

First National workshops on climate change mitigation measures for nutrient rich organic soils

Kristīne Sirmā
Latvian Ministry of Agriculture

LIFE OrgBalt, LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158

EU LIFE Programme project
“Demonstration of climate change mitigation potential
of nutrients rich organic soils in Baltic States and Finland”

Germany – April 21

- German national workshop “Peatland conservation in the CAP – Instruments for a climate-friendly use of organic soils”, organized by Michael Succow Foundation / Greifswald Mire Centre and the German Association for Landscape Care
- Main focus – implementation of climate change mitigation measures in peatland agriculture
- 48 participants, mostly from ministries and agencies in charge for agriculture and environment
- Experience and knowledge exchange on the possibilities of promoting climate-friendly practices of peatlands in the CAP after 2021
- Drained organic soils are one of the main sources of GHG emissions from agriculture in Germany. The challenge: the measures must be manageable and controllable for the administrations, but at the same time attractive and practical for the agricultural enterprises and meet the requirements of climate and nature protection.

Finland – June 11

- 29 participants, researchers and representatives of NGOs working on forest, agriculture and environment sector in Finland were the key-participants.
- Finland has decades long experience in development GHG monitoring methods and currently has the largest GHG data collection on organic soils, especially on peatlands drained for forestry and agriculture in boreal climate zone.
- Although relatively good understanding on GHG balances on various organic soil productivity types exists already, work relating management techniques and GHG fluxes is still in quite early phase. Field work focus in LIFE OrgBalt in Finland is in finding ways to improve soil C and GHG balances attainable by forest management techniques, e.g. clear felling, partial harvesting, drainage management. Research at field in Finland adds on previously collated data.

Lithuania – June 17

- 35 participants
- “The national workshop was dedicated to stakeholders on purpose to reveal the project aim and specific objectives. LIFE OrgBalt will promote decision making approach that adopts land use management practices based not solely on their climate change mitigation benefits but rather based on whole “production systems analysis” that comprehensively assesses the productivity, resource use, and environmental load of the system including climate benefits. Stakeholder engagement is unequivocally the most important ingredient for successful project delivery,” says Dr. Olgirda Belova, LAMMC, Department of Forest Protection, LIFE OrgBalt expert.

Estonia – June 30

- 36 participants, from different organizations and institutions. All the webinar participants are working one or the other way with peatlands and climate change mitigation measures in agriculture and forestry.
- Webinar gave an overview of LIFE OrgBalt project, project objectives and main goals and plans. As well people were discussing about current National Greenhouse Gas Inventory method and studies done in drained forested and no-forested peatlands in Estonia.

