

FINLAND



National SD Strategy as a participatory process

Context

The Government SD Strategy (1998) implemented.

2001-2003 Evaluation of Sustainable development in Finland. (A multi-stakeholder process)

New challenges discussed in the thematic meeting of the FNCSD

New National SD strategy

process started by the decision of the FNCSD in Dec 2004.

The process for preparing the New National SD Strategy Aug 2005 – June 2006.

Relevant national particularities:
FNCSD (1993 – 2007)

Description

General Description of your example:

A National SD strategy process under the FNCSD (Strategy group chaired by the Min. of Finance, over 20 members from the administration, business and civil society)

The NSDS will be discussed and decided upon in the FNCSD 13.6.2006.

Purpose and objectives: To produce a genuine national SD strategy to be implemented by the committed parties of the process

Unique features: All relevant actors involved

Description (continued)

Obstacles and driving forces:

No guarantee that all the parties are fully committed (NGOs, farmers, business ...). But the open political dialogue during the strategy process is rewarding.

Success Factors: Continuity of the national SD process with expanding partnerships

Lessons learned: You have to find new approaches and new forms of cooperation to keep the SD process alive.

Outlook

Challenges ahead: 1) Implementation by all the actors involved in the strategy process; 2) The link to the EUSDS; 3) Keeping the SD process alive after the Parliamentary elections in 2007.

Expectations for the future: More networking between the MS EUSDS focal points (role for the ESDN).