



VOLUNTEERING FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

**LIFE Platform meeting
19–21 September 2018, Tartu, Estonia**

Registration and Logistics information

The meeting will take place from **09:30 on 19 September until 12:00 on 21 September 2018**.
The registration desk will be open from 09:00 on 19 September.

The meeting language is English. No translation will be provided.

How to get to Tartu

Step 1: Getting to Tallinn

The closest larger airports to Tartu are Tallinn (Lennart Meri airport) <https://www.tallinn-airport.ee/en/> (184 km from Tartu) and Riga International airport <http://www.riga-airport.com/en> (260 km from Tartu). There are direct flights from the major European cities, e.g. Brussels, Stockholm, Riga, Helsinki, Vilnius, London, Copenhagen, Berlin, Paris etc.

There is also an airport in Tartu <http://www.tartu-airport.ee/eng/info/airlinesattartuairport> (11 km from Tartu), but it is only serviced by Finnair flying from Helsinki to Tartu. The flight takes 50 minutes and runs six times a week. From the airport you can take Airport Shuttle, a bus or a taxi to the city centre. Airport Shuttle <http://tartaline.ee/en/airport-shuttle/> takes passengers to the city for a fee of €5. Bus (public transportation) ride takes ~ 25–50 minutes and costs €1 (tickets



are sold by the bus driver) http://www.peatus.ee/#route_search;20447;33385/eng. Taxi ride takes ~ 15 minutes and costs around €10.

You can reach Tallinn also by ferry from Helsinki (takes ~ 2.0-2.15 hours) https://www.directferries.com/helsinki_tallinn_ferry.htm or Stockholm https://www.directferries.com/stockholm_tallinn_ferry.htm (takes more than 15 hours).

Step 2.1: Tallinn – Tartu

There are frequent **bus** connections from Tallinn to Tartu, ca every 30 minutes. The suggested company is Lux Express - <https://luxexpress.eu/en> which stops in Tallinn Airport and where tickets are available well in advance. The ticket should be purchased in advance, online. Ticket prices are maximum 15 EUR and the travel time is 2.5 hours. Other possible options can be found on <https://www.tpilet.ee/en> (Tallinn Airport - Tartu Coach Station).

Train connections between Tallinn and Tartu are less frequent. The route is operated by Elron - <https://pilet.elron.ee/en>. The journey takes 2-2.5 hours one way.

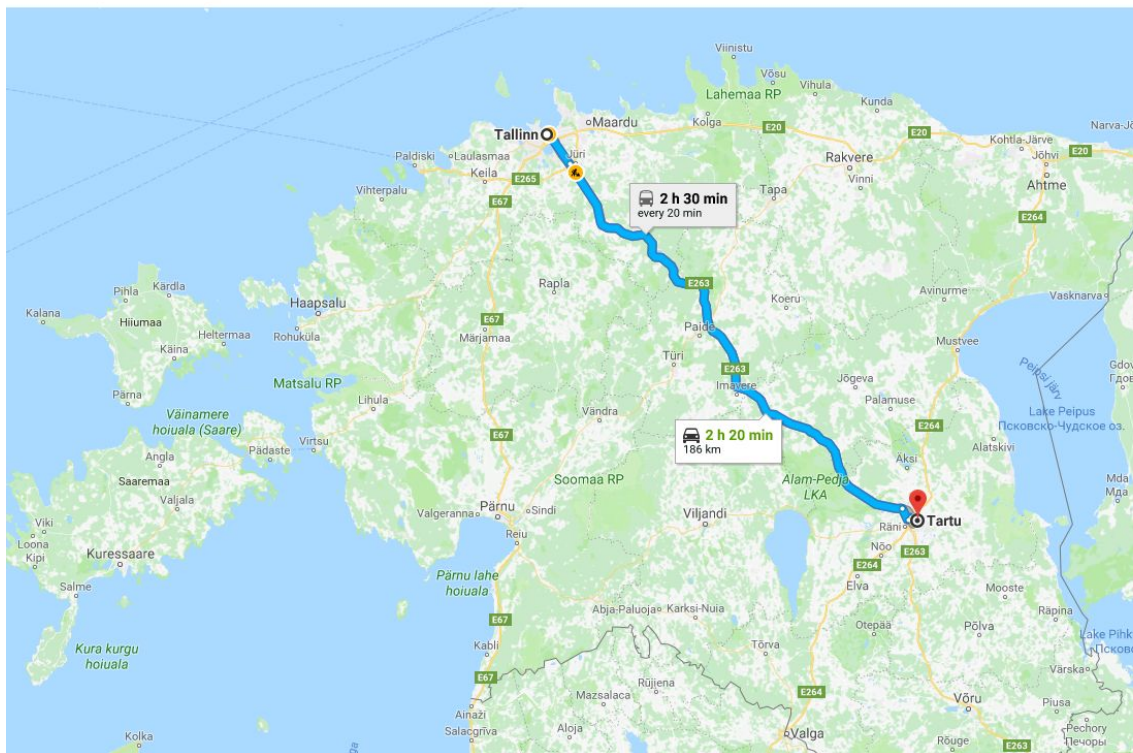
When travelling via Tallinn, Lennart Meri airport, please **plan sufficient time for travelling from Tartu to Tallinn**. If you are returning home right after the end of the meeting, on 21 September, please book your return flight from Tallinn not earlier than 17:00.

