

11.05.2007

Texts for exhibition in Gamla Meken

Project name = Exhibition name 'EU-villages – A meeting place for Europeans'.

Background

- **Democracy deficit**
- **Lack of interest in European issues**
- **Little understanding of the EU as a peace project**
- **Create meeting places for Europeans!**
- **An idea from AB Samarkand2015**

Vision

- **Increase solidarity within Europe**
- **Strengthen democracy**
- **Create a feeling of European citizenship**
- **An EU village in every EU country**

Objective

- **Facilitate and inspire meetings between Europeans**
- **Develop the dialogue between citizens and the EU**
- **Gather up ideas and reflections – especially from the young**
- **Visitor destinations - local and regional development**
- **Sweden, presidency country, EU 2009 – EU villages a Swedish 'prime event'**

Pilot scheme

- Sweden
- Ireland
- Cyprus
- Romania
- Scotland (evaluate)
- Planned start, turn of the year 2007 - 2008

Sweden

Smedjebacken

11,000 inhabitants in the municipality

Manufacturing & industrial town

Partner: Smedjebacken Municipality

www.smedjebacken.se

Contact: Lars Nylén

Ireland

Kerry County

133,000 inhabitants in the county

Tourism, agribusiness

Partner: Kerry Education Service – educational organisation

www.cokerryed.ie

Contact: Barney O'Reilly

Cyprus

Larnaca

70,000 inhabitants in the region

Tourism

Partner: Anetel – regional development organisation

www.anetel.com

Contact: Michalis Zanos

Romania

Petrosani,

45,000 inhabitants in the town

Mining town

Partner: ASTAR Institute – research and development organisation

www.astarinstitute.eu

Contact: Angele Giuliano,

Scotland

Edinburgh,

450,000 inhabitants

Partner: Napier University, will evaluate the project

www.napier.ac.uk

Contact: John Fairley