



LIFE15 CCM/DE/000138

LIFE project «Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by restoring degraded peatlands in  
Northern European Lowland»

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## LIFE Peat Restore

# **Final socio-economic impact assessment GERMANY**

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March 2022



## **1. Biesenthaler Becken Nature Reserve**

### **1.1. Local socio-economy:**

Biesenthaler Becken was declared a nature reserve in 1999, as well as a Natura 2000 site. The nature reserve is located within the Barnim Nature Park, in northern Berlin, and covers a surface of 1,000ha. Use of the grasslands was partly given up in the last decades because the wet soils could not be profitably cultivated. Presently, it is still possible to observe rare species as well as the impacts of century old, extensive land use.

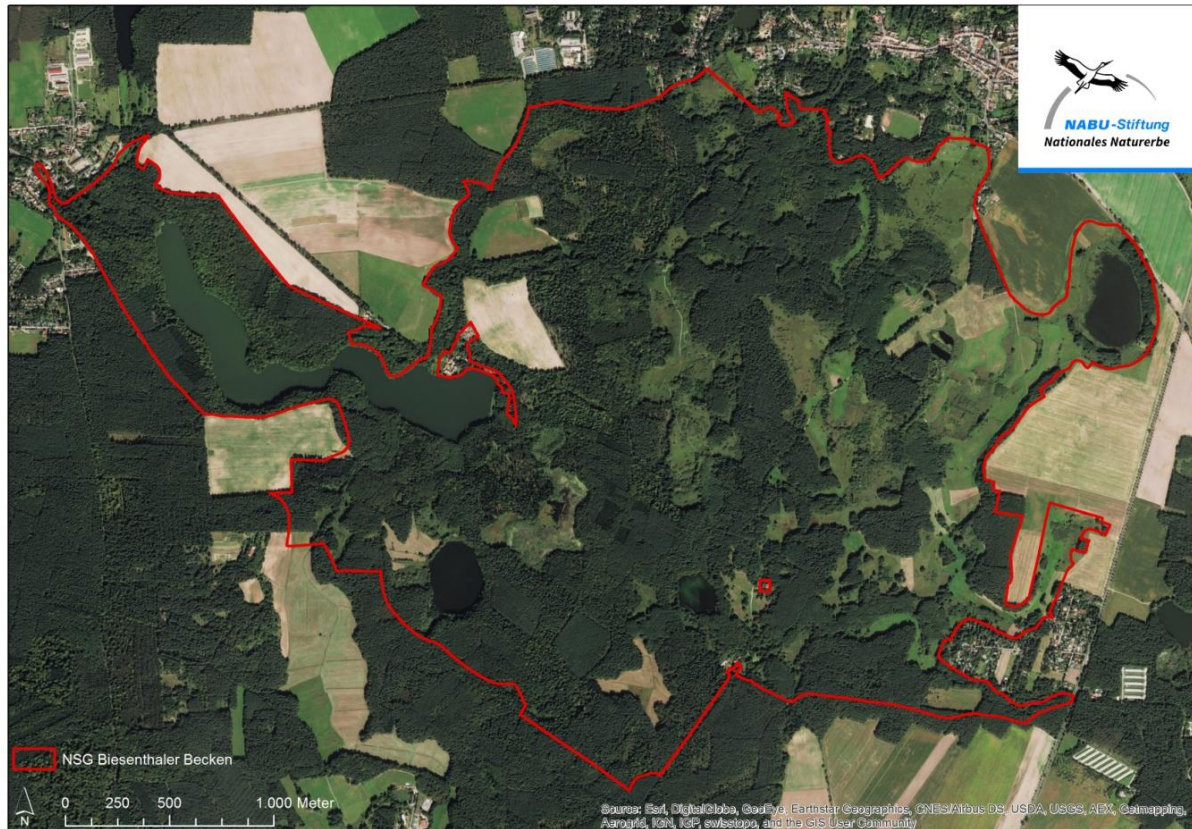
An executive order regulates the economic and social activities within the nature reserve and sets nature protection targets to guarantee a sustainable and extensive cultivation, in order to keep the pressure low. Restrictions to cultivation, ploughing, drainage, infrastructure and trespass rights limit human activities in the area. Nonetheless, several actions are still allowed: hunting, fishing and agricultural and forestry operations can be performed. Forestry plays an especially important role, as the area not only contains near natural forests but also commercial forest sections where reforestation with domestic tree species is carried out after felling. Farming activities bordering protected areas are restricted. Also, the area is valuable for scientific research purposes – geological and ecosystem. The landscape of the basin, formed as glacier tip, is unique in Brandenburg and provides geological evidence of an ice-age landscape development and documents the vegetation history of the actively growing peat.

The NABU Foundation owns parts of the nature reserve. Its management seeks the conservation and improvement of the habitat quality. Grasslands and pastures are only leased with environmental safeguards, so an environmentally friendly cultivation is guaranteed. The agreement to lease fishing rights is also accompanied by strong restrictions; in fact, fishing in waterside areas is forbidden.

Moreover, Biesenthaler Becken is known and enjoyed for trekking, cycling and horseback riding, especially by day trippers from Berlin. Stated aims of the Private Nature Reserve do not include tourism aspirations. Visitor entrance is restricted.

NABU properties land use distribution: Agriculture: 70,76 ha; Forest conversion: 136,62 ha; Wilderness: 229,19 ha; Fishing: 9,31 ha; Others: 3,83 ha.

The project sites are located within the Biesenthaler Becken nature reserve. The 15.5 hectares of bog forests are drained by ditches, which lead to peat degradation and gradual conversion of pines and beech tree species, which are not typical for peatland habitats.



*Satellite image of the NABU owned area (1.000 ha). The project sites consist of 3 small areas within the nature reserve, covering a total of 15,5 ha.*

### 1.2. Local stakeholders:

- Neighbours – 2 private landowners
- Residents of neighbouring communities – Biesenthal, Rüdnitz, Lanke und Ladeburg
- Local associations (e.g., Biesenthaler Fishing Association, Nature Friends Biesenthal, Citizens Forum Local Agenda 21 Biesenthal, etc.),
- Restoration and Planning companies (e.g., Water Board Association)
- Peat consumers – gardening
- Local decision-makers – the municipalities of Biesenthal, Rüdnitz, Lanke and Ladeburg, department of Biesenthal-Barnim
- Tourists

### 1.3. Impacts of project actions:

As stated in the baseline ‘Socio-economic Impact Assessment’ (SEIA) from 2018, the project impacts *“are expected to be generally low at the local level, due to the isolated nature of the project sites, whereby visitor entrance is restricted”*. Although this expectation was generally confirmed, it is still worth assessing the impact observed from the implementation of the project measures.

The project communication measures with a local impact consisted of dissemination of informational material (e.g., project leaflet), instalment of information panel on the site, and a running project website in German, as well as the setup of a project webpage in the NABU website, which has a greater dissemination reach than the project website: [Moorschutz-Projekt: LIFE Peat Restore - NABU](#).



The information panel was installed on a path frequented by local residents, mostly for recreational purposes (e.g., hiking and cycling) and for transit between villages. The information panel explained the key role of peatlands in climate change mitigation and the aim of LIFE Peat Restore (LPR) to rewet 5,300 ha of degraded peatlands across five EU countries.

As stated in the Baseline SEIA, *“locally, the instalment of information panels near the project areas is the most direct and likely most effective method to reach local residents...”* Considering the number of residents who use the path at a daily or weekly basis in addition to sporadic users from Berlin, it is assumed that in the past four years since the instalment of the sign 1,000 to 5,000 people were exposed to the information panel.

