

Nominees of the best Environmental Project

Establishing and landscaping the bird-watch-tower/clay-house of Kiideva Nature Centre – NGO Kalaküla Rohelised



It's good to have a place to explore nature!

Author of the picture: Ants Maripuu

Project name: Establishing and landscaping the bird-watch-tower/clay-house of Kiideva nature centre

Beneficiary: NGO Kalaküla Rohelised, area of LAG Kodukant Läänemaa

Location: Kiideva village, Ridala municipality, Lääne county

Period of implementing project: June 2009 – June 2010

Support from RDP Leader measure: 11 365 EUR

Main Activities of Project: accomplishing tanking-works of roof-ceiling of bird-watch-tower/clay-house; establishing the floor of level framework of roof-ceiling of watch-tower; establishing two-sided wooden door and five windows; establishing 1.2 m high wooden railing with 23 steps, two platforms and stairway with two-sided banister

Contact: Tiiu Tomingas, board member, telephone +372 53 453 663, e-mail tiiu.kiideva@gmail.com

Fishing village turns into bird-watching village

Establishing and landscaping the bird-watch-tower/clay-house of Kiideva nature centre

Kiideva village, or Fishing village for local people, is one of the few real fishing villages in Lääne county that has hundreds of years old traditions. Village is still living but there is no fish in the sea and that is the reason why most of the fishermen have left. Although there are 72 houses in the village, only 20 persons live there throughout the year, others are summer-people.

But the people aren't leaving, not at all. The new spheres of activities which will keep people in the area are nature tourism and -education. Local people are really active to find money from different support projects for that sphere – little bit from here, little bit from there. Voluntary work is also important to make the local area more attractive and more comfortable living environment. Location near Matsalu bay offers many opportunities for that and they have also applied support from Leader measure. They have also arranged some hiking trails and established some boat landings.

The latest biggest construction has a fancy name – dock building/bird-watch-tower.

You can't find A- or D-terminal from that building. Small pavilion with clay walls and big windows involves information board about Matsalu bay and Kalaküla village, closets where people can hold equipment for teaching or fishing and flap seats – and actually there isn't much room for anything else. They chose flap seats because fishermen would have room to place the life jackets and other equipment under the roof. The building is for public use (however the doors are locked at night) – it is a good place to hide from rain. One school excursion used it even for accommodation because the circumstances in their tents were too wet to sleep. Local people brought some mattresses to cover the floors and children were very excited and happy!

To get to the second floor – bird-watch-tower – you must climb up by wooden stairway. From there you can enjoy the beautiful view to Matsalu bay and canebrake in the coastal area – a real paradise for bird watchers. There used to be a small bird-watch-tower in Kiideva before. But Tiiu Tomingas says: "This is a home for a beaver now and the tower is unsafe – more than five people don't dare to climb up. New tower was planned to be as small as the last one – only nine square meters. But somebody brought 8 concrete blocks from somewhere and they established a platform of 35 square meters. We are very happy!"

Supporting the nature-education is important activity in Kiideva. But modern teacher doesn't know much about nature, not to mention the students. It is good to have a place to explore nature – for free. There are no alms boxes in Kiideva, not to mention the ticket control – although them have been blamed for it. They have only bird-singing listening mornings and mushroom picking in forests for free of charge of course.

There will be bird-watch-pipe and binoculars, ice-skates and snowshoes thanks to Leader support. They have also purchased much literature about nature because it is often very expensive. It is nice to read them on the spot and to have those supportive projects.