



LIFE ORGBALT NEWSLETTER



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



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Dear reader,
 Welcome to the second edition of the LIFE OrgBalt Project newsletter.
 Over one year passed by since the beginning of the project and we would like to continue sharing with you our progresses. In the following pages you will find information on the latest developed and ongoing actions and on the latest events, as well as an insight on the upcoming activities. While waiting for our next issue we shall keep you informed about our activities and key outcomes through the project website and social media.



THE LIFE ORGBALT PROJECT TEAM



ABBREVIATIONS

EU - EUROPEAN UNION

GHG - Greenhouse gas

LULUCF - Land use, land use change and forestry

WHERE DO WE STAND?

During this first year, LIFE OrgBalt experts worked on the foundation of the project paving the way to the development of the implementation actions, the core of LIFE OrgBalt research activity and objectives. Data on the current situation of GHG inventories were collected, and current knowledge and experience in the evaluation of the potential of climate change mitigation measures were assessed. A thematic work group on activity data for GHG emission calculations and projections was established and regularly meets to discuss the methodology to be applied for activity data modelling. The thematic work group on scientific writing started its work as well.



Scientific articles development is discussed in two work streams – GHG flux monitoring and evaluation of climate change mitigation. Protocols for the setup of the project measurement sites and the procedures to be followed were finalised to give a consistent scientific base to the planned measuring activities in demo and reference sites. The LIFE OrgBalt experts are currently working on the establishment of the project reference and demonstration sites.

During the second semester project managers completed the project communication plan. The LIFE OrgBalt objectives and on-going results have been shared through information, dissemination and training activities. More details about the specific activities carried out are given in the following pages. Networking activities with similar projects also started to strengthen international cooperation and build-up on already obtained results toward a common understanding of climate-smart management practices in nutrient-rich organic soils in forest land, cropland and grassland.

The project experts have started working on a socio-economic analysis of the proposed measures and on the development of a simulation model to calculate the socio-economic and climate change impacts of climate change mitigation measures. These activities aim at supporting local and regional stakeholders in making projections of GHG emissions and socio-economic consequences given a set of initial conditions and selected management options.

Finally, analysis of policy documents and cooperation activities for the development of a public and private sector cooperation model started to facilitate the adoption of the Project results in relevant policy documents.



DELIVERABLES: STATE OF ART

The Communication activities planned within the LIFE OrgBalt project lie on a multilevel communication platform which has been developed during the first and the second semester of the Project. The first pillar is represented by the development of the "Plan for awareness rising and stakeholder engagement", which was presented in the first issue of the LIFE OrgBalt newsletter, followed by the development of the project communication strategy.

Communication strategy

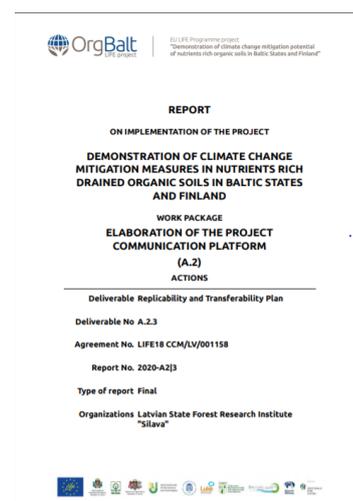
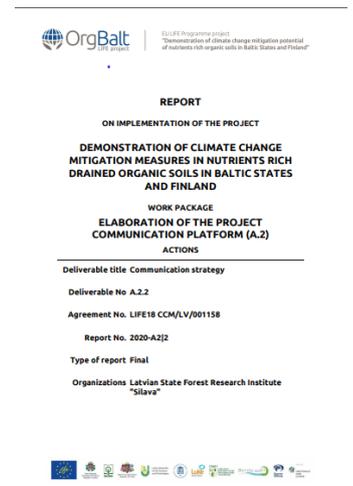
The second pillar of the project communication platform is the Communication strategy, developed to provide qualitative information to all identified stakeholders. A set of communication activities and channels has been identified and analysed taking in consideration the different stakeholder groups and the specific communication objectives that could better address each one of them. These includes leaflets, booklets, scientific publications, 45 information and education materials (articles, press releases, newsletters, etc.), 4 short films, over 30 training and dissemination events and networking activities.