Many of these residents and tourists may not have known that the area was in fact a forested peatland area. It is assumed that the sign has increased local awareness of the existence of the peatland area and its importance for climate. Additionally, the Baseline SEIA recognised the usefulness of the project website to reach local audiences. It is assumed that a portion of the visits to the project website site were by interested residents who saw the website address provided in the informational panel. According to google analytics (Annex I), there were around 10,000 visits to the webpages in German (e.g., news webpage, project site, etc.) from 01.07.2017 to 31.12.2021.

The restoration measures had a direct economic impact through the contracting of a variety of services: vegetation surveys and mapping of the sites, direct greenhouse gas measurements (in collaboration with Humboldt University and a self-employed professional), development of technical designs for the restoration plans, the filling of ditches and dam building, and biomass removal. In total, 226.955,59 Euros were spent in local and regional economy for the work on the project site.

Moreover, the project implementation strengthened ties with local and regional stakeholders (e.g., Water Board Association). In addition to the development of the technical plans, the Water Board Association provided meaningful support during site visits (e.g., TMO visit in 2019) and regional events and meetings, like the photo exhibition described in the next section. As the owner of the project area, it is very important for NABU to maintain positive relationship with the local actors.

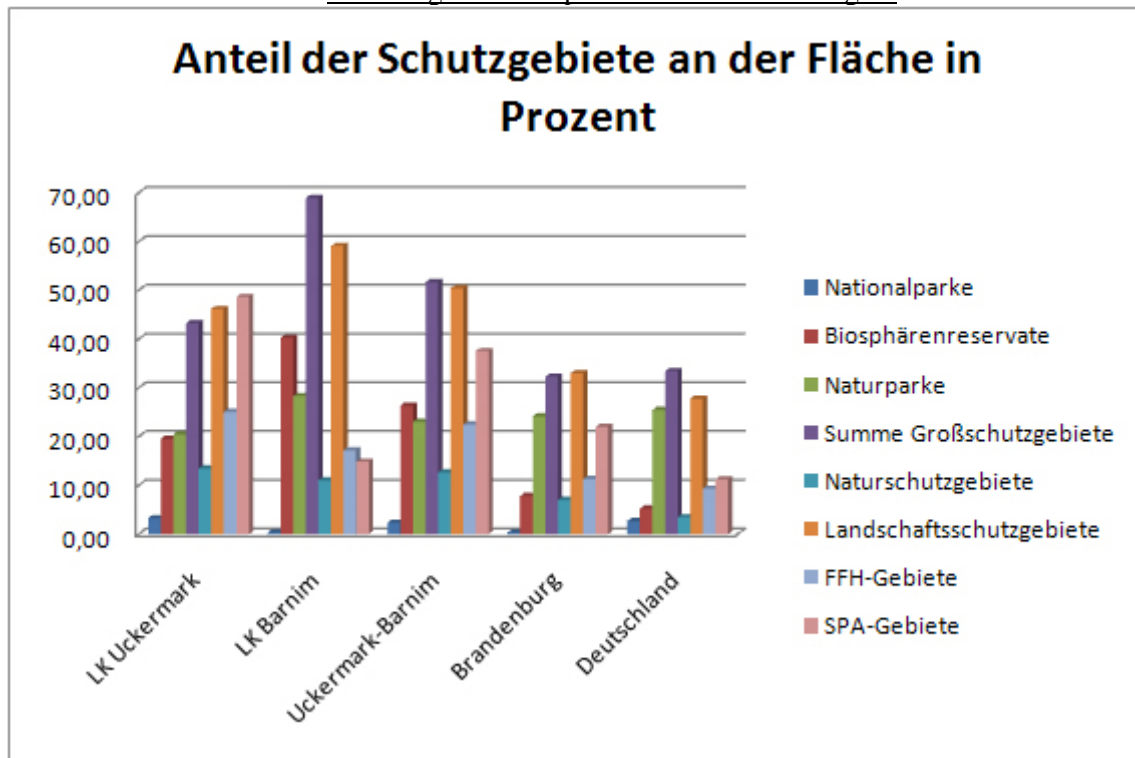


## 2. District of Barnim

### 2.1. Regional socio-economy:

Barnim contains 25 municipalities, extending over 1.495 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 45,7% is covered by forests and 5,1% by water. Large sections of the county are under conservation protection status, most famous the biosphere reserve Schorfheide-Chorin.

Percentage share of protected areas in the region



1.National park, 2.Biosphere Reserve, 3.Nature park, 4.Total large conservation areas, 5. Landscape protected areas, 6. Fauna Flora Habitat areas, 7.Special Protection Areas

The number of residents increased in the last 30 years by 177.411 people (Effective 2017), but forecasts show that a trend of decline will start by around 5% until 2025. Compared to other counties, Barnim is scarcely populated (118 residents/km<sup>2</sup>) and poorly developed; regional added value is low and there are few manufacturing businesses. The number of employments increased between 2000 and 2013, but this was not achieved by own efforts. Data show that residents benefited from the advancing offers outside the county, e.g., Berlin. A growing number of people commute to their workplaces. Nevertheless, this shows that the area is attractive as residential area, considering many commuters decide to stay. Unemployment has continued to drop since 2000 (15,7%) to just 8,8% (2013). Due to demographic trends, younger generations find jobs easier (12,7% to 9,4%), while older groups tend to be unemployed now more often (8% to 10,9%).

Low unemployment combined with high investments point to a growing economy in the region, thanks to municipalities as well as efforts from citizens and business associations. The economic structure of the Barnim County is shaped by small and medium-sized companies. Innovative and technology-oriented companies, including eco-technologies, are a growing component of the regional growth in Eberswalde.

For Brandenburg, food industry and tourism are important components of the regional economy, contributing to added value and employment. The economic output is low compared to the rest of the



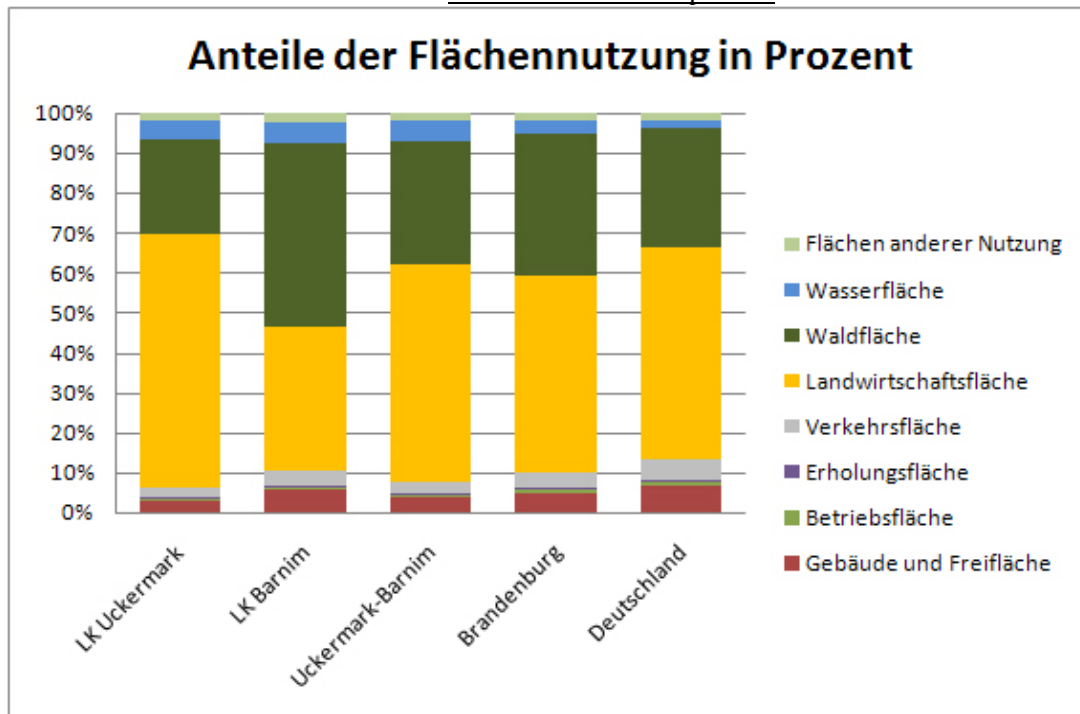


state; the GDP p.p. of 46.700 Euro per employed person (2011) is ranked 6th (state Brandenburg: 52.715 Euro). The sectors of metal processing, wood and furniture industry as well as construction industry are strongly represented, due to a long commercial tradition. However, while the production sector represents 19% of the gross added value, much lower than in the state (27%), the service sector is more significant than in Brandenburg (71%) with 80%. Moreover, eco-tourism and wellness sectors are growing, although agriculture and forestry is still important in rural areas.

