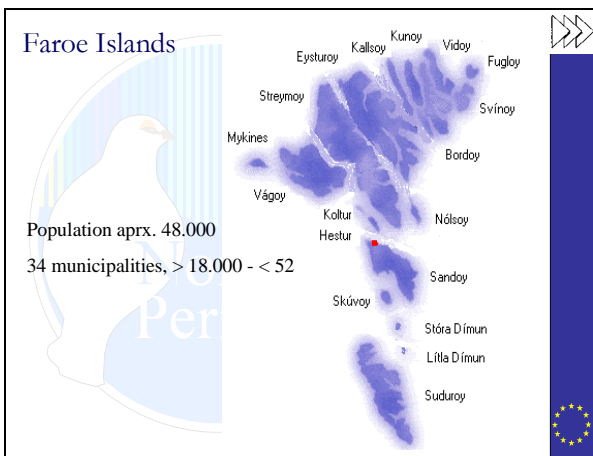


I will use my time to give you a short introduction to the Faroes, to

- Our association of Local authorities
- Our pilot municipalities and
- The homecare system.

First, a rough idea of our Islands:  
There are 18 of them, of which 14 are inhabited.

On this picture there are at least 7 islands.

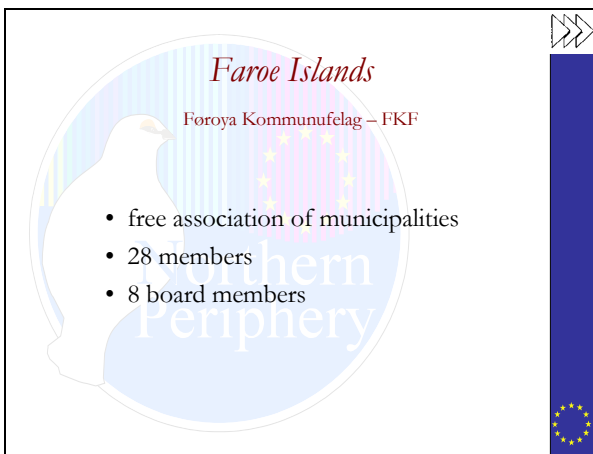


The size is best illustrated in the driving or sailing time:

The roads are mostly by the coast  
Vidoy to airport will probably be 1 ½ hrs in april when the latest undersea tunnel opens. You drive through 7 tunnels of whom 2 are under the sea  
This trip will take you through 12 municipalities.

The southern most Island is 2 hrs from the capital with our new ferry

Pilot kommunes: Sunda, Vestmanna and Svinoy Municipalities.



I represent the Faroese Association of Local Authorities.

Our 8 board members are elected shortly after municipality elections every 4 years.  
The association is financed by percentage of the tax income and is at the moment roughly 233.000 euros pr year.

We are 3 staff and Our workload is divided between advising and supporting our members, and reviewing law proposals concerning the municipalities.  
The municipalities have very limited autonomy compared to the Nordic countries.

*Local Authorities*

Autonomy

- Child care 1. July 2000
- Child welfare 1. January 2006
- Elderly?

Northern Periphery

The trend is to move responsibility to the municipalities, and here you can see what has progressed in this century.

Now ... You have already heard about how the project partners found each other, so I'll go on from there. Our reason for entering the project was, that the Faroese municipalities were supposed to take responsibilities of elderly care by 2005. ....

By entering the project, our association would have access to information and experiences other countries had acquired over many years of managing elderly care.

We also expected to be able to contribute to the project with the Faroese culture; For example, due to very strong family relations, the family has played an important role in taking care of their elderly. This has relieved the government from investing in, among other things, housing and services for elderly.

Unfortunately, due to change in government after election, plans were shelved for the time being. This fact has narrowed our possibilities during the project period, but we have tried to make the best of it, and the government has already discovered, that elderly care probably is better off in the hands of locals.....

Their ambition though, is to upgrade the Nursing home situation before handing elderly care over to the municipalities, and this ambition, as noble as it may seem, is slowly showing signs of geographical differences. This is because the municipalities are co-financers and have, at least until now, had the initiative.

