

Wetlands Solutions *for the Future*

Learning from ALFAwetlands and
REWET Projects

 17 September 2026

 Brussels, Belgium



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the European Union

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PRIORITISING WETLAND CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION IN EUROPE

United voices for more policy impact

Dr. Hannah Porada

IUCN National Committee
of the Netherlands;
REWET

&

Marie Lorenz

Michael Succow Foundation,
Partner in the Greifswald Mire Centre;
ALFAwetlands



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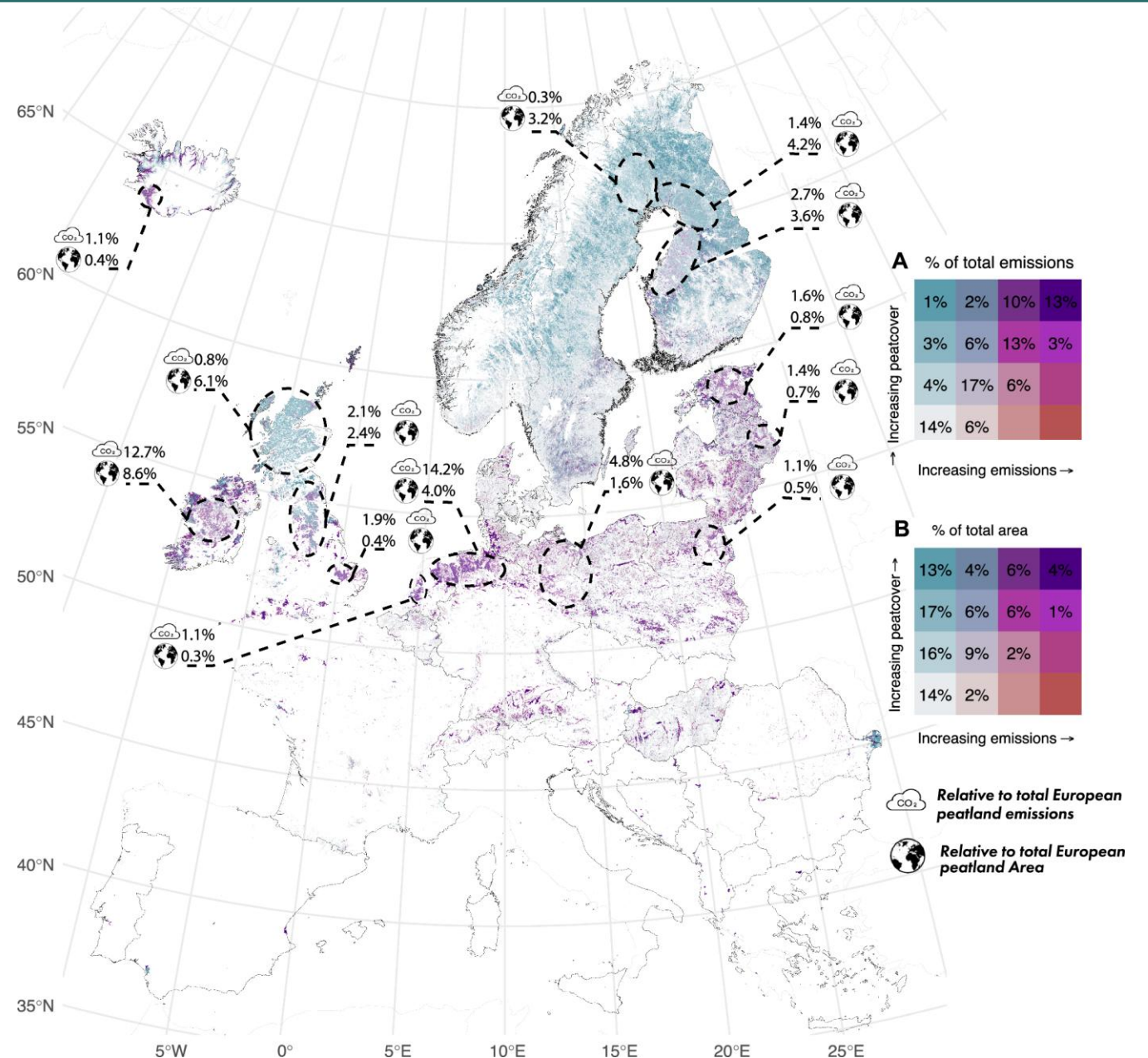


