

Description of Demonstration Project

Adapted from Annex G of the *UNEP/GEF "Wings Over Wetlands"*
Project "Enhancing Conservation of the Critical Network of Sites required by
Migratory Waterbirds on the African/Eurasian Flyways (AEWA)" – project no. 51210

Sustainable Management for Demonstration Across the Haapsalu-Noarootsi Bays, ESTONIA

1. Background and context

(a) Table 1: Summary of background information.

Name	Haapsalu-Noarootsi Bays, Estonia
Size	370 km ²
Location	North-Western coast of Estonia (see Map 1)
Principal features of wetland	<p>This a large and complex wetland, situated along the NW-Estonian coast. The site embraces the whole Haapsalu Bay, Hara, Nõva and Keibu Bays and surrounding coastal areas, which consist Silma Nature Reserve, a northern part on Väinamere Reserve (Natura 2000 site) and Nõva-Osmussaare Reserve (Natura 2000 site).</p> <p><u>Open water:</u> Covers ca 325 sq km and comprises mostly shallow (0.2-4.4 m depth) bays and relict lakes (lagoons) with brackish to fresh water (salinity 0-6%). Blooming of green algae, <i>Cladophora sp.</i> is widespread. It is one of the biggest spring spawning grounds in Western Estonia for freshwater fish (pike, ide, roach).</p> <p><u>Reed-bed:</u> Stretches along the coastline in a belt up to 1km wide and also covers over 50 small offshore islets; consists mainly of common reed (<i>Phragmites australis</i>) and smaller stands of <i>Cladium mariscus</i>.</p> <p><u>Coastal meadow:</u> In better preserved areas this comprises a low grass layer. Cover is typically <i>Juncus gerardii</i> meadows and patches of saline <i>Suaeda maritima</i> meadow. This habitat is an important breeding habitat of coastal waders (<i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i>, <i>Limosa limosa</i>, <i>Tringa totanus</i>) and potential spawning ground for Natterjack Toad (<i>Bufo calamita</i>). 15 species of orchids have also been recorded. Coastal meadows in good condition are the popular resting place for migratory geese and cranes.</p> <p><u>Woodland:</u> Consisting of mainly young pine and alder forests exist in the project area but are of limited relevance for waterfows and not connected to project activities.</p> <p>As well as the natural habitats there is also a significant area of agricultural landscape comprising hayfields and pastures. The resort town of Haapsalu (14.000 citizens) is close to the southern border.</p>
Bird species of principal importance under the AEWA agreement and Ramsar Convention.	<p>During the migration period >1% of the biogeographical population of the following AEWA protected waterfowl species stop in Haapsalu Bay: <i>Anas acuta</i> (max. 33.3%), <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (25.1%), <i>Grus grus</i> (15%), <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (9.6%), <i>Anas crecca</i> (5%), <i>Anser fabalis</i> (3.7%), <i>Anas penelope</i> (2.4%), <i>Anser anser</i> (1.5%), <i>Anas strepera</i> (1.3%), globally threatened <i>Anser erythropus</i> (1.2%).</p> <p>The open seascape of NW-Estonian coast is important as a flyway for migratory waterfowls. Numbers of migrating birds in autumn 2004 at Põõsaspea Cape (Nõva-Osmussaare Reserve) were significant, for example <i>Branta leucopsis</i> (145000), <i>Anas penelope</i> (132000), <i>Clangula hyemalis</i> (431000) and <i>Melanitta nigra</i> (597000).</p> <p>In total 225 different bird species have been observed, 119 of which breed.</p>

Protective status of the site	<p><u>International level:</u> The area is a proposed Ramsar Site (2002), an Important Bird Area (007 A4i, B1i, B2) and an EU Natura Site (Natura 2000).</p> <p><u>National level:</u> Silma Nature Reserve, Väinameri Reserve, Nõva-Osmussaare Reserve.</p> <p><u>Details of legal and practical protective measures:</u> From the year 2006 all management activities are coordinated by State Nature Conservation Centre. Local farmers have been granted a subsidy for the traditional management and restoration of coastal meadows. There are a number of contracts with local farmers to manage ca 780 ha of coastal meadows.</p> <p>From year 2005 Natura 2000 sites were legally adopted as reserves. By the Estonian legislation Ramsar site border must be same with the existing nature reserve borders. The additional project area and especially the open sea part of wetland is very important area for migratory birds and also the wintering area of numerous waterfowls. Because of changes in Estonian legislation and nature conservation reform there are base to establish significantly larger Ramsar site for flyway conservation and better management.</p>
Summary of wetland uses	<p>The main human activities are agriculture, fishing, recreational activities and reed-cutting. About 1,000-2,000 m³ of mud is extracted annually (for its curative properties) outside the Silma Nature Reserve.</p>
Summary of wetland threats	<p>The main threats are posed to the coastal meadows. This is both through overgrowth of coastal meadows with reed/brushwood as a result of undergrazing and disturbance of these areas by intensive fishing, unsustainable hunting and uncontrolled tourism.</p> <p>The main threats to coastal ecosystem are possible oil spills and development interests to build along the coast.</p>
Agencies responsible for site management and their roles	<p>From the year 2006 State Nature Conservation Centre is responsible for site management activities. These activities in project area are coordinated by State Nature Conservation Centre Western Estonian regional office. The administrative authority is the Local County Environmental Department that is Lääne County Environmental Department under the Ministry of Environment.</p>

