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Rural networking in Estonia

Liina Saar
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PREPARE Gathering
Macedonia, Ohrid 2010



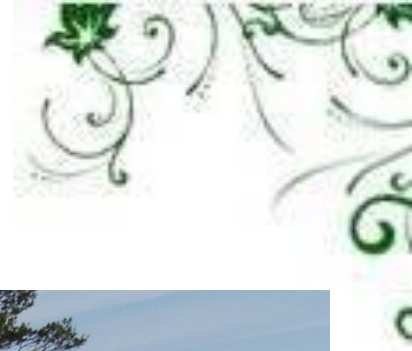
LEADER
EESTI



Maaelu Arengu Euroopa
Põllumajandusfond:
Euroopa investeringud
maapiirkondadesse



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How we
started and
hunted up
the people?



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History - how we started?

- Idea from Sweden
- The first RP in 1996 in North–East Estonia
- More than 300 people
- RP decided to form an official organisation
- 1997 Village Movement *Kodukant* was registered
- About 20 representatives from a member–organisation, decided by themselves according to the topics under discussion
- 8 Parliaments so far
- **Next 5–7 August 2011 in West–Estonia – all of you are welcome!**



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Main aims

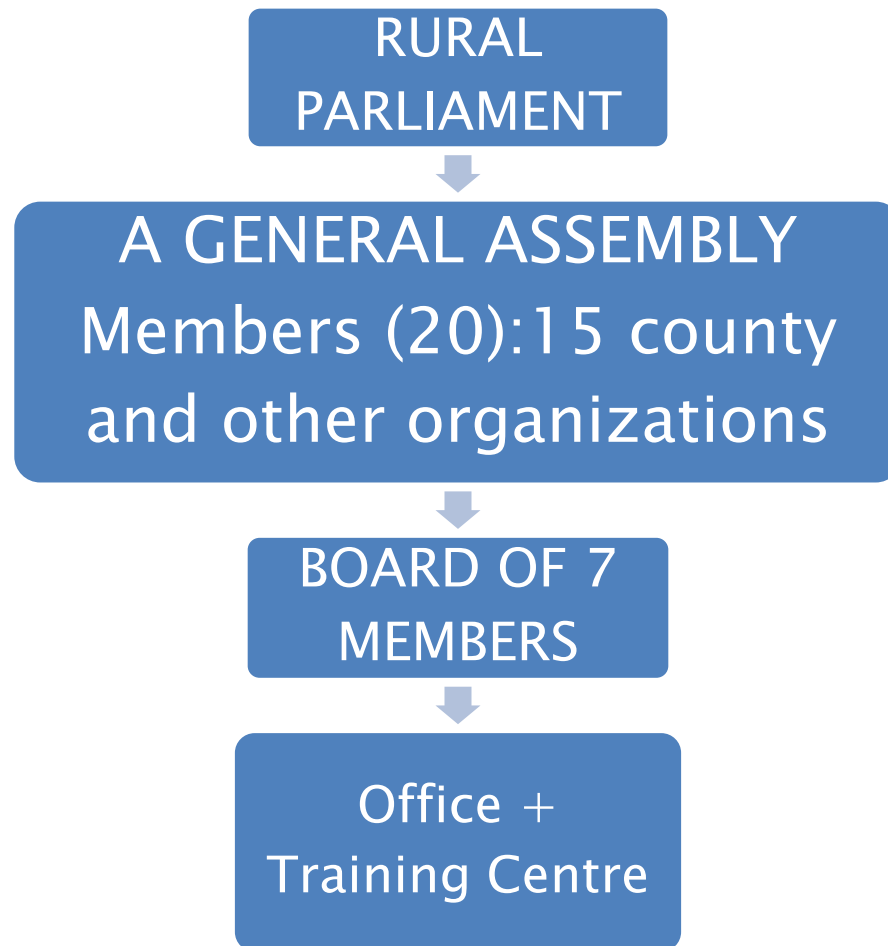


- **Capacity building (supporting and strengthening local initiatives, enterprising people)**
- **Supporting networking and communication (national and international)**
- **Advocacy on different levels (mediation)**



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Structure





Vision 2013

***Kodukant* is acknowledged both in Estonia and internationally as a rural organisation which has an effective team, educated village leaders and networks on different levels – local, national, international**



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Strategic directions

Strategy 2008–2013

- **Rural Youth (programme)**
- **Supporting enterprising people and initiative**
- **Village heritage and living environment**
- **Developing the organisation**
- **Training Centre**



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Rural Youth

AIM:

Involving youth in local village associations and Kodukant youth projects for sustainability of rural areas and also for the development of Kodukant.



