



**FISHERIES  
LOCAL ACTION GROUPS  
OF LATVIA**

# Introduction

In Latvia during the programming period 2014–2020 there is a possibility to expand LEADER approach by attracting not only the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), but also the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). This approach is called community led local development. By realizing approach of community led local development Fisheries local action groups (FLAG's) can contribute competitiveness of the agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

The EMFF co-financed investments are restricted to coastal area. At this planning period we have 6 fisheries local action groups.

In order to increase employment and territorial cohesion in fisheries-dependent areas, FLAG's are implementing such specific objective as economic growth, social inclusion and job creation by providing support for employment and labor mobility in coastal and inland communities, which depends on fishing and aquaculture, including the diversification activities in a fisheries sector and into other sectors of the maritime economy.

Ozolnieki, 2017

# LIEPAJA DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

Association “Liepaja District Partnership” was established on September 19, 2006.

Local development strategy is implemented in 8 administrative territories and Liepaja city, covering approximately 40 000 inhabitants. Total area 3654 km<sup>2</sup>.

41% of the territory are forest, 45% the utilized agricultural area and 5% of the territory are waters. They have direct access to the Baltic sea 111 kilometres. The most important economic sectors are agriculture, forestry (logging), fisheries and tourism.

On 1 July in 2015 association “Liepaja District Partnership” have 72 members – 8 municipalities, 27 associations and foundations, 12 Ltd., 3 peasant/fishery farms, 2 individual merchants and 20 individuals. Since September 2015 on the basis of the cooperation agreement in the partnership acts Liepaja City Council, Municipalities of Grobina, Nica, Pavilosta, Rucava. Governing structure is divided into council of 13 members and is elected every four years.

## STRATEGICAL AIMS

- ▶ To promote sustainable and productive development of entrepreneurship in local area.
- ▶ To promote development of attractive living and work environment.
- ▶ To promote competitive and sustainable development of the Baltic Sea coastal in “Liepaja District Partnership” area.



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## TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

- ▶ Entrepreneurship.
- ▶ Creation of local products marketing.
- ▶ Tourism services in the Baltic Sea coastal.
- ▶ Added value to fishery products, the improvement of realization, modernization.
  - ▶ Sustainable management of coastal protected nature territories.
  - ▶ The tradition of fishing, youth association.



## EXPIERENCE ON TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

During a previous programming period, the local action group did not have any experience of implementing international projects in fisheries, but there have been several exchanges of experience in fisheries and tourism in Lithuania, Estonia, and Northern Poland.



# LAUNCHING PRODUCTION OF A NEW PRODUCT AND LAUNCH OF NEW SALES MARKETS

Place of implementation: SIA PIEJURA, Nica rural district, Nica region.

Implementation period: 30 Jan 2017.

Company Piejura was established in Nica, a coastal village of the Baltic Sea, in 1995, which started its operation as a workshop producing hot smoked fish semi-finished products on 13 January 1996. Since then the company has developed both its trade volumes and diversification of its product range under the trends on the market of processed fish products. Canned products were launched into production in 2003. The company has made several investments to improve production, environmental protection, and working environment for its staff. Currently, the company produces: 1) canned fish in different packages using a variety of fish species and sauces; 2) fish fingers; 3) smoked fish; 4) both fresh and fried fish fillets; and 5) frozen fish. These product groups are subdivided into several types of produce.

The project was aimed at purchasing specific additional fixed assets to launch the production of new products in new packaging, fish burgers with filling and without filling packed into thermoformed package. The project resulted in a new product and new packaging. In addition, launching export to Japan and other Asian countries will also be possible (due to a metal detector). For starting the production, the company shall use existing means of production to the utmost by transplanting them and adding new ones from this project, whose technical specification has been specially designed for ensuring a complete production process jointly with the existing means of production. The project will contribute to both the company's competitiveness and sustainable development, and the economics of the local area.

# ORGANIZATION «JURKANTE»

The organisation Jurkante was founded in 2008. The members of the organisation: entrepreneurs as well as NGOs and municipal organisations. The organisation operates in Salacgriva district and also in a part of the territory of Limbazi district (Pale, Vilkene and Skulte).

