

Planning "good" roads: professional experiences and proposal for infrastructure planning

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New investitures, especially roads, can alter the landscape at different levels. We can consider landscape as a system of material and immaterial relationships. When we decide to build new infrastructures these relationships change, and changes can drive conflicts and a lot of different processes.

In this presentation we propose a model to be followed in the planning phase of new linear infrastructures in order to avoid conflicts with the local communities and to minimize environmental impact in terms of habitat connectivity.

The planning phase has to take in account the following actions:

- Understand the overall structure
- Set the potential impacts of the road: direct and indirect
- Draw a scenario: the road location is strategic
- Think about the actors to be involved
- Think about resources, means and tools
- Set a monitoring plan

We give two different examples from Northern Italy in which the application of this model brought successful interventions from ecological and social point of views. We also provide a brief summary of the characteristics of underpasses and overpasses to favor habitat connectivity for the different wildlife species.