



International Peatland Society

Annual Report 2021

Secretary General's Review

2021 has been the second extraordinary year in IPS history. As we all know, face-to-face (F2F) meetings have been almost impossible due to Covid-19, at least with an international audience, which has had a severe impact on IPS activities. On the other hand, this has given us an excellent opportunity to fully embrace the possibilities of virtual meetings.

Most importantly, the International Peatland Congress was organized as an online event between 3 and 6 May 2021. This significant conference, hosted by the Estonian National Committee, was attended by 384 researchers and professionals from all over the world. Exactly 185 presentations were held and 75 posters were shared, with the feedback being extremely positive.

Although online meeting fatigue has set in, to a certain extent, we can at least say that emissions resulting from travelling have been reduced. On the other hand, I truly believe that F2F meetings could perhaps re-increase productivity and a sense of belonging to a degree that has been unprecedented for a number of years.

IPS, as well as other associations in the 21st century, is facing difficulties relating to generation change, and lack of commitment and self-initiative, which pose a threat to the association. For instance, the vacant positions within our Economy Commissions could not be filled in 2021, and the funding for a full-time Secretary General has ended this year.

Consequently, Gilbert Ludwig left his position in February and was replaced by Acting Secretary General Susann Warnecke. Concerning National Committees, we were able to re-attract the local associations in Russia and Sweden during the year but lost the peat(land) societies in Poland and Latvia.

Despite these challenges, the Executive Board did fulfil Strategy 2020-2024 as well as could be expected last year, with convention activities, three webinars, the Congress and eleven Executive Board meetings, which again resulted in numerous actions by IPS volunteers.

Most significant was the IPS presence at the Peatland Pavilion at UNFCCC COP26 in Glasgow in the autumn and our virtual presence for this huge event.

Photo on the right: During UNFCCC COP26, one of the many meetings we attended in 2021. On top, left to right, Susann Warnecke and Marco Pomerants, second row Bernd Hofer and Maria Strack. Screenshot by Susann Warnecke

In addition, IPS held a drawing competition on the occasion of World Wetlands Day for the first time, which resulted in a beautiful bog art calendar for 2022. We were also kept busy by the multi-stakeholder Merlin EU restoration project which gathered pace in October.

Peatlands International and Peatland Snippets remained important communication tools, supplemented by the ad hoc social media channels on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

From a financial perspective, IPS has "benefitted" from the lack of staff and less travelling, however, this is not a positive development in the long term. Nevertheless, this year's surplus gives us the opportunity to work on a deficit budget over the coming years, when travel restrictions will hopefully be lifted. A special position paper by the Executive Board might also attract further funding in 2022 to increase our science impact.

I would like to thank all our IPS members for their commitment and financial support in 2021, namely, our Executive Board, Commission Chairs and Expert Group coordinators, as well as National Committee Chairs and Secretaries and others, who carry out voluntary work for the IPS. As I have said previously, YOU are the IPS and we are only as good as your work input.

Wishing you success and health for 2022

Susann Warnecke

Acting Secretary General
since March 2021
susann.warnecke@peatlands.org



Report of the Executive Board

Conventions and Cooperation

International Convention cooperation continued under the leadership of Professor Jack Rieley. IPS follows, in particular, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD).

Other organisations, like UNEP and GLF, were given less attention than previously, as resources needed to be focused on the most important bodies. It is one of the tasks of the IPS to present science-based facts to its members and stakeholders. This is best conducted in a F2F and balanced manner.

In addition, the IPS has cooperated successfully with the Global Peatlands Initiative (GPI), the Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss Association (CSPMA) and Growing Media Europe (GME).

Science and Data

The IPS has continued the promotion of the Responsible Peatland Management Strategy and Wise Use concept on an international level.

The peer-reviewed scientific journal *Mires and Peat* has continued its successful path under the leadership of editors, Olivia Bragg and Sabine Jordan.

The 687-page Proceedings of the International Peatland Congress 2021 will be an excellent resource for providing science and facts to an interested audience, as well as helping establishing networks for many years to come.

