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

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Latvijas  
Kūdras  
asociācija

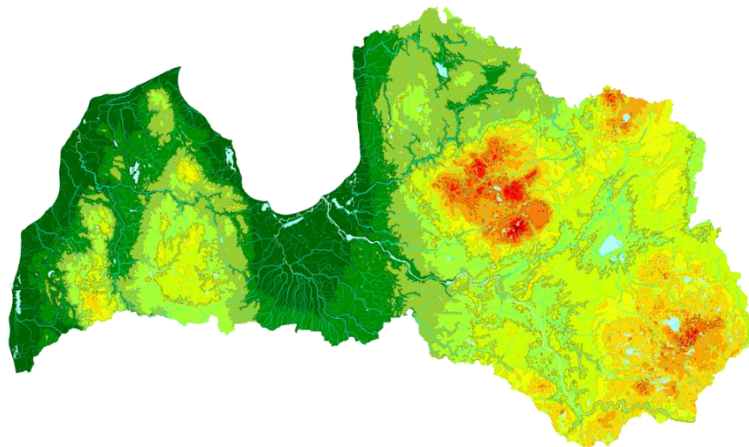




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# General Information

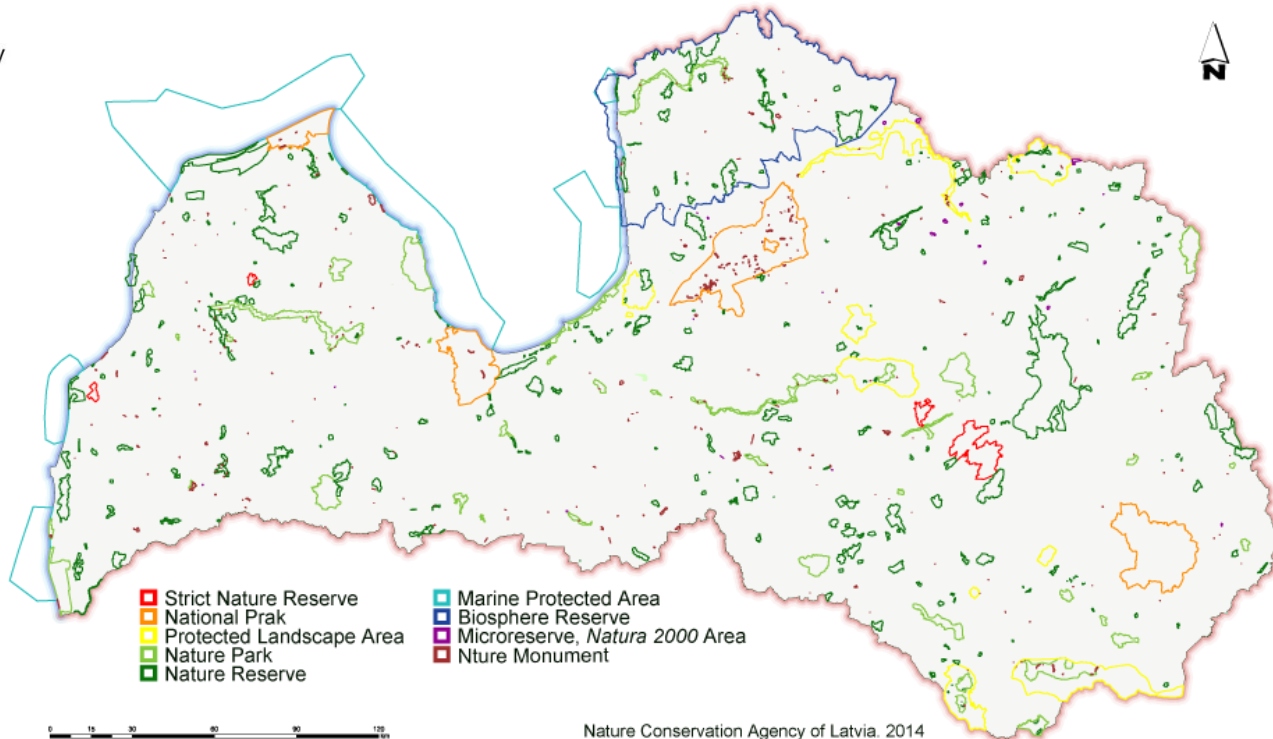
The Nature  
Conservation Agency  
ensures  
implementation of  
unified nature  
protection policy in  
Latvia





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# Protected Nature Areas of Latvia



Nature Conservation Agency of Latvia. 2014

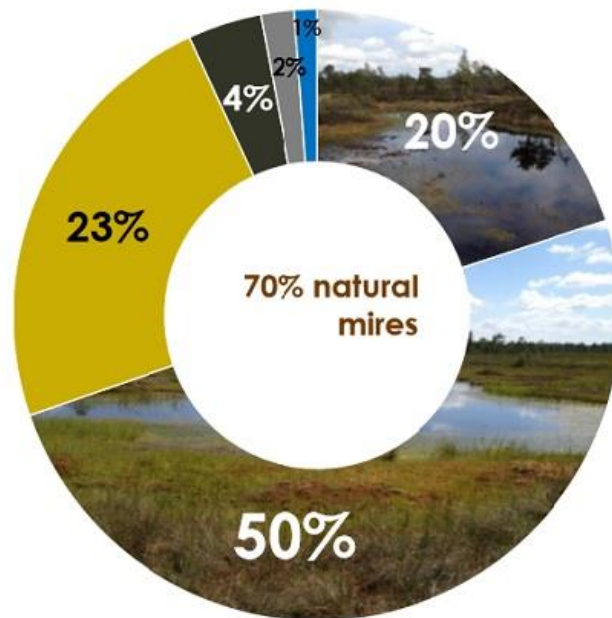


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# Peatlands in Latvia

PEATLAND AREA 645 100ha

64 589 km<sup>2</sup>



20% Natura 2000 protected  
(128 000 ha)