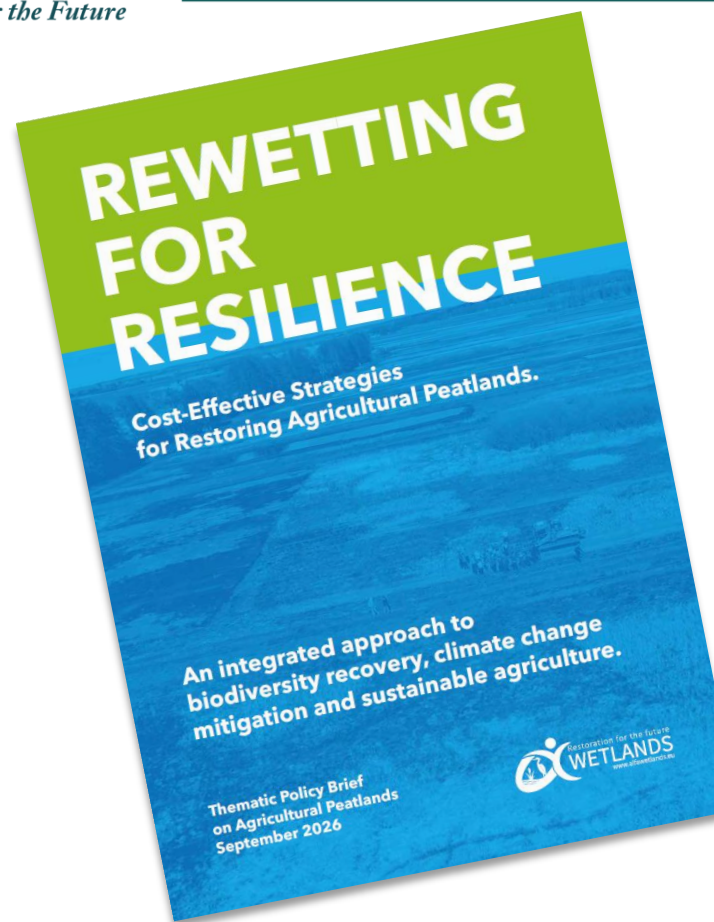
Hotspots of Greenhouse gas emissions of (drained) peatlands in Europe

High peatland density is depicted in blue colours, high emissions intensity in red; the simultaneous presence of a high peatland area and high emissions in purple.

Legend matrix A (top matrix) shows relative contribution of each color class to total EU+ emissions, and legend matrix B (bottom matrix) to total EU+ peatland area.

© van Giersbergen et al. (2025)



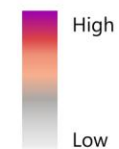
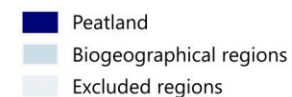
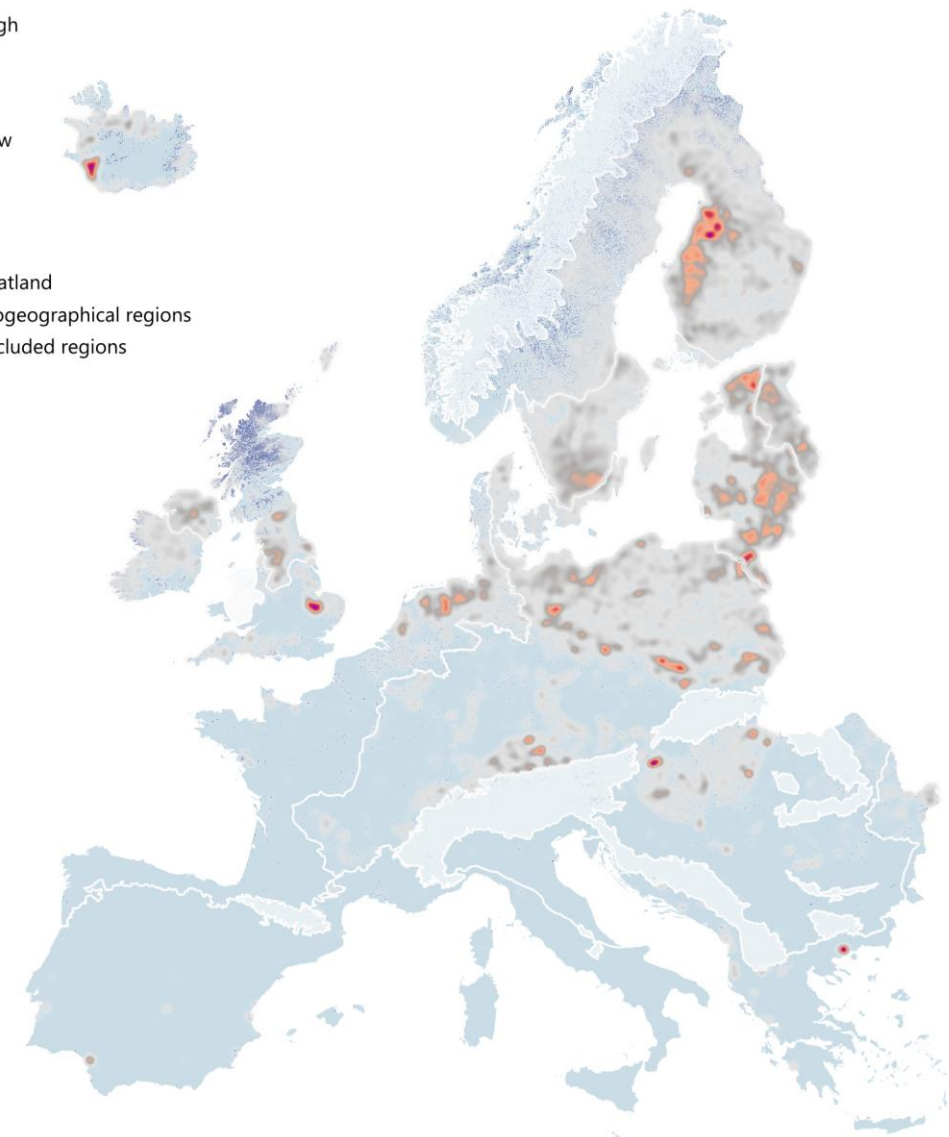


