



LIFE Project Number  
**LIFE16 GIE/EE/000665**

**Mid-term Report**  
**Covering the project activities from 15/09/2017 to 31/10/2019**

Reporting Date  
**30/11/2019**

LIFE PROJECT NAME or Acronym  
**NaturallyEst-LIFE**

Data Project

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<b>Project end date:</b>	<15/03/2022>
<b>Total budget:</b>	654,350 € (total eligible budget 652,300 €)
<b>EU contribution:</b>	390,810 €
<b>(%) of eligible costs:</b>	59.91% of total eligible budget

Data Beneficiary

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## 1. List of key-words and abbreviations

ELF – Estonian Fund for Nature  
UT – University of Tartu  
KÕK – Environmental Law Centre  
NatBus – Looduskiri OÜ (Nature Bus)  
HD - Natura 2000 Helpdesk  
FG - Focus group  
EB – Environmental Board  
MoE – Ministry of Environment  
MS – Milestone  
ND – not determined  
NP - National Park  
PR – public relation

## 2. Executive Summary

The overall objective of the project is to enhance communication within the society, especially between the local communities and landowners and nature conservation stakeholders. The objectives of the project are: to help solving Natura 2000 related conflicts; to use solved cases for storytelling about Natura 2000; to improve Natura 2000 overall image for Estonians and to share piloted lessons to policy makers in Estonia and other countries in Europe.

As overall result we expect the number of conflicts and thus illegal activities in Natura 2000 areas to decrease. We expect to help and analyse 30 conflict cases. We expect 2000 people to take part in our open-air events, study tours and volunteer camps. We expect 5000 people to be engaged in citizen science campaigns online. And we expect 30 nature spokesperson get good practical skills to work with public communication. We also aim to get at least 250 media stories published during the project.

The preparatory actions creating a stakeholder database (A1) and focus-group meetings with stakeholder groups (A2) have been completed successfully. Although we had a slight deviation in the timetable of preparatory actions and communication plan of the project was delayed; overall the design of the preparatory actions has proven to be very good and has given valuable input to project implementation as well as dissemination activities.

Project core activities Natura 2000 helpdesk (B1), a compilation of case studies (B2) and Natura 2000 handbook (B3) form an organic group of activities where project partner KÕK is leading the progress. There has been already 51 cases served by Natura 2000 HD but the main challenge is selecting the most suitable cases for storytelling. Many cases are complex and although project input into their solving is significant, it is not sure if the final solution will be delivered within project time (for example long-term negotiations with landowners or management plan public hearings), other cases are easy to solve but lack significant policy improvement component (for example landowner asking how to use public database or the meaning of issued official letter). On the positive side there are a number of cases that have fed into number of project activities and that enable us to pilot communication methods as planned in the proposal. The cases given input to cascade of different activities are described in detail in this report.

Separate activity has been devoted to develop communication skills of nature conservation spokespersons (B4). By this mid-term report one of two planned communication trainings has been successfully finalised - 15 EB leading nature conservation officials, who work on Natura 2000, took part in 5-day training. The training covered personal communication skills, conflict solving and negotiations, media relations and specific nature conservation conflicts management topics. Second training program for 15 academic and freelance conservation spokespersons is currently underway and will be concluded on 5th December 2019.

Other separate activity in the project is citizen science campaigns (B7). Of two planned campaigns first is successfully finalised - in 2019 spring we asked the public to come out for mapping a common meadow plant cowslip (*Primula veris*) to give input for scientific data collection of Estonian seminatural meadows fragmentation. The campaign was a major success being broadcasted in main media channels, shared in social media and bringing on board several thousand people (exact number of participants is in detail elaborated in the

report). The campaign website also was shortlisted in Estonian best 2019 designed websites and got awarded for science popularization in Estonia. The detailed communication strategy for relation to Natura 2000 communication and the follow-up activities are elaborated in the report. The second citizen science campaign is planned for 2021.

Related to bringing positive messages to Natura 2000 public communication is enhancing learning by volunteering in Natura 2000 areas (B8). By mid-term the project team has hosted 6 long-term volunteers and carried out 6 volunteer camps in Natura 2000 areas. Different approaches have been tested to bring on board new target groups, one of the most successful being meadow grass scything competition organised during summer 2019. The volunteering has created a significant amount of project media coverage.

The main obstacles related to project core activities have been met for activities B5 open-air events "Natura2000 and our community" and B6 study tours. The reason for the difficulties has risen as project partner NatBus had no previous experience in EU project implementation and although lead partner ELF has supported the partner to plan and report on activities we have reached to conclusion that by mid-term the activities are so much behind the schedule that we will terminate the partnership and lead partner will take over the remaining activity. Namely by date 6 of 36 planned open-air events have been arranged and none of the study tours have been organised. The plan is set to employ an event organiser by ELF and carry out the remaining events during 2020 and 2021. Schedule for planned activities are elaborated in the report.

Monitoring of the change expected by the project (C1) has been carried out by project partner UT. The baseline survey and site visits have been carried out and partner has started the mid-term review by interviewing project team and the target groups involved. Report is expected by the end of 2019.

Dissemination activities (D1) - project webpage is running, project informational boards created as roll-ups, project Steering committee meetings held as well as extensive amount of presentations about project baseline survey and policy recommendations given in Estonia.

As the project has reached mid-term we can conclude that the project has been fascinating journey to take. The major set-back being related to project partnership for activities B5 and B6 and main challenge to find well communicative conservation cases from different appeals that the helpdesk gets during the project.

### 3. Introduction (maximum 2 pages)

Main environmental problem addressed by NaturallyEst LIFE as seen in the proposal are the emerging conflicts in the implementation of Natura 2000 in Estonia. Despite quite extensive information campaigns and consultation processes in Estonia, it was found that Natura 2000 is poorly accepted by landowners whose land has been designated for protection. Among the landowners' main concerns were the socio-economic aspects of designation, especially potential land use restrictions subsidies and compensation payments. However, the information campaign and consultations focused mainly on ecological aspects, and the conservation authorities could not always provide clear answers to questions about socioeconomic issues at the consultation meetings. The local landowners, sometimes

distrusting the scientific data used to justify designation of Natura 2000 sites, also had rich knowledge of local biodiversity, which could have complemented the scientific inventories. Left unaddressed or ignored, those value conflicts can become a major threat, which can prevent reaching Natura 2000 objectives, be they at site, national or European level. While reviewing Natura 2000 management planning it appears that a conflict often emerges from a difference of opinion that escalates. Early acknowledgment of the potential for conflict and addressing it proactively can avoid the situation from escalating to a conflict in which mutual trust between the parties is lost and people are no longer on speaking terms.

Thus, the main objective of the NaturallyEst LIFE as seen in the project proposal is to enhance the implementation of Natura 2000 and EU environmental legislation (Birds and Habitat's Directive) in Estonian society via better conservation communication. The main problems listed in the project proposal were: the forest management practices, semi-natural habitats management practices and the protection and handling of large predators. During the course of the project it has become clear to us that one big problem lies in the practical carryout of the implementation of the Natura 2000 itself. Many of the problems landed to our project's Natura helpdesk are related to the fact that the local landowners do not understand the regulations and the overall process of implementation the EU directives. The official letters that landowners receive or the meetings with state conservation officials do not mitigate the existing fears but, on the contrary - due to the hard-to-understand legal language and complicated powerpoint presentations the misunderstanding and fears are even deepened. So, we have realised that the mediation between the local landowners and the conservation authorities is even more important that we thought before. Also the policy improvement suggestions will concentrate more on the communication issues.

So, one of the most important target groups is the Natura 2000 land owners who are reached via the helpdesk cases and via the EB provided cases. During the project we try to be present in some most important events and bring in specialists who help to mediate the conflict. We also work with EB officials in order to support them and help to analyse the conflict's main actors and devise a strategy how to communicate with each actor. We train the officials to be better communicators and negotiators themselves and this knowledge can then be spread among the EB. We make suggestions for the further support and training of the conservation officials in solving the hot cases with their own capacities after the project has ended. We also try different approaches in the informal communication such as directing the conservation volunteering camps into the conflict hot-spots and organising open air events.

As the project is designed to pilot different methods for communication the monitoring impact of those methods is essential. Project partner University of Tartu (TU) role is solely to monitor and give advice for improvements. An extensive baseline survey of the attitudes and feelings of general public as well as defined stakeholders towards the conservation issues in Natura 2000 areas was compiled in the beginning of the project. The survey is followed by second stage toward the end of the project to see if there has been any change of the attitudes. The mid-term monitoring report gives overview of first changes the project activities have triggered and gives advice for continuation for project activities as well as for after-LIFE stage.

#### 4. Administrative part (maximum 1 page)

The NaturallyEst-LIFE project has two project managers - the tasks are divided between Mari Kaisal (0.3) and Silvia Lotman (0.7). Project managers divide their tasks according to necessities. The communication team of the coordinating beneficiary ELF has two members - communication manager Kertu Hool with fluctuating workload according to needs and communication assistant Laura Oro with fluctuating workload according to need. Communication manager Katre Liiv from KÕK is supporting the communication team with the marketing of Natura 2000 Helpdesk. KÕK has two lawyers - Merlyn Mannov and Kaarel Relve - working for the project and juridical assistant Pille Priks. UT has one main expert Maie Kiisel who has fluctuating workload according to need and an assisting expert Meriliis Kasemets. Sociologists from TU are valuable asset to the NaturallyEst project not only as the means to measure project's impact but also as consultants with project's activities. TU helps to design the actions according to the situation in society. For example - the sociologists' team is often referring to the use of so-called "conservation meta-language" - i.e ELF and EB often use terms and notions known only to people with nature conservation background and thus, have potential to be less effective in communication.

Communication with the Monitoring team has been continuous and smooth - all the help the project team needed from the monitoring expert Luule Sinnisov was coming in quickly and thoroughly. Katrin Ritso has effectively filled in to consult in need.

Unfortunately one of project partners - NatBus - who was responsible for the open-air events and study tours has not been up to this task. The problems arose during the first project year and coordinating beneficiary has tried to consult the partner continuously but reaching project mid-term we have mutually agreed that partner will leave the partnership by the end of 2019. The tasks will be taken over by ELF and an extra person will be hired to work with both activities (B5 and B6). Regarding this change as well as change in the ELF's juridical address the coordinating beneficiary is compiling the request for project's amendment that will be sent separately to EASME.

## 5. Technical part

### Technical progress, per Action

#### **Action A1 Stakeholder database**

Foreseen start date: 01.09.2017 Actual start date: 15.09.2017

Foreseen end date: 31.12.2017 Actual end date: 31.12.2017

#### **Completed**

Relevant stakeholder contacts were collected in time, the database is supplemented whenever a new contact emerges. The database was compiled by KÕK juridical assistant Pille Priks and is mainly a tool for KÕK work for the project: to keep track of all stakeholders involved, HD clients and possible interested parties. The database was also used as a source of contacts for FG interview invitations. The database is going to be a valuable working tool for both project partners' and EB in continuing the communication with stakeholders.



