

Networking for Rural Development: New Stakeholder Involvement

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The Actors of Rural Network Finland

Rural development organisations

Benefits to the rural areas

Official bodies

(e.g. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Agency for Rural Affairs, T&E Centres, municipalities)

Rural advisory organisations

Research and training organisations Producing research information in different axes

Local action groups

Associations

Legislation

Instructions, implementation, training Funding, administration of supports, communication

Advice, training, influence

Influencing the society **Training**

Funding, activators

Project implementation, activators

Rural Development Program Financial plan by axes

Axis	Total public funding (mill. euros)	EAFRD contribution (%)	EAFRD funding (mill. euros)
Axis 1	504,2	45	226,8
Axis 2	5 406,0	28	1 513,8
Axis 3	433,0	45	194,8
Axis 4 (Leader)	242,0	45	108,9
Technical assistance	40,0	45	18,0
- Rural Network	(13,0 M €)		
Total	6 625,6	31	2 062,4

How to get stakeholders of axis 1 and axis 2 involved with network





Connecting people

- The objective is to bring different actors together and create new links in the network
- Active networking between actors in the Rural Development Programmes for Mainland Finland and the Province of Aland
- Main point in axis 1 and axis 2 is bring together
 - Environmental and agricultural administration, advisory organisations and associations
 - Civic organisations by the help of action groups
 - at national and regional level

Actions

- Network events /Training days
- Publications
- **Fairs**
- **Exchanging good practices**
- **Promoting transnationalisation**



Network events /Training days

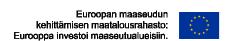
- The focuses of the year 2008 were topics related to axis 1 and 2 as well as axis 4
- The training topics and programmes for the training days are planned with various stakeholders within the framework of the development programme issues
 - Network coach is gathering a group depending on issue
- The objective of the training is to highlight the opportunities of the development programme and provide background information on training to supplement implementation

Axis 1, training days

- Current topics in construction planning
- Target group: organisations involved in rural building, building engineers of the T&E Centres, building designers, municipalities, Environment Centres, action groups, MTK, ProAgria, students in the building sector, etc.
- Content: the objective is to network parties involved in rural building and improve the awareness of the opportunities for rural building offered by the investments aids part-financed under the Rural Development Programme for Mainland Finland
- Implementation: national seminar in Vantaa in February and two to three regional seminars in March, October and November

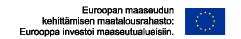
Axis 1, training days

- Seminars on the profitability of agriculture
- Target group: farmers, researchers, advisers
- Content: a continuation to the national seminar on the profitability of agriculture held in December 2008
- Implementation: two regional seminars
 - lisalmi, March
 - Pori, October



Axis 1, training days

- Training on structural support, utilising a business plan
- Target group: bank clerks, financial advisors, consultants, people responsible for financial aid and building engineers at the T&E Centres
- Content: implementation and application of the Act on Structural Support, content and requirements of the business plans, experiences from the field, background information, good practices
- Implementation: two regional seminars



Axis 2, training days

- Seminar on biodiversity in agriculture
- Target group: environmental and agricultural administration, agricultural advisory organisations, action groups
- Content: management of biodiversity in agriculture and promoting cooperation
- Implementation: national seminar
- Helsinki, January

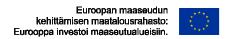
Axis 2, training days

- Training on animal welfare payments
- Target group: students of veterinary medicine
- Content: Background information on animal welfare payments
- Implementation: national seminar



Axis 2, training days, publication

- Utilisation of organic fertilisers
- Target group: advisers, farmers
- Content: utilisation of organic fertilisers in arable farming
- Implementation: national seminar + publication event for a guide
 - Tampere, April
 - Authors of the guide as lecturers



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" Dating" project leaders by themes

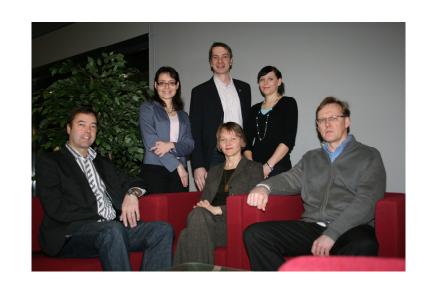
- get to know, what is going on around the country
- creating peer groups
 - Dating forestry projects
 - Project day for service entrepreneurship
 - Dating environmental projects

Exchanging good practices

- Creating the Model
- Lapland seminar, Work Shop for environmental issues, are people really interested to act?
- Expert register and project register
 - An expert register based on the New Rural Policy Society register will be established on the maaseutu.fi website
 - The expert register will gather rural developers in a comprehensive manner
 - It will be possible to voluntarily add information about projects to the portal → a data bank for good projects

Promotion of transnationalisation

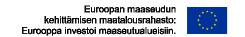
- four study trips, one for each axis
- participants of associations, administrations and also some entrepreneurs
- representatives from other countries if possible
- In the Autumn 2008
 - Austria, focus on environmental issues
 - Latvia, focus on environmental issues, representatives from Estonia



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