



# Landcare Europe

**The network that brings together agriculture, nature conservation and communities for biodiversity, resilient ecosystems and quality of life in our European cultural heritage landscapes.**

*Sylvie Rockel*  
*Landcare Europe coordinator*

*With support of*



# LANDCARE EUROPE



## We want

...healthy, **biodiverse** and **resilient** ecosystems in our European **landscapes** for a better quality of life.



## We promote

...**land management in Natura 2000 areas** and beyond that sustains or regenerates healthy soils, clean water and air, stable habitats, rich biodiversity and diverse landscapes in Europe and helps to mitigate climate change. We foster a more **nature-inclusive agricultural system** providing healthy food and other public goods and ecosystem services, which improve the quality of life for people and other living beings.



# Our Approach



## We offer

...competent *advice* and *knowledge exchange* on all aspects of preserving landscapes in Europe. We bring together expertise from agriculture and forestry, nature conservation and politics, network the stakeholders. *We support* our members by representing and promoting their interests and experiences at national and European level.



## We work

... in a *cooperative approach* with land users, farmers, local communities, nature conservation organisations, political authorities and decision-makers to preserve and restore biodiversity and resilience in our European landscapes in a contemporary, innovative and sustainable manner.



# Our Objectives

→ **Establishing an EU network between conservationists, farmers & local communities, based on existing Landcare initiatives**

■ **Specific objectives:**

1. Exchanging **key factors for successful cooperative nature conservation** with European partners to improve existing organisations and support the creation of new ones
2. **Contributing** to implementing **EU Biodiversity Strategy targets**, esp. **Natura 2000** site-level conservation & habitat types and species linked to agriculture
3. Promoting & **engaging farmers in biodiversity-friendly land management**
4. Promoting and **implementing EU financial support** with a focus on CAP measures and especially agri-environmental management
5. **Capacity building** for members and their stakeholders, e.g. farmers
6. **Discussing ways to include** farmers and farmers' associations as well as other **stakeholders in the decision-making process of LE**



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# Who is Landcare Europe? (status April 2022)



- Founding Partners
- Collaborations
- EU
- No-Eu



- ① Deutscher Verband für Landschaftspflege e. V. (DVL), **Germany**;
- ② Agri-Cultura-Natura Transylvaniae Association (ACNT), **Romania**;
- ③ Baltic Environmental Forum (BEF), **Lithuania**;
- ④ BoerenNatuur, **Netherlands**;
- ⑤ Fédération Conservatoires d'Espaces Naturels (FCEN), **France**;
- ⑥ Legambiente Lombardia, **Italy**;
- ⑦ SICONA-Sud-Ouest, **Luxembourg**;
- ⑧ Trashumancia y Naturaleza (TyN), **Spain**



## Cooperation



- With 29 European countries
- Outside Europe on 4 continents

**Goal:** Network expansion to all 27 EU MS



# Landcare Europe Network in numbers

Results from a survey on the 8 founding partners (survey Nov 2021)



