

LAUNCHING THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF ECO REGIONS

On December 14th 2014, the [International Network of Eco Regions IN.N.E.R](#) was formally established at the conclusion of a three-day meeting organized by the Bio-district Via Amerina e Forre from Lazio Region (Italy) and the Italian Association of Biological Agriculture AIAB.

The network established its governance structure and in the coming months partnering modalities will be formalized. In particular, all participants at the meeting expressed their great interest in this Network, amongst which 11 Bio-districts operating in different Italian Regional territories, the French Bio - Vallée of Rhône Alpes region and the experiences of eco-territorial development in Austria, Albania, Slovakia, Ungheria and Portugal.

The Network aims to promote sustainable and participatory territorial development as a new paradigm for global development. In particular, the Network aims to promote rural development practices to valorize environmental and social aspects, preserve common goods and collective rights, and local knowledge and heritage.

With this approach, the network proposes to associate concrete undergoing experiences of local development in different countries and organizations, study and research centers, universities and other actors operating an integrated and sustainable approach to territorial development.

The meeting has identified the first working strategies of the network, through the exchange of the participants experiences. In particular, development methodologies building on current practices concentrated on specific themes where emphasized as well as the more complex experiences of territorial development promoted by local actors through a participatory governance.

The components of these strategies include several activities and policies amongst which: agriculture and organic production, territorial typical products recovery, the development of eco-tourism and landscape enhancement, the development of eco-buildings, promotion of historical and cultural heritage, participation of schools and basic vocational training in sustainable development planning, management and recycling of waste, renewable energy production, integration and employment of disabled people (social agriculture), the creation of regulated regional brands and ensure their proper use, influence on national policies.



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The meeting was enriched by visits to farms and high level enterprises operating in the Bio - district Via Amerina and Forre, and with activities that also included the tasting of territorial cuisine and wines and the participation to cultural events.

On the INNER Network website it is possible to find more information on the diversity of its associated partners and their goal to exchange knowledge and practices and increase their impact both nationally and internationally.

To know more and participate

[INNER Network website](#)

[Bio-districts presentation](#)

[AIAB website](#)

[Brochure on Bio-Districts](#)

[Bioregion Muehlviertel](#)

[Biovallée-Val de Drôme](#)

