



## Volunteering for nature conservation

### LIFE Platform meeting

19-21 September 2018, Tartu

#### Participating LIFE projects – brief description and contact details

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/news/press/index.htm>

[LIFE16 NAT/LV/000262](#) **GrassLIFE** - Restoring EU priority grasslands and promoting their multiple use  
Latvia's priority grassland habitats are in urgent need of support.

This project will restore and reconnect more than 1300 hectares of grasslands and establish long-term management through grazing. This will involve working with partner farms to identify grassland-related business products with high added value. The project will also submit proposals to the Latvian government of hotspots for further grassland restoration and ways to incorporate protection of these habitats into the country's Rural Development Programme for 2021-2027.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Baiba Strazdina

Tel: 37167830999

Email: [ldf@ldf.lv](mailto:ldf@ldf.lv)

[LIFE16 NAT/EE/000710](#) **EstBatLIFE** - Improving the Pond Bat (*Myotis dasycneme*) habitats in Estonia

The pond bat (*Myotis dasycneme*) is a rare and threatened species in Europe, listed in the EU Habitats Directive. The loss of many of its safe winter roosts has been key to its decline. This project will work to protect and improve underground hibernation sites for the species in Estonia. It will secure the most important of these against uncontrolled visits, reduce visitor numbers during the hibernation period in the most vulnerable habitats, stop roost degradation, involve local volunteers in cleaning caves, and make policy recommendations for management plans for the pond bat and its protected areas.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Lauri KLEIN

Tel: +3725179668

Email: [Lauri.Klein@elfond.ee](mailto:Lauri.Klein@elfond.ee)

[LIFE15 NAT/PL/000819](#) **LIFEPandionPL** - Osprey conservation in selected SPA Natura 2000 sites in Poland  
The main objective is to increase the population of the osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) in Poland.



The project is focusing on activities carried out in forests, where the osprey most commonly nests, as well as on lakes and ponds, its main feeding areas. The project will install artificial nests, protected by site wardens, and identify fish stocks necessary to support the osprey population while avoiding conflict with the fishing community. An important result will be the production of guidelines for the protection of the species in Poland and Central Europe. These should enhance cooperation between institutions in order to detect or prevent wildlife crimes, particularly poaching and egg theft. The project expects to increase the osprey population by 20% compared with 2014 levels.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Łukasz PORĘBSKI

Tel: 225898297

Email: [lukasz.porebski@las.gov.pl](mailto:lukasz.porebski@las.gov.pl)

**[LIFE15/NAT/UK/000786](#) Marches Mosses BogLIFE - Marches Mosses Raised Bog Restoration Project**

The project aims to improve the conservation status of the UK's third largest lowland raised bog. The Fenn's, Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem & Cadney Mosses SAC covers an area of 949.2 ha on the border of England and Wales. This LIFE project will restore 665 ha of habitat to achieve a more sustainable, resilient and better functioning active raised bog, in line with the UK's Prioritised Action Framework Priority Measures. Actions are expected to improve the conservation status of the site from 'unfavourable' to 'unfavourable improving'.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Robert DUFF

Tel: 442080261259

Email: [robert.duff@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:robert.duff@naturalengland.org.uk)

**[LIFE14 NAT/UK/000070](#) MoorLIFE2020 - MoorLIFE 2020**

The aim of the project is to protect the priority habitat 'active blanket bog' within the South Pennine moors. Actions will protect the integrity of around 9 500 ha of the target habitat and the ecosystem services it provides. The project will raise water tables, remove invasive species and introduce appropriate plant species to stop erosion of the peat body, reduce wildfire risk and increase habitat resilience. The carbon benefits of the capital works programme will be included in the project's accounting.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Diarmuid CREHAN

Tel: 441629816578

Email: [Diarmuid.Crehan@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:Diarmuid.Crehan@peakdistrict.gov.uk)



[LIFE14 NAT/EE/00126](#) **LIFE Mires Estonia** - Conservation and restoration of Mire Habitats

The objective of the project is to secure a 'favourable' conservation status in Estonia of wetlands, especially mires and priority habitats protected by the Habitats Directive such as active raised bogs, bog woodland and Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods. Hydrological improvements will be carried out and hydrology improved on around 5 800 ha, of which some 3 450 ha are Natura 2000 priority habitats.

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Jüri-Ott Salm

Tel: 3725295933

Email: [jott@elfond.ee](mailto:jott@elfond.ee)

[LIFE14 NAT/UK/000467](#) **SciuriousLIFE - Sciuriosity** - Evolving IAS grey squirrel management techniques in the UK.