## Action A2 Focus group meetings

Foreseen start date: 01.09.2017 Actual start date: 15.09.2017

Foreseen end date: 30.06.2018 Actual end date: 15.12.2018

### Completed

Focus group interviews were conducted as follows:

- 12 Jan 2018 Managers of semi-natural communities (farmers) in Matsalu NP
- 29 Jan 2018 Managers of semi-natural communities (farmers) in Karula NP
- 12 Feb 2018 Hunters
- 3 March 2018 Local landowners in Lahemaa NP
- 28 March 2018 Forest smallholder owners
- 28 March 2018 Summerhouse owners
- 5 April 2018 EB officials
- 12 April 2018 Local municipality officials
- 8 May 2018 Forest protection activists
- 10 May 2018 Forestry company representatives

For every interview a set of questions was compiled, some questions were the same to all stakeholders (for example 'Please describe your experiences with nature conservation official processes like applying for some licence etc') and some questions were added especially to bring up specific topics (like hunting regulation commenting by hunters). Communication expert Leene Korp was hired to conduct the interviews. All interviews were thoroughly prepared and later transcribed and analysed by KÕK lawyer and juridical assistant as well as the project team in ELF. The outcome shows that the precaution to recruit a neutral interviewer proved itself and her neutral view enabled the project team to see conservation conflict in a larger context.

**The FG analysis** based on 10 interviews was annexed in previous progress report. The report brings out different stories that stakeholders tell when asked about Natura 2000 areas and their management. The main findings of the report are: most reasons for conflict can be grouped as (1) lack of trust between stakeholders and state institutions, (2) conflicts caused by different regulations that are felt as unfair, (3) conflicts caused by lack of communication skills. Forest protection activists were found to have less trust in state institutions whereas representatives of big forestry companies had least problem with trust. Too complex regulations were found problem by most of the stakeholders. Landowners and land managers had most stories about conservation regulations that do not work as intended. Big forest owners and hunters had less problems with regulations. Need for better communication skills was most felt by EB officials and local municipality officials as well as landowners. Summerhouse owners found the communication skills as less important.

The FG interviews and analysis were conducted in time, the delay in action was caused by delay in communication plan which in turn was relying on the input of the baseline survey. No significant impact for the project run was caused by neither of the delays. Communication plan was compiled by 12/2018, also a detailed communication timetable was introduced to external monitor during monitoring visit in spring 2019 and was sent by email to Giulia Carboni on 06.08.2019. The communication plan and its timetable are developing documents that keep the project communication focus but change when new information is provided.

## **Action B1 Natura 2000 Helpdesk (HD)**

Foreseen start date: 01/01/2018 Actual start date: 01/01/2018

Foreseen end date: 15/03/2022 Anticipated end date: 15/03/2022

The setup of Helpdesk was conducted in time. Any interested person can place a Natura 2000 related question on KÕK webpage where a special site for the HD is uploaded (<http://www.k6k.ee/looduskaitse/kusi-nou>). There is also a frequently asked question section on the HD site (<http://www.k6k.ee/looduskaitse/kkk>). ELF has link to the helpdesk site on our project's website. In the first couple of months after the launch of the HD over 20 cases were collected. All the cases (both placed question and the answer) are stored in Google drive folder. The HD team is giving an initial answer to the question during 3 working days. Some questions are easy to answer during a short time but in more difficult cases there is a need for gathering more information and also negotiating best solutions.

By mid-term there are 51 cases served on different topics. Original target in application was 30 cases, which is now fulfilled. Nevertheless we continue to accept the HD requests as we are looking for good and systemic cases to analyse in the Natura handbook. Citizens have turned to HD if they need assistance with building regulations and forest cutting regulations, also if they have had arguments with other land users or if a natural species has damaged their property. There are cases where landowner is interested in better conservation on their land (more information about species or consultation on how to make proposition to be added to Natura 2000 network). EB officials have turned to HD in case if landowners needed an external juridical or biodiversity expert explanations about reasons and means of protection. A registry of HD cases is added as Annex I.

The main challenge is selecting the most suitable cases for storytelling. Many cases are complex and although project input into their solving is significant, it is not sure if the final solution will be delivered within project time (for example long-term negotiations with landowners or management plan public hearings), other cases are easy to solve but lack significant policy improvement component (for example landowner asking how to use public database or the meaning of issued official letter). On the positive side there are a number of cases that have fed into number of project activities and that enable us to pilot communication methods as planned in the proposal.

## Action B2 Case studies

Foreseen start date: 01/06/2018 Actual start date: 16/10/2018

Foreseen end date: 30/05/2021 Anticipated end date: 30/05/2021

There has been already 51 cases served by Natura 2000 HD but the main challenge is selecting the most suitable cases for storytelling. The same challenge is also the reason for action's delay - in hope to serve the cases with the most impact to Natura 2000 implementation in Estonia, we were waiting for more relevant cases. Many cases are complex and although project input into their solving is significant, it is not sure if the final solution will be delivered within project time (for example long-term negotiations with landowners or management plan public hearings), other cases are easy to solve but lack significant policy improvement component (for example landowner asking how to use public database or the meaning of issued official letter). On the positive side there are a number of cases that have fed into number of project activities and that enable us to pilot communication methods as planned in the proposal. For developing case studies we have formed a list of two types of possible cases: FAQs and problematic difficult cases. The list of cases will be used for writing the case studies and using them for storytelling about possibilities of finding solution to Natura 2000 communication problems.

First category - Frequently Asked Questions:

1. Can I build small (less than 20 m<sup>2</sup>) house on a Natura 2000/ nature conservation area? What licence or permission is needed? Who should I contact?
2. I need to reconstruct a barnhouse, my home is on Natura 2000 area, who should I contact? Am I allowed to build here?
3. Is it allowed to reconstruct a private road near my farm on Natura 2000 area? How should the environmental impacts be assessed?
4. I live on Natura 2000 area, near my house the bushes were removed under the electricity lines. What licences do these companies have that do this work? Should they also ask the landowner?
5. My land is bordered by a Natura 2000 lake, there old planted spruces near the lake that I would like to take down to make the view to the lake more picturesque. Am I allowed to do this? Who should I contact to ask permission?
6. Our home is on Natura 2000 area, the Environmental Board has informed us that they are going to compile a new management plan for the area. What does it mean? What activities are going to be listed in management plan? Should we make our suggestions to this plan?
7. Near our home there is a plan to widen up a sand pit, there is also a Natura 2000 area near. Should the company be also assessed for Natura 2000 impacts?
8. The experts have planned a protected area for capercaillie but officially the area was designated smaller. Who should be responsible for real nature values being taken into account?
9. Woodpeckers are damaging my house, can someone help me? There are no compensation systems in place to protect property of people from these birds, although they are protected by law.
10. Can I angle on a Kasari river inside Natura 2000 area?

Second category - problem analysis of difficult cases:

1. Landowner wants to make better conditions for fish spawning and reconstruct the local ditches for this purpose. The area is also a coastal meadow and the activity is controversial in the view of meadow protection.
2. There is a plan to take down a small dam on Natura 2000 area and build a fish ladder. At the same time there is a juridical dispute of ownership of this dam.
3. Natura 2000 area around Vöhandu river is surrounded by a landscape protection area. Environmental Board has been developing a new rules set for the area but local landowners feel left out of decision making process and have formed a joint front against protection area.
4. Local landowners are against protecting one of largest pond bat (*Myotis dasycneme*) hibernation areas, according to experts, the area should be designated as a Natura 2000 area.
5. Local municipality is developing their spatial planning and have agreed to take special attention to Natura 2000 areas to be discussed with public. They have agreed to work with us to cover the topic.
6. Environmental Board is planning to develop a strategic communication plan for Natura 2000 areas related to seminatural meadows topic and has asked our help in developing it.

### **Action B3 Natura 2000 handbook**

Foreseen start date: 01/01/2020 Anticipated start date ND

Foreseen end date: 31/12/2020 Anticipated end date: 31/12/2020

Action is not due yet, although the preparatory actions have already started. There have been several project team meetings to determine the plan for handbook as well as a meeting with one of the largest spatial planning and environmental management consultancy company.

## Action B4 Communication trainings for nature conservation spokespersons

Foreseen start date: 01/11/2017 Actual start date: 01/02/2018

Foreseen end date: 31/03/2020 Anticipated end date: 31/03/2020

**The first course** was designed for EB officials who are directly involved in Natura 2000 management activities and communicating those to wider public. After discussions with EB and conducting FG interviews the project team found that EB officials and local municipality officials are very different target groups that need different approaches. The decision was made to target the communication training only to EB officials and thus to create a homogeneous group with focus on better communication of Natura 2000. The local municipality officials will be targeted more via HD so they can have more insight in Natura 2000 as a regulation that helps also them in their work. The course is filled by 15 officials who were selected by EB administration. A background survey for the training participants was conducted via Google forms. According to the answers the 5-day training was designed as follows. Personal communication skills and interpersonal communication basics (2 training days - 31 October, 1 November 2018), negotiation skills (1 day on 12th December 2018), communication with the media and in social media (1 day in 23rd of January 2019), conservation conflict mediation and case solving (1 day in 13th of June 2019). The delay of not fulfilling all 5 training days in 2018 was due to tight schedule of training participants. The first two training days were lead by external expert - psychology trainer Daniel Soomer. The training consisted mainly in active participation exercises to understand and learn to implement basic skills in active listening, assertiveness and different types of conflicts. The third training day was lead by external expert - negotiation trainer Ülo Vihma. The media relations training day was conducted in an office of one of biggest Estonian media companies - Ekspress Media. The participants got introductory lecture from a leading journalist Ingrid Veidenberg and a chance to visit and talk to journalists in their daily working space. Second part of the training day was lead by ELF communication manager Kertu Hool and assistant Laura Oro who made video training of giving interviews to media. Last training day was compiled by project managers Silvia Lotman and Mari Kaisel as well as project long-term volunteer Melanie Olesk. The training day consisted of case studies from various countries about conservation conflict solving as well as conflict sensitivity planning into a workflow of officials, real cases from HD were discussed and simulated in order to give most practical input to the real work of the participants. The training participants were very active and thankful for the whole training programme and filled the feedback sheets with very high endorsements. The module programmes, participant lists and training materials are attached to the report in **Annex II**.



Figure 1 various training situations - conflict solving, negotiations - with EB officials

**The second course** has been developed for freelance and academic participants. The course dates are 13.-14. November, 19-20. November and 5. December. There has been open call to fill the group and 18 participants have been selected from 26 candidates. The candidates had to describe their experience in the field of nature conservation spokesperson and motivate their participation. The potentially most influential participants were chosen. The training plan consists of education and campaigning skills, giving interviews to media, media planning, value worlds of different target groups as well as personal communication skills. The module programme is attached to the report in Annex II

## Action B5 Open-air events “Natura 2000 and our community”

Foreseen start date: 01/04/2018 Actual start date: 01/09/2018

Foreseen end date: 09/2021 Anticipated end date: ND

There was slight insecurity felt by the partner with starting the activities as (1) the partner had not been implementing EU funded projects before and (2) as the baseline survey was not ready, it was difficult to find best suiting Natura 2000 area and community to target. To overcome the problem ELF project managers Silvia Lotman and Mari Kaisel conducted an EU project financing training meeting to the partner.

