

The Project

PAWS is a Leonardo project with a running time of altogether 30 months (October 2004 - March 2007) and is promoted with means of the European Commission.

Since October 2004, institutions from Finland, Czechia, Slovakia, Austria, Germany, and Great Britain have been developing a seminar concept for foresters under the title: "Pedagogic Work in the Forest" (PAWS).

This 30-month project is promoted by "Leonardo da Vinci", the European program for vocational education and training.



www.paws.daa-bbo.de

The Challenge

The concept of sustainability is of crucial importance for the development of a future-oriented perspective for mankind. Unfortunately, today we experience an increasing alienation of people from nature and the natural processes and interdependencies. In this respect, the forest as an ecological terrain offers unlimited possibilities as a teaching, illustrating and learning object.

Therefore, it is very important that the information and knowledge of ecological interdependencies and sustainability should be passed to as many people as possible. And this task is increasingly taken on by foresters within the framework of their general job description.

However, most foresters either have a limited education in the pedagogical area or none at all, and usually have little experience in communicative or propagating skills. And whereas working with children presents not that much of a problem, most foresters lack the pedagogical background knowledge to develop concepts for new target groups such as disabled or senior citizens.

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The Solution

The **Paws** project meets these needs and challenges by developing a tailor-made course for foresters that provides not only basic knowledge in pedagogics, psychology, or teaching methods, but also supports and encourages practical experience with different target groups.

The course itself consists of three workshops and two self-learning periods (that are supported by a tutor).

The **Paws** project develops the following products for the course concept:

- **Course Framework:** Basic framework describing the ideas and concepts of the **Paws** course
- **Course Manual:** Trainers manual describing the structure, goals, methods, and training materials of the three workshops.
- **Workbook:** Reference book for learners describing pedagogical, psychological and other important topics from a forester's point of view.
- **Tour Planner:** CD-ROM-based program offering exercises for the self-learning periods as well as powerful tools for planning guided tours.

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Pedagogic Work In The Forest

A Seminar Concept

For Foresters



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