PROMOTE RESILIENT RAILWAY VEGETATION

OBJECTIVE

Increase wind resistance of plant barriers adjacent to railways.

DESCRIPTION

Improve wind resilience of catenary masts and keep areas close to tracks and catenaries free from hazardous objects. Even though many operational failures are caused by trees fallen on tracks or catenaries, vegetation is often used as a buffer zone for noise and pollution along railway tracks and to protect the track from direct insulation. Ecosystem based measures increasing resilience to wind (e.g. trees able to withstand high wind speeds) should therefore be preferred.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Increasing the resilience of the railway infrastructures.

RESULT INDICATORS

Presence of wind resistant vegetation along the railway.

INVOLVED ACTORS

Railway companies, public administrations, design and construction companies specializing in transport, research institutions and consultancy, actors delivering weather forecasting and early warning systems.

EXPECTED TIMELINE FOR ACTION

- Short term (1-4 years)

BEST PRACTICES

- Austria
- UK
- Slovakia
- France

CRITICALITIES

Conflicts with environmental protection goals, mainly related to landscape fragmentation, and possible conflicts with local communities concerned about increased noise pollution and land take.

SCOPE OF THE ACTION

- Adaptation

TYPE OF PROPOSED ACTIONS

- Green

SECTOR OF ACTION

- Biodiversity / Conservation of ecosystems
- Transport and infrastructure

CLIMATE IMPACTS

- Change or loss of biodiversity
- Strong winds

IMPLEMENTATION SCALE

- Municipality
- Region / Country

SOURCE

https://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/help/share-your-info/general/operation-and-construction-measures-for-ensuring-climate-resilient-railway-infrastructure