



# LIFE OrgBalt 7<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting

March 2, 2023

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"



# Agenda

Thursday, 02.03.2023.	
09.50	Getting connected
10.00	Welcome and introduction to the meeting agenda <i>LIFE OrgBalt project coordinator Ieva Līcīte, LSFRI Silava</i>
10.05	The general progress of the LIFE OrgBalt project (~10 min), <i>Ieva Līcīte, LSFRI Silava</i>
10.15 (~45 min)	<p><b>GHG and environmental measurements, data processing, some very preliminary results</b></p> <p>Data gathering and processing (~15 min), <i>Thomass Schindler, TU</i></p> <p>Preliminary results – reference sites (~15 min), <i>Kamil Sardar, TU</i></p> <p>What we can consider from the OrgBalt project in forestry - results of the study comparing carbon turnover in nutrient-rich drained and non-drained organic forest soils (~15 min), <i>Aldis Butlers, LSFRI Silava</i></p>
11.00	Questions and discussion session (~15 min)
11.15 (~30 min)	<p><b>Modelling and scientific writing/sharing activities</b></p> <p>GHG emission projections, SUSI modelling (~15 min), <i>Vaiva Kazanavičiūtė, LAMMC</i></p> <p>Scientific writing - the current progress (~15 min), <i>Jyrki Jauhiainen, LUKE</i></p>
11.45	<p>Questions and discussion</p> <p><b>Advice and suggestions from SG members</b></p>



# LIFE OrgBalt – general progress

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*Ieva Licite LIFE OrgBalt project  
coordinator, LSFRI “Silava”*

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# Changes in Grant Agreement and prolongation of the project

Extension of the project duration by 12 months - the new end date of the project is **31st August 2024**

Extension requested based on the fact that the beginning of GHG and environmental data measurement started about 1 year later (in January 2021) than initially anticipated because of various impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak situation:

- huge general uncertainties during spring 2020
- severe delays with procurement procedures and deliveries (measurement equipment and materials)
- difficulties and different/constantly changing logistics rules locally in the project countries and travel restrictions internationally (complications with setting up the measurement sites)



## Main progress since June 2022 (6<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting)

### **Project`s implementation activities (C1 –C5)**

**C1 “Filling knowledge gaps”** - *activity where we are gathering field data while working on new regional GHG emission factors!*

### **Current work flow:**

- Data gathering/measurements are actually done
- The biggest current workload – data processing and working on scientific publications
- Monthly online coordination meetings of WG Measurements (led by Tartu University)

## Project`s implementation activities (C1 –C5) – **in progress**

**C2 “Modeling tools”** - *activity where we are working on improved data for GHG emissions modeling, calculations and projections!*

### Current work flow:

- Finalising the projected climate and forest stand data (growth curves from demo sites)
- Modelling sessions (SUSI) continued to test the projected climate data and simulate future GHG emissions
- Regular WG Modelling meetings (led by LAMMC)

## Project`s implementation activities (C1 –C5) – finished

**C3 "Establishment of demo sites"** - *activity where we are working on demonstrating cost effective GHG mitigation measures in practice!*

### Current work flow:

- CCM demonstration sites are established. 17 demonstration sites in Latvia (14) and Finland (3), 11 demonstrations in forest land and 6 in agricultural land.



### MITIGATING CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS IN NUTRIENT-RICH ORGANIC SOILS WITH THE APPLICATION OF WOOD ASH AFTER COMMERCIAL THINNING IN SPRUCE STANDS

One of the climate change mitigation (CCM) measures applied in the project LIFE OrgBalt relates to the application of ash on soils. This method is applied in the demonstration site on a forest stand in Mežole, Latvia. The goal of the demonstration site is to demonstrate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction in spruce stand by using genetically selected planting material and improving hydrological regime - furrows to ensure excess water runoff to the relief lows.





## **Project`s implementation activities (C1 –C5) – in progress**

**C4 "Policy documents"** *Finding the most appropriate ways and possibilities to make project results appropriately considered in policy planning!*

### **Current work flow:**

- Initial report on proposals for improvement of sectorial strategies and action plans to reduce GHG emissions from organic soils – prepared and shared with regional ministries in charge.
- The final report – is to be prepared upon the availability of the processed data results and complete evaluation of the results.

#### STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

Support to national and regional authorities in implementation of the CCM measures in the national and regional strategies and action plans to fulfil EU and national CCM targets in post-2020 period in LULUCF and agriculture sectors; identification and evaluation of possibilities for cross-sectoral cooperation; demonstration of public and private partnership model in implementation of the CCM measures;

#### DELIVERABLES

□C4/3 Interim draft report on proposals for improvement of sectorial strategies and action plans to reduce GHG emissions from organic soils

## **Project`s implementation activities (C1 –C5) – in progress**

**C5 “Replicability tools”** - *activity where we are working on tools for organic soil management impacts modeling at farm and country level!*

### **Current work flow:**

- Still some finalisation work on farm level tool - Public and Private Sector Cooperation model (all CCM scenarios) incl. ecosystem services, testing/confirmation of assumptions;
- Ongoing work on country-level Simulation tool – aggregation of economic (profit), social (labour) and climate (GHG emissions) impact at the national/regional level;
- Planning of land owners training seminars in partner countries.

**Here - the real work starts right now – much more detailed info will be provided in the next SG meeting!**

## Project`s communication activities (E1-E3) – in progress

*Activity where we are working on informing about our results and what we are doing and why!*

**E1 “Information”; E2 “Training”; E3 “Networking”**

### Current work flow:

➤ Regular workload:

networking, dissemination, articles about GHG emissions management and sampling in agricultural and forest land and 3<sup>rd</sup> documentary with focus on demonstration sites, work on scientific articles.



**25'018**  
website  
views  

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**10'000**

**3228**  
articles  
downloads  

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**2500**

**39'043**  
video  
views  

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**10'000**

Everything new - on the homepage and social media!

## Next Steering Group meetings

Two more SG meetings:  
in **June 2023 (work week 12.06.-16.06.)** (could be an in-person event or Teams – it is up to us to decide) and  
**February/March 2024 (Teams)**.

And, of course, the project's final conference in Riga in 2024!!

# Thank you!



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The project "Demonstration of climate change mitigation potential of nutrients rich organic soils in Baltic States and Finland" (LIFE OrgBalt, LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158) has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union and the State Regional Development Agency of Latvia.  [www.orgbalt.eu](http://www.orgbalt.eu)

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