The IPS has awarded eight Allan Robertson Grants to Research Students and Young Professionals last year. Each grant amounts to €500 and the reports will be published in Peatlands International.

Commissions

IPS' three Commissions and their Expert Groups contributed significantly, among others, to IPC2021 by reviewing abstracts; they also attended numerous other events and provided expert statements.

Their status at the end of 2021 was as follows:

Peatlands and Environment, Chair: Bernd Hofer

Vice Chairs: Maria Strack, Bambang Setiadi

Expert Groups:

Peatlands and Climate Change: Gerald Jurasinski

Peatlands and Biodiversity: Lydia Cole

Peatland Restoration: Pete Whittington

Tropical Peatland Round Table: Jack Rieley

Peatlands and Economy, Chair: Ingrida Krigerė (until 31 Dec)

Vice Chairs: vacant

Expert Groups:

Peatlands for Agriculture: Jos Schouwenaars

Peatlands for Forestry: Sakari Sarkkola

Peat for Growing Media: vacant

Peatlands and Society, Chair: Marie Kofod-Hansen

Vice Chairs: Kirsi Laurén, Rachel Carmenta

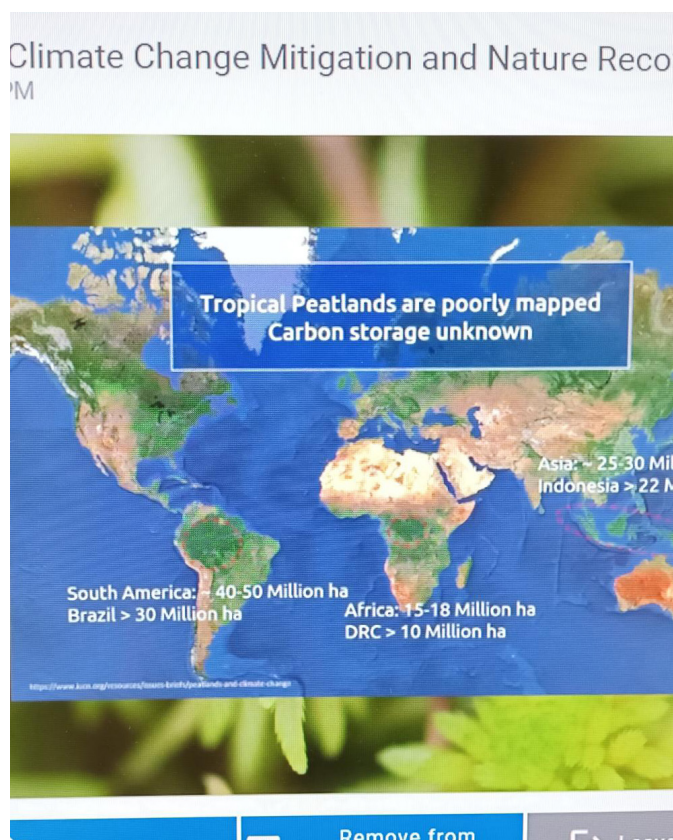
Expert Groups:

Peatlands Culture, Education, Communication and Publicity: Ilze Ozola

Peatland Conventions and International Affairs: Jack Rieley

Peatlands and People: vacant

The IPS Commissions and their Expert Groups foster information exchange, suggest projects and initiate



IPS brought scientists and professionals together to provide data on peat and peatlands worldwide, here for instance Florian Siegert's map for Glasgow UNFCCC COP26. Screenshot by Susann Warnecke

international conferences and other events. Commission membership is informal and open to all IPS members; contact should be made with the Chairs. All Commission Chairs are members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB).

Communications

Four electronic issues of the IPS magazine Peatlands International were published in 2021. The Peatland Snippets newsletter appeared twelve times in members' inboxes. In addition, the IPS sent several Briefing Notes and emails to its corporate members. The IPS actively uses its Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Twitter pages for quick updates.

