

# Building the European Peatlands Initiative

- a strong alliance for peatland climate protection in Europe

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Workshop “Extensively managed grasslands as natural carbon sinks – Practical implementation and requirements for CAP measures” under the “Landcare Europe Captures Carbon” project

11th June 2024, Slavonski Brod (Croatia)

Supported by:



Federal Ministry  
for Economic Affairs  
and Climate Action



on the basis of a decision  
by the German Bundestag



Partner in the



# General information

- **Project name:** Building the European Peatlands Initiative  
- a strong alliance for peatland climate protection in Europe
- **Funding programme:** The European Climate Initiative (EUKI)
- **Implementation period:** 1 November 2022 - 30 April 2025
- **Lead:** Eurosite – the European Land Conservation Network [NL]
- **Partners:**
  - Michael Succow Foundation, a Partner in Greifswald Mire Centre [DE]
  - European Landowners' Organization - ELO [BE]
  - CEEweb for Biodiversity [HU]

*This project is part of the [European Climate Initiative \(EUKI\)](#). EUKI is a project financing instrument by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). The EUKI competition for project ideas is implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH. It is the overarching goal of the EUKI to foster climate cooperation within the European Union (EU) in order to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions.*

An aerial photograph of a peatland landscape. The terrain is a mosaic of dark blue water bodies and patches of vegetation in shades of green, yellow, and brown. The water reflects the sky, and the vegetation appears to be a mix of mosses, lichens, and small trees. The overall scene is a complex, organic pattern of land and water.

*“We build an **effective European network** of **national governments** and **other stakeholders** to enable **restoration (and conservation)** of **all peatlands** in Europe to provide rich **biodiversity**, clean **water**, sustainable **livelihoods**, net zero CO<sub>2</sub> and **climate change adaptation**.”*

**— Our vision**

# Target groups

- nat. governments
- ministries (Envi, Agri)
- EC Directorates
- the Council of Europe



- research institutes
- conservationists
- community forums



- private landowners
- foresters
- farmers and farmers networks



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## Eurosite

>> networking

- formally established EPI
- cooperation with the GPI and UNEP
- workshops and networking

## MSF / GMC

>> mapping & data

- !! CEE countries in the Global Peatland Database
- updated peatland map of Europe
- updated maps on agricult. use of peatlands and GHG emissions

## CEEweb

>> support to national governments

- national peatland strategies and other peatland-related policies
- information, recommendations, and guidance
- capacity building

## ELO

>> knowledge dissemination

- 3 sectoral manuals on peatland and soil management for CCM
- 3 regional workshops (landowners, foresters, farmer networks)
- stakeholder community creation and video tutorials

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# Mission

- Connect governments and other stakeholders to raise awareness on the essential role of peatlands to achieve global and pan-European climate and sustainability objectives.
- Help national governments and EC to base strategies and policies on up-to-date peatlands data and management best-practices.
- Achieve commitment of stakeholders towards sustainable land use practices.
- Improve the pan-European cooperation between scientists, conservationists, private landowners and farmers networks.



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# Events

- **June 2023** - Improving **Central And Eastern European Policy Responses** To Protect, Restore And Sustainably Manage Peatlands In The Fight Against Climate Warming (hybrid, Hungary)
- **September 2023** – **PaludiFair** – a side event at the European Peatland Conference 'Power to the Peatlands'
- **November 2023** - Regional workshop on **sustainable peat management in agricultural areas** (in-person, France)
- **November 2023** - Peatlands in Europe and the way forward: **Insights from the Global Peatland Assessment** (online)
- **November 2023** - **National Peatland Strategies and Peatland Restoration Opportunities** for Climate Action
- **April 2024** - Multi-stakeholder workshop on **peatlands' potential role in national climate mitigation efforts** (in-person, Hungary)
- **April 2024** - Regional workshop on **sustainable peat management in nature conservation areas** (in-person, Belgium)
- **May 2024** - **European Peatland Strategies**: Exchange on status, progress and future perspectives (in-person, Germany)



# Coming in 2024

## Events:

- **October 2024** – Eurosite Annual Meeting, Durham (UK) – **networking workshop** for **building the European Peatlands Initiative**
- **Autumn 2024** - Regional workshop on **sustainable peat management in forest areas** (in-person, tbd)

## Publications:

- Assessment of **peatland related policies** in six CEE countries (CEEweb)
- First **Sectoral Manual**, focusing on **agriculture** (ELO)
- **Policy brief**, based on the results of the Bonn workshop (MSF/GMC, Eurosite)
- Second **Sectoral Manual**, focusing on **nature conservation** (ELO)
- ...



# Thank you!



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