



Identification, Dissemination and Exchange of good practice in
Local Employment development and promoting better governance

Trångsviksbolaget AB - Sweden

Background	<p>Trångsviken is a small community (700 inhabitants) in the in the region of Jämtland, a region defined by the typical rural problems. Situated in between the town of Östersund and the alpine centre of Åre, at the shore of the great lake Storsjön lays Trångsviken.</p>
Purpose of the project	<p>To assist the economic development of Trångsviken.</p>
Geographical focus	<p>Trångsviken</p>
Project partnership	<p>Trångsviken has a history of entrepreneurship, and locally engaged people. In 1992 a large community centre was built containing post office, bank, restaurant, day-care centre, gym, library and many other facilities.</p> <p>This encouraged and summoned the inhabitants of Trångsviken. It also started a mental process and an economical development that in the year of 2000 resulted in the development of Trångsviksbolaget AB. Trångsviksbolaget acts as a market based company in order to be a partner in the development of Trångsviken. The largest group of shareholders is the local inhabitants.</p>
Activities	<p>The goal is to help providing all the services that the modern society demands, to make Trångsviken attractive to its inhabitants and future partners. We also give guidance, mentoring and financial aid to existing and start-up companies. As an example we've built a 1,200 m² industrial building for our bakery when they grew out of their premises and where refused a bank loan.</p> <p>Trångsviksbolaget is also owner of the European Community project 'Life Environment in Trångsviken' in favour for the inhabitants. This project runs village meetings, seminars, and among other things has built a restaurant and a museum.</p> <p>The school, for children aged 6 to 13 years, has run an entrepreneurship program for 7 years and has a good relationship with local companies.</p> <p>All this adds to an overall picture in which Trångsviksbolaget acts as an umbrella organisation, working to connect to a whole circle for an enterprising community.</p>
Target groups	<p>Local entrepreneurs and residents.</p>
Particular successes	<p>The village has approximately 70 companies on 700 inhabitants, which is a Swedish record (10% of the population are entrepreneurs). These numbers are growing and the village is now facing a lack of industrial and private premises – a reverse problem compared to our neighbours. The number of inhabitants is also going up – once again a reverse trend compared to neighbouring villages.</p>

Lessons learnt

- Entrepreneurship can be taught: an early stimulation of entrepreneurial characteristics (e.g. entrepreneurial education in local schools) has a strong potential to result in a more entrepreneurial locality.