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Supporting enterprising people and initiative

AIM:

people living in rural areas have greater enterprising spirit; they are active in their village associations and have launched services for their communities.



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Village heritage and living environment

AIM:

to use the cultural heritage to enrich the quality of life of the communities, support and develop the activities of village elders as a part of village culture.



Village elders in 1936



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Developing the organisation

AIM:

Management and leadership abilities of *Kodukant* are guaranteed by high organisational culture, well-working networks and stable financing



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Whole Estonia made of bread, butter and milk rivers ...





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Kodukant Training Centre

Heleriin Jõesalu

PREPARE Gathering
Macedonia, Ohrid 2010





Estonia



Macedonia

**Heleriin
Jõesalu**
**Manager of
Kodukant
Training Centre**



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Kodukant Training Center is an adult education center whose main aim is to organize non-formal educational training and retraining, providing the basis for the development of a versatile rural community.

Kodukant Training Centre was established by NGO Estonian Village Movement Kodukant in 2003.



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Our aim is to take the education as close to the target group as possible.

to support different communities



to notice different communities



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The training centre ...

- has four curriculums (programs)
- has a training licence
- emphasise the practical side of the trainings
- major training topics are ...



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Development of community





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Development of enterprisingness





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Development of NGO-s





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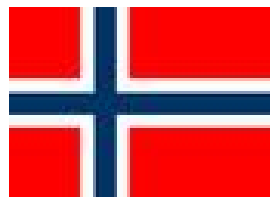
International projects:

GRESE– Grundtvig Experiences in Supporting Entrepreneurial training to disadvantaged groups (Sokrates, Grundtvig)

GRESE was a two-year international project with the aims:

- to share experiences about adult training methods to improve the skills of trainers while teaching different target groups;
- to obtain best practices in the field of entrepreneurship to be integrated into Estonia;
- to expand cooperation between project partners.

Partners:





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International projects:

Non profit community schools – the centres of local partnership

The aim of this project is to implement European experience on the field of rural education and life long learning. The project involves communities to set up non-profit community schools in villages.

Partners:





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Kodukant with its long term experiences in village movement development area is ready to share experience at **international level!**



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What do we offer to our great partners and friends abroad?

I Trainings and practical discussions on the following themes:

- Participation and co-operation with public sector
- Developing local resources
- Village Movement – how it all started?
(development story)



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What do we offer to our great partners and friends abroad?

II Support and advice for organising study trips to Estonia concentrating on different themes like community based services, participation in village life, youth action in villages etc.



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Sharing is caring!



Good ideas from Kodukant trainings!

