Restoring wetlands to tackle climate change

Although occupying only 7% of the earth's surface, wetlands store 33% of the world's terrestrial carbon. When these ecosystems are drained to be converted into agricultural, forestry or mining exploitations, they release greenhouse gases contributing to climate change.

The **REWET** project focuses on determining how the restoration and management of wetlands can be optimised to maximise their carbon uptake while in balance with type-specific natural processes and biodiversity.



REWET is a project bringing together 18 partners from 9 countries (Spain, Austria, the Netherlands, Finland, Belgium, Estonia, Italy, Germany, and Portugal). Universities, RTOs, NGOs, public bodies and SMEs are working together to develop **REWET**'s methodology that focuses on restoring wetlands to minimise emissions and maximise carbon uptake.







































https://www.rewet-he.eu/ https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/101056804





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Restoration of Wetlands to minimise emissions and maximise carbon uptake

A strategy for long term climate mitigation

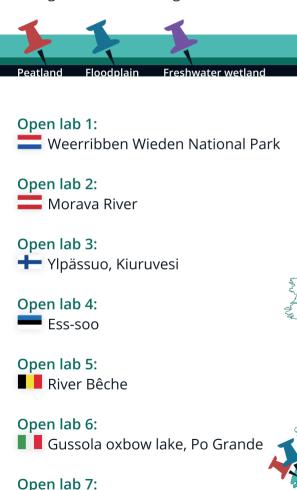


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sible for them.

Open labs to assess wetlands restoration activities

The **REWET** project draws upon a network of seven Open Labs (OLs) located in different geographical areas of Europe and covers different types of terrestrial wetlands: freshwater wetlands, peatlands and floodplains. The heterogeneity of the Open labs will allow the application of different restoration methodologies while following the same monitoring plan to provide replicable knowledge. Therefore, the **REWET**'s restoration methodology will consider not only technical and environmental aspects but also economic and social ones to create a sustainable wetland restoration technology that can be applied widely across Europe.



Paul da Gouxa

Objectives

- Successfully designing, implementing, and monitoring the 7 REWET's Open Labs.
- To deliver a "toolbox" to implement successful restoration practices based on the implementations carried out at the Open Labs.
- **3** To create an inventory of European wetlands.
- To generate an estimate of the EU wetlands' carbon footprint.
- To deliver a fit-for-purpose decision support system (DSS) tool for the managers and key stakeholders of wetlands.
- To provide policy recommendations of best practices for wetlands restoration.
- To create opportunities for green jobs for all stakeholders.
- To deliver a replication plan of REWET restoration and monitoring activities.
- To effectively integrate Social Science and Humanities and Gender Dimension.