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# **An example of cooperation between local governments in Viljandi County:**

**What works and what does not?**

# The Association of Local Authorities of Viljandi County IS:

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- a free association;
- 15 years old;
- 4 people;
- a budget of 4 million;
- with twice less responsibilities than money;
- protects the rights of local governments;
- carries out tasks delegated to local governments;
- A partner to all public service providers in the county.

# The Association of Local Authorities of Viljandi County IS NOT:

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- a club of rural municipality mayors;
- bringing down the government;
- taking the place of county governments;
- financed by the state;
- not much like other local government associations, unfortunately;
- not like other state associations.

# Good cooperation examples of the ALAVC

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- A common foundation for social welfare services;
- Things that cross municipality or state borders are usually done together – training sessions, events, pupils' events, support to county events, external relations and tourism development;
- Projects – Green Way, EQUAL, collection of hazardous waste and cultural projects.

# Bad cooperation examples

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- We do not deal with bad things;
- The public water supply and sewerage project;
- If there is no interest to work together, we do not.

# Expectations for additional financing

- Very interested in:
  - Study tours;
  - Studies/analyses (socioeconomic readiness and need for the administrative reform);
  - Tourism development;
  - More varied leisure opportunities;
  - Availability and security of Internet;
  - Development of contacts and information networks between businessmen of the Member States with an aim to activate local economic activities.

# Lesser expectations

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- Training of officials;
- Cooperation projects of two local governments to improve public services;
- Improvement of the administrative capacity, competence and cooperation capacity of local government associations and county governments;
- Improving the abilities of local government associations to negotiate and have a say in things;
- Development of alternative activities to stimulate local employment.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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