

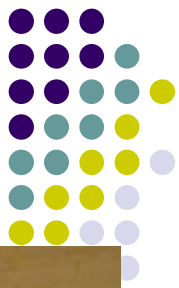
**Ministry of Agriculture
and Rural Development
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The Swedish Rural Network
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State of the play – the flagship „Sustainable rural development”



Warsaw 25.01.2011



There are a lot of good initiatives relevant for sustainable rural development.

As an example Estonian Rural Parliament – august 2011



Priority 9

To reinforce sustainability of agriculture, forestry and fisheries

- **9.3. “Sustainable rural development”** Projects must be developed that bring together people in the region for sustainable rural development and livelihood, such as supporting the environment for innovations, youth, rural tourism, agriculture and forestry. New practices on using an integrated approach should be developed. (Lead: Poland and Sweden)

Helsinki 21 -22 January 2010

Selection of topics (based on outcomes of the questionnaire)

- Rural youth
- Creation of a friendly environment for innovation

Decision on screening of existing project



28 - 30 April

Apšuciems, Latvia

- Captain`s Crew established
- Further discssion on project
- Criteria for selection



26-27 Oct 2010 Warsaw

- Some ideas presented in more detail;
- Input from researchers on rural youth;
- Examples of good projects;
- Networking; new persons involved;
- Discussion about further steps



Involving youth

- Youth that do not believe they have any possibility to realise their dreams were they live, will never be involved in the local society/community.
- We adults often tend to impose "our" rural future thinking on rural youth



Involving youth



- We need to create/collect future visions, the future dream village, theme village, the expected positive rural future that attracts young to settle.
- We need to create means for innovative people (incl. youth) so they can realise their ideas. An innovation support so youth and others can create their own future.

Our vision for rural youth. We have to:



Let them dream

Let them visualize

**Facilitate decision to
stay in rural areas**

Help them innovate

And get them involved

**It will,
Make them believe**



Gathering projects that are.....

- Supporting youth to create visions for a rural future;
- Gathering youth to describe their future dream village;
- Connecting youth, researchers and practitioners;
- Training in innovation;
- Creating a support for youth (and others) to continue to be innovators



Jan 2011 in Warsaw

- Two projects per country presented, some examples:
 - "Future villages", EE
 - "Fenix", FI, EE, SE
 - "Emission", PL
 - "Learning by doing" PL
 - "Youth in process of rural development", LT



Other flagship meetings

- Helsinki 18
November 2010
(workshop during the
meeting of Priority 9)
- *Warsaw 25-26
January; 2011*



Possible funding

- Technical assistance
- Interreg South Baltic and Central Baltic
- Nordic Council of Ministers
- EU Youth in action programme



Plans

- Applying for funding from several programmes
- A Nordic/Baltic Youth conference spring 2012 in Lithuania
- A European youth conference in spring 2013



Thank you for the attention!

