

Workshop 1: Ecology and environment

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Workshop plan

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

PRESENTATIONS OF PROJECTS

BRAIN-STORMING AND GROUP WORK DISCUSSION

Main topic



- Environment
- Society
- Economy
- Other elements/ sub-themes (?)

Various approaches in projects



Eco-education centre
development (SECAD, IE)



Mushroom Road: Linking
Nordic and Baltic
experience (Latvia)



Life and Fire (focus on the
condition of the Baltic
Sea)

Exploring the topic ,ecology and environment'

1. Brain-storming (sub-themes)

2. Form groups of 3-5
(according to sub-theme
of your preference)

3. Discuss the following

- A) Challenges (both local and common to all localities)
- B) Approaches to deal with those challenges
- C) Potential (ideas) for cooperation related to the challenges and approaches

Long list of sub-themes identified & number of votes

Bioeconomy and circular economy (3)

Eutrophication of the Baltic Sea (3)

Water management (1)

Balance between use and protection of environment (7)

Alternative energy and construction (1)

How to make tourism ecological? (7)

Swamps management (1)

Environmental education of youngsters (5)

Healthy living, active living (6)

Short list of topics / groups (based on votes)

1. Bioeconomy and circular economy

2. Balance between use and protection / Ecological tourism

3. Healthy and active living (and environment)

1. Bioeconomom and circular economy

Challenges: link to RD, terminology not „simple“ enough – simplify scientific language, how to multiply, harmonising approaches – how (e.g. Statistics)

Approaches: sharing of good ideas for legislation, „bio-branding“ of regions

Potential for cooperation: bio-region and circular economy project, multiple use of forests

2. Balance between use and protection / ecological tourism

Challenges: people do not know what eco-tourism is / define the balance / too many tourists

Approaches: define what eco-tourism means, inform, exchange ways about protection

Potential for cooperation:
common definition
development, common
methodology on eco-
tourism info campaigns

Healthy and active living (and environment)

Challenges: motivation factors – create them / sustainability and regularity / involvement of different age groups / keeping the environment clean

Approaches: work with marketing - sports infrastructure not used enough, develop sports activities for different ages, trainings about forest routes, traditions, more recycling bins around

Potential for cooperation: eco-kayak tours (clean up operations of waterways), sports events, Mushrooms Road no.2, flashmobs – morning exercise

**(RESTORATIVE)
"FOREST TRAILS"**

**– LEADER TNC PROJECT
2012-2014**

LEADER

Pohjois-Satakunta



LAG location in Finland



10
municipalities
and
41700
inhabitants

PROJECT PARTNERS (4 areas - 4 countries)

Aktiivinen Pohjois-Satakunta ry (Finland) , LAG Växtlust (Sweden), LAG Müllerthal (Luxemburg) and LAG – GAL du Pays de la Déodatie (France) .

Implementing time: 2012-2014

Project funding: 20 000 € (LAG Aktiivinen)

Local implementing body together with LAG: State forest research center /Parkano Unit (Nowadays "Luke")

University of Tampere /Social sciences/Psychology department
(HIGH LEVEL SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATORS)

Different type of countries Participating as regards:

- Population density
- Degree of urbanization
- Culture
- Attitude towards nature



Background of the project

- ▶ 2010 in Ikaalinen, Finland was established the world's first "Restorative Forest Trail" with an EU-project
- ▶ The local need was to establish in our area/in international level new similar kind of trails and diffuse the idea as well collect scientific data on the use of trail in international level also.
- ▶ **ECOLOGICAL APPROACH + SUSTAINABILITY**
"INCLUDED" AS BASIC IDEA



Tangible results reached during the project:

- ▶ ***** Restorative Forest Trails** (public use) constructed in all partner countries.
- ▶ Finnish trail created entirely with volunteer forces (3,8 Km's new track)
- ▶ ***** Live testing sessions** kept for users of the tracks.
- ▶ ***** Many "common" things** like evaluation forms, trail instruction and task "plates" in translated versions
- ▶ ***** Courses "how to establish trails"** kept by Finnish researchers for foreign partners and in Finland
- ▶ ***** BP-Seminaries**
- ▶ ***** First private Enterprise trails** (tourism entrepreneurs established restorative paths to enrich the tourism services).
- ▶ ***** Masters thesis works**
- ▶ A lot of articles...



