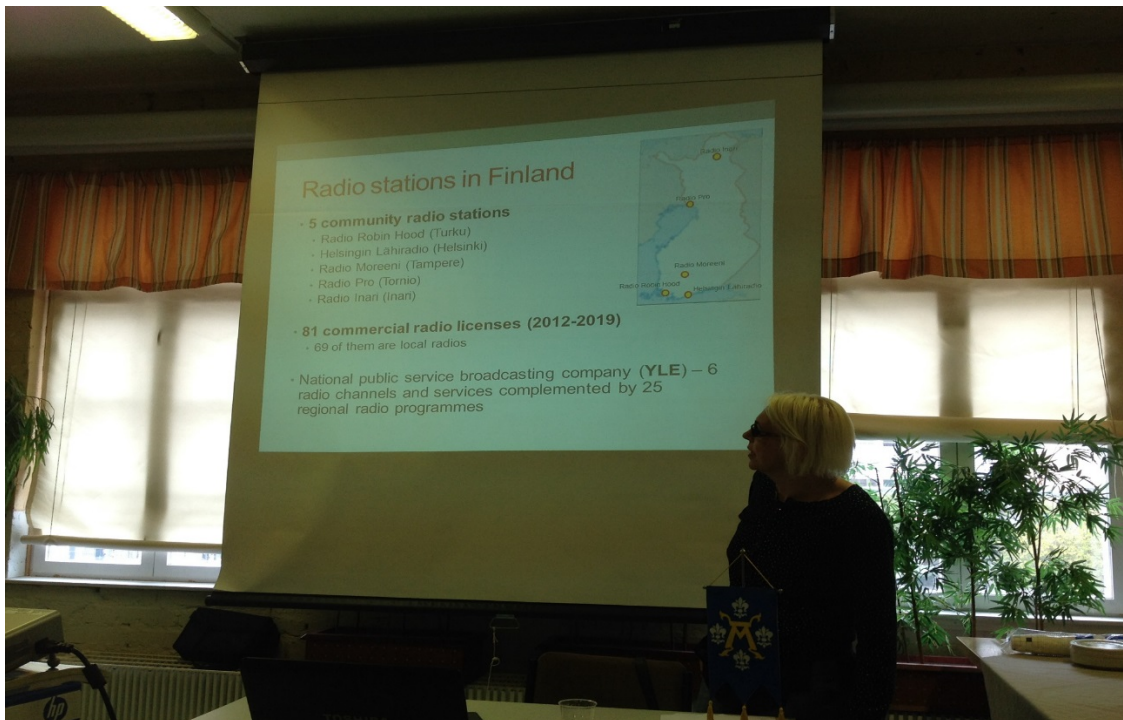


Minutes from final meeting: Turku – Excerpt –



Radio Robin Hood is 24 years old now

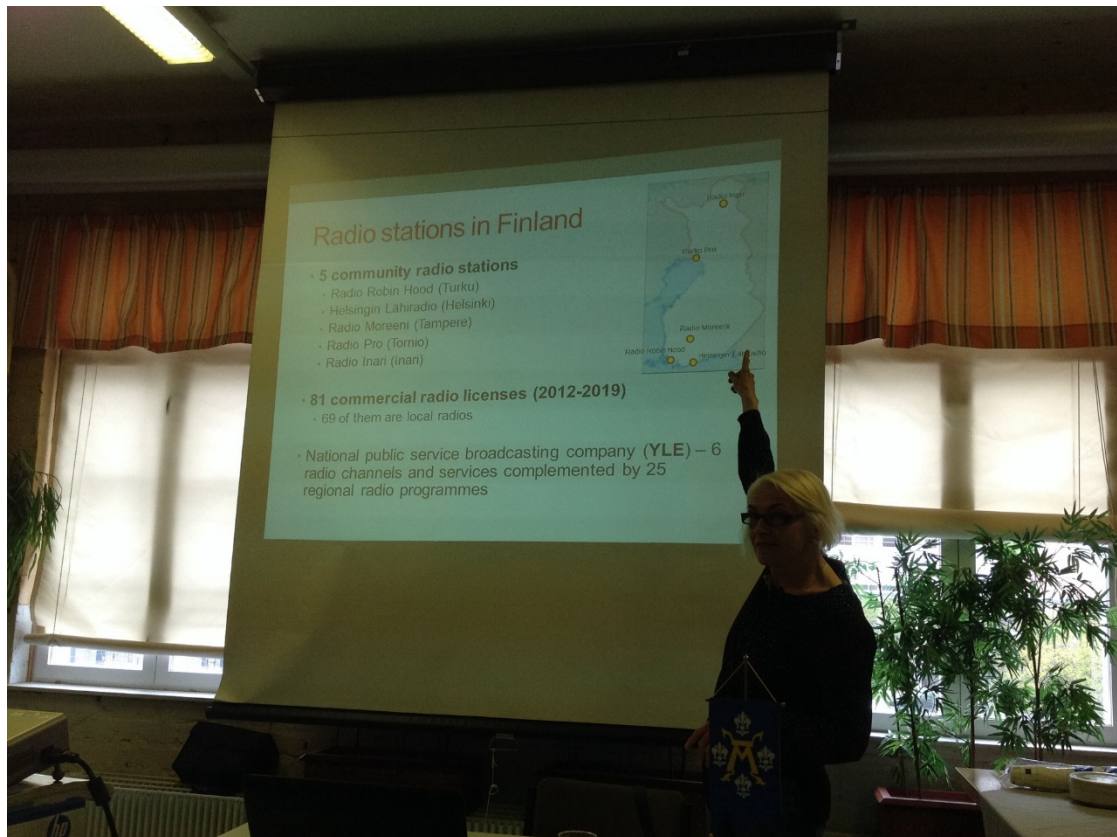
Community radios in Finland for the last 25 years, but not recognition or licenses for community radios. They work with commercial radios. Politicians consider that local radios are entrepreneurial businesses so, they need to find their own finances.

They keep very detailed information of their work, and the government knows about their activities, but they will not recognise their work. They were part of a study on radio and despite their work and European resolutions, there is not recognition.

In Finland they are working at the moment in reforming the broadcast legislation. There is not mention of community radio.

Radio concentration is an issue in Finland, music stations are only obliged to broadcast 5 hours of information every week. The committee working on radio has advised that community radio should be recognised in the legislation. There is a lot of work to be done at political level to influence the parliament to change the legislation in a positive way for community radios.

Politicians are afraid of ownership of the licenses and they excuse themselves in the lack of demand for community radio licenses.



Seppo will introduce Radio Robin Hood.

