



ERDF ARTCILE 10
NORTHERN PERIPHERY PROGRAMME

FUNDED PROJECTS

INTEGRATED PARTICIPATORY PLANNING AS A TOOL FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The project's aim is to focus on the development of new models for integrating sustainable forestry, agriculture, small-scale entrepreneurs and tourism businesses in Northern Peripheral areas. Several local communities in Scotland, Finland, Sweden and Norway will work in co-operation with researchers, rural authorities and enterprises. The project activities are integrated participatory planning demonstrations in pilot areas, workshops of researchers, interview studies, dissemination of results for local people and planners, an international seminar, guidelines for sustainable land-use and development of GIS systems.

The project has a total budget of 628 283 ECUs and was allocated 180 000 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Forestry Commission, The Cairgorms Partnership/ Scotland
- ◆ Swedish Agricultural University
- ◆ The municipality of Ånge/Sweden, Centre for
- ◆ Rural Research/NTNU
- ◆ Inn-Trøndelag Forest Owners Association,
- ◆ Ressursplan As
- ◆ The municipality of Frosta/Norway
- ◆ Kainuu Rural Advisory Centre, Finland

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IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF TELEMEDICINE IN REMOTE HEALTH - TELEREMCARE

The project's objective is to develop the Northern Periphery's health care with the help of telemedicine solutions to compensate for the remote location and to contribute high-level service to peripheral regions. There are several partners in the project (even from Iceland) which will concentrate on their own expertise branches. Experiences of these sub-projects would then be spread to other partners as well as to other interested parties.

The project has a total budget of 1 146 200 ECUs and was allocated 220 000 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ University of Aberdeen, Scotland
- ◆ Oulutech /Oulu, Finland
- ◆ Southern Lapland Research Department/ Vilhelmina, Sweden
- ◆ Dept. of Telemedicine, University Hospital Tromso/ Tromso, Norway

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SCOTTISH/NORDIC BUSINESS FORUM

This project is based on ongoing Scottish/Nordic SME co-operation. The project's aim is to get businesses together to discuss business issues, create contacts and share experiences. In practice this happens with the help of business forums and collaboration pilots, which are business collaboration projects at enterprise level. The objective of the project is to establish a sustainable network of SMEs in the Northern Periphery Region who would interact with each other. In that sense the project would help to strengthen cross-border linkages and to ease business cooperation among other things with the help of a staff exchange programme. The main output is to get 60 enterprises involved and to arrange two Business Forums.

The project has a total budget of 90 000 ECUs and was allocated 42 000 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Norrlandsfonden/Luleå, Sweden
- ◆ SND/ Bodo, Norway
- ◆ KERA/ Kuopio, Finland

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A TECHNICAL EXCHANGE CO-OPERATION ACROSS THE NORTHERN PERIPHERY ROAD DISTRICTS - ROADEX

The project includes technical collaboration across the road districts in the Northern Periphery. The practical aim of the project is to implement and develop best practice strategies for road maintenance, in order to deal with the northern conditions. The project is split into two sub-projects which are: Road Condition Management and Winter Maintenance. The Road Condition Management part is concentrated in bearing capacity problems and weight restrictions. The Winter Maintenance project concentrates on improving the level of service to the road user, minimize differences in winter maintenance standards, increase the cross-border cooperation, accessibility for road users as well as to reduce the environmental impacts.

The project has a total budget of 500 000 ECUs and was allocated 250 000 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ The Finnish National Road Administration District of Lapland, Lapland, Finland
- ◆ The Norwegian Public Roads Administration District of Troms, Troms County, Norway
- ◆ The Swedish National Road Administration Northern Region, The Northern Region, Sweden

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INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, THE CASE OF SALMON

One of the aims of the project is to improve sustainable management of wild salmon stocks and salmon rivers, and related businesses of the adjacent communities and user groups. Another aim is to contribute to improved coastal zone management. The project will be carried out by collecting and collating relevant documentation and to arrange opportunities to meet each other, and to evaluate and learn best practice.

The project has a total budget of 444 708 ECUs and was allocated 222 354 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Bodø College, Faculty of Social Sciences
- ◆ Inverness College, faculty of land based studies, Scotland
- ◆ Tornedalsrådet, Sweden

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INNER MORAY FIRTH TOWN STRATEGY

The project will develop a toolkit to direct sustainable development in small-towns, using the Town cluster in the Inner Moray Firth, Scotland, as an example. Development work will happen by facilitating networking to develop local identities, complementary roles and functional linkages between the towns. Using the achieved experiences in IMF, and experiences and expertise of project partners the project will develop a new framework for service delivery and small town regeneration. In addition to service sector, priorities are also include the effective implementation of pilot projects, integrated land use/transportation modeling and support to local, business led initiatives.

