



# Charter of European Rural Communities



## **(News)letter for our members**

### **Number 2**

**Date December 2006**

*Dear friends,*

*In October 2006 we've send you the first Newsletter. We think it's important to organise a good information and communication circuit between our members. Please pay attention to the questions we ask in this newsletter and react on the actions that are required. It would also be nice if you react on the newsletter or on other communications, even if you don't have questions or remarks, it surely is pleasant to hear that you have received the information and that you have read it. You will notice that we have numbered the actions. That is easy if we want to talk about it later. Because there were 5 actions in the previous newsletter, in this letter we start with number 6.*

*If you have something you want every Charter member to know, please send it to us ([h.van.drunen@haaren.nl](mailto:h.van.drunen@haaren.nl)) and we will put your text in the next newsletter.*

*As I said in the previous newsletter, the Charter is developing to a new level. The activities are extended and intensify, as you can also read again in this newsletter. I'm happy with these developments and I hope 2007 will bring a lot of good things for our Charter. Wish you all happy holidays!*

*Frans Ronnes,  
president of the Charter.*

## **1. WORKSHOP EUROPEAN UNION FUNDING IN NADUR (MALTA) 1-4 DECEMBER 2006**

**Participants:** Daniele Fantechi, Nadur – Malta, Marlene Muscat, Nadur – Malta, Peter Pawl Buttigieg, Nadur – Malta, Lotta Wennlund, Ockelbo – Sweden, Stefan Mueller, Ockelbo – Sweden, Jette Johnsen, Holmegaard – Denmark, Katrine Andersen Holmegaard – Denmark, Frantisek Strycek, Stary Poddvorov – Czech Republic, Camilla Sawicki, Bucine – Italy, Thea Heesemans, Esch – The Netherlands, Helma van Drunen – Charter.

### **A. In general**

1. Charter members can apply for European grants together (with two, several or all members)

2. Charter members should coordinate their applications at the EU with each other.
3. New members of the EU get primacy at granting subsidies.
4. The possibilities of getting subsidy for the Charter are huge, because the Charter is unique.
5. Generally if you request a project in Brussels, you must search for a partner by means of the Internet. Charter members don't need to do that, they can search for a partner within their own Charter organisation
6. The Charter should, for example by means of a flyer, announce it selves more, especially in Brussels.
7. When some Charter members apply for a project, they should always communicate that, by means of the Charter, the other members are informed about the project. That is always a plus at the application.
8. All calls for proposal have structural elements: a letter of commitment, budget, and declaration of honour, legal identity and financial identity.
9. The deadlines are always very hard and the time between announcement and deadline is always short.

#### **B. Rural development**

1. The Charter must aim especially at rural development. We all are rural municipalities and the Charter has in the name also: Charter of European Rural Communities.
2. At requesting at rural development for several (or all) members, it is important that the one which makes the request belongs to a by Europe designated so-called leader area. Leader areas get primacy
3. We have to check which one of the Charter members belong to a leader area.
4. Exchange of best practices is always financed by Europe.
5. Generally structural funds are nationally managed or regionally. Sectoral funds are directly managed by Brussels.

#### **C. Youth**

1. Nadur wants to apply for a youth project. (Action I in the youth programme of Brussels). 4 or 5 young people between the age of 15 and 19 from each member community are invited to a cultural exchange. The project could take place in Nadur in November 2007, January 2008 or March 2008. The theme is: youngsters in rural communities. It concerns participation of young people from a not formal training, for example theatre or sport. Who wants to participate?

**ACTION 6: If your community wants to participate in de youth programme, please contact Nadur (Malta) for more information:**

Click here ↪ [daniele.fantechi@coopen.eu](mailto:daniele.fantechi@coopen.eu)

2. It must be examined how this young people project is appropriate at the initiative of Kannus. (see newsletter 1) Two separate is possible, but perhaps they can cooperate also. We ask Nadur en Kannus to decide about this together.

#### D. Comenius

1. It is presented to start a Comenius project with the teachers of primary schools of Charter members.
2. The first meeting will be a preparation meeting in what the topic is determined. This preparation meeting will be 100% financed by Europe.
3. Participants should check out the youth programmes and deadlines of their national European Committees.
4. More information you can find on: <http://schoolnet.gov.mt/comy>



**ACTION 7: If schools from your community want to participate in the Comenius project, please contact Nadur (Malta):**

click here ↪ [daniele.fantechi@coopen.eu](mailto:daniele.fantechi@coopen.eu)



#### 2. KANNUS LOOKING FOR A PARTNER

Rural Institute of Kannus are looking for the partner their program, Rural Institute of Kannus project "Young farmer - New ideas for sustainability and farm development via European young farmer's exchange"

More information website: <http://www.kpedu.fi/?deptid=11843>

#### ACTION 8:



**If you want more information or you want to participate, contact:** Jarmo Matintalo

Apulaisrehtori / Vice Principal

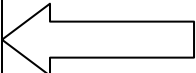
K-P maaseutuopisto Kannuksen yksikkö /

Rural Institute of Central Ostrobothnia

PL 21, 69101 Kannus, Finland

Gsm. +358 44 7250 620 phone +358 6 8748 111.