Radio Robin Hood was founded in 1990. It is owned by Turun lahiradioyhdistys ry. this association brings together trade union, civil and grass roots organisations. Their catchment area reaches a population of 300000. In 1999, research showed 40 thousand listeners per week. Their transmitter is 3kw and it is 100metres over sea level. They reach 60 kilometres.

they broadcast 24/7. They have 1.5 studios.

Shows are prerecorded, as volunteers are not available for live broadcast.

Multicultural Mondays, they broadcast in different languages on that particular day.

1 part time administration. One permanent position (technician). 1-3 interns. 20-30 volunteers producing shows.

they produce specialist music, news,

Funding

- national and european union projects
- city of turku helps them with the rent.
- the association that owns the station.

They lease their transmitter (15 thousand a year) and have to pay all bills, so it is quite expensive. They don't have a culture of membership fees or fundraising. They haven't resources to organise fundraising events. They don't do advertisement at all, though they could.

They had a very interesting project running in Uganda, to work with a women's radio station in Kampala, funded by their foreign affairs department. they produce programmes on gender equality, domestic violence, they do very important work there. They provide technical help it is a very interesting project and they also get some funding.

They have developed their own automation software.

TRAINING



ORGANIC TRAINING means that the trainees are very involved in the content of the training. There is not fixed curriculum or fixed duration.