The project has a total budget of 300 643 ECUs and was allocated 136 710 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ The Highland Council, Planning and Development Service, Scotland
- ◆ Troms County, Tromsø, Transportation Department, Norway
- ◆ University of Kuopio, Department of Social Sciences, Kuopio, Finland
- ◆ Västerbotten, Association of Local Authorities, Sweden

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ROUND POLE IN BUILDING

The project's aim is to create new working opportunities in sparsely populated areas and to strengthen the competitiveness of the wooden house building and product industries in Northern Periphery. This will be done by using forest thinnings (round pole/round wood) within the framework of a sustainable and ecological silviculture. As a result of the project there will be economically effective use of small but high-class small-dimensioned round wood. The project will identify the commercial possibilities of use of the small dimensioned wood by: - creating a network of people, organizations and enterprises with relevant know-how and interest, - identifying the existing opportunities on the existing and possible new products, - development of selected products, and- collecting and disseminating the achieved results and plans how to proceed

The project has a total budget of 315 000 ECUs and was allocated 140 000 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Sodankylä Manufacturing, Finland
- ◆ Arkkitehtitoimisto Kimmo Kuismanen, Oulu, Finland,
- ◆ Arkitehtkontor John Kristoffersen, Tromsø Norway
- ◆ Arkitehtkontor Bjerk & Borge, Bergen, Norway,
- ◆ GAIA Architects, Aberfeldy Scotland
- ◆ Buro Happold, Bath England,
- ◆ Findhorn Foundation, Findhorn, Scotland
- ◆ Gaia Research, Edinburgh, Scotland

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IT-SCAND

The project will include a forum for the exchange of good practice among different Northern Periphery projects, specially IT- and SME-projects, analysis of the projects, dissemination of analysis results, and assessment of projects to determine their future plans. A network will be arranged between project participants, further SMEs and researchers. The project will also offer assistance to help SMEs to apply for funding from the Northern Periphery Programme.

The project has a total budget of 160 405 ECUs and was allocated 77 625 ECUs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Arkleton Centre, Aberdeen University, Scotland
- ◆ SINTEF, Norway
- ◆ eu it AB, Boden, Sweden
- ◆ TE-keskus, Seinäjoki, Finland

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NEW RESEARCH-BASED KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PERIPHERALITY AND PLANNING PRACTISES IN DEPOPULATED BUILD-UP AREAS IN THE NORTHERN PERIPHERY, NRBK

The first purpose of this project is to provide new research-based knowledge and to exchange research results, experience and good practice to better develop and construct models for the future potential of the main municipal built-up areas suffering from depopulation. The second purpose is to bring about the realisation of plans and to develop tools necessary to this realisation. Planning for built-up areas will be examined scientifically in a regional, national and international frame of reference, thematically from the standpoint of the interaction of welfare, and regionally from the standpoint of the interaction of built-up areas and cities (provincial centres). Scientific information and exchange of good practice will enable the production of a tool-kit for planners and decision-makers for use in everyday planning.

The project has a total budget of 544 019 EURs and was allocated 212 000EURs for the project's execution.

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- ◆ University of Oulu, Department of Geography, Finland
- ◆ University of Lapland, Department of Social Work, Finland
- ◆ Highland Council, Planning and Development Service, Scotland
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DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFER OF NEW KNOWLEDGE AND GOOD PRACTISE IN RELATION TO SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTHERN PERIPHERY, RURAL DEVELOPMENT TRANSFER NETWORK

This project has a specific focus on creation, documentation and transfer of knowledge in relation to rural development in the northern periphery. Early tasks will gather existing, and create new, knowledge on the practice of sustainable rural development in each country (eg peripherality and local autonomy, models for local development, partnerships, community empowerment, women in rural development, integration of services). Comparative analysis will deepen common understandings and suggest alternative approaches from shared experience. The major, subsequent tasks are the collation and transfer of such knowledge through linking existing networks with a system of national resource centres in each country to produce materials for local actors. These activities will contribute to more effective rural development practice in the N. Periphery, so enhancing competitiveness and cohesion in accordance with the ESDP.

