KIHNU ISLAND
Masterpieces of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity

COUNTRY: **ESTONIA**

INHABITANTS: 350 winter, 700 summer

TOURISTS: 20 000 per year

SPECIFIC STATUS: **UNESCO ICH masterpiece since 2003**
KIHNU CULTURAL SPACE

Brief description

INITIATIVE/ ACTIVITY:
• LANGUAGE
• FOLK COSTUMES
• FOLK SONGS
• FOLK DANCES
• TRADITIONAL LIVING SUBSTANCES

PARTNERS / GOVERNANCE:
• LOCAL GOVERNMENT
• STATE
• DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS IN MAINLAND
• DIFFERENT NGO-S
KIHNU CULTURAL SPACE AS A MASTERPIECE

MAJOR RESULTS:

• SCHOOL PROGRAMMES AND LANGUAGE STUDIES
• KIHNU HERITAGE SCHOOL
• HERITAGE CENTER – METSAMAA FARM
• FESTIVALS AND CAMPS
• LIGHTHOUSE AS VISITORS CENTER

CHALLENGES:

• NEW CHALLENGES IS HOW TO KEEP PERMANENT PEOPLE NUMBER IN NORMAL LEVEL
• NEW INNOVATIVE JOBS
LESSONS LEARNED

- NEGATIVE -

• The population number is decreasing
• Not enough financial support, difficult to find motivated workers
• Salaries are not competitive comparing with mainland
• Traditional culture keepers leave from island to find work somewhere else

+ POSITIVE +

• Strong moral support for things what we do, we are popular
• Strong identity, strong traditions
• Lot of successful projects
• Lot of media support – isle of woman