Step 2.2. Riga – Tartu

There is a **bus** connection from Riga (Coach Station) to Tartu, but it is not so frequent. The suggested bus operation company is Lux Express and it takes 3.50 hours one way.

When travelling via Riga International Airport, please **plan sufficient time for travelling from Tartu to Riga**. If you are returning home right after the end of the meeting, on 21 September, please book your return flight from Riga not earlier than 20:00.





Accommodation

We have arranged a pre-booking for conference participants in [hotel Dorpat](#) (Soola Street 6) just beside bus station, it is available until **1 August 2018**. For booking please contact info@dorpat.ee. Please use the keyword “**LIFE PLATFORM**” when booking the rooms, this will allow you to use the conference room rate (single room for 60 EUR, double room for 75 EUR). Prices include VAT, rich buffet breakfast, parking and WIFI.

There are also other hotels available nearby the conference hotel, if you wish to choose another accommodation option.

Other nearby hotels that you could choose are for example:

Hotel Tartu (Soola Street 3, <http://tartuhotell.ee/en/>)

Hektor Design Hostel (Riia Street 26, <https://hektorhostels.com/>)

V Spa hotel (Riia Street 2, <https://vspahotel.ee/en/>)



The venue

Please note that the event is taking place in two different locations in Tartu!

The meeting on **19 September** will take place in **Tartu Environmental Education Centre** (Lille Street 10, web address <http://www.tartuoodumaja.ee/EN/uldinfo/>). It is 10 minutes walk from Hotel Dorpat.

The meeting on **21 September** will take place in **V SPA Hotel Conference Centre** (Riia Street 2, web address <https://vspahotel.ee/en/>), 5 minutes walk from Hotel Dorpat.



Leaving Tartu

If you are returning home right after the end of the meeting, on 21 September, please plan sufficient time for travelling – please buy a return ticket leaving from Tartu not earlier than 13:00. Buses leave from Tartu to Tallinn in every 30 minutes. The suggested company is Lux Express - <https://luxexpress.eu/en> which stops in Tallinn Airport. The ticket should be purchased in advance, online. Ticket prices are maximum 15 EUR and the travel time 2.5 hours. Other possible options can be found on <https://www.tpilet.ee/en> (Tartu Coach Station - Tallinn Airport).



Voluntary work

Full day of voluntary work in Soosaare mire will be organized **on 20 September**. We will be building dams in a mire, organized in groups of ca. 6 persons. Please be prepared for the work outdoors. Weather conditions and temperatures may vary. Please be sure to bring a light jacket and an extra sweater. A raincoat, rubber boots or wellingtons and extra pair of socks are a must-have! More detailed information is provided here: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pENipvx1UpSZkBYLo0vw5S7vNIG6xx1iYFa3I67Z8b0/edit?usp=sharing>

Registration

Registration to the event can be done by completing the online registration form that is available [here](#). The registration to the meeting is open until **20th of July 2018**. Please note that the number of participants to this event will be limited to 60 persons, with a priority to LIFE projects. Therefore, we advise you to register timely. Your place at the event will be secured by completing the registration form.

Video and poster

Each participating LIFE project will be introduced in the plenary by means of **short videos**. Therefore, LIFE participants are invited to prepare short (about three minutes long) videos featuring the people and the voluntary work done in the project. For example, you could consider interviewing project staff organizing voluntary work, or your volunteers, etc. It should be a simple video illustrating the work you do in the project with the help of your volunteers. The video should be uploaded in YouTube and a link should be sent by **1 September 2018** to liina@elfond.ee. Please indicate your willingness to prepare a video in the registration form.