The project aims to develop early warning/rapid response mechanisms to prevent the invasive grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) colonising (or re-colonising) areas of Wales, England and Northern Ireland where populations of the native Eurasian red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) are found. SciuriousLIFE will also mitigate the impact of grey squirrels on urban woodlands with high biodiversity and tourism value and inform the development of a long-term management framework for the species in the UK.

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Cathleen Thomas

Tel: +44 1636 670037

Email: [cthomas@wildlifetrusts.org](mailto:cthomas@wildlifetrusts.org)

[LIFE13 NAT/FI/000099](#) **Light & Fire -LIFE** - Light & Fire open the Doors for Biodiversity –LIFE

The project aims to restore structural features important for the maintenance of biodiverse habitats and increase the area of such habitats by restoring severely degraded areas. Activities will be carried out on Natura 2000 habitats where ecological characteristics are shaped by fire or extreme solar radiation and luminosity. The project also aims to improve the conservation status of bird species, such as the red-backed shrike (*Lanius collurio*) and barred warbler (*Sylvia nisoria*).

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Sanna-Kaisa RAUTIO

Email: [sanna-kaisa.rautio@metsa.fi](mailto:sanna-kaisa.rautio@metsa.fi)

[LIFE12 NAT/FI/000367](#) **LIFE Saimaa Seal** - Safeguarding the Saimaa Ringed Seal

The goal of this project is to help improve the conservation status of the Saimaa ringed seal by reducing risks, in particular, those related to fishing, human-induced disturbance and climate change. Results of the project will be used to update the seal conservation strategy and related regulations.



**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Raisa TIILIKAINEN

Tel: +358 40 754 1449

Email: [raisa.tiilikainen@metsa.fi](mailto:raisa.tiilikainen@metsa.fi)

[LIFE12 NAT/ES/000286](#) **LIFE+ GUGUY** - Recover of native forests with *Juniperus* spp, and its flora and fauna, in the Special Nature Reserve Güigüí.

The project targeted three habitats in the Canary Islands: endemic *Juniperus* spp. forests, endemic Macaronesian heaths and Canarian endemic pine forests. The project aimed to restore these three habitats to their full potential range in the project area and remove the main threats to the Guiguí Special Nature Reserve.

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Beatriz CALZADA OJEDA

Tel: 0034928301150

Email: [gvierui@gesplan.es](mailto:gvierui@gesplan.es)

[LIFE11 NAT/NL/000776](#) **Amsterdam Dune project** - 'Amsterdam Dunes - source for nature', dune habitat restoration project

The project's overall aim was to restore and improve the characteristic and priority habitat types listed in the Habitats Directive that are part of the "Kennemerland Zuid" Natura 2000 site. The recovery of the area was encouraged by actions targeting the effects of desiccation and eutrophication, such as the removal of the nitrogen-rich top layer of soil and of invasive species; by restoration of ponds; and by mowing, grazing, and other nature management measures.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Luc Geelen

Email: [luc.geelen@waternet.nl](mailto:luc.geelen@waternet.nl)

[LIFE09/NAT/ES/000534](#) **Life Posidonia Andalusia** - Conservation of *Posidonia oceanica* meadows in Andalusian Mediterranean Sea

This LIFE Nature project's main objective was to improve the conservation status of Neptune grass (*Posidonia oceanica*) meadows. This would be achieved by undertaking studies and applying protection measures. Threats to the ecosystems (including pollution, boat anchoring, uncontrolled trawling and traditional local fishing and the expansion of exotic invasive species) were investigated and mechanisms assessed for mitigating negative impacts on the meadows. Further studies would clarify the broader benefits linked to the meadows, plus the costs of their loss, such as impacts on fish populations, beach regeneration and deterioration of tourist attractions.

**Contact details:**



Contact person: Cármen LLORET MISERACH  
Tel: +34 955 003408  
Email: [rosam.mendoza@juntadeandalucia.es](mailto:rosam.mendoza@juntadeandalucia.es)

[LIFE08 NAT/SLO/000244](#) **SloWolf** - Conservation and surveillance of conservation status of wolf (*Canis lupus*) population in Slovenia

The goal of this project was to facilitate long-term conservation of wolves, their prey base and their habitats in Slovenia. It attempted to take human attitudes towards the wolves into account in order to overcome any apparent conflicts through a Wolf Management Action Plan. The project aimed to provide accurate scientific information on the wolf through a specific national wolf-surveillance system.

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Aleksandra MAJIĆ  
Tel: +38613203336  
Email: [almajic@gmail.com](mailto:almajic@gmail.com)

[LIFE07/NAT/GR/000291](#) **PINDOS/GREVENA** - Demonstration of Conservation Actions for *Ursus arctos*\* and habitat type 9530\* in Northern Pindos N.P., Grevena Prefecture, Greece

The project focused on conservation actions for the brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) in the northern Pindos in Grevena, and the improvement of 60 ha of the priority forest habitat type "sub-Mediterranean pine forests with endemic black pines".

