

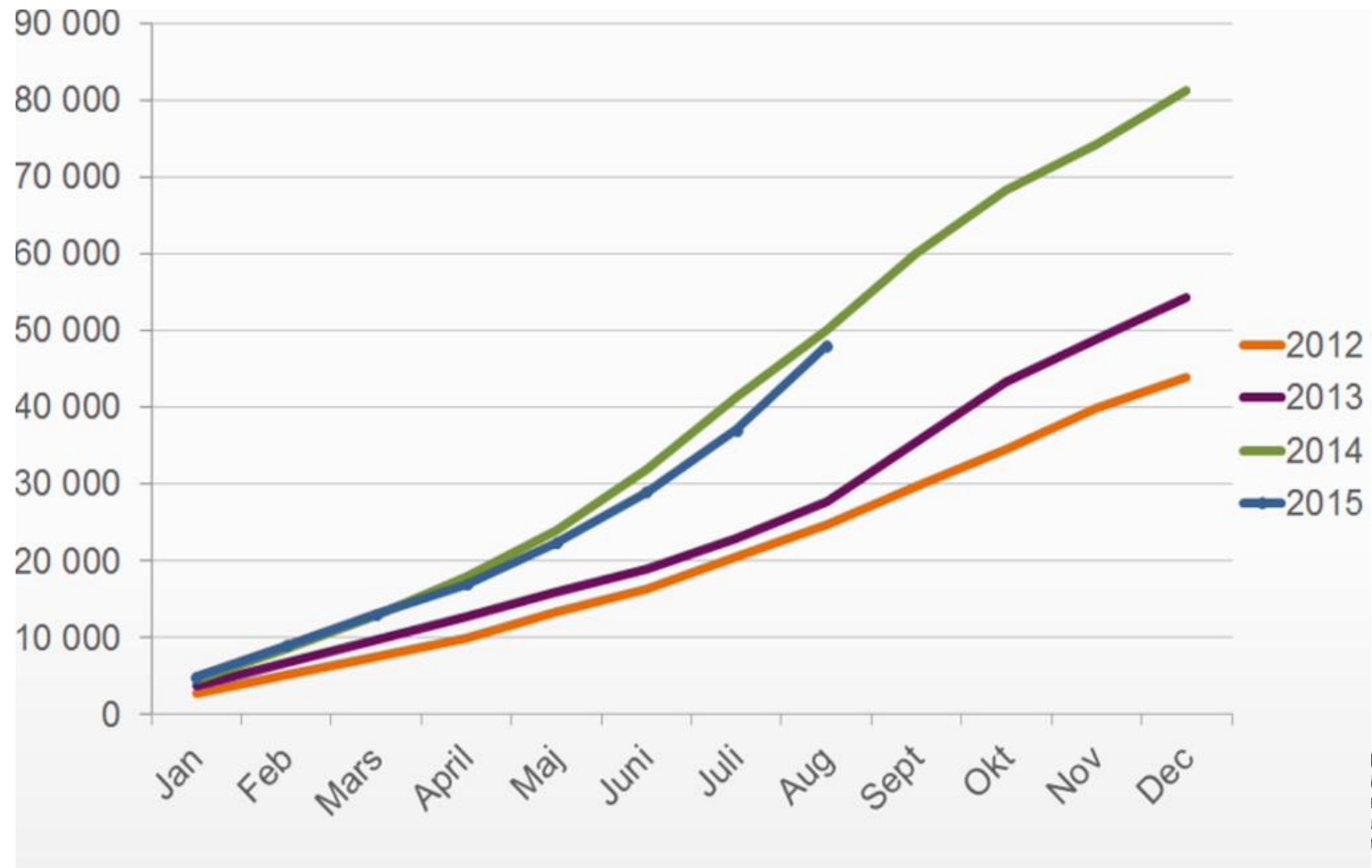
Social inclusion of refugees and immigrants in Swedish rural areas.