The project has a total budget of 479 586 EURs and was allocated 191 000EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Project leader, Arkleton Centre, Aberdeen University, Scotland
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THE ROLE OF REGIONAL MILLEUX IN REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, MILLEUX

This is a case study-based research project to investigate the processes which account for variations in levels of economic development and growth between Nordic/Scottish regions which according to conventional economic theory possess of roughly equivalent potential. Matched pairs of regions (roughly equivalent in terms of conventional resources, but presenting significant differences in terms of economic vitality) in each of the participating countries will act as "laboratories" in which to assess the role of various aspects of the "regional millieux" which recent research has highlighted as important in less remote areas. The results will lead to specific recommendations for improvements to policies and institutional frameworks for economic development within the Northern Periphery of Europe.

The project has a total budget of 243 713 EURs and was allocated 102 000EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ SAC Aberdeen, Scotland
- ◆ Nordregio, Stockholm, Sweden
- ◆ Univ. Umea, Vasterbotten, Sweden

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DEER MANAGEMENT

Project will improve deer management practices in the Northern Periphery, based upon sustainability, in order to raise the total economic output from woodlands. It will develop methods of monitoring deer effects on biodiversity, and wood damage caused by deers. Project will also be focusing on development of tourism and sporting activities, in particular hunting on deers. Project activities will be collection and exchange of information, production of reports, and running of an international conference.

The project has a total budget of 515 000 EURs and was allocated 200 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Macaulay Land Use Research Centre, Scotland
- ◆ Deer Commission of Scotland
- ◆ Skogeierforeninga Nord, Norway

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FESTIVALS ON THE TOP OF EUROPE

Project will contribute to the development of musical and cultural arrangements, and tourism in the programme area. The main goal is to develop common international marketing in Central Europe. The other goal is to develop the networking between the festivals. An educational and development programme for festival managers will be incorporated into the festivals.

The project has a total budget of 395 000 EURs and was allocated 186 125 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

NORWAY

- ◆ Spelet om Heilag Olav,
- ◆ Steinvikholm Muksikkteater
- ◆ Norland Murikkfestuke,
- ◆ Festpillene in Nord-Norway
- ◆ Nordlysfestivalen
- ◆ Varangefestivalen

SCOTLAND

- ◆ HighlandFestival
- ◆ St Magnus Festival
- ◆ Northlands Festival

FINLAND

- ◆ Savonlinna Operafestival
- ◆ Mikkeli Musik Festival,
- ◆ oroisten musiikkpäivät,
- ◆ Kangasniemi musiikkiviikot
- ◆ Musikfestspelen Korsholm

SWEDEN

- ◆ Lapplands Festspel
- ◆ Musik och Konstveckan i Junsele
- ◆ Festspelen i Piteå
- ◆ Umeå Kammeremusikkfestival
- ◆ Dalhalla Operafestival

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ProAQUA

Project will develop and test a modular method for water resources management. It will produce a model, which could be used in spatial planning. Model will include ecological, technical, and economical issues by catchment area. The method includes the following contents: (1) Definition (modeling) of the state and external load of waterbodies; (2) Quantitative analysis of the need for improvements, decrease of the external load; (3) Technical design of water purification and modeling the impacts; (4) Economical optimisation. ProAQUA introduces a portfolio of low-cost and low-tech water purification technologies for cold climate and sparsely populated areas.

The project has a total budget of 250 000 EURs and was allocated 125 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ West Finland Regional Environment Centre, Finland
- ◆ County Administrative Board of Västernorrland, Sweden
- ◆ Bradley Dunbar Associates Ltd, Scotland
- ◆ ARGES Environmental Ltd, Finland

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WOMEN IN THE PERIPHERY, NORTHNET

The project will develop the role of women in the rural economy, particularly tourism, by supporting business development through networking. It will use "bottom up" methods and strategies to achieve its objectives. In particular, the project will facilitate the exchange of good practice, case studies, competence-development and establish pilot projects.

The project has a total budget of 202 706 EURs and was allocated 101 353 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Emma Resurscentrum Sweden
- ◆ Nettno, Norway
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ADDING VALUE TO LOW-GRADE TIMBER

This project is establishing the first trans-national network in the field of local value addition using low grade timber. The network spans the full supply chain from the forest to the market place including: foresters; small sawmills, research organisations and trade buyers. The network will establish value addition trials in three pilot areas to demonstrate how current best practice can be shared, built upon, and transferred to new areas. The results of these trials will be disseminated to a wide audience throughout the Northern Periphery. The output of this work will be to improve local value addition using low grade timber. In turn this will benefit woodland management operations by making them more economically viable and will help maintain remote rural communities who depend upon local forest resources for employment.

