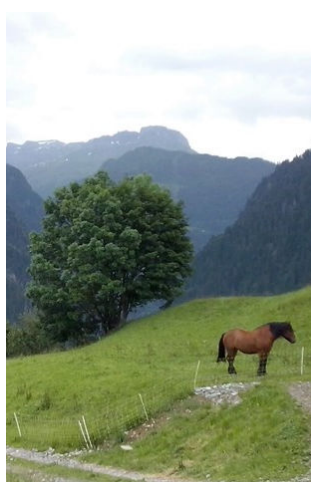


## European Rural Sustainability Gathering 2014

18-21 sept. 2014- Beaufortain – France

### Programme and organisational information



## European Rural Sustainability Gathering - 18-21 Sept 2014 – France

Dear colleagues and partners,

This year Forum Synergies' **European Rural Sustainability Gathering** will take place in **Beaufortain territory** (Savoie district in Rhones-Alpes - France), from **18 to 21 September 2014**.

This three-day gathering will be an excellent opportunity to meet people with a spirit of action for sustainable rural development from across Europe. We will visit **good examples of local sustainable development** in a region with a strong civil society activity.

You will discover **the mountains area of Beaufortain**, sometimes presented as “*four municipalities, 4744 inhabitants, 4 hydraulic dams, 4 ski stations and 4000 cows*”. It is an example of a voluntary process of rural development where local authorities, local community and economic actors have been involved altogether for a development of the territory over the past 50 years.

This event will be co-organised with **Savoie Vivante**, an association active in this County since 1986 and with a strong experience in support of community life, and local social policy, in environmental educational and sustainable development, as well as on territorial dialogue and mediation.

We also wish to provide opportunities to **discuss Forum Synergies program and activities** such as: the future of youth in rural areas, local food chains and hygiene rules, territorial civic dialogue, as well as herbs and public health.

You will find hereafter **our programme, detailed organisational information and a link to the registration form** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1iSW5rgZezodvligEk-emyOUYSHSiaL4dHE9EQnkQMw/viewform?usp=send\\_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1iSW5rgZezodvligEk-emyOUYSHSiaL4dHE9EQnkQMw/viewform?usp=send_form)

All this information and new updates will be available on: <http://forum-synergies.eu/article1.html>  
Do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Deadline for registration: **September 1st, 2014**.

## PROGRAMME

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### Thursday 18th: Arrival to the Alpine region

19h00-20h00 Arrivals of participants

20h00 Dinner

21h00 **Presentation of the program of the gathering and introduction on the region of Savoie**

21h15 Participants presentation

22h00 Visit organisation for the following day / good night

### Friday 19th: Discovering the Beaufortain region

9h00 **Field trips** (including a pic-nick on the spot)

Details see below

**15h30 Working groups**

Main issues / questions / ideas raised during the visits

**16h30 Plenary – feedback on visits**

Short feedback on the visits by each group (15min)

Debate and exchange with a panel of local stakeholders (elected authorities, association, people visited...) (45min)

**17h30 Market of initiatives**

Presentation and exchange of initiatives and participants in a "market place"

***Evening: International Buffet***

**Saturday 20th: Thematic workshops**

**9h00 Plenary session to focus on the topics of the workshops**

**10h00 Workshops 1 & 2**

In parallel: Herbs / Food

**1/ Herbs and health**

- Herb projects and challenges in Savoie and Europe
- From 1st European Herb Gathering to a Herb Foundation

**2/ Local Food chains**

- Importance of Local Food chains for local development (local markets, AMAP, producers shops), added value to food products (IGP/DOP), good example of flexibility in hygiene rules (for mountain cheese makers), local food in school canteens and restaurants

**13h00 Lunch**

**14h30 Workshops 3 & 4**

In parallel: Civic Dialogue / Youth

**3/ Rural Youth: from Savoie to Europe**

- Activities run by and for young people in Beaufortain and in Savoy
- Discussion on Young people's needs and ideas for involvement on European networking activities - FS youth scholarships.

