

# Communities, volunteering and Possibilities and obstacles

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Ks/ERP

# Communities, villages, territories – definitions?

1. Geographical? Number of inhabitants (squarekm)? Administrative unit? Name plate?

Or

The **feeling of belonging**? **The spirit** of the community? Cultural/Ethnical/Religious/(Historical values/

2. The following words could describe different community/Village situations (different levels)

**Active**

**Sleeping**

**Dying**

3. The administration can treat you at different levels in different ways for different reasons

**Ignore**

**Listen and ignore**

**Act and ignore**

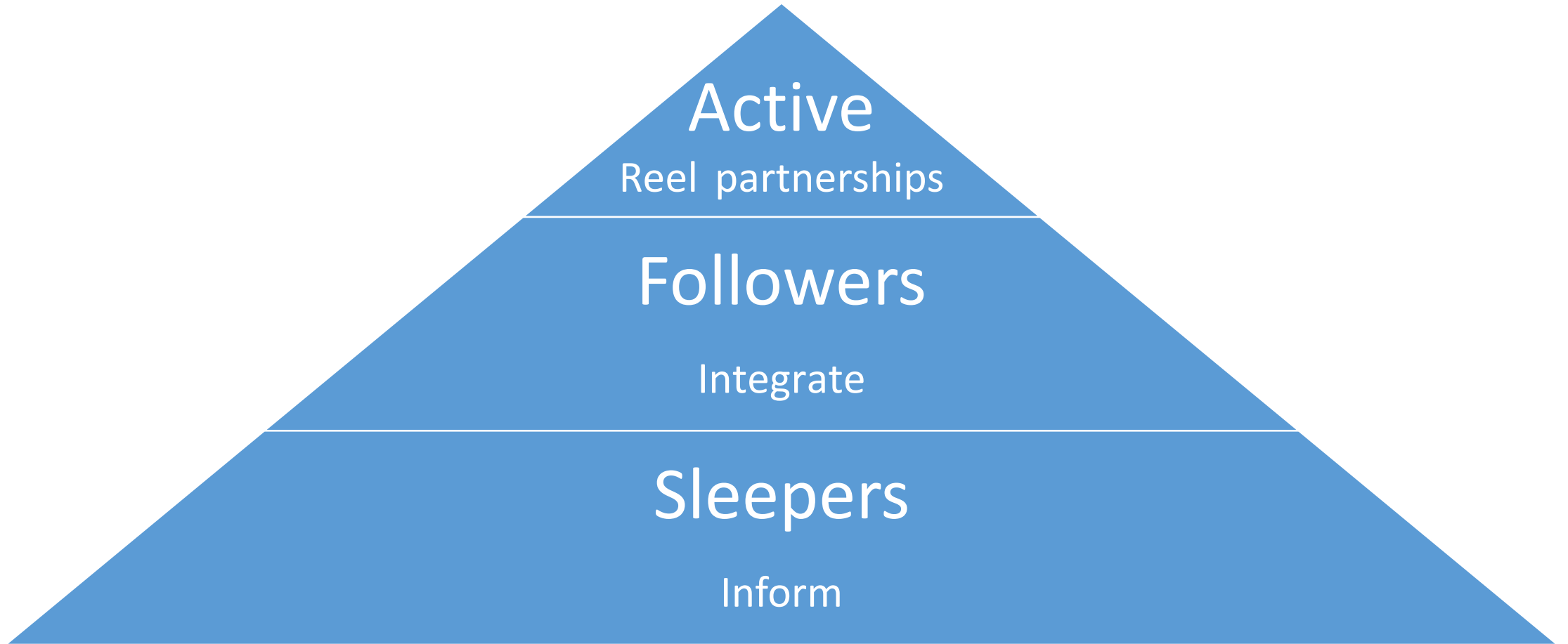
**Participative with no results**

**Participation with results**

**Partnerships**

**For discussions:** What is good, what is bad, what changes are needed. If responsibility is given, are the communities, villages ready for the challenge? What messages for Governments/EU?

# Communities in action



# Voluntary work?

- From your own will
- The common goal is linked to your own goal
- For common good (stronger social capital?)
- From no payment to different levels of compensation
- Thematic – charity, neighbour aid, social, cultural, sports, voluntary firebrigades
- Psychological: there must be a need (positive or negative) and benefits for someone to put time and resources

# Value and treatment

Put a price tag on...

- Health: less need for care, homecare, support by peers, social capital
- Good quality of life and living environment, hobbies, events
- Inhabitants take care of services: school, nursery, sports and exercise
- Small infrastructure, reparations, projects

Treatment

- Competition rules: taxed if entrepreneurial
- Not always very appreciated by administrations
- Increased cooperation today
- The ways of cooperation to be built

# Models

## **By community**

- Spirit of the village and doing together: Building sports venues for locals
- Eskola Village: Created a cooperative to run a village school and nursery when shut down by officials. The cooperative has other tasks as well. Village of the year in Finland.
- Action plans integrated in administrative plans

## **Re-organising** municipal strategy and inhabitants (will) activities

- Yläkemijokimodel: Committees and villages take care of many municipal tasks by contract and budgeting
- Participative budgeting
- Contractual