The project has a total budget of 575 838 EURs and was allocated 250 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Project leader, Highland Birchwoods
- ◆ Association of Scottish Hardwood Suppliers
- ◆ Norwegian Forest Owners Association – North Norwegian Association of Rural SawmillOwners - North-Trondelg
- ◆ Trautvecklingscenter Sodea Lappmarren
- ◆ Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
- ◆ Nedre Norrlands Sagverksforening Service AB Sweden
- ◆ Smasagarna Jamtlands Lan, Sweden

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DEVELOPMENT OF THE ICT /MULTIMEDIA INDUSTRY AND THE ADVENTURE, GREEN AND HERITAGE TOURIST INDUSTRY IN REMOTE AREAS BY MAKING USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGY

The objective of the project is to develop best practice in ICT/Multimedia/information to benefit adventure, green and heritage tourism and digital media enterprises in remote rural areas by establishing co-operation between the travelling industry and the IT industry - both within these regions and across borders. By collaborating on the local level tourism enterprises will increase their knowledge about IT and digital media and find new ways of marketing their product. The digital media companies will increase their knowledge about the tourism in their area and its potential for developing new products. Cross border co-operation will enable both sectors to improve their situation by exchanging expertise and technology, as well developing common information services and products to improve business efficiency. By joining their resources the digital media companies can improve their competitiveness and act on a larger scale.

The project has a total budget of 300 000 EURs and was allocated 150 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

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- ◆ Hammerfest og Omegn Naeringsutvikling as (HONU as), Norway

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SUSTAINING AND SUPPORTING THE LESSER USED LANGUAGES: AN EXPLORATION OF IMPACT ON DEVELOPMENTAL AND EDUCATIONAL ISSUES IN PERIPHERAL COMMUNITIES. SAMI LANGUAGES IN SCANDINAVIA AND THE GAELIC LANGUAGES IN SCOTLAND

The project aims to document experiences from supporting lesser-used languages in Scandinavia and Scotland, and to explore the implication of these effects on developmental and educational issues. The project will focus on experiences from developing institutions for bilingual children, where children initially monolingual in one of the majority languages are learning the minority language of their area. The study aims to compare and analyse conditions for becoming bilingual, focusing on implementation of bilingual policy in institutions as primary schools and day-care centres. The practical output is to be able to develop organisational and methodical measures for improving the learning situation for majority-language-speaking children learning Sami and Gaelic. The project will also study how the language initiatives effect educational and developmental issues in the communities.

The project has a total budget of 424 414 EURs and was allocated 178 351 EURs for the project's execution.

- ◆ Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research. Alta
- ◆ Leirsinn Research Centre for Gaelic, Scotland
- ◆ Nordic Sami Institute
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ENTREE-ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IN THE NORTHERN PERIPHERY

The project idea in a short summary is to work out a manual with good examples within three fields - entrepreneurship in education, co-operation between schools and trade and industry and teacher training in entrepreneurship - by following and studying successful entrepreneurship projects and entrepreneurship ventures in the Northern Periphery areas in Sweden, Norway, Finland and Scotland.

The project has a total budget of 284 900 EURs and was allocated 142 450 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ County Administration of Norrbotten Sweden,
- ◆ Centre for Enterprise Education, Scotland,
- ◆ Statens utdanningskontor Norge
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ALTERNATIVES TO ROAD HAULAGE

The project proposes a two year research and information gathering exercise across Northern Periphery Nations. This will culminate in a report and conference that will bring together existing information on ARH best practice in order to encourage future use of these systems to reduce environmental and financial impacts on remote areas. The unique combination of remoteness, climate, topography, natural beauty and rapidly rising timber production forecasts make this essential in meeting the future expanding timber user requirements whilst at the same time minimising the effects on local roads budgets and small remote communities. There has been a significant level of interest from timber users and others at a time when timber and timber product prices are at very low levels, the fact that companies are willing to dedicate resource to the project at such a time clearly demonstrates the interest and need for the work. The main outputs will be: collation of timber production forecast information in the NP area with analysis of current haulage quantities by method, collation of information on existing alternatives to road haulage in NP area, search and analysis of best practice in areas outside the NP area, production of a report on current position, future requirements etc., preparation and running of a conference on "Alternatives to Road Haulage".