Nils Lagerroth
Swedish Rural Network



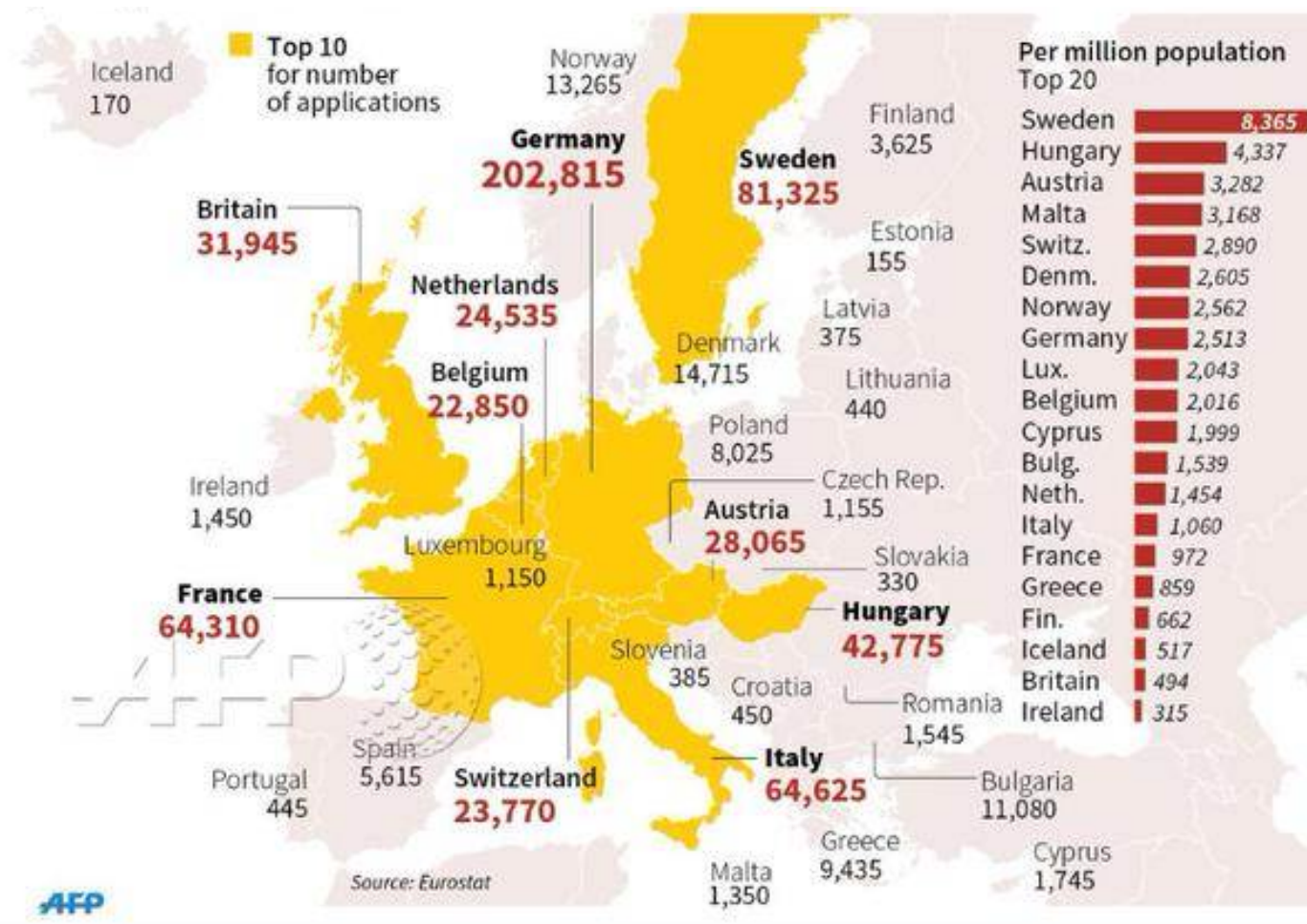
Asylum seekers in Sweden

Total number of asylum seekers in Sweden 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015



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Asylum seekers in the EU 2014



Small rural villages receive many



Undrom, Sollefteå:	85 inhabitants.	200 refugees.
Trensum, Karlshamn:	106 inhabitants.	300 refugees.
Långträsk, Piteå:	109 inhabitants.	52 refugees.
Byxelkrok, Borgholm:	129 inhabitants.	133 refugees.
Dalskog, Mellerud:	133 inhabitants.	124 refugees.
Blackstad, Västervik:	145 inhabitants.	120 refugees.
Gysinge, Sandviken:	149 inhabitants.	200 refugees.
Virestad, Älmhult:	155 inhabitants.	81 refugees.
Trehörningsjö, Örnsköldsvik:	160 inhabitants.	50 refugees.
Rätan, Berg:	195 inhabitants.	84 refugees.
Stavsjö, Nyköping:	212 inhabitants.	150 refugees.
Liden, Sundsvall:	254 inhabitants.	110 refugees.
Ramsberg, Lindesberg:	257 inhabitants.	55 refugees.
Hällnäs, Vindeln:	259 inhabitants.	500 refugees.
Åsarna, Berg:	268 inhabitants.	148 refugees.



