

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study conducted by the Estonian Urban Lab and the Estonian Village Movement Kodukant, was to map the current situation of the urban and rural communities in Estonia and to get an overview of their activities, problems, and relations with local governments. The study was conducted in 2014.

The study had two phases: qualitative focus group interviews and quantitative questionnaires. The four focus groups interviews were conducted in Harju, Pärnu, Tartu and Ida-Virumaa counties. We inquired about respondents' both definitions of community, initial motives behind becoming active as well as current activities, focusing especially on exchange of information within their community group, financial and development issues and co-operation with local government. In total 612 respondents answered the questionnaire.

The study is available on Estonian Urban Lab's website www.linnalabor.ee/kogukonnauring

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SISEMINISTEERIUM



KÜSK Kodanikuühiskonna Sihtkapital

COMMUNITY STUDY

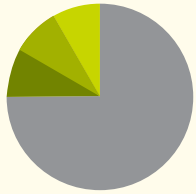


mapping of the current status of
Estonian urban and rural communities
2014

www.linnalabor.ee/kogukonnauring

WHAT is a community?

community forms of activity



76% registered as an NGO
10% formally unorganised
7% based on association contract
7% under the leadership of the village leader

WHY is a community active?

REASONS FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVATION



cultural development



solving problems



w/a one salient reason

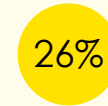
REASONS FOR CURRENT ACTIVITY



cultural development



w/a one salient reason



solving problems



opposition to a project

WHO is a community?

structure of an average community



6-20 participants



10 active members



3-5 leaders

WHAT are the communities striving for?



common interests and goals through continuous interaction



common values, history and traditions

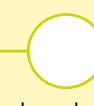


openness to new ideas and members

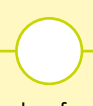
WHAT decreases/increases community activity?



opposition of local government



leaders leaving



lack of new members



completion of a community centre



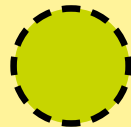
opposition, protest



successful event

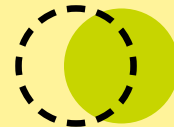


WHAT is co-operation with local government like?



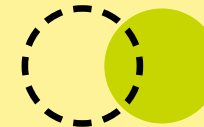
VERY ACTIVE (23%)

- drafting development plans
- planning services
- providing services
- formal recognition



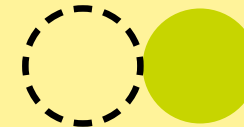
ACTIVE (12%)

- providing services
- formal recognition



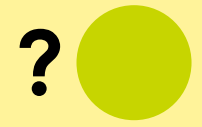
PROJECT-BASED (23%)

- project funding
- organising events
- formal recognition



NON-RECOGNISED (20%)

- project funding



UNDEFINED (22%)

- lack of single and permanent reason for cooperation*

*11% of communities have no relations with their local government