The project has a total budget of 124 000 EURs and was allocated 55 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Forest Enterprise, Scotland
- ◆ Forestry Commission, Scotland

- ◆ Highland Regional Council, Scotland, HIE, Scotland
- ◆ BSW Harvesting Ltd
- ◆ Egger Forestry Products
- ◆ Euroforest, James Jones,
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NEW BUSINESS SERVICES IN NORTHERN RURAL AREAS

Development and testing of novel modes of utilizing existing ICT networks and tele-/infocottages in northern rural areas by (1) creating the environment (infrastructure, support personnel, expertise) and (2) implementing the new concept within networks of real end-users in an international context . At Level 1 of the project, the infrastructure will be coordinated and local economic development officials (business counsellors and advisers) will further upgrade and expand their professional competence through the experience of working jointly with enterprises and with regional HEI tutors and international colleagues. Level 2 will test and demonstrate appropriate products and services, as well as examine the support mechanisms required to realize the overall concept. The project will conclude with dissemination activities, including an international conference and published materials.

The project has a total budget of 320 000 EURs and was allocated 160 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Development Agency of Ii Region, Finland
- ◆ Development Agency of Siikalatva Region, Finland
- ◆ Omnitech Ltd+ Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Scotland
- ◆ Luleå University of Technology, Sweden
- ◆ Oulu University, Finland
- ◆ Agder Research Foundation, Norway
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TELEMATIC SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY

Project creates and tests a telematic servicebuguet for elderly in four countries through charting, service introduction process, programme development and implementation. All this is done together with the elderly people. Telematic services will be developed in co-operation with local SMEs and test in "real world context".

The project has a total budget of 500 000 EURs and was allocated 250 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Project leader, City of Joensuu, North Karelia, Finland
- ◆ Norrlands IT Center, Umeå, Västerbotten Municipality, Sweden
- ◆ Vännäs, County of Västerbotten, Sweden
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CULTIVATION AND BREEDING OF NORTHERN RUBUS SPECIES

Cultivars of Northern Rubus species for commercial production of berries will be developed. Breeding for new varieties will be done including collection of new populations, crossings and selection of superior variants. Desirable characteristics will be e.g. berry yield, climatic adaptation, flowering, disease resistance, chemical content of berries and easiness of clonal propagation. Cultivation will be tested among farmers involved in the project. Because cloudberry and arctic bramble have large seeds that decrease the commercial value of the berries a method will be developed to produce parthenocarpic fruits. Finally, the sex determination system in cloudberry will be studied in order to be able to develop a hermaphroditic clone.

The project has a total budget of 557 674 EURs and was allocated 250 000 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ University of Kuopio, Institute of Applied Biotechnology, Pohjois-Savo (objective 6 area), Finland
- ◆ Norwegian Crop Research Institute, Holt Research Centre, Troms county, Norway
- ◆ University of Tromsø, Institute of Biology, Troms county, Norway
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SFEGUARDING OUR HERITAGE: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN PERIPHERAL AREAS - PROCESS AND PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION

Throughout the designated Northern Periphery Programme area, regions and communities share similar characteristics of remoteness, fragile economic base and high natural and cultural heritage value. The project will combine elements of process, information exchange and practical projects which demonstrate the economic attributes of the cultural and environmental heritage for community development. These are rich and varied resources; but they can be lost. Community development in remote, peripheral areas cannot be guaranteed long-term without these resources. The aim of our network of communities and agencies is to demonstrate how thoughtful, innovative practice may safeguard these assets and bring value and confidence to peripheral communities. By Safeguarding Our Heritage we ensure our future.

The project has a total budget of 380 308 EURs and was allocated 190 154 EURs for the project's execution.

PARTNERS:

- ◆ Project leader, Fair Isle Marine, Environmental and Tourism Initiative
- ◆ Fair Isle, Shetland, Scotland, Objective 1
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- ◆ Steigen Kommune, Steigen Municipality, Nordland County, Norway
- ◆ Inlandslaget, The municipalities of Arjeplog, Arvidsjaur, Malå, Sorsele, Storuman, Sweden, Objective 6
- ◆ Vindelälvs kommunerna, The municipalities of Sorsele, Lycksele, Vindeln, Vännäs, Sweden, Objective 6 and 5b
- ◆ SOS-kommunerna, The municipalities of Arjeplog, Arvidsjaur, Sorsele, Storuman in County Norrbotten and Västerbotten, Lapponia, Sweden, Objective 6

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THE COMMON POTENTIAL IN THE NORTHERNMOST PART OF EUROPE - "NORTHERN POTENTIAL"

Project's main objective is to research the possibilities of developing co-operation between the northernmost parts of Finland, Scotland, Sweden, Norway, as well as Iceland, Faroe Islands, Greenland and North-West Russia.

