

SLOVAKIA

Restoring, Preserving and Enhancing Ecosystems

Location
Rožňava

Programming period
2014 – 2020

Priority
P4 – Restoring, Preserving
and Enhancing Ecosystems

Measure
M8.3 - Support for the
prevention of damage to
forests from forest fires and
natural disaster and
catastrophic events

Funding (EUR)
Total budget 403 326.52
EAFRD 302 494.89
National/Region. 100 831.63

Project duration
2016 – 2016

Project promoter
PRO-FOREST Rožňava s.r.o.

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Support from the Slovakian rural development programme financed the reconstruction of a forest road as to improve access for fire protection vehicles.

Summary

The forest road outside the Hrusovo village in Southern Slovakia was in poor condition and an intervention was necessary in order to restore the functionality of the road. The main activity of this project was the reconstruction of the road by laying new asphalt.



Construction works included modifying the adjacent slopes, constructing sluices including concrete fronts from the reinforced concrete pipes, as well as concrete drainage channels, drainage ribs, road ditches and drainage gutters. A wooden lookout tower was also constructed.

Results

The project enabled authorities to access the site all year around as necessary.

The wooden lookout tower allows monitor the site and implement fire-protection measures.

The new constructed forest road enables to implement forest management and maintenance.

Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ It is necessary to communicate a project's aims clearly not only to get the stakeholders involved, but also to the broader public in order to avoid misunderstandings and conflicts.

Context

The forest road outside the Hrusovo village was in poor condition. Its surface was not adequately hardened and insufficient drainage made it very difficult to use the road all year round. Therefore, an intervention was necessary in order to restore the functionality of the road.

Objectives

The objectives of the project were:

- to improve the load-bearing capacity of the road, especially important for increasing accessibility to the forest for fire fighting vehicles;
- to reduce the risk of soil erosion by improving rainwater drainage;
- to prevent unauthorised vehicles from entering the forest with aim to protect existing fauna and flora,
- to increase protection of forest against fires by ensuring controlled movement of the public in the forest.

Activities

The main activity of this project was the reconstruction of the forest road by laying new asphalt with a gravel finish, thus allowing year-round operation without limitation. Part of the road was constructed with a longitudinal two-sided drainage which was made of drainage pipes leading the rain water into drainage gutters and drainage ribs. The road has two-sided gravel edges of width 2 x 0.50 m. Overall, construction works included modifying the adjacent slopes, constructing sluices including concrete fronts from the reinforced concrete pipes, concrete drainage channels, drainage ribs, road ditches and drainage gutters.

In addition, a wooden lookout tower was constructed in order to allow watching over the site for forest fires and illegal collection of plants.

Main activities

The project enabled authorities to access the site all year around with different fire fighting vehicles i.e. trucks, off-road trucks and other machinery, as necessary

The wooden lookout tower allows monitor the site and implement fire-protection measures.

The new constructed forest road is without direct economic yield, however, it was inevitable to ensure proper forest management and forest maintenance.

Key lessons

Inhabitants from surrounding municipalities expected the extension of the road transport network as part of this project. However, this was not the subject of the project. Therefore, in case of similar projects it is necessary to communicate the project aim clearly not only to get the stakeholders involved, but also to the broader public in order to avoid misunderstandings and conflicts.



Additional sources of information

n/a