

N18 Motorway



1. Asset information

The Portfolio Company Noaber18 B.V. constructed, manages and maintains the newly built N18 greenfield highway connecting Groenlo and Enschede in the eastern part of the Netherlands. The 27-kilometer road consists of a two-lane highway (one lane in each direction) between Groenlo and Haaksbergen and a four-lane highway (two lanes in either direction) between Haaksbergen and the city of Enschede. 27 Civil engineering structures form part of the network.

Noaber18 is a combination of 'noaber' and N18. It reflects the Dutch 'noaberschap' principle of community-integrated infrastructure development.



2. Impact

The Portfolio Company provides for regional mobility and the N18 trunk road serve to divert long-distance traffic, in particular HGVs away from towns and city centres along the network. It reduces travel time for c. 11 million vehicles per year



3. Awards and certifications

The Portfolio Company and its subcontractors comply with ISO 9001 (Quality Management Systems), ISO 15504 (Information Technology – Software Process Evaluation System), and ISO 15288 (Project Planning) requirements.

4. Environment

GHG emissions

N18 has the objective to decrease the CO2 emission and to increase the CO2 awareness by measurements focused on:

- Awareness – e.g., economically driving.
- Technic - e.g., movement sensors in offices.
- Organization – e.g., preventing use of machines if not necessary
- Design principles – e.g., use of materials in e.g. light poles



The application of the pavement life-extending rejuvenation oil (LVOv) in June 2023 resulted in improved quality and extended lifetime of the asphalt. The purpose is to reduce the number of pavement renewals which would significantly decrease the CO2 footprint of the project.

Climate risk

The project was screened to evaluate the potential physical impacts from climate change based on 'Paris-aligned' (RCP2.6 ~+1°C) and 'High emissions' (RCP8.5 ~+3.7°C) scenarios across three time periods (2020, 2050 and 2100). The project maintains a Low physical climate risk score under the Paris-aligned scenario as of 2050.

Waste & Water

The management services provider continues to monitor waste and water consumption and is actively exploring opportunities to reduce them wherever possible. However this only relates to a small office which is available to the Portfolio Company and the maintenance sub-contractor.

Biodiversity

The asset is built in compliance with local environmental regulations. During the concession period, the Portfolio Company focuses on promoting restoration efforts to improve degraded or removed ecosystems that act as natural carbon sinks and can improve resilience to climate-related damages, such as:

- A beehive has been placed next to the N18
- expansion of green spaces in urban areas (i.e., planting indigenous tree species, shrubs and flower meadows).



Additionally, the Portfolio Company has a Biodiversity policy in place.

Noise and air quality

The project actively monitors noise along the motorway and surrounding neighbourhoods. Additionally, the project monitors noise and air quality around the project.

5. Social

Health & Safety

The Portfolio Company Noaber18 complies with the prevailing Dutch safety standards. The main reason for the project being developed was to divert traffic, in particular heavy good vehicles away from residential areas and thus significantly improving safety to both inhabitants and traffic in the region. Health and safety is on the agenda of each board meeting. Our asset managers work actively with the Portfolio Company or its management service providers, to promote a strong health and safety culture, facilitate the sharing of best practices.

We endorse a zero-tolerance approach to occupational health and safety incidents. The Portfolio Company has a Health & Safety policy in place and regularly conducts health and safety audits.

Diversity

Not applicable as the Portfolio Company does not employ any staff.

Impact for local communities

The project incorporates comprehensive landscape design principles to seamlessly integrate the highway into its natural surroundings. The environmentally conscious design features carefully selected indigenous trees and vegetation specific to the region.

The project team demonstrated strong community stewardship by supporting affected neighbouring properties through pond enhancement initiatives and heritage tree monitoring programs, embodying the Dutch 'noaberschap' principle.



6. Governance

Delegation & oversight

The Portfolio Company directors review on a quarterly basis comprehensive board report, including both general project management and financial management. The project has a rigorous governance structure in place with quarterly board meetings, ad-hoc meetings when required and an authority delegation matrix to the management services provider.

The Portfolio Company has robust ESG policies and procedures in place and clear board-level responsibility to monitor their application. The ESG standard policies include:

- Biodiversity
- Code of Conduct, including anti-bribery, anti-corruption and non-discrimination
- Communication
- Cyber-security
- Diversity
- ESG
- Health and safety (workplace accident prevention)
- Anti-slavery & Human Trafficking policy (Modern Day Slavery)
- Privacy, including general data protection and data breach
- Rapid escalation
- Responsible contractor
- Tax
- Whistleblowing

The Portfolio Company holds frequent meetings with the public sector client to promote collaboration, coordination and integration of operations.

Reporting

The Portfolio Company uses a quarterly board pack, reporting to the board of directors on the operational and financial performance of the project and compliance with its obligations and regulation/legislation, including the policies.

Additionally, the Portfolio Company reports annually into BBGI's ESG KPI survey, which composed of 100+ data points, covering all aspects of ESG oversight.

Cyber security

Portfolio Company and its subcontractors continuously monitor that the cyber security policy is in place and perform information risk analysis and develops mitigating measures. They have a robust and comprehensive IT backup system in place. Additionally, the Portfolio Company has a Cyber security policy in place.

Contact

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