

LITHUANIA

Implementing Local Development Strategies

Location
Dreverna

Programming period
2007 – 2013

Axis / Priority
Axis 4 – LEADER

Funding (EUR)
Total budget 144 928
EAFRD 104 348
National/Regional 26 087
Private 1 449
Other 13 044

Project duration
2012 – 2015

Project promoter
LAG Pajūrio Kraštas

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A village established an amber community house to offer amber workshops and promote collaboration among amber craftsmen.

Summary

Drevernos community - like many Lithuanian communities - has constantly thought about its economical viability and survival. As it is one of the oldest Lithuanian seaside communities, rich in amber craftsmen, it was decided to set up a community house, in which manufacturing of amber, workshops on amber processing and exhibitions could take place.



The community house has been developed into a tourist attraction. Starting with a small community-driven initiative, this project strengthened the regional tourism sector as a whole.

Results

Before the project was implemented, the community had only about 100 visitors per year and now they have 100 visitors per month in summer season.

The educational activities attract many young people. More than 500 people participate in the workshops every month.

There has been a number of the ripple effects, such as the establishment of new bicycle and kayak renting stations directly linked to the increase of visitors.

The project resulted created two new jobs. Furthermore, numerous tourism and other local businesses have increased their revenue.

Lessons & Recommendations

- The success of the project is heavily dependant on the active volunteers in the community.
- Despite all the voluntary support, the project faced delays due to administrative burden and bureaucracy that was not clear from the beginning of the project. A key lesson in this project is to do a proper legal check on the property to be used and prepare all needed documentation.