



SOGN OG FJORDANE COUNTY MUNICIPALITY



GULEN MUNICIPALITY

Development plan

2006 - 2010



Millennium Site
Sogn og Fjordane County



Gulatinget – the true origin of the Scandinavian democratic model

Gulatinget is one of the oldest representative assemblies in Scandinavia. From as early as the 10th century, free farmers would assemble at Gulatinget to solve disputes and adopt laws in direct negotiations with the king.

Gulatinget was a regional assembly which covered a much larger area than any other assembly in Medieval Scandinavia. Its legislations covered West Norway from Sunnmøre to Rogaland and what are now Southern Norway, Hallingdal and Valdres. The regional self-government appointed by Gulathing legislation to the farmers formed the basis for the development of democracy and constitutional government in Norway.

Gulatinget encompassed the core area of the oldest Norwegian monarchy under Harald Hårfagre, and was established as a link in the chain of the West Norwegian national assembly. It therefore played a decisive role in finally uniting Norway to one nation.

Norway's very first body of laws, Gulatingslova, was laid down at Gulatinget. This is the oldest Scandinavian body of laws known. It formed the basis for Magnus Lagabøte's national legislation, which in turn provided the foundations for our modern day Constitution.

The Gulathing body of laws also awarded Norway its very first organised national defence, leidang or army. This entire part of the country could be mobilised to fight off foreign invaders at short notice by lighting beacons known as vetar or vardar from mountain top to mountain top.

Gulatinget also had an impact on the judicial development out on the Norse island communities to the west. For example, the Alltinget assembly on Iceland was established following the pattern of the Gulathing assembly.

The Gulathinget legacy is still very much present today in the Norwegian Parliament, where elected representatives sit according to region. The Gulathinget assembly is therefore an honourable institution of significant national importance and with an impact far beyond national borders, which we now intend to exhibit and communicate.



Vision

We aim to exhibit and communicate the history of Gulatinget, thereby displaying the values this historical assembly represents.

STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE GULATINGET MILLENNIUM SITE

Ingebjørg Erikstad, Municipal Director for Culture, Sogn og Fjordane county municipality

Cecilie Thaule Løvlid, County Council/Main Committee for Culture

Trude Brosvik, Mayor of Gulen municipality

Harald Haugejorden, Chief Municipal Executive, Gulen municipality

Anne-Karin Misje
Project Manager



Values under pressure

Gulatinget represents values such as freedom of speech, self-government and law and order. These are the true foundation pillars of constitutional government, but these values are under pressure today. The peaceful resolution of conflicts via dialogue is losing ground, while unrest and terror challenge the basic principles of law and order and personal security. Democratic values and systems cannot be "induced", but these values – the mindset and traditions which form the basis for the development of a democracy – can be communicated. Participation in democratic processes, freedom of speech and basic principles of constitutional government can be taught. We hope to contribute to this teaching process by communicating the history of Gulatinget assembly.

Secondary goals

- Help increase knowledge of the ideas, values and traditions which form the basis for the development of a democratic system
- Promote an understanding of the importance of freedom of speech, self-government and basic principles of constitutional government
- Communicate the importance of the role played by Gulatinget in the development of Norway as a democracy
- Show how Gulatinget inspired other countries to develop a democratic constitution according to the principles of constitutional government
- Develop the Gulatinget Millennium Site as an arena for teaching, development and cultural exchange
- Develop the Gulatinget Millennium Site as an important arena for research, communication and education
- Develop the Gulatinget Millennium Site as a cultural arena and tourist destination



Four strategies

The entire project shall be divided into the following four strategies:

- Information
- Arena development
- Activities
- Culture and commercial development

Internationalisation and network building

Norwegians have "exported" their traditions and form of government to other countries bordering the North Sea since the Middle Ages. Norwegians governed the Isle of Man for a certain period, and this island now has its own assembly site. Several European countries and Russia had similar institutions during this era. We have little information on the amount of contact between Gulatinget and other assembly sites on the continent or with East Europe and Russia during the Middle Ages. One of our goals during the project period is therefore to build networks with the other assembly sites, particularly those with a North Sea coastline, in order to research this field and to exchange information with other countries. We aim to establish a network cooperation where we can work together on providing information, cultural exchange and development of tourism.