[View the full communication strategy](#)

Replicability and Transferability Plan

The third and last pillar of the Project communication platform is the replicability and transferability plan of the project whose goal is to multiply the impact of the Project results during its implementation and to replicate and transfer its findings after its end, in the countries involved in the Project, and in other Temperate climate zone regions in Europe. A simulation model will be developed to support local and regional stakeholders in making projections of GHG emissions and socio-economic consequences given a set of initial conditions and selected management options. Targeted training sessions will be organized toward the end of the project to present and explain the model and its tools. The simulation model will also be proposed as an evaluation tool for the development and the evaluation of climate change mitigation measures related projects in the context of the Common Agricultural Policy.

[View the full Replicability and Transferability Plan](#)



LATEST EVENTS

LIFE OrgBalt national workshops



The first round of National Workshops of the LIFE OrgBalt project took place in 2020 - from the end of April until the beginning of July. All partner countries' main stakeholders were introduced to the project and expected results, as well as updated on the implemented, on-going and planned activities. All together the 5 organized events gathered over 200 stakeholders internationally.

[View OrgBalt National workshops presentations.](#)

Field work calibration seminars

Two calibration seminars took place during summer 2020, ensuring highly valuable capacity building and knowledge exchange experience to the project partners. Both seminars included a theoretical part, during which the methodologies for greenhouse gas emissions and environmental parameters measurements were discussed, and a practical training of the Project measurement teams in Estonian and Lithuanian reference sites. The main aims of the seminars were to agree on harmonised measuring methodologies and data collecting approaches as well as ensure practical calibration before the beginning of measurements.



The first field work Calibration seminar took place in Estonia, on 29 and 30 June, and was organized by the project partner University of Tartu, while the second, took place in Lithuania on 25 and 26 August and was organized by the project partner Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry.

The following clip shows the different measuring tools presented by the project experts during the first calibration seminar. The second clip gives an overview of the laboratories activities that take place, once the measuring samples are taken to the laboratory.



“Involving stakeholders: first round of the National Workshops of the LIFE OrgBalt project successfully concluded”

LIFE OrgBalt 2nd press release

The press release was published in July 2020 to disseminate information on the first round of the project National Workshops. Sectoral decision and policy makers in charge of planning and implementing policies at regional and national level in the field of forestry, agriculture and other related fields were involved, as well as farmers’ and foresters’ organizations and landowners. Participants had the chance to know more about the project’s aims, to have an overview of its implemented, on-going and planned activities and to share feedbacks and concerns directly with the project’s experts.



[View the full press release](#)



THE PROJECT IN BRIEF

Duration: 08/2019 - 08/2023
Project code: LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158
Total PROJECT budget: 3 360 948 EUR
EU LIFE funding: 1 844 004 EUR



The LIFE OrgBalt project aims to improve GHG reporting data (activity data and emission factors) available for nutrient-rich organic soils. Furthermore, the project aims to identify and to demonstrate sustainable, resilient, and cost-effective climate change mitigation measures applicable in nutrient-rich organic soils and to provide tools and guidance for the elaboration, implementation, and verification of the results of climate change mitigation policies. The project is implemented by eight partners from five EU Member States – Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Finland and Germany and unites representatives from public administration institutions, and scientific and non-governmental organizations.

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 info@baltijaskrasti.lv

The Project "Demonstration of climate change mitigation potential of nutrient rich organic soils in Baltic States and Finland" (LIFE OrgBalt, LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158) is implemented with the financial support of the LIFE Programme of the European Union and of the State Regional Development Agency of the Republic of Latvia. www.orgbalt.eu

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