



European Network for Rural Development

NSU Pilot Training Module 2 and 17th NRN Meeting

14-15 March 2013

Åre, Sweden

Venue: Åre Continental Inn

Funded by the



ENRD *Connecting Rural Europe*
<http://enrd.ec.europa.eu>

Pilot Network Support Unit (NSU) Peer-to-Peer Training Programme
MODULE 2 – Practicing the RICA Method
14 March 2013 - Åre, Sweden

Welcome!

Dear Colleagues,

Thank-you very much for registering for the **second module** of our pilot peer-to-peer training programme for network support units that we are organising on 14 March 2013 with the help of Landsbygdsnätverket - the Swedish Rural Network and in conjunction with the 17th NRN meeting on 15 March.

And welcome to the start of a very interesting process that is known as **RICA!**

The RICA Method is described by its developers (www.rika.se) as “*an open innovation process that leads to actions and results*” and it has been successfully applied by an impressive list of businesses and governmental agencies in Sweden and further afield. The RICA method has also been extensively used by the Swedish NSU to engage a broad range of stakeholders in building creative solutions to important rural development challenges identified through the Swedish Rural Network.

The main objective of our training day on 14 March is to introduce you to the RICA Method by actually taking you through the four main stages of the methodology (**R**esearch, **I**deas, **C**oncepts and **A**ction) in order to address a very specific challenge that our Swedish colleagues have proposed:

“How to increase the involvement of stakeholders in the implementation of rural development?”

This challenge is based upon the first aim for national rural networks that is listed in paragraph 2 of Article 55 of the legislative proposals on support for rural development by the EAFRD in 2014-2020. Furthermore, the same question has been the subject of recent discussion between the Swedish Rural Network and its Managing Authority – so it’s a ‘live’ issue!

We therefore hope that at the end of the training day you will have acquired both:

- new knowledge about an alternative methodology for hosting participatory and result-orientated discussions with rural stakeholders, **and**;
- some ideas about how to increase the involvement of these stakeholders in the implementation of rural development policy.

And please remember that this training is still in a ‘pilot phase’. The Contact Point is actively thinking – and learning - about how to develop the great potential for developing peer-to-peer exchange and learning, so your feedback will be very valuable! There will be a simple evaluation form for your individual feedback and we will also take some time during the training to reflect upon what we are learning together as a group.

The programme for the RICA training day on 14 March and the NRN meeting on 15 March are included below. We look forward to seeing you in Åre!

Networking and LEADER Team
ENRD Contact Point

MODULE 2 – Practicing the RICA Method

Thursday, 14 March 2013

Start time: 08:30

Getting Started



- Welcome and introduction (ENRD Contact Point / Peter Melin, chairman of the Swedish Rural Network)

08:30 -

- Group check-in

09:30

- Introduction to the RICA Method (Swedish NSU)

Training Topic: Practicing the RICA Method – Research and Ideas



- Setting-up the working groups
- Key steps and the challenge

09:30 -

- Research steps

13:00

- Ideas steps

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

Training Topic: Practicing the RICA Method – Concepts and Action



- Reminder of the challenge and remaining steps
- Concept steps

14:00 -

- Action steps

16:30

- Phew, finished! - first impressions of the RICA Method

Wrapping-up



- Check-out with whole group reflection on key learning points from the process - “how was it and what will we take home?”

16:30 -

- Complete individual feedback forms

17:30

Finish time: 17:30

Friday 15th March
NRN Meeting
(Half a day Meeting)

8:30- 9:00

Opening of Meeting by Mike Gregory, ENRD CP

Welcome speech by Deputy Director-General Christina Nordin, Ministry for Rural Affairs, Sweden

9:00- 10:30

Strategic programming “of and by” NRN’s

- The NRN Toolkit - Introduction to the tool and its use– Mark Redman, ENRD CP
- Demonstrating the “added value of networking” - state of play and work in progress – Edina Ocsko, ENRD CP
- The involvement of NRNs in the consultation and programming process for the preparation of the Partnership Agreement – Jean-Michel Courades, DG AGRI
- Discussion

10:30- 10:45

Coffee Break

10:45- 11:30

The Youth Initiative

- The ENRD Youth Initiative – Mara Lai, ENRD CP
- The youth umbrella project – Josefina Andersson and Karin Back, youth coaches in LAG Terra et Mare and LAG Halland
- The toolkit for how to involve youths in preparing local development strategies for the coming programming period – Josefina Andersson and Karin Back, youth coaches in LAG Terra et Mare and LAG Halland
- Discussion

11:30- 12:00

Short Food Supply Chains

- Presentation by the French NSU on the findings of the survey on Short Food Supply Chains – Julia Mannequin, France NSU

12:00- 12:30

3rd LEADER Event

- NRN support and follow up actions – Ines Jordana, ENRD CP
- Discussion

12:30- 13:00

Other Networking Activities

- 18th NRN meeting– Ana Pires da Silva, Portuguese NSU
- 3rd NRN training module – Mark Redman, ENRD CP
- Presentation on the Bulgarian NRN –Mira Mileva, Bulgaria NSU Coordinator

Check-out and Farewell

Optional Field Trips

Afternoon Visit Fjällbete AB , a local initiative for meat and milk and open landscape supported through local funding:
<http://translate.google.com/translate?sl=sv&tl=en&js=n&prev=t&hl=sv&ie=UTF-8&eotf=1&u=http%3A%2F%2Ffjallbete.se%2F>

Further details are provided in the separate “*Field Trip document*”.