

REPORT ON REGIONAL MEETING IN DALSLAND LEARNING AREA, SWEDEN

30 November 2018

Summary:

The HNV Link regional meeting in Dalsland Learning area was held on 30 November 2018 at Dalslands folkhögskola, municipality of Färgelanda.

Focus was on sharing ideas and lessons learnt from the cross-visit to Ireland, as well as the visits we had this summer from Greece, UK, France, Bulgaria and Finland, and defining the possible approaches for implementing the HNV innovations in Dalsland, and nationally in Sweden.

The main purpose of the day was to find out how we can continue to work with the HNV process after the project is over and how we can use what we learned from the cross visits in the best way to reach our HNV vision.

We received many valuable reflections and thoughts from the participants during the meeting. We find that everyone sees the needs and wants to contribute to the HNV-process continuing.

What we noticed during the day and afterwards when we went through the notes was that many participants pointed out the importance of a cross-sectoral group that works strategically with HNV issues. It was emphasized that it is then important to start from a Dalsland perspective, but where one can also work to local and farm level, as well as work with regional and national actors. We perceive it as a development of the group that we today call the Dalsland Catalyzing Group (DKG). The next step, which we see from the results of the group work, is to solve questions about organization and financing:

- a) We need to gather a number of stakeholders to establish DKG and find a financing model and strategy for the continued work.
- b) We need to continue working with the HNV- vision for Dalsland, which we laid the foundation for in the HNV project, to make it even clearer.

We also perceive that the work should be based on:

- c) The people and the place. The landowner, the property, the landscape and its importance to society in a broad perspective, become a sort of organizing principle for the continued work. The local engagement is the core of the work.
- d) Sustainable land use. It is the ecological conditions that form the framework for the sustainability aspects of social and economic development.
- e) The semi natural grasslands. Grassland management is a key to achieving the goals of the vision, at both farm and landscape level. Therefore, there is extra focus on management and restoration of pastures and meadows.

We believe that these five points are a great way to gather different interests and quickly move from words to action!

Reflections and comments from the regional meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4PG-Bg0ypp4&feature=youtu.be>



Invitation:



2018-11-30 HNV-LINK, DALSLAND SUMMERY & FUTURE

What are the conclusions? Now, who needs to do what?

It is time to summarize the Horizon 2020-projektet HNV-Link in Dalsland. During this project many stakeholders have together shaped a common vision for the landscape with biodiversity and nature as a base for development in Dalsland.

All the stakeholders involved during the project, as well as other actors local, regional and national level, who can contribute to a sustainable land management in Dalsland, are now invited to a conference for the future!

Most Welcome!



Dalslands Miljö
& Energiförbund



LÄNSSTYRELSEN
VÄSTRA GÖTALANDS LÄN

Summery & future:

The history & the vision; what do they say and why?

Applicable innovations from HNV areas in Europe

What should and can we do now? Together and individually?

<http://www.hnmlink.eu/>

Register now!

30 NOVEMBER 2018

Kl. 9.30-15

**Dalslands
folkhögskola,
Färgelanda**

Register & specify any food requirements by 19th of November:

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THIS PROJECT HAS RECEIVED FUNDING FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION HORIZON 2020 RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROGRAMME UNDER GRANT AGREEMENT NO. 696391



Participants:

The meeting was attended by 43 participants (including Dalsland LA team). The participants consisted of stakeholders from local, regional and national level. Most of the them have participated actively in the work within the Dalsland learning area earlier in the project and have a good knowledge of what has been done. For about a third of the partakers, the regional meeting was the first time they participated in an activity in the HNV-Link project.

Participants

Name	Organisation	Group
Anders Nilsson	Västarvet, Natural and Cultural Heritage	1
Anna Jamiesson	Pasture beef Sweden	2
Anna Johansson	Farmer	3
Anna Simonsson	County Administrative Board, Agricultural dep	4
Annika Karlsson	Bengtsfors municipality	5
Bengt Skalstad	Swedish Forest Agency	6 sekr
Bo Sandeberg	Västkuststiftelsen, conservation nature reserve	3
Börje Pettersson	Dahlbergs slaughterhouse, Farmer	1
Christer Ivarsson	County Administrative Board, Agricultural dep	2
Christer Jansson	Federation of Swedish Farmers, Farmer	1 sekr
Dan Gunnardo	Environment and Energy office of Dalsland	4 sekr
Ingvar Olofsson	County Administrative Board, Nature dep	6
Jan Sandell	Environment and Energy office of Dalsland	7 sekr
Jan Uddén	Bohuslän museum	1
Jeanette Lindh-Svanqvist	Bengtsfors municipality	2 sekr
Jenny Christensen	Environment and Energy office of Dalsland	3 sekr
Johan Abenius	Dalsland Tourism	4
Johan Larsson	Farmer	5
Jonas Andersson	County Administrative Board, Agricultural dep	6
Karin Persson	County Administrative Board, Agricultural dep	1
Katarina Johnsson	Södra, Forestry corporation	2
Katrin McCann	Environment and Energy office of Dalsland	
Kristina Haglund	Environment and Energy office of Dalsland	5 sekr
Lars Johansson	County Administrative Board, Agricultural dep	
Lina Morin	County Administrative Board, Agricultural dep	7
Lars-Olof Ottosson	Politician Åmål municipality	3
Magnus Ljung	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	
Magnus Nilsson	Tourist enterprices	2
Marie Andreasson	County Administrative Board, Agricultural dep	7
Martin Carling	Politician Dals-Ed municipality/ Fyrbodal	3
Miriam Sannum	Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan, adult education	4
Monica Svensson	Dalsland Ornithological Association	6
Ola Jennersten	WWF	7
Per Jonsson	Politician Bengtsfors municipality, LAG	1
Per Undeland	Dalsland Ornithological Association	2
Robin Eriksson	Västarvet, Natural and Cultural Heritage	3
Sara Roland	Västarvet, Natural and Cultural Heritage	5
Stefan Husar	County Administrative Board, Nature dep	5
Susanne Lindh	Swedish board of Agriculture	6
Svante Hultengren	Naturcentrum, conservation consultant	7
Sven Swedberg	County Administrative Board, Nature dep	4
Tobias Bernhardsson	Politician Färgelanda Municipality, LAG	3
Ylva Carlqvist-Warnborg	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	6



