

LIFE platform meeting: The benefits of peatland restoration for Europe

Berlin, 26-28 April 2023

Wednesday 26 April 2023 hosted by NABU		
Plenary room NABU (Naturschutzbund Deutschland e. V.), Charitéstrasse 3, 10117 Berlin		
08:00	Registration	NABU premises
09:00 – 13:00 Morning session: Plenary keynotes on Policy and Technical Advances		
Session Chair – Lynne BARRATT (NEEMO)		
09:00	Organisation, programme and rules	Lynne Barratt (NEEMO)
09:05	Welcome NABU	Jörg-Andreas KRÜGER (NABU President)
09:20	A video message from the European Parliament – Peatlands and the European Restoration Law	Jutta PAULUS (Member of the European Parliament) (<i>pre-recorded</i>)
09:30	Keynote 1: EU nature legislation, the Restoration Law, Peatland restoration and biodiversity	Angelika RUBIN (European Commission, DG.ENV.D3 – Nature Conservation)
09:45	Keynote 2: EU climate change goals & peatlands Peatland restoration, GHG mitigation and C-removals	Valeria FORLIN, (European Commission, DG. CLIMA.C.3 - Land Economy & Carbon Removals)
10:00	Keynote 3: What would CINEA like to achieve? Objectives and expected outcomes of the Platform meeting	Sylvia BAROVA and Hana MANDELIKOVA (CINEA)
10:15	Keynote 4: An International Perspective on Peatlands Meeting our international, European and national targets	Dianna KOPANSKY, (Global Peatlands Coordinator, Global Peatlands Initiative, UN Environment Programme)
10:35	Q &A session	
10:45	Coffee break	
11:15	Keynote 4: European peatlands and current challenges for peatland conservation in the EU	Franziska TANNEBERGER (Greifswald Mire Centre, DE)
11:30	Keynote 5: Peatlands and land use – mission impossible?	Hans JOOSTEN (International Mire Conservation Group)
11:45	Keynote 6: Peatland restoration for climate change mitigation	Gerald JURASINSKI (University Greifswald, DE)
12:00	Keynote 7: Financing peatland restoration - models and legal structures for nature-based investments	Dan HIRD (Nature Based Investments Consultancy), UK (<i>pre-recorded</i>)
12:15	Keynote 8: LIFE and peatlands – past, present and future	Jan SLIVA (NEEMO)
12:30	Discussion	
13:00	Lunch break	In the NABU premises – cold buffet



14:00 – 17:30 Afternoon session: LIFE and peatlands & Introduction to breakout groups		
14:00	<p>‘Elevator Pitch’ presentation session to get a brief insight into as wide a range of projects as possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5’ short intro from each presenter. • Estimated 20 projects presenting. • Presentations will be targeted towards one of the 4 themes 	Facilitators: Lynne BARRATT & Jan SLIVA (NEEMO)
15:40	Coffee-break and networking	
<p><i>Setting the scene for Day 2. A series of introductory presentations for each working group comprising a 10 minute presentation and 5 minute discussion.</i></p> <p>Session Chair - Jan SLIVA (NEEMO)</p>		
16:15	<p>Working Group I: Restoration of peatland habitats An overview of peatland restoration efforts by LIFE projects in the UK and Ireland.</p>	<p>LIFE Moor Space (UK) - Connecting the Humberhead Levels (LIFE20 NAT/UK/000697)</p> <p>Speaker: Paul SCHOFIELD (Natural England)</p>
16:30	<p>Working Group II: Peatlands, land use and Carbon sequestration A look at the Aktionsprogramm Natürlicher Klimaschutz (ANK). A new Financing Instrument to achieve Clima goals in Germany: 4 billion EUR to be spent in 4 years – opportunities for large scale peatland restoration.</p>	<p>What can the new German Programme on natural climate solutions ANK learn from LIFE peatland restoration projects?</p> <p>Speaker: Tom KIRSCHHEY (ZUG - Zukunft – Umwelt – Gesellschaft gGmbH)</p>
16:45	<p>Working group III: Peatland restoration and climate change mitigation Measurement of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide fluxes between soil-vegetation-systems and the atmosphere using non-steady state chambers.</p>	<p>Best Practice Guidelines and minimum standards for GHG measurements in LIFE projects</p> <p>Speaker: Andreas HERRMANN (NABU)</p>
17:00	<p>Working group IV: Peatland restoration in EU and national policies, financing peatland restoration How integrated land management can benefit restoration, carbon sequestration and the local economy. White paper – towards a carbon credit and blue credit scheme for peatlands.</p>	<p>Interreg Care Peat (BE, FR, IE, NL, UK) – Restoring the carbon storage capacity of peatlands</p> <p>Speaker: Lauryn A. McLOUGHLIN (Manchester Metropolitan University)</p>
17:15	Q and A session and open discussion	
17:30	Arrangements for Day 2 and closing remarks	
18:00	<p>Joint networking dinner - ATRIUM, Reinhardtstraße-Höfe, Reinhardtstraße 12-16, 10117 Berlin Walking distance 10 minutes (click on the link above or follow our NABU guides). Drinks will be served from 18:15 and dinner will be served from 18:30.</p>	