Gilbert Ludwig was Editor-in-Chief until the end of February, when Susann Warnecke took over. She is responsible for the editing and layout of the publications, IPS events and updating the member and distribution lists. Since March, IPS Presidents have had full responsibility for media responses and official statements.

The IPS continued its online shop on the Holvi platform, and sold, in addition to numerous books and proceedings, 250 IPS Bog Art calendars. The member discount was increased to 20% (code: IPSMEMBER).

Events

According to IPS rules, no other major meetings are usually organised in a Congress year. However, the IPS succeeded to organise numerous webinars and virtual meetings despite Covid-19:

20 April: a **National Committee Round Table** was held prior to the Annual Assembly as an online meeting. The items discussed included international cooperation, implementation of the IPS Strategy 2020-2024 and the procedures of the actual assembly.

6 May: the **General Assembly** was held during IPC2021 as a virtual meeting, included a presentation by the President on



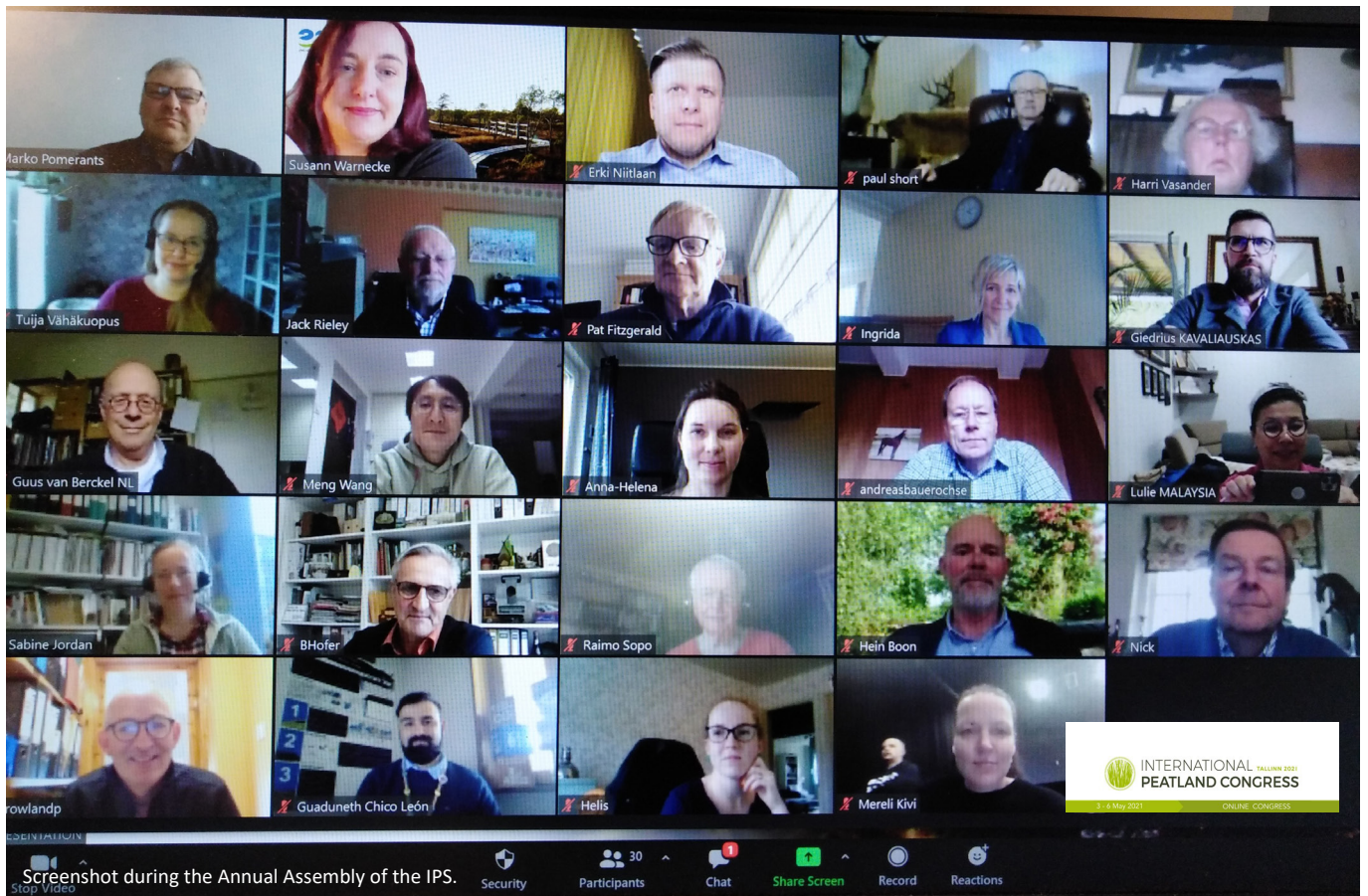
the previous four years of activities of the IPS and a preview of 2021-2024 by the Acting Secretary General. The formal **Annual Assembly of National Representatives** was held immediately afterwards, attended by authorized attendees from 11 National Committees and 28 observers.