During 2019 partners had several meetings planning the open-air events. Nevertheless only 8 events were organised in the result of these meetings by October 2019. Partner tried to work out the good design for the open-air events that would suite the projects idea of piloting different communication methods to engage local communities but nevertheless most of the events fall short of this ambition. After discussions with NatBus as well as in ELF executive and with external monitor we concluded that cooperation is not viable and due to the time pressure the lead partner will have to take over the tasks.

By mid-term following open-air events have been organised.

1. 22/09/2018 Matsalu NP (Natura 2000 site EE0040002). The event took place during Matsalu international nature film festival that is a local cultural event for endorsing the nature of the area. The participants were taken by rental bus to an excursion and festival events. Estonian landscapes and their significance were introduced by Ingmar Muusikus and Juhani Püttsepp, several wildlife filmmakers from festival give Q&A sessions about their passion to nature and a local hiking track was visited. Participants got wide overview of art&nature projects. Link to event: <http://www.looduseomnibuss.ee/content/p%C3%A4ikseline-s%C3%BCgisretk-matsallu-maa-stikke-linde-ja-loodusfilme-vaatama>

2. 20/10/2018 Lahemaa NP (Natura 2000 site EE0010173). In cooperation with local heritage specialists to introduce the importance of the human impact in the alvar habitat in Muuksi area. The participants could listen to heritage and local history lectures by Gurly Vedru and Ott Sandrak, also take part in workshop on local stone wall building and old blacksmith work by Ragnar Saage.



Figure 2 Participants of Muuksi open-air event in Lahemaa NP on 20/10/2018



3. 11/11/2018 Alutaguse NP (Natura 2000 site EE0070103). The event was organised to celebrate a 6th Estonian National Park creation in Alutaguse area, the excursion to the area and the discussion about the meaning of national part in Estonian conservation history was lead by local museum director and community leader Anne Nurgamaa.

<http://www.looduseomnibuss.ee/content/p%C3%A4ikseline-s%C3%BCgisretk-uude-alutagus-e-rahvusparki>

4. 20/06/2019 Laelatu wooded meadow (Natura 2000 site EE0040002). The event was tightly connected to the citizen science campaign for mapping the common cowslip genetic diversity, the participants got overview of the wooded meadow indicator species and management needs as well as the connection to citizen science campaign data to the Natura 2000 values. Awards to best participants of the campaign were shared during the event and local media coverage arranged. The participants were mixed group of local interested people as well as people brought by excursion bus from Tallinn. The event was very informative as ecologists from university as well as local community leader Peeter Vissak gave talks on nature. As effort was made by ELF for media coverage the event got also publications. Regional newspaper published a news about the event <https://parnu.postimees.ee/6712261/nurmenukuoite-vaatlus-lopeb-laelatul>, local media published a gallery from event: <https://ajaleht.laaneranna.ee/2019/06/21/galerii-laelatu-puisniit-tombab-nii-mesilasi-kui-te-adlasi/> also the event got social media attention:

<https://www.facebook.com/matsaluturism/posts/2918456381559410>,

<https://theinsta-stalker.com/share/By8JKt2gxtl>,

<https://theinsta-stalker.com/share/By7myQbJliR>

and

<https://theinsta-stalker.com/share/By9IOibJtEw>.



Figure 3 Open-air event in Laelatu wooded meadow 20/06/2019

5. 17/08/2019 Alutaguse NP (Natura 2000 site EE0070103). To celebrate Estonian nature, an event was organised in Estonian newest national park. The effort was made to bring together 5 full busses of people to Alutaguse, excursions to nature and lectures were complemented by music of Jaan Tätte.

<http://www.looduseomnibuss.ee/content/retk-tallinnast-alutaguse-rahvusparki-ja-jaan-t%C3%A4ttet-kuulama> and  
<http://www.looduseomnibuss.ee/content/retk-tartust-alutaguse-rahvusparki-ja-jaan-t%C3%A4ttet-kuulama>

6. 23/08/2019 Salevere (Natura 2000 site EE0040002). The event was connected to HD case of wooded meadow managers who asked for more information about the natural values as well as management details on their meadows. A round-table talk for wooded meadow managers was organised followed by a charity concert by a popular singer Tõnu Timm. To advertise the event a title and poster “For wooded meadows!” was created, Facebook event and advertising video compiled (<https://www.facebook.com/events/salum%C3%A4e-loovkoda-matsalu-creative-space/puisniidu-heaks/1853021911500780/>), also email invitations were sent to Google list of seminatural meadow managers as well as relevant NGO and expert email lists. Regional newspaper published an interview about the event and the cause of wooded meadows <https://parnu.postimees.ee/6759677/murelikud-loodusesobrad-kohtuvad-ullaste-puisniidul>, local newspaper published a news of the event <https://ajaleht.laaneranna.ee/2019/08/13/mida-teha-kuhu-minna-ehk-laaneranna-valla-kultuurikava-14-25-august/>. The participants of round-table came together from many parts of Estonia to share their lessons about wooded meadow management. From the event participants also an idea for the study tour was formed - to make a tour for the semi-natural meadow managers in order to learn from each other’s practices.



Figure 4. Poster for open-air event in August 2019



Figure 5 Participants of the round-table of wooded meadow managing farmers during open-air event in Salevere



Figure 6 Evening concert in Salevere open-air event “For wooded meadows!”

7. 13/10/2019 Taevaskoda (Natura 2000 site EE0080217). Participants were taken to 3 small walking tour with a guide Taavi Pae to introduce landscapes of Natura 2000 area. The discussions around local dam removal as well as ecology and protection of ants and anthills were held during the event.

<http://www.looduseomnibuss.ee/content/kuldne-s%C3%BCgisretk-taevaskotta-kiidj%C3%A44rvele-ja-valgesoosse>

**8.** 27/10/2019 Soomaa (Natura 2000 site EE0080574). Participants were taken to Soomaa NP, area and the Natura values were introduced by Aivar Ruukel and Jaan Riis. Additionally a kayaking trip was organised for those who were interested in seeing flooding of the alluvial meadow

<http://www.looduseomnibuss.ee/content/retk-soomaale-riisa-rappa-ning-halliste-luhale-suurvett-ja-aresse-alpakasid-vaatama>

## Action B6 Study tours

Foreseen start date: 01/04/2019 Actual start date: 01/06/2019

Foreseen end date: 09/2020 Anticipated end date: 30/11/2020

The study tours are planned to targeted groups to deliver practical skills and information that would enable to tackle problems target groups expressed during focus group interviews, baseline study and helpdesk cases. Study tour is a method that enables people to get very practical experience from field and thus found one of the most influential communication tools. Study tour is seen as a prerequisite of the target group becoming self-administering learners and provides possibilities for informal and practical learning that ensures long-term results. As compared to other communication tools (like media publications, online etc.) organising a study tour is more expensive, so it is important to target the activity to most needed topics and groups. During our project we plan to pilot this method to make recommendations to policy makers for future planning of this tool into communication activities of EB or others. During 2019 summer we put up a list of study tours planned and scheduled as follows:

(1) 02/2020 Study tour to **forest owners and experts to exchange experience of Natura 2000 forest habitats management**. There is a Flying squirrel LIFE project going on in Alutaguse National Park, also some other positive examples of Natura forest habitat management can be found in Estonia. In FG and HD Karula National Park forest owners and some other forest small owners have expressed their need for practical examples of how to manage forest in accordance with the needs of forest species and habitat development. This tour would be targeted to the forest owners and experts who already have an interest in positive win-win situations but still have not had their own motivation to find actively workable solutions.

(2) 03/2020 Study tour to **Fennoscandian wooded meadow habitat managers**. During the project FG and HD there has come up many cases of wooded meadow managers - mainly farmers - who have different technical and principal questions about management and restoration of this habitat type. We have been working on difficult subject of ecological restoration and management of wooded meadow during project already via 3 HD cases, volunteer camps and the open-air event "For wooded meadows!". During the last event the participants expressed the need for more hands-on practical information that can be delivered via study tour method.

(3) 08/2020 Study tour to **Boreal Baltic coastal meadows and adjacent habitat complex managers**. The coastal habitats management issues have been discussed during FG interviews and one HD case. As this issue concerns mainly cattle and sheep farmers also conflict with carnivores (wolf, jackal) has come up. The study tour is planned to farmers who can exchange knowledge about habitat management tips as well as sustainability of management and protection from carnivores. The timing of the tour will be first elaborated with target groups so it would not intervene with their annual herding and management rush time.

(4 and 5) 09/2020 and 11/2020 Study tour to **national and local environmental officials and planners. The focus is on Natura 2000 Assessment in large projects with significant impact to Natura 2000 sites.** The target group has been listed by project Steering committee as important target group as well as supported by 2 FG interviews and 2 HD cases that there is a need for practical knowledge exchange between different level officials and planners. The tour will consist of two sets of site visits and between the tours the cases will be discussed in every organisation involved so the outcome of the study tours would have more policy wide results.

## Action B7 Citizen science campaigns

Foreseen start date: 01/04/2019 Actual start date: 01/04/2019

Foreseen end date: 03/2022 Anticipated end date: ND

In 2017 the project team sent out request to ecological researchers to submit possible science projects suitable for citizen science. The idea and request was also introduced in the citizen science round-table meeting in 08.02.2018 in Estonian Naturalists' Society in Tartu. A few ideas were collected and the most prospective topic was chosen after meeting with plant ecology working group from University of Tartu. It was planned to run a campaign on gathering genetic and landscape data of a common cowslip (*Primula veris*).

During 01.05-15.06.2019 the citizen science campaign was carried out. As a preparation to communication plan a small study was lead by ELF communication manager Kertu Hool - in cooperation with DD Academy five students researched what activities of young Estonians are connected to spending time in nature (<http://bit.ly/2QtyL2P>). Based on this and planned activities the strategic communication plan and campaign materials for web and video outlines were developed. Design studio Fraktal was hired to design the website and slogans, separate company was hired for filming the campaign videos.