NOTE: *The activities described in the present project description are indicative only and may be subject to revision as a result of a project launching workshop to be held on site at the outset of the project. The workshop will ensure participation of all project stakeholders in the review and update of the project objectives, workplan and budget. Subject to prior approval by UNOPS, the results of the workshop and associated revised workplan will be incorporate in the project Inception Report.*

(b) Relevance and importance of the site and proposed activities in the national biodiversity strategy;

The site and necessary activity for its sustainable management is referred to in the following chapters of the Estonian Biodiversity strategy and action plan: education (2.1), agriculture (4.1), hunting (6.1), fishing (7.1), industry (10.4), tourism (12.1), nature conservation (13.1).

(c) Role and status of the site in other relevant national policies/initiatives;

The Estonian Environmental Action Plan (2005) and National Strategy (1997) form the cornerstone of Estonian environmental policy. They have been adopted by the Ministry and Parliament and have long-term aims and tasks scheduled until 2010. Under this the main aims for the management of the site are restoration of coastal meadows, sustainable management of reed-beds, sustainable fishing, increased public involvement and awareness of the site's importance.

Other initiatives include:

- The Estonian "Nature 2000" network initiative.
- The Estonian part of an international project concerning planning principles for States around the Baltic Sea; "Vision and Strategies Around the Baltic Sea 2010".
- Developing reedbed strategy for Väinameri region (accordingly by Interreg IIIA project "Reedbed strategy in Finland and Estonia")
- The Estonian National Ramsar policy, under which the site should be included in the list of Internationally Important Wetlands under Ramsar Convention by year 2010.

(d) Current conservation status and threats to the site;

The site is subject to wide range of different threats that are affecting the value of the site as an internationally important wetland and stop-over / breeding site for migratory waterbirds. All the area is protected since 2005. Under-grazing and abandonment of pastures by farmers is leading to reversion of the meadows to reed and brush. These areas are vitally important for certain species of bird and their degradation is damaging visiting

bird populations. There is increasingly considerable unregulated recreational use of the site for tourism, fishing, hunting and boating which is responsible for damage to habitat and disturbance of wildlife. There is big interest to build in the coastal areas which can lead to the degradation of natural habitats. Actual possible threat is oil pollution because of intensive transportation of oil products by the sea. For explanations of the mechanisms causing these changes, see the next section.

(e) Details of current/past management activities, the organisations involved and current status of management in the site;

The principal causes of threats to the site arise from the political changes in Estonia since the 1990's and the effects on changes to previous management and use regimes. Management and use under the former Soviet regime supported a semi-natural system which maintained a diverse range of habitats capable of supporting a large number migratory bird species which used the site for feeding, roosting and breeding. Since then changes in agricultural use and increasing pressures from previously controlled hunting and tourism have impacted the site.

Previously coastal regions of Haapsalu Bay, with an overall area of more than 1000 ha, were used as pastures and hayfields. The main land users (1950-1990) were five Soviet type collective farms with *ca.* 1000 cattle. Although the agriculture was then intensive and unsustainable, it helped to preserve the coastal meadows preventing reversion to reed and brushwood. A significant contributory factor in this change has been the return of previously state-owned land to private owners following the removal of the State collective farm system. As a result approximately 80% of the coastal region is owned by private landlords, most of whom are living currently in town or abroad and have little interest to manage the land. The result is degradation of the coastal meadows and loss of valuable waterbird habitat.

The breakdown in the former management regime has led to an increase in other poorly regulated exploitation of the area. During the Soviet period Haapsalu Bay was a renowned fishing spot and bird hunting area, a significant proportion of which was managed as a closed area for Soviet Army hunters. Since 1990, this control has lapsed and although fishing and hunting licenses are required to legally hunt and fish, the system is abused and these activities are unsustainable. Previously, traditional reed-cutting was insignificant; this has now changed and is poorly managed and increasingly poses a threat to the reed bed areas as harvest is unregulated and techniques are unsustainable. However, without provision of facilities, such as trails, sign-posting, guides, or a visitor centre to coordinate and organise these activities, this is leading to degradation of habitat and disturbance of wildlife.

Current management of the site is conducted by a combination of the State Nature Conservation Centre, local municipalities and Ministry of the Environment. The development of a management plan has been initiated with government funded inventories of biota and habitat types and stakeholder consultations have been carried out as part of the PDF-B phase of this programme, but the plan is not yet finalised. General coordination of activities in the area are controlled by four local municipalities and a county government. Management of natural resources is the responsibility of State Nature Conservation Centre.

(f) Synthesis of the current management needs in the site, emphasising the gaps that need to be filled.

