



RESTORING PEATLANDS FOR CLIMATE

International conference | Riga, Latvia, 28–30 June 2020



Bog pool in Madiešēnu Mire, Augstroze Nature Reserve, Latvia | Photo by Aleksandrs Galaks

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to take part in an international conference on peatlands and climate. The conference is organised by the University of Latvia within the international project [“Reduction of CO₂ emissions by restoring degraded peatlands in Northern European Lowland”](#) (LIFE Peat Restore, LIFE15 CCM/DE/000138). The aim of the conference is to bring together professionals of peatland restoration and researchers who study various aspects of peatlands, especially peatland-climate relation, to share knowledge and experience.

The conference will focus on the following TOPICS:

- role of peatlands in climate change mitigation,
- greenhouse gas measurements and indirect assessment methods and their development, with special emphasis on GEST approach,
- peatland restoration for climate and biodiversity – experiences from different countries,
- monitoring of restoration success.

The *ORAL PRESENTATIONS* will be provided by invited speakers (see the preliminary programme).

POSTER PRESENTATIONS are welcome (including 2-3 min oral presentations).

| On the first conference day, **28 June**, we will visit Ķemeri National Park, restored and self-regenerating former peat extraction areas, including a boat trip through the labyrinths of old peat extraction ponds and visit to self-regenerating cutover peatland.

| The second day, **29 June**, the main conference day, will be held in Riga, [in the Centre of Natural Sciences, University of Latvia](#).

| On the third day, **30 June**, we plan a field trip to Augstroze Nature Reserve, one of the LIFE Peat Restore peatland restoration area, one of the largest bogs in Latvia.

Funding:



The project and organising of this conference is co-financed by EU LIFE programme, Climate action sub-programme

Partners:





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REGISTRATION

To participate in the conference please fill in the **registration form until 16 March 2020**. Participants with either oral, or poster presentations are kindly asked to submit abstracts.

PARTICIPATION FEES (in euros)

- 1st day: € 85.00
Pre-conference excursion, 28 June
- 2nd day: free
Conference day, 29 June
- 3rd day: € 85.00
Post-conference excursion, 30 June
- Conference dinner: € 50.00
29 June

| Accompanying persons – the same daily rates.

| The participation fee includes lunches and coffee breaks, conference materials, conference dinner, and field excursions including transportation and guidance.

| The fee must be paid via bank transfer to the following beneficiary:

Latvijas Universitāte (University of Latvia)

VAT registration number: **LV 90000076669**

IBAN: **LV51NDEA0000082414423**

SWIFT: **NDEALV2X**

Bank: **Luminor Bank AS**

Payment remarks: **B-4146-ZP-N-330, name and surname of the participant.**

INVOICES (if needed) will be sent via email as a PDF attachment. In order to receive an invoice on behalf of a company or organisation you must state this in the registration form.

Notification of **CANCELLATION** must be sent to agnese.priede@hotmail.com. Refund of the registration fee will be granted if notification of cancellation reaches the organisers before 15 June 2020. After this date, cancellations of registration fees will not be refunded.

CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

Participants with either oral, or poster presentations are kindly asked to submit abstracts which will be summarized in abstract book. To reduce the volume of printed papers, we have decided not to produce printed version. The abstract book will be available online on the [website](#). The text of abstract can be up to 4 pages (1 page = 3,800 characters including spaces). It can contain figures, tables and references, but the entire abstract should not exceed 4 pages. Tables and graphs should be submitted separately in .xls or .xlsx format, photos and other pictures – in original files. The abstract should contain title, author(s) name(s) and affiliation, email address of corresponding author. **Deadline for abstract submission: 16 March 2020** by sending to agnese.priede@hotmail.com.

ACCOMMODATION

Participants have to organise the accommodation themselves.

QUESTIONS?

In case of questions please contact Agnese Priede, agnese.priede@hotmail.com.

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CONFERENCE VENUE

29 June 2020

University of Latvia, [Centre of Natural Sciences](#),
Jelgavas Str. 1, Riga, Latvia



PRE-CONFERENCE EXCURSION

28 June 2020

Ķemeri National Park, [Ķemeri Mire](#), restored extracted peatland. The area was used for peat extraction in the period from 1950s to 1980s, then abandoned. In 2006, it was restored by blocking ditches and raising water table. An excellent site to explore recovery of highly damaged bog ecosystem. In 2018, *Sphagnum* reintroduction experiment was carried out in one of the peat fields. The area neighbours to another peat extraction area (Labais purvs), abandoned in the 1970s. This is an excellent example of self-regenerating peatland ecosystem with rare calciphilous plant communities.



POST-CONFERENCE EXCURSION

30 June 2020

The trip will take place in [Augstroze Nature Reserve](#), Madiešēnu Bog, a large raised bog with slight drainage impacts where blocking of ditches was recently carried out. The area of the bog is more than 4,000 hectares, most of its area is intact and represents an excellent example of raised bogs in the Eastern Baltic region.

Some photos of field excursion sites [here](#).

The field trips include fairly long walks without special visitor infrastructure, therefore be ready for moderate difficulties and all kind of weather conditions!

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