

Case Study for CEEweb Award
Stakeholder cooperation in nature conservation

Birds of prey nest monitoring

MAVIR

<p>Country: Hungary Organisation: MAVIR Hungarian Independent Transmission Operator Company Ltd. Type: Business</p>
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1.	<p>Brief description of the case</p> <p>MAVIR's main tasks are to safeguard the uninterrupted, secure and sustainable operation of Hungarian electricity system, to realise the access to the network for users on an equal basis, to ensure the economic and efficient operation of transmission network as well as the smooth functioning and expansion of balance group system supporting the electricity market. The electricity transmission is realised in nature environment, thus to maintain the diversity of environment is our particular responsibility. This aim is served by our bird protection program, the backbone of which is our nesting program where man-made nests are mounted for birds of prey as well as bird deflectors for the protection of our great bustards and waders.</p>
2.	<p>Detailed Description</p> <p>Type of case: philanthropic (donation) / project based / <u>strategic</u> Location: Hungary Type of area: Bird protection Duration: since 2009 Involved stakeholders (both business and green NGOs): Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society, Pro Vértés Foundation, Hungarian National Parks, Hammarprodukter (Sweden), MAVIR</p> <p>Activities carried out in the framework of the cooperation:</p> <p>In cooperation with Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society, Pro Vértés Foundation, numerous civic and professional organisations and in relation to EU LIFE program, we install man-made nests on pylons where the presence of protected birds is expected. We share our experiences on bird protection conferences and we provide opportunity, both for Hungarian and environmental protection experts of neighbouring countries (Slovakia, Bulgaria, Romania) to learn and acquire our working methods in the form methodological nest installation.</p> <p>We help the migration of great bustards and large waders by bird deflectors put on transmission lines. By detecting them in time they can evade the lines being dangerous for them.</p> <p>In addition to the direct protection of birds, we put a lot of effort into the promotion of our bird protection program. Besides online nest monitoring, we welcome those who are interested in the birdlife of our country with bird ringing and other field birdwatching programs. The former one provides useful information also for ornithologists since they can learn more about the life of populations and can elaborate a strategy for the protection of endangered species.</p>

	<p>Results: Thanks to the man-made nest program, today more than 250 saker falcons, i.e. 80% of national population nest on MAVIR's pylons. The offspring hatched and grown in these nest have saved the population from its "on the verge of extinction" status. In the framework of our great bustard and wader program we put more than 2000 bird deflectors on the transmission lines crossing the relevant areas, the number of collision accidents of great bustard population has demonstrably reduced to quarter on the areas supplied with deflectors.</p> <p>Plans for continuation/extension/improvement: It is foreseen to continue the cooperation in the coming years.</p>
3.	<p>Benefits and motivation of stakeholders (both business and green NGOs): Our bird protection program is an excellent example of our commitment to environmental responsibility that increases the popularity of our company as well. Due to this activity, the population and the survival chances of critically endangered species involved in the program has demonstrably increased. It encourages our company to continue the program. Our achieved results are justified by the fact that more and more civic and professional organisations join the initiation.</p>
4.	<p>General information on legal background and other incentives /obstacles in the country</p> <p><i>E.g. What kind legal requirement exist? ISO/EMAS?</i> The status of critically endangered bird living in the vicinity of transmission lines is defined by EU, their protection is regulated by EU and domestic environment protection rules.</p> <p><i>CSR activities based on Global Reporting Initiative, How widely does this type of partnership spread?</i> The partnership includes both national and international cooperation (with Slovak, Austrian, Romanian civic and professional organisations).</p> <p><i>What is the attitude of the public towards this type of partnership?</i> The public can follow, via our camera program, the life of birds from spring to autumn, from nesting to flying out of young ones. The number of observers is increasing year by year, both in Hungary and abroad.</p>
5.	<p>Annexes (pictures, maps, websites, etc.).</p> <p>Main communication channel of our bird protection program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * MAVIR website - http://www.mavir.hu (the nest camera program can be followed from April to August). * LIFE Program website - http://ec.europa.eu/life * Websites of national parks * Hungarian Ornithological and Nature Conservation Society - http://www.mme.hu/ * Facebook (MAVIR – Leader of Energy, Birds of prey nest monitoring) https://hu-hu.facebook.com/mavir.azenergiairanyitoja



Birds of prey exhibition



Live line nest installation



Young saker falcons May 2013



Bird protection interactive demonstration – Cultural Heritage Days 2013