

LIFE21-CCM-LV-LIFE PeatCarbon Peatland restoration for greenhouse gas emission reduction and carbon sequestration in the Baltic Sea region

PROJECT LOCATION: Latvia, Finland, Germany and Denmark

BUDGET INFO:

Total amount: €4,425,740

% EC Co-funding: 60 %

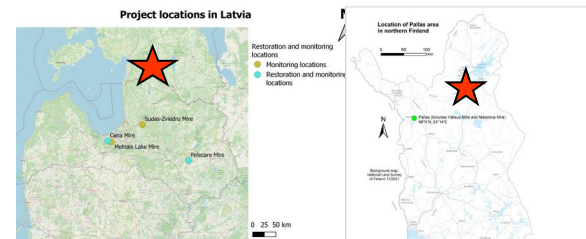
DURATION: 01/07/22 - 30/06/27

PROJECT'S IMPLEMENTORS:

Coordinating Beneficiary: University of Latvia

Associated Beneficiaries:

Amphi International ApS, Ilmatieteen Laitos, Nodibinājums "Vides risinājumu institūts", Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU) EV, Latvijas valsts mežzinātnes institūts "SILAVA", Sabiedrība ar ierobežotu atbildību "AGS Sistēmas", Silkeborg Kommune, Biedrība "Baltijas krasti", Luonnonvarakeskus (LUKE), Sabiedrība ar ierobežotu atbildību "EthnoExpert", Oulun Yliopisto (UOULU)



Lielais Pelečāre and Melnais Lake Mires, Latvia

PROJECT'S HIGHLIGHTS



1. Internationally applicable **Best Practice Book** on peatland restoration experience for GHG emission reduction will summarise the project results.
2. The **Ecosystem model** on peatland restoration results will be developed to transfer, replicate and upscale to other EU countries.
3. The project follows the success of peatland restoration by **monitoring GHG emissions**, hydrology and vegetation not only in the newly restored project sites but also those **from earlier LIFE projects in Latvia**, including the application of remote sensing methods.

OBJECTIVES & SCOPE

Aim of LIFE PeatCarbon Project is the implementation of CCM Measures in peatlands, adaptation and demonstration of innovative tools and applicable methods for GHG monitoring.

The main objectives:

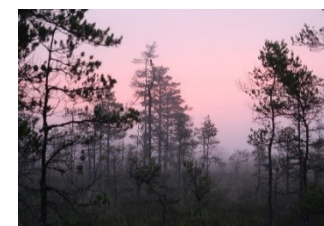
1.Implementation of CCM measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the **peatlands of Latvia and Finland**, including habitats of EU importance, like 7110* Active raised bogs, 7120 Degraded raised bogs.

2.Testing innovative monitoring methods for the comprehensive assessment of GHG emissions in Latvia and Finland.

3.Monitoring of CCM measures in 2 restoration sites in Latvia - Lielais Pelečāre and Cena Mire Nature Reserves and 2 in Finland - Välisuo and Matorova Mires, as well as 3 LIFE Project sites where peatland restoration was carried out previously.

4.Development of **Guidelines for application** of replicable and transferable RS and modelling tools for GHG assessments and inventories.

5.Dissemination, awareness raising and **training activities** for knowledge building; **evaluation** of CCM measures; and **enhancement** of the capacity of national and local authorities to apply the knowledge in practice.



EXPECTED IMPACTS

1. The area where positive effect from CCM measures actions in the 4 project restoration sites will reach 5414 ha (5076 ha in Latvia and 338 ha Finland).
2. The reduced amount of CO₂ emission will comprise 37117 tons CO₂ eq. yr⁻¹ in Latvia) and 3500 tons CO₂ eq. yr⁻¹ in Finland, in total 40 617 tons CO₂ eq. yr⁻¹.
3. Peatland restoration success of the earlier LIFE projects will be monitored in 3 sites in Latvia with the total area of 5213 ha by applying field measurement, remote sensing (RS), habitat, hydrology and GHG monitoring to follow the effect of peatland restoration.
4. Results will be applicable for national GHG inventories in the Baltic Sea region countries.



POLICY IMPLICATIONS

1. The most important transferable product developed by the Project will be the **Decision Support Tool for policymakers** to find the best possibilities for the implementation of CCM measures, as well as for monitoring and comprehensive assessment of GHG emissions from peatlands at various restoration stages.
2. **Involvement of policymakers** (e.g., officials from the EU Commission DG Climate and Environment, Environment Ministries, etc.), especially officials responsible for the LULUCF sector, will be facilitated by the partners' own network of collaborators (e.g., Birdlife Europe, European Environmental Bureau EEB).
3. LIFE Peat Carbon project will contribute to **UN framework Convention of Climate Change Paris Agreement, EU policies (e.g. Regulation 2018/841, LULUCF regulation)** and national climate policy targets in post-2020 period. Project results will be incorporated in national GHG monitoring systems.

Project web page: www.peatcarbon.lu.lv

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CONTINUATION (REPLICATION, TRANSFER, MARKET UPTAKE)

1. The Project will generate new knowledge on peatland restoration for CCM, including certain rewetting methods and techniques tested at the Project pilot sites in Latvia and Finland. These innovations will be **transferred to practitioners** from Baltic Sea region countries during **demonstration workshops**.
2. The Project will also develop **innovative restoration success monitoring methods. Joint workshop of remote sensing and ecosystem modeling** approach for GHG emission evaluation on peatlands will be specially organised to **transfer and spread knowledge and tools developed**.
3. The Ecosystem model of the project sites will be used for **upscaling to country level (LV, FI)**. Regional (Baltic Sea region) simulations will also be performed with the calibrated ecosystem model. Seminars and training events for professionals will be organised.

