Chapter 10

Participatory Development of a Recreational Plan for Laulasmaa Landscape Protection Area, Keila Rural Municipality, Estonia

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ABSTRACT

The case study in Estonia used automated GPS records to map 2 km and 4 km cycle routes for eco-tourism through a 42 ha protected area. Local authorities, NGOs and citizens participated with great interest in the socio-economic survey and mapping.

INTRODUCTION

The Estonian case study focuses on the Keila Rural Municipality, located in the northern part of Estonia on the Baltic Sea coast, 25 km west of the capital Tallinn (See Figure 1). The case study area, Laulasmaa Landscape Protection Area, was established in 2005 to protect sandy coast with permanent vegetation, forested dunes and limestone cliff. The total protected area is 42 hectares.

There are about 1000 inhabitants in the proximity of the project area, including 300 within 2 km. The area is popular among visitors from outside the Keila rural municipality, especially in