www.kodukant.ee

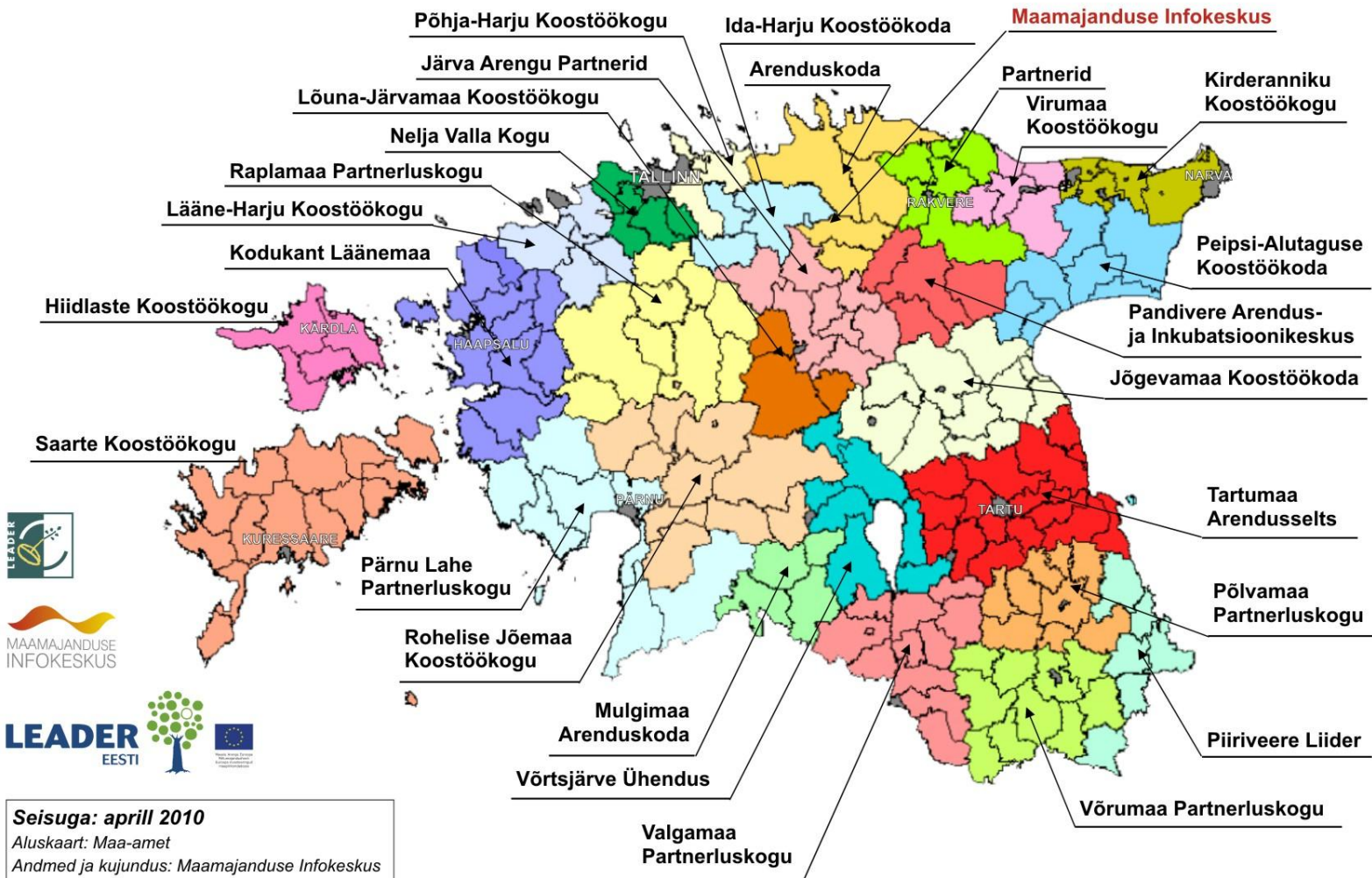
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Estonian LEADER LAG-s