Thursday 27 April 2023 – Working Groups
[Design Offices Berlin Humboldthafen, Alexanderufer 3-7, 10117 Berlin](#) (be aware – other venue address than Day 1!)

Working Group I: Restoration of peatland habitats

Suggested topics to explore:

- Best practices (with proved success), failures and the reasons, different (also innovative) techniques and approaches depending on mire or peatland types, regional differences
- Long-term monitoring, and evidence of success, questionable results reported, common challenges, etc.

Facilitator: Neil WILKIE (NEEMO)

09:00	Round 1	LIFERaisedbogs (DK) - Raised bogs in Denmark (LIFE14 NAT/DK/000012) - Focus: DK experience in raised bog restoration – techniques, best practice methods; setbacks or failures; sustainability of interventions - Speakers: Conny BRANDT / Ole OTTOSEN
10:30	Coffee break – Networking and Poster Session	
11:00	Round 2	AddMire LIFE (NL) - Improvement of hydrological conditions for naturally regenerating raised bogs in Engbertsdijksvenen (LFIE18 NAT/NL/000636) - Focus: NL experience in restoration of heavily raised bogs – techniques, best practice methods; setbacks or failures; sustainability of interventions - Speaker: Bauke ZIJLSTRA
12:30	Lunch break – Networking and Poster Session	
13:30	Round 3	LIFE Hannoversche Moorgeest (DE) – Re-wetting valuable raised bogs in the northern Hannover Region (LIFE 11 NAT/DE/000344) - Focus: Large scale peatland restoration, barriers and bottlenecks, difficulties and setbacks; stakeholder engagement - Speaker: Susanne BROSCHE
15:00	Coffee break – Networking and Poster Session	
15:30 - 17:00	Round 4	Hydrology LIFE (FI) - Restoring the hydrological integrity of wetland habitats in Finland (LIFE16 NAT/FI/000583) - Focus: Large-scale restoration techniques, tree removals and peatland restoration in commercial forests, restoration of peatland streams and use of radar data - Speaker: Maria TUISANEN



Working group II: Peatlands, land use and Carbon sequestration

Suggested topics to explore:

- Sustainable / wise use of peatlands currently used by intensive agriculture, forestry, peat industry for e.g., paludiculture, and carbon farming
- Best practices of wise / sustainable use of formerly degraded peatlands, e.g., conversion of arable land, rewetting and use, examples of paludiculture – use of biomass from wet peatland soils, conversion to wet meadows (evidence of success), deforestation versus afforestation. Bottlenecks and barriers, successes, and failures

