

## Friends of Liminka Bay Association Finland

Kaisa Korhonen Entrepreneur

### Where is Liminka Bay?!



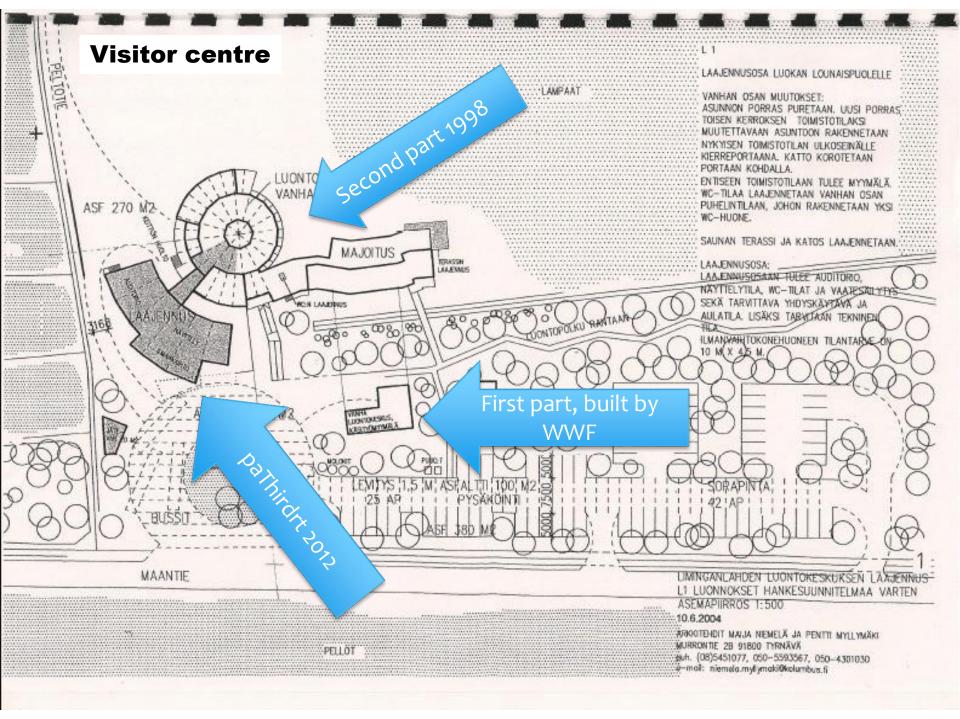




#### **Liminka Bay Visitor Centre**

### Liminka Bay Visitor Centre

- \* WWF built up old building late 80's
- New part built in 1998 by municipality
  - \* 950 m<sup>2</sup>
  - \* Small hotel: in 6 rooms, 28 beds
  - \* Sauna and meeting rooms
  - Restaurant (100pax)
  - Abut 20 000 visitors / year (open from late April September)
- Enlargement and renovation 2012 together with Metsähallitus
  - \* 1200 m<sup>2</sup>
  - Exhibition
  - \* Auditorium and new meeting room
  - \* Office for 4 persons
  - \* About 55 000 visitors (open all year around)



## Preliminary Study autumn – winter 2008-2009:

- Aim: to commit network to nature centre development project
- \* 35 000 € Funded by council of Oulu Region, Liminka municipality and Metsähallitus
- \* Result: International visitor centre –project
  - \* Nature tourism is one of the high lights in travel business
  - Benchmarking: Hornborga-sjön in Sweden

# International visitor centre – project - 2010-2014

#### \* Aim: Build up visitor centre which is connected to Metsähallitus visitor centre concept

	Estimated expenses €	EU €	Government €	Municipality €
<b>New part of the building</b> Responsible: Metsähallitus Funded by: Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, North Ostrobothnia	2 200 000	1 320 000	880 000	
<b>Exhibition</b> Responsible: Metsähallitus, Funded by: Council of Oulu Region	800 000	480 000	320 000	
Renovation of the old part and yard Responsible: Liminka Municipality Funded by and Responsible: Metsähallitus, Funded by Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, North Ostrobothnia	500 000 8	225 000		275 000

## Partners in Liminka bay international visitor centre - development

- Birds as a high light in nature tourism in Oulu region 2010-2011
  - \* Responsible Metsähallitus, Friends of Liminka Bay Association
  - Aim to create new products on bases of the birds
  - \* Funding: EU Regional Funds / Council of Oulu region
  - \* 400 000 € / 70%
- \* Liminka Bay nature tourism Concept and internationalization
  - \* Liminka Municipality
  - \* Aim: to create a model how region co-operates and open international markets
  - \* Funding: Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, North Ostrobothnia
  - \* 338 000 € / 70%

## **EU-projects**

#### \* IF you use EU-projects

- Be careful what you promise to entrepreneurs and funders
- \* Make sure that project manager knows the rules
  - \* Find the organization who knows the rules
- Get entrepreneurs to work together already before the project starts

# Who are working now in Liminka bay?

#### \* Friends of Liminka Bay Association

- Members: Municipalities, Metsähallitus, Entrepreneurs and individuals
- Keep up the webpages, organizes events "bird photo festival" in April
- \* 2 board members are working for Metsähallitus, also restaurant entrepreneur is in the board
- \* Entrepreneurs
  - \* In restaurant & hotel we have independent entrepreneur
  - \* Guiding to bird tower (in exhibition Metsähallitus)
  - Some local products

#### Lessons to learn

- \* Together You can do a lot!
- Every successful project needs good network and enthusiastic people
  - \* Municipality and governmental organizations can't do it alone!
- Take care the local people, what you can offer for them? They can give huge support if they feel part of the project
- To develop the area we need customers, to get customers we need products and sellers!
- And don't be too humble! Visitors are looking for experiences not facilities.



#### Lessons to learn

- Take care of all entrepreneurs and associations, they feel left-out easily
  - Remember all entrepreneurs have different goals and recourses!
    - Some of them don't speak English, some of them don't want to go abroad,
    - some of them don't want to relate birds,
    - some of them have enough customers,
    - some of them don't want to cooperate with someone...
    - and we have to respect all that!



#### Thank You!

Kaisa Korhonen Entrepreneur <u>Kaisa@finnature.fi</u> +358 40 73 88 658

http://www.nationalparks.fi/en/liminkabayvisitorcentre http://www.liminganlahti.fi/en/home.html https://www.facebook.com/liminganlahti/?ref=nf