



DEVEPARK

Sustainable Historic Park Management and Development in Finland and Estonia
2009–2012

Final report (summary)

1. Background and objectives

There are several old parks in both countries, and their re-establishment would make them more attractive for plants, animals and visitors. Cultural background and historic development of parks are quite different in EE and FI, but there are similar problems like how to add awareness of parks historic values among the local inhabitants or how to promote parks as places of the cultural heritage. Historic parks are managed and developed here in a way that supports the sustainable regional and cultural policies of the EU. Sustainability is full filled on a large scale, from heritage plants, species and individuals to localities and regional entities and finally, target is to launch the Baltic Historic Park Route at FI's and EE's part (FI Finland and EE Estonia). The consortium is of a good quality, multidisciplinary and operates within many different organizations and organizational levels.

Programme areas belong to the dense populated areas where the number of "wilderness" is few. Instead, those areas include historic, cultural and social environments tightly connected with economical improvements of the societies. Often, parks are the rare resorts of socio-historical heritage of different nations.



Rõngu park, Estonia



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Many historic parks in FI and EE are degenerated and forgotten. With this project, partners want to make them more attractive by developing historic parks management and publishing many kind of data and using the newest information technological possibilities. Developing the parks, the partners want to learn about the possibilities to use historic parks as new targets for tourism. New economic and employment possibilities are created on regional and local levels.

The planned activities has done and in some cases even more than planned. The planned outputs have done and the material has dealt for the partners and via media and www-pages to all interested organizations.

During the implementation it has raised up also some problems. Biggest was that the EU –money has come back to the partners in some cases over ten months after the implementation period (four months). This has been reason that many activities has done later than planned. Also the byrocracy of the project has been quite big, specially for LP. It has raised up also some follow up projects and one is going on (www.hybridparks.eu) and it has also planned some education programmes for the people who are managing and developing the old parks.

2. Implementation

It has worked in this project with five work packages (WP):

WP 1 Project management and coordination / Outputs

Ten PR_PC with FLC documents, 125 PPC with FLC documents, Midterm and final evaluations
Interim and final report

Two budget changes (new CL, new applications and new budget), Four reallocation documents

Nine SG memos (in the beginning of Devepark after every MS, but later only obligatory meetings)

Seven PM memos

Many other memos (between the partners, FLC and own personnel of the partners)

Totally estimated number of the copies was 11 100.

WP 2 Historic parks' present inventory and mapping / Outputs

Six study tours done: two to FI, one to EE, two in EE and one to EE, Latvia and Sweden.

Many inventories done (with the experts and students) and published, eleven workshops / seminars (Kick off, SWOT, NUP, Park management, Sõe conference, Park marketing, Kuressaare seminars (2), second life of park tree, RT and final conference) done and reported, one poster exhibition.



Estonian teachers in Salo town, Finland (photo right)



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Reports of all study tours, published eight inventory reports and guide hot to make inventories, done SWOT, done the list of suitable parks (23 FI, 53 EE) for park tourism and criterions for the parks suitable for tourism use.

WP 3 Sustainable development of historic parks - managing and planning / Outputs

Two training courses (FI): a) inventory of the historic parks and gardens, b) planning and management of the historic gardens. One workshop about park tourism and one training programme (EE) for the teachers "Park as a green classroom"

