



LIFE Platform Meeting

NATURE RESTORATION ON INTENSIFIED FARMLAND: innovations and best practices from the LIFE programme

Lhee, the Netherlands, 17-18 September 2019

DAY 1 – 17 September 2019

Poster set up on 16 September between 16:00 and 17:30.

REGISTRATION will be open from 08:00 on 17 September.

Morning plenary 09:00 – 13:00

09:00 – 09:05	Jean-Paul Herremans (NEEMO team)	Welcome and introduction to the event
09:05 – 09:15	Mayor Jager (Municipality of Westerveld)	Official opening by the host
09:15 – 09:30	Mr Frank Vassen (Nature Policy Unit, DG Environment)	The focus of the platform – what do we want to achieve
09:30 – 09:50	Prof Rudy van Diggelen, Antwerp University	Keynote presentation: Restoration of intensified agricultural land – state of the art
09:50 – 10:05	Host Project presentation LIFE Going up a level: Anne Boonstra (Prolander) & Anja de Vries (province Friesland)	How to translate the nature conservation objectives into restoration measures: example of Oude Willem at NP Drents-Friese Wold
10:05 – 10:20	Ms Leticia Gheysens (Natuurpunt, BE)	15 years of restoring polder grassland: from maize fields to inland saline habitat and breeding and wintering sites for geese and waders
10:20 – 10:40	Q and A session	
10:40 – 11:10	Coffee Break and Networking	
11:10 – 11:25	Mrs Zofia Filagova (BROZ, SK)	Conservation of birds in the SPA Ostrovne luky: converting arable land and grassland for bird protection (<i>Falco vespertinus</i> , <i>Anthus campestris</i> , <i>Lanius minor</i>)
11:25 – 11:40	Heinrich Belting (Lower Saxony Water Management, Coastal Defence and Nature Conservation Agency, DE)	30 years of reducing the nutrient level of intensified farmland to transfer it back into species rich wet grassland for meadow birds on 2,500 ha at Dümmer/Germany
11:40 – 11:55	Mr Peer Ravn (Amphi Consult, DK)	Large-scale farmland restoration in Denmark: objectives and techniques used
11:55 – 12:10	Jean-Paul Herremans (on behalf of Natagora, BE)	Restoration, of species rich grasslands, by simple cheap mowing is achievable if soil P content is relatively low: evidence by monitoring in LIFE Bocage



The Platform Meeting is coordinated by the Neemo external monitoring team on behalf of the European Commission Directorate General Environment and the European Agency for Small and Medium Enterprises

12:10 - 12:25	Mrs Armel Dausse (Forum des Marais Atlantiques, FR)	Wetland restoration network in Brittany – Brief presentation and Focus on the effect of a restoration from cropland to wetland on vegetation and arthropods.
12:25 – 12:35	Q and A session	
12:35 – 12:55	Presentation of the Poster sessions – speed present your poster	
12:55 – 13:00	Introduction to the working groups in the afternoon.	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch and poster session	
14:00 – 17:30	Breakout into two working groups – two rotations of 90 minutes each with 30 minutes for coffee break and networking in between	

BREAKOUT INTO WORKING GROUPS start 14:00 – two rotations The goal is to harness the expertise of the LIFE project practitioners to help inform the LIFE Unit and nature practitioners in general, on how to choose the most practical and cost- effective ways of restoring the intensified agricultural land into more biodiverse habitats.		
Rotation one	WORKING GROUP 1 Reducing the nutrient level: choosing the right method Session Moderator: An Bollen Rapporteur: Kristijan Civic	WORKING GROUP 2 The importance of small scale, extensive farmland and how to engage farmers in more nature-friendly practices Session Moderator: Kinnie Debeule Rapporteur: Maud Latruberce
14:00 – 14:15	Intro presentation: LIFE Pays Mosan (NL-BE) Ms Stephanie Schelfhout (University of Ghent, BE) and Mr Joost Dewyspelaere (Natuurpunt): the importance of soil analyses for choosing the most effective restoration measures	Intro presentation: LIFE Good stream (SE) Mr John Strand: how to engage landowners and farmers in large-scale landscape restoration measures: methods and participatory approaches, stimulating voluntariness
14:15 – 15:30	Moderated Discussion - Rotation 1	
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break and Networking	
Rotation two	WORKING GROUP 1	WORKING GROUP 2
16:00 – 16:15	Intro presentation	Intro presentation
16:15 – 17:30	Moderated Discussion - Rotation 2	
17:30 – 18:00	Feedback from the Rapporteurs (10 minutes per working Group) and final remarks	
18:00 – 18:15	Closing of the day and introduction to the fieldtrips tomorrow, Hans Dekker, Province of Drenthe	
19:00 – 20:00	Joint dinner – hosted by Willem Urlings, Chairman LIFE Oude Willem Steering Committee	

DAY 2 – 18 September 2019 – FIELD VISITS 09:00 – 13:00

Departure from the hotel at 08:30

	FIELD VISIT 1	FIELD VISIT 2
Leader	Henk Warners and Hans Beens, Staatsbosbeheer	Hans Dekker & Rudy van Diggelen
Sites to visit	Oostervoortse diep	Natura 2000-site Dwingelderveld: restoration Noordenveld (LIFE08 NAT/NL/000192)
Link to the topic	<p>This is a long-term restoration project of a lowland brook landscape where nature restoration and agriculture interests meet. P-mining has been implemented for 8 years in collaboration with local farmers and hydrology measures both favour habitat development and local farming sector.</p> <p>Presentation fundamentals of P-mining by Ms Debby van Rotterdam (senior project manager Institute of Nutriënt Management NMI-Agro)</p>	<p>This agricultural enclave (>150 ha) located in the middle of a heathland landscape was restored by excavation (10-50 cm) and mowing and exporting. After the excavation, an experiment was set up to stimulate heathland development by adding heath clippings or sods. Now, 6 years later, several threatened species have returned.</p>
Transportation to NP Drents-Friese Wold: restoration Oude Willem (LIFE13 NAT/NL/000162)		
<p>A large-scale restoration of a former agricultural enclave of 325 ha through P-mining using a participatory approach with local farmers: the objective, selection of the method, monitoring and first results will be showcased.</p> <p>Second presentation of P-mining techniques and conditions for implementation, Ms Stephanie Schelfhout, University of Genth Belgium and Mr Joost Dewyspelaere, LIFE Pays-Mosan, Natuurpunt & Natagora.</p>		
lunch in the field		
14:00 – 15:00	Facilitated session about the Decision-making Matrix format, Kristijan Civic, NEEMO	
15:00 – 15:20	<p>Conclusions</p> <p>Drawing together the lessons learnt from the working groups and the field visits. Outlining next steps.</p>	
15:20 -15:30	Closing remarks, Sylvia Barova, EC's Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME)	