Fax +358 6 8748 201



Or click here ↪ [jarmo.matintalo@kpedu.fi](mailto:jarmo.matintalo@kpedu.fi)

#### 3. 'SMALL' MEETING IN KANDAVA (LATVIA) 8-10 DECEMBER 2006.

**Participants:** Mr Tarmo Tamm and Ms Riina Järvela - Polva (Estonia) Mr Rolf Landström and Ms Rose Lindberg - Ockelbo (Sweden), Mr Frans Ronnes and Ms Anny Ronnes - Esch (the Netherlands), Mr Karl Grammanitsch and Ms Sandra Hengl - Lasse (Austria), Ms Terttu Korte and Mr. Timo Kalermo - Kannus (Finland) Mr. Alfreds Kiegelis, Mr Andris Aleksins, Mr Arnis Lenerts, Ms Iveta Piese and Iveta Kevica - Kandava (Latvia)

The first "small" meeting of Charter members has taken place in Kandava (It was a mix of "new" and "old" members). The conclusion of the participants was that such small meetings are efficient and cheap. It is

therefore certainly worth it to talk with the mayors of all charter members about more of this kind of meetings in the future.

During a part of the meeting in Kandava Ms Vilija Aleksiene and Ms Sondra Juskeviciene from Zagare (Lithuania) were present. They came for information about the Charter. By means of a municipality in the Netherlands, Zagere has been approached for the membership of the Charter. The representatives were very interested and will talk about the membership with their local council. Zagare has been invited to come, with a small delegation, to the annual event in June 2007 in Lassee.

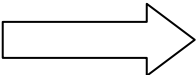
#### 4. THE CHARTER INTERNET SITE.

Bièvre (Belgium) has got money from their region to set up a European internet site. Pierre en Dominique Lejeune of the Belgium "Friends of Europe" are going to make an internet site. In contrast to what we mentioned in the previous newsletter, this site will get the name:

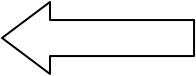
[www.bievre-europe.eu](http://www.bievre-europe.eu).

The European internet site of Bièvre will have a lot of information about the Charter and a lot of possibilities for exchange.

[www.bievre-europe.eu](http://www.bievre-europe.eu) will go on air on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2007.

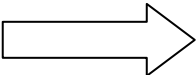


**ACTION 9:** To be able to arrange their site further, Pierre and Dominique Lejeune need photographs of beautiful, typical pictures of the villages (typical buildings, typical landscapes). Besides that Pierre and Dominique want to have the addresses of the primary schools of the Charter villages. Please send those addresses and pictures to:

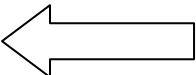


Click here → [pierrelejeune@skynet.be](mailto:pierrelejeune@skynet.be)

The Bièvre site however is **not** the official site of the Charter. That official site will be made by Ingrid Greven from Esch (Netherlands) and the name will be: [www.europeancharter.eu](http://www.europeancharter.eu) Of course on this site we will make a link to the site of Bièvre. On the Charter site there will also be links to all the Internet sites of the Charter communities.



**ACTION 10:** For the official Charter site, all charter members should appoint a communication officer who keeps contact about the content of the official Charter site. Every charter member needs to announce its communication officer **on short notice!!!!** Moreover Ingrid needs pictures from all town halls and from all mayors. Please send them as soon as possible to:



Click here: → [h.van.drunen@haaren.nl](mailto:h.van.drunen@haaren.nl)

## 5. THE FUTURE OF THE CHARTER

In the communication with the members of the charter two matters must be tackled. On the first place the new countries must get the good basis information (the small meetings, like in Kandava, can be a good instrument for that). On the second place the question if every member wants to go along on the way to make a structural network of the Charter must be presented to all Charter members. For this reason it is desirable to organise in the short term a meeting of mayors, during which this subject can be discussed. If during such a meeting the main road has been stipulated, the communication between the members should be improved. That is possible by means of an Internet site, a forum and the presidium, appoint of contacts, appoint of communication officers etcetera. For that reason the municipality of Haaren (Esch) has made a call for proposal at the European Union for a mayors meeting on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the treaty of Rome. If Brussels grants the application the meeting will take place **from March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2007 till March 26<sup>th</sup> 2007 in Haaren (Esch) the Netherlands.**

All mayors and one other representative of each community will be invited. It is very important that every Charter member is represented in this meeting. During the meeting there will be time for the celebration of the birth of the European Union. But there will also be time to talk thoroughly with each other about ideas concerning the future of the Charter. In the application we have also asked for compensation of the travel expenses.

If Brussels rejects this application (and we will know that before the end of January 2007), there is still a possibility for another application. The mayors meeting will then take place on a more closely to stipulate date in April 2007.