The project has a total budget of 100 000 EURs and was allocated 50 000 EURs for the project's execution.

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ECOLOGICAL UTILISATION OF PEAT

The overall objective of the project is to, by aid of research, testing, evaluation and exchange of information and experiences, develop new methods of ecological utilization of peat in environmental structures with special respect to sustainable development principles, quality, safety and cost-efficiency. The project will focus on following 3 main issues:

*Utilization of peat as a thermal insulation material (e.g. roads, houses etc.)

* Utilization of low permeability (landfills, dams etc.)

* Stabilization of peat in order to improve its behavior in loaded structures (less excavation volumes, need for deposition etc.).

The project has a total budget of 432 314 EUR and was allocated 216 000 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader, OuluTech Ltd, Oulu, Finland - Objective 6
- ◆ Thurso College, Thurso, Caithness, Scotland - Objective 1
- ◆ Luleå University of Technology, Luleå, Sweden - Objective 6
- ◆ University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland - Objective 6
- ◆ Geological Survey of Finland, Kuopio, Finland - Objective 6
- ◆ Vapo Oy, Jyväskylä, Finland - Objective 6

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NATURAL AND CULTURAL VALUES IN SUSTAINABLE RURAL TOURISM

The aim of this project is to support the creation of business initiatives and to develop new products with high quality in rural tourism which draw upon the resources of the natural environment,

cultural and heritage values in a sustainable manner. The project combines research, education, documentation of good practice, environmental management and audit, dissemination, and business support services with a view to establishing better links between rural entrepreneurs in participating areas and tour operators for marketing new products.

The project has a total budget of 280 200 EUR and was allocated 131 200 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader / Finnish coordinator University of Oulu, Research and Development Centre of Kajaani, Kainuu, Finland (Obj. 6)
- ◆ Swedish coordinator, Mid Sweden University, Östersund, County of Jämtland, Sweden (Obj. 6)
- ◆ Norwegian coordinator, Troms Fylkes Dampskibsselskap, Tromsø, Troms, Norway
- ◆ Iceland, Town of Dalvík

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COMMUNITIES ON LINE

The pilot project addresses barriers, which prevent the provision of efficient service delivery for households and local companies in very sparsely populated areas. It will do so by the use of new IT links and services in those areas, and will involve organisations from two participating countries. It is anticipated that a wide range of services relating to local democracy, housing, social welfare, council tax, planning, education and business development could be handled more quickly and effectively through such links. The project will use the partners' expertise to commonly develop strategies in order to address the challenges posed by peripherality, to decentralise and simplify services, and to set up small multimedia facilities at key locations. Technology is used as an enabling medium for offering services as, where and when the customer needs them. IT facilities will be linked to and serviced by the respective local authorities

The project has a total budget of 483 836 EUR and was allocated 241 918 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader, Kemi-Tornio Polytechnic, Lapland, Finland (Objective 6)
- ◆ Lapland (Municipalities of Muonio, Simo, Tervola), Lapland, Finland (Objective 6)
- ◆ Western Isles Council, Western Isles, Scotland (Objective 1)
- ◆ Orkney Islands Council, Orkney Islands, Scotland (Objective 1)
- ◆ Shetland Islands Council, Shetland Islands, Scotland (Objective 1)
- ◆ Sub-region of Kaustinen, Kaustinen, Finland (Objective 6)

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WINTER HIGHLIGHTS

The project is in three parts: the first, establishing pilot projects that enhance the attractiveness of each of the three areas in the winter months. These projects will all pay considerable attention to the physical and social environment of the areas and use that environment as an advantage rather than a disadvantage. The second phase will be a detailed evaluation of all aspects of the pilot projects from design through implementation to results. The final stage will be a series of seminars throughout the life of the project (one in each area) when the pilot projects themselves plus the evaluation can be discussed with the objective of determining and sharing best practice which will lead to practical policies and directives which will further enhance each area into the future. Particular emphasis will be paid to good spatial planning practice and a connection with the natural environment.

