

# Added Value of Networking



## *Environmental Management in Margininkai and Upninkai Village Landscapes – impacting on climate change*

Basic information	
<b>NRN:</b>	<b>Lithuanian rural network</b>
Theme:	Success story
Coordinator:	LRN Member
Partners:	Rural community of Margininkai; Rural community of Upninkai; Kaunas Regional Environmental Protection; Department controlled by Ministry of Environmental of the Republic of Lithuania; Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania.
Beneficiaries:	Rural residents of Margininkai and Upninkai.
Resources:	n.a.
Period:	2012.07.16 – 2012.11.30
<b>Main element of networking:</b>	<b>Effective stakeholder engagement</b>
Other elements of networking:	n.a.

### Background

The rural landscape of the villages of Margininkai (Kaunas district) and Upninkai (Jonavos district) are challenging, with economic activity slow to develop. The nearby villages have cattle, poultry and pig farms whose practices can have a negative impact on the local population, landscape and climate change. This potential impact had not been officially identified before, so the project sought to determine and analyse any negative impact of the farm complexes on the rural landscape and climate change, and in cooperation with the relevant state institutions and farmers to set recommendations and an action plan to improve the situation.

### Main activities

During the project the partners:

1. Conducted a study into the potential negative environmental impacts of farms in the vicinity of



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the villages.

2. Formed a working group to identify sources of air pollution and their concentrations in farm complex in the rural area of Margininkai.
3. Organised a working group meeting at the farm of Andrius Banionis where participants identified and examined the sources of pollution, discussed explanations for complex pollution problems and the farmer's perspectives on development.
4. Evaluated the impact on climate change.
5. Prepared recommendations on climate change reduction.
6. Conducted stationary air pollution source emission testing.

## Main results/benefits

1. A study was conducted and recommendations made to the farmer Audrius Banionis, Kaunas Regional Environmental Protection Department controlled by Ministry of Environmental of the Republic of Lithuania and Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania.
2. The project partners and farmer Audrius Banionis agreed that the two old farms that did not meet the requirements would be closed and the pigs would be relocated to a modern well-equipped farm. From April to October biotechnologies will be used to reduce pollution emissions into the atmosphere.
3. A booklet was written on the development and management of landscapes in rural places.

## Success factors

One of the direct results the project has already achieved is the agreement between the project partners and farmer Audrius Banionis on farm infrastructure and technology used in development, this included:

1. An agreement that the two old farms would be closed and the pigs moved to a farm with modern equipment;
2. Manure used in open reservoirs would be covered and sealed;

Biotechnologies would be used on farm from April to October to reduce emissions into the atmosphere.



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Networking enabled all the right organisations to work effectively together and with a private sector farmer to make the changes required to the infrastructure and management practices of the farm business.

## Contribution of the NSU

The involvement of the NRN enabled four different organisations to cooperate within this project delivering the results listed above and reducing the risk of the rural environment deteriorating further.

## Contribution of the partners

1. The rural community of Upninkai increased the geographical benefit of the project from a single farm to a rural village.
2. Kaunas Regional Environmental Protection Department controlled by Ministry of Environmental of the Republic of Lithuania provided information and supported the analysis of the results.
3. Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania focused on developing the conditions for sustainable rural development by providing information, and supporting the analysis of the results.

## Additional information

The project demonstrates how, with support from the Network, cooperation of the non-governmental sector and public administration can solve local problems.



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## Pictures



Source: Lithuanian National Rural network

## Last Update

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