The campaign was titled "Estonia seeks cowslips!" and it was conducted in cooperation with ELF, University of Tartu and "Let's do it" initiative. The main ecological objectives of the campaign were: 1) the nation wide mapping of habitats and distribution of cowslips, 2) marking and mapping of the the heterostyly - different types of cowslip's flowers in order to 3) study the effect of the fragmentation of landscapes to the meadow habitats biodiversity. The main objectives of the campaign from the communication standpoint were: 1) to introduce to the society the logic of scientific data collection - the everyday life and fieldworks of ecologists, 2) to explain for the society how the scientists shall and will contribute to the decision making. Thus the campaign provided 3) excellent opportunity to tell simple stories about the difficult topics: how the important Natura 2000 landscapes fragment and what effect it has on biodiversity and why the protection of biodiversity is necessary. The strategic plan in communication was to address public first to easier messages and then build the topic to be more complex: first the campaign was launched and the message to public was a call to help scientists on their fieldwork and find cowslips, gradually more information of genetic diversity and habitat diversity was delivered via campaign videos, finally the complex topics and relation to Natura 2000 network was discussed in a scientific radio show "Labor". The alignment and engagement that this approach created was significant - people started to share the stories and tell their own stories of what they have noticed in their own familiar environment - not only the cowslips but also the disappearance of other primula species, globeflowers, marigolds etc.

The campaign was very successful - about 1700 single observations were mapping over 200 000 cowslips. As many observations were made by a group of students, friends or families the number of direct participants was assumed to be several thousand. Therefore it is safe to say that the first campaign fulfilled the main goal of this activity - to bring large number of people closer to understand the scientific evidence that is needed for Natura 2000 conservation decisions, bring media attention towards conservation matters in new and fun way and engage new kind of target groups (families, schools and young people). The number of participants was expected to be 2500 and although it is not possible to say exact number

of participants it is clear that the target was met. Most of the observations came from the large Natura 2000 areas of western and northern parts of Estonia (with large meadows still present) as well as from the islands. However, participants were spread all over Estonia (Fig 1), even when in the southern and eastern parts of Estonia the cowslips were harder to find - according to lead scientists: the finds of small and isolated cowslip populations present especially valuable data for the fragmentation research.

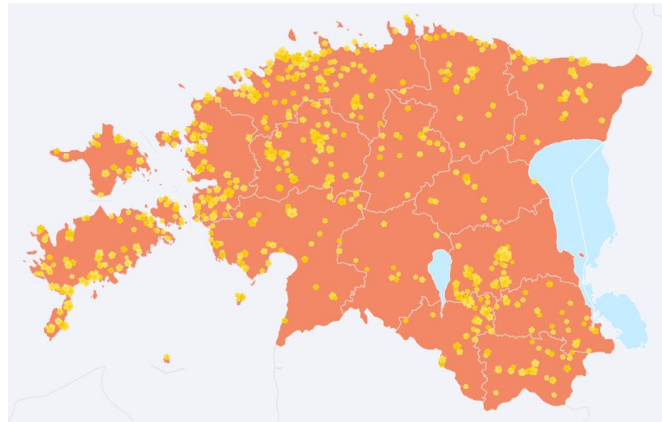


Figure 7 Spread of observations in Estonia. In order to keep the campaign lively, the real-life observation's map was produced every now and then.

The success of the campaign is based on: 1) target species was well-known, well-loved and widely spread, 2) participation did not require much previous knowledge in biology - in order to understand whether the flower is S-type or L-type one had simply look into the flower, 3) the technical support in making the observation was made easy (Fig 2) and accessible with all kind of smart devices as well as the classical paper and pen solution was provided, 4) target groups were carefully analysed during the campaign preparation phase and special communication efforts were directed towards main selected target groups: schools/teachers and families. For example a request to participate plus specially designed instructions were sent to all Estonia's schools, the application was designed as youth and family friendly, the help line for teachers was available in both Estonian and Russian languages during the campaign period etc. The campaign was also advertised as one of focus topics of popular "Lets do it" initiative spring campaign thus bringing on board families and communities that usually are not targeted by nature educational campaigns. For the campaign a new webpage was designed but no new databases were created. The existing natural values databases are meant for experts and specialists and are too difficult for laymans but at the same time they already incorporate large amounts of data that can be analysed together. So all the data collected by this campaign was transferred also to PlutoF biodiversity platform so other scientists and conservation planners can use gathered data according to their needs.





Figure 8 - easily usable observation web [www.nurmenukk.ee](http://www.nurmenukk.ee) (12,000 page views) was specially created for the campaign



Figure 9 - the fieldwork for campaign was easily accessible for families



Figure 10 The design was made by design studio Fraktal, this led the campaign to be shortlisted in Estonian 2019 best designed webpages competition as well as awarded for science popularisation

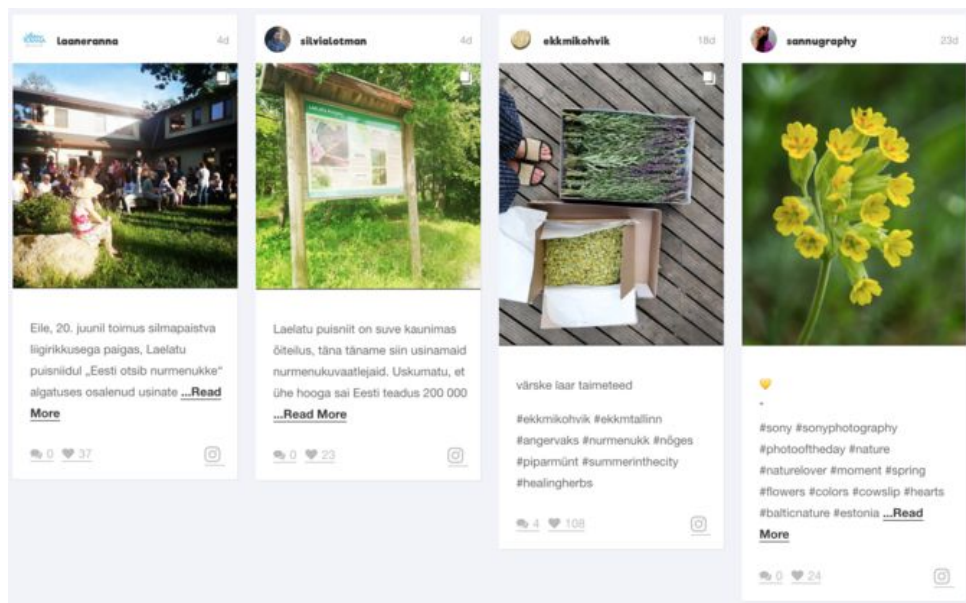


Figure 11 - campaign was advertised in social media and gathered popularity in Instagram

## **Action B8 Enhancing learning by volunteering in Natura 2000 areas**

Foreseen start date: 01/01/2018 Actual start date: 01/01/2018

Foreseen end date: 31/12/2021 Anticipated end date: ND

In spring 2018 project team had meetings to target the long-term volunteering and short-term volunteering activities in the project. The focus was to recruit long-term volunteers whose experience can give fruitful insights to Natura 2000 conservation volunteering. The short-term volunteering was planned into a series of volunteer camps that would have diverse program with cultural dimension and help us to tell personal conservation volunteering stories.

### **Volunteer camps for short-term volunteering**

In summer 2018 three volunteers camps on conservation were organised under title "Summer school of conservation camps" in Palupõhja nature school and its surroundings during 19th-24th July (<http://talgud.ee/talgud/2018/suvekool>, <http://talgud.ee/talgud/2018/suvekoolj2rg>). The aim of the summer school was to introduce the Natura 2000, heritage culture and conservation needs in various set of activities in situ. The activities included traditional scything trainings that helped to mow considerable amount of protected meadow. In addition there were lectures, concerts and fitness training "how to do physical conservation work that helps both body and mind". Altogether 67 people visited camps (Annex III). The camps were documented by participants and public photo albums published in social media. Also journalists visited the camps and published articles. The blog posts made about 2018 volunteer camps: <http://talgud.ee/lugu/eestimaa-looduse-fondi-talgute-suvekool-uhendab-looduskaitse-ja-pa-randkultuuri>, <http://talgud.ee/lugu/elfi-suvekool-teeb-head-nii-loodusele-kui-talgulisele>.

*Responses to remarks made for LIFE16 GIE/EE/000665 - NaturallyEst-LIFE - Progress report no. 1. Ref. Ares(2019)1647033 - 12/03/2019*

As noted in letter, there is a need for explanation of the special focus on Natura 2000 communication. We explain that this format of "summer school" was specifically developed to have format where it is possible to pilot new ways to engage new target groups and topics. For 2018 event we tried two new approaches - bringing the fitness part to the volunteer camp format and multiplying the communication effect by sharing videos of summer school lectures. The video lectures are presented on project website here: <http://elfond.ee/naturallyest/tegevused/loodusharidus>. Both of the approaches gave us very needed lessons of how to investigate the approaches better. The fitness and sport approach was after the summer school evaluated by project team and better version found and tested next year - competition of scything of meadow-hay. The video lectures format was evaluated and used for preparing the citizen science campaign. For the campaign the shorter and more wide range of videos ([www.nurmenukk.ee](http://www.nurmenukk.ee)) was produced as a result of this first attempt. Also as a part of bigger communication effort for the volunteering as a possibility to be part of conservation the summer school web page views were higher than usual - 1051 page views.

In 2019 the experience of organising summer school for volunteers as well as External monitor comments were discussed and plan was set to get more media and new target

groups attention to the activity. Thus a plan was made to organise a scything competition to attract attention. For preparation to the competition 3 volunteer camps were organised in wooded meadows (Hobulaid, Palupõhja) where participants had an opportunity to train their skills in scything as well as get knowledge of biodiversity related to meadow management. In 14 July 2019 a big scything competition was organised near Estonian National Museum, Tartu (<http://elfond.ee/niitmisvoistlus> - 1021 page views). Special advertisements were designed, as well as advertising video edited and published. The event was a success, it got attention by media and gathered over a hundred participants.



Figure 12 - FB event advertisement for the scything competition

By the end of 2019 we have carried out 6 volunteer conservation camps out of 10, thus we are on schedule with the original plan. “Summerschools” with their wider perspective (such as fitness elements and additional lectures and concerts) as well as scything competition have engaged also new audiences to Natura 2000 conservation issues which was also the aim of this activity in NaturallyEst project. The main challenge here is to aim these activities more specifically to selected target groups (such as young people interested in sports) - we have already made a few steps in order to engage them but we will work more specifically in the future.



Figure 12 - 14/07/2019 Scything competition finalists during the briefing near Estonian National Museum



Figure 13 - Happy winners of competition got media attention

### **Long-term volunteers**

In 2018 summer an international Erasmus student Celia Lopez from Portugal was recruited as a long term volunteer. She was selected because she had previous experience from conservation volunteering in other countries and her task was to help organise volunteer camps in Estonia and analyse the similarities and differences in the end of her term. Celia had a mentor from the NaturallyEst volunteer camps team (Kadri Aller) and one of her tasks was also to help to elaborate positive messages about conservation volunteering and how to introduce the Estonian volunteer camp experience in other countries. She helped to organise activities in ELF including the “Summer school of conservation camps”, LIFE platform meeting in Estonia and promoting conservation camps in Matsalu Nature Film Festival. Her personal blog on her volunteering term was published here: <https://natureconservationvolunteers.blogspot.com/search/label/Celia%20Lopez%20Ca%C3%BAzarez>. After completing her long-term volunteering in Estonia Celia gave a talk in Estonian University of Life Sciences about the differences and similarities of Estonian and Portugal conservation volunteering.

