

Bottom Up Processes

Bottom Rules is a project that foremost aims to enable local level organisations to collect knowledge and experience of development and economic growth in rural areas through a transnational exchange of experience. The Bottom Rules project will, through close collaboration with another Northern Periphery project DESERVE, operate a mutual exchange of knowledge and experience where both the projects give and receive examples of new work methods that can be implemented in their own work. In the Bottom Rules project a focus will be placed on the local level, which is where transnational connections will be made. The DESERVE project involves the northern parts of Sweden, Iceland, Finland as well as parts of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. The Bottom Rules partnership incorporates 7 municipalities as well as the Association of Local Authorities in Jämtland, Mid Sweden, and the Swedish National Rural Development Agency on a national level. The project will also work with 9 municipalities in the Counties of North Trøndelag, Nordland and Troms in Norway as well as Indre Namdal Regionråd and The County Administrations of Troms and North Trøndelag at a regional level.

The Bottom Rules and Deserve projects will work supportively together as if they were a joint project, sharing expertise and knowledge, but with separate finances and project reporting.

Objectives

- To collect knowledge and experience on how different regions in other countries have supported, encouraged and established energetic rural development groups/processes in harmony with local, regional and state authorities.
- To create the necessary conditions for new opportunities based on the knowledge collected. These should offer the potential for the development of good standards of living, improved service provision and new possibilities in NPP areas.
- To start at least one new initiative within the field of rural development in each participating municipality, as a result of this project and in collaboration with DESERVE.
- To collect knowledge and experience about work methods that aim to encourage and increase people's desire to get involved in their communities.
- To specifically study cross sector solutions within development in rural areas.
- To ensure that the solutions developed in the project remain viable and are viable after NPP funding has ended.

Project activities

The Bottom Rules project will work in close collaboration with the DESERVE project and two representatives from each of the countries involved in Bottom Rules will participate in all the study visits. This is with the aim of collecting knowledge and information about the models and activities that are studied within the frame of the DESERVE project. These will then be analysed after which the Bottom Rules partners will decide if they want to make their own in depth study of the models and perhaps invite a lecturer from the country in question to a seminar, so that they can spread the knowledge and experience to a greater audience at the local level. This will result in mutual benefits, as the DESERVE partnership can also benefit from experience and knowledge from outwith their existing partnership.

Expected results

- Every participating municipality will document two, or parts of two models, that they are interested in implementing in their own rural development work.
- Increased knowledge within the area of rural development through a transnational experience exchange between 5 countries.
- New initiatives within rural development work concerning both commercial services and economic growth.
- Increased understanding of other countries social systems and problems.
- The creation of at least two transnational contacts/networks in both Norway and Sweden, which will remain after the conclusion of the project.
- At least 6 in-depth study visits as a result of the collaboration with the DESERVE project and where mainly representatives from the local level participate.
- The organisation of a concluding transnational seminar during the spring of 2007 in co-operation with the DESERVE project.

Partners

Indre Namdal Regionråd - Norway

Measure

3.1

Total Budget

565 000

NPP Award

311 000

Project Period

01/01/2005 – 30/06/2007

Countries Involved

Sweden, Norway

Lead Partner

Organisation

Association of Local Authorities, Jamtland, Sweden

+46 70 697 75 99

Project leader

Ms Gunvor Sundin

Gunvor.sundin@kfz.se