National foundations

The Icelandic assembly site, Thingvellir, is currently on the UNESCO World Heritage list, as it formed such an important basis for the development of democracy on Iceland. Thingvellir is central to Icelandic identity and national sentiment, and the Icelandic Parliament is in charge of the operation and development of the assembly site, receiving fixed governmental subsidies for this purpose. In Norway, responsibility for the administration and presentation of the Gulatinget history has been allocated to a county and a municipality, despite the fact that Gulatinget has had a fundamental impact on the development of Norway as a democracy and constitutional government.

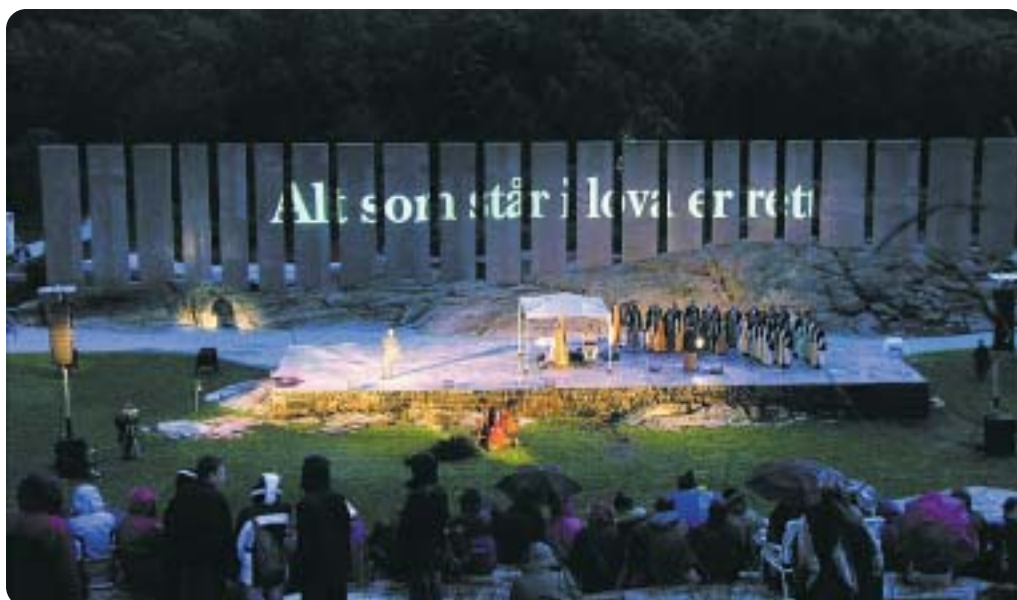


National cultural heritage

Sogn og Fjordane county municipality and Gulen municipality are in a unique situation as they, on behalf of the entire Norwegian population, are in charge of a cultural heritage which is of great value in terms of politics, legal history, national defence history and cultural history.

National collaboration

The steering committee for this project is convinced that the responsibility for the administration and presentation of the national cultural heritage represented by Gulatinget is a national obligation, and that the further development of the project must be established on a national level. The steering committee has a three-year strategy to aim to work towards governmental cooperation for the development of the Gulatinget Millennium Site.



From the opening ceremony in 2005.

The history of Gulatinget has to be told

The lack of knowledge of the impact of Gulatinget on the development of Norway as a constitutional government and democracy may be attributed to the fact that the Gulatinget history has been anonymous for a number of years. Many Norwegians are unaware of the impact this institution has had on modern day Norway, and some do not even know where the assembly site is. As the current Gulating Court of Appeal assembles in Bergen courthouse, many believe that this is where it all started. It is therefore high time the history of Gulatinget is top of the agenda. It is not least important to tell of the values Gulatinget represents and how these values have shaped the Norwegian mindset and conduct – up until modern day. Gulatinget also teaches us our cultural heritage and the shared cultural values we still hold today.

Consensus

The Gulatinget history is the history of how Norwegian farmers entered into dialogue and negotiations with the authorities to jointly lay down a legislation and a system of government with which we still operate. Gulatinget was also an institution where farmers and the authorities could meet to establish a consensus in order to avoid unrest or to moderate conflicts. These are values which Norwegians still hold high today, and which we often try to communicate to other countries which suffer from unrest and where there is no form of dialogue.