Facilitator: Laura NOCENTINI (NEEMO)

09:00	Round 1	LIFE Irish Raised Bogs (IE) - Restoring active raised bogs in Ireland's SAC network (LIFE14 NAT IE 000032) - Focus: conflicts with land use – turbary – forestry and agriculture – stakeholder consultation on a big scale – empowerment and carbon removal - Speaker: Fernando FERNANDEZ
10:30	Coffee break - Networking and Poster Session	
11:00	Round 2	LIFE ANTHROPOFENS (FR) - Restoring fen habitats of Northern France and Belgium in the Anthropocene (LIFE18 NAT/FR/000906) - Focus: developing land management practices to improve the conservation status in fens; creating a network for key stakeholders in fens in Hauts-de-France and Belgium; ensuring the conservation of fen habitats by optimising environmental and water processes in fen areas. - Speakers: Raoul DAUBRESSE
12:30	Lunch break - Networking and Poster Session	
13:30	Round 3	Interreg CANAPE (UK, DK, DE, BE, NL) - Creating a new approach to peatland ecosystems - Focus: sustainable use of restored peatlands, paludiculture - Speaker: Harry MACH
15:00	Coffee break - Networking and Poster Session	
15:30 - 17:00	Round 4	LIFE Green valleys (BE, PL) - Connecting habitats conservation with long term biomass management and multi-stakeholder approach (LIFE17 NAT/BE/000445) - Focus: Solutions for the biomass generated during the management of target habitats, while limiting greenhouse gas emissions and bringing an economic return (long-term solutions to the issue of biomass production, designed to reduce overall carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions, concept of the circular economy by turning waste biomass into raw materials; stakeholder involvement); converting agricultural land back into wetland habitats. - Speaker: Hendrik TREKELS



Working group III: Peatland restoration and climate change mitigation

Suggested topics to explore:

- Peatland restoration and restoration of degraded organic soils for climate change mitigation
- Rules and best practices
- GHG measurements and need for EU wide standards
- Monitoring, reporting and indicators of success

Facilitator: Quirin RENARD (NEEMO)

09:00	Round 1	LIFE Peat Restore (DE, PL, EE, LV, LT) - Reduction of CO2 emissions by restoring degraded peatlands in Northern European lowland (LIFE15 CCM/DE/000138) - Focus: use of remote sensing for the vegetation monitoring; vegetation mapping and classification, GEST methods for the calculation of GHG reduction effects - Speaker: Andreas HERRMANN
10:30	Coffee break - Networking and Poster Session	
11:00	Round 2	LIFE IP Peatlands and People (IE) - Irelands climate action catalyst (LIFE19 IPC/IE/000007) - Focus: Monitoring and calculation of the reduction of greenhouse gases (GHGs); cooperation with national GHG emission inventories and the development of policy and practice for the protection and rehabilitation of raised bogs; just transition. - Speaker: Arthur DEVINE
12:30	Lunch break - Networking and Poster Session	
13:30	Round 3	LIFE OrgBalt (LV) - Demonstration of climate change mitigation potential of nutrients rich organic soils in Baltic States and Finland (LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158) in cooperation with LIFE REstore (LV) - Sustainable and responsible management and re-use of degraded peatlands in Latvia (LIFE14 CCM/LV/001103) - Focus: GHG measurements methods, calculation of GHG reduction – results, challenges, limits; policy implications - Speakers: Ieva LICITE / Jyrki JAUHAINEN
15:00	Coffee break - Networking and Poster Session	
15:30 - 17:00	Round 4	LIFE RESTITUO (FR) - LIFE Restoration of ecosystem services of Jura peatlands in the face of climate change (LIFE21 CCM/FR/004238), in cooperation with LIFE Jura peatlands (Functional rehabilitation of the Jura mountains peatlands of Franche-Comté, LIFE13 NAT/FR/000762) - Focus: Modelling Carbon sequestration and GHG mitigation - Speaker: Sylvain MONCORGÉ



