



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

# Think broader - how we won the Natura 2000 Award in the category of socio-economic benefits

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# Get the recognition you deserve!



**NATURA 2000  
NETWORK**

**THE AWARD**

**HOW TO APPLY**

**NATURA 2000 AWARD  
2018**

**PROMOTIONAL  
MATERIAL**

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## Welcome to the Natura 2000 Award!

The [2018 Natura 2000 Award Ceremony](#) took place on 17 May 2018 in the Berlaymont building, Brussels. Commissioner Vella and members of the high level jury revealed the winners.

And the **winners** are...

**Conservation Award**

[Partnership to stop the poisoning of imperial eagles](#) – Hungary

**Communication Award**

[Natura 2000: Connecting people with biodiversity](#) – Spain

**Socio-Economic Benefits**

[LIFE to alvars: restoration and grazing reintroduction for 2500 hectares of Estonian alvar grassland](#) –

# Socio-economic benefit of LIFE to alvars project

## PRIVATE LANDOWNER

- Before the project-  
no cost and no income from the alvar



- During and after the project- landowners gain one time income from the trees and shrubs cut during the restoration work and long term income from the rent payed by the farmer for the use of the land. Average 50 euro/ha/year.

\*600 private landowners participate in the LIFE to alvars project



# Socio-economic benefit of LIFE to alvars project

## LOCAL FARMER

- Before the project- nearby alvar out of use as farmland
- During and after the project- reasonable size nearby farmland area gained with no investment cost into restoration, fencing, shelters, watering facilities, collection pens and access roads. Annual income from the agri-environmental subsidies + products like meat and wool. Opportunity to enlarge the herd as new land available for grazing.





# Socio-economic benefit of LIFE to alvars project

## INITIAL INVESTMENT

Providing the initial investment kick-starts the long term activity.

- restoration work
- grazing infrastructure
- equipment



# Socio-economic benefit of LIFE to alvars project

## LOCAL BUSINESS

- Before the project- nearby alvar out of use
- During and after the project- local companies gained contracts to carry out alvar restoration, fence building and access road renovation work. Local businesses offering tourism services gained a new attractive sites for the visitors.



\*Koguva restored alvar in Muhu island was named one of the top 5 Estonian natural places to visit by the winner of this years Estonian nature conservation award.





# Socio-economic benefit of LIFE to alvars project

## ADDED-VALUE

*Action E.8. Working group for promotion of added-value products from alvar*

*Budget: 4130,00 EUR*

Before the project – no opportunity to sell or buy local meat officially on the Muhu island. Live animals were sold abroad with low price.



# Socio-economic benefit of LIFE to alvars project

## ADDED-VALUE

During and after the project- as a result of the projects added value products working group farmers coop – Muhu Liha- was formed. Farmers now have their own meat selling counter in the local store. Farmers are preparing to build their own small slaughterhouse and meat processing factory on the island.





# Why to get people involved?

It is time consuming and sometimes nerve wrecking work to do all the communication

BUT

if you get the local community involved in your project, you will ensure the success of your activities and sustainable management after the end of the project



So - how would you do it without ☺





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# Thank you!

More information on website:

<http://life.envir.ee/elualvaritel>

or in Facebook LIFEtoalvars