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Christos GEORGIADIS  
Tel: +302310222268  
Email: [cg@baconsult.gr](mailto:cg@baconsult.gr)

[LIFE13 BIO/UK/000315](#) **LIFE WADERS FOR REAL** - Demonstrating wader population recovery through innovative site management and novel stakeholder engagement

This project sought to reverse the decline of breeding waders in the Avon Valley (Hampshire), a river floodplain of high biodiversity interest, part of which is designated as a Natura 2000 network site, through a unique combination of habitat restoration and innovative targeted, seasonal exclusion and reduction of predators.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Paul Stephens  
Tel: 441837659423  
Email: [pstephens@gwct.org.uk](mailto:pstephens@gwct.org.uk)



#### [LIFE16 GIE/EE/000665](#) **NaturallyEst-LIFE** - Piloting Natura2000 communication in Estonia

The Natura 2000 network is the centrepiece of EU biodiversity policy. To avoid conflicts over the management of Natura 2000 sites in Estonia, this project enhanced communication between local communities, landowners and nature conservation stakeholders. This was also expected to reduce illegal activities in protected areas. Solutions to conflicts successfully applied elsewhere would be used to show that the network is a flexible and efficient tool for nature conservation. Improving the overall image of the Natura 2000 network would also help to promote the implementation of the EU Habitats and Birds directives.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Mari KAISEL

Tel: +37253433346

Email: [mari@elfond.ee](mailto:mari@elfond.ee)

#### [LIFE15 GIE/AT/001004](#) **LIFE FOR DANUBE STURGEONS** - Sustainable protection of lower Danube sturgeons by preventing and counteracting poaching and illegal wildlife trade

Four of the five sturgeon species in the Danube basin are classed as 'critically endangered'. The objective of this project was the survival and recovery of sturgeons in the entire lower Danube region and their long-term protection from illegal fishing and trade. It focused on: increasing authorities' capacity to enforce laws banning sturgeon fishing and trade; increasing fishing communities' acceptance of these bans and helping them to find alternative sources of income; and increasing retailers' awareness of the ban and the need for its enforcement.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Jutta Jahrl

Tel: 43148817264

Email: [sturgeons@wwf.at](mailto:sturgeons@wwf.at)

#### [LIFE08 INF/UK/000214](#) **Birds Directive** - Promoting the importance of the EU Birds Directive in conservation management on farmland

The project aimed to engage directly with general public and more specifically with farmers through on-farm bird surveys, a network of demonstration farms and a Biodiversity Award scheme, in order to raise awareness of the EU Birds Directive and promote positive land management. The objective was to create a positive profile for the Birds Directive among participating farmers and members of their local communities, as well as more widely among farmers and the public, through and media activities highlighting the importance of protecting both rare and widespread farmland birds.

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Jenny ATKINS

Email: [jenny.atkins@rspb.org.uk](mailto:jenny.atkins@rspb.org.uk)



[LIFE14 CCM/ES/000957](#) **LIFE Blue Natura** - Andalusian blue carbon for climate change mitigation: quantification and valorization mechanisms.

The project's main aim is to quantify the carbon deposits and the sequestration rates of marsh and seagrass meadow habitats in Andalusia. An emphasis are placed on what is accumulated under the ground or sea, as well as analysing predicted future developments, from the carbon loss rate, to potential carbon fixation and accumulation rates, and the emission/sequestration ratio of carbon from damaged meadow zones into the atmosphere. This information will enable an approximate evaluation of the environmental services created by these habitats to be made. It should also encourage existing initiatives to finance conservation and restoration projects of blue carbon sink-habitats and the development of key policies for mitigating and adapting to climate change, with special attention to carbon emissions trading or carbon markets.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Rosa Mendoza

Tel: 671591980

Email: [rosam.mendoza@juntadeandalucia.es](mailto:rosam.mendoza@juntadeandalucia.es)

[LIFE16 PRE/DE/000005](#) **LIFE ELCN** - Development of a European private land conservation network

The LIFE ELCN project aims to develop a network of organisations and individuals active in private land conservation. The objective of the project is twofold: to test a number of private land conservation tools with an eye to promoting their replication at a wider level wherever feasible and proposing policy actions to support them, and to develop a robust, well-informed European network on private land conservation with a clear long-term strategy (after LIFE) and strong international allies.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Konstantin Kreiser

Tel: +49 30 2849841601

Email: [Konstantin.Kreiser@nabu.de](mailto:Konstantin.Kreiser@nabu.de)

[LIFE15 PRE/ES/000002](#) **LIFE Euro Bird Portal** - Combining and improving online bird portals data to display near-real-time spatiotemporal patterns of bird distribution across Europe

The aim of the project is to develop the EuroBirdPortal (EBP) demo viewer into a full-fledged web portal displaying detailed and up-to-date European-wide spatiotemporal patterns of bird distribution in near-real-time and in a reliable manner.

