

Description of the Tasks:

The LIFE SAFE-CROSSING project includes the following two actions:
Action D3: Assessment of the socio-economic impact of the project on the local economy and population

Action D4: Assessment of the impact on the ecosystem functions

These two actions foresee the production of the following deliverables:

Action D3 – Report of socio-economic impact

Action D4 – Report of impact on ecosystem services

The development of these two reports will be made considering the project proposal (see Annex 1).

For the report of Action D4 the analysis has to comply with the methodology on Mapping and Assessing Ecosystems and their Services (MAES) agreed at European level within action 5 of the Biodiversity Strategy.

Requisites:

- Expertise in the field of socio-economic and ecosystem evaluation
- Knowledge of the LIFE programme
- Previous experience in the production of reports regarding socio-economic and ecosystem impact in LIFE project
- Very good English knowledge and English writing skills

Timing:

A proposal of the report structure and contents will have to be ready by end of November 2023.

A draft of the deliverables will have to be ready by end of May 2023, whereas the final version (integrating comments after revision by the project team) will have to be ready by 15 August 2023.

The consultancy shall last from 15 July 2022 to 15 August 2023.

Work development:

The consultant will have to follow the guidelines provided by the responsible of the project LIFE SAFE-CROSSING LIFE17NAT/IT/000464, Mr. Fabio Papini and of the Project Manager Ms. Annette Mertens.

The details of the methods, procedures and contents of the reports will be commonly agreed, and the consultant will be requested to discuss the details in online meetings when necessary and upon agreement of both parties.

Cost:

The price offer shall be maximum 5.000 € including VAT and all social charges.

Annex 1. Description of Actions D3 and D4 of the LIFE SAFE-CROSSING project.

Action title:

D.3 Assessment of the socio-economic impact of the project on the local economy and population

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

AGRISTUDIO

Responsibilities in case several beneficiaries are implicated:

Agristudio will coordinate the action, the other beneficiaries will provide their information and contributions to the production of the report



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Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why) (Maximum Characters: 7000)

The project might have the following socio-economic impacts:

- reduction of danger for the drivers, with a subsequent decrease of number of damaged vehicles and injuries
- the increased level of attention of drivers might also in general cause a more careful driving behavior
- the reduction of damage for drivers will reduce also the amount of damage compensation claimed from the competent authorities, with a consequent decrease of the expenses
- a potential economic benefit for companies that sell/install AVC prevention devices and/or public awareness raising panels

The costs of the animal vehicle collisions will be estimated requesting data to the local traffic and road authorities in each site. However, if the information is not available, the cost will be estimated adapting the cost provided by the CEDR-SAFEROAD project in which the associated beneficiary Minuartia has participated. In this project data about cost of the AVC in different European countries was compiled including the cost of the vehicle damages, the evaluation of costs for people injured and also other cost such as those of the road and traffic patrols that are involved in the management of animal carcasses and other events related to the accident.

The driving behavior will be monitored in the frame of action D1, in order to assess whether the AVC Prevention Systems and the road information panels influence speed.

A specific study will be made of the potential marketing benefit of the AVC prevention System in the project countries as well as abroad. This will be also taking into account the response of the stakeholders contacted and involved in actions E5 (networking) and E7 (replicability). All the cases of new interest in the project activities and the cases of replication will be registered and a projection of the economic benefit will be made.

The findings will be summarized in a report at the end of the project

Assumptions related to major costs of the action (Maximum Characters: 2000)

External assistance:

An external contract will be made for the socio-economic analysis and to develop a marketing study. Lump sum 5.000 €. The person will also contribute to the report of action D4.

Action title:

D.4 Assessment of impact on the ecosystem functions

Beneficiary responsible for implementation:

AGRISTUDIO

Responsibilities in case several beneficiaries are implicated:

Agristudio will coordinate the action, the other beneficiaries will provide their information and contributions to the production of the report

Description and methods employed (what, how, where, when and why) (Maximum Characters: 7000)

The ecosystem functions will be targeted as follows:

1. Given that large carnivores are considered as “indicator” and “umbrella” species”, their conservation contributes to balanced ecosystems. Therefore, the project will contribute to the nature conservation value by reducing the mortality of these species as well as by improving connectivity of populations/territories that are now affected by the presence of roads. This improved connectivity



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can on its turn have a positive effect on other species as well as of habitats and landscapes.

2. A healthy environment, and especially the presence of large carnivores, are two very important assets for the eco-tourism and recreational sector. The reduction of the mortality on roads will benefit not only the target species but of wildlife in general, which is a great attractant for tourism, naturalists and animal watchers

3. The project will contribute to the improvement of health and well-being in terms of the reduction of accidents for drivers, which almost always have an impact on the economic well-being, and often on the health of people.

In fact, according to rough estimates in Europe 300 persons are killed and over 30.000 are injured in accidents caused by wildlife each year. The project will contribute towards reducing these numbers because it aims reduce the presence of animals on the roads and the speed of vehicles on the critical roads.

The assessment of these parameters will occur mainly through the following steps, which are carried out in action D1 and D3:

Analysis of the data from telemetry to observe differences in the movements of the target species

Monitoring of the animals killed on the road segments, to see whether there is a decrease of impact on Biodiversity

Monitoring of the driving behavior in the target areas

Monitoring of the number of injuries/casualties for people, as well as for the authorities and insurances in terms of compensations

The findings of these analyses will be linked to each others and summarized in a specific brief, which will point out the combined benefits, both in economic and social terms.

The analysis will comply with the methodology on Mapping and Assessing Ecosystems and their Services

(MAES) agreed at European level within action 5 of the Biodiversity Strategy.