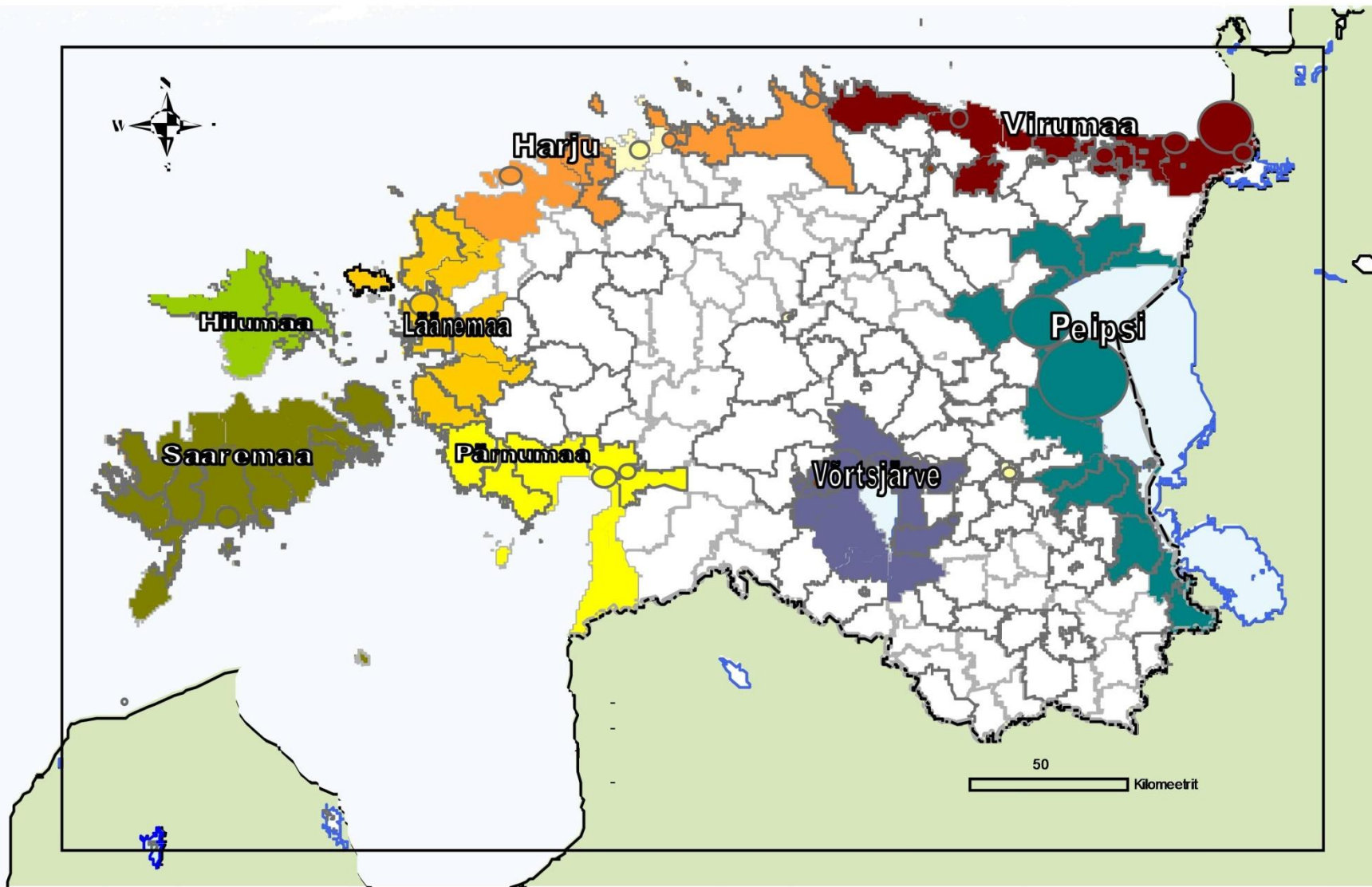
LEADER TEGEVUSGRUPID EESTIS





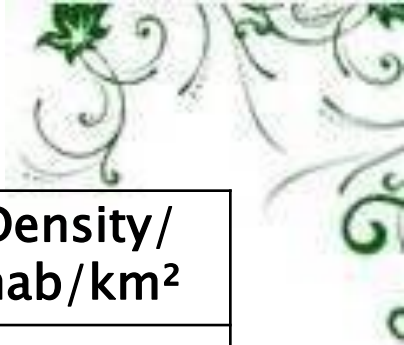
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FLAG map





