URBAN & RURAL PARTNERSHIPS & EXCHANGES
Why Rural?

Evidence from the interviews and questionnaire in WP2 confirm the importance of training and education away from urban areas as a means for retention in rural areas.

It is roughly three times more likely that a person who has taken part of their training in a rural area works in a rural area, compared to health workers with no rural experience from their educational program.

There needs to be better links with Universities to improve the interest in the area from students.
The urban – rural divide
Academics in rural areas

Rural Fellowship Programme
Scotland Highland partner:
Specially aimed to provide work experience and vocational training places so that candidates can experience rural life at an early stage in their career
Programme has supported 80 Medical and 30 Dental Fellows to date
Retention rates are 70% in both disciplines
Links with universities

Academic project database –
Swedish partner
Medical and scientific project issues with a rural perspective
Aimed at spreading interest in rural medicine
Local supervision in Storuman (rural area)
Plans for implementing the database in the web tool
Links with urban hospitals

Rotation scheme - Greenlandic partner
Urban hospitals fill full time-positions in Greenland with three month shifts.
Accommodation is provided
Enables urban staff to gain interest in rural areas and rural medicine and become “ambassadors”
4 positions filled (intensive care and anaesthesia)
Professional exchanges

Exchange programme – Sweden, Norway, Ireland, Canada
Aimed to recruit GP’s and to retain those who already work in rural areas
4 exchanges in 2013 between partners
Participants were inspired and were encouraged to stay in rural areas
Share ideas and experiences in medical practice