In spring 2019 a long-term volunteer Melanie Olesk from Estonia was recruited as a student of University of Aberdeen with interest in conservation conflicts. Melanie had good theoretical background knowledge about conservation conflicts and she helped to prepare case studies and training materials to EB officials for communication training last module (B4). She also made great effort in giving input to HD case related to Võhandu Natura 2000 site communication with local stakeholders. Melanie as an objective intern was welcomed by many locals who were willing to give interviews to her about their fears that they were not

able to communicate directly to EB. Local newspaper published short article saying she is studying the opinions of locals about the conservation in Võhandu area. Melanie is now writing an academic research about this practical information gathered during volunteering for the project.

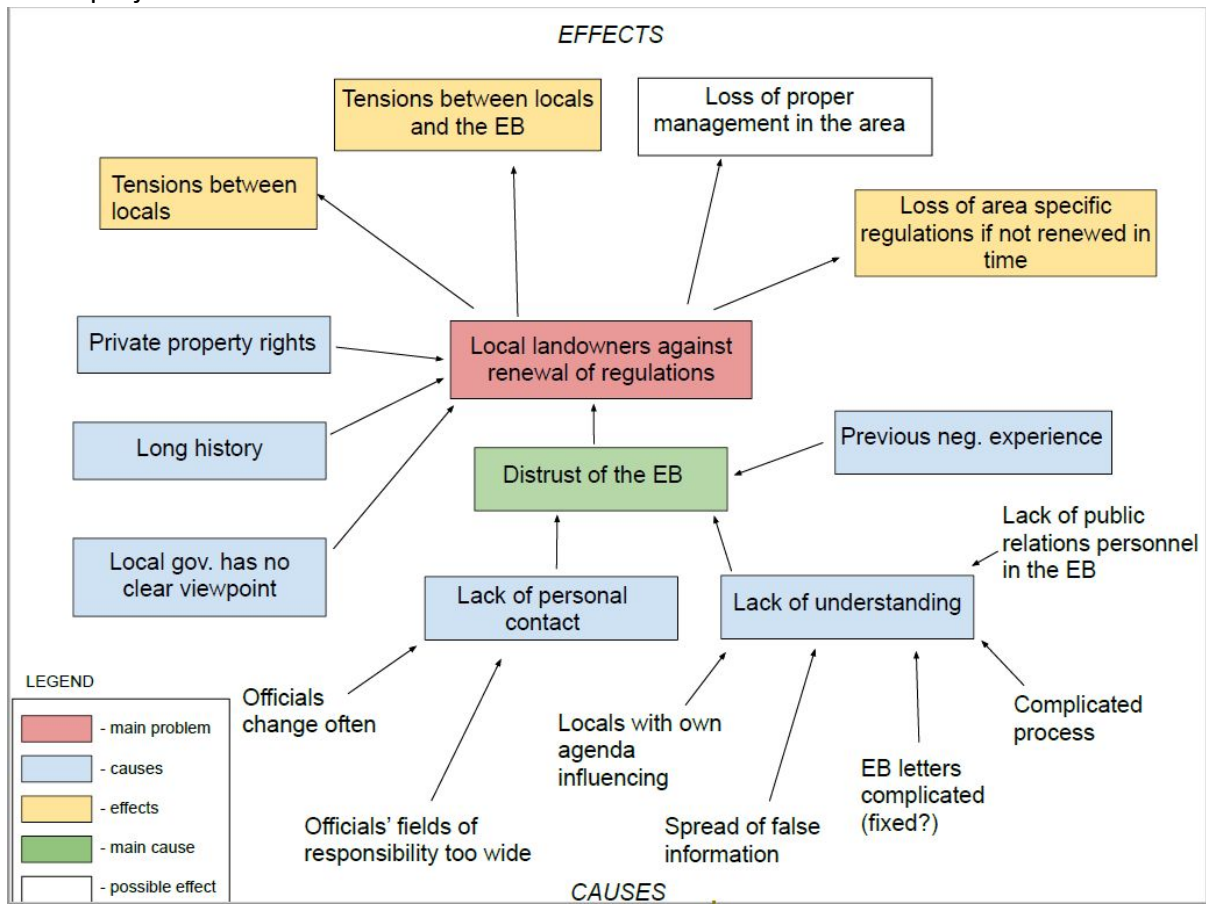


Figure 14 Conflict tree based on the Võhandu HD case as drafted in Melanie Oleks's academic research

In summer 2019 a long-term volunteer Antoine Fusil from France as an European Volunteer Service volunteer was recruited to the project to help in organising volunteer camps and other events. His blog about stay in Estonia is published here: <https://natureconservationvolunteers.blogspot.com/search/label/Antoine%20in%20Estonia>. Antoine was a great help to ELF team and took part in many activities. He also helped to introduce next French volunteer into project activities.

In autumn 2019 a long-term volunteer Elina Melet-Garel from France was recruited to the project. Her personal interest is in learning about nature and how to communicate it to the wider public. Her hobby is wildlife drawing. She has taken part in different volunteer camps during her stay as well as helped wildlife experts in their fieldworks. Elina is planning to publish a picture blog in French so the project ideas can be communicated to target groups in other parts in Europe.

In autumn 2019 a long-term volunteer Anya Ellyn Benavides from Hawaii was recruited as a project volunteer. Anya is interested in adult education and environmental education and is helping in preparation to nature spokespersons communication training (B4).

In autumn 2019 a long-term volunteer Kathrin Möbius from Germany was recruited as a project volunteer. Her interest is in finding new ways to communicate environmental issues to public especially ways how to use new social media memes and other tools for communicating with young people. She is preparing a proposal for possible new tools for project dissemination activities towards youth.

So far the long-term volunteering action is on schedule - all the long term volunteers have provided valuable contribution to ELF conservation communication activities. The main challenge in this activity is to encourage the more lively media coverage of the volunteers.

*Responses to remarks made for LIFE16 GIE/EE/000665 - NaturallyEst-LIFE - Progress report no. 1. Ref. Ares(2019)1647033 - 12/03/2019*

It is asked to explain the volunteer opportunities and media work. It is true that the long-term volunteering was not expressed on the project website, now the volunteering is reflected on the project website here: <http://elfond.ee/naturallyestlife/activities/nature-conservation-volunteers> This year we also put a call for volunteers up to European Solidarity Corps but as a response we got only one reply - Antoine Fusil - who was recruited and who blogged about his stay here: <https://natureconservationvolunteers.blogspot.com/search/label/Antoine%20in%20Estonia>. Other volunteers we have recruited have found us when looking for a conservation communication activities i.e out of their own interest. We have been welcoming them as their input to the project has been important (Melanie as helper in conflict solving, Elina, Anya and Kathrin as educators and communicators). Nevertheless we are looking for ways to media to cover their stories. Melanie has been once published in a local newspaper as of her research of Võhandu landowners conflict and we are planning a follow-up article as well as a 'conservation conflict blog' with her. Elina is working on a French blog about Estonian nature, Anya and Kathrin are exploring new ways to blog in social media for youth.

## **Action C1 Monitoring of social change**

Foreseen start date: 01/09/2017 Actual start date: 15/09/2017

Foreseen end date: 03/2022 Anticipated end date: 03/2022

The original baseline survey was redesigned in the beginning of the project. During the application process the activities were not enough aligned between the partners and during the kick-off period of the project the baseline survey was elaborated in details between the partners: first analysing large databases of land ownership and different types of owners, second the media coverage of Natura 2000 topics in 2016-2017 and third the survey poll among people and companies who own land property with conservation restrictions. The poll questionnaire for target groups was developed based on the outcomes of FG interviews and elaborated with EB officials. The questionnaire was tested on test group and finalised in June 2018. The methodology (in two documents), the baseline survey as well as the drafted mid-term monitoring report (Annex II) of the survey are added to current report in Annex IV (in Estonian with english resume for surveys). The poll was done by external contractor by phone call polling method using the developed questionnaire. There were 300 private Natura 2000 landowners and 200 enterprise Natura 2000 landowners polled for the survey. The main finding of the survey is that only small part of Natura 2000 landowners live or act locally on the Natura 2000 area. The study enables to divide landowners into groups of bystanders, active managers and "nature lovers". The analysis explores the potential of communication activities to increase the support to nature conservation among different interest groups. The authors of the analysis recommend focusing on practical guidelines (instead of the general importance of nature conservation) in communication with lay public. The principles of nature conservation should be integrated into the everyday activities of the community living in the area - this way also the passive and uninterested groups can be involved in the spread of knowledge. Local business representatives are more critical to nature conservation than local inhabitants, especially those who are occupied in the agriculture and forestry sector. Nature conservation specialists can develop direct cooperation with the larger enterprises. It is also recommended to enhance the entrepreneurial forms and ways of living that suit well to the area without endangering the principles of nature conservation. The study shows that neither the severity of the restrictions nor the compensations granted to alleviate them do not form the support to nature conservation (these are being taken for granted). Satisfaction with nature conservation is higher when people find enough activity in the conservation area and feel that they are supported in it (community support, satisfactory infrastructure, enough services). Contacts with the nature conservation administration are more often positively than negatively evaluated. Critical experiences are more common to entrepreneurs and those who are less experienced with nature conservation. The less a person is connected to the community and finds no positive impulses from its social interactions the more the person is liable to be negatively minded towards all society as well as Natura 2000. The study was annexed in previous report.



TABEL 3. Eraisikutest omanike looduse ja looduskaitsega suhestumise viis

Looduse ja looduskaitsega suhestumise viis	Tegevuste mitmekesisus, mille puhul tuleb arvestada looduskaitsega (arv)	Looduskaitsest tingitud kohustuste ja keeldude teadmine (arv)	Hinnang ümbruskonna loodusväärtuste tundmisele (4-väga hästi)	Elab oma maatüki peal või läheduses
kõrvalseisja (n=114)	0,7	0,5	1,5	17%
looduskaitse kohustatu (61)	3,0	0,7	2,4	47%
looduskaitse tundja (53)	1,2	2,2	2,3	26%
loodusetundja (72)	0,9	0,9	3,3	28%
Kokku (300)	1,3	1,0	2,2	28%

Allikas: autorite tehtud

Figure 15 - The study enables to divide landowners into groups of bystanders, active managers and “nature lovers”

## Action D1 Communication and dissemination of the project and its results

The communication and dissemination activities started with the start of the project. The most strategic networking partner to the project team is EB as national Natura 2000 authority thus regular meetings are held with EB to discuss project activities and success.

