

## Local capacity (social capital) as resource in rural development

Vienna 27.11.2008  
Liisa Häme, Finland

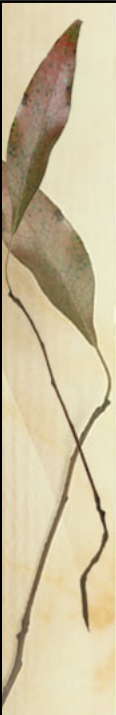


### Local people know

- Ownership of problems and needs
- Area determination
- Local heritage
- Silent knowledge
- Pride
- Existing networks



Involve us!




Local people can

- A community instead of individuals
- Voluntary work
- A strong will (in good and bad)
- Hospitable
- Careful and thorough
- Important roles and “boxes”




## Not a perfect world

- Begging instead of doing
- Insecure - own possibilities?
- The last one puts the lights out?
- Frightening paper work
- Different interest groups inside local communities - intrigues
- Demand of unity?




## Tools to overcome the negative aspects

- Activation and training
- Participatory tools - planning TOGETHER
- Fast track from planning to doing (visible results have a positive impact)
- Sensitivity to recognize the interest groups and to make them visible
- Openness in all development actions
- WITH people instead of TO people



## Social capital

- People's skills
- Thrust
- Silent knowledge
- Voluntary work
- Self esteem
- Participation
- Multiplies the economic capital
- Also measurable - often forgotten



## Social capital in European level?

- Local actions do not reach European level
- No hierarchy
- Lowest level is the strongest
- No recognized system
- Weak, unprofessional and legally weak European networks