The main barrier to improving the management of the site is the absence of a plan that, involves all stakeholders in the Haapsalu-Noarootsi Bay and surroundings, addresses the specific threats to the continued health of the site and which embraces the entire site and not just the Silma Nature Reserve. The management plan must address both the integration of stakeholders into the development (and ultimately implementation) of the plan and the specific problems of the site. Key areas it will need to address are:

- Key habitat management – restoration of coastal meadows and reed-bed rehabilitation – to give migratory waterbirds better feeding and roosting opportunities;
- Raised public awareness in the local community regarding the importance of the area, threats to which it is exposed and need for shared responsibility in its management, particularly with respect to their own exploitation of the natural resources.
- Training of local stakeholders in sustainable land management techniques, especially for meadow and reed rehabilitation;
- Development of ecotourism infrastructure to reduce pressure on sensitive areas of the site and encourage responsible sustainable use.

2. Demonstration project rationale and objectives

2.a. Demonstration project rationale

The project aim is to create a basis for the sustainable management of the Haapsalu-Noarootsi Bays, a key site for migratory waterbirds on the East Atlantic migratory route of the AEWa area. A management plan will be finalised, addressing the key threats facing the area through the integration of local stakeholder groups in decision-making and plan implementation. In so doing, it will enhance the value of the site as a feeding, roosting and breeding site for migratory waterbirds whilst ensuring that the uses of the site by agriculture and tourism are retained and organised under wise use principles. As an example of the management planning and implementation process in a region severely affected by economic and political transition, it will provide valuable demonstration value to other sites in the region and AEWa area that are undergoing similar changes.

Activities in the PDF-B phase of the project have already provided a strong basis for the establishment of the management plan. Preliminary work to identify much of the necessary baseline information needs and gaps essential to developing the management plan has been carried out. This included ascertaining planned developments, existing threats and their root causes, the current status of knowledge in the site, existing land-use patterns, the existing legal and jurisdictional framework and key stakeholder groups. Activities under the demonstration project will therefore start at the stage of developing the management plan using the baseline site and stakeholder information. Finalisation of this process will be completed in the early stages of the project and later activities that will enhance capacity to implement the plan and illustrate the transition from management plan development into implementation for further enhancement of its demonstration value. Local stakeholders will benefit from being trained in certain elements of the management plan's implementation and at regional level the development and implementation of certain aspects will provide lessons to be learnt.

2.b Immediate objective

To establish a base for sustainable management of the Haapsalu-Noarootsi Bays through the development of the site's management plan, and develop capacity for its implementation.

1. To develop an integrated management plan legally endorsed by the Ministry of Environment.

Uncoordinated exploitation of its resources by local communities and the effects of economic and political transition following the break-up of the Soviet Union threaten the Haapsalu-Noarootsi Bays. The State Nature Conservation Centre is responsible for the management of the site, but all management activities are not integrated or sufficiently linked to needs and requirements of stakeholders. A management plan is required to overcome these barriers and therefore ensure the continued importance of the site and enhance areas that have been subject to degradation. Preliminary surveys of baseline information on which to base the management plan have been carried out and these will be built upon. The plan will be developed in consultation with local stakeholders and management organisations. The plan will be finalised and adopted by the Ministry of the Environment to ensure its successful implementation.

The project area covers an internationally important flyway in the NW Estonian coast. A large amount of it is open sea. Some information about coastal meadows, reedbeds, shallow bays and lagoons has been collected in recent years. During Life-Nature project (2002-2006) was created an initial cooperation network with farmers, which must be developed during this project. Farmers and other stakeholder groups will be involved into management plan developing process.

At the same time, the open sea habitat is very poorly investigated. During the project data will be collected about seashore biota and habitat to get basic information to develop management plan. To avoid the new threats to the coastal ecosystem (including possible oil pollution and interest to build in coast), consultations with the experts and decision-makers will be held.

2. To increase the capacity of local stakeholders to implement the management plan.

The success of the management plan will be dependent on there being sufficient capacity in the area to implement it in terms of the local communities' knowledge and skills. Currently local community is involved to the practical management, but cooperation and awareness network is not sufficient. Involvement in the development of the management plan and providing training in specific aspects of its implementation will enhance understanding of its rationale and engage stakeholders in its implementation. Preliminary studies of the area have established the key areas that the management plan will focus upon; local community awareness, ecotourism implementation, technical knowledge of coastal meadow and reed-bed restoration and rehabilitation.

A second capacity problem is the quality of local infrastructure and lack of suitable information in the site, which has lead to unregulated tourism. Key elements of infrastructure will be established to provide the capacity for implementation of tourism. In the project area at the moment, there are 2 existing nature trails, 2

camp sites and 8 birdwatching towers. Through this project the existing tourism infrastructure will be integrated and enhanced. Additional information for the tourists will be added about the biological diversity in the project area. An existing building will be provided with the facilities to provide information to tourists and will also double as a centre for the site where workshops and training can be provided. This will help support the awareness building outlined above. To reduce the disturbance of habitat and wildlife by visitors, nature trails, camp-site, and associated logistical information will be provided. Since last year, the Vocational Education College of Haapsalu started to organize courses for nature guides and interpreters in cooperation with Silma Nature Reserve Administration. During this project high level courses will be organized and offered by the State Nature Conservation Centre two times per year. The main task is to encourage local people to be nature guides, by teaching practical skills for nature interpretation. Our training centre will also be the practical site for college students.

