



ELAV

Enhancing Local Activity & Value from Forest Land Through Community Led Strategic Planning

The countries involved in the ELAV project all have different forest histories and resources, but they face common challenges in respect of delivering local benefits from forestry. The ELAV project will work with rural communities, municipalities, forest companies, landowners and forest authorities to action sustainable rural development based on strategic forest planning for the development of multipurpose natural/forest resources. The project areas will act as pilots in developing strategic planning tools, which will be reviewed and refined on the basis of project experience.



Objectives

ELAV will involve local communities in forest planning at the strategic level, with a focus on identifying opportunities to adapt forest management regimes to better deliver rural development objectives, specifically in tourism. The project will also involve exploitation of non-timber forest resources and local processing, to provide a forum for identification and dissemination of necessary silvicultural and technical expertise, and to develop and refine spatial planning methodologies and tools for use elsewhere.

Project activities

The following features will be common to the planning process in all five-partner nations:

- Establishment of a forum involving state and private forest owners, managers and regulators, local communities and other stakeholders
- Gathering and collation of a range of inventory and other data, including community aspirations
- Creation of a strategic forest plan focussing on enhancing multipurpose use of forests and forest lands and identifying opportunities for rural development
- Refinement of methodologies employed to produce planning tools applicable in other regions and sectors

Expected results

The project will provide a broad spectrum of benefits to the NPP area through both the development of forestry practice and the transfer of lessons and models to other sectors involving interactive planning of rural resources.

- Establishment of 5 forums for co-operation in forestry involving forest managers & communities and a range of solutions for involving communities in strategic planning. Specific project areas will function as pilots in the development of nationally and trans-nationally appropriate methodologies and planning tools
- 5 sub-regional forest plans, identifying the opportunities for forestry and forest land to better deliver rural development objectives
- A management and development plan for forest research experimental plantations on Scottish islands
- 8 international exchanges (four persons per trip), targeted at appropriate groups and individuals
- 4 thematic reports collating experience and good practice in community engagement, tourism development, exploitation of non-timber forest products and local processing
- Development and dissemination of locally appropriate silvicultural expertise and techniques to assist forest managers
- A range of environmental benefits (biodiversity, visual amenity at the landscape scale) arising from enhanced management of commercial forests.



Partners

SveaSkog - Sweden
Regional County Board, Dalarna County - Sweden
Municipality of Älvdalen - Sweden
Forestry Commission Scotland - Scotland
Community Woodland Association - Scotland
Highland & Islands Enterprise: Community Land Unit - Scotland
Forest Research - Scotland
Iceland Forest Service - Iceland
Skogseierforeninga Nord -Forest owners association NORD - Norway
Fylkesmannen i Troms - County governor in Troms - Norway
Statskog, Troms, Norway - County of Troms, Norway
Municipality of Bardu - Norway
Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla), Joensuu Research Centre - Finland
Regional Forestry Centre of Pohjois-Karjala - Finland
Forest Management Association Pohjois-Karjala - Finland

Measure

3.2

Total Budget

1 389 368

NPP Award

742 935

Project Period

01/01/2005 – 31/12/2007

Countries Involved

Sweden, Scotland, Iceland,
Norway, Finland

Lead Partner

Organisation

Regional Forestry Board of
Dalarna-Gävleborg

Project leader

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