After the project

- ▶ *** Many restorative paths established "everywhere" in Finland (GREEN CARE)
- ▶ *** Health effects in long term for the people
- ▶ *** Extra value for trails as tourism and free time destination





The project was
elected among finalist
projects in Estonian
Rural Networks
Nordic-Baltic Leader
Transnational
Cooperation
Awards - competition

Delights of transnational cooperation:

- commitment of the partners: every trail has been well prepared, every seminar well organized
- possibility to learn to know new people, new cultures, new habitats, places where to you otherwise wouldn't have access

What to do better?

- reserve enough time for the project. There probably is more work than you have planned.
- be prepared that travelling arrangements and the trip itself takes time
- sometimes you may get frustrated about all the pending e-mails. Think who really needs a copy.



Shared experience – multiple profit

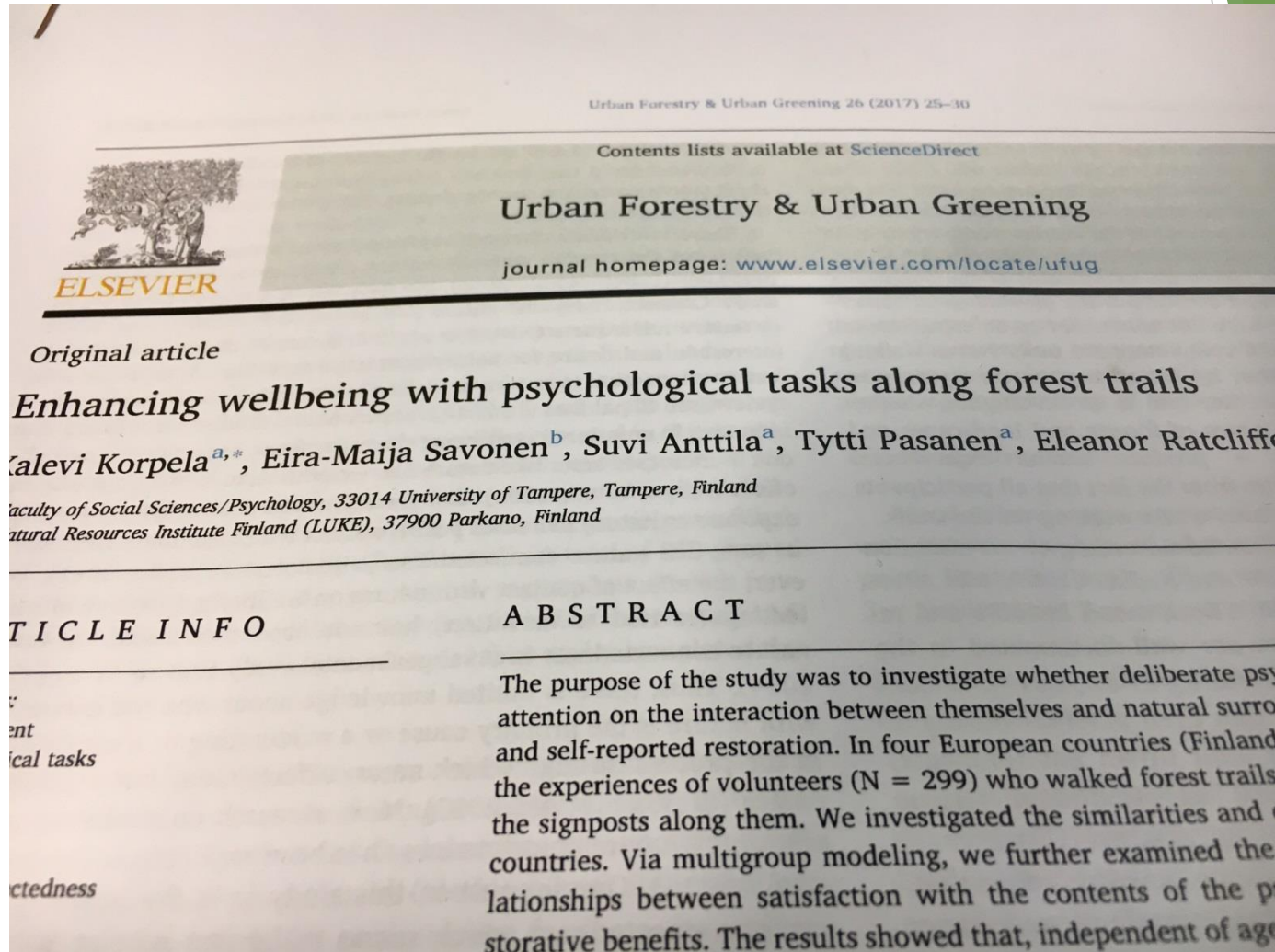
- An unique opportunity to distribute the concept of restorative wellbeing trails in other countries
 - Same exercises to do in trails and user survey in each country
 - Possibility to compare the results
- All countries have still had their own "fingerprint" in layouts and choosing the alignment of the trail



Professor Kalevi Korpela at a rehearsal in Luxemburg



Scientific results...