3. To establish baseline data for monitoring and evaluating the management plan's future implementation.

A key element to developing a management plan and then subsequently monitoring and evaluating the success of its implementation is the availability of baseline information. Although some bird counting data is currently collected for the site, it is irregular and not sufficiently focused to serve the needs of the management plan. Bird counting protocols will be restructured to better monitor areas in the site that will be affected by the management plan by measures such as restoration activities and tourism. Monitoring data will be connected with the national monitoring scheme.

4. To ensure smooth and successful implementation of the demonstration project.

The project aims at giving ownership to the local stakeholders with sufficient Government support and collaboration. In this regard, the project steering committee will be comprised of local stakeholders, Government and Rural based organisations. The committee would oversee the project implementation, which would be co-ordinated by a recruited local project team to see to the day-to-day running of the project.

The local involvement in the committee is to ensure continuity even after the project, and the propagation of lessons to be learnt to a wider reach.

2.c Demonstration value of the project

The effects of political transition from the former socialist regime have had profound effects on the environment across Central and Eastern Europe. This project will show how to address the effects of this, providing a demonstration that will be valuable across this sub-region of AEWA and indeed in any other site in the AEWA area that is confronted by similar issues. The process of development of the management plan will be the key area of demonstration, involving as it does the raising of awareness and active involvement of the local population in sustainable management. The approach taken and lessons learned from this will be of very high value.

As well as the social demonstration value, the restoration of coastal meadows and reed-beds will be a second key area where demonstration value will be realised. The maintenance of semi-natural habitat in the face of changing agricultural practices is a common theme across the AEWA area, both in areas where the political system has changed and where policy decisions have affected profitability. As in the case of this site, these changes can seriously affect the health of wetland habitats and their capacity to support migratory waterbird populations. The project will therefore provide demonstration of both the technical approaches to reversing these effects and the types of awareness raising and training that are necessary to enable local communities to adopt and implement them. This effect will be enhanced by the Western Estonia Ramsar sites network which will carry out high-level workshops for wetland managers using the site for demonstration.

Similar demonstration projects have not been carried out so close to a resort town (in the Baltic region), presenting a unique opportunity to involve inhabitants of the town in better understanding of natural values and conservation. Reed-cutting for roofing purposes (thatch) and extracting of curative mud are also features of this site which, although not unique in the region, however, it is not known to have been part of previous demonstrations in the AEWA area.

3. Demonstration project outcomes and activities

3.a Outcomes and activities

Outcome 1. An integrated management plan legally endorsed by the Estonian Ministry of Environment.

1.1 Engagement of local and national policy makers to ensure the legal adoption of the management plan.

A project Steering Committee will be established at the start of the project. This will comprise local and national government decision-makers, as well as other stakeholder groups. In this way policy makers will be engaged in the development of the plan which will facilitate its legal adoption when completed at the end of the second year of the project. State Nature Conservation Centre will be responsible for co-ordinating this process. The Ministry of Environment is a key partner in the demonstration project, providing all co-financing for the project and is expected to adopt the plan at the end of the second year.

1.2 Collection of additional information needed to develop the management plan.

A considerable amount of the biota, habitat and stakeholder baseline data for development of the management plan has been gathered. However some information remains to be collected before the management plan can be finalised. Principally this will involve mapping of the management areas and areas which are sensitive or may have potential conflicts of use.

1.3 Development and implementation of the management plan collaboratively with local management organisations and communities.

State Nature Conservation Centre will coordinate and develop the plan. Creation of the plan will involve the analysis of data collected during 6-18 month of the project together with other existing data sources. This will be used to create a draft for review by the project Steering Committee and stakeholder groups. Local stakeholders will be kept aware of developments through a series of meetings and by inclusion of the management plan in local community plans that are currently being produced. In the 24-36 month six meetings with local people will be held to achieve this. Communications will continue after the management plan is finalised to ensure continued consultation and dialogue with stakeholder groups. Meetings with farmers and land-owners (2 meetings), fishermen (1 meeting), reed cutters (1 meeting), schoolteachers (1 meeting) and resource-use specialists (1 meeting) will be held each year.

Outcome 2. To increase the local capacity of stakeholders and infrastructure to enable implementation of the management plan.

2.1 Awareness raising amongst local stakeholders of the importance of coastal meadow and reed-bed restoration and rehabilitation.

Landowners will be targeted in awareness raising activities designed to explain the importance of restoration and rehabilitation of coastal meadow and reed-bed. This will be achieved through a combination of bilateral discussions, group meetings and field excursion. The contacts established through this process will continue to be used throughout the project to provide information on the importance of habitat maintenance once project restoration/rehabilitation activities are underway.