The primary industries – agriculture, forestry, and fishing – became clearly less important since 1990, mainly due to decreasing employment provision. Nevertheless, forestry is still today one of the traditional strengths of Barnim District; such activity is based on the extensive woodlands belonging to the Schorfheide-Chorin Biosphere Reserve and the Barnim Nature Park. In many villages stable agricultural businesses are an important factor for rural development. More than 17% of the agricultural surfaces are cultivated organically (state Brandenburg 10,7%). One of the drivers for this progress is the certification label of the biosphere reserve Schorfheide-Chorin, which promotes marketing and networking in line with nature conservation. Currently, 80 producers are registered at the label, 35 of whom are located in Barnim. The link between regional products and services – including culture, nature, gastronomy and tourism – offers opportunities which exceed the biospheres borders.

The region provides high potential in several business sectors, such as renewable energies, wood industry, tourism and health. In fact, tourism in Barnim is a growing sector. Many lakes and vast forests provide high recreational value, which is enjoyed especially by Berlin residents. Since 1993 the number of overnight stays has doubled, around 10m daily visitors and 1,6m overnight guests arrive in the region every year. Accordingly, the number of employees in this sector increased in the last years, currently about 9,500 people work here.

Share of land use in percent



1.Areas of other use, 2.Water surfaces, 3.Woodlands, 4.Farm land, 5.Traffic area, 6.Recreational area, 7.Operating area, 8.Buildings and open spaces

The regional economy explores its nature potential, based on nature tourism: water related activities, as well as trekking and cycling. Additionally, the range of studies offered by the University Eberswalde further explores the nature potential of the region, shown clearly by its most relevant faculties: of forestry



and wood techniques, landscape conservation and economics as well as organic farming and sustainable tourism.

In 2007 the local action group LAG Barnim collaborated to create a new strategy for regional development as part of the LEADER-contest of the state Brandenburg. The region was approved as official LEADER-region by the EU for 2007-2013 as well as for 2014-2020. Projects supporting goals of the programme will be funded, e.g.: creation of regional added value and jobs, nature and culture, tourism and visitors, as well as conservation and maintenance of culturally formed landscapes.

To conserve its landscape and thereby its attractiveness as living and working areas, the County incorporated a Zero-Emissions-Plan in the policy strategy in 2008. Central focus points of policy implementation are energy generation, energy efficiency, education and research, as well know-how-growth and stimulating innovations. The County is exploring the region's potential and resources to find ways to use recycling and waste material as energy sources.

## 2.2. Regional stakeholders:

- Barnim Nature Park: 750 m2 in Berlin and Brandenburg, including Administration, Visitor Centre and the Barnim Nature Park Tourism Association
- Other relevant nature reserves and protected areas (e.g. Biosphere Reserve Schorfheide-Chorin, National Park Unteres Odertal)
- Regional associations (e.g., Nature Friends, Barnim Farmers Association, Barnim action group (regional development - LEADER))
- Tourists
- Local projects: Bernau.Pro.Klima (climate adaption project in the county)
- Regional environmental authority: Barnim nature conservation authority
- Science and Research Institutions: Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, Centre for Economics and Ecosystem Management
- Regional companies: Barnim metal network, Economic and Tourism Development Company Ltd., Barnim Entrepreneurs association
- Tourist information centres: Wandlitz, Biesenthal
- Peat consumers – gardening, horticulture

## 2.3. Impacts of project actions:

LIFE Peat Restore (LPR) reached regional audiences through various channels:

- Dissemination of informational material (e.g., project leaflet) – physically during events organised, as well as virtually via the project website and online events
  - o NABU at Work (06.2020 and 06.2021) – online presentations and Q&A about peatlands and the project with Eberswalde University students
  - o Presentation about the project measures in village of Biesenthal (20.11.2019)
- Art Week Berlin – NABU organised PlanetArt – Festival of Nature (09.2019)
  - o [LIFE Peat Restore promotet Moore im Rahmen der Art Week - LIFE Peat Restore \(life-peat-restore.eu\)](https://life-peat-restore.eu)
- The photo exhibition 'Restoring Peatlands for Climate':
  - o Inauguration event in cooperation with Barnim District and Eberswalde University (21.10.2019): [Die internationale Fotoausstellung „Moorrenaturierung – Ein Beitrag für den Klimaschutz“ feierte ihre Deutschland-Premiere in Eberswalde - LIFE Peat Restore \(life-peat-restore.eu\)](https://life-peat-restore.eu)



- Exhibition hosted by the Barnim District (21-30.10.2019) (<https://life-peat-restore.eu/blog/fotoausstellung-life-peat-restore-im-landkreis-barnim/>)
- Closing event hosted by the Embassy of Estonia (15.01.2020): [Moore sind wie Spreewaldgurken – Podiumsdiskussion und Fotoausstellung in Berlin - LIFE Peat Restore \(life-peat-restore.eu\)](#)
- The project website ([LIFE Peat Restore - Klimaschutz durch Wiedervernässung zerstörter Moore \(life-peat-restore.eu\)](#)) and NABU website ([Moorschutz-Projekt: LIFE Peat Restore - NABU](#))
- The publication of two 2 films (length: 20 minutes) during the Final Conference (20-21.10.2021)
- Posts and tweets in NABU's Instagram, Facebook and Twitter accounts throughout the project duration

Before the global pandemic, NABU organised several events with audiences from the Barnim District. The inauguration of the photo exhibition on October 21, 2019, sparked especial interest, as evidenced by the articles published in the local newspapers:

- Ökologie, Wiederbelebung eines CO<sub>2</sub>-Speichers bei Biesenthal - MOZ.de (24.11.2019)
- Märkische Onlinezeitung, Barnim-Echo, Moor-Belebung bei Biesenthal (30.11.2019)

There was a clear impact from the event, where in addition to the photo exhibition, there was a series of presentations about the project measures and NABU's nature reserve. As a result of the audience's significant engagement with the presentations, a follow up meeting was organised on November 20, 2019, to explain in more detail the planned restoration measures to concerned citizens.

The organisation of the exhibition in different regional venues promoted greater visibility for the project and peatlands in general. Due to the variety of venues, the photo exhibition reached a significant and diverse audience, ranging from university students, interested regional citizens, as well as NABU employees from all over Germany's regional offices. Further informational material was distributed during the Inauguration event in Eberswalde, and was made available throughout the project duration in the Blumberger Mühle office, which is only around 50 km from project sites.

Moreover, the Biesenthaler Becken site was highlighted during NABU's social media series, 'Moore & COP#26 cancelled', from November 9 until 20. During that period, short videos showcasing the project site and restoration measures were posted on NABU's national and international Instagram and Facebook accounts. The videos included drone footage of the sites, as well as NABU's national coordinator showing the restoration measures carried out in Biesenthaler Becken. The social media series was a great success, with 8 posts from Facebook and Instagram reaching more than 16,000 views.

