

# Workshop

## Extensively managed grasslands as natural carbon sinks – Practical implementation and requirements for CAP measures

11 – 13 June 2024 Slavonski Brod, Croatia

### Day 1 (Tue, 11 June 2024) – Conference Day

#### 8:30 Welcome & registration

- 9:00 Opening & welcome *Iris Beneš, president, Brod Ecological Society-BED*
  - Short introduction round
  - Project presentation “Landcare Europe Captures Carbon - Supporting Natural Climate Protection in Agricultural Landscapes” & Landcare Europe e.V., *Corinna Friedrich, DVL*
  - Video message, *Maria Noichl MEP, president of Landcare Europe e.V.*
  - *Grasslands as carbon sinks and its benefits for biodiversity & the water cycle, Darko Znaor, Executive Director, AVALON Foundation, The Netherlands*
  - Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) funding opportunities for grasslands, *Sonja Karoglan Todorović, president. Environmental Institute ECOLOGICA*

#### 10:30 - 11.00 Coffee break (30 min)

- 11:00: National context Croatia - management of grasslands in Croatia, *relevant Ministries tbc*
- Preserving traditional common management on Natura 2000 grassland of the wetlands «Gajna» [GAINA], farmers perspective, *Iris Benes, BED*
- Stories from different types of grasslands – dry grassland restoration, LIFE project “Dinara back to LIFE”, *Tomislav Hudina & Luka Škunca, BIOM*

#### 12:30 Lunch break (90 min)

- 14:00: *Presentation of challenges and best-practice examples across Europe*
- *Management & values of common grasslands, Concha Salguero, president Landcare Europe, Spain*
- *Development of results-based payments scheme for grasslands, Dr. Traci Birge, University of Helsinki Ruralia Institute*

Short presentation of another EUKI project: *Building the European Peatlands Initiative: a strong alliance for peatland climate protection in Europe*", Marina Škunca, Eurosite-European Land Conservation Network

#### 15:00 Coffee break (30 min)

- 15:30 - 17:15 *Roundtable discussion*
  - Introduction – Focus Paper on extensively managed grasslands
  - Roundtable discussion on success factors and necessary regulatory changes of the Common Agricultural Policy to foster grasslands as natural carbon sinks
    - *Are the recommendations suitable for your country?*
    - *Should the EU make these recommendations mandatory for the Member States? What could be minimum requirements?*
    - *Do you have regulations/eco-schemes/agri-environmental schemes that can be used as a best-practice? Measures efficient for climate protection that are easy to administer?*
    - *How can we advocate more climate/nature conservation in the CAP given the political context?*

#### 17:15 End of conference

18.00 Bus in front of a hotel - drive (30 min) to site «Gajna», Walk & Dinner – all participants

**Day 2 (12 June 24):** Excursion to Lonjsko Polje Nature park + farm visit (full day) – all participants.

Ones with tight flight schedules leaving to Zagreb, rest of the group driving back to SB.

**Day 3 (13 June 24):** Internal meeting (half day) – only EUKI project team members. No organized travel back to Zagreb.