2.2 Local stakeholders trained in restoration and rehabilitation practice through demonstration.

Farmers working the land will be trained through demonstration on the techniques necessary for restoration and rehabilitation of coastal meadows and reed-beds respectively. In many cases this will include farmers renting land from overseas landlords. Technical and field-based workshops will be held demonstrating activities such as land management to restore coastal meadows for grazing and management of water levels.

2.3 Establishment of tourist infrastructure.

At the moment there are 2 existing nature trails, 2 camp sites and 8 birdwatching towers in the project area. Through this project the existing tourism infrastructure will be intergrated and enhanced with relevant infrastructure (sign-posts, maps and marked trails). Additional information for the tourists will be added about the biological diversity in the project area. A new camp-site will be created with facilities for up to 10 visitors. A tourist resource centre will be created (within an existing building) which will also serve as a base for organising and holding the various stakeholder workshops and meetings planned in the project. The Centre will be provided with facilities to carry out these roles including resources for tourists (information leaflets, maps) developed in three languages (English, Russian, Estonian), an internet website in English and Estonian to attract visitors and advertise facilities for training workshops.

2.4 Development of local capacity to support ecotourism.

Since last year, the Vocational Education Centre of Haapsalu started to organize courses for nature guides and interpreters in cooperation with Silma Nature Reserve specialists. During this project high level courses will be

organized by State Nature Conservation Centre two times per year. Main task is to encourage local people to work as nature guides, by teaching them practical skills for nature interpretation. Training centre will also be the practical site for college students. Necessary equipment for bird education courses will be purchased (including 1 bird scope and 5 binoculars) in the start of the project. Local tourism companies are involved to the teaching courses. The activities of guides will be co-ordinated through the Visitor Centre.

In the 6-42 month of the project, 15 guides will be trained at the Centre in two workshops per year. Nature guides already follow a one-year intensive course in college where they receive basic knowledge about guiding. The main purpose of the project courses will be to support nature guides with relevant information and provide them with practical skills they do not receive from college. The other important purpose during our courses is to create a link between nature guides and local companies.

Outcome 3. Data baseline for project and management plan monitoring and evaluation established.

3.1 Development of a monitoring strategy to underpin the implementation of the management plan.

In order to evaluate the success of the management plan's implementation, monitoring of key variables must take place. Some monitoring already exists but not all the necessary variables are routinely monitored. Those that are monitored, are often not considered frequently enough to ensure that a suitable baseline is established for this purpose. A monitoring strategy will be designed to fulfil the needs of monitoring the project and the implementation of the management plan. This will include both biota and habitat variables which will enable tracking of success of restoration and rehabilitation activities. Counts of migratory and breeding species will enable effects on bird populations to be measured. Mapping of reed-bed and coastal meadow extent will show how successful new management techniques have been. During Life-Nature project a botanical inventory of coastal meadows has been completed, however, a lot of more bird monitoring is needed to cover less studied open sea area.

3.2 Implementation of the monitoring strategy.

The monitoring strategy will be implemented after the first six month period start of the project so that by the time the management plan's implementation begins one year of baseline data exists. State Nature Conservation Centre staff will conduct this and continue to do so beyond the end of the project so that this data becomes a key resource for monitoring the site and the impact of management.

Outcome 4: The project is smoothly implemented and managed.

4.1 Project inception and establishment of the project staff and local steering committee.

In the first few months of the project, through the existing project local Steering Committee, project staff will be recruited. The former will comprise of members of local government and representatives of the key stakeholder groups. The Committee will assist in the selection of the local project team members, who will be responsible for the day to day running of the project as an employee of State Nature Conservation Centre.

4.2 Implementation and administration of the project.

The project team consisting of 2 part-time employees (one with scientific and monitoring expertise and the other with education and awareness skills) will be responsible for day-to-day technical, financial and administrative supervision of the project. Work plans will be developed for the implementing team every six months with both team member allocated specific tasks to be completed over the reporting period. Work plans will be developed to fit within the external project-reporting schedule for the GEF project overall, so that review of the previous six months can be integrated.

4.3 Monitoring and reporting of project progress.

The local project coordinator will be responsible for maintaining an overview of the project progress and success. Regular periodic reports need to be submitted to the overall GEF Project Co-ordinator. These will be prepared by the project team and submitted to the Project Steering Committee for approval, prior to submission to the GEF Project Co-ordinator. Evaluation of progress and success of project activities will be made against the indicators provided in the log frame, using data collected through monitoring activities as also listed in the log frame.

3.b Project sustainability

The Project Area is situated along the East Atlantic Flyway, where many AEWA bird species make their last

stop before flying to Arctic and back to wintering area. Degradation of roosting and feeding places in Western Estonia will be a threat to the existence of populations of several threatened species. Sustainable management of the Project Area will prevent this situation.

The Project will create good conditions for the development of cattle raising and sustainable use of resources by the end of the project, which is the most favourable way to save heritage landscapes for migratory birds, and ensuring undisturbed rural life at the same time for the local populace. The project will be supported by the Estonian Government subsidy system.

Creation of infrastructure in the countryside based on Project and governmental support will help to create several alternative activities like ecotourism, tourist service, birdwatching, sustainable fishing, as well as an active Visitors' Centre. This would ultimately provide alternative income sources to operators and local populace, thereby reducing negative impacts on the resources in the area.

