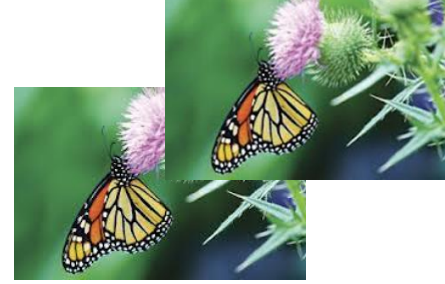


Danish decision-making processes



- The Government has set up a special committee for environment. The members of the Special committees are ministries, agencies and interest groups.
- They provide inputs/comments in writing prior to approval
- The committee meets four times a year to discuss and approve new laws and policies

Law on species conservation – organization of its implementation

- Nature Agency, Ministry of Environment was responsible
 - Representatives working in the field and from different units (forestry and subsidies) within the agency were engaged in the project
- Involvement of Ministry of Environment
- Involvement of the interest group on forestry and interest group on agriculture
- Involvement of the Danish society of nature conservation (NGO)



Implementing actions

As part of the preparation of the law a range of actions had been identified in close corporation with the interest groups and the Ngo:

- A advisory service advising farmers and foresters on sustainable practices to protect species
- Guiding principles for sustainable forestry
- Greening of subsidies related to forestry and agriculture
- Action plans for species
- A leaflet to landowners
- A guidebook for agriculture advisors.



Challenges

- Lack of responsibility in regard to implementation
- Communication between stakeholders having each their own agenda
- Addressing problems instead of solutions
- A perception that the Ministry of Environment should pay for any regulation and constraints the law might place on the sectors
- Structural and technical constraints especially related to 'greening of subsidies'



Change of strategy

- Many meetings with ministry of environment, the interest groups and the Ngo
- The interest groups and the NGO were asked to provide specific proposals which could meet their concerns
- Than lead to active participation, greater ownership and more responsibility in regard to finding appropriate solutions



Lessons learnt

- A legal framework is essential for mainstreaming
- Organization/institutional arrangement which allow for inter-ministerial as well as stakeholder consultation is essential
- Engagement of key stakeholders in all stages: formulation of legal framework and implementation including development of actions
- It takes time to find appropriate solutions
- Dialogue and active engagements is crucial

