Innovation in the agricultural and forest sector is one of the main objectives of rural development policies. Tuscany Region has decided to make it the main focus of its Rural Development Programme annual event (RDP) 2014-2020 of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).

With a strong focus on linking the regional and European dimensions, the Rural Development Innovation Week offers a unique opportunity to share knowledge on existing initiatives that support and promote innovative projects and solutions focused on agriculture and forestry.

Six thematic sessions and several parallel activities allow participants to build new networks and find insights on a wide range of agricultural, food and forestry topics.

SAVE the DATE

from 26th to 29th MARCH 2019

FLORENCE

VILLA VITTORIA - PIAZZA ADUA 1

RURAL DEVELOPMENT INNOVATION WEEK

2019 ANNUAL EVENT OF THE TUSCANY REGION RDP EAFRD 2014-2020
**PROGRAMME ABSTRACT**

**26th MARCH**

2:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Opening of the Rural Development Innovation Week
The implementation of Tuscany Region Rural Development Programme (RDP) 2014-2020

3:00 PM to 6:00 PM
SESSION 1 — The role of rural development in fostering innovation
A perspective from the Tuscany Region RDP 2014-2020 experience and from other European Regions

**27th MARCH**

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
SESSION 2 — S3 Agri-Food Working Committee Semi Annual Meeting
reserved to Smart Specialisation Strategy Agrifood Partnerships
SESSION 3 — Rosewood project “Business Development Seminar” - HORIZON 2020 Programme
on invitation only
SESSION 4 — INTERREG Europe STEPHANIE project “Space and Photonics Innovation Actors in Tuscany: Regional Stakeholder Group Meeting”

2:00 PM to 6:00 PM
SESSION 5 — ERIAFF Annual Conference: the European Region for Innovation in Agriculture, Food and Forestry
Plenary session

**28th MARCH**

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
ERIAFF Parallel workshops
Support of European regions for innovation in rural development

1:00 PM to 2:30 PM
Networking lunch and poster session
with EIP AGRI Operational Groups funded by RDP 2014-2020.

2:30 PM to 4:00 PM
Reporting from parallel workshops

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Political session, debate and conclusion of the ERIAFF Conference
Post 2020 Regions’ strategies for innovation

**29th MARCH**

Visits are planned to start at 8:30 AM
SESSION 6 — Session 6 - Field and study visits. Three Tuscan experiences
co-financed with RDP 2014-2020

* The return to Florence is expected between 2 and 4 pm depending on the selected visit