4. Budget

Table 2: Project financing expenditure categories:

	GEF		Co-financing		Total
	%	\$	%	\$	\$
Personnel:	38	75000	0	0	75000
Equipment:	12	23574	3	3184	26758
Subcontracts:	14	27232	84	83674	110906
Workshops / training	3	6002	3	2502	8504
Travel:	18	37300	7	7040	44340
Overheads:	2	4880	0	0	4880
Monitoring/ evaluation/ auditing:	13	26012	0	0	26012
Miscellaneous:	0	0	4	3600	3600
Total:	100	200 000	100	100 000	300 000

NB: The travel budget has been calculated to allow the demonstration project to participate in two international WOW workshops

Table 3. Disbursement Projection

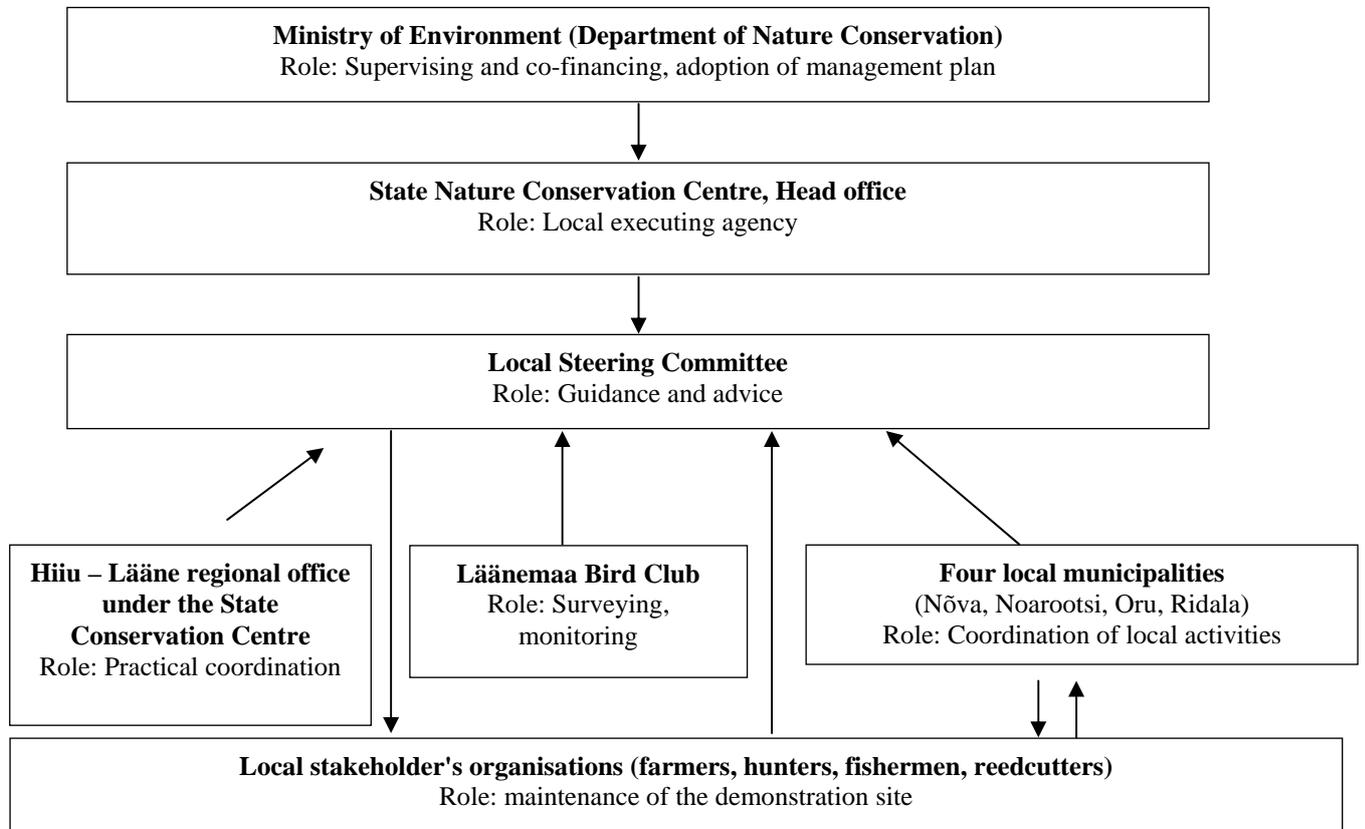
Budget Category	Link to Project Outcome s & Activities	TOTAL			Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4	
		GEF	co-fin.	Total	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	S8
					GEF							
Personnel	4.2; 4.3	\$75,000	\$0	\$75,000	9375	9375	9375	9375	9375	9375	9375	9375
Equipment	1.3; 2.2; 2.3; 2.4	\$23,574	\$3,184	\$26,758	2500	13479	1274	6321	0	0	0	0
Subcontracts	1.2; 1.3; 2.2; 2.3;	\$27,232	\$83,674	\$110,906	2500	11859	9074	1691	1274	417	0	417
Workshops and training	1.1; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 2.4	\$6,002	\$2,502	\$8,504	335	3165	1251	1251	0	0	0	0
Travel	all	\$37,300	\$7,040	\$44,340	6650	5750	2550	5750	2550	5750	2550	5750
Executing agency support overhead	4.1; 4.2; 4.3; 4.4	\$4,880	\$0	\$4,880	610	610	610	610	610	610	610	610
Monitoring/ Evaluation/ auditing	1.2.; 3.1; 3.2	\$26,012		\$26,012	2725	2725	2725	4831	2725	2725	2725	4831
Miscellaneous	all	\$0	\$3,600	\$3,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		\$200,000	\$100,000	\$300,000	\$24,695	\$46,963	\$26,859	\$29,829	\$16,534	\$18,877	\$15,260	\$20,983