## STRATEGICAL AIMS

*Activity EJZF No. 1* The development of fish farming companies the diversity of the business activity and the reduction of the season factor. M4 Meets the requirements for the development of the coastal business activity.

*Activity EJZF No. 2* The support for the increase of the environmental resources and the reduction of the climate change effect within the territory. M5 Meets the requirements for the promotion of the application and usage of the local resources in business activity.

*Activity EJZF No. 3* The development of the infrastructure of the fish farming territories and historical heritage. M6 Meets the requirements for the preservation of the historical heritage.





## TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

- ▶ Development of coastal tourism.
- ▶ The field of the business activity – innovations.
- ▶ Education of youth.
- ▶ Preservation of the traditions of historical heritage.
- ▶ Innovations in fish farming.
- ▶ Coastal fishing.
- ▶ Fishing skills acquisition.



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## TUJA OFFERS SMOKED FOOD

A wooden rack made of logs is filled with hanging smoked fish, likely salmon, outdoors in a natural setting. The fish are arranged in rows, and the rack is supported by a wooden post. The background shows green grass and trees.

Place of implementation: Krimalnietki, Tuja, Salacgriva district, LV-4023.

Implementation period: 2012 February.

A new fish-smoking facility has been built in the place of recreation Krimalnietki in Tuja. Tourists are offered a possibility to smoke the fish they have caught by themselves.

Krimalnietki also visiting anglers. The smoke gives the opportunity to prepare for each of their roles. This place is very good, because it is situated close to the sea where everyone can fish and rest with their family.

# PARTNERSHIP FOR RURAL AND SEA

LAG "Partnership for Rural and Sea" is located in middle of Latvia, near the capital city Riga, territory includes 10 parishes and 1 town – Jurmala. We are 1 of 6 FLAG in Latvia and the LAG area has a 76.4 km coastline and is situated along the Gulf of Riga. The coastal area has a well developed fish processing sector and tourism, but agriculture also makes an important contribution to the local economy, helping to keep the unemployment rate below that of neighboring areas.

The main protected area in LAG territory are Kemeru National Park (31 400 ha), NATURA 2000, Engures lake nature park.

Population – 73353, surface (area/km<sup>2</sup>) – 1316.38 km<sup>2</sup>.

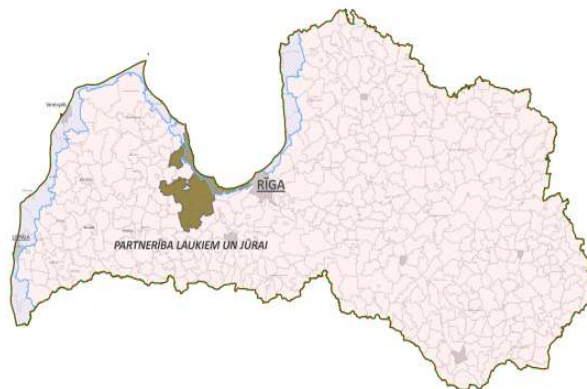
## STRATEGICAL AIMS

- ▶ Diverse, open to innovation, to the existing resource-based competitive business development.
- ▶ High-quality, effective and attractive living environment development.
- ▶ Natural resources and cultural heritage sustainable management and use.



## TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

- ▶ Tourism activities – in protected areas, coast areas, traditional crafts promotion.
- ▶ Cultural activities (dance, songs – for young people and seniors in inland areas).
- ▶ Sport activities promotion for children and young people.
- ▶ Protected areas use for visitors and public education.



