

The IPS is an organisation of corporate and individual members dedicated to the responsible management and Wise Use of peatlands and peat. It promotes the gathering, exchange and communication of knowledge and experience. The Society serves all those interested in peat and peatlands including the scientific, industrial and commercial, and regulatory communities. It respects the economic, social and environmental values of the peatland resource. Currently the IPS has more than 1,400 individual and institutional members from 42 countries.

Help us to Develop and Promote the SRPM

The IPS is currently investigating how to further promote and implement the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management (SRPM) which is offering peatland management options from a global perspective, but under different local conditions. Therefore we would like to know how peatlands are managed in your country or region, how your work is related to them and how you personally would like to see the SRPM being used and further improved. Please visit <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1NztygM2T7bKDD5SyKjThZ9od0vmvF7qtSUS1wtpCQJI/viewform> and reply by **6 October** at the latest. The results of the survey will be analyzed and discussed at the next IPS Executive Board Meeting in Tallinn, **28 - 30 October**. The link can also be freely forwarded and shared to your colleagues and friends.

LINKS

Download the current SRPM: www.peatsociety.org/sites/default/files/files/srpmwebversion.pdf

Background: www.peatsociety.org/peatlands-and-peat/strategy-responsible-peatland-management

To order a printed copy of the SRPM for free: [sandra.lubinaite \(at\) peatsociety.org](mailto:sandra.lubinaite@peatsociety.org)

Peatlands International 2.2013 Digitally

Peatlands International is published this autumn as a digital magazine, starting with two trial issues in October and December 2013. You will be able to read the magazine as PDF file or directly online, by email, via the IPS website or on your mobile device. The concept of the magazine will stay very similar: the magazine consists of about 30-40 pages with background reports and news, reviews of conferences and books; it publishes research findings and business reports on all matters related to peat and peatlands, as well as internal information on the IPS and its sister organisations. However, information will be shorter, more to the point and more visual.

Your benefits are:

- New issue every two months (6 annually), and fast delivery → contents will be more up to date.
- Increased interactivity → articles can be complemented with videos, pictures galleries, background information, website links etc.
- Corporate and university members will be able to forward and share the magazine with colleagues within their own organisation.
- Online storage → Peatlands International will be accessible in any place with an Internet connection
- Advertisers will enjoy increased visibility and interactivity.
- Last but not least the digital edition will save printing + mailing costs (~20,000 €/year) and the environment.

The decision to try a new format is based on the feedback we received from the IPS members in our communications survey in spring 2013. As society, research and businesses are rapidly moving forward, we also have to keep up and be accessible to the wider audience. We look forward to an exciting new magazine and are keen to have you as readers and possibly even authors for one of the next issues. Any feedback is very welcome.

Topics of the coming issue are, with possible changes and additions:

- Viewpoint: Why going digital?
- Fens after drainage - a workshop in Poland
- Peat production season and statistics 2013
- The Baltic Peat Producers Forum 2013

- The Finnish Peatland Society visiting coastal peatlands around Kokkola
- Impressions from Sheffield's "War and Peat" conference
- Neros Project: Network monitoring rewetted/restored organic soils for climate and biodiversity benefits
- Peat dikes and strength parameters – unexpected results
- Renewability and classification of peat - a status report
- Peat pits - post excavation burdensome residue or valuable ecosystem?
- Horizontal FFS bagging machine from Premier Tech Chronos
- 5 Questions and Answers: Daasons SA from Argentina
- Seamus Heaney: Death of a Naturalist
- Upcoming peat and peatland events
- News from the industry

For more information on Peatlands International, please see www.peatsociety.org/publications/peatlands-international. Deadline for submissions to the December issue (articles and advertisements) is **1 November 2013**. Please send your articles and advertisements (max. 1-3 pages, if possible proofread) with separate illustrations (jpg, pdf), as soon as possible to [susann.warnecke \(at\) peatsociety.org](mailto:susann.warnecke@peatsociety.org).

Reorganised Staff at the IPS Secretariat

As of **1 October 2013**, the position of Acting IPS Secretary General is held by Communications Manager Ms Susann Warnecke, Diplom-Kauffrau (FH) until a new Secretary General is recruited. She is supported by part time Office Assistant Sandra Lubinaite, B.Sc. (Economics) from October to December 2013. This change was approved by the IPS Executive Board after former Secretary General Jaakko Silpola retired from his position to work for another organisation at the end of September. You can contact the IPS Secretariat from Monday to Friday from 8:00 to 16:00 hrs Finnish time at +358 40 418 4075 or by email [susann.warnecke \(at\) peatsociety.org](mailto:susann.warnecke@peatsociety.org) and [sandra.lubinaite \(at\) peatsociety.org](mailto:sandra.lubinaite@peatsociety.org). The postal address remains Kauppakatu 19 D 31, 40100 Jyväskylä, Finland. All contact details of the IPS staff can also be found at www.peatsociety.org/about-us/secretariat.

Get your own IPS gear!

The IPS Crew T-shirts at the Stockholm Congress have been very popular also among “just listening” participants. We are therefore now offering a range of IPS shirts and accessories at our new spreadshirt store. Please visit www.peatsociety.spreadshirt.fi and order your own logo-equipped t-shirt, windbreaker, backpack or thermos – and help promoting our Society at events and excursions. There are even “peaty!” shirts for children and a woollen hat for those cool days out in the field. We will add some products within the coming weeks, keep looking out for more. For each product € 1 will be used to support IPS’ activities for peat and peatlands. Local currencies and mailing options are available in the upper left corner of the shop. Remember also that you can order IPS proceedings, magazines and other printed publications at www.peatsociety.org/shop.

