

**AGADER-AXENCIA GALEGA DE DESARROLLO RURAL
(GALICIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY)**

The Galician Agency for Rural Areas

The creation of AGADER was approved by the Galician parliament at the end of 2000. The regulation governing its functioning was approved five years ago. Article 3.2 of Decree 79/2001 of 6th April approving the Regulation for the Galician Rural Development Agency (DOG n° 77 of 20th April 2001) states the following functions:

- Elaborating co-ordination strategies and action for rural areas;
- Promoting rural development policies and measures applicable in any case.
- Invigorating and co-ordinating LAG connected with rural development policies, regardless of their financial sources or location.
- Enhancing the elaboration and design of development initiatives and programmes formulated by any social and/or economic local partner from rural areas.
- Promoting co-operation between public and private partners when their actions fall upon rural development directly or indirectly.
- Managing public and private resources assigned to rural areas for their development, particularly those resources assigned to The Galician Fund for Rural Development according to budget regulations.
- Managing and monitoring LEADER + and PRODER Programmes related to rural infrastructure.

According to additional provision 6 of Law 5/2000 of 28th December (DOG n° 251 of 29th December) and articles 4 and following of Decree 79/2001 of 6th April (DOG n° 77 of 20th April), the managing structure of the Galician Rural Development Agency (AGADER) is made up by the following organisms: the Management Board, the President, the Vice-President and the Director-General. AGADER does also have a Board of Advisors.

AGADER president is the Regional Minister for Rural Areas of the Xunta (Regional Government). Mr. Suárez.

AGADER vicepresident is the Regional Minister for the Environment of the Xunta. Mr. Vázquez.

AGADER general director is designated by appointment of the Regional Minister for Rural areas of the Xunta. Mr. López.

AGADER management board composition and terms of reference were approved by the Decree 79/2001 of 6th April. Its members are ministers and general directors of the Xunta. They meet at least four times a year, under the chairmanship of AGADER president.

AGADER Board of Advisors composition and terms of reference were approved by the Decree 79/2001 of 6th April. Among its members we find policy makers and people from the civil society (fishermen, farm holders, consumers, etc).

There are two subdirectories dependent on the Director-General: Subdirectory of Relations with Local Action Groups and Subdirectory of Rural Development Co-ordination and Planning.

Subdirectory of Relations with Local Action Groups its main tasks are related to the monitoring and supervision of the activities developed by Local Action Groups (LAG) at any level, regardless the source of their funding or location. It also provides support to LAG on their day-to-day management. Last but not least this Subdirectory is in charge of institutional relations connected with LAG.

As a result of those responsibilities, Subdirectory of Relations with LAG comprises two areas: *Programmes Monitoring and Controlling Area* and *Support to LAG Area*. On the one hand, this structure enables the Subdirectory to act as an organism opened to LAG's suggestions and contributions related to Regional strategies and programmes, as well as a bridge between Regional Administration and The Galician Association of LAG. On the other hand, this structure is useful in view of promoting co-operation between public and private partners in order to implement actions that may fall upon rural development directly or indirectly.

Subdirectory of Rural Development Co-ordination and Planning: it is responsible for institutional relations with Regional Government Departments or Institutions in charge of rural development and with the Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) acting in our Region in the field of rural development. Lastly, this Subdirectory also manages The Galician Fund for Rural Development and other funding schemes managed or controlled by AGADER.

Owing to those responsibilities, the Subdirectory of Rural Development Co-ordination and Planning has two areas: *Plans and Studies Elaboration Area* and *Investment Monitoring Area*. Both Areas deal with the collaboration in the elaboration and development of plans, studies and strategies in the field of rural development carried out in Galicia. They also appraise rural development plans, studies and strategies.