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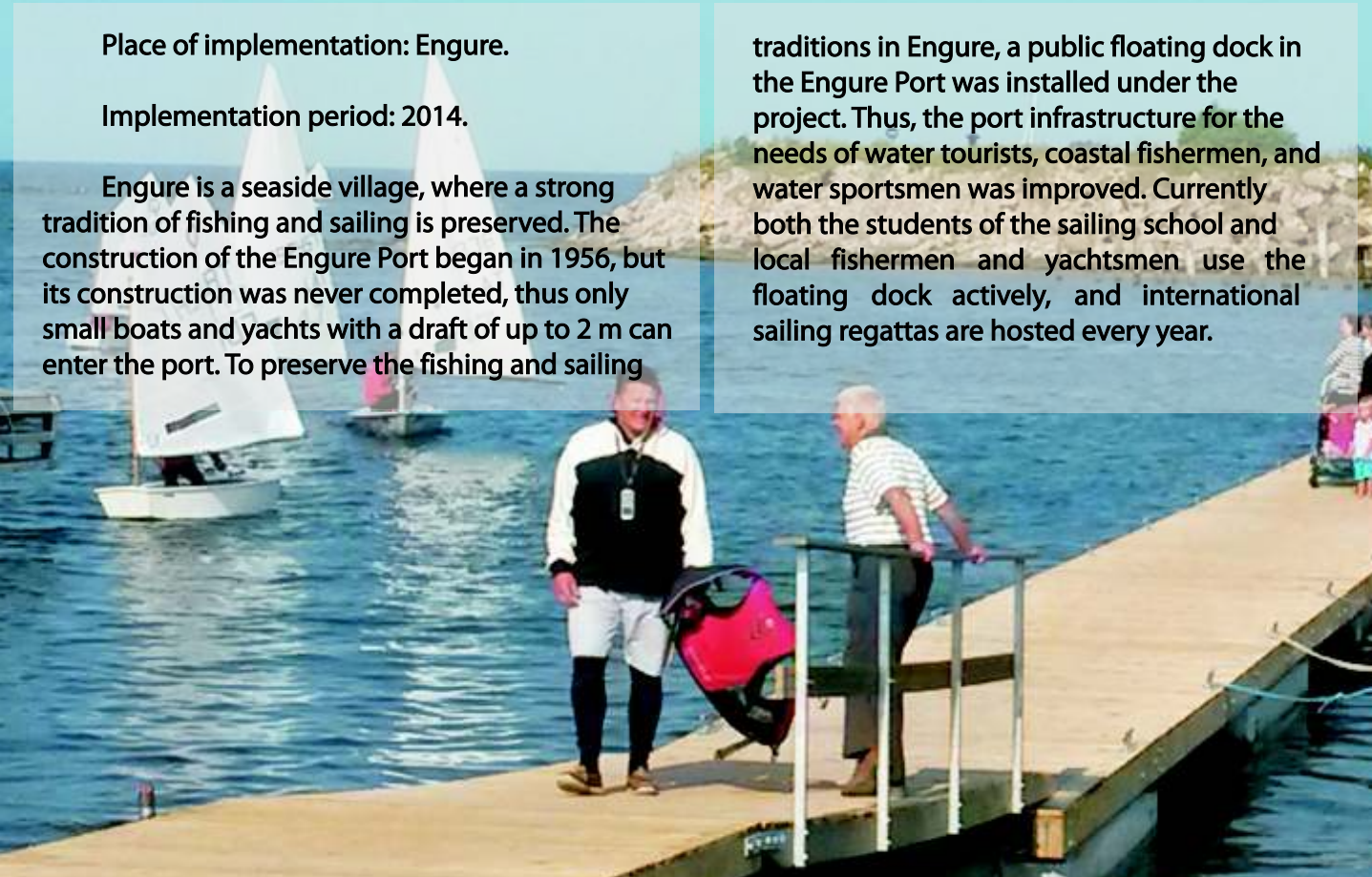
# DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC FLOATING DOCK IN THE ENGURE PORT

Place of implementation: Engure.

Implementation period: 2014.

Engure is a seaside village, where a strong tradition of fishing and sailing is preserved. The construction of the Engure Port began in 1956, but its construction was never completed, thus only small boats and yachts with a draft of up to 2 m can enter the port. To preserve the fishing and sailing

traditions in Engure, a public floating dock in the Engure Port was installed under the project. Thus, the port infrastructure for the needs of water tourists, coastal fishermen, and water sportsmen was improved. Currently both the students of the sailing school and local fishermen and yachtsmen use the floating dock actively, and international sailing regattas are hosted every year.



# PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP ASSOCIATION "SERNIKON"

Public and Private Partnership Association "Sernikon" area is located in the metropolitan area of the capital of Latvia, Riga, and it includes Carnikava and Saulkrasti municipalities. At the moment there are 45 members in Partnership, representing municipalities, entrepreneurs, NGOs and individuals. The main element that characterizes the area is 35 km long coastline which is rich in its biodiversity therefore most of it is included in Natural Park "Piejūra". All these elements together offers great potential for the development of sectors such as tourism and business. LAG is officially registered NGO and our goal is to help local community to develop territory of 2 municipalities.

## STRATEGICAL AIMS

- ▶ Strengthen the fisheries sector, in particular to support activities that mitigates impact of seasonality.
- ▶ Integrate the fisheries sector and the available natural resources into tourism services, as well as to preserve the cultural heritage.
- ▶ Support for fisheries sector necessary coastline infrastructure development.





## TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

- ▶ Cooperation projects for tourism development – for example – elaborated route “Get to know particular region different fishing traditions”.
- ▶ International cooperation projects in the fisheries sector.



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# CARNIKAVA LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM ESTABLISHMENT

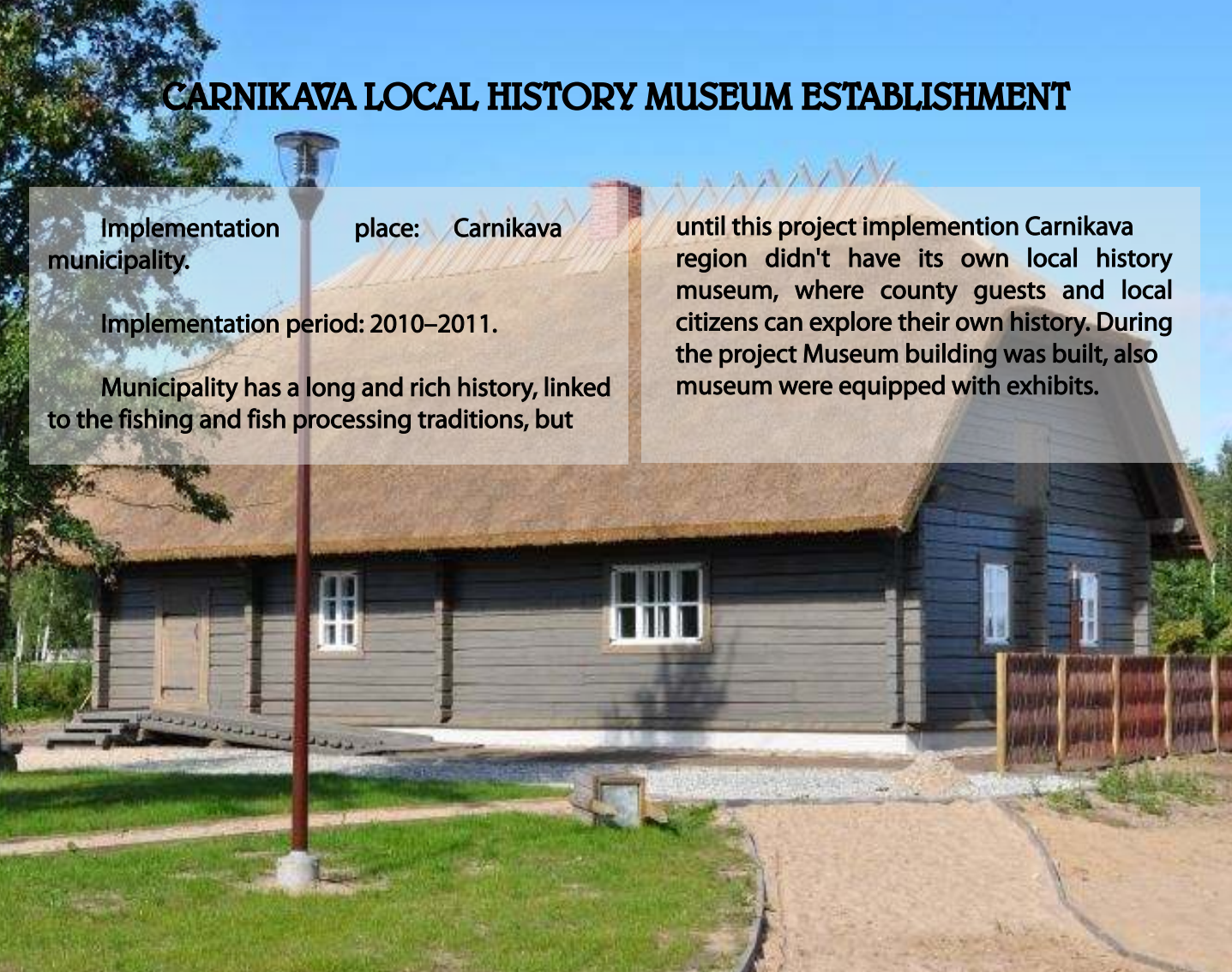
Implementation  
municipality.