Program:

Facilitator: Magnus Ljung, researcher at the Swedish University of Agriculture

HNV-LINK, DALSLAND SUMMERY & FUTURE

Programme

9.30	Coffee & Welcoming words	<i>Introduction. Who are present? What are our expectations of the day?</i>
10.00	County administrative board	<i>A summery of the HNV-Link project in Dalsland: Travel in time through Dalsland and collaboration. What have all the engaged stakeholders achieved together? What does the vision say?</i>
10.30	Dalsland Catalyzing group	<i>Members of Dalsland catalyzing group share experiences of innovations from their cross-visit to the Burren, Ireland as well as from other LA:s visiting Dalsland.</i>
11.15	Break (fruit & water)	
11.30	Bee hive	<i>How does this feel? Discuss with your neighbour</i>
11.45	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	<i>What does research on the topic say? What have we learnt during the project and what do we need to learn more about? In which way is Dalsland unique and what are the needs here?</i>
12.30	Environmental and Energy association of Dalsland	<i>Examples of local, regional and national targets we together can reach if the remaining jigsaw pieces fall into place.</i>
13.00	LUNCH	
13.45	Group discussions and presentations	<i>What do we do now? Suggestions from all participants.</i>
14.30	Conclusions, synthesis and coffee	<i>How do we move on? Results from group discussions, next step?</i>
15.00	Closure	



Description of the day:

Part 1

“Welcome! Introduction. Who are present? What are our expectations of the day?”

Marie Andreasson, head of the Agricultural department at the County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland, started the meeting by welcoming everyone. Marie finished with a quick review and presentation of all types of actors who participated during the day.

Part 2

“A summery of the HNV-Link project in Dalsland: Travel in time through Dalsland and collaboration. What have all the engaged stakeholders achieved together? What does the vision say?”

Lars Johansson, Agricultural Advisor at the County Administrative Board, repeated and summarized what the work of the project has been about so far:

- ✓ The development of the Baseline assessment report; How all the stakeholders created a common picture of the current situation, created consensus on the factors that led to the current situation and understanding of which landscape these trends will lead to if nothing is done (the Business as usual scenario), and created a common vision.
- ✓ The development of the Innovation report; How all the stakeholders identified what is lacking in our LA to reach our Vision, what innovations we see locally, regionally and nationally, which can be jigsaw pieces to reach our or other Learning Area Visions, as well as identified innovations in other countries that may be part of the solution to reach our vision.
- ✓ Developing the Action Plan. The actors have pointed to the need to establish a new arena and a group of people who can start working continuously with cross-sectoral issues to reach the Vision. We call this arena and group of people Dalsland Catalyzing Group (DCG).

Part 3

“Members of Dalsland catalyzing group share experiences of innovations from their cross-visit to the Burren, Ireland as well as from other LA:s visiting Dalsland.”

In order to reach our HNV vision for Dalsland, we need to take note of how others solve similar challenges that we face. In the process of developing the innovation report, we identified social and institutional innovations as the most important type for us to look for. For this reason, we chose to go to Ireland because we perceived that they worked successfully with, among other things, developing this type of solutions.





Katrin McCann, environmental specialist at the Environment and Energy office of Dalsland, began by telling about the background to the trip to the Burren, Ireland, which took place on October 24-28, 2018. One of the things we were impressed with is how the Irish managed to work with HNV processes continuously for many years. Arranging work continuity has been difficult for us in Dalsland. That is why we wanted to know more about how they organize and finance their work.

Katrin also informed that the local LAG financed a large part of the trip, which allowed twelve people to participate.

