

The International Peatland Society (IPS) is an organisation of individual and corporate members dedicated to the responsible management and Wise Use of peatlands and peat. Our mission is to serve all those involved in peatlands and peat through the promotion, gathering, exchange and communication of knowledge and experience, by means of events and projects which address key issues, including climate change, biodiversity, the need for responsible use and restoration. Currently the IPS has 1495 individual, corporate, student and institutional members from 42 countries.

## IPS Annual Assemblies 2018 & 2019 - Preview!

The next IPS Convention and Annual Assembly will be held in connection with IPS' 50 Year's Jubilee Symposium in **Rotterdam**, the Netherlands in **September 2018** (dates to be announced). The Executive Board of the IPS also decided to hold the **2019 IPS Convention in Yanji, Republic of China**. Topic of the International Peatland Symposium 2019 will be "Wise use of peatlands under the pressure of population and economy development". Yanji, capital of the Yanbian Korean Autonomous Prefecture is located in the eastern part of Jilin Province, which borders Korea and Russia. The total area of peatland in the Changbai Mountain region is 92,160 km<sup>2</sup> taking account of 55.2% of the peatlands area of Jilin Province. According to our Chinese hosts, the Center of Wetland Conservation and Management of Yanbian Government was re-established last year and Yanji will in future showcase peatland management and peat use in China. Mark your calendars!

## Baltic Peat Producers Forum in Latvia in September

The Baltic Peat Producers Forum 2017 will be held in Riga on **13 - 14 September** at the Radisson Blu Hotel Latvia. The overall topic of the forum is "Peatlands – research, production, re-cultivation and the factors influencing it." The Forum will unite peat industry representatives from various peat-producing countries, as well as regulation makers and researchers who will share their experience and knowledge on peat and peatland related issues. The organizers invite you to join this event and offer an opportunity to support this forum by becoming a sponsor. To register, please visit [www.latvijaskudra.lv/en/bppf\\_17/Registration](http://www.latvijaskudra.lv/en/bppf_17/Registration) or check [www.latvijaskudra.lv/en/bppf\\_17/about\\_forum](http://www.latvijaskudra.lv/en/bppf_17/about_forum) for more detailed information. (*Ingrīda Krīgere, LPA*)

## Join the IPS Commission on Peatlands and Environment!

The new IPS Commission on Peatlands and Environment is looking for members to join their Expert Groups - gathering knowledge on Climate Change, Biodiversity and Restoration science in peatlands.

What does being a member involve?

You'll join a network of peatland scientists that will fulfil the following roles:

- Respond to information requests from the IPS Secretariat; Executive Board and Scientific Advisory Board
- Provide knowledge for IPS Projects, e.g. Wikippeat, as requested;
- Provide knowledge briefs for IPS members if requested, e.g. industry-relevant reports; and,
- Exchange information and opportunities between members.

There is no time commitment required; contribute as and when you can according to what information you feel you can provide and what time you can offer. Interested? Email Bernd Hofer, hofer (at) hofer-pautz.de, to join the mailing list. We look forward to welcoming you to the Commission. (*Bernd Hofer, Roxane Andersen, David Wilson and Lydia Cole*)

## CBP Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) invites Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities to contribute to the development of the process for the preparation of the post-2020

biodiversity framework. In decision XIII/1, paragraph 34, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary "to prepare, in consultation with the Bureau and for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its 2nd meeting, a proposal for a comprehensive and participatory preparatory process and timetable for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, taking into consideration that this work must cover the Convention on Biological Diversity and also consider its Protocols, as appropriate, including options for fostering commitments and strengthened implementation..." Comments and inputs to this process can be sent at your earliest convenience, but no later than **15 September 2017** to secretariat (at) cbd.int. In particular, Parties and others providing comments and inputs may wish to propose specific ways to ensure full engagement of various stakeholders and sectors in the development of the strategic plan. Parties and others may also wish to suggest options for fostering commitments and strengthened implementation. A note providing background information and other relevant information for the preparation of the post-2020 framework is available at [www.cbd.int/post2020](http://www.cbd.int/post2020). (Cristiana Paşca Palmer, CBD)