*All co-financing sources from the state budget of the Ministry of Environment

Table 4. Timetable chart

Activity	Project periods in 6-month intervals							
	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48
1.1. Engagement of local and national policy makers to ensure adoption of the management plan.								
1.2 Collection of additional information needed to develop the management plan.								
1.3 Development and implementation of the management plan collaboratively with locals and communities.								
2.1 Awareness raising amongst local stakeholders of the importance of coastal meadow and reed-bed restoration and rehabilitation.								
2.2 Local stakeholders trained in restoration and rehabilitation techniques through demonstration.								
2.3 Establish tourist infrastructure								
2.4 Development of local capacity to support ecotourism.								
3.1 Development of a monitoring strategy to underpin the implementation of the management plan								
3.2 Implementation of the monitoring strategy.								
4.1 Project management & review								
4.2 Project monitoring & evaluation								

7. Organisational diagram



8. Key contacts

State Nature Conservation Centre
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General director: Jaanus Tuusti
Project Manager: Kaia Treier

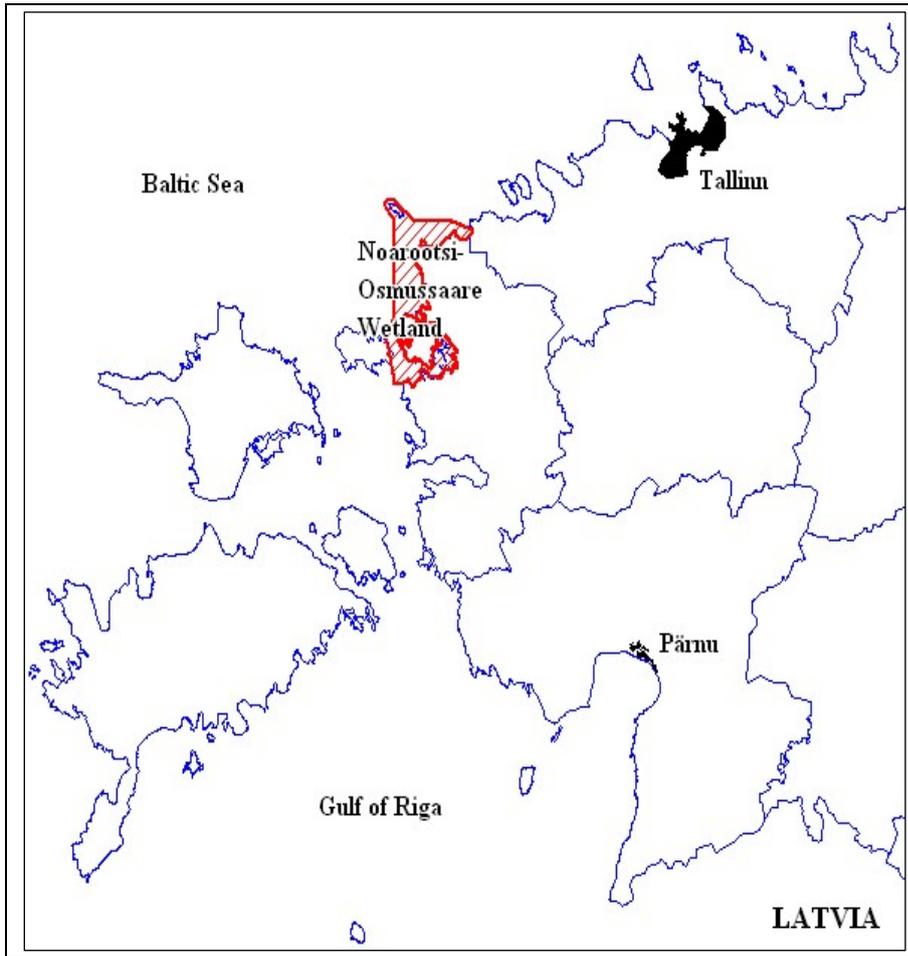
Ministry of Environment,
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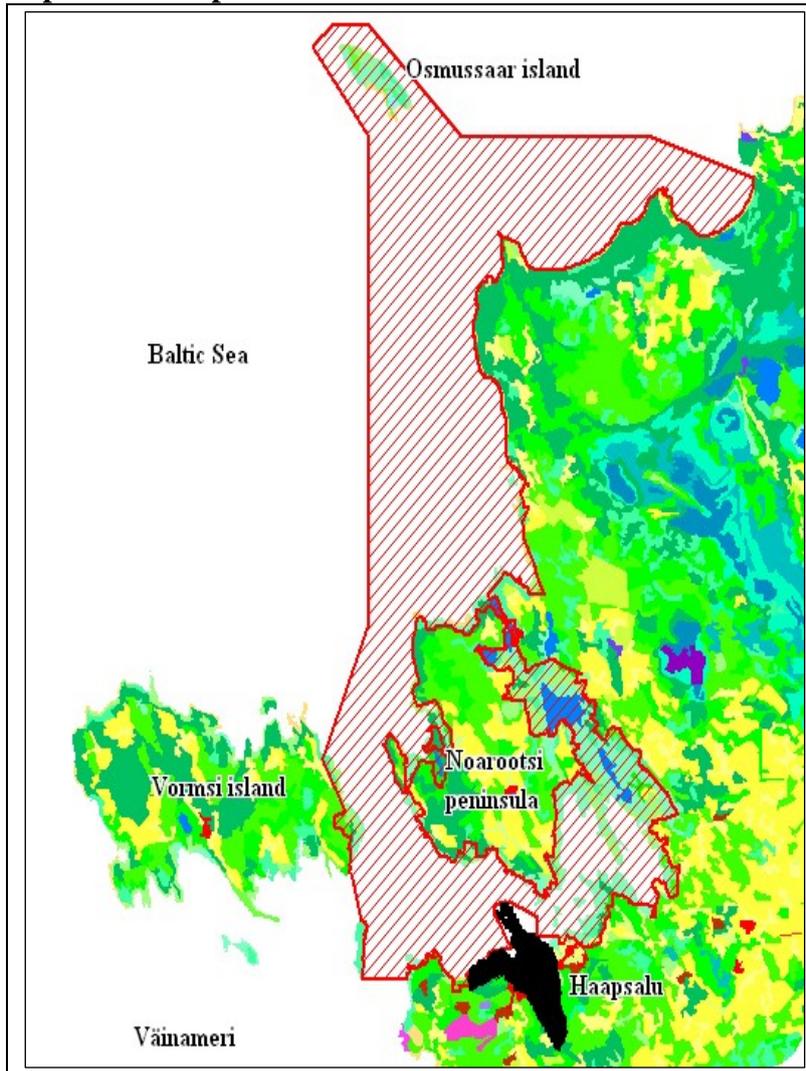
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Annex 1. Location map of Haapsalu-Noarootsi Wetland.