Building relationships, Brålanda



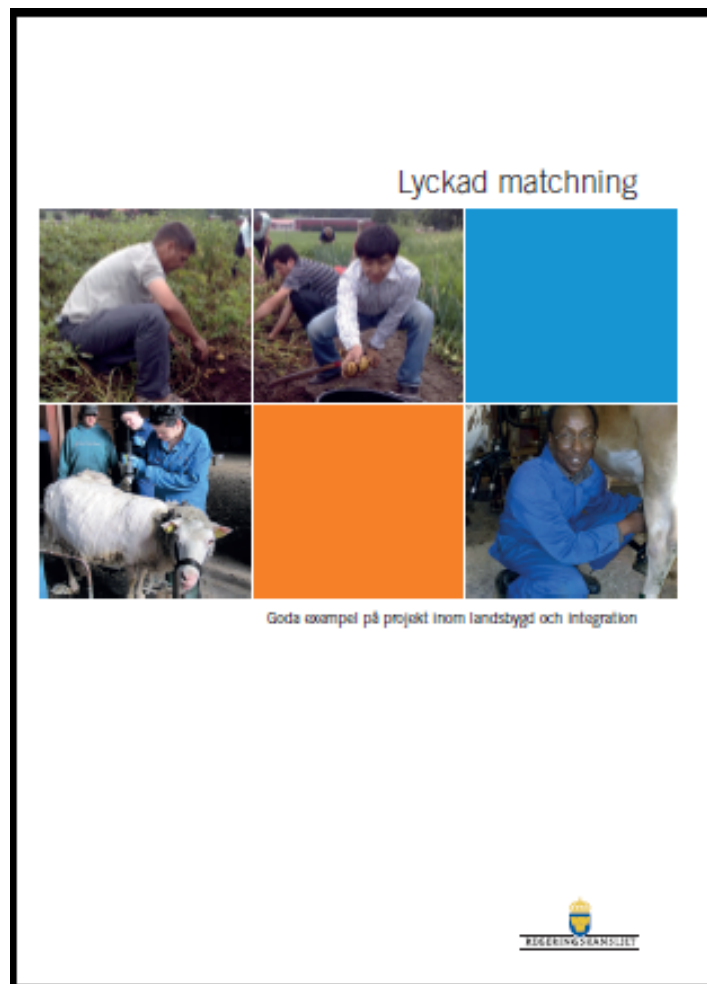
Building relationships, Orust



“Successful match”

Study of 9 projects for social inclusion, training and job creation in rural areas

Most of them financed from the Swedish Rural Development Program 2007-2013



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Grön framtid - Green Future

Two year course in entrepreneurship and vocational training 2009 – 2011. Theory was mixed with practice

Organized by Farmers Union, a "Folk High School" and a garden/agricultural school

23 participants from different countries

9 persons had a job after finishing the course, two started their own companies.



Öppna Gränser - Open borders

Project together with the National Land Survey, Forestry Board, Borlänge municipality and an employment agency

900 km borders between properties needed forest clearing.

31 people including 22 with a Somali background, were trained and employed for the operation

Most of the Somali participants have moved on to new positions after the project.



Eco trails

Long-term unemployed Swedish born were together with foreign-born in the same project.

They were placed as additional labor in active Leader projects.

Of a total of 14 participants received 11 jobs after the project ends, the eight foreign-born had seven jobs or started their own businesses.



Success Factors

Local context and cooperation

Matching

Mixture of theory and practice

Language and visibility of skills

Project management and coaching

Project members with migration experience
networking

Existing context and integration

Knowledge of authorities on rural opportunities

Target group's knowledge of rural needs and opportunities

Agricultural, garden and forestry schools

Learning as a dialogue



Swedish NRN Thematic

Working Group Social Inclusion of Refugees and Immigrants

- Per Hasselberg, The Agr. and Rural Economy Society, chairman
- Anders Bengtsson, The Swedish Football Association
- Bo Ljung, The County Adm. Board
- Jan Runfors, The Swedish Village Action Movement
- Yursa Moshtat, Expert
- Marcus Söderberg, The Fed of Swedish Farmers
- Peter Melin, The Agricultural Board
- Lovisa Carneland, LEADER Urnära
- Asha Ismail, SIOS, The Cooperation Group for Ethnical Associations in Sweden
- Ulrika Geber, The County Adm. Board
- Bertil Lidfelt, The Swedish public employment service
- David Ohlsson, The Swedish public employment service
- Ole Guldahl, The Migration Agency
- Ingela Lekfalk, The Federation of Business Owners,



Thematic working group action plan 2015 – 2016

Supporting local civil society and NGOs for social inclusion

- Mapping:
 - Overview
 - Finding good examples
 - Finding areas with potential
- Handbook, checklists, web
- Disseminating good examples
- Seminar
- Assisting ethnic organisations in rural areas
- Meeting decisionmakers, MPs etc



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Thematic working group action plan 2015 – 2016

Activities for training, language and jobs

- Follow-up to previous projects - what has happened to those involved?
- Identify structural and bureaucratic barriers
- Finding ways for immigrants to work in land-based industries
- Identify effective methods for finding jobs in rural areas
- Finding ways to help immigrants who start new businesses in rural areas



Thematic working group action plan 2015 – 2016

Model for inventory of housing in rural areas

- Pilot projects in three counties, with in each three municipalities
- Inventory for housing ("fine combing") and other accommodation in rural areas.
- The pilot could lead to a model that in addition to housing also considers opportunities for work, good infrastructure, schools, service, etc.



Questions

- How can the integration in a small community be managed (like in a village)?
- What is the role of rural civil organisations?
- How can the confidence between the local people and immigrants, even refugees be increased?
- How can the local society be opened?
- How can the confidence of immigrants be increased, since their only one social capital is the confidence?
- What are the most effective **methods** for social inclusion of refugees and immigrants **in rural areas?**
- What possibilities are there for **funding** projects on social inclusion (for example CLLD, EAFRD, ESF etc.)?

