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Sustainable and responsible management and re-use of degraded peatlands in Latvia – LIFE REstore

Kaspars Pabērzs
LIFE REstore project manager

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REstore: objectives

- To approbate a field measurement based methodology for accounting of the GHG emissions from managed wetlands in Latvia in accordance with the supplement to the IPCC guidelines for national GHG inventories "Wetlands" → **CSF**
- To perform an inventory and develop a database of the degraded peatlands in Latvia for public access and use of obtained data → **DATA**
- To develop a decision support tool for land re-use planning of degraded peatland areas, providing the most optimal balance of the aspects of ecological restoration for biodiversity, benefits for economic growth and GHG emission reduction for long-term mitigation of negative climate change impacts in Latvia → **EXPERIENCE & - 2226,54 tCO2/y**
- To support policy-makers by providing a strategic framework for implementation of the developed approaches of sustainable re-use of degraded peatlands for integration in the National peat strategy → **RISING AWARENESS**

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REstore: results

- GHG emission (CO_2, N_2O, CH_4) factors for:
  - natural transitional bogs and bogs;
  - active peat extraction site;
  - abandoned extraction site with and without coalescent plants vegetation coverage;
  - afforested peat extraction sites;
  - former peat extraction sites used for crop production (cereals, fodder, cranberries and blueberries);
  - renaturalized peat extraction sites.
- Impact of wood ash and wastewater sludge fertilizers on the GHG emissions from afforested peat extraction sites.
- Emission factors verified according to study results in Estonia in similar conditions.

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Contribution to climate policies

- improvement of UNFCCC and Kyoto protocol related reporting and projections for 1990-2020 period;
- better understanding of post-2020 reference levels for cropland, grassland and forest land management;
- methodologies and recommendations for implementation of the climate change mitigation measures in Rural development plan in post-2020 period;
- research agenda for implementation of project results outside the project region (in Baltic states, North West Russia) and to solve remaining knowledge gaps

CHALLENGE

- to provide solutions for reduction of GHG emissions from soil necessary to reach zero emissions level in 2050; respectively, to reduce GHG emissions by up to 9 mill. tonnes CO2 eq. annually and to provide verified emission factors for organic soils.

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Thank You for Your attention!

Kaspars Pabērzs

Baznīcas iela 7, Sigulda, LV 2150
http://restore.daba.gov.lv
LIFE REstore @LIFE_REstore liferestorelv liferestore