3 - 6 May: the **16th International Peatland Congress** was hosted by the Estonian National Committee and Congress Bureau Publicon from Tallinn, for the first time online, due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions. The event was attended by 384 persons and included 185 oral as well as 75 poster presentations. A special feature was the **Global Peatland and Peat Industry Summit** on 4 May which was organised by the IPS Secretariat and featured 11 presentations from representatives of industry and international conventions.

Another welcome novum was the **"Peat Talks"** which allowed speakers to present less scientific ideas and thoughts. The proceedings were published electronically and - on request - as a printed version; copies can still be ordered from the IPS online shop (19) or via Curran Associates (unlimited). The content of the Congress was made available



IP covers 1-4.2021.



for subsequent viewing via the Brella system and Vimeo. A detailed report can be found in Peatlands International 2.2021. The next International Peatland Congress will be held in China in 2024. The bidding process for IPC2028 was moved to 2022.

2 June: the peatland and peat community celebrated the 2nd **World Peatlands Day**, launched by the IPS two years ago, both online and via different print media, hashtag #worldpeatlandsday

14 June: IPS and the Institute for Earth System Research (INAR) of the University of Helsinki, Finland organised a joint webinar, entitled “**Peatland Restoration Worldwide - Where do we stand in 2021?**” With a duration of two hours, this included 15 speakers from 11 countries, followed by a live discussion. The event was attended by 90 listeners and can still be viewed via the IPS member Dropbox.

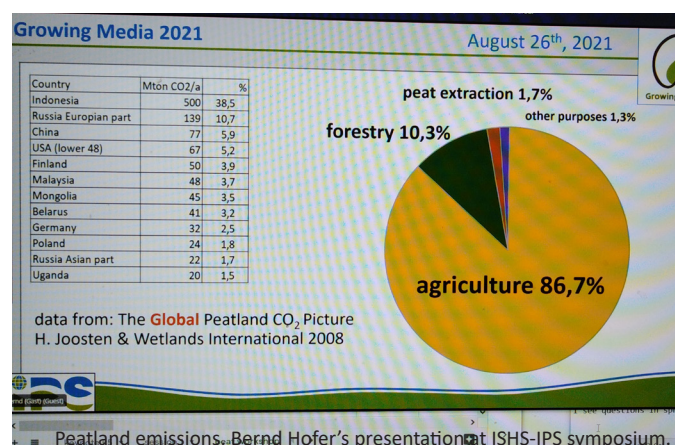
22 - 27 August: the **2nd International Symposium on Growing Media, Soilless Cultivation and Compost Utilisation in Horticulture Symposium** was held by the ISHS and IPS in Melle, Belgium and online. IPS was responsible for a special **Growing Media Policy Day** on 26 August, consisting of presentations on the status of peat and peatlands from the perspective of growers, as well as an expert Q and A session.

