



Volunteering for nature conservation

LIFE Platform meeting

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

19 September 15:00 – 18:00

Six workshop sessions will be held on the first day of the Platform meeting. During the workshops we offer the floor for practical contributions from organisations working with volunteers. Workshops are designed to trigger the discussions on numerous issues that are in the heart of the work with volunteers, starting from legal tools and incentives, to motivation for the volunteers, engaging young people, and various applications of the volunteer input for nature conservation. The issues highlighted, lessons-learned during the workshops and take-away messages will be summarized by a moderator and a rapporteur of each workshop and presented to the plenary on 21 September.

There will be six workshops in total, organised in two workshop sessions. First session focuses on three major issues that are closely related to the volunteer work – legal tools and incentives for volunteers, motivation for the volunteers and the citizen science approach. The second session will enable the participants to share the experience of the LIFE projects in engaging and supporting volunteers all across EU, with the perspective on application of volunteer skills for monitoring, engaging young people and other practical aspects of working with volunteers in nature conservation.

Each participant will be able to attend two workshops. Each workshop session will last 80 minutes and will start with three to four 10-minute presentations, followed by a 40-50 minute moderated discussion. Participants have been pre-assigned to the workshops, and the distribution list will be circulated prior to the meeting*.

Workshop topics are summarized in the table below.

Thematic session		
WS1: Legal tools and incentives for volunteering.	WS2: What motivates volunteers?	WS3: Citizen science – a new type of volunteering.
LIFE experience		
WS4: Engaging volunteers in monitoring in LIFE.	WS5: Engaging volunteers in practical conservation work in LIFE.	WS6: Engaging young people as volunteers in LIFE.

For further reference, please see the workshop sessions described below. A more detailed description of the aims for each workshop please see on pages 3-4 of this document.

*To ensure a good geographic and thematic representation of participants per workshops, we have pre-assigned participants to the workshop sessions, based on their listed preferences upon registration for WS1-3. However, to ensure an even distribution of the participants per various sessions, it was not always possible to assign participants to their preferences. For those who have not been assigned to their preferred sessions, please be understanding and embrace the opportunities to learn something new!

Thematic session. 15:10 – 16:30

<p>WS1: Legal tools and incentives for volunteering</p> <p>Moderator: Andy Jefferies Rapporteur: Ivona Malbasic</p> <p>Presentations:</p>	<p>WS2: What motivates volunteers – studies and lessons-learned</p> <p>Moderator: Luule Sinnisov Rapporteur: Sanna Kaisa Rautio</p> <p>Presentations:</p>	<p>WS3: Citizen science – a new type of volunteering</p> <p>Moderator: Lucie Trokanova Rapporteur: Kadri Aller</p> <p>Presentations:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Legal (or regulatory) support and obstacles for volunteering. <i>Andy Jefferies, Wild Days Conservation, United Kingdom</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Motivating and hindering factors for volunteers. <i>Siim Kuresoo, Estonian Fund for Nature, Estonia</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natuurpunt – 10th anniversary of the waarnemingen.be database. <i>Kristijn Swinnen, Natuurpunt, Belgium</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - French legislation in support of volunteers. <i>Alain Salvi, Fédération des Conservatoires d'espaces naturels, France</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Giving responsibility is giving wings. <i>Ewoud L'Amiral, Natuurpunt and Eurosite, Belgium</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Euro Bird Portal. <i>Daniel Villero, Forest Sciences Center of Catalonia, Spain</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteering as crowdsourcing for private land conservation. <i>Jóni Vieira, LIFE ELCN, MONTIS - Associação de Conservação da Natureza, Portugal</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteering in practice. <i>Ismo Marttinen, WWF Finland / Metsähallitus, Finland</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Citizen science in the South Pennines. <i>Thomas Aspinall, Moors for the Future Partnership, MoorLIFE 2020, United Kingdom</i>