The Norwegian contribution

Norwegians carry out their legacy from Gulatinget when they act as peace negotiators – often in countries where democracy does not exist, and where there are no traditions for peaceful conflict resolution. Norwegians are known far and wide as a peace-loving people who, even in the most deadlocked conflicts, try to get the opposing parties to replace fighting with negotiations. This is our legacy from Gulatinget, and one we Norwegians can be proud of.

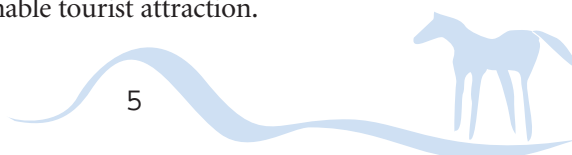


A living Gulating

There is an ever-increasing interest in learning more about how the Scandinavian countries have developed as democracies throughout history. And through our work on the development of Gulatinget, the steering committee aims to contribute towards increasing knowledge of the background upon which Norway developed a constitutional government and a democratic form of government. The steering committee further intends to place Gulatinget at the top of the agenda, and to make the assembly site's history a current topic by establishing an information centre at the Millennium Site, where the history and development of democracy can be communicated and discussed.

A site of topical interest

The establishment of the Millennium Site is also good timing in relation to the tourist market, where interest in local culture, character, history and local cultural monuments are increasingly in demand with the new guidelines for Geotourism. Tourists come to Norway to experience what is local, unique and authentic, and interest in learning more about Gulatinget is significant. Gulatinget has therefore been selected as one of several destinations to be developed as a sustainable tourist attraction.



Gulatinget Millennium Site also has a huge potential as an arena for cultural events and cultural exchange. From a culture-based financial perspective, the Millennium Site will provide grounds for future commercial development which will benefit the municipality, council and surrounding region for generations to come.



Our proposal

We propose that the Gulatinget Millennium Site is developed to cater for a number of different user groups, interests and markets, and in line with the development plan. This will ensure that the site is developed into an important centre for the education of future generations, and will thereby represent values not just for present day, but also for the future.

Plan of action

Strategies	Initiative	Time	Priority
Information	Information material	2006-2007	1
	Educational information	2006-2007	1
	Tourism-related information	2006-2007	3
	Web-based information	2007	2
	New Gulating theatre	2007-2009	4
Arena development	Information centre	2007-2010	2
	Assembly of sculptures	2007	1
	Preparation of amphitheatre	2009	5
	Mobile weather protection	2007-2008	4
	Development of outdoors area	2007-2009	3
Activities	Activity plan	2006	1
	Fund for events	2007	2
Culture-based commercial development	Network building/commercial development	2006-2009	1
	Facilities for visitors	2007-2009	2
	Development of tourism product	2007-2008	3

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Development project – period 2006-2010

Framework

The importance of the role played by Gulatinget both nationally and internationally provides us with guidelines for the scope of development and presentation, for the main project's foundations and for the choice of development project for the future.

White Paper no. 55 establishes the following framework for the Millennium Sites:



White Paper no. 55

"The Millennium Sites shall be meeting places for collaboration, cultural events and development. They shall be based on their own historical and cultural values, gain inspiration from other cultures and represent values for the future."

This is a noble target which aims to create positive effects from investments for the years to come. The development plan for the Gulatinget Millennium Site for the project period 2006-2010 provides an overview of the strategies and development initiatives which will contribute towards achieving this target.



*From the Håkonar
theatrical performance
in 2006.*





From 4H's county camp in 2006.

Strategy 1

Information

Project 1 Information is a set of provisional strategies for communication/presentation and will cater for the information requirement related to Gulatinget Millennium Site until an information centre has been established. One of the main tasks for the next stage of the Millennium Site development is to establish facilities for the communication of the Gulatinget history via a wide-ranging spectre of communication strategies directed at different target groups. A priority task is to develop as soon as possible an educational and tourism-related program for communication/presentation.

Another main task within this strategy is to prepare information material which can be made available at the Millennium Site and for distribution.

Information material

Gulatinget represents a national cultural heritage and a national intangible cultural monument. The Gulatinget Millennium Site therefore merits its own cultural monument signpost. Signposts are also required which provide information on the site, its history – and also on the different pieces of art displayed at the site. An information folder is also required for information and profiling. The signposts and folder should be in Norwegian, English and German.

Responsibility

Project Manager
 EKO-Trykk as

Financing

Financed within the framework of the operating budget.