**4/ Civic dialog at different scales**

- Presentation of Savoie Vivante activities in promoting territorial dialogue in Savoy (training sessions, awareness days for local authorities, departmental council for territorial dialogue...)
- Civic dialogue in Europe
- Working on issues and needs to prepare the Civic Dialogue Gathering in December 2014.

***Evening: cultural event***

## Sunday 21th: conclusions and good-bye

### Morning

- Forum Synergies General Assembly (for FS members)
- Sharing results of the sessions
- Conclusions and next steps

### Lunch & Departure

## GATHERING INFORMATION

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### Field trips

Three field trips will be organised in parallel in order to show you different initiatives illustrating the territory dynamic of development.

Each field trip will include **a visit/presentation of a local farm, an economic activity and a cultural initiative.**

- Field trip 1:**
- Ferme du Praz : cow milk producers selling milk to Beaufort cooperative (where it is processed into Beaufort cheese DOP)
  - Beaufort cheese cooperative and shop
  - Association d'Animation du Beaufortain (AAB) (training, support to local associations, social and cultural services)
- Field trip 2:**
- Ferme du Bersend: sheep shepherd and cheese maker producing cheese on farm and selling to local shops
  - Slaughterhouse and cutting plant (used by local shepherd to sell their meat directly to customers)
  - Fondation FACIM (promoting local natural, cultural, agricultural and industrial heritage)
- Field trip 3:**
- Ferme des Sapins: angora goat shepherd producing and selling wool, bread and apple juice on her farm and in farmers shops.
  - ski station (chart of sustainable tourism, source of season jobs for shepherds in winter, owned by local municipalities)
  - Association d'Animation du Beaufortain (AAB) (training, support to local associations, social and cultural services)

### Market of initiatives

During our "market of initiatives" on Friday 19th, we offer you the opportunity to share your experience – related to topics discussed during the gathering - with other participants in a "market place" (with tables to put posters, leaflet etc.) and also to make a brief presentation of your initiative.

### International Sustainable Buffet

All participants are invited to contribute a speciality from their region for our international sustainable buffet that will be offered on the second evening of the gathering (Friday 19th).

## Participants

60 participants in total

## Working language

Working languages will be English and French

## ORGANISATIONAL DETAILS

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### Fees / Costs

Due to support offered by Fondation de France and Fondation Charles Leopold Mayer pour le Progrès de l'Homme, we demand no fee for food and accommodation at the gathering.

Upon demand and on a case by case decision, partial reimbursements of travel costs may be made available to participants who could otherwise not attend the gathering.

### Registration

Participants are kindly asked to fill in the on-line registration form.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1iSW5rgZezodvliqEk-emyOUYSHSiaL4dHE9EQnkQMw/viewform?usp=send\\_form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1iSW5rgZezodvliqEk-emyOUYSHSiaL4dHE9EQnkQMw/viewform?usp=send_form)

Please await confirmation of your registration before booking your travel arrangements.

Deadline for registration: **September 1st, 2014.**

### Travelling and Transport

- Participants should arrive at the venue on Thursday 18 September latest by 20H00.
- The nearest international airport is Lyon Saint Exupéry: trains (requiring changes in Chambéry) will bring you from the airport train station to Albertville train Station within about 2½ hours. For train information visit: <http://en.voyages-sncf.com>.
- International guests may also check options from Paris airport, Milan airport, Zurich airport (reaching Albertville in 5 or 6 hours by train)
- We will offer a shuttle bus from Albertville train Station to the conference venue in Arêches - Beaufort (30 min far) on Thursday afternoon.
- We will also arrange shuttles back to the train station on Sunday 21 September.

### Contact

If you have questions or need information, please contact:

Marina GUEDON - Forum Synergies: [mguedon@forum-synergies.eu](mailto:mguedon@forum-synergies.eu) –

Phone + 34.605.78.37.13

### Project supported by :

