



Peatlands as key habitats in climate mitigation efforts

Multi-stakeholder workshop in the frame of the *Building the European Peatlands Initiative: a strong alliance for peatland climate protection in Europe* project organised by **CEEweb for Biodiversity**

Date: 25 – 26 April 2024

Location: [Europe Point, Budapest \(Lövőház u. 35, 1024\)](#)

Agenda

25 April 2024 (Day 1)

9:30 Registration

10.00 Welcome and brief introduction of CEEweb celebrating 30th anniversary - *Csaba Mezei, General (CEEweb for Biodiversity)*

10.10 Introduction to the objectives and the agenda of the workshop - *Ildikó Varga, Biodiversity Expert (CEEweb for Biodiversity)*

10.15 Main interim results of the ‘Building the European Peatlands Initiative: A strong alliance for peatland climate protection in Europe’ project - *Eliza Óhegyi, Project Coordinator (CEEweb for Biodiversity)*

10.25 Peatland and climate related policies and restoration of natural habitats in Poland (LIFE Multi Peat project) - *Wojciech Mroz, Project Officer (Eurosites)*

10.45 Expected impacts of climate change on the distribution of peatland habitats - *Imelda Somodi, Senior Research Fellow (Centre for Ecological Research)*

11.10 Peatlands in the light of groundwater flows - climate adaptation and habitat rehabilitation through the eyes of a hydrogeologist - *Szilvia Szkolnikovics-Simon, Adjunct Professor and Judit Mádlné Szőnyi, Professor (Eötvös Loránd University)*

11.40 Coffee break

11.55 Characteristics of Hanság wetland production sites and their changes in recent decades - *Gábor Kovács, Associate Professor (University of Sopron, Faculty of*

Forest Engineering) - Gábor Illés, Deputy Director General (University of Sopron, Institute of Forestry Sciences)

12.25 Raised bogs in the Great Hungarian Plain - can we still talk about their future? - *Balázs Lesku, Botanical Specialist (Hortobágy National Park Directorate)*

12.50 Questions and answers

13.20 Lunch break

14.00 Peatlands in Europe - current conditions and challenges - *Franziska Tanneberger - Director (Michael Succow Foundation – Partner in the Greifswald Mire Centre)*

14.20 Paludiculture – peatland rewetting for the climate and the wet production of renewable biomass resources - *Andreas Haberl, Project Coordinator (Michael Succow Foundation – Partner in the Greifswald Mire Centre)*

14.45 Using ecosystem services as a tool for wetland restoration (Restoration of wetland complexes as life supporting system in the Danube Basin – Restore4Life project) - *Mihai Adamescu, Head of Research Center in Systems Ecology and Sustainability (University of Bucharest, Research Center for Systems Ecology and Sustainability)*

15.10 Questions and answers

16.00 Conclusions, introduction to next day's field trip, closing of the workshop

18:00 *Networking dinner* - Please, indicate your interest in attending the dinner on the registration form.

26 April (Day 2)

Field trip to the Hanság with the guidance of the staff of the Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate

Gábor Takács, conservation officer

Sándor Tatai, landscape unit leader

The field programme will present the results and main experiences of wetland reconstructions carried out in the Hanság basin (NorthWest-Hungary), drained during the 18th and 20th centuries, over the last 25 years. Drainage and afforestation have almost completely destroyed open water communities, and marsh and bog habitats have been drastically reduced. Since 2001, the Fertő-Hanság National Park Directorate has been intensively involved in wetland protection, restoration and creation of new wetlands.

7:30 Bus departure from Budapest - location will be shared later with registered participants

10:00 Welcome, general introduction to the Hanság (*Meeting point at the field: Esterházy Madárvárta, Csorna, Fő u., 9300*)

Main stations of the field programme:

- Visiting the Csíkos alder forest: presentation of problems related to water supply and forest management, attempts and possibilities for solutions
- Osli-Hanyi wetland reconstruction: wetland creation by surface flooding, operational experiences
- Conservation management of wetlands and marshes, control of invasive species
- Adaptation of drainage-irrigation system operation to ensure territorial water retention (presentation of ongoing RRF and KEHOP project)

14:30 Closing of the field trip. Bus departure to Budapest (Arrival approximately 17:00)

The field programme involves about 4 kilometres of walking and requires rubber boots!

Lunch will be provided.

We thank the support of our project partners:



The project "Building the European Peatlands Initiative: a strong alliance for peatland climate protection in Europe" 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.

Supported by:



on the basis of a decision
by the German Bundestag

The views expressed at the event do not necessarily reflect those of the European Commission Representation in Hungary.