The project has a total budget of 300 000 EUR and was allocated 150 000 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader, Rovaseutu kuntayhtymä, Rovaniemi, Finland
- ◆ The Municipality of Alta/Alta Utviklingselskap, Alta, Norway
- ◆ Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey Enterprise, Aviemore Badenoch & Strathspey, Scotland (ERDF Objective 1 status)

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THE RE-USE OF PEAT PRODUCTION AREAS

The Northern Periphery Programme area includes many thousands of hectares of land now subject to peat mining. These areas will gradually become available for other uses in 10-20 years' time. There are many possibilities after peat production. The roads, drainage and environmental protection control constructed for peat production can be applied to other land uses, too.

The main objective of this project is the promotion of the re-use of peat production areas on the basis of sustainable development. The main problem has been delay in the implementation of re-use

plans and further land use. The aim is to focus the further use of peatland in a way that allows local people to implement new innovative business ideas. The outputs will be concrete measures to be taken in peat mining areas and plans for their further use.

The project has a total budget of 320 000 EUR and was allocated 160 000 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader, Turveruukki Oy, Oulu counties in Finland, Objective area 6
- ◆ University of Oulu, Oulu, Finland, Objective 6
- ◆ North Ostrobothnia Regional Environment, Centre, Oulu, Finland, Objective 6
- ◆ University of Highlands and Islands /Thurso College, Caithness and Sutherland, Scotland, Objective area 1
- ◆ Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, Scotland, United Kingdom, The Island of Islay
- ◆ Objective area 1
- ◆ N(EU)ENTERPRISE LIMITED, Scotland, Objective area 1
- ◆ Stiftelsen Svensk Torvforskning SST, Sweden, Objective area 1

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COMMUNITY LEARNING NETWORKS IN NORTHERN PERIPHERY AREAS

This project aims to research how educational institutions and other regional bodies are working together to tackle problems of lack of access to learning opportunities through living in peripheral, sparsely populated areas by the establishment of networks of Community Learning Centres. There is considerable activity on this subject in all the applicant regions, particularly through innovative use of ICT provision, but little opportunity to discuss and compare initiatives and integrate results into a Northern Periphery context.

This project will allow representatives from all regions to establish a trans-national perspective, evaluate current provision, disseminate best practice, in particular through the publication of *Guidelines for Best Practice*, and develop a strategy for future joint activity.

The project has a total budget of 298 568 EUR and was allocated 149 284 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader UHI, Highlands and Islands of Scotland
- ◆ Hogskolen I Bodo in collaboration with Sor-Helgeland Regionrad and Northern Feminist University, Sor-Helgeland and Steigen in Norway

- ◆ Norbottens Kooperativa Utvecklingscentrum (Co-operative Development Agency), Northernmost part of Sweden –Norrbotten (Objective 6 area, Objective One status from 2000)

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SELECTION CRITERIA AND MODEL EVALUATION FOR WASTE DISPOSAL IN SPARSELY POPULATED COOL TEMPERATE REGIONS

A joint technical and social project to develop more effective alternative models for waste disposal in sparsely populated regions. The accent is on reducing environmental loading and improving the spatial utilisation in such areas, as well as raising the level of services available to the people there with the goals of raising the level of commitment to ecologically sound waste management practices and reducing the outflow of, particularly, the younger generation. Through co-operation the existing technical expertise in the participating countries can be used in a way which will ensure maximum benefit to all parties.

The project has a total budget of 472 000 EUR and was allocated 236 000 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

Project leader Haukipudas municipality, Pohjois-Pohjanmaa Finland, Objective 6

University of the Highlands and Islands, North and West Grampian area Scotland Objective 5b

Pajala Commune , Norrbotten Sweden

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RURAL AREA DEVELOPMENT WITH ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

RADWAT will draw together teams from four nations to compare how and to what extent the encouraging of advanced technology activity has created new expectations, work and business opportunities in rural and relatively sparsely populated areas. The study is necessary because although the introduction of hi-tech industry has already proved successful in many such areas, knowledge of how to repeat these successes in other areas is incomplete: inter-regional research has not been performed to analyze and compare the best examples and the effectiveness of different initiatives. This project will provide valuable guidelines for focusing EU and national/regional policies and business strategies more effectively. Particular effort will be made to examine the conditions with practical cases under which an increase in the number of high-tech enterprises can best contribute to a region's economic development and prosperity.

