

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ON SECOND HOMES.

Hi!

You have signed up for the network on second homes, which was announced by AER, on behalf of Oppland County Authority.

We are happy to announce that so far we are 9 partners from different regions in Europe:

- The municipality of Cautarets, France.
- The region of Salzburg (Land Salzburg), Austria
- Dorset County Council, England
- The municipality of Roquetas de Mar, Spain
- The municipality of Pudasjarvi, Finland
- Örebro regional development Council, Sweden
- County of Västra Götaland/Fyrbodol/Norra Bohuslän, Sweden
- Buskerud County Authority, Norway
- Oppland County Authority, Norway (our region)

We represent 9 regions in 7 countries. We have some challenges in common, while others are quite different. We represent the inland, mountain regions, coastal regions – sparsely populated areas and areas which are very popular for second homes.

Topics for the network:

Through your answers to the partner search, we have noticed that the following topics are of interest:

- Get information from other regions and share experiences
- Get a new long time perspective to identify new innovations for development
- Get a survey of the legislations in the different countries concerning spatial planning, construction, real estate etc.
- What impact does second homes have on:
 - house prices
 - social structures (social impact)
 - local housing markets
 - economy
- What to do with declining facilities – like schools, post offices etc.
- How to use empty houses and cabins (for sale or hire)
- How to integrate people who live part of the year in the local society. How can they be an asset to our municipalities?
- Retired people move to their cabins, to live there permanently. What are the challenges and what are the opportunities?
- Second homes means an increased amount of inhabitants parts of the year. What challenges does this give for the municipalities?
- Sec. homes give new ways of getting places of work for citizens in sparsely populated areas. How can we strengthen this possibility to create new jobs?
- How to develop rural areas and tourism.
- Economic consequences from sec. homes? Does anybody know if there are any surveys of this?

* Our suggestion now is that we pick out some of these as a beginning. Later on we can choose other topics.

Facts about second homes in your region / municipality:

As a basis for the network, we want to have a number of facts about second homes in your regions:

- Tradition for sec. homes in the region. For how long has there been sec. homes here.
- Numbers of sec. homes today (not exact number).
- Plans for more sec. homes in the future (how many, localization etc.)
- Where does the owners of the sec. homes live?
- Who are using the sec. homes in this area? (-people from close regions, from more remote regions or other countries?)
- Challenges caused by sec. homes today and in the future
- What possibilities does sec. homes create for the region / municipality.

How can we cooperate:

Our suggestions are:

- 1) Home page for the network on internet?
- 2) Video conference?
- 3) To meet in Brussels right after the Open Days in October.
- 4) To meet in one of the regions of the network?
- 5) Other ideas?

We want your views on:

- How to cooperate.
- Facts about second homes in your region/municipality.
- What topics do you want to start with.

Please send your answers and viewpoints to:

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Best regards

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