A photograph of a forest path. In the foreground, a large, thick tree trunk is visible on the left. The path is dirt and leads into a dense forest of evergreen trees. In the distance, a signpost is visible. The text "NICE FOREST WALKS FOR EVERYONE 😊" is overlaid in white on the lower left side of the image.

**NICE FOREST WALKS FOR
EVERYONE 😊**

If interested to know more:

- ▶ Contact:
- ▶ Eira-Maija Savonen eira-maija.savonen@ippnet.fi
- ▶ (Responsible of the implemented project)

LEADER

Pohjois-Satakunta



Euroopan maaseudun
kehittämisen maatalousrahasto:
Eurooppa investoi maaseutualueisiin

Thank you

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Some details on LAG Aktiivinen Pohjois- Satakunta

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	2,70 M€
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European Union	3,00 M€
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Municipalities	1,40 M€
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Public money together	7,10 M€
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Private funding and voluntary work	3,00 M€
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All together	10,10 M€
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Projects 2007-2013

- **ALL TOGETHER** 311 **PROJECTS**
- 162 development projects (including nonprofit investments)
 - 136 inside the own area
 - 4 between different Leader –areas in Finland
 - 22 (27) international projects
- 149 projects in small enterprises
- Support 5,4 M€

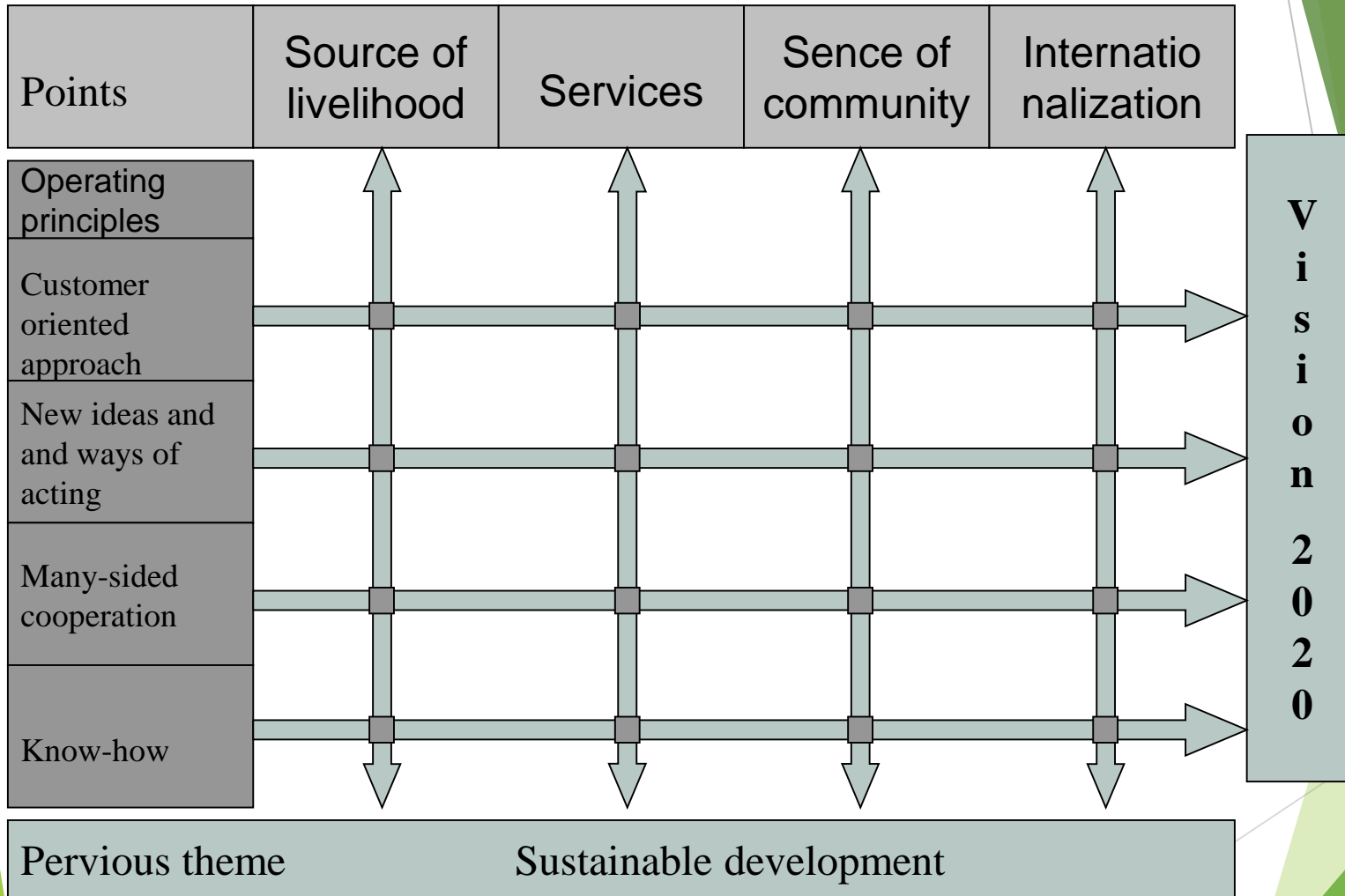
Project funding together 10,5 M€

Projects 2014-2020

ACTUALLY approved ALL TOGETHER 125 PROJECTS for this programming period (total 151)

- **50%/50% enterprise projects and development projects**
- **Biggest project quantity among LAGs in Finland actually**
- **14 international projects ongoing (7 TNC Leader)**
- **Biggest quantity of enterprise project in Finland up to now in Leader-programs**
- **In past programming period always within 3 best Leader-groups in Finland as funding, project quantity and most experienced with international projects**
- **(nearly 70 up to now within Leader and more in other European funding programs).**

Leader- Pohjois-Satakunta Strategy



*** PARTNER SEARCHES FOR TNC PROJECT ONGOING

- ▶ Contact and ask 😊 ! krista.antila@kankaanpaa.fi
- ▶ Searches for "thematics" - 1. Forestry - green economy- multiple use of forests
- ▶ 2. Circular economy
- ▶ 3. Youth environmental education (nature tourism, youth camps, digital innovations in environmental education)
- ▶ 4. Local food, wildfood
- ▶ 5. Water management, fishing, fishing tourism