1 - 13 November: IPS participated in the **26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)** in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom. This participation was realized mainly via the virtual and physical Peatland Pavilion of the Global Peatlands Initiative (GPI) and its partners. IPS had also

opened its own COP26 Peatland Portal on the IPS website which includes important facts on peat and peatlands, and can still be used: www.peatlands.org/cop26.

As official IPS observers, Vice Presidents Guus van Berckel and Jack Rieley travelled to Glasgow for a week (three more registered participants were unable to travel). The actual IPS session on “**Peatland Partnerships in Climate Change Mitigation and Nature Recovery**” on 5 November was opened by Professor Alue Dohong from Indonesia.

This 90-minute event included presentations by 14 experts on peat and peatland matters, concerning all three pillars of sustainable development: economy, environment and society. IPS is unique in this respect. Ninety people participated live, with more likely to have participated online via the virtual pavilion during the two COP26 weeks; others joined the 3D tour at <https://bit.ly/35V6i05>.



25 November: the IPS Secretariat organised a **COP26 briefing** for its corporate members.

16 December: two speakers, from Finland and the Netherlands (originally three) reported on "**LULUCF reporting for peat and peatlands**" during a 90-minute webinar. The informative event and its Q and A session were attended by 42 participants from science and industry.

The activities of our National Committees were held as online conferences but were also postponed or cancelled (see their reports in the attachments). IPS representatives attended a large number of virtual conferences of other organizers. A list of IPS and related peat(land) events can be found at www.peatlands.org/events.

Secretariat and Staff

Until 26 February, the staff of the IPS Secretariat consisted of the full-time Secretary General, Dr Gilbert Ludwig and Head of Communications and Finance Administration, Susann Warnecke. As of 1 March, Ms Warnecke was appointed Acting Secretary General of the IPS, in addition to her previous tasks.

The IPS Secretariat continues to be based at the facilities of the Start Up Leipomo, Nisulankatu 78 B 6, 40720 Jyväskylä. The IPS staff switched from remote working to office work as of 15 September 2021.

The accounting is conducted electronically by TietoAkseli together with the IPS staff. Jenni Kovanen, KHT of Tilintarkastus Interöinen & Himanen Oy was appointed Auditor by the Annual Assembly.



Food security has been one of the important issues for the horticulture sector in 2021. Photo: Jonathan Kemper

Executive Board

The Executive Board currently consists of six members with an industrial background, while five come from the science community. Honorary President Professor emeritus, Juhani Päivänen, is allowed to attend all meetings, while Dedi Nursyamsi from Indonesia, Meng Wang from China, Asha Hingorani of CSPMA and Cecilia Luetgebrune of GME participate as temporary observers. The next Executive Board elections (six seats available) will be held in June 2022. Ingrida Krigere left the EB as of 31 December 2021.

The members of the EB at the end of 2021 and their terms of office were/are as follows:

President
Marko Pomerants, Estonia 2020-2024
marko.pomerants@peatlands.org

First Vice President
Guus van Berckel, the Netherlands 2020-2024
g.vanberckel@griendtsveen.de

Second Vice President
Jack Rieley, United Kingdom 2020-2024
jack.rieley@peatlands.org

Ordinary Members
Sabine Jordan, Sweden 2018-2022
Lulie Melling, Malaysia 2018-2022
Frank Tamminga, Germany 2018-2022
Erki Niitlaan, Estonia 2020-2022

Ingrida Krigere, Latvia 2020-2021
Donal Clarke, Ireland 2020-2024
Paul Short, Canada 2020-2024
Tuija Vähäkuopus, Finland 2020-2024

Administrative meetings of the IPS EB have been held every month since February, via MS Teams.

The decisions resulting from these meetings were disseminated through Peatland Snippets or Peatlands International, our blog, by email and on social media. IPS also shared the results of its media follow-up as time allowed.

Projects

The IPS organised a **drawing competition** on the occasion of World Wetlands Day on 2 February. This comprised three different categories, namely, kids, juniors and adults, and lasted until the end of August. Around 20 paintings were submitted. Thirteen works of art, chosen by a volunteer jury, were printed in a 2022 Bog Art Calendar of which 250 copies were sold in the autumn.

