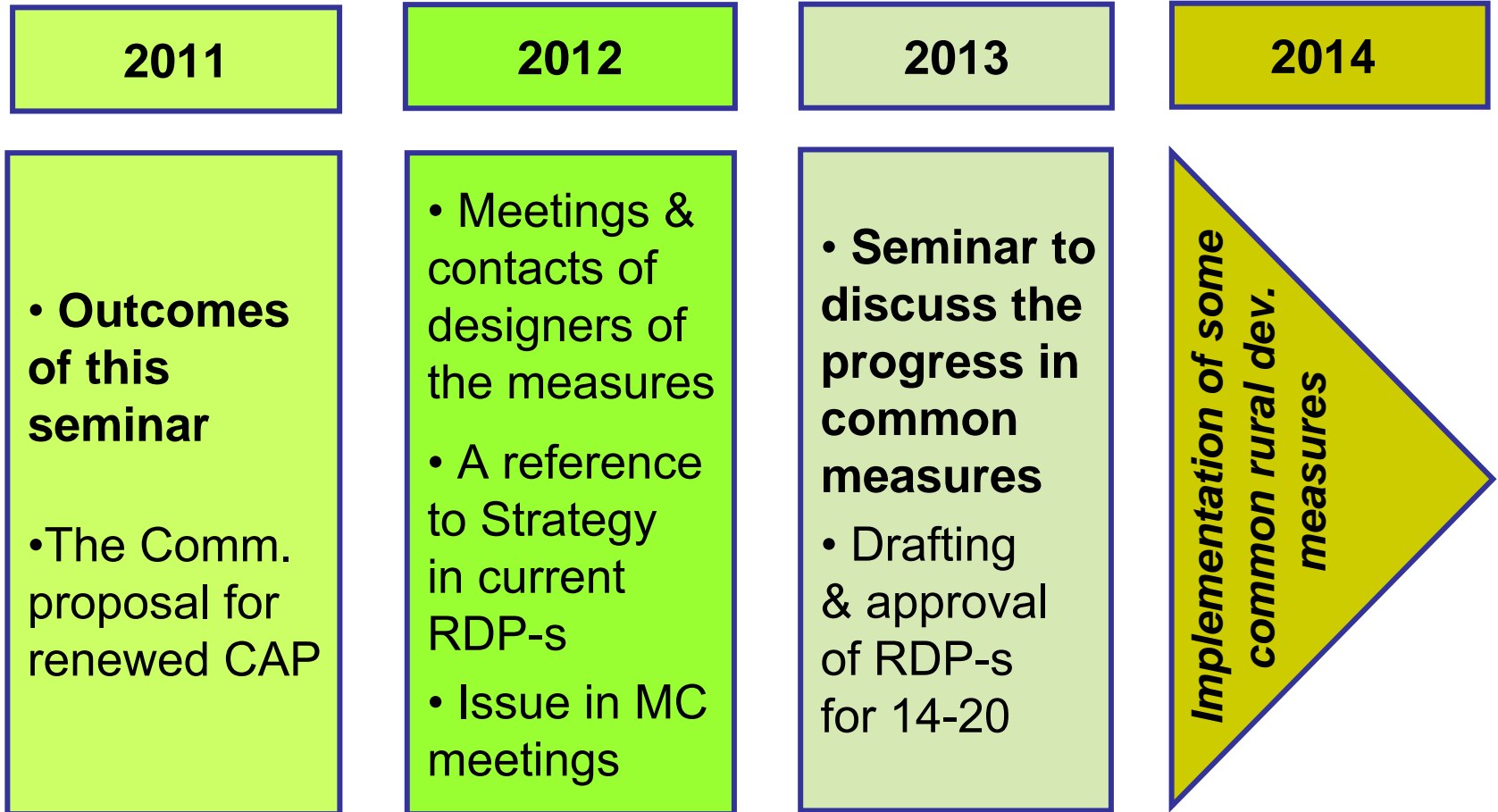




Next steps



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In addition to the ongoing work in the Priorities, flagship projects etc