



**NORDISKA
SKÄRGÅRDSSAMARBETET**
SVERIGE - ÅLAND - FINLAND

”Money of my own” How to Earn a Living in the Archipelago and Other Sparsely Populated Areas

A Nordic Demographic Project
Presentation

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The Nordic Archipelago Cooperation


- Cooperation between authorities since 1978
- One of twelve cross-border committees of the Nordic Council of Ministers
- Lead Partner



Four priorities

Two of those:

- Social sustainability
- Economic sustainability



“Money of my own” – What and why?

- A demographic project for and about young people’s possibilities to earn a living
- The demographic challenges are well known
- Where and how you can get an income has an impact on where you chose to live
- It’s crucial to show the young people different alternatives and possibilities

**A key issue for regional sustainable development,
for the municipalities: To use and develop the
human capital RIGHT NOW, RIGHT HERE**

Project Partners

- The County Administrative Board of **Östergötland**
- **SKUNK**, Åland (The organisation for the interests of the youth in the archipelago)
- **Ålands Näringsliv** (Confederation of Åland Enterprise, Young Entrepreneurship)
- **Luckan Raseborg, Finland** (information and cultural centre, Unginfo)
- **Finlands svenska 4H** (organisation for children and youth in the Swedish speaking regions in Finland)

Co-operators:

- Hedmark-Dalarna cross-border committee
- Leader Uppland, U Land

How? By...

- Mapping the state of the region, collecting facts, **statistics**, role models, and good examples
- Arranging a youth camp in the archipelago (not planned)
- Visiting each other: learned and discussed IRL, made new contacts, built trust, shared and implemented knowledge: Åland in April, Sweden in September, Finland in October 2014



- By arranging a conference with 20 speakers
 - Young entrepreneurs as inspiration and examples
 - Adults, officers and organisations as facilitators
 - 100 visitors at Hanaholmen, Finland, 26 of January 2015



- By publishing a report “Just här är det möjligt”, an Idea Bank



- 120 pages
- 8 young persons
- “Smörgåsbord” from the conference: 11 persons
- 9 organisations, facilitators
- Concrete ideas
- Nordic value – results?

Nordic Value? The Results?

- By collecting good examples and role models for young people we can inspire and show them alternatives **YES!**
- By collecting examples on good governance for enhancing youth and entrepreneurship we show that there are many ways for municipalities to empower the human capital **YES!**
- By publishing the Idea Bank and by arranging a Nordic Conference (January 2015) we spread the message on many different levels **YES!**



And we have learned

- From each other and done changes, tried new things
- To appreciate what we have done and what we have (by making it visible and formulated) and the right to be happy about it
- That the crucial words are COURAGE and LISTEN
- That the biggest problem is the adults' attitudes (we are quick to value, judge, prejudge, say "No", chose what is "important" or "good activities")
- That it's all about US, YOU and ME – we make the change

YES!