Säker Skog

(Safe forestry)
a security project that has grown into a comprehensive and sustainable activity

- Short about background and project
- Basic strategies and some milestones
- Outcomes
- Important factors
- Challenges
- My conclusion
Background

- The most dangerous work in Sweden
- Chainsaw use: about 500,000 self-employed forest owners and for special work
- No requirement for education for forest owner (and other small companies)
- Low interest in chainsaw education
- Declining quality in chainsaw education

Small notices in local papers telling sad stories about a man and a tree

For most people mainly healthy work.
Torsten Kjessel, 87 during practical test for chainsaw certificate
Some principles

- Targeting
- Adaptation to target groups
- Open system
- Exam for approved examiner

Säker Skog (Safe Forestry) is like an “umbrella”

- Started as a 4 year project 2001
- In 2004 first modules ready of a chainsaw education system
- 350 certified instructors on different companies and schools

Approximately 150,000 licenses issued, about half of this to "volunteers“ in small companies
Some strategies within Säker Skog

- The good example
- Network of key-persons
- Effectivity, function, health and safety
- New approaches, funny and easy
- Activities, research and development
Some "milestones" in Säker Skog

- Chain saw certificate 2004
- Study circles as alternative
- Work conferences
- Several evaluations
2004 till now. Many small research projects in cooperation with research school (new or better knowledge)

How do different cutting methods work when wood is in hard tension?

How to fell a side leaning tree?
- 2008 EU rural development support
- 2009 Decision in the forestry profession (SYN)
- 2010 Clearing saw certificate
- 2012 New working environment regulations
- Peak in volume 2015
Outcome:
chain saw education

- Higher quality
- Higher volumes
- Clear what you are trained for
- Better and more lasting knowledge
- Satisfied participants
- Effective exercises and good pedagogy
- Value of the certificate

Effect on accidents?
Important factors

- People, organisations and authorities
- Timing and a good start
- The certificate itself
- Different kind of support
- and new requirements for approved theoretical and practical tests

Safe corner method

New knowledge about which felling tool may fell which leaning tree?
Challenges

1. Chainsaw instructors often know best themselves
2. Market share rather than safety effect
3. Copies on the market
4. To maintain enthusiasm
My conclusion

• Attractive education and new knowledge
• Safety is a result of effective and ergonomic work
• Safety is not a “problem” or limiting factor

➢ security and job satisfaction

Susanna Jansson, the first to take the chainsaw license in front of Sweden’s forest magazines, a good start and many first pages