Budget

Cultural monument signpost	NOK 10,000
Folder	<u>NOK 25,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 35,000

Educational program

An educational program based on Gulatinget's history shall be compiled and adapted to the different age groups within primary and secondary schools. A separate program shall be prepared as a teacher guide. The programs will be both written and web-based and will include role play. A separate working group with educational experience has been established to prepare the educational programs together with a Project Manager.

Responsibility

Project Manager
 Working group leader

Resource persons/institutions

Margrethe Henden Aaraas (involved in Norway's The Cultural Rucksack program),
 Sogn og Fjordane county municipality
 United World College – Magne Bjergene, Siri Ingvaldsen
 Sogn og Fjordane high school – Jon Farestveit
 The theatre group responsible for the Håkonar performance – Ingrid Haveland
 "Teatergrepet" – Ingrid Hansen
 Consultant Kari Brekken
 Teacher Anne Ryssdalstveit

Budget

Free purchases	NOK 100,000
Transport	NOK 5,000
Drama fee	NOK 30,000
IT systems	NOK 20,000
Translation	NOK 40,000
Printing	<u>NOK 5,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 200,000

Financing

Work is under way on the programs. The group is in the process of finding relevant sources of financing.

Tourist program – Guided tours

At present, the Gulatinget Millennium Site has no guide service for groups visiting the site, despite the number of both Norwegian and international visitors daily (during the summer, visitor numbers can reach up to 100). We therefore need a guide for the summer until we can find a more permanent guide service. Work is under way to recruit a guide for the 2007 season.

Requirement

- Guide who can provide guided tours of the site in Norwegian, English and possibly German
- Guide manual for the Millennium Site
- Guided tours must be marketed to tourist companies and tour operators during the winter season 2006

Responsibility

Project Manager
 Jensbua

Budget

Salary	NOK 25,000
Guide manual	NOK 10,000
TOTAL	NOK 35,000

Financing

Jensbua	NOK 25,000
Operating budget	<u>NOK 10,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 35,000



Web-based information

All information available on the Millennium Site for visitors, both Norwegian and international, on web page www.gulatinget.no, is exclusively in Norwegian. We therefore need to translate the web page into English (and to German in the long term). The web page was upgraded with a new format (ref. regional archives/Kulturnett) and is now a resource for both information and network building.

Responsibility

Project Manager

Cooperation

Regional archives – Gunnar Urtegård,
Siri Ingvaldsen and Bjarnhild Samland

Financing

This work is financed from the operating budget. Plans have been made to seek separate financing for the purchase of services in connection with translation and digitalisation.

Budget

Translation	NOK 50,000
Digitalisation of database	<u>NOK 50,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 100,000

New Gulating theatrical performance

Over the past 15 years, historical theatre has become increasingly popular and a number of cultural sites have set up performances based on historical events. Theatre is both a great way to recount history and an excellent example of culture-based commercial growth. The local theatrical performance, "Håkonarspelet i Gulen" requires significant resources, and there has been demand for a new play – the Gulating play – with a more clearly defined profile. This will provide the Millennium Site with a new attraction which will help increase visitor numbers.

Responsibility

Steering committee/Project Manager
Håkonarspelet play – Ingrid Hellwege Haveland

Cooperation

Theatre manager in Sogn og Fjordane,
Ragnhild Randall

Financing

Work is under way to identify relevant sources of financing

Budget

Commissioned work	NOK 250,000
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Financing

Håkonarspel group	NOK 50,000
Arts Council Norway	NOK 100,000



Strategy 2

Arena development

The Gulatinget Millennium Site is a cultural arena with monumental pieces of art. It is also a site with a significant informative value related to the historical Gulatinget assembly, and has high visitor numbers. It is therefore essential to develop the site with a view to providing an information centre with a roof.

Information centre

Visitors travel daily to Gulatinget Millennium Site seeking information on the site, the art, the Gulatinget assembly and legislation. However, the site currently lacks facilities for groups of school children, pensioners, tourists and other visitors who want to learn about Gulatinget. The steering committee therefore aims to erect an information centre where visitors can go indoors to learn about the site. Gulatinget is a worthy institution and merits a high quality framework which can cater for a number of activities.

