

International seminar on

**“Integrating ecosystem service concept into spatial planning -
for sustainable land-use in grasslands and beyond”**

16 May 2018, Sigulda, Latvia

Opening

Heidrun Fammler, BEF



LIFE Viva Grass LIFE13 ENV/LT/000189

www.vivagrass.eu

Information about the LIFE Viva Grass project

- ✓ Title – “Integrated planning tool to ensure viability of grasslands”
- ✓ Funding programme: LIFE+ Environment
- ✓ Duration – ca. years (until April 2019)
- ✓ 9 cases study areas in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia

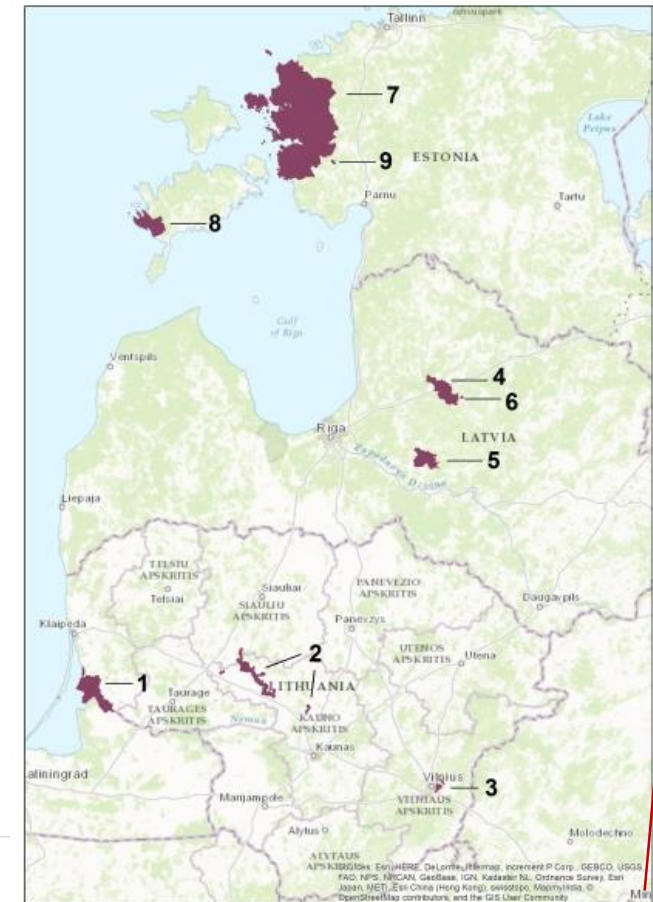
- ✓ Partners (14):

- **Co-ordination:** BEF-LT (CB); BEF-LV; BEF-EE
- **Scientific and technical support:** University of Latvia, Estonian University of Life Science, JSC Hint-Baltic, Institute of Environmental Solutions
- **Case study representatives:**

LT: Pavilniai and Verkiiai Regional Park; Dubysa Regional Park; Silute District Municipality

LV: Cēsis municipality, Farm “Kalnāju ferma”

EE: Lääne-Saare municipality, Farm “Saare Rantso”



LIFE Viva Grass

General objective:

- ✓ to support maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by grasslands, through encouraging **ecosystem based approach to planning** and economically viable grassland management

THE Major task:

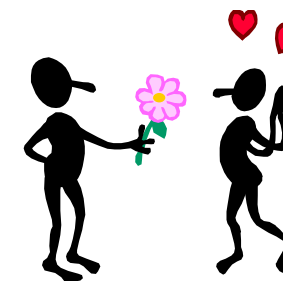
- ✓ development of an integrated planning tool:
 - to operationalize the concept of ecosystem services into decision making
 - To support land managers and planners in finding optimal management/planning solutions for enhancing grassland related ecosystem service supply.



LIFE Viva Grass (2)

Case studies: Nine different case study areas with various activities:

- ✓ Grassland ecosystem restoration as business catalytic measures
 - › Cēsis Municipality (LV): ca. 30ha of grassland (incl. elimination of Hogweed)
 - › Šovites Farm (LV): ca. 80ha of grassland - complex solutions
 - › Pavilniai Regional Park (LT): 8 ha of grassland (restoration)
 - › Dubysa Regional Park (LT): 24 ha of grassland (restored)
- ✓ Different land-use planning at regional, local and farmland level
 - › Protected area management
 - › Landscape Management
 - › Green infrastructure planning
 - › Bio-energy resource management by planning
 - › Stakeholder integration into local planning of grassland
 - › Grassland management planning



› Tourism catalytic activities

ENV/LT/000189

2017

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Life Viva grass international seminars

- ✓ Enhancing Economic viability of Grasslands by Green Farming in Europe, 27-31 **May 2015, Plosti, Latvia**
- ✓ Lahemaa national Park 45: International conference “Local communities, cultural landscapes and heritage”, 06-08 October 2016, Palmse, Estonia
- ✓ LIFE Platform meeting on Ecosystem Services: COSTING THE EARTH? – translating the ecosystem services concept into practical decision making, 10-12 **May 2017, Tallinn, Estonia**
- ✓ International seminar on “Integrating ecosystem service concept into spatial planning - for sustainable land-use in grasslands and beyond”, **16-18 May 2018, Sigulda, Latvia**
- ✓ Closing event, next year February in Vilnius! Date tbc.



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2017

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Aims of this seminar



- ✓ to promote the **ecosystem service concept** to spatial planners and nature conservation practitioners
- ✓ to discuss the challenges and opportunities for integration of the ecosystem services concept into spatial planning,
- ✓ to demonstrate the LIFE Viva Grass approach in development of grassland related planning solutions
- ✓ To learn from other European countries experience in applying ecosystem service framework in different spatial planning contexts



Who are here?

✓ Latvia 32; Lithuania 14; Estonia 10; Germany 2; Finland 2; Italy 2; UK 1, Spain 1, Crete 1

Institutional background of the participants

✓ Representatives from 4 LIFE projects

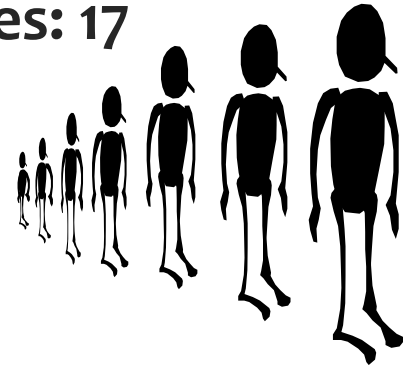
✓ Researcher institutes: 24

✓ Nature conservation agencies and other environmental authorities: 17

✓ NGOs: 10

✓ Municipalities: 6

✓ Others: 10*



*Planning regions, state forestry companies, Ministry of Finance, LEPF administration



The variety of participants' background is a great precondition for a good discussion!

We prepared a nice agenda for you:

