

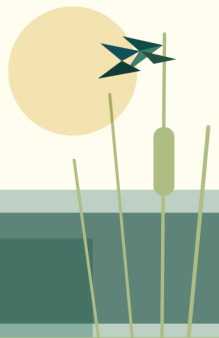
Wetlands Solutions *for the Future*

Learning from ALFAwetlands and
REWET Projects

 17 September 2026

 Henrik Conscience Building
Boulevard du Roi Albert II 15
Brussels, Belgium

FINAL CONFERENCE AGENDA



- 08:15 **Registration & coffee**
- 09:00 – 09:05 **Welcome**
- 09:05 – 09:20 **Scaling Wetland Restoration: The Role of EU Policy and Investments**
Keynote Speaker: Lucie Vidonne, Biodiversity Policy Officer (European Commission – DG Research and Innovation)
- 09:20 – 11:00 Session I:**
Why Wetlands Matter for Climate Action?

(Hadewych Auditorium, 0G00)

9:20-9:30	The Climate Benefits of Wetland Restoration	Liisa Ukonmaanaho , Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke) Francisco López Guirao , IDENER.AI
9:30-9:40	Restoration of Wetlands: What Do Citizens and Landowners Think?	Emmi Haltia , Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke)
9:40-9:50	Restoring Organic Soils Under Agriculture: Cost-Effective Portfolios in The Context of European Climate and Biodiversity Policies	Fanqi Vicky Jia , International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)
9:50-10:10	From Pilot Restoration to Basin-Scale Renaturation: Lessons from the Po River Open Lab (REWET)	Marco Bartoli , University of Parma Chiara Montecoroli , Po River District Basin Authority
10:10-10:30	Best Practices of Wetlands Restoration Initiative Peatland Forest Restoration: Rottasniittu, Finland (ALFAwetlands) The (Successful) Story of A Restored Floodplain - A Case Study from The Morava River in Austria (REWET) Les Madrigueres: an example of a coastal wetland co-creation (ALFAwetlands)	Sari Juutinen , Finnish Meteorological Institute Magdalena von der Thannen , University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna Silvia Poblador , University of Barcelona and CREAM
10:30-10:50	A Coalition of Voices: Policy Recommendations for Conserving and Restoring Europe's Wetlands from Ambition to Action	Hannah Porada , International Union for Conservation of Nature-NL Marie Lorenz , Michael Succow Foundation
Concluding remarks		

- 11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee break (0G06 Ontvangstruimte)**

11:30 – 12:15

Session II: Panel discussion Wetland restoration: Challenges, needs and opportunities

(Hadewych Auditorium, 0G00)

Participants:

Jaime Ribalaygua, Climate Research Foundation

Tuula Larmola, Natural Resources Institute Finland - Luke

Ana Lillebø, University of Alveiro

Jüri-Ott Salm, Estonian Fund for Nature

Christian Fritz, Radboud Institute for Biological and Environmental Sciences (RIBES)

12:15 – 13:30

Session III: Scientific Evidence to Support Wetland Restoration

(Hadewych Auditorium, 0G00)

12:15-12:25	Land Cover Mapping in European Wetlands Using Satellite Remote Sensing	Adrià Descals , Centre for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications
12:25-12:35	Remote Sensing Results from REWET: Monitoring seven Open Labs Across Europe	Werner Wiedemann , Remote Sensing Solutions
12:35-12:55	Harnessing Microbial Communities for Successful Wetland Restoration	Mikk Espenberg & Laura Kuusemets , University of Tartu
12:55-13:15	Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction and Biodiversity Preservation Through Wetland Restoration: A Win-Win Scenario?	Ralf Verdonchot , Wageningen Environmental Research

13:30 – 14:30

Lunch break (0G06 Ontvangstruimte)

14:30 – 16:30 Session IV: Practical sessions

(Hadewych Auditorium, 0G00)

14:30-14:40	WETSET: A Central Hub for European Wetland Data - REWET	Carlos Sánchez García , IDENER.AI
14:40-14:55	ALFAwetlands Web platform	Maud Raman , Research Institute Nature & Forest
14:55-15:15	Decision Support System for Wetland Restoration - REWET	Francisco López , IDENER.AI
15:15-15:30	But Where Are They? A Survey of Europe's Wetlands Under Pressure	Alex Barthelmes , Michael Succow Foundation
15:30-15:45	Social Monitor for Ecosystem Restoration (SOMER): A Structured Tool for Assessing Social Acceptance.	Patrick Graf , KU Leuven
15:45-16:00	ALFAwetlands - Matrix tool to quantify BES response in Wetlands	Arta Bārdule , Latvian State Forest Research Institute "Silava" Sabine Sauvage , French National Centre for Scientific Research
16:00-16:15	Restoration Readiness Level Framework – REWET	Lisa Wiatschka , Bax Innovation
16:15-16:30	ALFAwetlands Harmonised Methods for Use in the Field for Further Analyses and Data Collection	Kaido Soosaar , University of Tartu

(Room 1, Polyvalente Ruimte 0G03)

14:30-16:30	Co-creation Guidelines Training	Erik Andersson & Maria Tengö , Stockholm University
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(Room 2, René Descartes 1B03)

14:30-16:30	Best Practices for Wetland Restoration: Testing International Recommendations Against European Experience	Boris Barov , SER-Europe Kris Decler , Research Institute for Nature and Forest
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17:00 – 18:00 **Networking reception at the meeting venue (0G06 Ontvangstruimte)**