



Impacts

- A more sustainable basis for industry expansion, through combined awareness of the historical natural stone legacy and further opportunities for substitution in both renovation and new construction projects.
- Wider appreciation of the importance of the cultural and historical natural stone heritage, especially within the NaStA project area, brings benefits to both local communities and tourism.

NaStA website, <http://projects.gtk.fi/nasta>



History and Future of Natural Stones in Architecture Bridge Between South East Finland and Russia



The main focus of the NaStA project is to support SMEs in the natural stone industry by creating an improved operational environment and generating new business opportunities. To achieve this, we:

- increase general knowledge and awareness of the origin and use of natural stones in historical buildings and infrastructure
- enhance existing skills and develop new capabilities to support both private operators and public sector interests in the natural stone industry
- create mechanisms and provide opportunities for closer cooperation and networking activities within the natural stone community
- actively support the preservation and revitalization of the cultural and historical natural stone heritage and promote initiatives in public awareness and tourism, particularly, but not exclusively, within the NaStA project area.

The project supports the natural stone business by determining needs for restoration, outlining availability of old stone types, identifying historical stones, describing patina productization and facilitating business potential.

Use of Stones and Needs for Restoration

Evaluation of the demand of original natural stone in buildings and constructions by collecting a catalogue of natural stones used in buildings and the needs for restoration in co-operation with authorities.

Availability of Historical Stones

Evaluation of availability of original stones from old quarries and from alternative stone deposits. Based on the results of fieldworks and laboratory measurements, conclusions of possibilities to re-exploit historic quarries or the need to use alternative sources for restoration works will be drawn.

Identification and Productization of Stones

Evaluation of indicators that characterize the historical stone type as a “fingerprint” to connect the traditional stones to the original quarries. Methods to produce the appearance of the exposed historical natural stones for new produced stones in case of restoration.

Business Potential and Visibility

Assessment of new business opportunities with stakeholders of the project in the project area in order to begin and facilitate cross border business relations with Finnish and Russian actors. The logistic supply chain from the quarry to restoration constructions is described and a story of the red rapakivi granite in Virolahti is filmed as a video.

Dissemination and Promotion

Administration of the project and dissemination and exchange of knowledge that allows the support of business environment in each activity. The aim is also to raise the knowledge of the cultural heritage of traditional natural stones used in famous constructions.

