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Karelia ENPI CBC project





The objective of the project is to encourage the development of green cities and settlements in remote cross border areas of Finland and Russia. In green cities and settlements, land is used effectively, material is recycled or converted from waste to energy, to reduce the ecological footprint and the overall contribution to climate change. Apart from providing a pleasant living environment, green settlements are generated by functionality, and utilize the cultural heritage as a factor for development.

The project will promote competitive capacity and raise living standards in remote border areas. Best practice approaches based on efficient utilization of local potential and environment friendly technologies will be implemented. The aim is to endorse economic and social requirements in harmony with ecological and cultural functions and, ultimately, contribute to a long-term balanced spatial development. The project is implemented during April 2011 - March 2014

THE TARGET GROUPS of the project are the administrations of the pilot territories Kalevalskiy national district and the City of Kostomuksha in Karelia. In Finland, the target areas are Oulu, Joensuu, and Kajaani regions.

Project Associates

Administration of Kalevalskiy municipal district

Centre for Problems of the North, Arctic and Cross-border Cooperation

State Committee of the Republic of Karelia for Development of Local Self-Government

State Comm. of Rep. of Karelia on Reforming of Housing and Communal Services

Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for North Karelia Regional Council of North Karelia

Project Activities

Spatial planning of remote regions

New approaches for the utilization of spatial potential in the pilot territories will be generated. The feasibility of using elements of local historical and cultural heritage for the development of the target territories will be assessed and best solutions fitting to local situation of target areas will be proposed.

Urban and rural resource management

Empirical evidence from Finland and Europe in urban and rural resource management best practices will be collected and demonstration of best practice technologies will be carried out, by adapting them to local conditions.

Roadmap for a sustainable spatial development

The description and visualization of the desirable future will be carried out based on the results of previous activities and the methodology of backcasting will be used to describe the path toward this envisioned future. The roadmap will be constructed using social impact assessment.

Cross-border networking

The project will formulate a cross-border think-tank, engage relevant stakeholders and be in active communication with beneficiaries on both sides of the border. A series of thematic seminars will be organized to present best practices and engage stakeholders and critical discussion regarding sustainable spatial and resource management.

Dissemination

All the results of the project on assessment activities, best practice methods, locally relevant environmental technologies and educational materials in support of green entrepreneurship will also be stored electronically in a knowledge bank, which will be publicly available through the project homepage at http://nortech.oulu.fi/ GREENSETTLE/

Project Partners

University of Oulu, NorTech Oulu and AlKOPA
Russian Academy of Science, Karelian Research Centre
Karelian regional institute of management, economics and law
of Petrozavodsk State University
Council of Oulu Region
Joint Authority of Kainuu Region

Administration of Kostomuksha County

Autonomous non-profit organization "Energy Efficiency Center"