The project team is open to invitations, following presentations have been made by project manager: LIFE projects kick-off meeting in Brussels (10/17), project presentation on Matsalu National Park stakeholder meeting (12/17), project presentation on conference "Nature conservation messages" in Tallinn (03/18); project presentation on Vilsandi National Park stakeholder meeting (12/18); Conservation conflicts in Tallinn Zoo conference (04/19) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rgFxfZUkUOs>); Conflicts in conservation in international spring school of semiotics (06/19) (<https://conflict.haridusekraanil.ee/summerschool/>); How to engage private land owners in nature conservation conference (11/19) [https://www.rmk.ee/metsa-majandamine/looduskaitsetood/looduskaitsekonverents-2019/ettekanded#image\\_11](https://www.rmk.ee/metsa-majandamine/looduskaitsetood/looduskaitsekonverents-2019/ettekanded#image_11); Project experience presentation on stakeholders workshop during Boreal biogeographical seminar in Tallinn (10/19) [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/events/pdf/Full\\_program\\_BorealSem\\_final.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/events/pdf/Full_program_BorealSem_final.pdf)

With the beginning of first public events (volunteer camps) also media work started for the project. All media publications related to the project are collected to an excel sheet (Annex V). The timetable of this activity in the application form is incorrect. The timetable of this activity should cover the whole project period. For the clearer picture the timetable has been remodified so that all subactions are separated (in the original application form all the milestones and deliverables were on the same table).

### Action D1.1 Website

Foreseen start date: 02/2018 Actual start date: 02/2018

Foreseen end date: 03/2022 Anticipated end date: 03/2022

In January 2018 a simple project description and general data web page was uploaded to Estonian Fund for Nature homepage <http://elfond.ee/what-we-do/naturallyest> (4093 page views). In addition to the project page a separate web page was developed for HD activities <http://www.k6k.ee/looduskaitse>. In addition, there will be at least two more websites developed during the project to promote citizen science campaigns. The first campaign site ([www.nurmenukk.ee](http://www.nurmenukk.ee) - see more detailed under action B7) was had 12 073 page views. It was first anticipated that as there will be special websites for specific project actions there will be no need for more complicated webpage development. Nevertheless, during 2018 when project activities started to take place, a more comprehensive website was needed to keep all project deliverables and news updated. For this reason, a separate webpage was developed and uploaded to <http://elfond.ee/naturallyest>. This website will be constantly updated during the project, but the simple project data sheet on Estonian Fund for Nature homepage will remain there as a gateway to the developed new site. English version of the website is still based on the project description site. There are no special Facebook pages and the information is shared through Estonian Fund for Nature and Estonian Environmental

Law Center Facebook pages. New Facebook (and other social media) page will be elaborated if needed for specific citizen science campaigns. The website will be remaining as part of the ELF site after the project's end for as long as it is still relevant.

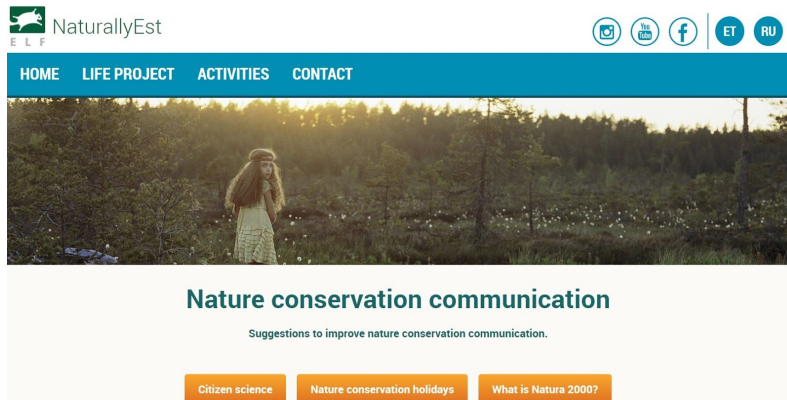


Figure 16 - Screenshot of project website

#### Action D1.2 Notice boards

Foreseen start date: 06/2018 Actual start date: 06/2018

Foreseen end date: 01/2019 Actual end date: 10/2019

By consulting external monitor we have decided that instead of permanent notice boards we will produce two roll-ups that enhance communication of Natura 2000. The roll-ups are easy to carry to project events and can be presented excessively during the project. The roll-ups were designed and printed and are presented in ELF office and during project events on sites. The delay in the final production was caused by the several consultancy needs for the content of the roll-ups with the External monitor (as the project is not traditional site based project there was some confusion on how to design the mobile information stands in line with LIFE requirements) as well as acquiring the rights of nature photographs (took more time than expected).



Figure 17 - One of project roll-ups is in English to be used during international events

### Action D1.3 Layman's report

Foreseen start date: 06/2021 Actual start date: ND

Foreseen end date: 12/2021 Anticipated end date: ND

### Action D1.4 Networking with other LIFE and non-LIFE projects

Foreseen start date: 01/2019 Actual start date: 09/2017

Foreseen end date: 03/2022 Anticipated end date: ND

In 2018 the project was presented on LIFE platform meeting in Estonia. In addition, in cooperation with LIFE Living Natura 2000 an online article was published about the NaturallyEst project's aims as well as Natura 2000 implementation in Estonia. The article can be found here:

<https://www.yumpu.com/de/document/read/62822724/blick-uber-den-tellerrand>.

In cooperation with Matsalu International Nature Film Festival the first open-air event was organised to Matsalu NP. Project manager Silvia Lotman has been participating in the Shareholder Groups of LIFE Mires Estonia, LIFE to Alvars as well EstBatLIFE so the communication with those projects as well as consultation on good governance and participants involvement has been wide. From other Baltic LIFE projects LIFE OSMODERMA has been one of projects with that contact has made for future cooperation on public awareness.

For networking in Estonia two separate seminars have been organised:

- January 2019 Project presentations and contact seminar to conservation officials in Ministry of Environment
- March 2019 Project presentations and contact workshop for Nature educators in Tartu Nature School
- Project experience was presented on stakeholders workshop during Boreal biogeographical seminar in Tallinn (10/19)

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/documents/third\\_b](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/documents/third_b)

[oreal biogeographical process seminar/theme-1/Theme1\\_Stakeholders\\_S\\_Lotman.pdf](#)

- Several contacts have been made with project and platforms to prepare for the dissemination presentations and workshops to European experts foreseen in project proposal for 2020 and 2021.

## Action E1 Project management

Foreseen start date: 15/09/2017 Actual start date: 15/09/2017

Foreseen end date: 15/03/2022 Anticipated end date: 15/03/2022

Project management is divided between Mari Kaisel and Silvia Lotman and during the project's course just a smooth division of tasks is created. As the project's team is working from different locations, the team meetings are often carried out online. When necessary, the actual meetings take place. The project managers are weekly reporting the project course to the rest of ELF team in the office meetings. The accounting of media reports and following of the project's communication plan is the responsibility of Kertu Hool and Laura Oro. The overall help of project managers is provided by ELF bureau assistant Kärt Mell. The financial matters are the responsibility of Kadri Kalmus. The B8 actions are carried out with close cooperation of the "talgud" team and responsible person is Kadri Aller, the volunteer camp summer schools have been organised by Mart Kiis and Piret Väinsalu. All relevant project materials are kept in Google Drive.

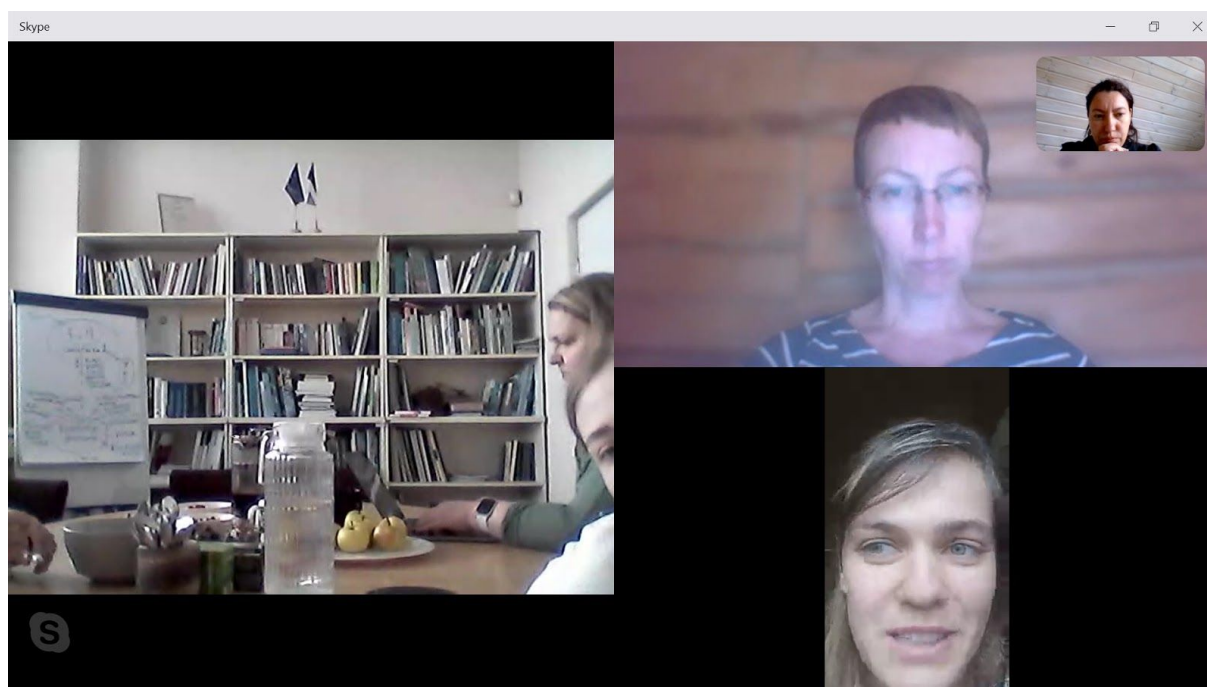


Figure 18 - screenshot of a regular project meeting **Status of the foreseen deliverables and milestones**

### Status of deliverables and milestones

DELIVERABLE	ACTION	DUE DATE	STATUS
Baseline survey questionnaire developed	C1	1.12.2017	DONE
Baseline survey finalised	C1	1.02.2018	DONE
Project website	D1	1.02.2018	ONGOING
Elaborated Communication Plan	A2	30.06.2018	DONE
10 reports on case descriptions	A2	30.06.2018	DONE
Updated Indicator Table 1 (REVISED)	C1	30.11.2018	REPLACED WITH KPI
Updated Indicator Table 2 (REVISED)	C1	30.11.2019	REPLACED WITH KPI
Mid-term monitoring report	C1	31.12.2019	30.11.19
Report on 5 study trips follow-up conclusions	B6	31.03.2020	DELAYED TO 11.2020
First campaign communication strategy and results report	B7	31.03.2020	STARTED
Course description for future replication	B4	31.03.2020	STARTED
Updated Indicator Table 3	C1	30.11.2020	PLANNED
Follow-up survey I finalised	C1	1.12.2020	PLANNED
English version of the Handbook	D1	31.12.2020	PLANNED
Handbook	B3	31.12.2020	PLANNED
12 case studies published	B2	31.05.2021	PLANNED
10 picture blogs from volunteer camps published	B8	27.09.2021	PLANNED
36 reports of follow-up activities from events	B5	30.09.2021	PLANNED
Socio-economic impact assessment finalised	C1	1.11.2021	PLANNED
Updated Indicator Table 4 (PLANNED)	C1	30.11.2021	REPLACED WITH KPI
Layman's report	D1	1.12.2021	PLANNED
Follow-up survey II finalised	C1	1.02.2022	PLANNED
18 presentation and workshop reports	D1	15.03.2022	PLANNED
Second campaign communication strategy and results report	B7	31.03.2022	PLANNED