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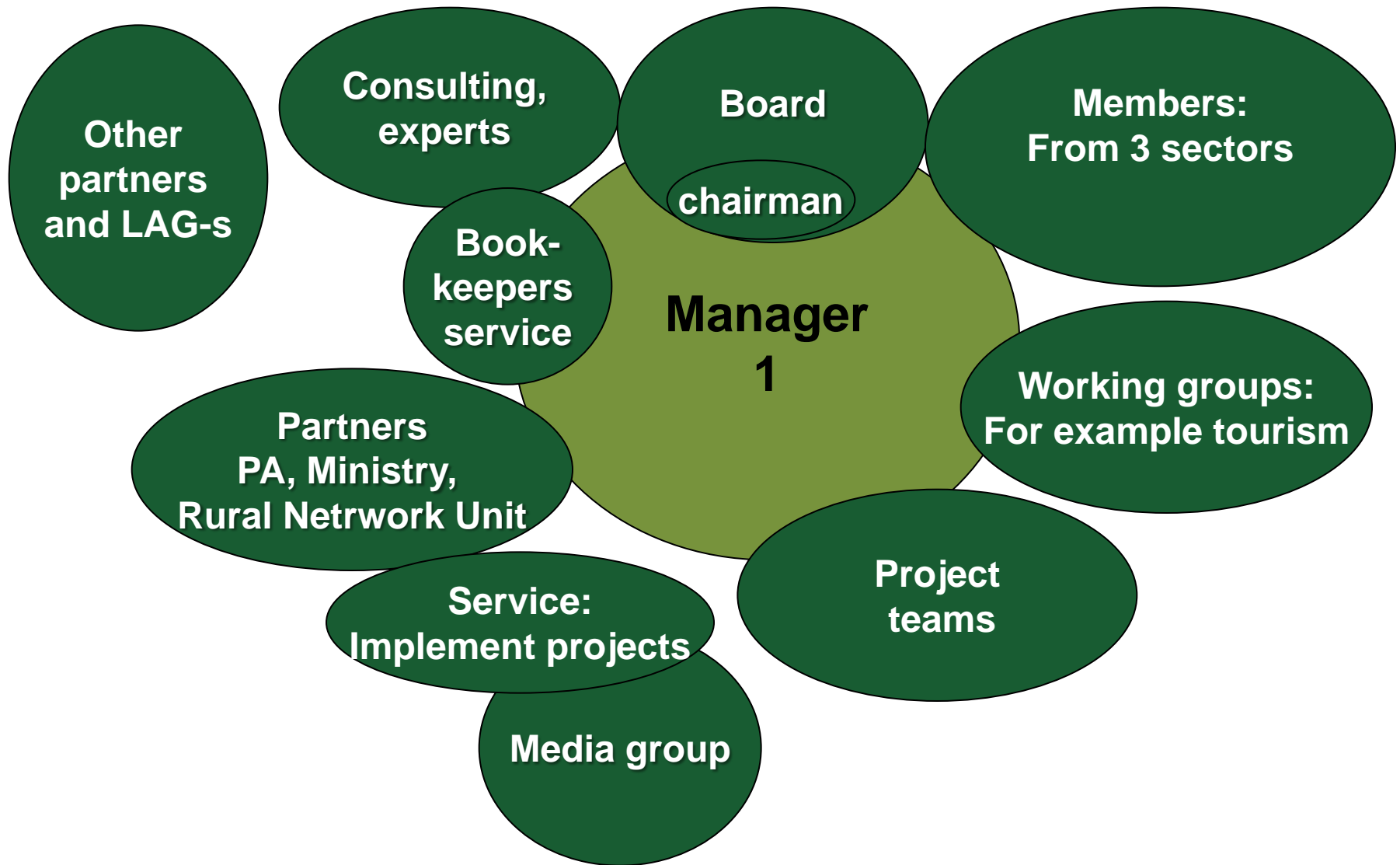
Fishery area	Area/ km²	Population	Pop. Density/ inhab/km²
Hiiumaa Fishery area	1 023 (island)	10 118	10.0
Saaremaa Fishery area	2 907 (island)	19 889	6.8
Pärnumaa Fishery area	1 644 (coast)	20 057	12.2
Harju Fishery area	1 761 (coast)	40 396	23.0
Virumaa Fishery rea	1 450 (coast)	18 295	12.6
Läänemaa Fishery area	1 839 (coast)	10 708	5.8
Võrtsjärve Fishery area	1 987 (inland waters)	20 125	10.0
Peipsi Fishery area	3 155 (inland waters)	30 723	9.7



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Structure of LAGs and FLAGs





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Measures in area based strategies created by LAG-s – some examples

24+2 LAG-s – ca 220 measures (accepted ca 2300 projects)

Community

- Investments to develop local quality of life
- Support for community cooperation and development
- Support for improvement of local services
- Support for free-time activities, life long education
- Support for develop local heritage traditions
- Young people – back to countryside

Entrepreneurship

- Support for improvement of local entrepreneurship
- Support for rural tourism
- Waste management and welfare of environment
- Support for develop less active communities
- Innovation and new skills
- Bio-energy and other alternative energies

