

Local Contributions to meet the 2010 target to halt the loss of biodiversity



This project is supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers



Local participation is essential to halt the loss of biodiversity. A network of local authorities was set up in the Nordic countries in 2006 to implement specific projects that are relevant to the 2010 target. They range from restoration, nature conservation, municipal plans as instruments and combating alien species to safeguarding species through management. Key features of the projects are local participation and providing information on natural history. The network currently comprises 14 local authorities and forms an arena where they can exchange their experiences. All the authorities must report their results by 2010.

www.dirnat.no/2010-malet

Akureyri is combating alien species on Hrisey. Cow parsley, lupin and garden angelica now cover 11-13 % of the island and seeds are being sown from the Icelandic flora to restore areas with characteristic ling species. The same procedure will enable an area of 30 ha (ca. 74 acres) at a former refuse dump in the valley of Glerárdalur to fit naturally into its surroundings. Former wetland at Naustaborgir is being restored to provide a habitat for birds.

Jon Birgir Gunnlaugsson
jbg@akureyri.is

Alftanes is improving habitats for birds by restoring former wetlands close to two lakes, Kasthúsatjörn and Þvottatjörn. An undeveloped area surrounding the official home of the President of Iceland will help these two areas to function better.

Kristinn Gudmundsson
kristinn@hafro.is

Porvoo (Borgå) will set up a national urban park embracing a great variety of natural habitats and valuable cultural environments. Marens Eng, former pasture-land, is one of the most important parts of the proposed park. Tree clearance and grazing will prevent the pasture from becoming overgrown.

Anne Rihtniemi-Rauh
Anne.rihtniemi-rauh@porvoo.fi

Hammerfest has placed artificial Runde reefs in the sea to restore marine habitats that have been destroyed. Pipes made of recycled plastic have been fixed to concrete cylinders. The constructions offer concealment for fish fry and give seaweed improved living conditions. The aim is to restore the kelp forest that has been excessively grazed by sea urchins.

Tom Erik Ness
Tom.Erik.Ness@hammerfest.kommune.no

Hedensted will ensure sustainable forestry by certifying forests flanking Vejle Fjord. An area of wetland covering 85 ha (ca. 210 acres), including a 25 ha (61.7 acres) lake, will be formed. More varied physical conditions in the River Skjold will have positive spin-off benefits for sea trout, aquatic insects, ducks and waders. Grazing in open environments will secure botanically valuable sites.

Peder Nygaard Nielsen
peder.nygaard@hedensted.dk
Niels Rauff
niels.rauff@hedensted.dk

Herning is drawing up an environmental policy that will safeguard existing natural assets and create large, continuous areas of countryside. An action plan for salmon in the River Skjern system will improve the living conditions for several species of fish. The salmon is a good indicator species since it makes high demands on the quality of the environment. Herning has also placed endeavours to improve the climate high on its agenda. Changes in climate also pose a threat to biodiversity. The borough council has initiated several measures that will save energy.

Karina Amdi Sørensen
mynks@herning.dk

Søren Brandt
mynsb@herning.dk

Line Thastum
ngolt@herning.dk

Holstebro has cleaned and made 55 ponds to improve conditions for great crested newts, moor frogs, common spadefoot toads and natterjack toads. Grazing has been re-introduced to safeguard open areas of countryside so that plants which require plenty of light will thrive and there will be a rich diversity of insects and birds. Dams are being demolished to improve accessibility for salmon, trout and lampreys.

Torben Høj Nielsen
torben.hoj.nielsen@holstebro.dk

Kolding will improve the state of the water in Skærsjø, a lake famed for its water lobelias. Three species, water lobelia, lake quillwort and shoreweed, are present and all of them thrive best in clear water that is poor in nutrients. The physical conditions in the River Åkær are being improved by constructing more meanders and placing rocks and gravel along a 17 km long stretch. Wetlands flanking the Åkær are also being restored.

Inger Birkebæk Madsen
inbm@kolding.dk

Mette Homann List
meli@kolding.dk

The neighbouring local authorities of **Nes** and **Runavik** are growing centres of population in the Færoe Islands and public access to the area surrounding a lake, Toftavatn, will be restricted to safeguard areas of heather and the birdlife there. A key feature of this project is providing information on the natural history.

Bergmann Finnsson
agenda@fkf.fo

Stjørdal will employ land-use planning to safeguard biodiversity, particularly in shoreline areas where waders and ducks rest. The borough council is supporting a local association, "Færbøgda i lag", which is maintaining a local interest for traditional haymaking. Meadows here have many species of plants including harebell, oxeye daisy, sweet vernal-grass and rarer ones like quaking-grass and greater butterfly orchid.

Harald Hove Bergmann
Harald.Hove.Bergman@stjordal.kommune.no

Trondheim is ensuring that streams in the vicinity of the city centre will be in a good ecological state. Ila creek is reopened, sewage water have been stopped and sea trout and aquatic organism have returned. The city has an abundance of game within its boundaries, but the habitats of many of the species are being threatened by fragmentation. The capercaillie is being used as an indicator species for the desired state of the woodland in Bymarka. Systematic management in the Lian-Solem area will safeguard its historical cultural landscape.

Terje Nøst
terje.nost@trondheim.kommune.no

Vantaa (Vanda) has long traditions for nature conservation and 6 % of its total area is protected. In addition to these protected areas, there are other "LUO" areas that are especially valuable on the local level. Special management measures must be introduced here to preserve the biodiversity.

Tina Kristiansson
tina.kristiansson@vantaa.fi

Örebro has converted a former refuse dump and a former oil port into a nature reserve and a lakeland park, and more species of birds have been observed here. The restored area amounts to 600 ha (14 826 acres) and is a great attraction for visitors and local people alike.

Mats Rosenberg
mats.rosenberg@orebro.se