

- 1) Title: ecoduct on Aruvalla-Kose road section
- 2) Country, region: Estonia
- 3) Name of the organization which implemented the project: Estonian Road Administration
- 4) Total size of the project in EUR: 54 181 883
- 5) Amount of EU funding: 85%
- 6) Name of the EU fund that supported the project: The Cohesion Fund
- 7) Name of the Operational Program: Operational Programme for the Development of Economic Environment
- 8) Short description of the project, aims, targets, project activities: Rebuilding of the E263 Tallinn-Tartu-Võru-Luhamaa main road Aruvalla-Kose section for safer transport. The road was rebuilt to 4-lanes, the environmental measures included acoustic barriers, planting grass and bushes, building tunnels for amphibians and small mammals and building one ecoduct for large mammal migration.
- 9) Estimated impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services.
Why you think that it is a positive or negative example in the light of the biodiversity proofing paper?

As a huge infrastructure project it has had big impact on the environment: ca 220 000 m² of land were cleared from forest, animal migration routes were influenced. But the project aimed to mitigate the influence and first Estonian ecoduct was built over the road. The ecoduct was well planned: the animal migration experts were involved in the planning and the animals started to use it already before hedgerows and grass were planted on the ecoduct. Still there are many things that could be improved for this kind of projects: the project team did not hire a wildlife specialist for whole time but the experts were consulted occasionally and as a result there were made mistake in planning the amphibian tunnels that have resulted in not fully functional tunnels.

- 10) How did project leaders, authorities, NGOs or other stakeholders try to avoid harmful impacts, if the project had any?
How did stakeholders tried to multiply positive impacts, if project had any?

The project was planned in parallel with Environmental Impact Assessment that was the main process of involving all stakeholders.

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- 12) Annex - Attach any relevant materials (web links, photos, references, etc.):
TV video about the ecoduct: http://teadus.err.ee/v/saated/uudiseid_saatest_osoon/ce2d091f-d40b-497a-96b3-c8b6aae3b970