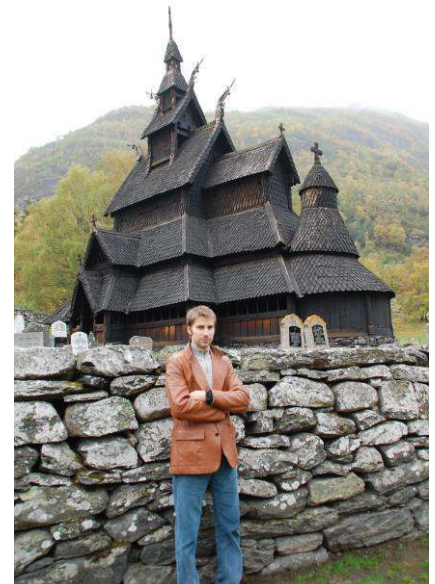


Craftsmen from Ludza, Latvia, get new experience in Norway

Within the framework of the project related to restoration of Ludza Great Synagogue in Latvia three craftsmen from Ludza municipality, Latvia, visited Norway from the 28th of September to the 2nd of October and took part in the project events of the Activity “Workshop no. 3”.

After passing through the *Lærdalstunnelen* – the longest road tunnel in the world (24.5 km) – the craftsmen visited *Lærdalsøyri* village. It is a picturesque “heritage village” with more than a hundred and fifty well-reserved wooden houses dating from 1700-1800. Later, the craftsmen had a possibility to see one of the best preserved stave churches in Norway – Borgund Stave Church.



In *Salhus* village, our craftsmen made a tour around the former textile factory, which operated from 1858 to 1989, where after its closure the *Norwegian Knitting Industry Museum* was opened, which was included into the list of the state protected industrial culture heritage monuments.



Project partners, experts of the Museum Centre in Hordaland organised a workshop, where the craftsmen got practical skills in window restoration.



The project “Restoration of Ludza Great Synagogue and Revival of Jews Spiritual Heritage” (ERZLV04/GSKMS/2013/09) is being implemented with help of 201,875.00 EUR large financing of the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism provided by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway – Donor States.

The overall objective of the Financial Mechanism of EEA and Norway grants is to contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities within the EEA and to strengthen bilateral relations between the Donor States and the beneficiary states in Europe. All three states are closely cooperating with the EC based on agreements.

EEA and Norway Financial Instrument financing foreseen for 2009 – 2014 amounts to 1.79 milliard EUR. Norway provides about 97% of the total financing. Grants are available for NGOs, research and academic institutions, as well as public and private sectors in 12 newest EU member states, and in Greece, Portugal and Spain.

The cooperation with institutions of the Donor States can vary and it is possible to implement common activities till 2016. Main spheres of support are environment protection, climate change, research and scholarship, health and children, equal rights for men and women, justice and cultural heritage.

Ilona Rimša
Project manager
27.10.2015