



FLAG Factsheet: Smaoerne / Small islands

Småøerne FLAG

Country: Denmark

Region: 4 regions: Syddanmark; Midtjylland; Nordjylland; Sjælland

Area: 11 small islands in the Danish archipelago.

Code: DK209

Operational: 2007-2013 and 2014-2020 programming periods

AREA

Description of the area and its main challenges

The Småøerne FLAG covers 11 islands scattered throughout the seas around Denmark. This is an important change as the FLAG previously covered all 27 islands of the Småøerne LEADER LAG. However, due to budget cuts for CLLD funding and an area reduction as outlined in the fisheries Operational Programme, the FLAG now focuses on specially designated areas experiencing both a decline in population and a decrease in fisheries employment.

A key characteristic of these islands is their very low population levels which range between 10 to 900 inhabitants per island. Their small size and population imply a rather limited set of economic opportunities based mainly on agriculture as most of the islands have fertile soil. Tourism is also strong as many islands have appealing assets such as sandy beaches, well preserved heritage and fishing activities.

The overall challenges for the island's fisheries community include a dwindling and ageing population, poor infrastructure and public services and limited possibilities for business development. Since 2007, the FLAG has worked with these fisheries communities to try to make them more vibrant and attractive. For example they have diversified the local economies and developed new products, as shows the Axis 4 project supporting the [production of edible seaweed](#).

Population: 4 536

Population Density [Inhabitants/ km²]: 23

Surface area [km²]: 196

Protected areas: almost all islands are covered by Natura 2000 sites (Egholm, Venø, Anholt, Hjortø, Agersø, Omø and parts of Strynø and Sejerø)

Total employment in fisheries: 29 FTE

1. **Fishing:** 24
2. **Aquaculture:** 2
3. **Processing:** 3

Women employment in fisheries: 2 (*processing*)

STRATEGY

Short summary of the FLAG strategy

The FLAG strategy aims to strengthen business development in the maritime economy, in particular maritime tourism.

More specifically the FLAG actions will focus on:

- tourism projects linked to the fisheries communities;
- innovative projects based on the sea as a resource (e.g. seaweed);
- development of port facilities;
- investment grants in small private enterprises.

Importance of the following objectives for the FLAG strategy

Objective	Priority (1 is low, 5 is very high)	% of the budget allocated to them in the strategy
Adding value, creating jobs, and promoting innovation along the fisheries chain	5	50
Supporting diversification	5	50
Enhancing and capitalising on the environmental assets	-	-
Promoting social well-being and cultural heritage	-	-
Strengthening the role of fisheries communities in local development	-	-

Budget information

Total public budget allocated to the FLAG for 2014-2020: €875 000

EMFF: €565 000

Member State co-financing: €310 000

Source of co-financing: national

Multi-funding: yes

Project examples and ideas

- Organise groups of fishermen to handle, distribute and sell local fish collectively;
- Improve existing infrastructure used by fishermen to support effective handling of the catch;
- Diversify the use of existing infrastructure used by fishermen, e.g. shops, cafes, for tourism purpose;

- Setting up of a smokehouse in a harbour by a local restaurant to partly supply their own kitchen and partly sell directly to customers in the harbour.

Calls for projects

Call for projects are foreseen three times a year: April – August – December.

The deadlines to submit project proposal are published on the following page: http://lag-smaaoerne.blogspot.dk/p/tilskud_2.html

Thematic expertise and cooperation

The Smaoerne FLAG members have in depth experience in small-scale coastal fisheries and project management.

The FLAG is planning to have three cooperation projects within Denmark, themes and budget have yet to be specified.

PARTNERSHIP

Lead partner or Responsible Legal Entity

The Småøerne LAG is a legal and independent organisation governed by a general assembly.

FLAG members

All municipalities and regions are represented in the board by two individuals. Two more FLAG members come from the fishermen's organisations from the Fur and Sejerø island respectively. The others members of the board are individual members and represent local islands associations, a national islands organisation, private companies and local development NGOs.

Number of individuals on main decision-making body/ board: 9

% of public actors (on the decision-making body): **25**

Number of individuals/organisations in partnership/ general assembly: 250 individual members

% of fisheries actors: 25

% of other (non-fisheries) private / NGO sector actors: 75

% of environmental actors: 0¹

Number of contracted staff in FLAG [FTE]: 1

¹ This information is independent from the consultation of environmental actors during the elaboration of the local development strategy.

Links with LEADER or other CLLD groups:

Smaoerne is a joint LAG-FLAG, sharing its legal structure, and sharing nine board members. The LAG-FLAG implements EAFRD and EMFF projects through a common local development strategy.

The Smaoerne LAG-FLAG coordinates its work informally with the three nearby LAG-FLAGS: Djursland, Bornholm, and West-Jutland.

Contact information

President/Chair, organization: Søren Noes

FLAG Manager: Morten Priesholm

Email: mp@lag-smaaoerne.dk

Telephone: +45 22 32 84 93

Postal address: Stryne Brovej 12, Strynø, Rudkøbing

FLAG website: www.lag-småøerne.dk

Language information

Native language: Danish

Language	Basic level	Intermediate level	Good level
English		x	