



RURAL NETWORK

FINNISH
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME
2007–2013



Rural Network of Finland

Joint action is the Finnish way. The Rural Network brings together the actors of the Rural Development Programmes for Mainland Finland and the Province of Åland. The actors may be Leader action groups, individual citizens, entrepreneurs, associations, advisory organisations and other stakeholders.

The Rural Network Unit in Seinäjoki coordinates the functions of the Network. The Network Unit works for the benefit of the countryside, listening to the people and moving with times.

The Rural Network Unit maintains a new route into the countryside, the website maaseutu.fi.

Rural Development Programmes

Finland has two Rural Development Programmes, one for mainland Finland and one for the autonomous Province of Åland. The programmes aim to maintain a viable countryside, improve the state of the environment and ensure the sustainable use of renewable natural resources. The programmes are co-funded by the EU. Part of the funds comes from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and part from national sources.

Rural Network Unit of Finland coordinates the functions of Rural Network

- **Communicates**
on the opportunities and achievements of the Rural Development Programmes for Mainland Finland and the Province of Åland
- **Organises tailored training**
for rural development actors, both regional and nationally
- **Collects and disseminates good practices**
helps the actors to find each other
creates new ideas and ways to act
- **Promotes internationalisation**
creates contacts
transmits information between Finland and other EU countries
functions as the Leader service unit in Finland

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Director of the Rural Network Unit
Päivi Kujala, +358 40 548 9227

Network Coordinator
Hans Bergström, +358 40 531 1966

Network Coordinator
Hanna Lilja, +358 40 556 6281

Information Officer
Kirsi Hakoniemi, +358 40 550 5085

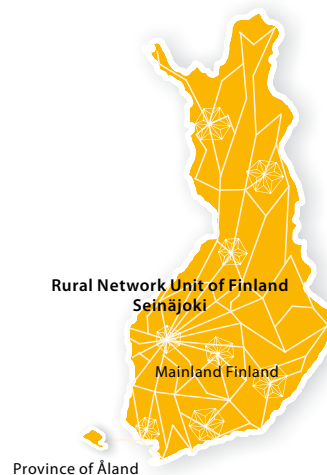
Network Trainer
Teemu Hauhia, +358 40 545 4016

Network Secretary
Sanna Puumala, +358 40 556 6281

Network Coordinator
Juha-Matti Markkola, +358 40 559 9412

E-mail: forename.surname@maaseutu.fi

Post address: Rural Network Unit
PO Box 167, FI-60101 Seinäjoki, Finland
www.maaseutu.fi

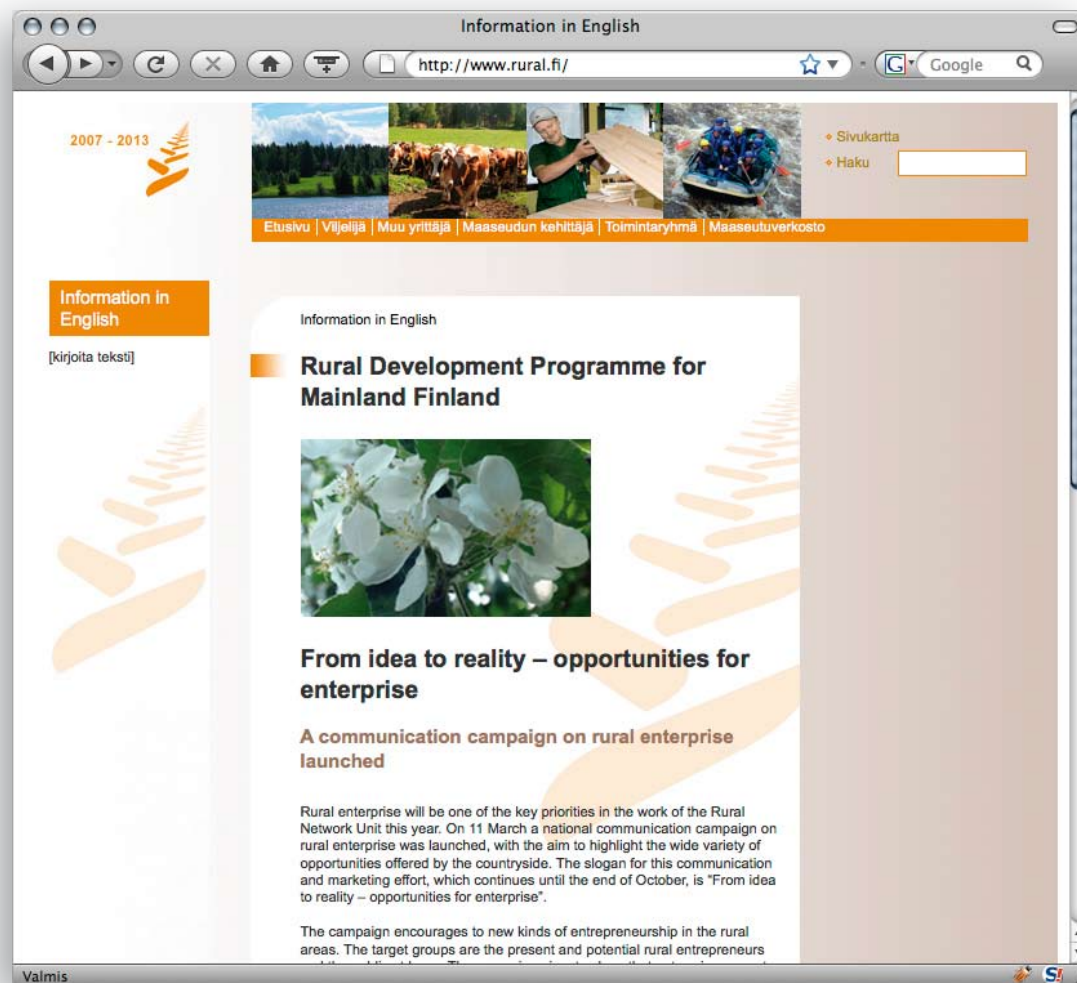


Channel for the Finnish countryside

About a third of the Finns live permanently in the countryside. Many more spend their free-time there. Now there is a new route into the Finnish countryside at: **www.rural.fi** (**www.maaseutu.fi** & **www.landsbygd.fi**)

The website tells about the various aspects of rural development in 2007–2013. It gives an idea of good life in modern countryside, with diverse forms of living and work. For foreign partners the website provides a link to the Finnish countryside and rural development actors. The website is maintained by the Rural Network Unit.

Come and take a look!



European Agricultural Fund for Rural
Development:
Europe investing in rural areas



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