Following the covid-19 restrictions, LPR remained active through the organisation and participation in online events. Considering the online events organised had a reach beyond the region, their impacts will be assessed in the next segment. Nevertheless, it is worth highlighting here the presentations of LPR in the NABU at Work week organised by NABU for students from the Eberswalde University. The positive interaction with students resulted in the hiring of one of the participants as an intern to support LPR's activities.

As stated in the Baseline SEIA, *"the objectives of LIFE Peat Restore are in line with the socio-economic goals of the Barnim district and will contribute to their Zero Emissions Plan and the region's added value"*. According to the results of the monitoring activities – GHG emissions data collected through GEST estimates as well as direct measurements – it is estimated that the project contributed by reducing the GWP in the site by 6.6 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq /ha/yr.





Finally, as stated in the Baseline SEIA, *“on the long-term, the GHG sequestered by the restored peatland area will also contribute to the emission’s performance of Barnim District. Additionally, the project will have some impact – proportionate to its small project areas – through emissions avoided, as without the restoration of the project areas, significant GHG from the degraded peatland would continue to be emitted”*. These assumptions are confirmed by the results of the GHG emissions data collected through GEST estimates as well as direct measurements, which are displayed as a graph in the next section.



### **3. Germany national economy**

#### **3.1. National socio-economy:**

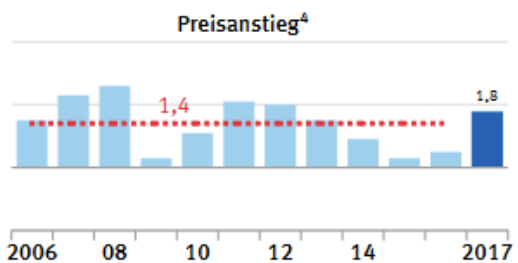
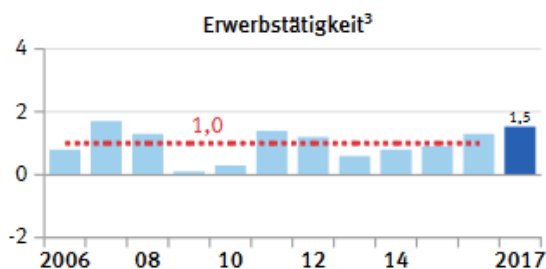
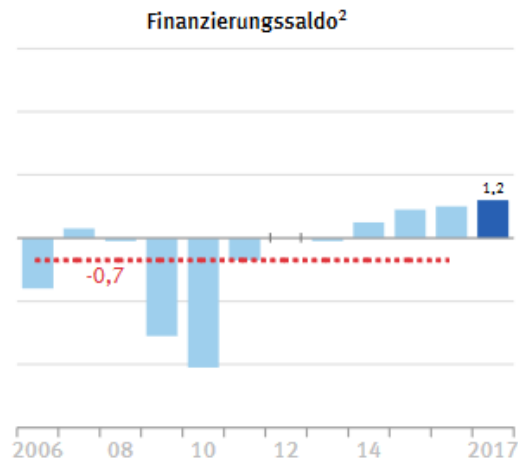
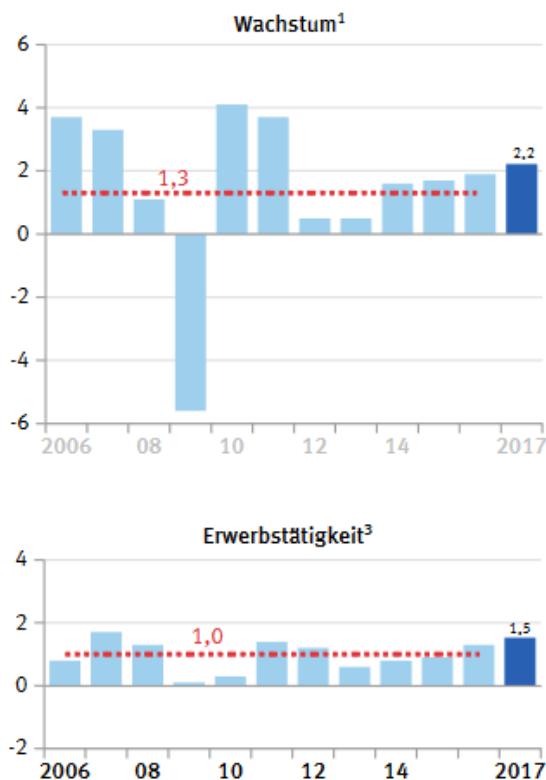
Forecasts on the development of the German economy estimate an increase between 1.5% and 2.5% for 2018 and 2019.

#### **Macroeconomic data for Germany**

##### **Gesamtwirtschaftliche Konjunkturdaten für Deutschland**

In %

..... Durchschnitt 2006–2016



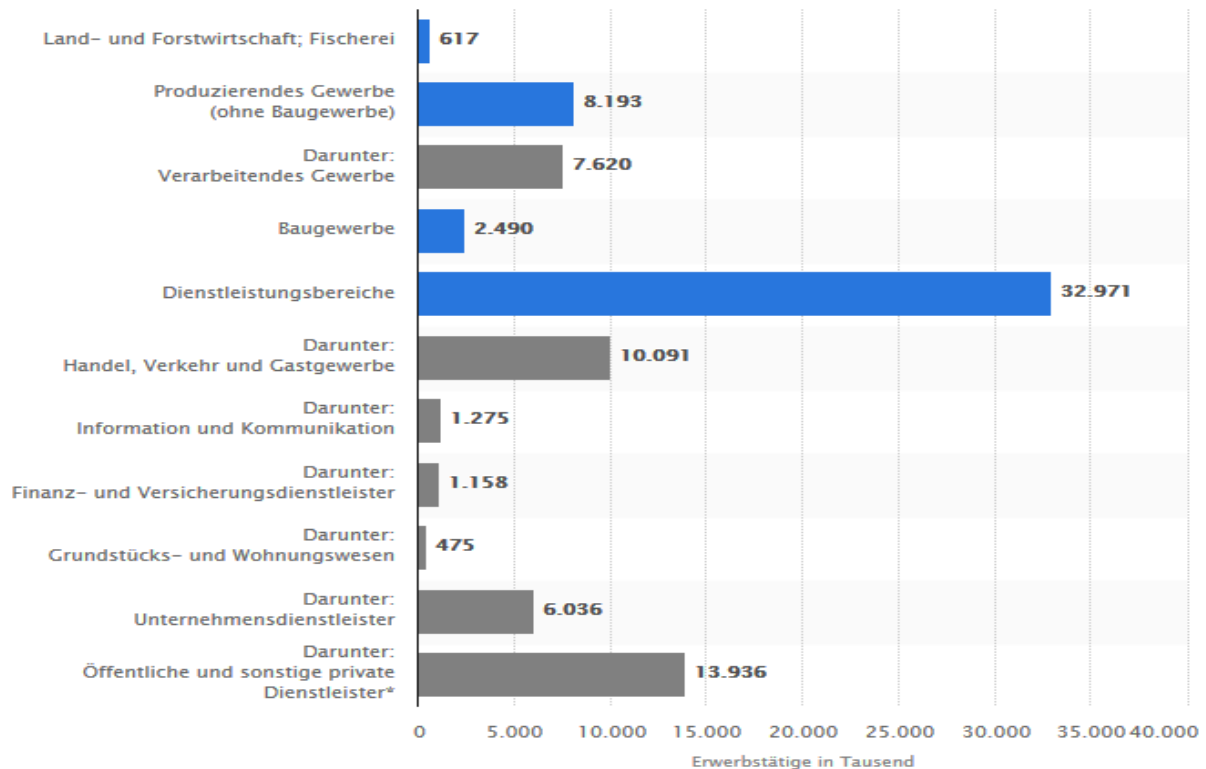
**Clockwise:** *Growth<sup>1</sup>, Fiscal balance<sup>2</sup>, Gainful activity<sup>3</sup>, Rise in prices<sup>4</sup>*

An overview of German national economy shows that in 2017 nearly 70% of the German GDP (2363,4 bio. EUR) was the output of service industries, like public services, business and financial services, housing as well as trade, traffic and hospitality. Production contributes with 25,6%, construction with 4,9% and agriculture and forestry with 0,7%. In 2016, 3,266,429 companies were registered, most of them in the region of Nordrhein-Westfalen (668,241), and the trade industry (631,131).