## Peatland Restoration Monitoring Online

The World Resources Institute (WRI) Indonesia, together with other environmental organisations like the Madani Foundation for Sustainability, have launched the [www.pantaugambut.id](http://www.pantaugambut.id) website recently. The pages are planned to contain the WRI's analysis of the government's commitment to restore 2 million hectares of peatland by 2020. Several regulations and attempts, both by central and regional administrations, have been done to fulfill this target so far, including a moratorium on the issuance of permits for primary forests and peatland in 2015. The website will also provide space to share stories, personal experiences, and ideas about peatland restoration, as well as a map of peatlands and the restoration projects. Peatland mapping continues to be one of the problems hindering restoration efforts. See also [www.wri-indonesia.org/en/our-work/project/pantau-gambut](http://www.wri-indonesia.org/en/our-work/project/pantau-gambut) for more information. (submitted by Jack Rieley)

## Fuel Peat Production Technology Guide in English

The Fuel Peat Production Technology training material by Eija Alakangas, Pekka Hölttä, Mari Juntunen, and Tero Vesisenaho is now available in English for free download at [www.jamk.fi/fi/Tutkimus-ja-kehitys/JAMKin-julkaisut/Julkaisuja/jamkjulkaisuja140fuelpeatproductiontechnology](http://www.jamk.fi/fi/Tutkimus-ja-kehitys/JAMKin-julkaisut/Julkaisuja/jamkjulkaisuja140fuelpeatproductiontechnology), on the initiative of the Bioenergy Association of Finland and the Jyväskylä University of Applied Sciences (JAMK). Sincere thanks to the authors! The guide has been produced by experts in the field of Finnish peat production, and it is a practical reference source for teachers and educators. The book is also suitable as a manual for the bioenergy sector experts, peat producers and as a self-study material for students. The handbook covers different phases in milled and sod peat production chains starting from bog preparation and extending to the peat storing phase. The most common machinery and methods are presented, taking into account technical and environmental aspects. The book also includes a chapter of energy peat properties and quality requirements, and the significance of peat in the fuel mixture. Publication series: Publications of JAMK University of Applied Sciences 140, Educational unit: School of Technology, ISSN: 1456-2332, ISBN 978-951-830-458-9 (PDF), Published: 2012, Pages: 102. For further information contact hannu.salo (at) bioenergia.fi. (Hannu Salo)

## Call for Articles: Peatlands International 3.2017

Peatlands International 3.2017 will be published as PDF magazine in September 2017. Please send your articles, short news items and other reports of interest by **30 August** to the IPS Secretariat, susann.warnecke (at) peatlands.org. Articles should not exceed 1-2 pages in Arial pt 10, all illustrations must be submitted with captions as separate jpg or pdf files. Remember to ask all photographers for permissions and include their names as well as full author contact details. Peatlands International is the members magazine of the IPS, published since 1998. Previous issues can be found in the Intranet of the IPS website or ordered from the IPS Secretariat (printed until 2013). Also advertisements can still be submitted (preferably PDF, A4). Further info and the media kit are available at [www.peatlands.org/publications](http://www.peatlands.org/publications).

## Aberdeen Book of Abstracts Available

The IPS Secretariat has some 20 copies of the 2017 "Responsible Management of Peatlands" Aberdeen, Book of Abstracts available for sale. The 60 pages colour booklet can be ordered for € 15 including worldwide mailing costs from susann.warnecke (at) peatlands.org. You will receive an invoice with your book, payment can be done by international bank transfer, PayPal or credit card. All abstracts will also be uploaded to the IPS Intranet this summer. See [www.peatlands2017.net](http://www.peatlands2017.net) and the coming issues of Peatlands International for more information on the symposium.