The steering committee aims to establish a multi-use information centre which can also function as a regional centre of culture, making use of various methods of providing information. The building shall cater for conferences, seminars and for multi-media presentation, theatre, film etc.

Facilities

Firstly, the building requires an information hall with space for approx. 100 persons. In addition to this lecture hall, the information centre should also cater for exhibitions and educational projects which can provide an insight into Gulatinget. Basic facilities are also required, such as storage, wardrobe and toilets, kitchen, cafe and space for tourist information/souvenirs, seminar room and office. A program for the various rooms will be compiled in 2007.

Multimedia

Gulatinget is an intangible cultural monument. We must therefore "materialise" the information we provide on the site's history by using visual and audio presentation systems such as film, slide shows, documentaries etc. in addition to lectures and guided tours. Developments within museum presentations have over recent years moved away from information based on objects and text towards more advanced information technology. Modern technology could for example allow us to show a "real" Viking as a hologram at the Millennium Site. And with this type of technology, the presentation of information could become an attraction in itself. New technological advances provide us with innumerable methods of providing information, and it is therefore important to ensure that the methods we choose for the Millennium Site are calibrated to cater for future requirements.

Design

The design of the information centre shall harmonise with the surrounding landscape and the existing elements at the Millennium Site. The building may be constructed of wood, stone and glass. It should have a modern touch and a functional yet elegant design with a high level of quality. The design may include elements from traditional and local architecture as long as these cater for the required functions. The building

may have two stories but must cater for the physically handicapped. The design must also focus on energy conservation and use of space. It would be preferable for the building to be planned in stages so that the basic functions can be introduced first while the supplementary functions are still being completed. A separate document regarding the building design is being prepared.

Process

The building process will involve 4 stages which will follow a definite schedule. The various decision stages will determine whether the project follows the schedule.

Stage 1 – Preliminary project	Completed	Milestone
Political resolution on external plan	December 2006	Decision stage for Stage 2
Stage 2		
Preparation of Stage 3	March 2007	
Financing of Stage 3	April 2007	Decision stage for Stage 3
Stage 3		
Preparation of guidelines	May 2007	
Preparation of room program	August 2007	
Open architectural competition	September 2007	
Selection	January 2008	
Financing	May 2008	Decision stage for Stage 4
Stage 4 – Main project		
Engineering/planning	December 2008	
Tender requests	February 2009	
Tender selection	February 2009	Decision stage for A and B
Contract	February 2009	
Start-up	March 2010	
Building period	2010	
Completion	A	
Opening	B	
* Costs related to Stage 4 will be calculated once the architectural competition has been completed.		
** One of the costs involved in Stage 4 will be connection to the public water supply.		

Responsibility, Stages 1-3 Preliminary project

Steering committee
 Project Manager

Cooperation, Stages 1-3

Architect
 Planner

The budget and financing plan for Stage 4 – Main project – will be prepared after the completion of Stages 1-3 – Preliminary project.

Budget Stages 1-3

Definition of room program (with architect)	NOK 50,000
Architectural competition	NOK 500,000
Engineering/planning	<u>NOK 250,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 800,000

Financing plan – preliminary project

Sogn og Fjordane county municipality	NOK 500,000
Gulen municipality	<u>NOK 300,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 800,000

Assembly of purchased sculptures

During the construction period, 6 sculptures by artist Bård Breivik were purchased. 5 of these were not erected during the construction period but were placed in storage in Sløvåg. The sculptures are monumental and complement the existing artistic installations on the site. It has been recommended that the remaining sculptures are erected in 2007. The position of the sculptures must be included in the zoning plan for the area. The cost calculations will to a certain degree depend on the position of the sculptures in the landscape. The position of the sculptures will also be approved by the artist.

Responsibility

Project
 Manager

Budget

Transport	NOK 15,000
Crane hire	NOK 10,000
Digging, foundations	NOK 50,000
Assembly work, 5 sculptures	<u>NOK 25,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 100,000

Financing

Sogn og Fjordane county municipality	NOK 50,000
Gulen municipality	<u>NOK 50,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 100,000



Preparation of the amphitheatre

The original plans for Gulatinget Millennium Site included plans for an amphitheatre. This was not realised during the establishment stage due to timing and finance. Today, a rocky mound now functions as a stand for audiences. There are a number of good arguments for trying to build an amphitheatre. If we aim to achieve our target of attracting major events to the site, such as the Bergen International Festival and other such events, the organisers of these events will place requirements on audience facilities, the number of seats and position of the audience in relation to the stage.