Annex 2. Site map of the Haapsalu-Noarootsi Wetland



Intervention logic	Indicators of performance	Means of verification	Risks and assumptions
Immediate objective:			
To establish a base for sustainable management of the Haapsalu-Noarootsi bays through the development of a site Management Plan and develop capacities for its implementation.	Managed Ramsar and AEWAs area, where the criteria of internationally important wetland are filled	Monitoring and evaluation Availability of skilled capacity.	Lack of grazing Lack of Cooperation.
Outcomes			
1. An integrated management plan legally endorsed by the Estonian Ministry of Environment.	Adopted Management Plan	Management Plan, published and discussed with stakeholders	Changes in national legislation
2. Local stakeholders trained in coastal grassland restoration.	The number of staging swans, ducks, geese, cranes and waders increase up to 1,5 times; The increase of the number of nesting pairs of <i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i> and <i>Limosa limosa</i> up to 1,5 times; Working visitor and training centre, 2 hiking trails will be enhanced, 1 camp site, publications, home page	Monitoring Monitoring Training , workshop held Different events held in the Centre; Publications, home page, trails, camp sites	The number of staging waterfowl will not increase The number of birds will not increase Insufficient interest towards the organised events Insufficient interest, too sparse population.
3. Data baseline for project and management plan monitoring and evaluation established.	Regular monitoring reports available, Project reports	Established database connected with the state monitoring system.	Insufficient logistic support Lack of interest from participants
4. The demonstration project is smoothly and successfully implemented.	12 different events for 150 people held in one year Project reports	Different workshops, meetings and reports	Low awareness and interest from local community

Activities

- 1.1 Engagement of local and national policy makers to ensure the legal adoption of the management plan.
- 1.2 Collection of additional information needed to develop the management plan.
- 1.3 Development and implementation of the management plan collaboratively with local management organisations and communities.

- 2.1 Awareness raising amongst local stakeholders on the importance of coastal meadow and reed-bed restoration and rehabilitation.
- 2.2 Local stakeholders trained in restoration and rehabilitation practice through demonstration.
- 2.3 Establishment of tourist infrastructure.
- 2.4 Development of local capacity to support ecotourism.

- 3.1 Development of a monitoring strategy to underpin the implementation of the management plan.
- 3.2 Implementation of the monitoring strategy.

- 4.1 Project inception and establishment of the project staff and local steering committee.
- 4.2 Implementation and administration of the project.
- 4.3 Monitoring and reporting of project progress.