10 long-term volunteering stories published as blogs or articles B8		15.03.2022	PLANNED
Updated Indicator Table 5 (PLANNED)	C1	15.03.2022	REPLACED WITH KPI
Final monitoring report	C1	15.06.2022	PLANNED
After-LIFE Plan	E1	15.03.2022	PLANNED
<b>MILESTONE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Baseline survey questionnaire developed	C1	1.12.2017	DONE
Database created	A1	31.12.2017	DONE
Baseline survey finalised	C1	1.02.2018	DONE
Chosen methods for socio-economic impact assessment	C1	1.02.2018	DONE
Project website launched	D1	1.02.2018	DONE
Focus groups finalised	A2	30.06.2018	DONE
Communication Plan Compiled	A2	30.06.2018	DONE
Meeting for Est stakeholders to present the results of FG	D1	15.12.2018	DONE
I course completed	B4	31.12.2018	DONE
Database of HD cases (at least 30) and key case-law from courts B1 50 cases)		31.01.2019	ONGOING (there are 50 cases)
Mid-term monitoring report	C1	31.12.2019	SUBMITTING
Mid-term report for Socio-economic impact assessment	C1	31.12.2019	ONGOING
II course completed	B4	31.12.2019	PLANNED
5 volunteer camps organised	B8	31.01.2020	PLANNED
5 long-term volunteers filled their program	B8	31.01.2020	DONE
Searching for Natura2000 professionals in EU presentations	D1	30.03.2020	PLANNED
15 events organised	B5	31.03.2020	DELAYED TO 11.2020
5 study trips finalised	B6	31.03.2020	DELAYED TO 11.2020
First campaign completed	B7	31.03.2020	DONE
Course description for replication completed	B4	31.03.2020	ONGOING



Communication toolkit feedback given to Europarc	D1	30.06.2020	PLANNED
Follow-up survey I finalised	C1	1.12.2020	PLANNED
Handbook completed	B3	31.12.2020	PLANNED
Citizen science campaign presentation meeting	D1	15.02.2021	PLANNED
Article about Natura2000 handbook submitted	D1	31.03.2021	PLANNED
Case studies made public	B2	31.05.2021	PLANNED
Open-air events presented to EB, MoE and others	D1	30.06.2021	PLANNED
All 36 events organised	B5	30.09.2021	DELAYED TO 12.2021
Final report for Socio-economic impact assessment	C1	1.11.2021	PLANNED
Half of the presentations and workshops carried out	D1	30.11.2021	PLANNED
Lessons learned meeting to Estonian stakeholders carried out	D1	15.12.2021	PLANNED
All presentations and workshops carried out	D1	15.12.2021	PLANNED
Follow-up survey II finalised	C1	1.02.2022	PLANNED
Second campaign completed	B7	31.03.2022	PLANNED
All 10 volunteer camps organised	B8	15.03.2022	PLANNED
All 10 long-term volunteers filled their program	B8	15.03.2022	PLANNED
All cases solved and added to the database	B1	15.03.2022	PLANNED
Final monitoring report	C1	15.06.2022	PLANNED

## 6. Main deviations, problems and corrective actions implemented

As stated previously in the current report, the main difficulty arose with the project partner NatBus who is responsible for the actions B5 and B6 - Natura 2000 open air events and Study tours. Although very experienced in event management, the partner was inexperienced in EU projects and when they discovered that the project activities must have added value and must fit into the project's general logic, they were not anticipating it and not ready to take additional responsibility. As a result they were not ready to change their established model of the events, nor were they ready to make effort in finding and engaging new target groups. This all plus the pressure from project's time frame makes the further efforts to keep the original partnership beyond hope. The project's activities B5 and B6 are already heavily behind schedule and at this point it is not possible to say if all 36 open-air events can be carried out. The partnership agreement amendment is in the process and ELF will take over the implementation of both actions and hire additional staff for the event management by the end of 2019. There is a sound schedule prepared by the ELF team for study tours (B6) to be carried out during 2020; the timetable for remaining open-air events is under development in parallel with recruiting a suitable team member for carrying the events out. Other project activities have not hindered by this as in two cases the coordinating beneficiary has already been able to connect the open-air events with general media work and project other activities (the Laelatu open-air event connected to citizen science campaign and Salevere wooded meadow open-air event connected to HD cases of wooded meadow managers).

## 7. Evaluation of Project Implementation

Action	Foreseen in the revised proposal	Achieved	Evaluation
A1	<b>Objectives:</b> collect addresses to important stakeholders <b>Expected results:</b> possibility to reach out directly to stakeholders	Yes	We expected the database to include all contacts of N2K landowners but due to GDPR such massive database is not feasible
A2	<b>Objectives:</b> 10 focus group discussions <b>Expected results:</b> thorough overview of common conflicts, communication plan to direct the conflicts	Yes, 10 FGs carried out	Chosen method was very fruitful although the participants were sometimes hard to find. Communication plan was delayed but was finalised and sent along for external monitor and ms Carboni..
B1	<b>Objectives:</b> 30 cases served <b>Expected results:</b> 30 cases served, solutions for the most cases provided.	51 cases served	Although lots of cases are served (i.e answered to citizen) some of cases are too easy and some too difficult for good storytelling and communication purposes. We now target more specific cases via the municipalities and EB.
B2	<b>Objectives:</b> 12 cases analysed <b>Expected results:</b> Good solutions found and described	1 case analysis started	Legal descriptions tend to be too long and detailed for sharing - therefore additional effort must be put into the good understandable case study description
B3	<b>Objectives:</b> handbook ready <b>Expected results:</b> handbook disseminated	-	Not relevant yet
B4	<b>Objectives:</b> 2 training modules carried out <b>Expected results:</b> 30 people trained	1. course carried out (15 participants), 2. course underway(18 participants)	Both groups are very well compiled and working climate is open and efficient. According to online survey of participants the courses were designed to meet the needs in best way.
B5	<b>Objectives:</b> 36 open air family events carried out <b>Expected results:</b> 1500 people take part	5 carried out	Deviation described more thoroughly in ch 4.2
B6	<b>Objectives:</b> 5 study tours carried out <b>Expected results:</b> 20 participants in each	-	Deviation described more thoroughly in ch 4.2, plan to take over the action is ready

B7	<b>Objectives:</b> 2 citizen science campaigns carried out <b>Expected results:</b> 5000 people engaged	1 campaign finalised	Chosen method was fruitful, about 3000 people engaged directly, media auditorium 4,297,570, campaign page views 12,000
B8	<b>Objectives:</b> 10 volunteer camps organised, 10 long term volunteers <b>Expected results:</b> 400 people engaged directly	6 camps completed, 6 long term volunteers engaged	New target groups for volunteer camps were engaged via the fitness expert engagement and heritage scything promotion and competition.
C1	<b>Objectives:</b> Baseline survey, follow up surveys I and II, socio-economic impact assessment <b>Expected results:</b> project impact thoroughly measured	running	Baseline survey conducted (including media analysis from 01/2016-12/2017) based on 300 private persons and 200 companies.
D1	<b>Objectives:</b> website, notice boards (roll-ups), layman's report, networking <b>Expected results:</b> dissemination of project's results	running	<a href="http://elfond.ee/naturallyest">http://elfond.ee/naturallyest</a> roll-ups ready and presented in ELF office layman's report - not relevant yet networking - Started search for Natura2000 professionals in EU who are interested in project team presentations
E1	<b>Objectives:</b> smooth project management <b>Expected results:</b> project runs without delays	YES	Partnership issues described thoroughly in ch 4.2, other minor delays do not affect project significantly

## 8. Analysis of benefits

### 1. *Environmental benefits*

#### *a. Direct / quantitative environmental benefits:*

*measured changes of attitude of important stakeholders.*

Action B4 - communication training - was very well received by the EB conservation officers. The participants said in their feedback to the training that the trainings have changed their attitude towards communication and participatory processes.

#### *b. Qualitative environmental benefits*

*continued effect of the strategy followed on key stakeholders, expected transfer of the methodology implemented to other countries or policy areas, future impact on EU environmental policy and legislation.*

Action B4 - communication training - participants were selected to be supervising officials who have means and motivation to replicate the learned practices to their respective departments. As a result of the communication training already two replica trainings were conducted by EB officials to their departments: one for the semi-natural habitat management officials and another training for regional conservation officials in 2019;

### 2. *Economic benefits (e.g. cost savings and/or business opportunities with new technology etc., regional development, cost reductions or revenues in other sectors);*

The participants of the training (Action B4) invited project team to help with stakeholder involvement in Vöhandu Natura 2000 area. The stakeholder involvement has taken already many years and has led to a conflict between landowners and officials. If the project team will manage to help to resolve the conflict it will considerably decrease the costs of conservation in this area - the conflicting parties could decrease the costs of conservation by working together and complementing each other.

### 3. *Social benefits (e.g. positive effects health.)*

Conflicts are compromising the mental health of conservation officers as well as landowners, we already see that EB officials who have been part of the training (B4) of HD cases (B1) are willing to adapt different ways to improve their communication with land owners and land managers, and thus, diminish the possible conflict situations in the future.

Project has also popularised the idea of training in nature and its health benefits - in 2018 volunteer camps the fitness workshop was carried out and in 2019 a scything competition was organised. These events have potential to bring people more to open air and more to use the ecosystem services nature provides.

### 4. *Replicability, transferability, cooperation: Potential for technical and commercial application (transferability, limiting factors, suitability for additional funding from other streams e.g. structural funds, responsible investors) benefits for stakeholders, drivers and obstacles for transfer, pressure from the public, potential degree of*

*geographical dispersion, specific target group information, high project visibility (eye-catchers), potential for replication in same and other sectors at the local and EU levels, etc. State the project's likelihood of replication (high/low/zero), and if its replication is market-driven or policy-dependant.*

The citizen science campaign (B7) carried out during 2019 has big replication and cooperation likelihood, Estonian Science Agency has expressed interest in future funding of campaign costs and University of Tartu has expressed interest in running the campaign, also communities movement "Let's do it" has expressed interest in continuation of cooperation. So the project has made an investment (webpage and campaign) that has high potential to be turned into a traditional event. The campaign also has a replicability likelihood in whole Europe as the plant (*Primula veris*) and its genetic diversity are of scientific and conservation interest also elsewhere.