The unemployment rate has declined in the last ten years, to 5,7% in 2017. Most of the 44,27m employed people worked in the service sector (74,5%), followed by production industries (18,5%), construction (5,6%) and agriculture and forestry (1,4%).

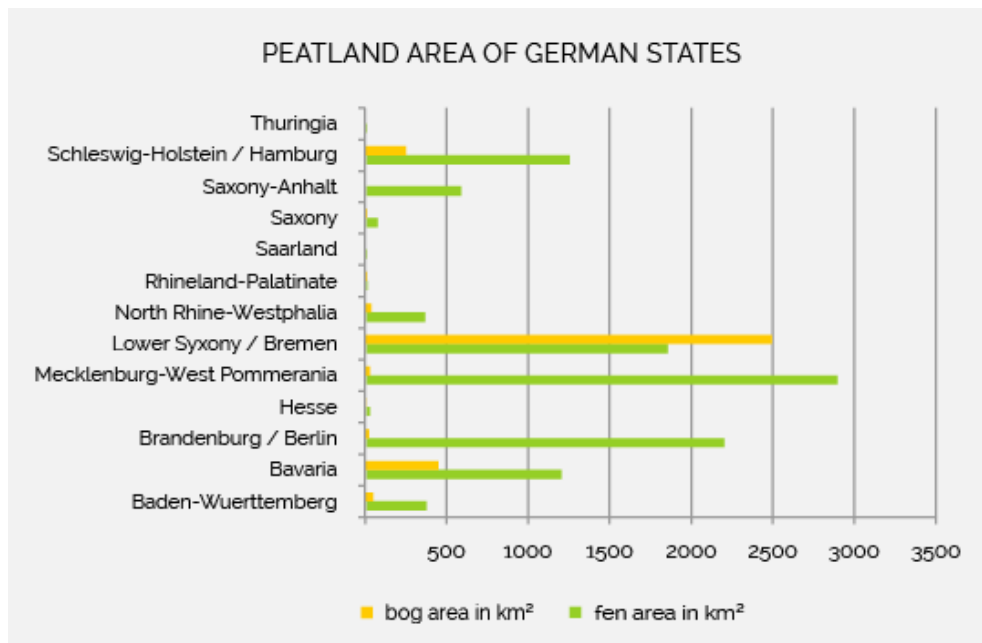


### Employment (in thousands)



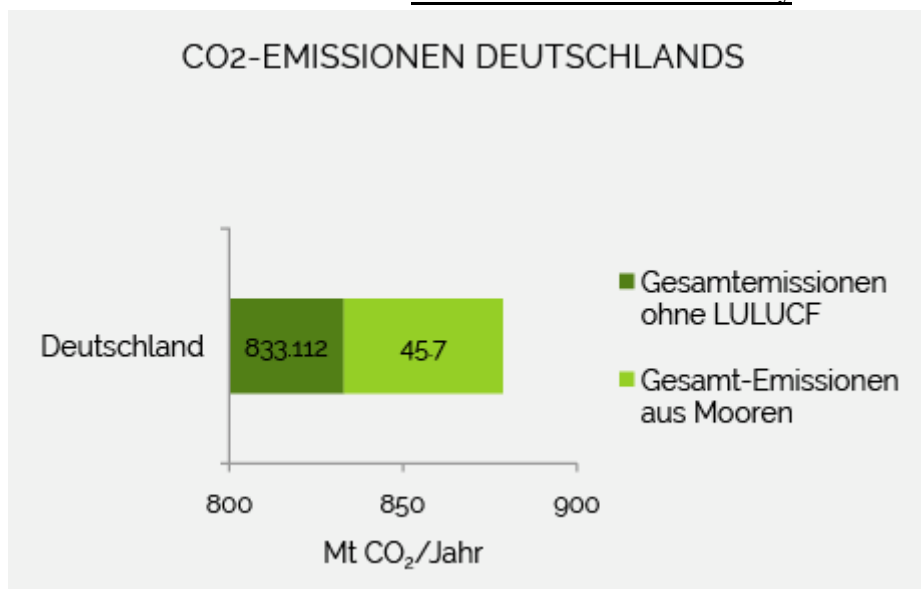
1.Agriculture and Forestry, 2.Manufacturing industry (excl. Construction), 3.Including manufacturing industry, 4.Construction, 5.Service sectors, 6.Trade, transport, hotel and restaurant industry, 7.Information and communication, 8.Financial and insurance service provider, 9.Real estate and housing, 10.Enterprise service provider, 11.Public and other service providers

Germany covers a surface of approximately 360,000 km<sup>2</sup>, of which more than half (51,1% [2016]) is used for agriculture, forests cover 29,7% and water 2,3%. Settlement and traffic areas claim 13,8%, consisting besides others of 1,7% (of total German surfaces) industry, 0,4% mining and 1,4% for leisure and recreation. The rest of the area is covered by wasteland, extraction land as well as 811 km<sup>2</sup> peat and 609 km<sup>2</sup> heath. The agricultural ground decreased in the last years on a small scale, mainly due to growing settlement and traffic activities.



The north and south-east regions of Germany still have relatively significant peatland areas. The majority of German peatlands are fens, although bogs can be found in the foothills of the Alps and in the north-western part of Germany. Today these are safeguarded as conservation areas. More than 95 % of Germany's former peatlands have been drained, which means that only 5% of peatland in Germany are in a near-natural or re-natured status.

#### CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Germany



*Total emissions without LULUCF and Total emissions from bogs*

From a climate perspective, degraded peatlands are very relevant, as they are a continuous source of GHG emissions, releasing around 41 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>eq per year and accounting for approximately 39 % of emissions from German agriculture and 4.3 % of Germany's gross total annual GHG emissions.

In 2017, Germany emitted 904,7m tons of greenhouse gases – 4,7m tons less than the year before. Germany is still one of the world's largest CO<sub>2</sub> emitters. Although emissions in the energy sector



declined, transport and industry emissions have increased. This indicates that Germany needs new measures to reach its climate goals, in addition to existing European laws. There have been movements in Germany's Federal states in this direction. For example, Germany's National Biodiversity Strategy (NBS) includes targets and measures for the restoration of degraded ecosystems.