German Peat Day 2013 Growing in Attendance

The German Garden Industry Association (IVG) is expecting more than 200 participants to its annual Peat and Humus Day in Bad Zwischenahn on **24 October 2013**. The event will deal with current trends and backgrounds of the industry, nationally and internationally. The programme includes reviews of the eco-approach of the local population, green trade and business leadership in general; sustainability initiatives and challenges in Canada (Paul Short) and the European certification scheme “Responsibly Produced Peat” (Stefaan Vandaele). In addition, coir products are introduced as important additives to growing media, and there is special on changing packaging over time. Finally, the website www.warum-torf.info and the mire and fen museum Elisabethfehn are introducing their concepts and recent developments. For more information and to sign up, see www.ivg.org/ivg_de/ivg_veranstaltungen/ivg_dtht_2013/.

News from the UK Peat Society

At the recent IPS co-sponsored conference on 'War and Peat' held in Sheffield on **4 - 6 September 2013** the annual members meeting of the UK Peat Society, UK National Committee of IPS, was also held. Although the number of members attending was relatively small a much larger number was aware of it and supported the agenda. The

meeting formed an Executive Committee containing a good mix of peat industry and science. Neil Godsman has agreed to take on the position of Chairman replacing Allan Robertson. The UK Peat Society has been returned to a secure financial position and with an increasing membership. This is reflected in its ability to co-sponsor two conferences in 2014 and contribute £500 towards the cost of organising both of them. These are the 2nd Flow Country Research Conference, **4 - 6 March 2014**, Thurso, Scotland and, secondly, 'In The Bog: the ecology, landscape, archaeology and heritage of peatlands', **3 - 5 September 2014**, Sheffield. We warmly invite all UK peat and peatland people to take part in our activities. For more information, contact Prof. Jack Rieley, jack.rieley (at) nottingham.ac.uk.

UN Biodiversity Talks in Montreal, Canada

The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is hosting, from **2 - 18 October 2013** in Montreal, three major United Nations meetings on biodiversity. In conjunction with these meetings, experts from Montreal and around the world will give a series of talks on the role business, science and traditional knowledge play in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The Plan, which comprises a shared vision, a mission, strategic goals and 20 ambitious targets known as the Aichi Targets, serves as a flexible framework for the establishment of national and regional targets and promotes the coherent and effective implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The main talks will deal with Business & Biodiversity, Traditional Knowledge & Biodiversity, and Science & Biodiversity. For more information, visit www.cbd.int/meetings.

Sphagnum Moss Identification Workshops, UK

Two linked one-day workshops on the identification of sphagnum mosses are planned for **16 and 20 October 2013**. These will be based at the Longshaw Estate on the moorland fringe of the Peak District of Derbyshire, UK and will be led by Professor Ian Rotherham and colleagues from Sheffield Hallam University. The first workshop will be an introduction to the ecological importance of sphagna, their habitats and field identification of some of the commoner species. The second workshop will examine the detailed characteristics of sphagnum mosses, their morphology and microscopic features used in their identification. The first workshop will be suitable for beginners and for those who wish to brush up on their skills. The second workshop will assume some basic knowledge of sphagnum mosses. The workshops will include lunch and refreshments and course notes. Places are limited and pre-booking is essential. Contact info (at) hallamec.plus.com or phone +44 114 272 4227.

Anglesey and Llyn Fens Project Final Conference, UK

The Anglesey and Llyn Fens LIFE Project invites all interested to the final conference of the project "Breathing new LIFE into Anglesey and Llyn's Wetlands", which is held **9 - 11 October 2013** in Plas Menai, United Kingdom. The Anglesey and Llyn Fens LIFE Project is the largest wetland restoration project in Wales. The main aim is to restore or improve 751 hectares of very rare fen habitats, which depend on a delicate water balance and limestone springs that flow into the peat. The project is led by the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Dŵr Cymru in partnership with the farming unions, Cadwyn Cymru Link and the North Wales Wildlife Trust. The conference will consist of presentations and discussions about the LIFE project, ecology and hydro-ecology of the fens, management of biomass cropping and grazing, hydrology, nutrition and carbon, and the responsible management of fens. The programme is supplemented by various cultural activities, exhibitions, as well as field trips and excursions to restored fens and natural reserves. For more information please visit www.angleseyandllynfens.com or contact cecile.roberts (at) cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk. (Sandra Lubinaite, IPS)

Forest Carbon Database

The CIFOR Global Comparative Study on REDD+ supports a Forest Carbon Database which can be accessed at <http://carbonstock.cifor.org/user/HomeMap>, including an exchange system in the public domain. The database helps develop national and sub-national monitoring, reporting and verification of REDD+ activities and is open access to allow participation of those who carry out regular forest inventory, manage permanent sample plots, and conduct research on forest carbon stocks and related topics. Once the entire inventory of data is added, the carbon stock in that ecosystem will be automatically calculated. A user guide is available to familiarize users with the forest carbon database's features before deciding to participate and contribute to the system. For more information on the project and its backgrounds visit <http://carbonstock.cifor.org/documentation>.