place: Carnikava

until this project implementation Carnikava region didn't have its own local history museum, where county guests and local citizens can explore their own history. During the project Museum building was built, also museum were equipped with exhibits.

Implementation period: 2010–2011.

Municipality has a long and rich history, linked to the fishing and fish processing traditions, but



# TALSI DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

Society „Talsi district Partnership“ is a local action group, founded in Talsi on 21st December, 2004. Until July of 2009 the partnership members are 15 municipalities of Talsi District as well as those participating in organizations and entrepreneurs.

After the territorial reform partnership covers three municipal areas: Talsu district with 4 cities – Sabile, Stende, Talsi and Valdemarpils and with 14 parishes – Abava, Arlava, Balgale, Gibuli, Ive, Kulciems, Laidze, Lauciene, Libagi, Lube, Strazde, Valdgale, Vandzene, Virbi, Roja district and Mersrags district. Currently in partnership operates 19 members – 3 municipalities, 14 societies, 1 Ltd. and 1 private.

## STRATEGICAL AIMS

The strategy will be implemented by attracting the funding from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund will be acquired in Roja district and Mersrags district.

▶ **To promote the development of coastal enterprises and innovations.**

EMFF 1 „Developing, diversification and mitigating the effect of seasonality for fisheries.“

▶ **To promote the conservation and use of coastal environment and nature resources.**

EMFF 2 „Conservation and restoration of environment and nature resources of fisheries areas, climate change mitigation“.

▶ **To establish and develop the coastal areas public infrastructure and to provide accessibility of fishing and maritime cultural heritage.**



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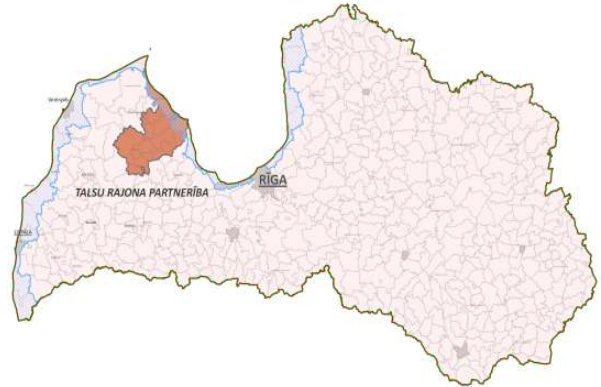
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## TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

### **Economic cooperation:**

- ▶ Cleaning-up of protected natural areas.
- ▶ Tourism activities, creating common tourism services.
- ▶ Exchanging experience of small manufacturers and craftsmen.
- ▶ Environmentally friendly farming.



## TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

### **Social activities:**

- ▶ Culture and sports activities.
- ▶ Long-life learning and interest-related education for different target groups.
- ▶ Common promotion of geographically protected products, fishery products, ancient crafts and skills.



# PROJECT "CONSTRUCTION OF CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND AT ROJA BEACH", PROJECT APPLICANT ROJA REGIONAL COUNCIL

An objective is to create a well-equipped children's playground in the area of Roja beach diversifying recreational opportunities for families with children.

Place of implementation: Roja beach, Roja village, Roja region.

Brief description: the area of Roja public beach is among the most visited and favourite sites for walking, leisure, and recreation throughout the entire Roja region. Almost ten years ago, Roja Regional Municipality carried out an ambitious beach improvement works by installing wooden footbridges, changing cabins, toilets, benches, as

well as a small children's playground with the EU co-financing being attracted. Some tourists and vacationers at Roja beach is increasing year by year, especially families with children who wish to enjoy swimming in the sea and sunbathing here in the summertime. For this place to be an interesting and exciting site for children, a new, interesting, and attractive playground is developed. Within the project, a children's playground is developed and the area is landscaped by installing benches and garbage bins under this project.

