



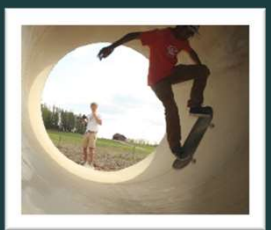
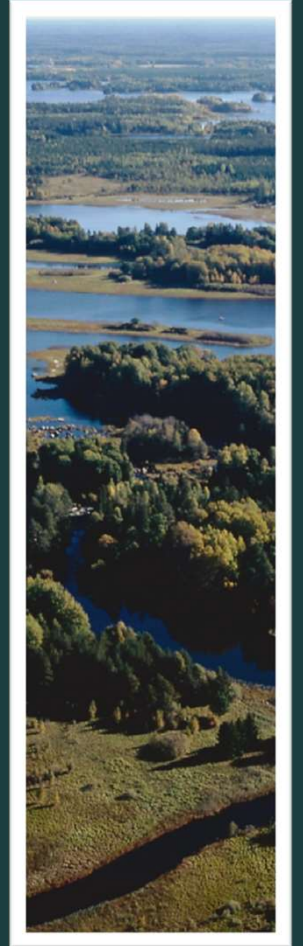
Charlotta Heimersson, SWEDEN

LAG-manager of Leader Nedre Dalälven 3

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CEO

of the local development company Nedre Dalälven Ltd
and Biosphere Reserve River Landscape Nedre Dalälven





”Social & environmental challenges in rural areas”

- in a Swedish perspective

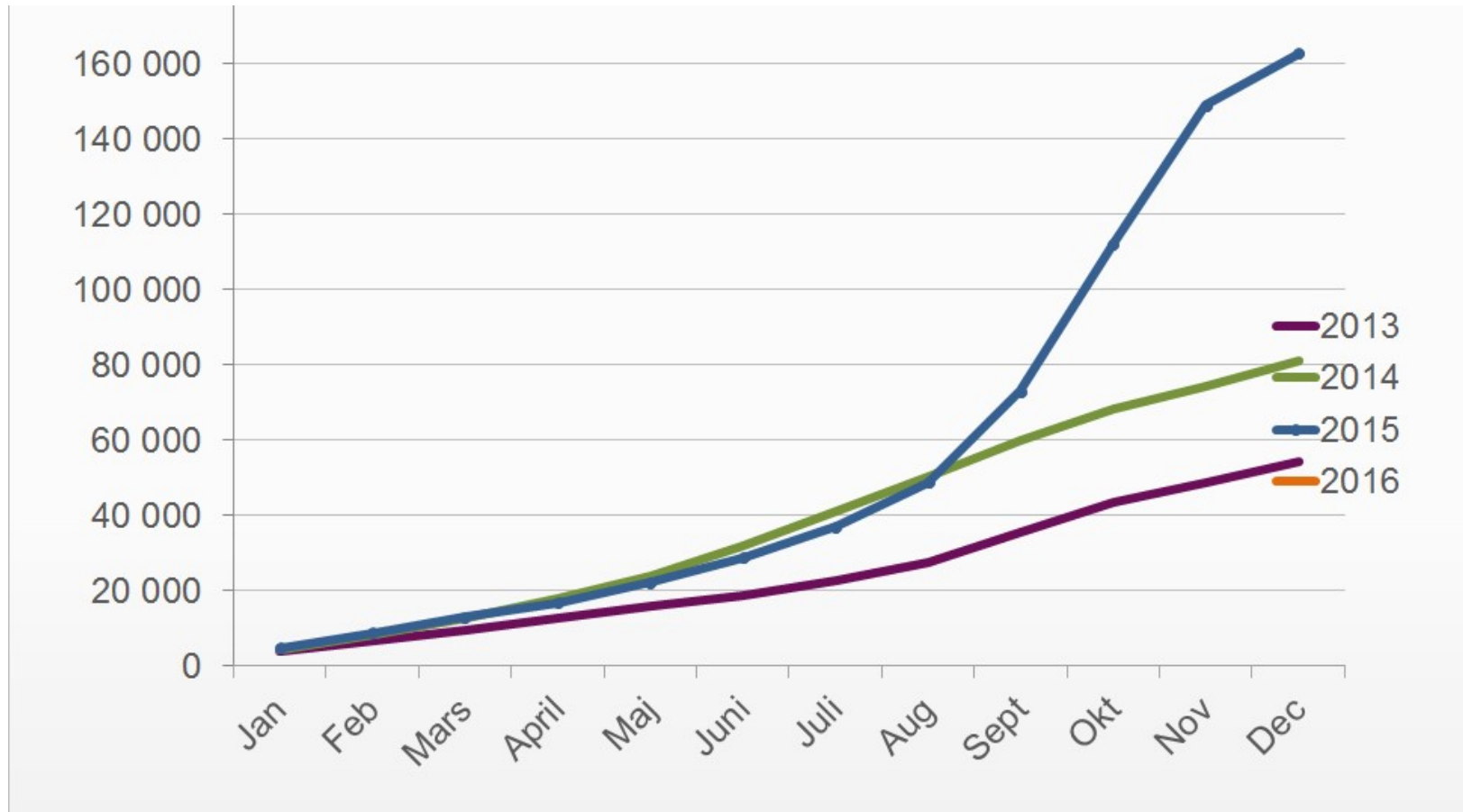


Social challenges in rural areas in Sweden

- Urban – Rural divide
- North – South aspect
- Sparsely populated country
- Demographic change
- Rural schools
- Elderly care in rural areas
- Health care services
- Transportation and local services
- Immigrants/refugees
- Economy



Asylum seekers in Sweden 2013, 2014 and 2015



Small rural villages



Undrom, Sollefteå:	85 inhabitants.	200 refugees.
Trensium, 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.
Åsarne, Berg:	268 inhabitants.	148 refugees.

Integration/social inclusion

Rural areas need everyone to stay in order to:

- Meet the challenge with decreasing population
- Keep local schools, shops, health care and other services
- Meet the problems with an upcoming labour shortage in different sectors



Integration/social inclusion

- Less than 10 of 100 stay in rural areas
- With early social inclusion 20-30 of 100 want to stay
- With commitment, involvement and engagement from the
 - Local community (friendship, local knowledge)
 - NGOs (social life, training)
 - Business sector(internship, matchmaking for jobs)
 - Municipalities(education, healthcare, housing)= we can make it happen!
- Reduce prejudice!



Leader as a tool?

- Volunteer language introduction
- Internship and job matching
- Volunteer transportation
- Finding and matching houses for those who want to stay
- Society guidance and help with other contacts with authorities
- Include refugees in ordinary recreational activities, such as sport and cultural activities
- Special events to promote meetings between locals and refugees
- Take refugees on study trips
- Teach about the local landscape and nature
- Collect clothes, etc to supply the refugees



Leader as a tool?

Around 90 Leaderprojects that works with integration!

Examples:

”Farmers seeks employees” Götene municipality

”To build a sustainable association” Avesta fotball association





Leader as a tool for handling local social challenges in rural areas?

YES!

Thank you 😊