**ACTION 11: all mayors are asked to reserve provisionally 22-26 March 2007 for a meeting in Haaren (Esch), the Netherlands.**



**For more information:**

click here ↪ [h.van.drunen@haaren.nl](mailto:h.van.drunen@haaren.nl)

## 6. REPUTATION OF THE CHARTER

We think it is important that the Charter profiles itself more. We have to let people know (especially in Brussels) that there is a unique agreement between 25 villages from 25 European countries. To often people in Brussels are surprised if they hear about the Charter. For this reason it seems good to make a small and clear flyer about the Charter. Moreover this flyer can be used to inform the citizens of our villages about the Charter. We have applied for money for a flyer at the Dutch committee for rural development.



**ACTION 12: if you have any ideas or suggestions for the content of a Charter flyer, please tell us:**



click here ↪ [h.van.drunen@haaren.nl](mailto:h.van.drunen@haaren.nl)

## 7. ANNUAL MEETING LASSEE – AUSTRIA

Dear Mr./Mrs. Mayor!  
Dear friends all over Europe!

As told in the previous newsletter, Lassee is planning the opening of a "European Park" during the charter manifestation in 2007, and requests following assistance. We require from each member 10 to 15 drawings or paintings, done by children between the age of 9 and 13 years, to the theme "Greetings to Lassee from the youth of Europe". The works of art should preferably be in simple, clear and strong colours, or in black and white. Ideally showing traditional symbols representing the respective country, or area – the pictures could also be of people, animals, flowers or trees, for example. The required size is A4 upright.

On the back of each piece, please note "Greetings to Lassee from the youth of Europe" in the appropriate language as well as the name of the artist. One of the pictures is to be transferred onto a glass window, 60cm by 70cm and is to be situated in an open-air gallery in the new park.

**It is now necessary for the pictures to arrive in Lassee as soon as possible to enable us to complete our project. All received pieces of art are to be presented during the opening.**

### **ACTION 13:**

Any enquiries in English, French or German as soon as possible to:  
**Gottfried Laf Wurm,**  
**Bahnstrasse 46,**  
**2291 LASSEE**  
**AUSTRIA**

FOR QUESTIONS OR REMARKS **click here**  
↳ [lafwurm@aon.at](mailto:lafwurm@aon.at)

### **ACTION 14:**

Lassee wants to remind you too to send in time the names of your participants for the annual meeting.

FOR QUESTIONS OR REMARKS **click here**  
↳ [Grammanitsch@lassee.gv.at](mailto:Grammanitsch@lassee.gv.at)

## 8. FALSET SPAIN.

Falset (Spain), a new Charter member, has asked for more information. Karl Grammanitsch, the mayor of Lassee (Austria) has agreed to travel to Falset at the beginning of 2007. Maybe there are other villages who want to have more information and who want to travel to Falset. If so, we will ask Falset if they can arrange a "small" meeting in Falset, like there was in Kandava.



**ACTION 15:** if you want to take part in the meeting in Falset (Spain) or if you want more information about the meeting:

Click here → [h.van.drunen@haaren.nl](mailto:h.van.drunen@haaren.nl)



**9. PAYMENT OF THE ANNUAL FEE OF € 400,--.**

A number of Charter members still have to pay the annual fee 2006 of € 400, -- for membership of the Charter, some of them also have to pay the fee for 2005. Mrs Savin, the cashier of the Charter hereby sends you an overview and the information about the bank account of the Charter.

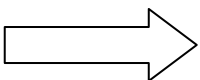
**COTISATIONS DES COMMUNES RURALES D'EUROPE**

<i>Pays et Communes</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>
<i>Chypre Lefkara</i>		
<i>EspagneFalset</i>		
<i>Grèce Kolindros</i>	<i>400</i>	
<i>Hongrie Nagycenk</i>		
<i>Irlande Cashel</i>		<i>400</i>
<i>Lettonie Kandava</i>	<i>XX</i>	
<i>MalteNadur</i>	<i>XX</i>	
<i>PortugalSamuel</i>	<i>400</i>	
<i>SlovénieMoravce</i>		
<i>SuèdeOckelbo</i>		<i>400</i>

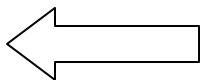
**ACTION 16:** Those, to whom it concerns, can pay the annual fee at:

**CHARTE DES COMMUNES D'EUROPE  
MAIRIE DE CISSE, 86170 CISSE**

**CREDIT AGRICOLE DE TOURAIN POITOU  
NEUVILLE DE POITOU**



<b>CODE ETABLISSEMENT</b>	<b>CODE GUICHET</b>	<b>NUMERO COMPTE</b>
19406	00030	90049462111



**INTERNATIONAL BANKING ACCOUNT NUMBER: FR76 1940 6000  
3090 0494 6211 120**

**BANK IDENTIFICATION CODE (SWIFT): AGRIFRPP894**

December 21<sup>st</sup> 2006  
Helma van Drunen