



Kaasrahasanud
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Letter of Intent

Hereby **Kehittämisyhdistys SILMU ry** (LAG Silmu, Finland) has intent to take part as a nonfinancial partner in the preparatory project together with **Saarte Koostöökogu MTÜ** (LAG Saarte Koostöökogu, Estonia) and **Hiidlaste Koostöökogu MTÜ** (LAG Hiiumaa Cooperation Network) in order to prepare the possible future cooperation and exchange of experience toward renewing the Nordic tradition of the construction and use of wooden boats. LAG SILMU is only participating in a cooperation meeting being held in Finland in April 2025, to provide its perspective on regional development.

The aim of the preparatory project is to set the terms for future cooperation, conduct pilot activities, and meet with projects partners to coordinate the details of a transnational cooperation (TNC) project.

The preparatory project consists of planned activities on March-August 2025:

- Meeting of the representatives and target group from LAG Hiiumaa Cooperation Network and LAG Saarte Koostöökogu and possible other potential partners in Finland, workshops and seminars for testing and agreeing on different activities concerning the exchange of experience between the interested parties and beneficiaries of the project;
- Participation of representatives at the LINC conference in Austria to share the project idea, finding possible more project partners interested in the topic and connecting new contacts in order to prepare a future cooperation;
- Conducting a workshop for making a wooden boat miniature model and organizing a presentation of wooden boats and model at the Kuressaare Maritime Days in August 2025 (Saaremaa)
- Reviewing of the outcomes of preparatory project with partners.

The aim of the meetings and preparatory actions are to determine the possibility of final TNC project with the activities beginning in the autumn 2025.

The possible aims of the TNC project will be:



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- to renew and activate the once lively wooden (incl. clinker) boat tradition in the Nordic countries. This tradition is now covered by the UNESCO inscription. The desire is that wooden boats will return to active use and that those considering purchasing a new boat may see the wooden boat as a realistic alternative.
- to restore the custom to use and care for your wooden boat. A wooden boat can be spectacularly beautiful for a hundred years if cared for in the proper manner. We need to correct the misconception that the care for a wooden boat is overwhelming.
- to restore the vocational education of wooden boat builders and to strengthen the demand for wooden boats. The tradition will be lost without the building of new boats. Earlier there were artisan boat builders in every region, both coastal and along lakes, but now just a few remain in each country.
- to pass on the heritage and traditions related to the construction of wooden boats to young people, to arouse interest in the construction and restoration of wooden boats in young people

The estimated timeframe for the implementation of this TNC project will be 2025 – 2027.

Yours sincerely,

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Tuusulaassa 19.3.2025

Anette Uihanto

Kärklal 19.3.2025

Kaja Antons

Kuressaares 19.03.2025

AIVAR KALLE