Collective approaches in Finnish agri-environmental projects

Project director Eija Hagelberg
Baltic Sea Action Group
ENRD thematic group mini seminar in Turku, Finland
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Four perspectives of collective approach on soil management education & communication

1) The future farmers joining the discussion (picture)
2) All farmers in one area (case Järki Pelto project)
3) Interested farmers of a larger region (case OSMO project)
4) Interested farmers on national level (case Carbon Action project)
Järki Pelto – communication for farmers of three neighbouring municipalities (1200 farmers)

• Communication project by RDP, 2017-2018
• The expert group of the project: 10 local farmers
• The coordinator of the project: a local farmer
• Salo, Paimio, Sauvo municipalities in southwest Finland
• Lectures, field days and trips on soil management and field biodiversity
• The goal: to reach 600 of 1200 farmers during the project (Mission already accomplished!)
OSMO – Knowhow and tools for resource-efficient soil health management in a collaborative network

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Project goals and work packages

4.1. Farm research
4.2. Training
4.3. Toolbox
4.4. Dissemination

Conclusions
Planning
Interpretation
Analysing
Evaluation
Implementation

Financing: Rural development programme

SOIL MANAGEMENT

SOIL HEALTH

Know-how

Financing: Rural development programme
Training group at the field
• Carbon Action project is a tool to achieve 4/1000 initiative
• Financed by Sitra (The Finnish Innovation Fund) for the first two years 2018-2019
• Research coordination: the Finnish Meteorological Institute
• Farmer communication: Baltic Sea Action Group
The joint project of the Finnish Meteorological Institute, Baltic Sea Action Group, and Sitra consists of three levels:

1. **The detailed scientific process-level studies** (microbiology, isotope analysis, mathematical modelling etc.) on different test fields on the transformations of carbon in soil

2. **Scientific studies on agricultural practices on 10 to 15 farms** to speed up the carbon sequestration

3. **A group of 100 pilot farms** trying the developed measures in practice.
Farmers in Carbon Action pilot:

- Education on soil management (especially carbon sequestration)
- Cooperation with scientists and other farmers
- Tailored management plan for one field parcel
- Materials, webinars, active networks
- Local study groups
- Beginning in summer 2018

A lot of interest from farmers:

"Our farm wants to join!"
Feedback from participants

• Theoretical knowledge and practical tools in good mix
• Present of course day was very good, in every farmers lectures was the theory brought into practical farm level
• The course day was very useful for my farm
• Good package and wake up to think in own mind and doing
• Relaxed atmosphere and very profitable discussions
• Now I´m looking my farming with new eyes and the course gave me the motivation to try new methods at my farm
• The experience of teachers is visible
• Motivating meeting
• Thanks for good course day!
Conclusion: this is needed – on all regions.
RDPs can offer financing to enlarge the movement!

Thank you!

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