

PROVIDING A TRANSPORT CORRIDOR FOR LOCAL INHABITANTS

Līgatne
Pārgauja
Latvia

This study is focused on the possibility to retain and improve the traffic connection between two neighbouring municipalities, assessing the consequences, as well as contribution to climate change mitigation.

Description

- The existing ferry crossing over the river Gauja is only direct way to travel from Līgatne to Pārgauja, limiting the potential development of the region.
- The ferry operates seasonally and irregularly, as it is sensitive to climate, which may even cause a closing down of the ferry route. In this case, about 10,000 people would be forced to limit their economic, cultural and social activities or increase the distances they travel and thus increase their greenhouse gas emissions.
- The survey study within the BalticClimate project showed the conflict of interests between local and so-called weekend residents, who wish to live in calm natural surroundings.

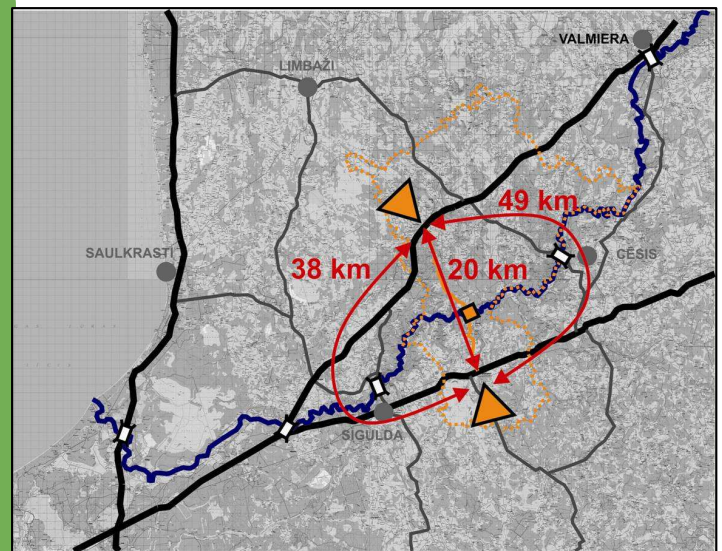


Figure 1. The distances by direct connections and via roundabouts

Main conclusions

1. The BalticClimate project has encouraged neighbouring municipalities to join forces for common activities for the first time and to establish a working group.
2. The advantages and disadvantages from the expected climate change impacts related to the existing ferry crossing and a possible new bridge project implementation are analyzed.
3. The plan to provide a traffic connection via a newly built bridge requires research into the potential impacts of the new project in the fields of business, tourism, nature and environment, as well as from the social and economic point of view.
4. The development of an intensive transport corridor in the territory of Gauja National Park cannot be considered as a clear solution for climate change mitigation.

Responsibility: Līgatne Municipality, Pārgauja Municipality

Further information: www.ligatne.lv; www.pargaujasnovads.lv