FINLAND

National SD Strategy as a participatory process

Context
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.

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).