



Women the hunter –project

Project plan for the pre-study

LEADER

Vaara-Karjala

www.vaarakarjalanleader.fi

Pielisentie 26
81700 Lieksa
p. 040 1044 906
leader@lieksa.fi



PÄIVITÄ MAASEUTUSI

The project and background information

Project Description

Organized hunting activities are in turning point in most countries in the world. In the traditionally strong hunting region of North Karelia in East Finland, the members of the hunting associations are ageing and the landownership is shifting into cities. The public image of the hunting is quite negative and it is difficult to get young people involved in to hunting. Hunting has had and still has a very strong role in North Karelia in maintaining the vitality of the rural areas and often hunting associations are the only active actors and associations in villages.

On the other hand the number of hunters is growing and the fastest growing group in hunting communities are among women. In Finland the women hunting activities are not yet coordinated by the national hunting association like in some European countries, but there are already few very active women hunters groups and associations in Finland. The understanding and appreciation of the Nature interests and attracts also travellers that are interested in photographing and hunting. Knowing the source of origin of the food and its purity is still growing trend and the appreciation of the game meat is increasing. Outdoor activities and hunting have significant economic impact in rural regions but coordinated hunting and outdoor tourism productization, service production and supply is still scarce.

Project purpose and Objectives

The project aims to create a women hunters network. This network connects women hunting group's knowledge, culture and experience to enhance understanding and cooperation of the women hunters' activities nationally and internationally as well as hunting communities in general. The objective of the network is: 1) help women hunters to create and develop activities for their members, 2) involve young people into outdoor activities and hunting by education that emphasises the sustainable use and the appreciation of the Nature 3) improve the image of the hunting by organising events and activities for public. In addition, new development guidelines will be searched and created for hunting and outdoor activities by studying and comparing traditional and national hunting cultures especially from the educational point of view. National cooperation is strengthen and thus ensuring that renewing hunting and outdoor activities benefit rural areas also in future.

This project aims to search and recognize the cooperation opportunities for creating an international women hunters network that emphasises the understanding and appreciation of the sustainable use of nature, especially through educational activities (e.g. exchanging experience, educating and involving young people into outdoor activities and hunting, improving the image of the hunting).



Vaara-Karjala

www.vaarakarjalanleader.fi

Pielisentie 26
81700 Lieksa
p. 040 1044 906
leader@lieksa.fi



PÄIVITÄ MAASEUTUSI

Also this project aims to understand the extend of the women hunters activities and operations in Europe as well as find out the utilization of the experiences of the study tours for further use in outdoor and hunting tourism.

The project is divided into parts, the pre-study and the actual project.

Action plan for the pre-study

The network partners will be searched by contacting the databases and connections provided by CIC (International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation), FACE (the European Federation of Association for Hunting and Conservation) and national hunting associations and personal contacts.

The aim is to find network partners from groups representing wide range of different kind of women hunter's activities and groups in 2-5 different countries in Europe and possible one or two groups outside of Europe including national women hunter groups for the network. Suitable women hunter's events and happenings will be attended in order to have chance to introduce the project idea for wider audience.

During the pre-study the partner and partner country agreements (in the framework of LEADER – programme where available) will be prepared and signed. Partner duties and responsibilities in the project will be negotiated and agreed. The actual project will be planned and prepared in cooperation with partners during the pre-study.

Possible partner countries: Slovakia, The Netherlands, Hungary, Latvia, Iceland, USA, Canada

Preliminary timetable for the pre-study:

June - August 2015

The search and networking with possible partners and partner countries.

Preparing the visits and schedules

Travel arrangements and meeting preparations

September-December 2015

Visiting partners, events and other networking happenings

Agreeing the duties, responsibilities and other project matters

Preparing and signing the agreements

January-March 2016

Preparing the final report

Preparing the actual project

Background information of the administrator, organization and the resources for the project



Vaara-Karjala

www.vaarakarjalanleader.fi

Pielisentie 26
81700 Lieksa
p. 040 1044 906
leader@lieksa.fi



PÄIVITÄ MAASEUTU!

This project will be administrated by the LAG Karelian Hills LEADER. LAG Karelian Hills LEADER is a rural development association. It was established in 1995 to run and manage the EU LEADER II programme. The objective of the association is to develop the region by activating local people and to fund development and business projects. The association has about 200 members and it is run by the board which is chosen annually by the general meeting. Any person interested in developing the rural areas can join the association.

The LAG Karelian Hills LEADER has Manager, two project employees, and office worker. The office is located in the city of Lieksa but project guidance and assistance is organized in regular basis also in other towns of the operating region. LAG Karelian Hills LEADER has wide experience in development of the villages and other communities and comprehensive knowledge of the development needs of the rural areas. The association has managed LEADER programme in three programming period and it has established a recognized position in the network of rural developers.

The strategy for the next LEADER 2014-2020 programme emphasises the following four main points: 1) Wellbeing of the people and communities, 2) Vital and active entrepreneurship 3) Natural resources and sustainable development and 4) Regional and international cooperation. The strategy aims to maintain the region vital and pleasant area for people to live and work also in future. Developing the entrepreneurship with targeted actions will further the vitality of the region. A special focus is on educating and involving youth into LEADER activities. LAG Karelian Hills LEADER has successfully managed several international projects. Partner network consists e.g. Baltic countries, Italy, Poland.

The work for the pre-study of the project will be carried out by the project coordinator who's task will include the practical arrangements of the visits to partner candidates, project planning, daily routines and preparing the actual project plan. The manager of the LAG Karelian Hills LEADER will negotiate possible agreements with other LEADER groups and look after the overall management of the project.

Main and secondary target groups of the project

The main target group of the project is mostly European women hunters associations and groups and other organisations. Within the creation of the network the operational environment develop and thus the people in the surrounding communities, companies and other actors will benefit the project.

The project will involve also educational organisations, national and regional hunting organisations, village communities, tourism enterprises and other associations in the community. Regionally the project benefits the LEADER group operating area and other regions nationally. Creation of the international partners enables and profits also future project in partner search.



Vaara-Karjala

www.vaarakarjalanleader.fi

Pielisentie 26
81700 Lieksa
p. 040 1044 906
leader@lieksa.fi



Project Risks

The main risk in the pre-study is that the partners will withdraw from the projects. Also in sufficient knowledge of the funding programme and the lack of the project work experience may prevent interested partners to participate the project. Well prepared responsibilities and duties as well as good project administration ensure the successful results as well as the committed partners and well planned and executed timetable.

Acknowledgement of the principle of the sustainable development

Participating partners understand the diverse and sustainable use and appreciation of the nature as well as the importance of the education in good and ethical hunting. Partners have or are planning to have and organise game keeping and/or nature conservation activities. The results developed and produced by the network are available for all game keeping, nature conservation or educational organisations as well as hunting and outdoor associations and groups. The regional hunting culture and features will be brought forth with help of education in order to guarantee the renewal and continuity of the hunting activities.



Vaara-Karjala

www.vaarakarjalanleader.fi

Pielisentie 26
81700 Lieksa
p. 040 1044 906
leader@lieksa.fi

