



Euroopan maaseudun  
kehittämisen maatalousrahasto:  
Eurooppa investoi maaseutualueisiin.

# 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)

Legislation

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

### Rural advisory organisations

Advice, training, influence

### Research and training organisations in different axes

Producing research information  
Influencing the society  
Training

### Local action groups

Funding, activators

### Associations

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 - Rural Network	40,0 (13,0 M€)	45	18,0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 625,6</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>2 062,4</b>



# 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 Åland
- 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
  - Iisalmi, 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



## ***” 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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# Thank you !

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