On the first session, the participants are encourage to decide what is going to be in the content. The course outcomes are not the same all the time, but it is a small price to pay to get people involved.

All courses are free

Whenever there are at least 10 people in the course, this might get funding either from the workers' Educational Association or the Civil Education Association.

It is difficult to get people involved. It works with word of mouth, broadcasting information, associations involved in the station, volunteers, friends and relatives.

Currently, 30-50 people do the course every year, but retention is a problem. Some people want to learn how radio works, but not with the idea of producing a programme. Part of the problem could be that there is no one looking after the people who finish the course to get them involved.

They started working with the reel-to-reel machine editing, and sometimes, older people would understand better how editing works than looking to digital editing.

Special target groups

youth. They attend courses and are really excited about the course

older people. It is quite challenging, as everything is now computer based, and some older people have not experience with computers.

migrants.

People with disabilities. One month ago they did a course with people with disabilities, but their attention span is quite short.

Technologically impaired people. This is the most challenging group. Usually, they are very dependant of the person with the technical skills

the courses are not only about radio, but they have an important socialising element, allowing people to meet, learn and enjoy.

Objectives:

to get them on-air asap

to teach people minimum skills to get the on air.

keep the course as short as possible

to keep the threshold to start radio work on a very basic level.

for example, their sound desk is very simple, so people are not confused or afraid.

Training is a requirement to produce a radio programme most of the time, but they allow people with broadcasting experience to broadcast without doing the training

There is additional one to one training when people is to start broadcasting

COURSE FRAMEWORK

5-10 participants and they last 5-6 days (2-3 Hours per day). Usually once a week. However, all this is adapted to the group needs. so the average is 10-20 hours. Then, if people needs extra training or hours, this is organised for them.

They use very basic portable recorders and audacity for the editing.

CONTENT OF THE COURSE

- Introduction
 1. What is community radio
 2. what is radio robin hood
 3. how can the trainees be part of the community radio
 4. Content of the radio course
 5. initial questionnaire. Here trainees mark their level of skills (computers, editing, smart phones, etc).
- Planning the radio course
- Learning about, practicing and doing journalistic interviews
- Digital audio editing (audacity)
- Studio work exercises. practicing intros with background music and then interview, and doing an outro. So this is a basic introduction of how to use the faders.
- Copyright and legal issues
- Final questionnaire (feed back of participants towards the training)

>> materials from an European project, COMAPP - Topics and target groups

This COMAPP course looks to five topics that can be run as individual workshops or a full course.

Partnership Evaluation Summary

The partners considered that the project meetings were well organised but there were not enough time for the project. However, everyone felt that we have learned from each other, not only in a formal way, but also in an informal way through interpersonal relations. There is a feeling that the training was very productive, and overall the syllabus and content is very similar for all partners. It was really interesting to learn about youth and other training and take back to our own organisations this learning and introduce it in our own practices.

The networking aspect was invaluable, but to be able to understand media, partners felt more time would have been necessary to be able to examine in depth some aspects of media literacy training. In occasions, the workshops felt too rushed. More 'mock training' would have been better. However, overall, organisation was good.

The partners consider that the website is very good as a tool, and the dissemination aspect was well work through the website, but also through the participation in the conferences, that allow for networking and exchanging

experiences with other organisations and individuals that weren't part of the project.

We have benefited from the experience, and the learning from each other. It would be interesting to build a resource at European level, but it might be difficult due to the very different realities across Europe. However, as the objectives of community radio are the same, it would be possible to build a toolkit for media training with media literacy elements incorporated into it, that would allow trainers to decide what resources they want to use in their own local/regional/national training workshops. It might be interesting to put together questionnaires to know their terminology. The French federation of associative radio (SNRL) pointed out that media literacy and education are very interesting areas for its members.

The partners expressed an interest in developing media literacy resources by working together in this area. We can progress in this specific area by keeping in mind that resources should be applied not only to radio, but to other types of media, as media literacy impacts the content of the information, independently of the broadcasting platform.

We felt that when dealing with media literacy it is important to define what is our common understanding of the term.