Public funding: 18,000 EUR.

# THE NORTHERN KURZEME LAG

The Northern Kurzeme LAG (and FLAG), formed in year 2000, is located in northwest Latvia. The area is bordered by a 144 km stretch of the Baltic coast, from the parish of Jurkalne to the Cape of Kolka, and 12 km of the coastline around the Gulf of Riga.

It consists of municipalities of Dundaga, Ventspils, part of Talsi (parishes of Ive, Lube and Valdgale) – 17 parishes and one town. Total area: 3 492 km<sup>2</sup>. Population: 19 888 (01.01.2016).

The LAG board which is the decision-making body consists of 12 members, but all 56 members of them are actively involved. They represent municipalities, fishermen's organizations, businesses, NGOs and private individuals.

The area's most important asset is the Baltic coast, noted for its natural beauty and its tourism and fishing potential. The area also has a very rich cultural heritage, including religious architecture from the 16–19th century, Baltic German manor buildings, and Suiti (a small catholic community) and Liv (a Finno-Ugric ethnic group) traditions. The coastal area has large beaches, which support many business activities, mostly in the tourism sectors. Extensive forests cover about 71% of the area.

## STRATEGICAL AIMS

- ▶ To develop and improve the public infrastructure of coastal areas and its cultural heritage.
- ▶ To promote the values of nature and to succeed the conservation of coastal environment.
- ▶ To promote micro, small and medium businesses in fisheries.
- ▶ To promote the growth of public organizations and local fishery communities.



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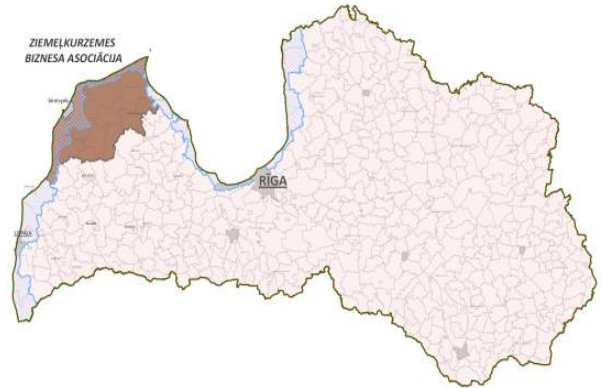
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## TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

- ▶ Exchange of experience to reduce seasonality in fisheries and tourism sector, development of new products and new technologies.
- ▶ Youth involvement in fisheries business.
- ▶ Local fisheries and local craft marketing activities.
- ▶ Offer of fisheries heritage.
- ▶ Business development and public activities in nature protection areas.



## EXPIERENCE ON TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION

The Northern Kurzeme FLAG has begun negotiations and an exchange of views with the Estonian NGO Development Centre and Estonian LAG "Green Riverland" on a common international progress of the project, which still intend to engage partners from Slovenia and Portugal.

It has signed a letter of intent with Poland LAG "Morenko" on cooperation in fisheries development and exchange of experience.



**ZBA** Ziemeļkurzemes  
Biznesa Asociācija

# THE IMPROVEMENT OF AREA AROUND THE ZENU POND

*Promoter:* NGO KOLKAS MAKSERNIEKU KLUBS  
(Kolka Anglers' Club)

*Place:* "Zenu Pond", Kolka parish, Dundaga district

*Manager:* Oskars Sprogis

*Implementation period:* 09.09.2013.–18.08.2014.

*Financing:* 15979,30 EUR

*Main target:* To improve the area of Zenu Pond at Dundaga region, Kolka parish, to make it more suitable for recreation and leisure of local inhabitants and visitors.

*Activities:* The area of Zenu Pond was cleaned up in the territory of Slitere National Park. It was cleaned of environmental pollution, recreation and fire places were installed, also footbridges, wooden walkways, benches, garbage bins, parking place, toilet and information stand.

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NATIONAL  
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PLAN 2020



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