

1. Annual Work Programme (AWP) 2012: priorities supporting RDP implementation

1.1 Priorities of the current AWP:

- The current AWP was approved on 13.03.2012.
- The main priorities of the current AWP include:
 - More youths engaged and participating in rural development;
 - More immigrants engaged and participating in rural development;
 - More entrepreneurs and local rural development practitioners who can realize their ideas and innovations;
 - More initiatives for natural and cultural heritage in landscape areas;
 - More villages and communities making the transition towards production and consumption of renewable energy;
 - Strengthened competitiveness in the green business;
 - Strengthened field of research targeting rural development and increased contact and learning between researchers and practitioners;
 - More municipalities interested of and engaged in rural development, specially to facilitate the rural areas to contribute to the climate goals;
 - Increased knowledge and skills among the LAGs;
 - Dissemination of the lessons learnt until know from the program implementation to the network members, development actors in other EU programs and to the wider public.



1.2 NRN's activities implementing the above mentioned priorities

- Working through the 180 network member organisations of which 63 are LAGs;
 - 13 million SEK, an active steering committee, a support unit with 8 employees corresponding 6,5 full time;
 - Working groups mapping, analyzing and disseminating relevant examples of methods within the priority areas;
 - A Scientific Council;
 - A national coordination group for the LAGs;
 - A network for the member organisations' information officers;
 - Taking active part of the ENRD;
 - Network meetings, digital think tanks, workshops and seminars;
 - The Rural Best Awards;
 - Information through our web site, the newsletter, social media etc.;
 - Network cheques to promote transnational cooperation .
- The AWP is available on: <http://www.landsbygdsnatverket.se/download/18.54ee169213610a1e0a68000637/Aktivitetsplan+2012.pdf>.

2. Thematic Initiatives launched by the Network

- **New thematic issues that the network is planning to address:**
 - territorial cohesion in landscape areas
 - strengthening the competitiveness of the green business sector

- **Status info and plans about continued thematic initiatives:**
 - Youth activities with five “Youngagement” events
 - Ethnical integration in rural areas
 - Supporting entrepreneurship
 - renewable energy, arranging “24 hour races” for local and regional actors
 - The Scientific Council
- **Issues addressed by the events:**
 - Youth,
 - Energy,
 - Integration,
- **Issues addressed by working groups:**
 - Supporting entrepreneurship
- **Issues addressed by committees/steering groups:**
 - Scientific Council
- **Thematic issues addressed in other ways:**
 - The newsletter and the web site are used as well as the digital think tanks.
- **Information about thematic initiatives available on:**
 - <http://www.landsbygdsnatverket.se/huvudomraden/omnatverket/arbetsgrupper.4.424d259d1214272440980003179.html>

2.1 LEADER-related activities

- The NSU/MA has staff dedicated to LAG support.
- The MA organises training and events for LAGs.
- The MA provides guidelines and other supporting documents.
- Other forms of support to Leader implementation: the Leader coordination group.
- The NSU/MA supports inter-regional and transnational cooperation.
- The NSU/MA plans cooperation fairs, LAG visits abroad and other events.
- The NSU provides partner search facilities: it helps to find partners and distribute all partner searches coming from other member states.

3. Relevant Experiences/Good Practices

- **Identification and dissemination of EAFRD-funded projects representing relevant experience:**
 - Through the Rural Best Award the County administrations together with all the LAGs nominate candidates within seven categories; the Scientific Council together with the Steering Committee makes the evaluation and selects the winners.
 - The seven categories are:
 - Rural entrepreneur,
 - Rural innovation,
 - Rural development project,
 - Environmental initiative,
 - Youth initiative,
 - Integration initiative,
 - Leader of the year.

- A Rural best brochure is produced every year with all the nominees together with short information videos. The awards are given at a banquet or a Rural Gala every year.
- Relevant experiences/good practices are available on:
 - <http://www.landsbygdsnatverket.se/huvudomraden/aktiviteter/natverkstraffar/landsbygdsgalan2012.4.29a582d01364dc6657380000.html> .

4. Monitoring and evaluation of networking

- The network doesn't assess its performance through RDP evaluation or through NRN-P evaluation.
- During 2012 the network implemented a self-assessment: NRN activities and methods have been evaluated.
- The network implements both quantitative and qualitative assessment.
- The NRN's evaluation document will be published in the network's website.

5. Communication

- Network's AWP includes a communication plan.
- The RDP include an overall RDP communication plan. It is available on: <http://www.regeringen.se/sb/d/8723/a/82724>.
- The communication tools mostly used by the network are:
- The web site, the facebook site and the e-mail because they have the highest statistic usage rate.

6. Cooperation interests of the Rural Network

- Fields in which the network seeks or offers cooperation with other rural networks:
- There are no specific areas. It can be anything a LAG wants to have a cooperation about.

7. Documents

- List of your publications, info materials, videos, etc:
 - Newsletters;
 - Rural best brochures for each year 2007 – 2012;
 - The radio program and the brochure about how to support entrepreneurs and a video about "The best support"-initiative;
 - From the Integration WG the Newsmill blog initiative and the check lists provided for the County Administration Boards. Added to this there is also a leaflet produced in the theme,
 - From the Gender equality WG there is a video and a study material brochure produced;
 - The Spatial Planning WG has produced several news articles and an instruction video;
 - The Local Capital WG has produced a report on the theme;
 - The Renewable Energy WG has produced leaflets with good examples and a report;
 - The Youth WG has produced a report about how Youth as a horizontal theme has been respected in the strategies and in the projects 2007 -2010.
- Latest version of the RDP available on: <http://www.regeringen.se/sb/d/8723/a/82724> .