The project has a total budget of 400 000 EUR and was allocated 200 000 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader Director Jorma Kinnunen, Micropolis Ltd, Pohjois-Pohjanmaa, Finland, Objective - 6
- ◆ University of Oulu, Prof. Rauli Svento, Pohjois-Pohjanmaa, Finland
- ◆ Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Alasdair Munro, Highlands & Islands of Scotland, Objective 1
- ◆ University of Oslo, Prof. Bjørn Asheim
- ◆ Nordland Research institute, Bjarne Lindeløv, Oslo, Norway, Bodø, Norway, 1
- ◆ Aurorum Teknologibyn AB, Director Åke Larsson
- ◆ University of Luleå, Håkan Ylinenpää, Luleå, Sweden, 2

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DEVELOPMENT OF RECYCLING AND UTILIZATION OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE (AND CONSTRUCTION PARTS)

On the basis of Micro project the team has found a problem in the field of construction waste. There is lack of knowledge what and how to develop recycling and utilization of construction waste. We need answers how to develop logistic solutions, organisations' networking, dismantling and demolishing solutions and how to utilize the waste (also how to utilize information technology).

The aim of this project is to do basic study of current situation of the whole program area and on the basis of the study to create development program for the future. In the development program we point out what should be done in the near future concerning logistics solutions, co-operation network, dismantling and demolishing technologies, IT-technology and recycling and utilization of construction wastes. This project is the launching project aiming to many new and more specific projects in the future.

The project has a total budget of 262 536 EUR and was allocated 121 000 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader The Arctic Technology Centre, University of Oulu
- ◆ Departments of Architecture and Process Engineering and Faculty of Education, University of Oulu
- ◆ Oulun autokuljetus Ltd.
- ◆ City of Oulu, Waste disposal unit and engineering department

- ◆ Ministry of the Environment of Finland
- ◆ North Ostrobothnia Regional Environment Centre
- ◆ The Lapland Regional Environment Centre
- ◆ Luleå University of Technology, Department of Civil and Mining Engineering
- ◆ The Norwegian Association of Solid Waste Management
- ◆ Narvik University College
- ◆ Heriot-Watt University, Department of Civil and Offshore Engineering

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NORTHERN WOMEN - NEW IMAGES

The project aims to enhance the confidence of women in the Northern Periphery countries. Groups of women will be encouraged to identify and analyze case studies of good practise of rural community economic development within their areas. Training and promotional videos will be produced to illustrate innovation and the successful work enterprises of women in the 4 countries of the Northern Periphery. A television programme will be produced. National seminars will be organized to disseminate the results of the research, to evaluate, and to take forward the work of the videos. The project aims to benefit women engaged in economic development and the wider public of the Northern Periphery and the core regions of Europe.

The project has a total budget of 295 000 EUR and was allocated 147 500 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader Moray College, Edna Cameron, Course Manager, Rural Studies, Moray, Scotland, Obj 1/Obj 5b
- ◆ Berit Woie Berg, Director, Northern Feminist University
- ◆ Steigen Municipality in the County of Nordfold, Norway
- ◆ Helen Bygdemark, Manager, Hushallningsselskapet I Vasterbottens [NGO], Umea in the County of Vasterbotten in, Sweden. Obj 6
- ◆ University of Lapland Continuing Education Centre, Helka Urponen, Director, Ph D, Rovaniemi in Lapland, Finland Obj 6

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VIRTUAL DISTANCE CONSULTING NETWORK

The aim of the project is to create for small and medium size enterprises (SME's) of the target area the international distance consulting concept and service network, which exploits use of ODL telematic solutions. The main purpose is to improve the availability of high quality business consulting services and also alternatives for availability. The other purpose is also to increase demand of the consultant services, develop effectiveness of their work and decrease travelling time, costs and traffic risks of consultants.

The project has a total budget of 330 000 EUR and was allocated 145 000 EUR for the project's execution.

Partners:

- ◆ Project leader: Kuopion konsulttiverkko osuuskunta (Kuopio Consulting Network
- ◆ Northern Savo, object 0 (Kuopio), Finland
- ◆ Eurit Ab, Norrbotten, Sweden, object 6 (municipalities of Arvidsjaur and Älvsbyn)
- ◆ Highland Opportunity Ltd, European Business Services, Highland, Scotland, object 1

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