

2023-2024 YEARBOOK





Thematic Cluster on Regional Antennas

This cluster met 3 times and the main objective is to share experiences on how National Networks work in regionalised Member states.

There are 7 Focal Points in Portugal coordinated by the National Rural Network (5 in the peninsula and 2 in the islands). Focal Points are supported by the different areas of the Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Directorates. This cluster invites colleagues working in the territory (regional coordinators or territorial antennas) to give presentations. Several antennas (focal points) from Portugal and Spain and network coordinators from Slovakia and Czechia attended.

In 2023, Czechia organised seminars in different regions of the country related to Pillar 1 with thousands of participants. The main factor of success of these seminars was the good relationship between the NN coordinator and the antenna; local farmers and agricultural organisations have a good relationship.

Spain has 9 territorial antennas supported by Technical Assistance. One of the antennas coordinators from Spain is leading this cluster.

Representatives from Lisbon and Tagus Valley and Azares focal points (regional antennas) presented their context and work in one for the cluster meetings.

Czechia has 7 regional antennas. One colleague is based at the Paying Agency in different regions while there are 4 colleagues at the central level supporting them. Spain organised meetings on rural youth in the in different regions of the country supported by the regional antennas.

Slovakia has 9 regional centre managers working in different regions of the country in addition to the NN central unit. Their role is to solve the doubts of farmers and to collect and provide information about calls to potential beneficiaries.

> In Poland, there are 17 regions and 2 regional units per region. One unit focuses on Pillar 1 and the other on Pillar 2 activities.