Vestmanna Municipality

- One village
- pop. 1.241
- 57 >80 yrs
- Collective for elderly
- Pensioners Day Center
  - open once a week
- Underhouse - men only
  - open every day


Population Vestmanna

Age Group	Population
00-06	~100
07-19	~200
20-66	~700
67-79	~150
> 80	~50

Vestmanna Municipality is one community with a population of 1.241. The people are fierce local patriots that always manage to elect a representative in parliament, and therefore always have a strong influence in politics.

Vestmanna is about 25 minutes drive from the capital and in Faroese context, has been considered a central area.

Several industries are in the municipality, including a part of the electricity company, which is owned by all the municipalities.



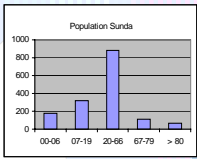
Collective in Vestmanna

- 6 places
- all inh. over 80
- all in need of more than 20 hrs care

This collective was originally a family residence, but has been refurbished and turned into a collective. The house is situated in a residence area.


These collectives were originally meant for people that could manage by themselves, maybe with some help from the homecare system, but the hard fact is, that almost all elders in the collectives are in great need of care, and should be in a nursinghome.

Sunda Municipality



Age Group	Population
00-06	~150
07-19	~300
20-66	~900
67-79	~150
> 80	~100


- 10 villages
- pop. 1,558
- 63 >80 yrs
- Nursing home



The municipality of Sunda, is a merger between 6 municipalities in January 2005.

Sunda is a municipality consisting of ten communities, the two most rural communities with a population under 50.

An interesting fact is, that even though several of the villages today have grown together through population growth, you still consider yourself as part of the original community.

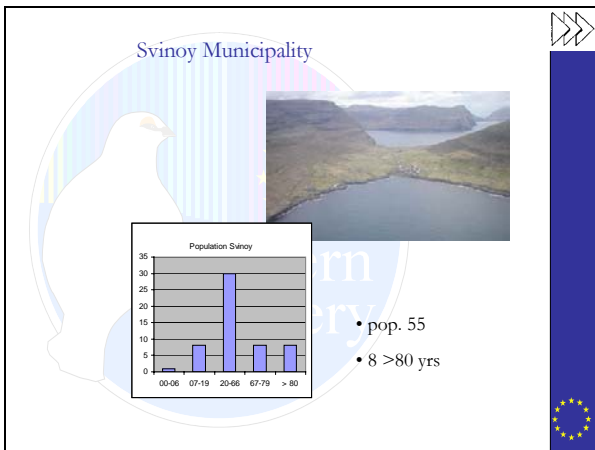


Nursing Home in Sunda

- 4 units
- 32 places
- will open this spring 2006

The Nursing home will start operating this spring.

Building Costs aprx. 150 thousand EUR pr bed. The government finances 50%, though max. 133 thousand EUR. and the municipality rest.

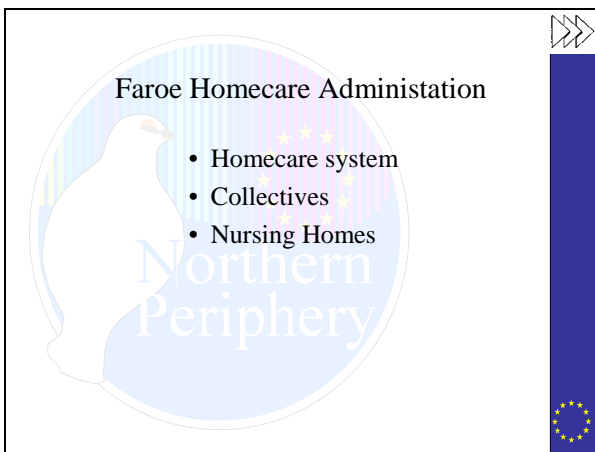


This small island is the third of our pilot municipalities.

There is only one community on the island. The employment is mostly farming, service and education.

The people living on the island are stubborn, as people have to be when living on an isolated island. The Municipality was the first in the Faroes to have open access to the internet available to all interested.

