



European  
Commission

## ***Draft programme***

# **Conference on Good practices in peatland restoration**

***Riga 29 November 2023, Riga Technical  
University***

*Regional and  
Urban Policy*

## JTP GROUNDWORK TA to LV – Conference on Good practices in peatland restoration

Riga 29 November 2023, Riga Technical University

The event focuses on identifying and disseminating information on the importance of peat site restoration, best practices, and strategies in planning and deciding on restoration options. It also aims to engage key stakeholders from national, regional, and local authorities in the fields of regional development, agriculture, environment, climate, and territorial planning in Latvia, as well as the private sector, NGOs, and academia.

The conference will cover the importance of peatland restoration in Latvia, share insights from local and international experts on measuring emissions and assessing degradation levels, highlight international best practices for peatland restoration with a focus on involving the private sector, and showcase ongoing restoration projects in Latvia.

TIME	ACTIVITY
8.45-9.45	<b>Registration and coffee</b>
9.45-9.50	<b>Introduction by conference hosts</b> <i>Agris Kamenders RTU &amp; Bettina Rafaelsen COWI</i>
9.50-10.00	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Professor Dagnija Blumberga, Institute of Energy Systems and Environment, RTU</i>
10.00-10.15	<b>Just Transition Fund and Just Transition Platform</b> Q&A <i>Balbina Gluza-Czyczerska, European Commission (DG REGIO)</i>
10.15-11.00	<b>Keynote speeches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Climate targets in forestry and agriculture sectors <i>(Dace Arāja, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture)</i></li></ul> Q&A

10:45-12:45 **Panel (1) discussion**

***'Practices and challenges in measuring emissions and assessing degradation levels'***

Panelists:

- Andis Lazdiņš, Senior researcher / GHG emission, ecosystem service valuation, wetland restoration, Latvian State Forest
- Anna-Helena Purre, GHG dynamics and Peatland expert, International Peatland Association (EE)
- Francesco Romagnoli, Professor / Life Cycle Analysis, Riga Technical University (LV)

Panel discussion and Q&A

*Moderated by Agris Kamenders (RTU)*

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**12:45-14:00 Lunch (Conference lobby)**

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14:00-15.30 **Panel (2) discussion**

***'Approaches and strategies to peat site restoration'***

Panelists:

- Bernd Hofer, International Peatland Society
- Andreas Haberl, Peatland restoration and sustainable use, Succow Foundation,
- Dana Prižavoite, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

Panel discussion and Q&A

*Moderated by Bettina Rafaelsen (COWI)*

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**15.30-16.00 Coffee (Conference lobby)**

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16.00-17.00 **Presentation**

***'On-going projects and initiatives in peat site restoration in Latvia'***

- Māra Pakalne, Project Manager, Peat Carbon
- Andis Lazdiņš, Project Manager, LIFE Restore
- Francesco Romagnoli, Professor Peat4RES, Riga Technical University
- Oskars Java, Vidzeme university of applied Science
- Maksis Apinis, Bank Watch Latvia
- *tbc*, The Latvian Peat Association

Q&A

*Moderated by Agris Kamenders (RTU)*

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17.00-17.15 **Closing words**

*Presented by Francesco Romagnoli (RTU)*

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18.00-22.00 **Reception dinner and Poster café**

Hotel Radisson Daugava