The IPS also participated in the **EU Merlin project**, "Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration of Freshwater-related Ecosystems in a Landscape Context: Innovation, Upscaling

Entry to the IPS Portal at the virtual 3D Peatland Pavilion of COP26, showcasing the three pillars of Sustainable Development.



and Transformation". This is being led by the University of Duisburg-Essen and comprises 44 partners, with a total budget of €21 million, of which IPS' share is around €55,550. The project started officially in October, but administrative work had already started during the spring and summer of 2021, carried out mostly by Jack Rieley and Susann Warnecke. A first payment is expected in early 2022, possibly to hire a project manager if needed.

The IPS also continued its work on a new edition of the **Peatlands and Climate Change book** (earlier version of 2008, € 5.90 www.bit.ly/ccbook2008). The Editor is Maria Strack and the first chapters were reviewed by IPS experts in the autumn. The publication of this important book is planned in 2022. Several dozen pre-orders are already in store.

Finances and Funding

The income statement of the IPS shows a surplus of €99,185 for the financial year. This is the result of lower staff expenses, a lack of travelling due to Covid-19, and the income of IPC2021.

During 2019-2021, IPS collected annual contributions of €86,000 from 10-13 of its members and partners to finance the position of full-time Secretary General. This carries some risk of refunding in 2022, as not all sponsors have yet replied to a letter stating that the IPS has, despite the lack of a full-time SG, fulfilled its Strategy in 2021, and asked to be allowed to use the funds in the future.

The EB proposes that the surplus be used to fulfil the IPS Strategy during 2022-2024.

However, the number of receivables as of 31 December was still €37,045, an amount that we expect to come in at the latest in spring 2022. Of the unpaid membership fees, the NC contributions of Ukraine and USA are the most unlikely, as staying in contact has been a challenge.

Bad debts amounted to €26,767 of unpaid fees 2020-2021. This is a large amount and poses problems for IPS' further planning. The EB will deal with unpaid membership fees 2021 again at the latest at its meetings in May/June and will write off receivables as appropriate.

The total income of the IPS was €261,819, with expenditure amounting to €162,465. Assets and liabilities were €287,310 on 31 December.

The IPS is mainly financed by membership fees, of which the largest are paid by corporations and National Committees. In addition, the IPS collects a 15% commission when organising major events, such as International Peatland Congresses. From this we expect an income of approximately €20,000 for IPC2021, to be paid in early 2022.

Membership

At the end of 2021, the IPS membership comprised 1,608 members from 33 countries, of which 16 have National Committees (NCs). While Sweden and Russia re-joined the IPS as NCs during the year, the Polish NC ceased in October and the Latvian Peat Association left the IPS in December 2021.

In other countries, members are directly associated with the IPS Secretariat, 31 in total. Membership is open to all individuals and organisations interested in peatlands and peat: www.peatlands.org/join-us.

The IPS currently has 20 honorary members. It was with great sadness to hear that Yrjö Pessi from Finland passed away in December 2021 and that Ferenc Baranyai from Hungary left us in 1999.

At the end of the year, the IPS was represented locally by the following **National Committee Chairs and Secretaries**:

Canada

Dr Jean-Yves Daigle, jydaigle@nb.sympatico.ca
Asha Hingorani, asha@peatmoss.com
Paul Short, cspma@peatmoss.com

China

Dr Meng Wang, wangm581@nenu.edu.cn
Dr Zucheng Wang, angzc100@nenu.edu.cn

Estonia

Erki Niitlaan, erki@turbaliit.ee

Finland

Sakari Sarkkola sakari.sarkkola@luke.fi
Sanna Piilo, suoseura49@gmail.com
Hannu Salo, hannu.salo@bioenergia.fi (industry)