**Contact details:**

Project Manager: Nicolas TITEUX

Tel: (+34) 973 48 17 52 - Ext 293

Email: [nicolas.titeux@ctfc.es](mailto:nicolas.titeux@ctfc.es)



### [LIFE14 PRE/UK/000002 EuroSAP](#) - Coordinated Efforts for International Species Recovery

The EuroSAP project is aiming to develop or update species action plans for eight bird species, as well as creating a multi-species action plan for eight of the most threatened European waders. It is planning to establish a system for coordination to enable the European Commission, Member States, international conventions and NGOs to work together more effectively for the conservation of bird species in Europe.

#### **Contact details:**

Project Manager: Anna STANEVA

Tel: +44 (0)1223 279860

Email: [anna.staneva@birdlife.org](mailto:anna.staneva@birdlife.org)

### [LIFE17 ESC/PT/000003 VOLUNTEER ESCAPES](#) - Volunteer with European Solidarity Corps (ESC) for Activities in Portugal with Ecological Sense

The project aims to train 175 volunteers through the ESC and the involvement of nine Portuguese organisations with different aims and national coverage. Tasks will focus on environmental protection, nature conservation, and restoration of natural areas and ecosystems – mainly Natura 2000 network sites and species/habitats protected by the Birds and Habitats Directive. It is expected that each associated beneficiary's team increases its capacity to undertake at least two new activities in which volunteers are trained, and increases their overall cooperation for conservation by embracing numerous public and private organisations. The aim is to improve the continuity of deployment within the project's innovative joint volunteer scheme, in order to bolster the use of volunteers by ESC for nature conservation.

#### **Contact details:**

Contact person: de Menezes de Almeida Pereira Dos Santos HENRIQUE

Tel: +351962963301

Email: [montisacn@gmail.com](mailto:montisacn@gmail.com)

### [LIFE16 ESC/IT/000002 CHOO-NA](#) - Choose the nature. Involvement of young volunteers for the Italian nature conservation

The project is planning to recruit, train and lead 310 young volunteers from the European Solidarity Corps who will help tackle specific threats to 11 bird species and their habitats. This should include forming nest guarding and anti-poaching teams to safeguard protected wading birds, raptors and songbirds. One group of volunteers will operate a rapid reaction unit to respond to fuel spills and intervene to rescue affected birds. Another group should communicate the project's work online.

#### **Contact details:**

Contact person: Massimo Soldarini

Email: [massimo.soldarini@lipu.it](mailto:massimo.soldarini@lipu.it)



[LIFE17 ESC/IT/000001](#) **LIFE ESC360** - 360 volunteers for monitoring forest biodiversity in the Italian Natura 2000 Network

The LIFE ESC 360 project aims to create opportunities for young people to work on the monitoring of protected species in state-owned nature reserves in Italy. The volunteers will acquire knowledge and skills on species and habitats of Community interest in the conservation of Natura 2000 network sites.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: **Franko Masson**

Email: [043713.001@carabinieri.it](mailto:043713.001@carabinieri.it)

[LIFE16 ESC/ES/000003](#) **LIFEFOLLOWERSRN2000** - of the Natura 2000 network

The overall objective of the project is to increase awareness of Natura 2000 in Spain among young people, who in the future will be responsible for its care. The project aims to create a network of young volunteers committed to the Natura 2000 network. It is planned to develop different and new ways for volunteers to participate in the improvement of the Natura 2000 network; to design and run activities involving monitoring, awareness-raising and conservation actions in Natura 2000 sites.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: José Sanchez Ruis

Email: [gestion@seo.org](mailto:gestion@seo.org)

[LIFE14 CAP/PT/000004](#) **PT CAPACITY BUILDING** - Portugal Capacity Building for better use of LIFE

The main objective of the project is to improve the overall Portuguese capacity for participation in the LIFE Programme, by increasing the number and quality of proposals that are presented each year. The project team expect to overcome the weaknesses they have identified as major obstacles to a better use of the LIFE Programme nationally.

**Contact details:**

Contact person: Maria Filomena BOAVIDA

Tel: +351 2147282-93 /00

Email: [filomena.boavida@apambiente.pt](mailto:filomena.boavida@apambiente.pt)