**Cooperation** with 34 countries on 5 continents

Over **2000 employees**



**Securing income** & employment in rural areas

**Farm land** management from **1 ha ... 1000 ha**



**75% conventional farmers**

Over **100,000 consultations** of farmers, citizens and politicians

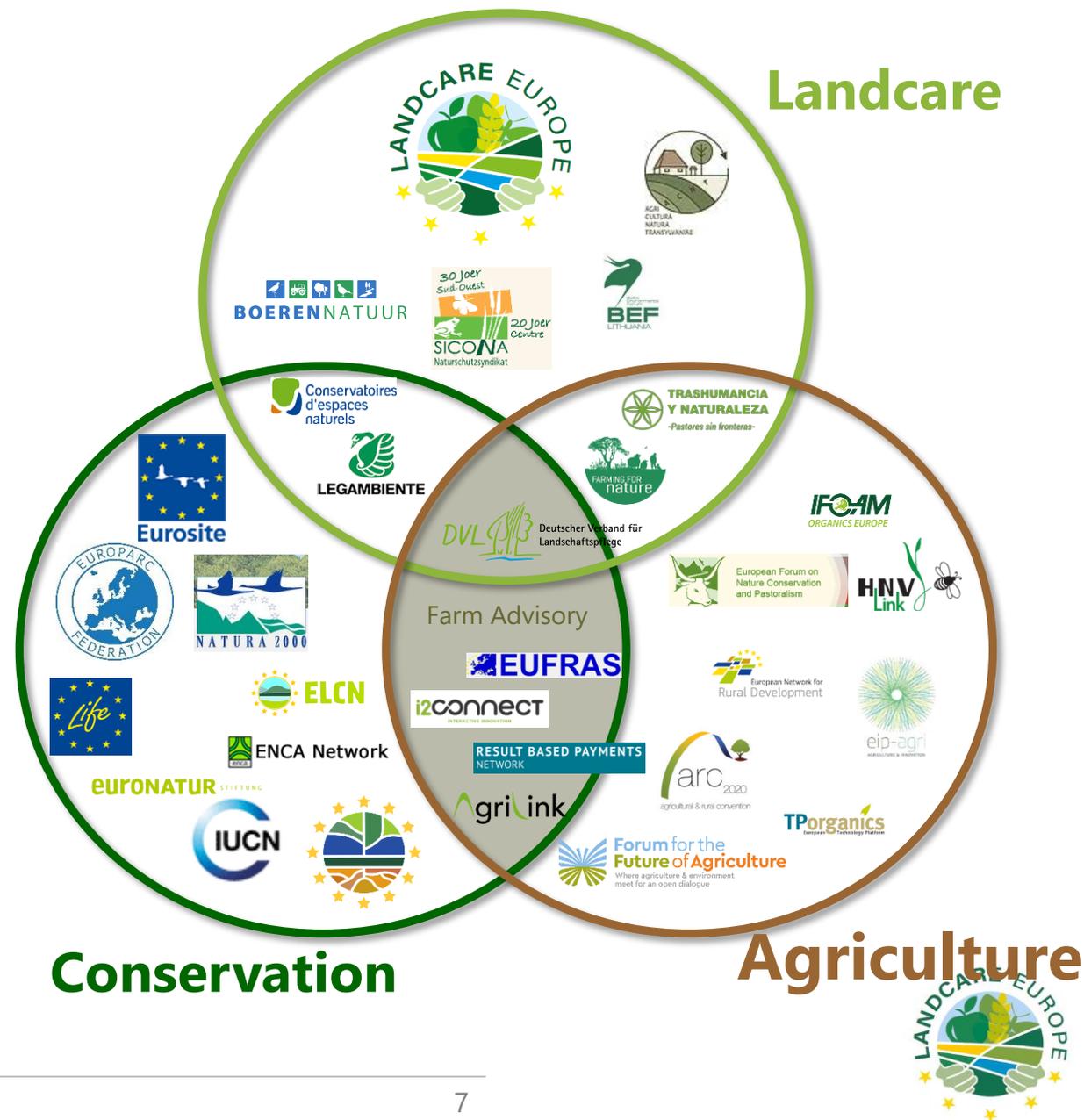


# Why another network?

Comparison with 22 EU networks / initiatives  
 Protected areas & biodiversity (N2000, BHD)  
 Agriculture / farming

→ **Landcare Europe closes this gap**

- ✓ **Exchange** of knowledge & best practices **beyond borders** to better implement EU environmental targets within an agricultural context
- ✓ Promoting the **importance of Landcare activities** for the environment & benefit of people (health, wellbeing, food security) at national & EU level
- ✓ Supporting **creation of new organisations**



# Work on EU Objectives

- ❑ Management of Natura 2000 areas &
  - Management & restoration of Natura 2000 sites
  - Contributing to Natura 2000 Biogeographical Processes
  - Contribution to updating EU guide on "Farming for Natura 2000"
- ❑ Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)
  - Consulting farmers/landowners on CAP measures
  - Consulting administrative bodies/ politicians on the design of CAP architecture
- ❑ Water Framework Directive (WFD)
  - Consulting on reduction of fertilizers and pesticides, bank border strips, etc.
  - Renaturation of water bodies
  - Creating agricultural landscapes with higher water infiltration
- ❑ EU Biodiversity Strategy
- ❑ Farm-to-Fork Strategy



# How to join the network?

## **Organisation:**

1. The network is open to all non-governmental (NGOs) & non-profit organisations who can identify with the vision & mission.
2. Members shall be represented by the network while remaining independent in their activities.
3. Membership is voluntary and reversible.
4. Landcare Europe is the cooperative link between nature conservation, agriculture and communities.



# Timeline Landcare Europe



# Future Workshops of Landcare Europe

## Lithuania – Nemunas Delta

## Romania – Carpathians

## Spain – Andalucía

Innovative approaches to promote species & habitat restoration – fostering good-practice-based payment schemes

Human & wildlife co-existence – traditional & modern farming approaches in the mountains

Improving water management, biodiversity, ecosystem services & yield in intensive farming & agroforests

8 – 10 June 2022

11 – 13 July 2022

March 2023 (tbc)



- Improving N2000 network in collaboration with farmers
- "Good-practice-based payment schemes" (GPBPS)
- Restoring wetlands & farmland bird habitat for biodiversity & farming
- Marketing of agricultural „waste“

- Management of large carnivores in rural areas & damage compensation for farmers
- Alternatives to "organic" farms (agroecology)
- CAP subsidies for forest & grassland management in N2000
- Rural tourism & local jobs in N2000

- Intensive farming & agroforestry systems with diversity in N2000
- Socio-economic impacts of natural & cultural heritage sites on agricultural areas (agrotourism)
- Soil quality & water use in areas with drought risks
- CAP recommendations

# EU-Conference Landcare Europe



- Mai/ June 2023 in Brussels
- Legal foundation of Landcare Europe as an organisation
- Presenting the Landcare approach to a broad audience
- Goal: Invite participants from all EU Member States



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# Thank you!

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