Case study #05: Kampinos wetlands

Case study cluster: peatlands and wetlands

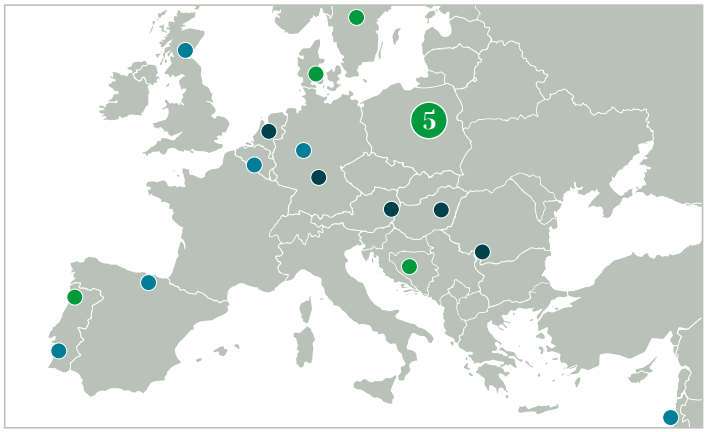
Country: Poland

Scientific partner: Warsaw University of Life Sciences

Implementation partner: Kampinos National Park

Twinning case study: –

Website: https://kampn.gov.pl/english-version



Demonstration

- **Type of restoration:** restoration of wetlands
- **Size:** approximately 6,000 ha of wetlands
- **Location(s):** Kampinos National Park
- **Value of the case:** peatland and wetland restoration, improved water retention, biodiversity enhancement, climate resilience, sustainable land-use transition.
- **Stakeholders involved:** NGOs, Polish State Water Management, governmental and local authorities, local communities
- **Sectors involved:** nature protection, agriculture
- **Innovations being applied:** integrated wetland rewetting, adaptive water management, cross-sector stakeholder collaboration

Implemented within MERLIN

- **Restoration measures**: Rewetting of drained meadows and peatlands through renovation of two weirs; flood protection maintained
- **Size**: 1010 ha
- **Scope**: regional
- **Vicinity**: rural/suburban
- **Stakeholders involved**: NGOs, Polish State Water Management, governmental and local authorities, local communities
- **Estimated costs**: 720,000€ (including planning, monitoring, construction and coordination costs) + ca. 16.000€ annual maintenance and monitoring costs

Lessons learnt

- Engage local communities early
- Evidence alone is not enough
- Build trust through dialogue

Additional information

MERLIN builds on two consecutive LIFE projects restoring wetlands through rewetting and ditch naturalisation.

The MERLIN project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101036337.

Strengths

- Strong conservation mandate
- Wetland and biodiversity restoration
- Established stakeholder partnerships

Weaknesses

- Fragmented land ownership
- Limited policy and funding support
- Potential GHG emissions

S W O T

Opportunities

- European restoration policy
- MERLIN knowledge exchange
- Flood and drought resilience

Threats

- Competing land-use demands
- Climate and water management uncertainty

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