

GOOD PRACTICE

ecoregion

Developing the BalticSeaRegion into the world's first EcoRegion

Landscape conservation

The aim of the Farmers for Nature (F4N) project was to identify new ways of maintaining and improving rural landscapes, which are of ecological value and have preserved their cultural identity. In co-operation with farmers, regional organisations and volunteers best practices with respect to European Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and other relevant EU legislation were tested.

Issue

Rural areas are not only used for agricultural purposes but also for recreation and living. Farmers' involvement in landscape conservation and management is crucial but the number of farmers is continuously decreasing. It is important to reorganise existing structures and ensure financial rewards in order to protect rural regions and the future of natural landscapes for both, locals and visitors.

Application

In co-operation with farmers, regional organisations and volunteers, seven best practices were identified and implemented in the fields of maintaining and improving rural landscapes, enhancing their ecological value and preserving cultural identity. Networks were established bringing together farmers, government representatives, environment and nature conservation institutes. These activities contributed to integrated policy-making at the regional, national and international level in Europe and to the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) implementation in different countries.

Innovation

The cooperation of farmers, advisory services and politics strengthens and promotes sustainability in an exemplary manner.

Transferability

Results can be transferred to regions in the Baltic Sea area where the preservation of nature, landscape and cultural identity in the countryside is vulnerable.



Oldenburg, Germany



Environmental type

Costal, Freshwater, Agriculture

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III B Neighbourhood
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2004

Contact

Landwirtschaftskammer (LWK)
Niedersachsen
Germany
Ms. Johanna Even
Email: Johanna.Even@LWK-
Niedersachsen.de

Links

» www.farmersfornature.org

Keywords

- Protection of biodiversity
- Preservation of regional identity



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