



Added Value of Networking

Success Story

Success Story title *Intervision – a tool for “cooperative counseling”*

Theme *Knowledge exchange; Training*

NRN *Austria* Coordinator *Günter Scheer, Netzwerk Land (NRN Austria)*

Partners *None*

Period *2011* Resources *€10.000*

Geo-location *Rural Austria*

Beneficiaries *LAG managers*

Background

In many cases different LAG managers experience similar challenges in their everyday work, however these occur at different times often depending on the maturity of the LAG, consequently seminars and workshops are not the right instrument to support them.

Main activities

The Austrian NSU began looking for a learning tool that would enable knowledge transfer from experienced LAG managers to those with challenges or issues from a specific situation they were dealing with. Intervision, a tool for “cooperative counseling” that already works very well in systemic consulting in professional organisations, seemed to be the appropriate mechanism to achieve this. During an Intervision session one LAG manager describes a problem or issue they have encountered and the other participants take on specific roles and review the situation by asking questions or interpreting the information provided. These roles can either be compatible with the relevant roles in relation to the problem or can also simply be the role of an observer who gives feedback and provides new viewpoints to the person providing the issue.

Main results/benefits

The Intervision groups could help some LAG managers to gain new viewpoints on their problems and develop their own competences through self organised Intervision groups. Currently there are several independent groups who regularly work with the Intervision tool or use it occasionally when a special problem arises.





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Contribution of the NSU

The task of the Austrian NSU was to establish a number of Intervision groups with each one covering between four and five LAG managers and train the LAG managers in using the tool.

Success factors

To be successful there must be openness and mutual trust between all the participants in an Intervision session. The members must be willing to bring in actual cases from the own professional lives and have a good understanding of the roles they take on, not judging other members of the group. The groups also need to have stable and continued participation from the same participants in order to work successfully.

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