Hotspots of Greenhouse gas emissions from peatlands within European biogeographical regions

Note: This is a composite map. Hotspots are calculated separately for each biogeographical region. Each region has its own lowest and highest emission values, thus the colour coding from low to high is relative and only valid within each biogeographical region. The Alpine region was discarded because of lacking emission factors.

© ALFAwetlands (202)

Hotspots of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Peatlands



INTRODUCING THE JOINT POLICY WHITE PAPER



Scan to read White Paper



FOUR POLICY PRIORITIES



1 Improving policy coherence across sectors



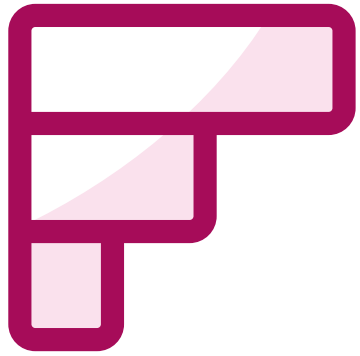
2 Mobilising public and private financing



3 Enabling landscape scale implementation



4 Strengthening monitoring systems and stakeholder participation



Which should be the biggest priority that we should be pushing in subsequent policy work?

PERSISTING BARRIERS TO IMPLEMENTATION



**Governance
fragmentation
and conflicting
incentives**



**Financing gaps
and limited
investment**



**Insufficient
implementation
and monitoring
capacity**



**Social acceptance
and participation
challenges**



1

Improving policy
coherence across
sectors



2 Mobilising public and private financing





3

Enabling landscape scale implementation





4

**Strengthening
monitoring systems
and stakeholder
participation**

Finland © Tuula Larmola, Luke.

SUCCESSSES ON THE GROUND



Co-creation in Upper Peene Valley, Germany - Landscape walk in May 2024 with local stakeholders © Marie Lorenz



Field measurements in the Ylpässuo Nature Reserve, Finland © KNEIA S.L.



Fieldwork in the Marjal dels Moros coastal wetland in Valencia, Spain. The researchers measure GHG emissions, carbon cycling, water quality and biodiversity to understand how wetland restoration can enhance climate mitigation and ecosystem resilience in coastal wetlands © Restore4Cs project.

FOUR POLICY PRIORITIES



1 Improving policy coherence across sectors



2 Mobilising public and private financing



3 Enabling landscape scale implementation



4 Strengthening monitoring systems and stakeholder participation

CALL TO ACTION!

Photo: Restoration measures in agricultural fen peatland in Germany with shallow topsoil removal and ditchblocking. Site is rewetted and established for paludiculture.
© BioFilm/Michael Succow Foundation

Wetlands Solutions *for the Future*

 17 September 2026

 Brussels, Belgium



Restoring wetlands, building resilience: A visit to the Living Lab Dijle Valley

Discover how wetland restoration supports climate resilience,
biodiversity recovery and sustainable water management in practice.

**MEETING POINT:
14:15
at the entrance**

PROGRAMME

	14:30	Departure from Brussels
	15:15	Arrival and introduction
	15:30	Guided field visit at Doode Bemde Nature Reserve
	17:15	Departure from the site
	18:00	Return to Brussels
	GATHERING POINT: Avenue du Roi Albert 15, 1120 Brussels	

THANK YOU

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White Paper



Partner in the



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