### 3.2. National stakeholders:

- Peat extracting companies
- Peat consumers – agriculture, growing media companies and forestry
- Peat consumers – gardening, horticulture
- Experts
- Politicians involved in Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF)
- Decision-makers – EU and National level

### 3.3. Impacts of project actions:

LIFE Peat Restore reached national, as well as international, audiences through various communication activities and channels:

- Dissemination of information material (e.g., project leaflet, 'Leave peat in peatlands', Restoration Practice book, etc.) – physically during events organised, as well as virtually via the project website and online events
  - o LIFE Peat Restore's Final Conference (online): [NABU Main Entrance - EXPO-IP](#)
  - o Photo exhibition – Peatlands for climate – and Round-table discussion on the future of peatland policy in northern Europe hosted by the Embassy of Estonia (15.01.2020): [Peatlands are like pickled gherkins – panel discussion and photo exhibition in Berlin - LIFE Peat Restore \(life-peat-restore.eu\)](#)
  - o Round-table discussion with the peat industry – Beyond peat extraction (online): [SAVE THE DATE: Round table - moving beyond peat extraction - LIFE Peat Restore \(life-peat-restore.eu\)](#)
  - o E-learning tool
  - o NABU newsletters – Naturschutzheute and NABU peatland programme
  - o COP26 event – GPI's YouTube channel: [COP26 | Protecting and harnessing the power of peat in the fight against climate change - YouTube](#)
- The project website ([LIFE Peat Restore - Klimaschutz durch Wiedervernässung zerstörter Moore \(life-peat-restore.eu\)](#)) and NABU website ([Moorschutz-Projekt: LIFE Peat Restore - NABU](#))
- Posts and tweets in NABU's Instagram, Facebook and Twitter accounts
- A variety of informational material were distributed to different targeted audience, namely, peat consumers, peatland experts and policymakers)
  - o 'Peatlands across Europe: Innovation and Inspiration' Booklet
  - o 'Leave peat in peatlands' Booklet
  - o Best Practice Book for Peatland Restoration and Climate Change Mitigation
  - o Handbook for assessment of GHG emissions from peatlands
  - o First data on application of GEST approach in the Baltic region: vegetation mapping of pilot peatlands
  - o The publication of two 2 films (length: 20 minutes) during the Final Conference (20-21.10.2021): [NABU Publications - EXPO-IP](#)
- Several project outputs are available in a variety of mediums, including the virtual Peatland Pavilion hosted by Global Peatlands Initiative
  - o Final conference: [NABU Publications - EXPO-IP](#)





- Virtual Peatland Pavilion: <https://storage.net-fs.com/hosting/6147066/9/>
- Project website
- NABU website
- Interreg's Care Peat project Youtube channels: [Peatland Round Table - moving beyond peat extraction - YouTube](#)

In 2021, a webpage about LIFE Peat Restore was created in NABU's domain, in English (<https://en.nabu.de/topics/ecosystems/life-peat-restore.html>) as well as in German (<https://www.nabu.de/natur-und-landschaft/moore/weltweit/life-peat-restore.html>). From May to December 2021, the German version received 845 visits and, from January to December 2021 the English version received 591 visits. These webpages will remain active and open to visits.

Based on the project website analytics, the project also contributed to keeping the peatland momentum going at a national and international level; by participating and organising peatland events, regularly posting news articles and publishing informational material, as well as taking part in social media campaigns. From June 2017 to February 2022, the project website received a total of 67.133 visits. It is also worth highlighting the high number of downloads from 01.07.2017 to 28.02.2022: 2.689. This is especially meaningful, due to the EU Data Protection Law which allows visitors the option to block statistical tracking of the website traffic. It is presumed that there were more visitors than is reflected in the website's statistical analysis.

Also, LPR's increased presence in social media lead to greater visibility of the project at a national and international level, raising awareness to the efforts to restore peatlands in Germany. As expected, the posts and tweets from NABU's Instagram, Facebook and Twitter accounts throughout the project duration reached national and international audiences, raising the awareness of peatland's importance for the climate, as well as the visibility of the project.

In addition to the social media posts described in the previous section, NABU also participated in an international campaign in anticipation of the UNFCCC COP 26: [Global Peatlands Initiative | Global Peat Press Project \(GP3\)](#). Through the participation of organisations throughout Europe and beyond, the Global Peat Press Project (GP3) campaign brought together international partners to highlight the importance of peatlands as vulnerable but valuable ecosystems. The GP3 press release reached 433 press and ministries representatives as well as regional NABU members. The press release on [www.en.NABU.de](http://www.en.NABU.de) was viewed 123 times: [NABU - Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V. /](#). Moreover, NABU's GP3 related tweets were viewed by 6.059 people, along with 123 interactions. In Instagram, the views of the story's posts ranged from 6.907 to 9.800 views.

In regards to the impact of events organised, the panel discussion on the future of peatland policy and the accompanying photo exhibition hosted by the Embassy of Estonia on January 15, 2020, was a great success. The interest in the event and the number of guests exceeded expectations; the embassy reached full capacity. More than 90 experts from science, politics, and nature conservation, as well as representatives of the EU Commission and governments from the project countries participated in the panel discussions. After organising the Exhibition at regional and local venues in 2019, the closing event at the Embassy aimed to reach a national and international audience.

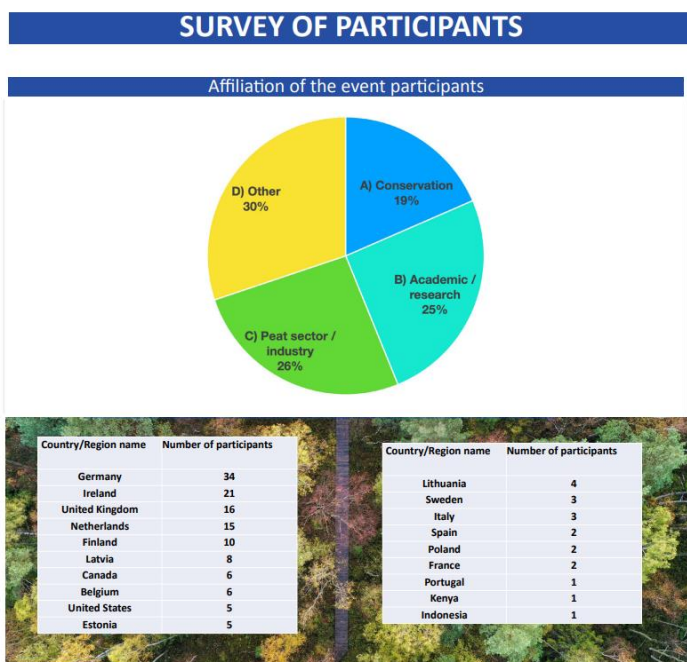
With the support of NABU'S communication team, further posts about the Embassy event were published in the NABU social media, significantly expanding the dissemination impact of the event. Over 8,000 users were reached through posts in NABU's Facebook account over the period of January



and February, following the event, with over 120 likes; and more than 12,000 users of NABU's Instagram account, with over 3,300 likes. Also, the number of visitors to NABU's blog to read the account of the event exceeded 500 (<https://blogs.nabu.de/moore-sind-wie-spreewaldgurken/>). Finally, there were 33 retweets and 121 likes of 2 posts about the event from the NABU president's twitter account.

In 2020, LPR developed an e-learning tool in collaboration with a NABU project (SDG campaign with BMZ) to teach about the various facets of peatlands to beginner level audience, with special focus on climate and sustainability. The e-course is permanently located in the SDG's project landing page ([www.NABU.de/action](http://www.NABU.de/action)). From 01.01.2021 to 06.12.2021 there were 54 users\* with 116 accesses to the e-course.

The project contributed to the national discussion on the phase out of peat in Germany, as well as across the EU. In addition to promoting a dialogue with associations like 'Responsibly Produced Peat' and Latvian Peat Association, LIFE Peat Restore also organised a round-table discussion with the peat industry. The online event was considered a great success, having reached over 100 participants, mainly from EU countries, and from across the spectrum of affiliation as seen in the survey results. Additionally, a written summary of the event was disseminated in several venues.



