

Local Deals for Better Water Management

Brussels, 5th April 2012

Dear Colleague,

European Water Stewardship (EWS) and the **Rural Investment Support for Europe (RISE) Foundation** have initiated a project entitled “*Local Deals for Better Water Management*”. “Local Deals” are collaborations between water users within a water catchment area to address shared risks and opportunities by improving and ensuring sustainable water management either in a sub-catchment area or in the entire river basin. The aim of the collaboration is to create benefits for all the parties involved.

The reasons for setting up multi-partner catchment area agreements for water management are numerous. In many cases, farmer groups in the upper catchment successfully collaborate with production sites or local communities in the lower catchment. However, not all deals are equally successful, despite the motivation of the partners involved.

As part of the project, EWS and RISE aim to understand better the key elements that make some projects more successful than others. This understanding will be developed through analysing current ongoing Local Deals. The resulting information will be collated into an information source exemplifying the best practices identified during the study.

The learning from this analysis will then be used to support companies and farmer groups to create their own successful Local Deals. An exchange forum will be established for the leaders of ongoing and new Local Deals to provide a platform to share knowledge on sustainable water management agreements and on how to best bridge financial gaps.

Please kindly support us in this initiative by providing your response to the following questions on our exploratory online survey:

- **Do you know any examples of current Local Deals?** If yes, what are, from your point of view, the 3 main benefits of the Local Deal? (e.g. for the catchment area?)
- **Are you or have you been actively involved in a Local Deal?** If yes, please indicate what, from your point of view, are the 3 main factors for a successful Local Deal, and the 3 main challenges.
- **Are you interested in creating a new Local Deal** or do you know of any initiatives that are currently setting up new Local Deal projects?

Please submit your answers through the following [link](#) until **15th of May 2012**. For the project summary and our direct contact details please refer to our websites www.ewp.eu and www.risefoundation.eu.

Thank you very much in advance for your feedback. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Sabine von Wiren- Lehr EWS Director




Corrado Pirzio Biroli, RISE Vice Chairman