Working group IV: Peatland restoration in EU and national policies, financing peatland restoration

Suggested topics to explore:

- Peatland restoration in current EU policies: IPCC and EU Climate targets, Nature restoration law, related national policy developments – chances and difficulties and setbacks
- Public sector financing, the role of the private sector, importance of the peatland code, recognising offsetting
- Carbon removal certification, carbon credits
- EU Thematic Soil Strategy and Soil Health Directive

Facilitator: Karen LUNAN (NEEMO)

09:00	Round 1	LIFE MULTI PEAT (DE, BE, NL, IE, PL) - Multi-stakeholder Landscape and Technical Innovation leading to Peatland Ecosystem Restoration (LIFE20 CCM/DE/001802) - Focus: Carbon credits and carbon certificates for peatland restorations – the recent development in the EU - Speaker: Jennifer MERTEN
10:30	Coffee break - Networking and Poster Session	
11:00	Round 2	LIFE IP Wild Atlantic Nature (IE) - Towards implementing the PAF for Ireland by protecting and restoring Ireland's blanket bog Natura Network along Atlantic seaboard (LIFE18 IPE IE 000002) - Focus: Development of policy and practice documents for the protection and rehabilitation of blanket bogs; Development of financing tools. Results-based payment schemes upscaling into the CAP - Speaker: Derek McLOUGHLIN
12:30	Lunch break - Networking and Poster Session	
13:30	Round 3	Pennine PeatLIFE (UK) – Geographically appropriate restoration techniques for blanket bogs in Northern England (LIFE16 NAT/UK/000725) - Focus: the peatland code and due diligence, Financing large scale restoration - Speaker: Paul LEADBITTER
15:00	Coffee break - Networking and Poster Session	
15:30 - 17:00	Round 4	Nature Finance (UK) - Providing investment readiness and capital raising advice for nature-based investment projects. Representing (LIFE14 IPE/UK/000027, LIFE16 NAT/UK/000725 and LIFE14 NAT/UK/000070) - Focus: Financing peatland restoration in the future with private sector involvement: Biodiversity and Carbon Credits, Natural Capital, Biodiversity Net Gain: Blended finance, entrepreneurs, Foundations and benefactors. Opportunities, pitfalls, traps and unexpected roadblocks! Learning the language of finance. - Speaker: Dan HIRD



All **four groups** will run simultaneously. There will be **four rounds** during the day allowing each participant the opportunity of joining all the workshops on a rotational basis. Each Working Group will occupy one room for the whole day. Each round will start with one project presentation (i.e., 16 presentations in total), focusing on a specific issue within the thematic focus of each Working Group. There will be a fifth room set aside for bi-lateral and small group networking, private conversations, and destressing! Posters will be on display in the common area and/or the fifth room).

Each round:

- Presentation Introductory LIFE project (15')
- Discussion
- Conclusions and drafting recommendations.

Friday 28 April 2023 – Closing Platform meeting and field excursion (for registered attendees)		
Plenary room NABU (Naturschutzbund Deutschland e. V.), Charitéstrasse 3, 10117 Berlin (the same venue address as Day 1)		
09:00	Report on conclusions and policy recommendations with discussion and final reconciliation	Chairs and/or Rapporteurs from each workshop
10:00	Wrap up, debrief and next steps	The Peatlands Platform Team
10:05	Introduction to the field trip to the restored peatlands in Biesenthaler Becken (information on sites visited and logistics of the day)	LIFE Team NABU
10:30	Embarking to buses	Lunch: cold lunch boxes (meal & drink, fruits)
11:30	Arrival to the site and field excursion site	LIFE Team NABU Site visit: Protected Area " Biesenthaler Becken " (part of Barnim Nature Park)
16:30	Return to Berlin	
18:00	Arrival to Berlin, free time, departure of delegates	