Management / renovation plans: Jokioinen, Kuressaare, Rõngu and Pidula parks

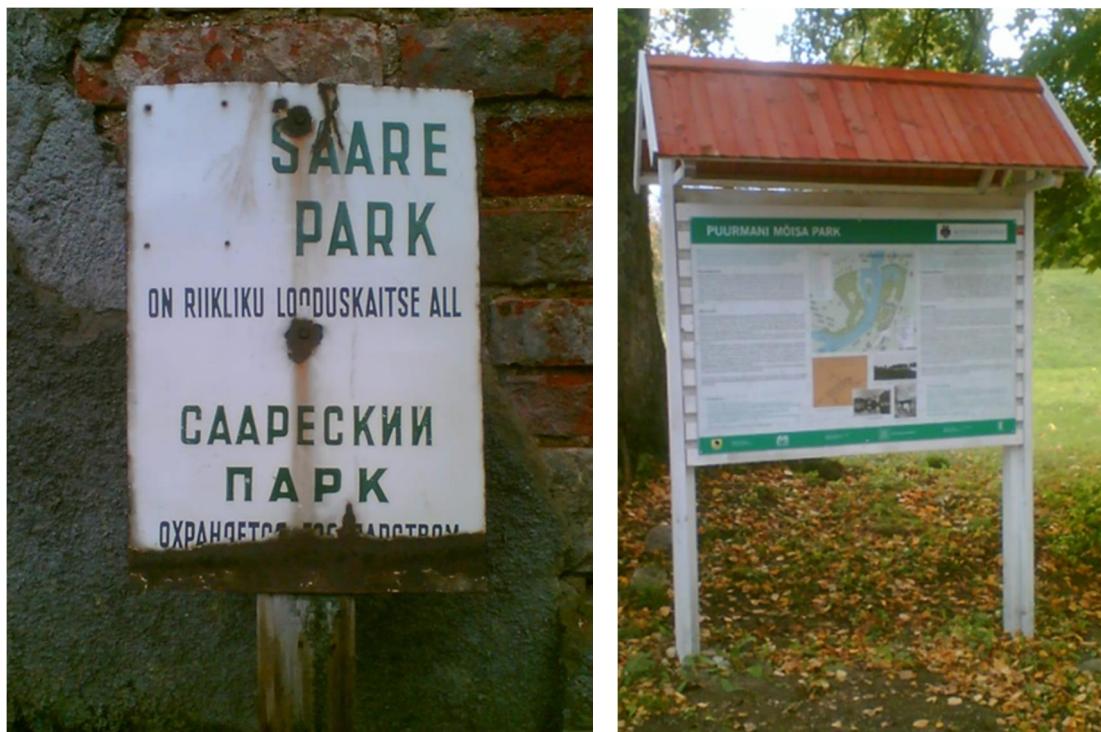
Development plans: Jokioinen, Luua and Pidula parks

Other plans: Ruissalo, Jokioinen, Piikkiö, Turku parks (second life) and Sõe

Studies and seminars: Kuressaare, Sõe

Park pavilions to Luua (after the competition / EE) and Rõngu parks (EE).

Two pavilions and 70 info tables, FI and EE park routes (virtual and printed), pilot park routes, four management plans and three development plans, case studies (Littoinen and Jokioinen), brochure of second life of park tree, park tourism strategy.



Old info table in Saare park and new info table in Alatskivi park, Estonia.

WP 4 Future challenges and possibilities of the historic parks / Outputs

Park routes in FI (virtual and printed material) and EE (virtual). Pilot park routes in Jokioinen (p4) and Yltöinen (P5). It has discussed many times about Florence Charter and about the possibilities to accept it in EE. One Urban park seminar and discussed many times to create UP also to EE. It has created new technological solutions how to inform about the parks for the visitors.



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Reuse of old park trees in Turku city, Finland.

Published one leaflet about reuse of old park trees, one workshop about reuse and done to many places reused wooden sculptures (Turku, Ruissalo, Brahea). It has discussed about the possibilities to use more the old park trees in FI and EE. It has done many virtual solutions in guiding in the parks. FI has promoted FC and NUP in EE and also in LV.

WP 5 Information, dissemination and marketing / Outputs

Kick off in Turku, FI 2009 and final conference in Alatskivi, EE 2012 (reports), dissemination plan (updated), published 138 brochures, articles, leaflets and books. Three exhibitions and www-pages (also own www-pages for many partners).

Memos on Kick-off and Final conferences. Memos of the all workshops and seminars, which have arranged during the project implementation. Many published books, leaflets/brochures, www-pages. Two exhibitions (FI and EE), one mobile exhibition.

3. Highlights

Study tours, new contacts to the people who are working with same theme in the world. Published material (one book has got the prize "the action of the year 2012" from Estonian Landscape Architects' Union: <http://www.maastikuarhitekt.ee/uudised/aasta-tegu-2012-ja-aulige>), good co-operation between the partners, which will be continued after the implementation period.

The most important qualitative work-related change in the course of the project was certainly the cross-border cooperation experience and the continuous modernization of working methods that was possible with the support of collected contacts. Extremely important was also the received professional project management, including requesting and reporting experience by LP. On our tours we ended up in areas where the level of development of the parks is more modest in Estonia than in Finland. The field tours as one of the project's highlights were strongly inspiring in terms of the scalability and perception of viability of the local traditions, but also in terms of our work group's internal harmony and communication between the partners of the project.



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4. Communication

Internal communication was successfully implemented through regular face-to-face meetings and email communication, as well as at study trips, workshops and seminars. During the project implementation has used also Moodle environment.

External communication has done via media but also with some published info material. 19 683 people have taken part the activities during the project and 972 people have taken part the educational activities during the project implementation. In the projects www -pages www.devepark.utu.fi have visited 14 693 people from 50 countries from 4 502 different IP-addresses: from FI 2 452 and EE 583.

It has published totally 138 articles, leaflets and books.

5. Financing

Totally is has used 1 276 813 (ERDF funding 989 300 €, national funding 281 683 € and private funding 5 830 €).



Kuressaare castle park in Saaremaa, Estonia.



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