

Day care centres in the town of Tapa are waiting for the “rejuvenation” of the town

The town of Tapa, which is situated at the crossroads of several essential traffic arteries, has always attracted young labour force throughout its 130-year history. The existence of a day care centre is becoming increasingly important for young families when choosing a place to live. The town of Tapa has renovated two day care centres at a time by the means of the European Union Structural Funds.

There was a functioning day care centre in Tapa already during the Tsarist Period, due to the industrial history of the town and its close connections with the railway, resulting in long workdays of the parents and the need for the organisation of a child care.

Nowadays the industry is developing rapidly in Tapa. The number of workplaces is increasing and more and more young skilled workers are coming to the town. Why are young, energetic and vigorous families moving to Tapa and staying there? One reason lies in the fact that there are good day care centres in the town. Until now the day care centres of Tapa had not been in very good order. For years, the day care centres had been included in the list of the objects in need of major repairs upon the preparation of the rural municipality budget. According to rural municipality mayor Kuno Rooba, it was also difficult to find a builder who would have been



Photos: Vahur Leemets

ready to face the challenge of carrying out major repair works simultaneously in two functioning day care centres. „We did not plan to close either of the day care centres, because it would have been impossible to move one centre elsewhere with its six groups. The construction works and daily activities of the day care centres had to be conducted simultaneously,” explained Rooba.

The children and employees of the day care centres in Tapa watched for almost a year how their day care centres were gradually improved both internally and externally, starting from the replacement of pipes to the construction of new playgrounds. The infrastructure of the day care centres dated back to the period between the 1960s and 1980s – the heating system was uneconomic, roof constructions were

substandard and decayed and there was no modern ventilation system. The windows and electricity system were replaced and the facade and roof were renovated. The indispensable fire alarm system was installed as well.



Project manager Vahur Leemets suggests, on the basis of his personal experience, to perform the construction procurement certainly before the submission of the main application, since this will enable the implementation of the budget and simplify the later reporting.

Renovation of the day care centres was indispensable with regard to the future. The analysis of the number of children in the day care centres of the town is given in the development plans of the day care centres in Tapa and it has become evident that the number of children will certainly not decrease in the future, it is likely to increase. „A better environment for the development of children – this is the main outcome of the project,“ Vahur Leemets says, summing up the results.

Program for the Development of Local Living Environment



ERDF support: 4 109 000 kroons

Applicant: rural municipality of Tapa

Total project cost: 11 536 114 kroons

Project duration: 2006 to 2007

Supported activities:

- Construction supervision
- General construction works (ground and first floors)
- Renovation of the facade
- Renovation of the windows
- Renovation of the heating system
- Renovation of the ventilation
- Electricity works and renovation of the fire alarm system
- Sanitary works of the day care centre Pisipõnn
- Construction of the gable roof of the day care centre Pisipõnn
- Construction of the ventilation chamber in the attic of the day care centre Vikerkaar

