



MAA- JA  
KOTITALOUSNAISET

# **Finnish-Swedish collaboration: learnings from INSPECT project**

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# INSPECT project

” Invasive Species Eradication and Control”

- Finnish-Swedish project established for the control of harmful alien plant species
  - Himalayan balsam and Japanese rose
- **Project coordinator:** Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY center)
- **Project partners:**
  - Västerbotten County Government
  - Municipality of Umeå
  - ProAgria South Ostrobothnia  
/Rural Women’s Advisory Organization
  - Metsähallitus
  - The city of Vaasa



# INSPECT project

## Funding

- The main financier Interreg Botnia-Atlantica
- Other major co-financier in Finland was The federation of Ostrobothnia
- Other smaller financier in Finland (assisting the local eradication work):
  - Kyrönjoki fund
  - The city of Kurikka
  - The city on Kauhajoki
  - Foundation of the Southern Ostrobothnia Agricultural Society



# INSPECT project

## Main goals

- There were several goals with the project:
  1. To compile separate action plans (for both species)
  2. To inform, inspire and activate public
  3. Starting cross-border co-operation
  4. To find the most effective way to eradicate alien species
  5. How to effectively organize the workforce
- When activating the public, the goal was to get permanent eradication results
  - it is not possible to remove all plants from the target area during the project

# INSPECT project

The three main areas of INSPECT have been testing of:

1. Control methods (Himalayan balsam and Japanese rose)
2. communication methods
3. testing of workforce suitable for control work



Pictures: Inspect project





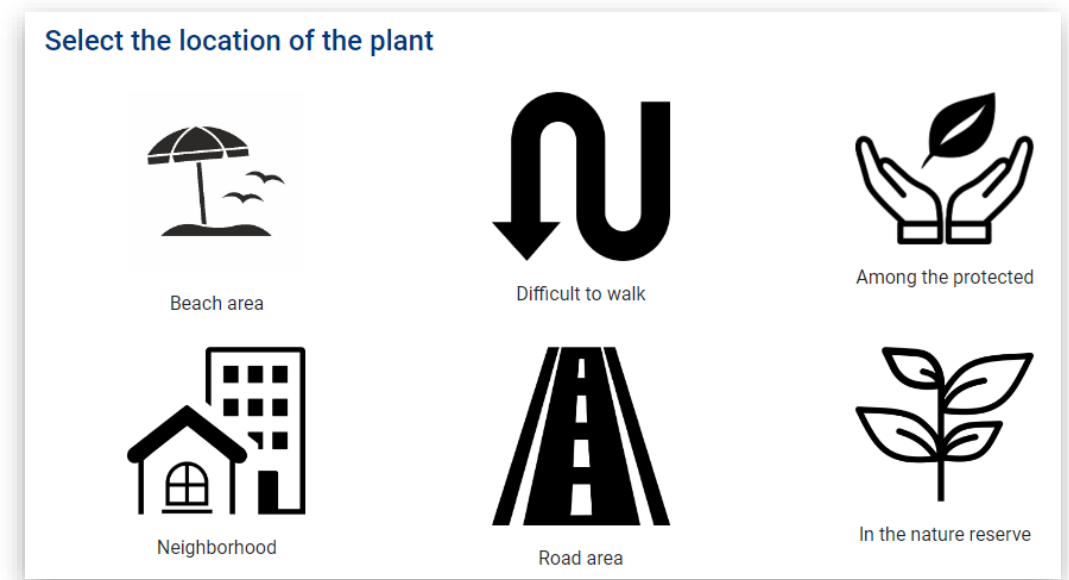
# INSPECT project

## Throughputs

- The eradication manuals



- The digital tool (eradication advisor)



- You can find INSPECT material here: <https://www.ely-keskus.fi/web/inspect/etusivu>

# International collaboration - what we've learned?

## Before starting

- Decide what kind of digital tools or work environments will be used
- Decide the project language

## During the project

- Utilization of cultural differences
  - for example, the concept of talkoo
- Notice different laws of the countries!
- Handling the alien species waste

# International collaboration - what we've learned?

- **Public needs more basic information about alien species!**
  - Positive communication
- Co-operation between countries arouses more interest
  - Different countries have different experience and experts
  - Existing knowledge spreads
- INSPECT project gave important information about the future needs
  - INSPIRE project
- **The project coordinator working in the project plays an important role!**



# The situation after INSPECT

- **Co-operation between Vaasa and Umeå green area units**
  - Continues with meetings to exchange experiences
- **The authorities working group** has been formed between the countries

**Thank you!**