Responsibility

Project Manager

Contractor

Budget

Blasting, terracing	NOK 300,000
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Financing

Sogn og Fjordane county municipality	NOK 100,000
The Ministry of Culture and Church Affairs	NOK 100,000
Gulen municipality	NOK 50,000
Private partners	<u>NOK 50,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 300,000

Mobile weather protection

Until an information centre has been erected, the Millennium Site will exclusively be an outdoors arena and should feature some kind of protection against weather and wind. Events will take place in the area around Bård Breivik's artistic installations, and performing artists should be protected against rain and wind by an aesthetically designed canopy (ref. a "mooring" canopy with ropes). These canopies shall be designed to harmonise with the artistic installations. Once an amphitheatre has been created, it will also be possible to suspend some form of weather protection over the audience.

Responsibility

Project Manager

Budget

Price and potential manufacturers are being investigated.

Financing

Relevant sources of financing are to be investigated.

Development of the Millennium Site as an area for outdoors pursuits

The site will function as an area for excursions on a daily basis. It is important to further develop the area for outdoor pursuits in a way which will allow different groups to enjoy outdoor activities. The steering committee aims to establish waymarked trails and fishing spots which are adapted for the physically handicapped, bathing areas and activity areas for children and barbeque areas for families with seats and benches.

The majority of planned activities at the Millennium Site also require facilities for those who travel to the site by boat. The Millennium Site project currently rents access to a private quay in the area. It has been noted that an extension of the rental agreement for the quay may not be possible. The Millennium Site therefore requires its own quay to be used by visitors, and plans for this have been prepared.

Responsibility

Project Manager

Voluntary associations and organisations

Budget

Quay	NOK	700,000
Waymarked trails	NOK	300,000
Activity area	NOK	300,000
Clearing bathing areas	NOK	100,000
Dredging/sand	NOK	150,000
Investment in benches/tables etc.	NOK	50,000
Clearing/drainage	<u>NOK</u>	<u>100,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK	1,700,000

Financing

Sogn og Fjordane county municipality	NOK	300,000
Gulen municipality	NOK	300,000
Lottery funds	NOK	500,000
Other governmental funds	NOK	300,000
Other private donations	<u>NOK</u>	<u>300,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK	1,700,000

Adventure/experiences

The actual park area should be utilised to a greater degree to create adventure and exciting spots for children. For example, the number of small areas behind the "Tingveggen" sculpture could be used. We could establish a "Huldresti" or wood nymph trail in the small passageways behind the sculpture, and use this to teach children about ancient Norwegian superstitions as they were recounted in the olden day rural communities and pre-Christianity. We can use modern technology and holograms to show children a real wood nymph! Ancient legends tell of shepherds who were lured into the mountain by the Mountain King or nymph, and never found their way out again. We can make use of sound and light to create the impression that music and partying can be heard from inside the rock. Such areas of adventure and education will make the Millennium Site into a popular and exciting place for children.

Responsibility, budget and financing

This initiative is still in the conceptual stage.



Strategy 3

Activities

The Gulatinget Millennium Site can cater for all types of events, and the site is currently open to all organisers, teams and organisations. Couples can also have a religious wedding ceremony at the site. Marketing of the Millennium Site will include invitations to teams, organisation and organisers to make use of the site. A set of regulations has been prepared for such events to safeguard the park area.

Events at the Millennium Site will mainly be organised by local or regional parties. However, there are high expectations for much larger events to be organised by the steering committee. And from the perspective of the audience, the activities at the Millennium Site will be the most visible feature. Initially, the steering committee will take on responsibility for a minimum of one major event per year.

Profile

Events at the Millennium Site organised by the project group must have a clearly defined profile. They should be in the spirit of Gulatinget and promote dialogue between people and cultures via musical, artistic or dramatic expression. The events should be in harmony with the targets for Millennium Sites, and should pave the way for cultural experiences and cultural exchange with other countries.

Activity plan

When the steering committee acts as a representative body for Sogn og Fjordane county municipality and Gulen municipality and takes on responsibility for events, then these events shall have musical or artistic features of a high level, with artists of a national or international grade. A separate activity plan has been compiled for 2006-2010, with an annual program.