There will also be a **poster** session on day 1. The posters should focus on the specific issue of volunteer work, in addition to the general information about the project. If you are willing to bring the poster, please indicate so in the registration form.

Costs

The participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs. Please be reminded that you are strongly advised to use other travel means than flight, if you travel distances that are less than 350 km. Please do not forget to include the LIFE project reference on



your travel cost documents, if you represent a LIFE project.

Financial assistance

For speakers, and for representatives of the closed LIFE projects, there is a limited financial assistance available (covering travel costs for closed LIFE projects and travel + accommodation costs for invited speakers). If you require the financial assistance, please indicate so in the registration form, and contact the organizers (Ms Luule Sinnisov at luule.sinnisov@neemo.eu).

In case your transport and/or accommodation costs can be covered, you will be contacted shortly after the registration by a travel agency. Please note that this travel agency will provide travel tickets, so please do not make your own reservations or purchase tickets. It is particularly important to register timely, to allow the Commission adequate time to arrange your travel.

A few words about Tartu

Tartu, the second largest city in Estonia, is a unique university and cultural city in southern Estonia that hosts many exciting events throughout the year and impresses with both medieval and modern architecture. The best way to experience the charm of Tartu is to explore the city on foot as the most interesting sights are all located in one area. The lovely banks of river Emajõgi lead you straight from the hotel Dorpat to the Town Hall Square and Old Town. Just around the corner of the Town Hall you can admire and visit University of Tartu Main Building and Art Museum. Rising above Old Town there is Toome Hill with peaceful greenery, historic buildings and wonderful views on Tartu. In the Old Town there is a number of cozy cafés to have a warm drink or to enjoy a delicious meal.

More information about what to do and see in Tartu can be found <https://www.tartu.ee/en>
<http://www.visittartu.com/en>
<https://www.inyourpocket.com/tartu>

Information Centre: Tartu Visitor Centre (Raekoja 1A, Town Hall Square)

Possible activities before and after event

When interested, it is possible to take part in Estonian Fund for Nature's conservation holidays (<http://talgud.ee/en>). From 21-23 September there will be a unique chance to participate in nature conservation work in the small Estonian island of Vormsi. It's a place of rich, distinctive cultural heritage, and the island is especially picturesque in the autumn. More info and registration: <http://talgud.ee/booking/vormsi-2018>

When you plan to stay for longer and have more time on hand, you might be interested in visiting some of the following places:



Estonian National Museum – modern and iconic museum about the Estonian nation. Most of the exhibition space is dedicated to the permanent exhibition *Encounters*, expanding upon Estonian cultural history and everyday life and stretching out on a timeline from the present day to the Ice Age. The second biggest permanent exhibition is *Echo of the Urals*, providing insight into the lives of the Finno-Ugric peoples while taking visitors through four different seasons.

Address: Muuseumi tee 2 (Bus no. 27 next to Kvartal shopping mall)

Tue - Sun: 10am to 6pm, Wed: 10am to 8pm (2–14 EUR)

<http://www.erm.ee/en>

University of Tartu Botanical Garden – a true eden in the heart of the bustling city. About 10 000 species of plants can be found in the collections, which originate from tundra to tropical rainforests. The botanical garden has the most species in Estonia and offers a great opportunity to familiarize with them.

Address: Lai 38

The Garden opens daily (free entry), Greenhouses 10.00-17.00 (2/3 EUR)

<https://www.botaanikaed.ut.ee/en>

University of Tartu Natural History Museum – recently renovated museum’s permanent exhibition *Earth. Life. Story.* includes nearly 8,000 scientific exhibit items, which tell the development story of planet Earth from the beginning of the universe until the modern day and introduce the nature of Estonia.

Address: Vanemuise 46

Tue–Sun 10am–6pm (3/6 EUR)

<http://www.natmuseum.ut.ee/en>

Science Centre AHHA – the biggest science centre in the Baltic states with “hands-on” exhibits encourages learning science through experimentation, discovery, and joy. Inside the small silver ball on top of the building is a fully spherical planetarium with a Guinness World Record-holding Megastar projector that offers you a breathtaking view on the sky with over 10 million stars. In every full hour it is possible to see planetarium shows.

Address: Sadama 1 (a few metres from the Bus Station and hotels Dorpat and Tartu)

Sun–Thu 10am–19pm; Fri–Sat 10am–20pm (10/13 EUR, Planetarium 4/6 EUR)

<http://www.ahhaa.ee/en>