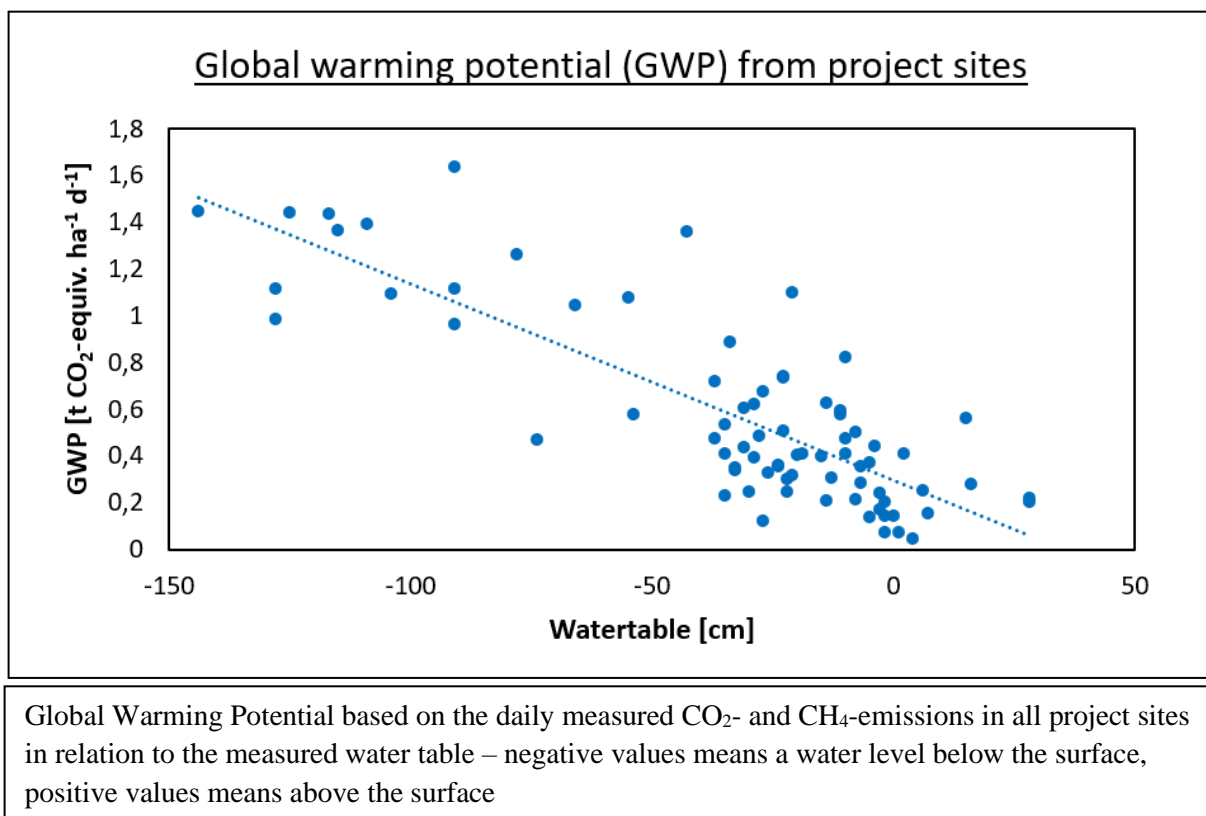
Also, the Final Conference contributed to the national and international dialogue on peatland restoration strategies and policy. The online event was able to reach an average of 700 people during the 2-day event, where the project results were presented by each beneficiary, in addition to other key peatland issues presented and discussed by invited experts and keynote speakers. The panel discussions on the second day were especially useful to continue the national conversation on peatland restoration at ground level and political level.

Following up on the success of the Final Conference, NABU presented the results and lessons learned of the project during the COP26 in Glasgow. The project was highlighted in two presentations in sessions hosted by Eurosite – *'Peatland restoration and climate change mitigation challenge: open*



meeting of Eurositi Care-Peat Restoration and Management Group’ – and GPI – ‘Dialogues towards a European Peatland Initiative’. The involvement of LIFE Peat Restore in COP26 expanded the impact of the communication activities; raising awareness of the role of peatlands in climate change mitigation and increasing visibility of the project and its outputs, which are also available in the Virtual Peatland Pavilion.

Finally, as stated in the Baseline SEIA from 2018, the objectives of LPR are in line with the goals of the German government to reduce GHG emissions. Variations to the Global warming potential (GWP) were measured and impacts were calculated with the application of the GEST-approach, as well as direct chamber measurements. The results clearly demonstrated the positive impact rewetting measures have on the GWP; whereby higher water table levels will generally lead to a corresponding reduced GWP. However, in some cases, if the water level is above the ground surface the GWP can increase again for a few years, due to higher methane emissions.



Moreover, the GHG emissions data collected contributed to strengthen the techniques to measure and estimate GHG emissions. LIFE Peat Restore participated in different events to share and exchange the experience gained from implementing the monitoring techniques:

- GHG project expert presentation at the International Peatland Congress in 2021
- GHG project expert presentation at the Workshop - Technologies and techniques peatland research in 2020
- GHG project expert presentation at Wetscape conference in 2019
- Workshop of the working group ‘Soil gases’ of the German Soil Science Society in 2018
- GHG project expert as well as each AB expert presentations in the project’s Final Conference



- GERMANY									
	INDICATORS								
	DIRECT					INDIRECT			
Units	Economic contribution	Ecosystem regulating services (GHG emissions, water quality, biodiversity)	Awareness raising	Scientific knowledge	Social capital	Ecosystem supporting services	Ecosystem provisioning services	Fire/flood prevention	Ecosystem cultural services
Stakeholder and Duty holder involvement			39		39				
Information boards/panels	1		1	1	1				
Employment (Individuals/companies hired by the project)	21								
Amount spent (€) <sup>1</sup>	€444.375,75								
Number of jobs (FTE and PTE)	7								
Number of events and conferences organised / participated	33		33	33	33				
Number of participants in Events / Conferences			2.872	2.872	2.872				

<sup>1</sup> The sum of costs from external assistance, consumables, travels, other costs



<b>Number of hectares restored</b>		15.5 ha				15.5 ha	15.5 ha	15.5 ha	15.5 ha
<b>GWP reduction<sup>2</sup></b> (tons CO <sub>2</sub> -eq /yr)		6.6t <sup>3</sup>							
<b>Website - downloads<sup>4</sup></b> 01/06/2017- 28/02/2022			2,689	2,689	2,689				
<b>Website - visits<sup>5</sup></b> (to website in German) 01/07/2017- 28/02/2022			10,631	10,631	10,631				
<b>Website - visits<sup>6</sup></b> (to website in English) 01/07/2017- 28/02/2022			20,628	20,628	20,628				
<b>Number of views of Documentary film<sup>7</sup></b>			NA	NA	NA				
<b>Number of peat related industries contacted</b>			4		4				

<sup>2</sup> Reduction by tons CO<sub>2</sub>-eq/ha/yr.

<sup>3</sup> Calculations are based on the difference between the GEST scenarios with wood biomass.

<sup>4</sup> Due to the recent EU Data Protection Law (GDDR), which allows visitors the option to block statistical tracking of the website traffic; it is assumed the figures may be higher.

<sup>5</sup> Due to the recent EU Data Protection Law (GDDR), which allows visitors the option to block statistical tracking of the website traffic; it is assumed the figures may be higher.

<sup>6</sup> Due to the recent EU Data Protection Law (GDDR), which allows visitors the option to block statistical tracking of the website traffic; it is assumed the figures may be higher.

<sup>7</sup> It was not possible to track the views of the project films from the different online venues it was made available.

