

SWEDEN

Promoting social inclusion

Location

Bergslagen

Programming period

2007 – 2013

Axis / Priority

Axis 4 - LEADER

Funding (EUR)

Total cost 135 400

EAFRD contribution 50 490

National/regional 61 710

Private contribution 23 200

Project duration

2010 – 2013

Project promoter

ABF, workers' education
association

Contact

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Website

www.abf.se/Distrikt-och-avdelningar/ABF-Dalarna/ABF-Dala-Finnmark/Brod-i-Bergslagen/

This project brought together locals and those born abroad through baking.

Summary

In recent decades, Sweden has received a high number of migrants, and the country is considered a desirable place in which to claim asylum. Baking was considered an ideal activity for integration, given that old cottages across Sweden often have wood-heated ovens.



The goal of the Bread in Bergslagen project was to create new meeting places for Swedes and for people who were born abroad. The project took an inventory of all the wood-heated baking ovens in the area belonging to Ecomuseum Bergslagen, which covers the provinces of Dalcarlia, Västmanland and Örebro. Many old ovens that had not been used for decades were restored and made fully operational. To this end experts were hired to spread know-how on the restoration and maintenance of these old ovens, some of which were used by the men and women participating in the project.

Results

Around 300 people were directly involved in the project, of which around 75 were from countries other than Sweden. Including those engaged in the restoration work, the figure rises to more than 1200.

Baking was demonstrated to be an uncomplicated way of bringing people together on an everyday basis. Stories and experiences, as well as recipes, were shared, according to the organisers.

ABF is continuing to hold courses and has introduced a follow-up course baking special kinds of bread. The bread is sold at local food markets and fairs, and there are plans to develop a business based on wood-heated baking.

Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ The potential of traditional crafts, such as bread making, to foster integration and cooperation was underlined by the Bread in Bergslagen project. Both sections of the community can learn from one another in an attractive convivial environment.