Finnish Cooperation with Neighbouring Areas for Developing Land Management in Russia

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Facts and figures of Finland

- Land area 304,530 km²
- Water area 33,615 km²
- Total area 338,195 km²

- Population 5.3 million
- 17 inhabitants per km²
- 67 % lives in towns
- 19 counties
- 334 municipalities
- 187,888 lakes
- 179,584 islands

- GDP per capita 30,000 euros
- 2.2 million cadastral unit
- 5.0 million parcels
Content

- Background of Neighbouring Area Cooperation
- Development of Land Management as a Part of Neighbouring Area Cooperation
- The Development of the Karelian Cadastre 1992 – 2001
- The Operation Expands and Deepens in the Neighbouring Areas 2002 – 2006
- New Requirements for Land Management 2010 – 2012
- Conclusions

Background

Main objective: to promote balanced economic and social development in the area.

The cooperation fosters administrative reforms and the renewal of the legal system.

The coordinating authority of neighbouring area cooperation is the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Agreement in 1992 between Finland and the Russian Federation: Murmansk region, the Republic of Karelia, the city of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad region.
Development of Land Management

UN / ECE made an international assessment of land management in Russia 2003.

**Main goal:** to improve the quality of credit markets, registered land ownership right and reliability of property unit connections

The development of land management as neighbouring area cooperation had three stages:
- Operation expands and deepens 2002 - 2006
- Managing processes of change 2007 - 2009

Karelian Cadastre 1992 - 2001

**Main goal:** to improve the land ownership conditions in Karelia in order to update the registers and maps associated with land, locally

The project aimed to create the cadastre of five districts (Sortavala, Lahdenpohja, Olonetsi, Pitkäranta, Muezerskii).

A large portion of practical training: to teach the local staff to use new measuring methods and new registration software.
The operation expands and deepens 2002 -2006

Main goal:
The operation was expanded to include the region of Murmansk and Leningrad districts. The opening of an appropriately equipped training facility in Petroskoy. To secure the competence of the trainers.

MoU between the National Land Survey of Finland and the Russian Federal Real Estate Cadastre Agency was signed in 2003.

Managing processes of change 2007 - 2009

Main goal:
to support and launch processes of change which allow solving problems associated with land management
1. to determine unclear joint owners of collective farms
2. a geographic information project M Tosno
3. a training project on teaching Russian experts about Finnish cadastral system

The Federal Registration Service Rosregistratsia was renamed to the Federal Service for State Registration, Cadastre and Mapping, ROSREESTR (Dec 15, 2008).
Participating districts of the Republic of Karelia

- Muezerskij
- Sortavala
- Lahdenpohja
- Pitkäranta
- Olonets

New requirements 2010 - 2012

Main goal:
to support to create a common automated federal cadastral system

- to simplify the registration process
- to continue training projects with a focus on joint use of geographic information, developing institutional and organisational land management, improving customer services

MoU was renewed on Sep 17, 2009.
Experiences and conclusions in cooperation

- to concentrate on one particular geographic area
- personal recognition is of vital importance
- cultural knowledge and relations are essential
- the project must firmly but, if necessary, flexibly follow the project plan
- the project organization has to attend to the implementation of the plan
- to act cross-administratively
- projects are usually delayed in the beginning
- For what general purpose has the land management development project been created?
- information about projects carried out in other countries at the same time
- MoU’s are highly significant.
- The political decision-makers have to be kept informed.
Thank you for your attention!

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