

# Establishment of the national organization Faroe Islands



Artisans at work ECONOMUSEE FARGE ISLANDS

#### 1 Summary

One of the ongoing discussions in the Économusée project, from day one, has been to create an exit strategy that manages to keep the project and make it grow. This on-going discussion about how we handle the completion of the project and establishing an independent continuation on our own, in the network, both locally, nationally and internationally, has been significant throughout the three project stages since 2008.

For the Faroese part, there is no doubt that the last 3-year Craft Reach period has been decisive for the ability to maintain and continue this very significant and rewarding concept in the Faroe Islands. In this third period, we have established two new Economusée, and together with the other 4, we now form a network that has the strength to work on its own, in cooperation with the other countries.

There have been many discussions about how a continuation should look like. Whether it should be an organization established under the auspices of the University of the Faroe Islands, or under the direction of another organization, or whether it should be an independent organization.

Over time, we found the solution to an exit that we all agreed was the easiest and most sustainable. This was to create an independent association that consisted of the established Economusée in the Faroe Islands. A simple and transparent organization in which each participant takes responsibility and where the participants jointly agree to get the most out of the cooperation as possible. The financial part would be cleared by participant payment and attempts to get sponsors. At one of the Économusée Craft Reach project meetings, it was decided that we should establish the Organization Économusée Føroyar on April 5, 2018.







At this meeting there was 100% support to establish the association, a committee was set up with the intention of preparing the first general assembly and making proposals for articles of association and networking.

On 29 May, the first general meeting was held, all of the Economus companies were represented and the articles of association were signed, as well as an agreement to sign the declaration of Canada to participate in the international network.

## 2 Background

The background for establishing the Economusée Føroyar association was the need to have an organization that can handle the good work that was initiated when the Economusée Concept was established in the Faroe Islands between 2008 and 2018. This need became a reality for the companies established during this period and has experienced the importance this network has for the future of the company: The Blacksmith on Trøllanes, the wool spinning mill MONA, TUTL, the boatbuilder at Ánna, the North Atlantic Basalt and Economus -Joel Cole Art.

Through an interest organization associated with the European network with Canada as lead partner, we believed to be able to take care of the interests of the network and build it further, with more players.

During the period of Craft Reach, relations and cooperation with the local community and local tourism organizations have been established. These links must be maintained through joint efforts in the network. Therefore, the purpose of establishing Economusée Føroyar is to continue inland work and strengthen the network and individual organizations.

## 3 Planning and execution

It was announced only internally within the Craft Reach project, that a meeting should be held with the purpose of establishing Economusée Føroyar. The subject was discussed among the Faroese participants at the International Economuse Conference in Bergen in October and at the Faroe Islands later, but the time was announced in the internal Facebook group. The meeting was held in the Entrepreneurial House in Klaksvik on april 5, 2018.

All companies were asked to send representatives to the established meeting. Only Joel Cole Art could not meet because he was in the United States at this time.

Before the meeting, the project manager of the Faroese Economudée Olga Biskopstø, and the coordinator of the Economusée Mona project, had drafted articles of association. We had contacted Norway to get their articles of association, as well as requesting the document with the international agreement, which was made at Economusée International in Canada. All this was sent to the participants before the meeting.

Discussion at the meeting was on the content of the Articles of Association, name, economy and activities, as well as cooperation with the rest of the network.







The outcome of the meeting was that there was a 100% consensus that the Economusée Føroyar Association should be established, and we set up a board of three to prepare the first general assembly, which was scheduled to be May 29, 2018. The people who was elected in the committee: Heini Tausen, from the North Atlantic Basalt, Olga Biskopstø from the wool spider Mona and Sóley Svartafoss from TUTL.

After the inaugural meeting, we sent a press release, which was recorded in the portals: portal.fo and the local press Norðlýsið.

http://portal.fo/economusee+foroyar+stovnad.html

https://nordlysid.fo/tidindi/21106/economusee-foroyar-stovnad

In addition, text and pictures were posted on the Economusée Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/economuseeforoyar/</u>







Picture: The pictures are from the inaugural meeting on April 5, 2018. A good meeting, good discussion and a bite of food.

## 4 The first general meeting

By agreement, the first general meeting was held in Smedjen on Trøllanes on 29 May. This was a Sunday, so everyone could meet. TUTL, Atlantic Basalt, Joel Cole Art, MONA and The Blacksmith. The boatman is ill and is therefore out of the picture for a period.

There was a scheduled program for the meeting. It was followed, and the Preparatory Counselor had prepared all documents, also collaborated with Canada, which was read up.

It was agreed that the name of the association should be Economusée Føroyar, that it should be domiciled where the chairman lives. To the annual general meeting there must be proposals for activities and decisions to be taken jointly. Between the general meetings, the Board has a duty to inform and otherwise take care of stakeholder interests.







The financial part was agreed to pay an annual quota of 2000, - DKK and one in 2000, - to the International Board, from each company, but this is further elucidated in a budget proposal to be submitted participants later this summer.

In addition to this, it was agreed that the Event Livandi Tilfeingi should be repeated in 2018 and that we must be active in the network and follow our calendar until the next general meeting.

It was agreed that all international activities should be convened and there should be agreement on what we participated in at international level because it could involve large financial resources.

The board was elected: Olga Biskopstø, chairman, Heini Tausen cashier and Sóley Svartafoss, writes. Jóhannus Joensen and Joel Cole were additional members.



*Picture: The first general meeting took place in the beautiful surroundings of Trøllanes* 



*Picture: The participants at the meeting visited the Blacksmith workshop and had a good talk about surroundings and products.* 



Picture: The artisans at the meeting in Trøllanes. Joel Cole, Olivur Eystberg, Sólvá Svartafoss, Jóhannus Joensen, Heini Tausen, Høgni Tausen og Olga Biskopstø.



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#### 5 Results and outputs

The result of the establishment of the Economusée Føroyar association is a continuation of the Economusee Concept in the Faroe Islands and a continued commitment to the International Economuse network.

With this we look forward to the fact that for many years, we will have an active network that builds bridges between the local community, traditional crafts, culture and history and the growing tourism.

#### 6 Documents





International Partnership Agreemer



