LIFE ORGBALT NEWSLETTER

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

IN THIS ISSUE

Abbreviations

EU - EUROPEAN UNION
GHG - *Greenhouse gas*
LULUCF - *Land use, land use change and forestry*

Dear reader,

welcome to the third edition of LIFE OrgBalt project newsletter that highlights the project's first feasible achievements. We are proud of the endorsement of the project at the annual ceremony "LIFE AWARD 2020" on December 1, 2020. The project received an award in the category "The most significant contribution to solving climate change".

We would like to keep you updated on activities, significant developments and latest events by offering information on the following pages and links to explore the project and project achievements.

THE LIFE ORGBALT PROJECT TEAM

WHERE DO WE STAND?

We are in the stage of the OrgBalt project when the first results are showing. One of the project specialities is to have a demonstration element. All planned measurement installations on project demonstration sites are completed and monitoring activities of measuring GHG, environmental parameters, etc. are now fully operating. Visibility is important, therefore informative boards have been installed in all 16 demonstration sites.

In addition to already existing landscape data, complete depth-to-water maps for the entire territory of the Baltic States have been created.

This is the single source of information that gives the opportunity to model the water accumulation sites and is a practical tool for planning soil management activities both in forestry and agriculture.

We have released our first short video that provides an overview of the project objectives and expected results explained by the project experts. This visual material helps to spread our message of trust in research and improved organic soil management as tools for GHG reduction.

We have produced several informative materials for different target groups. Besides the leaflet covering the project in brief, the first technical article for audience familiar with the nutrients rich organic soil management on modelling of distribution of organic soils and wet areas has been published. A publication directed at the general public on the relation of land use and climate change from the forestry perspective is also now available on our website.

Many project activities are in the implementation stage. Work continues on 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. Significant work has been done to develop the functional land management model as a tool for climate change mitigation and sustainable soil management. As the initial steps, the structure of the model and first three scenarios have been developed. To help navigate the model, a set of guidelines have been developed. Work continues on the extensive testing activities of the model.

To reach the long-term sustainable results, there is ongoing work on activities on the adoption of the project results in policy documents. Several meetings among project partners and stakeholders on the Baltic level have already been held. A discussion is ongoing on the implementation of the project results in relevant policies, strategies and plans, as well as on the first proposal for the adoption of the project's results in relevant policies.

LATEST EVENTS

European Soil Partnership Plenary Assembly

In September, the Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia presented LIFE OrgBalt project at 7th European Soil Partnership Plenary Assembly emphasizing to the international audience of the assembly the projects' geographically wide scope and importance – LIFE OrgBalt research results on nutrient-rich organic soils will be relevant and applicable in all of Europe.

Access the Plenary Assembly presentations

LIFE OrgBalt receives LIFE award 2020

At the annual ceremony "LIFE AWARD 2020" the project LIFE OrgBalt received the award "The most significant contribution to solving climate change", as well as was nominated in the categories "Highest rated new project" and "Most financially voluminous project".

3rd Steering Group Meeting

The 3rd Steering Group meeting of the LIFE OrgBalt project gathered international stakeholders – 35 scientists and policy makers from the Baltic States, Finland and Germany.

Access the Steering Group Meeting presentations

INTERNATIONAL TALLINN 2021
PEATLAND CONGRESS

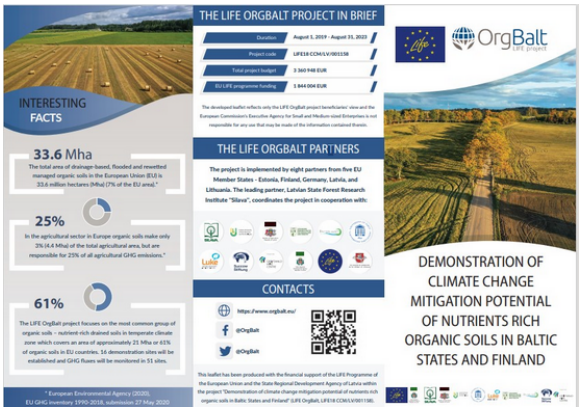
LIFE OrgBalt represented at the International Peatland Congress

The International Peatland Congress took place on May 3-6, 2021. LIFE OrgBalt leading partner Silava took part in the congress with a presentation on the evaluation of GHG emissions from organic soils. LIFE OrgBalt was mentioned within the context of the ongoing research activities, with an emphasis on the international scope of the project and the applicability of results in the planning of mitigation measures.

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

LIFE OrgBalt Project Leaflet

The key information on the project has been summarised in the Project Leaflet, which is available in all partner languages.



Land and Climate change: how do they relate to one another? A forest sector perspective

1st article for the general public

The article explains how the soils can act as both carbon sinks and emitters, featuring expert knowledge from all project partner countries, with a focus on the forest sector.
Read the full article

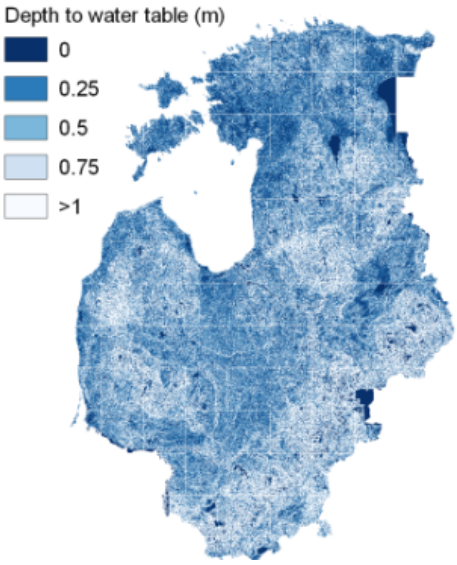
1st Documentary about the project

The first LIFE OrgBalt documentary introduces the project objectives and partners. It is available in all project partner languages.

Depth-to-water maps for the Baltics: modelling of distribution of organic soils and wet areas

1st technical article
3rd press release

The technical article explains how the depth-to-water maps can help improve land management practices, to avoid financial losses, as well as reduce the risks of forestry and agronomic activities.
Read the 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.

FIND OUT MORE!

Follow us

To receive our newsletter send us an email or submit a request on our project website

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