Fund for events

It has been recommended to establish a fund for events in order to ensure start capital for the cultural activities and events at the Millennium Site. In the long term, a fund will ensure a wider range of "own" events while motivating voluntary groups who take on responsibility for events by providing limited compensatory financing.

Responsibility

Steering committee
 Project Manager

Cooperation

Teams and associations
 Private parties

Budget

Fund capital NOK 100,000

Financing

Sogn og Fjordane county municipality	NOK 25,000
Gulen municipality	NOK 25,000
Other private donations	<u>NOK 50,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 100,000

Strategy 4

Culture-based commercial development

The steering committee aims to internationalise Gulatinget by building networks and developing cooperation with other historical assembly sites abroad. During the Gulatinget seminar in 2006, contacts were made with representatives from assembly sites in Europe and Russia. Researchers of history and law already have an international cooperation network. Our project group intends to establish cooperation based on information and tourism development. We have already established this type of contact with Iceland and have contacted representatives on the Isle of Man with the aim to develop a shared project. This work will be further developed together with relevant partners. Investigations will be made into the potential for a European or North European assembly site collaboration.

Responsibility

Steering committee/Project Manager
 UWC
 Jensbua

Budget

Transport	NOK 80,000
Accommodation	<u>NOK 20,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 100,000

Financing

RUP funds	NOK 30,000
ABM	NOK 50,000
Operating budget	<u>NOK 20,000</u>
TOTAL	NOK 100,000

Facilities for visitors

The Gulatinget Millennium Site has high visitor numbers in the summer. The new exposure will be attractive to private partners, in that our profiling of Gulatinget will have a positive impact on their own profile. So far, observations and visitor counts carried out by employees of Gulen municipality have recorded between 50 and 100 persons per day – without any major form of marketing. With new facilities and a good marketing plan, the Gulatinget Millennium Site can be developed to form a tourism centre for the entire area. Improved facilities may also generate increased income which can be channelled back into the development project.

Visitors travel to the site in private cars, caravans, buses or by boat. They ask for information on Gulatinget and on the pieces of art at the site. They ask for services, activities, recreational areas, adventures, education and development. They also ask for a cafe, caravan and camping site, accommodation, boat and cycle hire etc.

Campervan site

Today, campervan tourists park free of charge in the Millennium Site carpark. As the carpark is not manned, we cannot charge a fee to visitors. With very little expense, the project group could generate a certain income from visitors by establishing campervan sites with sale of electricity and access to toilets and washing machines at times when there are no events at the site. This project could possibly be allocated to private companies.

Tents and cabins

During the summer of 2006, the Millennium Site welcomed 3 different camps with a total of 300 boy scouts, 4H members and parents. There is space for camping at the site, but it is necessary to evaluate whether this is what the site should be used for, or whether the project group should establish areas around the actual cultural arena for camping etc. There is also potential to zone parts of the Millennium Site for the construction of cabins for hire.

Marina

Private companies have shown an interest in developing a marina with boat hire and services in connection with Gulatinget Millennium Site. If the steering committee has to build a quay for the site, it may also be an interesting project to extend this with a marina which could generate long-term earnings. These earnings could then be channelled back into other development projects.

Responsibility, budget and financing

This initiative remains under evaluation.

The Gulatinget Millennium Site as a tourist product

In cooperation with Jensbua and other parties around the North Sea, the Millennium Site can be further developed into a tourist product (ref. "Network building and commercial development").

One product for cooperation is the establishment of a "SAGA voyage" from historical assembly site to assembly site. This could be developed in cooperation with transport companies and tour operators which already arrange trips to the Western islands (Statsraad Lehmkuhl, Hurtigruta etc.). According to tradition from the Middle Ages, visitors should arrive at Gulatinget by sail and this could be a popular feature. During the traditional voyage, tourists could learn about the transport connections between Norway and the islands in the west throughout the ages. Budget and financing will be prepared individually per project.

Responsibility

Project Manager

Jensbua

Other partners

Eivindvik, 13 November 2006

Photo, front page: Tingveggen sculpture by Bård Breivik, Photo Anne-Karin Misje

Photo, page 4: From the opening ceremony in 2005. Photo Hans Petter Martinussen





SOGN OG FJORDANE COUNTY MUNICIPALITY



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