LIFE experience session. 16:40 – 18:00

<p>WS4: Engaging volunteers in monitoring and citizen science in LIFE projects</p> <p>Moderator: Inga Račinska Rapporteur: Lauri Klein</p> <p>Presentations:</p>	<p>WS5: Engaging volunteers in practical conservation work in LIFE projects</p> <p>Moderator: Jüri-Ott Salm Rapporteur: Elo Uibokand</p> <p>Presentations:</p>	<p>WS6: Engaging young people as volunteers in LIFE projects</p> <p>Moderator: Ivona Malbasic Rapporteur: Mari Kaisal</p> <p>Presentations:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Detecting the Small and Secretive: the power of volunteer workforce. <i>Genevieve Dalley, Natural England, Marches Mosses BogLIFE Project - LIFE15 NAT/UK/786</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation work in the mire is fun! <i>Elo Uibokand, Estonian Fund for Nature, LIFE Mires Estonia Project - LIFE14 NAT/EE/126</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteering for Real. <i>Paul Stephens, Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, LIFE Waders for Real Project, LIFE13 BIO/UK/315</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring of wolves with volunteers in Slovenia. <i>Nina Ražen, Biotechnical Faculty, SLOWOLF Project - LIFE08 NAT/SLO/244</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteering with the ESC for nature conservation. <i>Luis Jordão, MONTIS - Associação de Conservação da Natureza, LIFE VOLUNTEER ESCAPES Project - LIFE17 ESC/PT/003</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteer student placements. <i>David Tompkins, Natural England, Marches Mosses BogLIFE Project - LIFE15 NAT/UK/786</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Sturgeon Watchers” in Ukraine. <i>Inna Hoch, WWF Danube-Carpathian Programme in Ukraine, LIFE for Danube Sturgeons Project - LIFE15 GIE/AT/1004</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engaging volunteers in Osprey protection in Poland. <i>Łukasz Porębski, Directorate General of the State Forests in Poland, LIFE PandionPL Project - LIFE15 NAT/PL/819</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Young volunteers for monitoring forest biodiversity in the Italian Natura 2000 Network: the LIFE ESC 360 Project LIFE17 ESC/IT/001. <i>Franco Mason and Alessandro Campanaro, National Center for Forest Biodiversity and Conservation Carabinieri - Verona and Council for Agricultural Research and Economics - Research Centre for Plant Protection and Certification - Florence (Italy).</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marine experience of citizen science from Andalusia. <i>Soledad Vivas, Regional Government of Andalusia, LIFE BLUE NATURA Project - LIFE14 CCM/ES/957</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteer activities after LIFE. <i>Christos Georgiadis, Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature. PINDOS GREVENA Project - LIFE07 NAT/GR/291</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engaging young volunteers in choosing nature. <i>Greta Regondi, Lipu, Choo-na! Project - LIFE16 ESC/IT/002</i>

Aims of the workshops

Thematic session – WS1-3 running in parallel:

WS1. Legal tools and incentives for volunteering.

Moderator: Andy Jefferies

Rapporteur: Ivona Malbasic

The aim of the workshop is to get an overview of various legal tools and other incentives that support volunteering for nature conservation that could be replicated on a wider scale. Key points to discuss and report on to the plenary on Friday:

- Good examples;
- Lessons learned - problems, gaps, bottlenecks;
- Possible solutions, recommendations.

WS2. What motivates volunteers – studies and lessons-learned.

Moderator: Luule Sinnisov

Rapporteur: Sanna Kaisa Rautio

The aim of the workshop is to identify the main motivations for people to get involved in volunteering for nature conservation, lessons learnt and discuss how to facilitate the wider application of volunteers.

Key points to discuss and report on to the plenary on Friday:

- Main motivations;
- Lessons learned - main hindering factors, problems;
- Recommendations for wider application of volunteers in the nature conservation.

WS3. Citizen science – a new type of volunteering.

Moderator: Lucie Trokanova

Rapporteur: Kadri Aller

The aim of the workshop is to discuss the citizen science approach that is a new type of volunteering and has already proven to be a very effective way for gathering nature data. Key points to discuss and report on to the plenary on Friday:

- Good examples;
- Lessons learned – main hindering factors, problems;
- Possibilities in the future, recommendations.

LIFE session – WS4-6 running in parallel:

WS4: Engaging volunteers in monitoring and citizen science in LIFE projects.

Moderator: Inga Racinska

Rapporteur: Lauri Klein

The aim of this workshop is to discuss the experiences of practitioners in engaging volunteers in the nature conservation projects dealing with monitoring and assessments of species or habitats, including also a citizen science approach. Key points to discuss and report on to the plenary on Friday:

- Good examples;
- Lessons learned – what works, what are the main hindering factors;
- Recommendations for wider application of citizen science concept;
- What could LIFE programme do for a wider application of volunteers for citizen science in the nature conservation projects?

WS5: Engaging volunteers in practical conservation work in LIFE projects.

Moderator: Jüri-Ott Salm

Rapporteur: Elo Uibokand

The aim of the workshop is to discuss the actual conservation work experience in LIFE projects involving volunteers and to determine what steps should be taken to increase the impact of the volunteers in the LIFE programme. Key points to discuss and report on to the plenary on Friday:

- Types of the conservation work done by volunteers and good examples;

- Lessons learned - challenges and success stories;
- Further recommendations for the involvement of the volunteers in the practical conservation work in LIFE projects.

WS6: Engaging young people as volunteers in LIFE projects.

Moderator: Ivona Malbasic

Rapporteur: Mari Kaisal

The aim of workshop is to discuss the experiences of practitioners in engaging young people as volunteers in various nature conservation projects. Key points to discuss and report on to the plenary on Friday:

- Good examples;
- Lessons learned - problems, gaps, bottlenecks;
- Possible solutions, recommendations.
- What could LIFE programme do for a better engagement of young people as volunteers in LIFE projects?