Christer Jansson, mediator at the Federation of Swedish Farmers, and also a farmer, Jeanette Lindh-Svanqvist, business developer at Bengtsfors municipality, Miriam Sannum, Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan (adult education) and Lars Ottosson, politician in Bengtsfors municipality and active in Federation of Swedish Farmers, told us about their reflections from the Ireland journey:

- ✓ The mindset is:
 - The farmer in the center
 - Trust and confidence
 - Create pride- "A happy farmer is a productive farmer"
 - Simplicity, focus on problem solving
- ✓ Minimal paperwork
- ✓ Flexibility: "Freedom to farm"
- ✓ Fair and transparent payment system



- ✓ Synergies between the Burren program and Burrenbeotrúst have created a pride for their cultural heritage, which reinforced other activities and results.
- ✓ Technical support for development and improvement has created the conditions for farmers to be able to conduct economically sustainable HNV activities.

Katrin McCann and Lars Johansson also summed up reflections from the visits Dalsland received from Greece, UK, France, Bulgaria and Finland during the summer 2018. Based on what the visitors said at the visits and what they wrote in their reports, we interpret that the following innovations and reflections were perceived as central:

- ✓ Hälsingestintan: The mobile abattoir
- ✓ Someone (usually the farmer) has a vision for what the area should look like.
- ✓ Community engagement that places the farmer in the centre.
 - Provides a collective approach that provides confidence to the farmer that his or her actions are acceptable to a wider community.
 - Provides a clear ambition or outcome for the area including other public benefits in addition to the ecological targets.
 - There is a long term objective necessary for farming.
- ✓ The role of an adviser and/or facilitator (both probably provided by the same person) is critical. The advisor with vision, communication and engagement skills is essential; a person to engender confidence and innovation.
- ✓ A tool box, including funding opportunities, to help delivery that can be tailored to individual conditions and although the tools may be blunt at the start they can be sharpened up as the process of delivery continues.
- ✓ Payment for the restoration of pastures by the state.
- ✓ The overall attitude of the farmers – they are innovative and do not complain.
- ✓ The innovative use of the sheep wool and leather.

Part 4

“What does research on the topic say? What have we learnt during the project and what do we need to learn more about? In which way is Dalsland unique and what are the needs here?”

The main messages in Magnus Ljungs presentation was about:

- ✓ The major societal challenges, Agenda 2030.
- ✓ The need of more efficient methods to achieve goals.
- ✓ Innovations are required in a number of different areas to achieve sustainable development.
- ✓ In our case, innovations in the social and institutional area are the basis for success in other areas.
- ✓ Magnus went through the basics of what is required for collaboration processes to take place.
- ✓ Magnus described strengths and weaknesses in the HNV work that has already been going on in Dalsland for almost 20 years.



Part 5

“Examples of local, regional and national targets we together can reach if the remaining jigsaw pieces fall into place.”

The main messages in Katrin McCanns presentation was about:

- ✓ What does Dalsland's HNV vision say?
- ✓ What other visions and goals are there that affect what we should work with and how?
- ✓ MANY! Hundreds?
- ✓ Will it function to work with the different goals separately from each other?
- ✓ We need to find ways to work with all goals simultaneously.
- ✓ Can Dalsland Catalyzing Group can be a way to start working cross-sectorally?

Part 6

“What do we do now? Suggestions from all participants.”

Summary and 5 categories of proposals and reflections from the group work (7 groups):



A. Prerequisites for DCG (Dalsland's Catalyzing Group) to be able to work effectively:

DKG is central to the continued work, and can be an arena for rural development, but we need to work on:

- Formalization
- Formal mandate from the stakeholders. Letter of intend?
- Financing
- Find processleader(s)

B. Dalsland's Catalyzing Group: Purpose and role

- What focus? Nature conservation or broader? Broader!
- Show success projects (for example the Burren)
- Dialogue; Politic, NGOs, authorities
- Find cross-sector solutions, for example find ways to market meat from HNV pastures
- Tie together levels an geographic scales; From work on the farm to overall visions and goals for the landscape
- Investigate whether the UNESCO man and biosphere could be an option for the continued work

C. Farm-level solutions

- Find solutions that benefit both the environment, the economy and the farmer's social situation.



D. Consumer and public

- We can get inspiration from how Burrenbeo Trust works

<https://burrenbeo.com/>

E. Overall reflections and thoughts

- Build the continued work on a number of core principles; for example, collaboration, trust, awareness, solution focus, pride

Part 7

"How do we move on? Results from group discussions, next step?"

Magnus Ljung moderated this program item. One person from each group presented the most important reflections and suggestions from their group. Each group also provided a written documentation. The summary of these suggestions and reflections is presented under the heading "Summary", on the first page of the report. The meeting ended with dialogue and a positive feeling of "Let's start!"

Media:

Media was invited by a press release and resulted in two (identical) articles in two local newspapers, Dalslänningen and Provinstidningen Dalsland. Information about the meeting was also published on Facebook and Twitter by the County Administrative Board, and Environment and Energy office of Dalsland.

