



# OSCAR



Optimal Strategies for Climate change  
Action in Rural areas

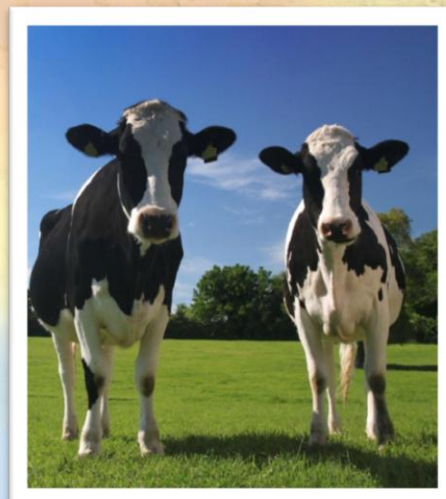
## International Stakeholders Workshop

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012

Auditorium, Breydel Building, Avenue d'Auderghem, Brussels, Belgium

### The OSCAR Project

Climate change is now widely recognised as one of the most important threats facing the world today. Human activities are significantly increasing concentrations of atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), with serious implications for our future climate, water supply and food security, as well as the wider environment. As a result it has become imperative that the twin policy objectives of climate change mitigation and adaptation are taken into account in the development of policies of all sorts, not least those with implications for the rural environment and communities. With this in mind the European Commission (DG CLIMA) engaged an international team of researchers, led by the Agriculture & Environment Research Unit at University of Hertfordshire, to develop guidance materials for those developing Rural Development Programmes (RDPs) for the post-2013 period.



### The OSCAR Stakeholders Workshop

The OSCAR project has resulted in the development of a decision support tool and accompanying manual, which are intended to be of practical use in the formulation of RDPs which, as well as meeting established rural development priorities, ensures maximise climate change benefits. A step-by-step process for achieving this is described and fully supported, allowing complex environmental interactions to be assessed and considered.

A Workshop will be taking place in Brussels on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012, at which the research team and DG CLIMA will explain to invited stakeholders, the context of the OSCAR project and the way in which the manual and software can be used to inform the RDP formulation process. Equally importantly however, is the opportunity for structured discussion, which it is hoped will feed back into the project and enable the team to produce a 'product' which fully meets the needs of Managing Authorities and others involved in RDP development. Key issues for consideration will be:

- How well does the OSCAR system meet user requirements?
- How well does it tie in with current RDP development procedures?
- Is coverage of the OSCAR decision support system fit for purpose?
- Can changes be made now or in the future to aid usability?

### End of Project Workshop Participation

Participation in this event is by invitation only; however, if you wish to be considered for inclusion, please contact the Commission by email at: [CLIMA-OSCAR@ec.europa.eu](mailto:CLIMA-OSCAR@ec.europa.eu)