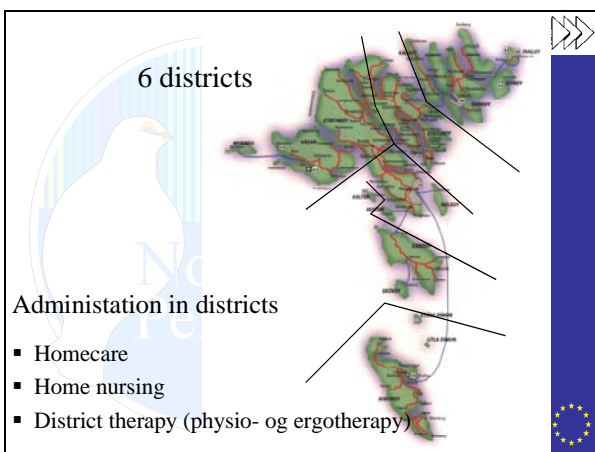
They have a finished plan and project of an old peoples home to be built on the island for islanders and others interested. All they need is financing the project.



The administration of the home care system is in the Ministry of Social Affairs.

Who can start proceedings to have people into the system?

- hospitals
- GP's
- family
- user.



The Districts are different in various ways:

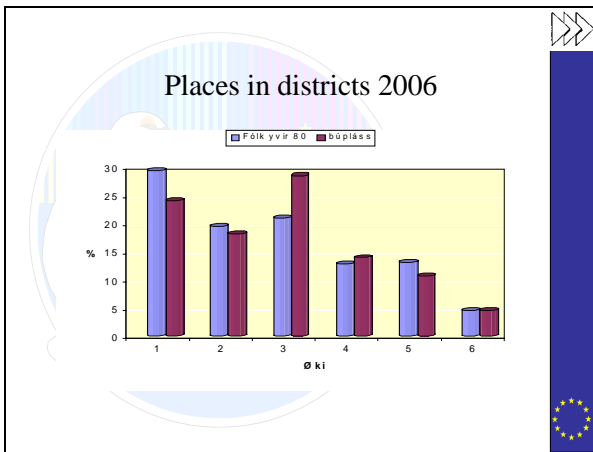
Economics

Geographic differences

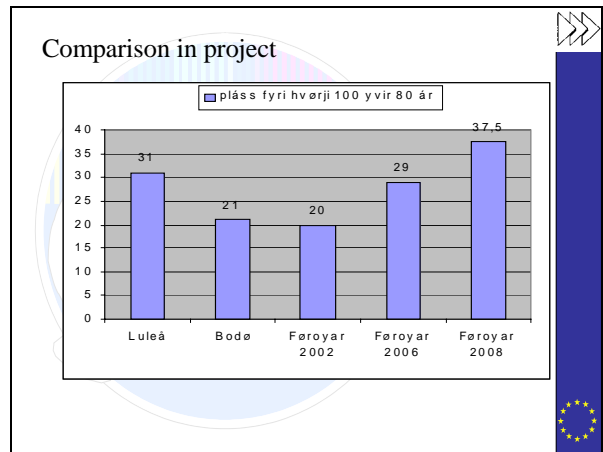
Population differences

Different services and

some districts are under more pressure than others.



Blue: People over 80 - Purple: Places (beds)



Places (beds) for each 100 over 80.

- ### Homecare economics
- Collectives
- User fees (room and board)
  - Municipalities pay for nightshifts
  - Yearly net sum from government for running cost (building repairs not included)

- ### User economics
- Users in collectives
- receive pension
  - pay rent and board to the municipalities
  - pay for all services
- Users in Nursinghomes
- no pension
  - no cost for lodgings, food or services
  - monthly allowance (120 eur)



Our representatives at this meeting:  
 Councillor Anna Djurhuus,  
 member of the board of Føroya Kommunufelag,  
 Political representative in project.

Sveiney Sverrisdottir, adm.dir. FKF  
 Eyðun Christiansen, adv. FKF.

Distict adminstrators Mrs. Asa Hanusson and Mrs. Sonja Klein  
 Project workers and representatives of one of our Faroese partner, Ministry of Social Affairs.