50% Natural mires (318 129 ha)

23% Drained for agriculture,  
forestry (149 783ha)

4% Peat extraction (28 500 ha)

2% Developed area (11 522ha)

1% Water body (7 681ha)



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Administration of  
Latvian Environmental  
Protection Fund

# LIFE REstore

- LIFE 2014 – 2020 program
- Climate action sub-program
- Climate change mitigation priority area
  
- Implementation period: 09.2015 – 08.2019
  
- Budget: 1 828 314 EUR
  - 1 096 990 EUR – EU financing
  - 554 288 EUR – Administration of LEPF
  - 170 036 EUR – co-financing from partners



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# Why?



Natural bogs are huge carbon  
reservoir



Degraded peatlands causes  
significant GHG emissions



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## Why (2)

- **Not standard approach** and principles of management of degraded peatlands;
- **Information** on the areas, location, classification **is inadequate**;
- There is a **need for** fast, reliable, comprehensive, high resolution and spatially clear **data** on degraded peatlands;
- **Improvements** for GHG inventory.





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# REstore: main objective

establishment of a decision support system  
for responsible and sustainable degraded  
peatland re-use and management in Latvia



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# REstore: main actions

- To define the **criteria for classification** of degraded peatlands and determination of **optimal management approach**
- To perform an **inventory** of degraded peatlands and to develop a database of degraded peatlands
- To **approve** the **methodology for GHG emissions accounting** in accordance to IPCC guidelines “Wetlands” in order to **elaborate** country **specific emission factors** and contribute to National GHG Inventory improvements
- To **develop a decision support tool** – a map based land use **optimization model** for **re-use of degraded peatlands** by combination of multi-criteria methods and GIS systems



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## REstore: main actions (2)

- To select the **demonstration territories** and perform hydrological and habitat studies, as well as economic assessment of the ecosystems and their services of the territories and adjacent areas
- To **test** and to **demonstrate** the optimisation model by **implementing the scenarios** of land re-use and management **in selected demonstration territories**
- Based on the conclusions derived from practical experience, **to develop set of recommendations** and mechanisms for the application and implementation of developed optimisation model for peatland re-use and innovative approaches in policy-making for peatland management



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# REstore: inventory



Vegetation inventory of degraded peatland in the Laugas mire, abandoned peatland



Vegetation inventory of degraded peatland in the Vārņēnu mire, abandoned peatland





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# REstore: approbation of GHG emissions accounting methodology



Field measurements of GHG (CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O un CH<sub>4</sub>) in 40 places in Latvia



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## REstore: land use optimisation model, project implementation territories



- Lauga mire: restoration works
- Lauga/Kalna peatland: cranberry plantation
- Ķemeru peatland: renaturalisation works with sphagnum planting
- Kaigas peatland: blueberry plantation
- Kaigas peatland: afforestation works



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# REstore: team

Coordinating beneficiary



Dabas aizsardzības pārvalde

Associated beneficiaries





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# REstore: time schedule

Action		2015				2016				2017				2018				2019				2020			
Action number	Name of the action	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
		<b>A. Preparatory actions (if needed)</b>																							
A.1	Stakeholder mapping and current situation analysis			■	■																				
A.2	Elaboration of Project Communication Strategy			■	■																				
A.3	Criteria for classification of degraded peatlands and optimal management approach definition				■																				
A.4	Approbation of the methodology for GHG emission accounting				■	■	■																		
A.5	Inventory of degraded peatland areas and development of database				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■													
A.6	Elaboration of the Management Plan, Detail and Technical Designs					■	■	■	■	■	■	■													
<b>B. Purchase / lease of land and / or compensation payments for use rights</b>																									
<b>C. Implementation actions (obligatory)</b>																									
C.1	Development of peatland re-use optimisation model - Stage I - Assessment of key processes in demo-sites					■	■	■	■	■	■														
C.2	Development of peatland re-use optimisation model - Stage II - Economic assessment of ecosystem services in demo-sites						■	■	■	■	■														
C.3	Development of peatland re-use optimisation model - Stage III - Assessment of the land use scenarios for demo-sites							■	■	■	■														
C.4	Testing of the peatland re-use optimisation model - Implementation of the land use scenarios in demo-sites										■	■	■	■	■	■	■								
C.5	LIFE REcommendations for multi-purpose application of support tools for management and re-use of degraded peatlands														■	■	■								
<b>D. Monitoring of the impact of the project actions (obligatory)</b>																									
D.1	Monitoring of the impact of project actions					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
D.2	Monitoring of the socio-economic impact of project						■	■				■			■			■				■			
<b>E. Communication and dissemination of results (obligatory)</b>																									
E.1	Project website			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
E.2	Public information and education materials			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
E.3	Public information and education events			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
E.4	Networking with other LIFE and non-LIFE projects			■	■			■			■				■					■					
E.5	Manual "Methodology for degraded peatland re-use in Latvia"														■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
E.6	International Conference for the degraded peatland management and re-use														■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
E.7	Layman's report																				■	■	■	■	
<b>F. Project management and monitoring of the project progress (obligatory)</b>																									
F.1	Project management by NCA			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
F.2	Audit																					■			
F.3	Compilation of information for indicator tables			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
F.4	After-LIFE Plan																				■	■	■	■	





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**Thank You for Your attention!**

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🏠 <http://restore.daba.gov.lv>

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