

### **COST Action 341**

# "HABITAT FRAGMENTATION DUE TO TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE"





#### What the presentation is about?

- Introduction
- Outcomes of COST 341
- Organisation of COST 341





#### What is **COST**?

(European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research)

- Intergovernmental co-operation
  - 1971
  - 17 Scientific & Technical domains
- Participation
  - 32 COST countries
  - The European Commission
  - International organisations and research establishments from non-COST countries
- COST Actions
  - Concerted actions of national funded R&D
  - Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)









#### **Objectives of the COST Action 341:**

To promote a safe and sustainable pan-European transport infrastructure through recommending measures and planning procedures with the aim of conserving biodiversity and reducing vehicular accidents and resulting fauna casualties

















#### THE ACTION WILL BRING VIA ITS DELIVERABLES THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS:

- → in the stress produced by linear transportation infrastructure on the European biological heritage via implementation of a scientifically based, uniform set of measures.
- → Saving of time and money by learning from past mistakes and avoiding overlapping research.
- → Enhancement of road safety.
- → Enlarged and diversified manufacture of related products (ecoducts, tunnels, fences), and consequently more employment.
- → European integration in the field of planning procedures and technical requirements for implementation of mitigation and compensation measures.
- → Provision of scientific and technical support to the implementation of the Trans-European Transport Networks (TEN-T).



n° 10



Initiated by:

## IENE Infra Eco Network Europe

- \* European network of experts and institutions involved in the phenomena of habitat fragmentation caused by the development of transportation infrastructure networks.
- \* Created in 1996 with the objective of promoting the cooperation between different countries, the exchange of information and the developing of common research programs.







#### **PARTICIPANTS of THE COST ACTION 341**

Austria

- Belgium
- Czech Republic
- Cyprus

- Denmark
- France

- The Netherlands
- Hungary

- Norway
- Spain

- United Kingdom
- Switzerland

- Sweden
- ECNC

Ireland

Portugal







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#### **OUTCOMES:**

- 1. 13 National State of Art Reports on Habitat Fragmentation due to Linear Transportation Infrastructure
- 2. European Review on Habitat Fragmentation due to Linear Transportation Infrastructure in Europe
- 3. The European Handbook on how to avoid Habitat Fragmentation due to Linear Transportation Infrastructure
- 4. On-line database
- 5. Final Report of the COST Action 341







#### EUROPEAN REVIEW ON HABITAT FRAGMENTATION DUE TO TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN EUROPE

- habitat fragmentation and infrastructure:
  - effects on nature,
  - è overview of environmental bottlenecks;
- ¿ current situation regarding solutions:
  - è avoidance of habitat fragmentation,
  - overview of mitigation/ compensatory measures,

  - maintenance aspects, evaluation / effectiveness;
- legislative framework;
- on-going research;
- review of relevant case studies and projects;
- cost effectiveness of defragmentation measures;
- gaps in knowledge, identification of research areas and recommendations;
- directory of institutions and organisations involved;
- bibliography.







#### THE EUROPEAN HANDBOOK ON HOW TO AVOID HABITAT FRAGMENTATION DUE TO TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- methodology/indicators to define and quantify 'fragmentation' priorities for tackling environmental bottlenecks;
- ways to avoid fragmentation in the planning phase/integration of infrastructure in
- surrounding landscapes;
- best practice in mitigation/compensatory measures for existing and planned
- infrastructure;
- technical description/maintenance;
- methods to evaluate/monitor the effectiveness of measures:
- recommendations on methodological aspects of a monetary evaluation of
- external effects;
- recommendations for planners to help them with planning procedures.

















#### THE ON-LINE DATABASE WILL COMPRISE:

- ¿ Literature in the field of transportation infrastructure and habitat fragmentation;
- On-going projects in the field of transportation infrastructure and habitat fragmentation;
- ¿ Existing mitigation measures;
- Metadata on existing databases concerning habitat fragmentation (e.g. fauna casualty database)

can be accessed on the following address: <a href="http://www.iene.info">http://www.iene.info</a>







#### PRODUCTS OF COST 341 ADDRESSED TO:

- European Community (DGs Energy and Transport, Environment, Enlargement);
- Policy and decision makers on national level: Transport and Environment Ministries);
- Technical and Scientific-research community;
- ¿ Advisory/Construction companies;
- European and national non-governmental organisations;
- ¿ Financial Institutions (European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development).









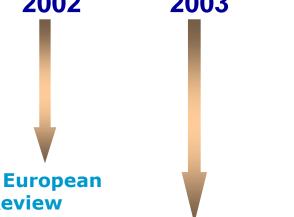
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#### **PLANNING**





- European Handbook on Habitat **Fragmentation due** to Transportation Infrastructure
- Database
- Dissemination of the information
- Final Report





#### **ORGANISATION**

#### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Two representatives from each participating country / international organisation and one representative from the European Commission

#### NATIONAL WORKING GROUPS

Experts of each participant country

#### THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

Database // State of the Art report // European Handbook // Dissemination

#### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

4th Spain - Apr 2000

1st Brussels - Oct 1998 2nd Hungary - Apr 1999 5th Edinburgh - Oct 2000

3rd Switzerland - Oct 1999 6th Antwerp - Apr 2001







#### **DISSEMINATION**

- Workshops, Seminars and Conferences
- Conference Proceedings
- Interim and Final Reports
- CD-ROM
- The COST Transport Web site

http://www.cordis.lu/cost-transport/scr/cost-341.htm