- ▶ 6. Herbs, use of non productive terrains for new plants
- ▶ 7. Heritage regarding immigration (European immigration phenomena of the past)



AIM of the project

To strengthen and develop cultural tourism services in local action groups (catering, accommodation, crafts, handicrafts, events, customs, traditions) by bringing together entrepreneurs, artists, craftsmen, creating joint programs and service packages while preserving and revitalizing the cultural heritage.



HOW WE REACHED IT?

- ▶ 8 international meetings were organized for the project participants: two two-day meetings for the project working groups and two 4-day events in Latvia - Gulbene and Daugavpils and two two-day meetings for the project working groups and two 4-day events cycles in Lithuania - Ignalina and Varėna and one 3-day conference in Varėna.

Gulbene

- ▶ The main topic was the preservation of folklore, carving, weaving and ceramic traditions.
- ▶ During the event, the participants were taught how to tweeze the national bands, carve out, make ceramic mushrooms



The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the page, creating a modern, layered effect. The rest of the page is plain white.

EKO WORKSHOP IN DAUGAVPILS

ECO Workshop: Theory about wood and mushrooms



ECO Workshop: work on paper masrooms in paper wood - How good you now mashrooms?



ECO Workshop: work on sweet masrooms!



ECO Workshop: and finally REAL wood with mushrooms



Ignalina

- ▶ During the event in Ignalina culinary heritage of Aukštaitija and Dzūkija ethnographic regions was presented by lectures of the culinary heritage. Participants were able to learn how to make traditional food. Experts gave a lecture on how to exploit the natural resources available and a cultivated heritage for the development of new businesses. Also we organised excursions introducing for the participants the tourism situation in Ignalina district.



VARĖNA

- ▶ During the 4-day event in Varėna, we organized workshops on weaving (audimo ir pynimo mokymai), culinary heritage and forest products. With the help of the Lithuanian orienteering sports federation, we updated the Marcinkonys Forest Guidance Card (<http://www.trails.lt/>). In this way, the participants of the seminar were taught not to get lost in the forest, to recognize the location. As the Varėna region is known as the Lithuanian mushroom capital, a mushroom championship was organized. There were also excursions to the mushroom and berry processing factories in Varėna district.





Contacts:

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Varena region local action group

Chairman

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