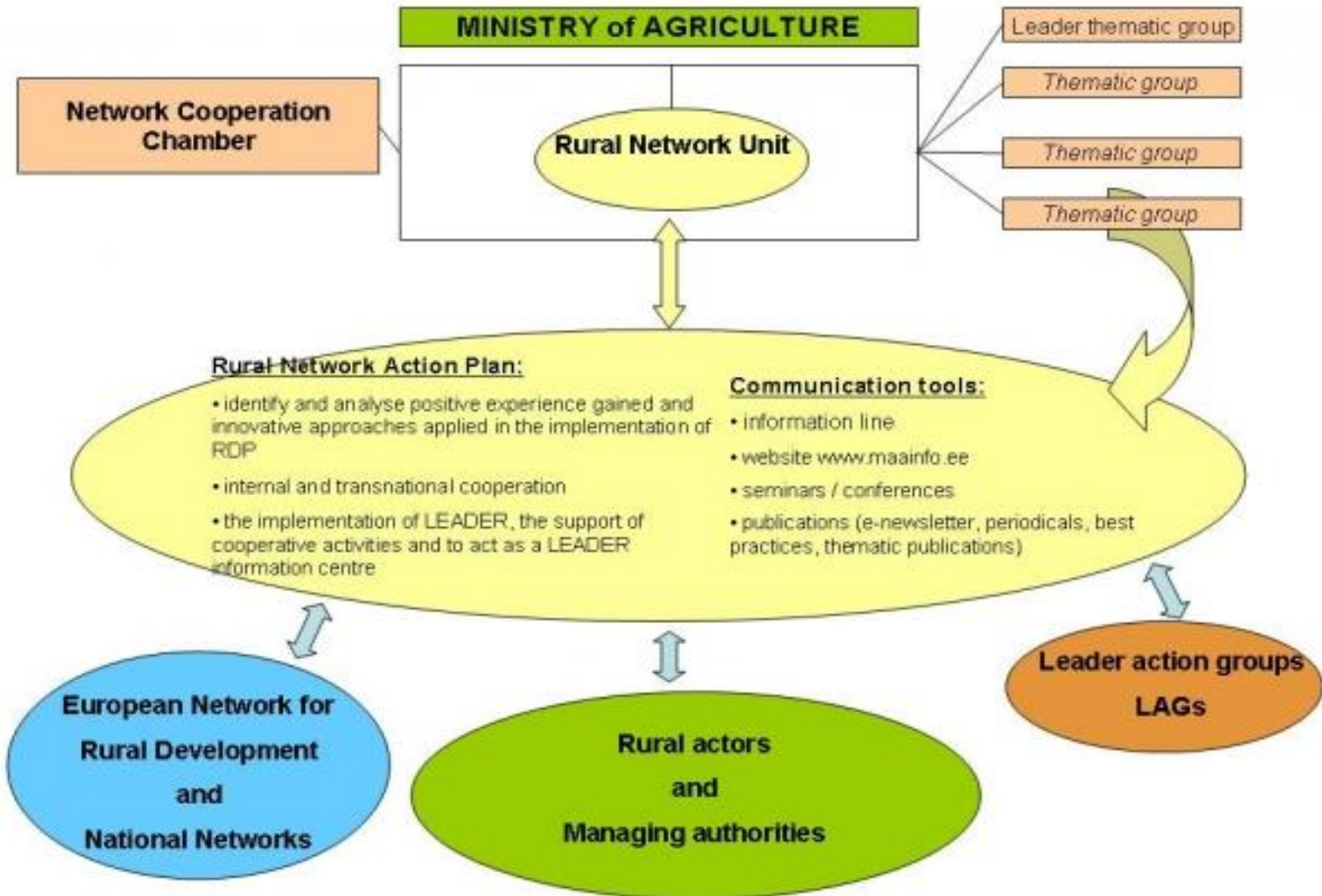
Development of organisations and partnerships



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Network structure





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Estonian Rural Network Unit tasks are to:

- enable the exchange of relevant expertise between rural actors;
- support implementation, monitoring and evaluation of rural development policy;
- coordinate information: the local, national and European levels;
- identify and analyze positive experience;
- organize rural network activity and exchange of experience and know-how;
- establish a LAG and FLAG training program;
- support internal and transnational cooperation, including the establishment and administration of a relevant website, organizing seminars and other events, sourcing cooperation partners, establishing a database of experts, and advising LAGs.



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Big things start with small changes