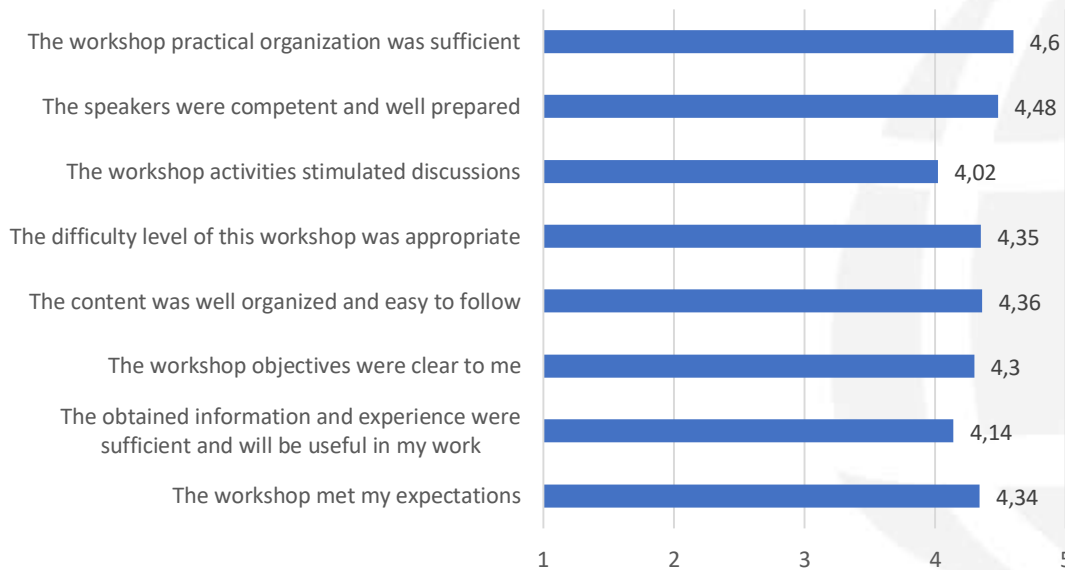
Latvia – July 1

- Aim was to involve interested target groups and to promote a discussion on the potential of climate change mitigation measures in Latvia. It is vital that the various climate change mitigation measures stimulate the interest of farmers and foresters in contributing to climate goals.
- 54 participants, representatives of public administration institutions, regions, non-governmental organizations representing farmers and foresters, nature protection organizations, scientific organizations, etc.
- During the workshop the participants were introduced with the international project of the European Commission's LIFE programme LIFE OrgBalt and climate change mitigation measures in management of nutrients rich organic soils. The measures selected in the project will be applicable to farmers and foresters to reduce GHG emissions at farm level. However, more discussions and exchange of views are needed before the project results can be incorporated into policies and action plans.

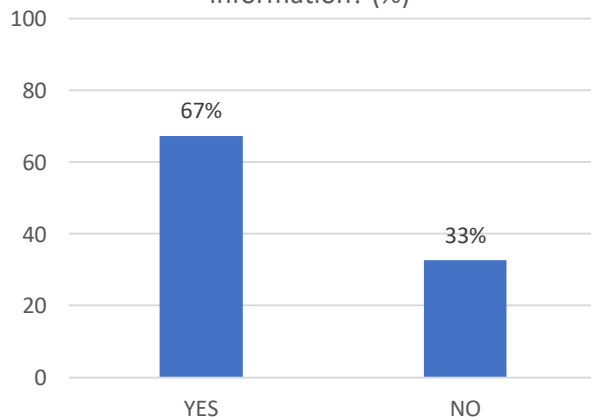
National Workshop evaluation questionnaire (overall results FI, LT, LV): respondents 52

Please rate your event experience.

(1 strongly disagree - 5 strongly agree)

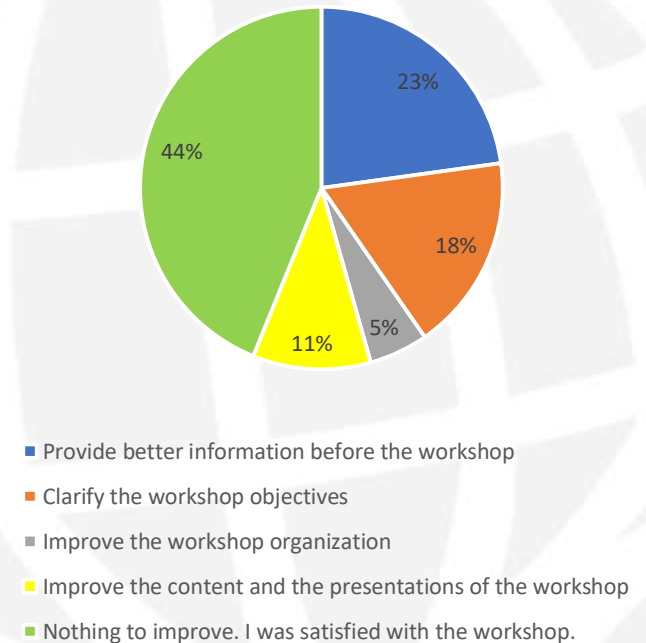


Are you interested in receiving more information? (%)



How would you improve this workshop?

(Check all that apply.) – (%)



What was the most / least valuable aspect of this workshop?

- The most valuable was the extensive and hopeful information on a new topic that can significantly affect agriculture in Latvia.
- Broad range of topics and presenters
- The overview of the project's objectives from different points of view.
- Understand current events and know who to contact to coordinate activities.
- It was valuable to get acquainted with the goals and implications of the project. I will definitely follow the progress of the project.

Thank you!!



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