The scything competitions have also high replicability likelihood, the event was already in 2019 co-funded by private donor and other funders have expressed their interest to invest in replication and growing of this activity.

5. *Best Practice lessons: briefly describe the best practice measures used and if any changes in the strategy employed could lead to possible adjustment of the best practices.*

**B1.** Natura 2000 HelpDesk has served a case of "different understanding of management of semi-natural habitat" that was an emerging conflict between land manager and EB. The emerging conflict was mitigated by bringing together EB, land manager and two biodiversity experts who were marking the need-to-be-cut trees in the wooded meadow. As a result, the land manager and EB conservation officers were both accepting the opinion of experts and an important N2K habitat is going to be restored and managed well and with enthusiasm in the future. EB has realised that there are cases when similar fieldwork is necessary in order to achieve the main goal - well managed wooded meadows and has agreed that it is both feasible (financially) and time-saving. The same approach has been already used after the piloted test by EB.

**C1.** Developing project together with a social science partner (UT) to monitor success and inform about possibilities to improve has been a valuable lesson and in case this kind of partner is available it certainly is a lesson that should be used in other project too.

6. *Innovation and demonstration value: Describe the level of innovation, demonstration value added by EU funding at the national and international levels (including methods & tools, nature management methods, models for stakeholder involvement, land stewardship models, organisational & co-operational aspects).*

**B7.** The cowslip citizen science campaign won the national "Science popularising award 2019" in the new initiative category. The visually attractive campaign also was shortlisted as Estonian best designed websites for 2019. This has led to new landmark of how nature and science can be communicated to wider public.

7. *Policy implications: Indicate any important achieved targets contributing to the future implementation, design or take-up of regional, national or European legislation. Please highlight any potential unintended impacts, bottlenecks or barriers to the implementation of your project due to regional, national or European legislation*

*including recommended actions further to actions already taken to overcome these barriers.*

The trainings, HD and dissemination activities have lead EB to decide that the field of semi-natural habitats needs to develop a strategic communication plan for this habitat type. The project team finds this being really good development and furthermore if successful the policy of strategic communication planning of different habitats managements could become a norm in the future.

One of topics covered by training (B4) and mapped out during FG interviews (A2) was the very legal texts of EB official letters (i.e written communication). The openness by EB to target the problem and develop more open and positive texts to people may lead to really good new governance level.

## 9. Key Project-level Indicators

Review of the KPI targets shows that most targets are relevant by the time of mid-term report. Main deviation might occur in the indicator value 1.6 - Humans to be influenced by the project; in this descriptor the actions B5 and B6 were taken into focus and number of humans was calculated based on the action's logic - however, since action B5 is delayed, we might have to decrease both the visitor and the local people's numbers that we are able to reach during the project. The target 12.2 (number of individuals receiving professional training or education) is going to be slightly exceeded by the end of the project - instead of 30 we will have 38 nature conservation spokespersons trained in communication skills. Indicator value 13 (Jobs) refers to the legal advisors hired to the HD cases, the end value is 3 FTE (at the time of mid-term report 2 lawyers are working on the project - neither of them with full-time), therefore most probably the end value will also be below anticipated number. However, the current HD system is very well received by conservation organisations (both national authorities and NGOs), therefore it is probable that the HD will be continued in some form after the project period ends.



## 10. Comments on the financial report

All costs are visible from the project's financial statement. In personnel, slight changes have occurred:

- Leene Korp was hired to conduct the FG interviews (A2) (reported and approved on the 1st progress report).
- For HD cases (B1) biodiversity experts were hired as external expertise instead of making very short working contracts (explained in 1st progress report), this practice was approved and has continued with other experts considered necessary for helping along with the HD cases.
- External assistance has almost exclusively used for citizen science campaign management (B7) with exceptions for the experts hired for the 1st communication training (B4).
- Travel costs were underestimated in many activities - for example travels for project's meetings and unforeseen travel needs (for example meetings organised for HD conflict solving) and these can be covered from other action's travel cost.
- As actions B5 and B6 are severely delayed the costs of NatBus (responsible for both actions) are underused and as the partner contract is soon to be terminated, the remaining funds are going to be transferred to the coordinating beneficiary who is taking over the responsibility for the actions. The request for such a change in grant agreement is going to be developed and sent to EASME shortly.
- Changes in the action C1. In the application form the original plan was to make an opinion poll as thoroughly external assistance - the costs altogether 15 000 EUR. In reality 4970 EUR was used for direct personnel costs and 2920 EUR for external assistance from the survey service provider, and 110 EUR for the contact data of the interviewees that were purchased from IT and Development Centre (reported and approved on the 1st progress report).

### Summary of Costs Incurred

PROJECT COSTS INCURRED			
Cost category	Budget according to the grant agreement in €	Costs incurred within the reporting period in €	%
1. Personnel	432050	1457026	33,7
2. Travel and subsistence	15500	26746	17,3
3. External assistance	90000	330466	36,7
4. Durables goods: total <u>non-depreciated</u> cost			

- Infrastructure sub-tot.			
- Equipment sub-tot.	2050	0	0
- Prototype sub-tot.			
5. Consumables	19900	5995	30,1
6. Other costs	52200	14715	28,2
7. Overheads	<b>40600</b>	<b>13754</b>	33,9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>652300</b>	<b>215886</b>	33,1

## Accounting system

The accounting systems of all beneficiaries allows for separating project expenses from other expenses. This was done using unique codes, which were associated with corresponding expenses (invoices, expense receipts etc) when registering expenses in the organisations' accounting. All beneficiaries adopted project-based cost accounting as of the beginning of the project.

### ELF

All the project cost documents include a clear reference to the project – invoices the acronym of the project and project number as follows: NaturallyEst-LIFE LIFE16 GIE/EE/000665. Other cost documents (statements of expenditures and travel expenses) are marked with project stamp.

Invoices are accepted when the title of the project as well as the financial code are marked on it. After receiving of the invoice, it is checked if there are the correct requisites and the reference to the LIFE project, as well as if it is in accordance with the project budget. Thereafter the invoice signed by the project manager and approved by Member of Executive Committee. Only after that it is delivered to the accountancy and the payment is carried out.

All the project entries in the ledger have a separate object identifier that allows to see the project income and expenses. The LIFE project object identifier in accounting system in ELF is LIFE-NAT.

Employees fill timesheets on daily basis, filling manually an Excel-based reporting sheet. Both LIFE template timesheet and ELF's own are in use. Timesheets record both the time spent on given project and total working hours of employee. Timesheets are checked and approved by the Chairman of Executive Committee during the first week of the following month as salaries are being paid by 8<sup>th</sup> day of the month. All the LIFE project staff members have agreements for the duration of LIFE project.

The original project documentation is kept at the accounting department and in the electronic document management system Folderit.

Each year a yearly project budget is prepared and approved to follow the project expenses.

## **University of Tartu**

Unique codes identifying the project costs in the accounting systems of beneficiary. The code for NaturallyEst LIFE costs is MSVJS17531.

Cost approving procedures: Invoices and expense receipts (here and after cost document) are submitted to the project manager, who is checking their accuracy and conformity with project requirements (incl references to the project - number and acronym). The project manager entering cost document in the internal document system and accepting it. In this system there is a separate field for project code and it is obligatory to fill it. After that the project accountant submitting the cost document for payment.

Working trip order before the trip and report (incl financial report and cost documents) after the trip are both approved by the director of the Institute and by the project manager. The system is electronic and it has also the obligatory field for project code. In addition the explanation of the trip consist project number and acronym.

If it is not possible to add to the cost document project references the special project stamp is used. This is usually the case of gasoline bills and bus/train tickets.

### **Time recording system**

The project employees are using manually completed time-sheets (on LIFE forms). Employees fill timesheets on daily basis. Project manager is controlling and approving the time-sheets before the signing. The time-sheets of the employees are signed by the employee and the project manager during the first week of the following month. Project manager`s time-sheets are signed by the head of department.

## **Enviromental Law Center**

Unique codes identifying the project costs in the accounting systems of beneficiary.

The code LIFE-NAT used NaturallyEst LIFE project costs.

All the project cost documents include a clear reference to the project – invoices the acronym of the project and project number as follows: NaturallyEst-LIFE LIFE16 GIE/EE/000665. If it is not possible to add to the cost document project references the special project stamp is used (statements of expenditures and travel expenses).

After receiving of the invoice, it is checked if there are the correct requisites and the reference to the LIFE project, as well as if it is in accordance with the project budget. Thereafter the invoice is signed by the Member of Executive Committee. Only after that the payment is carried out.

The project employees are using manually completed LIFE template time-sheets. Project manager is controlling and approving the time-sheets before the signing. The time-sheets of the employees are signed by the employee and by Member of Executive Committee during the first week of the following month.

### Partnership arrangements (if relevant)

The financial transactions between coordinating beneficiary and associated beneficiaries were conducted according to the partner agreement where reporting periods and transactions were listed. After the signing of agreements the prepayments of respective sums were transferred to the partners. In every three months the coordinating beneficiary is collecting the financial reports and costs of partners. Consolidated cost statement is prepared by the accountant of coordinating beneficiary Kadri Kalmus according to the data received from partners.

### Certificate on the financial statement

Not relevant

### Estimation of person-days used per action

Action type	Budgeted person-days	Estimated % of person-days spent
All projects when applicable Action A: Preparatory actions	47	84,2
GIE projects Action B: Core actions	1326	28,8
ENV and GIE projects Action C: Monitoring of the impact of the project action	170	77,0
ENV and GIE projects Action D: Public awareness/communication and dissemination of results	228	37,9
ENV and GIE projects Action E: Project management	930	45,6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3551</b>	<b>36,8</b>

## 11. Envisaged progress until next report

Actions / sub-actions		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		Envisaged progress until the next Progress report due by 30/05/2021	
		3T	4T	1T	2T	3T	4T	1T	2T	3T	4T		1T
Overall project schedule	Proposed												Carry on according to the project plan
	Actual												
Action A1	Proposed												Continue the database in emerging of new stakeholder contacts
	Actual												
Action A2	Proposed												Refer to the results when approaching new stakeholders
	Actual												
Action B1	Proposed												Keep up the case database, find more prospective handbook cases
	Actual												
Action B2	Proposed												Half case studies analysed and described, solutions provided.
	Actual												
Action B3	Proposed												No actions yet, planned selection of cases during 2020
	Actual												
Action B4	Proposed												Both courses completed by end of 2019, compilations for repl. ready by end of 2020
	Actual												
Action B5	Proposed												Action delayed. By next report, half of the events carried out
	Actual												
Action B6	Proposed												List of study trip destinations completed, 5 study trips carried out
	Actual												
Action B7	Proposed												Second campaign started
	Actual												
Action B8	Proposed												10 volunteer camps organised
	Actual												
Action C1	Proposed												II survey started, socio-economic impact assessment report ready
	Actual												
Action D1	Proposed												Activities based on project plan.
	Actual												
Action E1	Proposed												Project coordination according to project plan
	Actual												