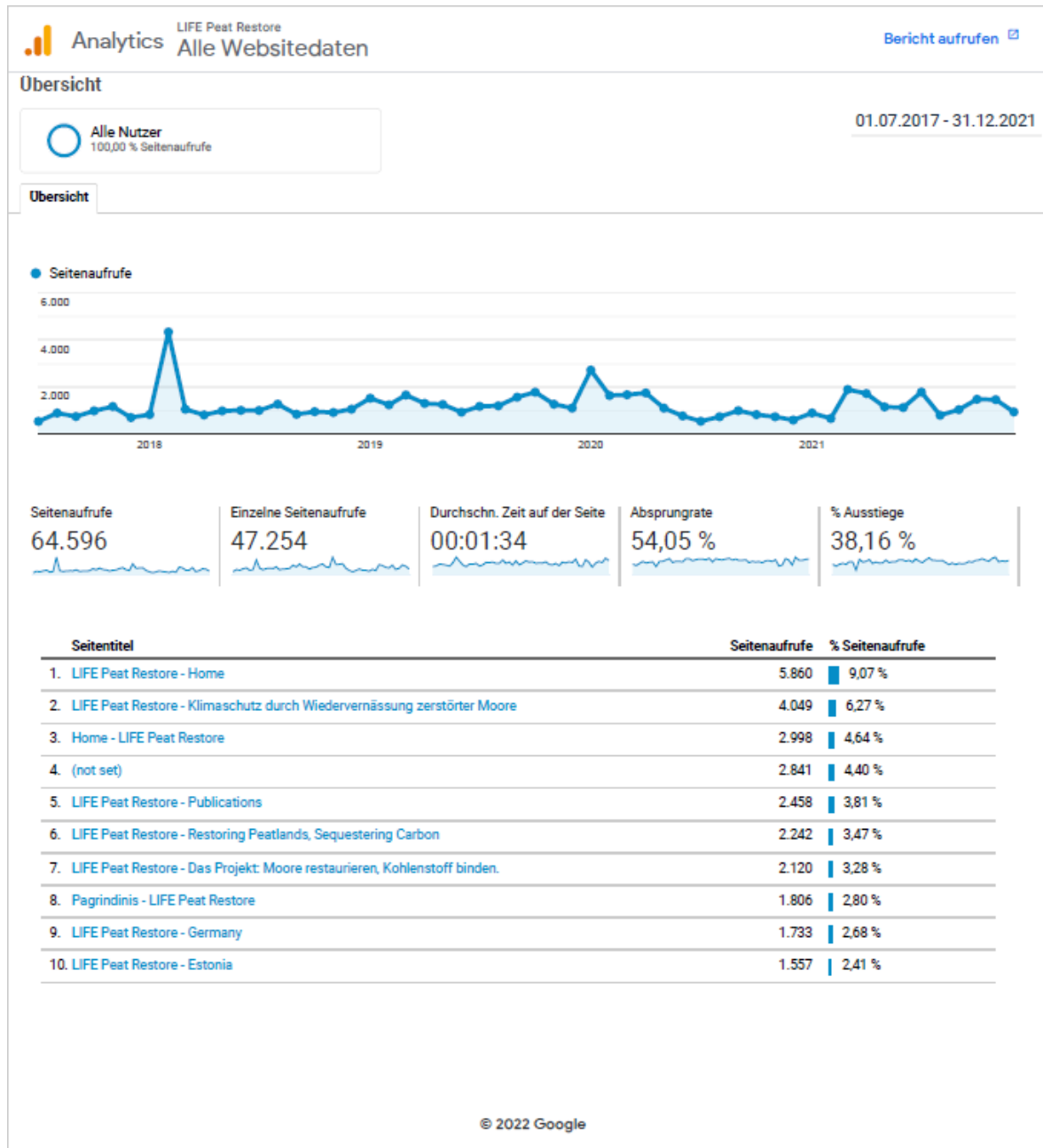




<b>Number of Print media</b>			16	16	16				
<b>Number of Publications / Reports, promotional material produced</b>			200	200	200				



## ANNEX I





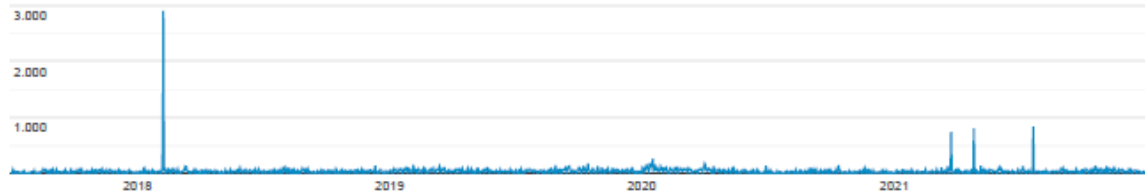
## Übersicht

Alle Nutzer  
100,00 % Seitenaufrufe

01.07.2017 - 31.12.2021

### Übersicht

#### Seitenaufrufe



Seitenaufrufe  
64.596

Einzelne Seitenaufrufe  
47.254

Durchschn. Zeit auf der Seite  
00:01:34

Absprungrate  
54,05 %

% Ausstiege  
38,16 %

Seite	Seitenaufrufe	% Seitenaufrufe
1. /	6.722	10,41 %
2. /en/	5.840	9,04 %
3. /lv/	2.993	4,63 %
4. /en/project/	2.243	3,47 %
5. /en/publications/	2.136	3,31 %
6. /lt/	1.791	2,77 %
7. /en/project/germany/	1.735	2,69 %
8. /en/project/estonia/	1.558	2,41 %
9. /en/project/latvia/	1.544	2,39 %
10. /en/project/lithuania/	1.472	2,28 %



## Wichtigste Ereignisse

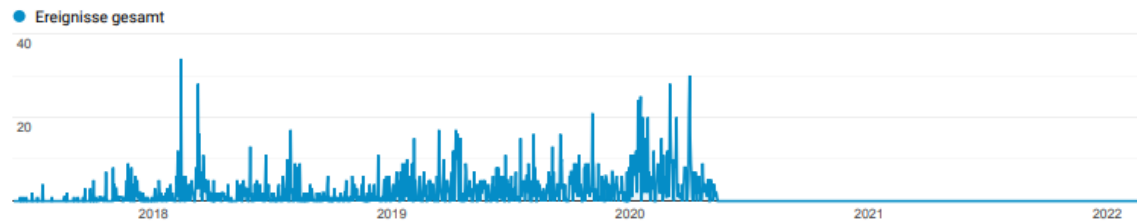


Alle Nutzer  
100,00 % Einzelne Ereignisse

01.06.2017 - 28.02.2022

### Explorer

Ereignis



Ereigniskategorie	Ereignisse gesamt	Einzelne Ereignisse	Ereigniswert	Durchschn. Wert
	<b>2.689</b> % des Gesamtwerts: 100,00 % (2.689)	<b>2.417</b> % des Gesamtwerts: 100,00 % (2.417)	<b>0</b> % des Gesamtwerts: 0,00 % (0)	<b>0,00</b> Durchn. für Datenansicht: 0,00 (0,00 %)
1. download	<b>1.597</b> (59,39 %)	<b>1.472</b> (60,90 %)	<b>0</b> (0,00 %)	<b>0,00</b>
2. outbound-link	<b>1.050</b> (39,05 %)	<b>904</b> (37,40 %)	<b>0</b> (0,00 %)	<b>0,00</b>
3. new	<b>33</b> (1,23 %)	<b>33</b> (1,37 %)	<b>0</b> (0,00 %)	<b>0,00</b>
4. mailto	<b>9</b> (0,33 %)	<b>8</b> (0,33 %)	<b>0</b> (0,00 %)	<b>0,00</b>

Zeilen 1 - 4 von 4