Germany

Dr Andreas Bauerochse, bauerochse@dgmteve.de
Jörn Kasch, kasch@dgmteve.de
Arne B. Hückstädt (IVG, industry) -> Anna Hackstein -> Philip Testroet testroet@ivg.org

Indonesia

Prof. Supiandi Sabiham, supiandi@yahoo.com
Prof. Fahmuddin Agus, fahmuddin_agus@yahoo.com
Prof. Budi Intra Setiawan, budindra@ipb.ac.id

Ireland

Dr Catherine O'Connell, cajohnfz@gmail.com
Pat Fitzgerald, patandclairefitzgerald@gmail.com

Japan

Prof. Mitsuru Osaki, mosaki@chem.agr.hokudai.ac.jp

Latvia (until 31 December)

Ingrida Krigere, ingrida@peat.lv

Lithuania

Giedrius Kavaliauskas,
giedrius.kavaliauskas@klasmann-deilmann.com
Oksana Strasiniskiene,
oksana.strasiniskiene@klasmann-deilmann.com

Malaysia

Dr Lulie Melling, luliemelling@gmail.com

Frederick Haili Teck, fhteck@gmail.com
Sharon Yu Ling Lau, lauyuling@gmail.com (Treasurer)

The Netherlands

Dr Guus van Berckel, g.vanberckel@griendtsveen.de
Dr Michiel Gerding, secretaris@veengenootschap.nl

Poland (until 15 October)

Prof. Dr Lech Wojciech Szajdak, szajlech@man.poznan.pl
Marek Szczepanski, marek.szczepanski@isrl.poznan.pl

United Kingdom

Prof. Susan E. Page, sep5@le.ac.uk
Prof. Jack Rieley, jack.rieley@peatlands.org

USA

Rich Hendricks, rich@crushingmechanics.com

National Committee and Commission reports are published on the IPS website and in this report. The most up to date contact details are available at www.peatlands.org/about-us/national-committees.

Outlook

Since the end of 2021, the activities of the IPS have continued normally. However, the unpaid membership fees and the full-time Secretary General contributions in the balance sheet of 2021 present certain risks.

The IPS expects to keep the membership fees at the same level, increased by an inflation compensation.

However, the Peatlands and Economy Commission proposes a change of payment system and an increase of industry fees to the Executive Board, to allow the recruitment of a Science Officer, and to invoice corporate members directly instead of industry National Committees only. The 2022 budget is, however, still written according to previously agreed income, following reasonable commercial assessment.

Attachments

Member Statistics
Financial Report
Signatures
Auditor's Statement
National Committee Reports
Commission Reports

Susann Warnecke

Head of Communications and Finance Administration
Acting Secretary General
susann.warnecke@peatlands.org

Approved by the Executive Board on 9 March 2022, to be approved by the Annual Assembly on 8 June 2022. Official version in Finnish. To be signed by Executive Board & Auditor.



IPS Membership Statistics

	Individual members	Corporate Members	Research Institutes, Universities	Governmental Institutes	NGOs	Honorary Members (NC+IPS)	Students	TOTAL
Indonesia	430							430
Germany	282	43	5	6		11	42	389
Finland (Suoseura+Ber)	248	19				11	8	286
The Netherlands	47	12	5	1		2	5	72
Japan	46						4	50
China	48							48
Malaysia	41	5					1	47
United Kingdom	29	5	1	1	1	2	5	44
Estonia		38				1		39
Canada (CSPMA+CSPF)	11	24				2	1	38
Ireland	31	1		1		1		34
Russia	15	4	4	2			3	30
USA	20	4		1		3		28
Lithuania	2	21						23
Ukraine	10	3	1					14
Sweden	5							5
1st January 2022	1265	179	16	12	1	35	69	1577
1st January 2021	1346	201	12	10	1	41	65	1676
1st January 2020	1361	219	13	10	2	42	64	1711
1st January 2019	1021	216	11	12		41	62	1363

	Individual Members	Corporate Members	Students	Honorary Members	NGOs	Research Institutes, Universities	Governmental Institutes	TOTAL
Norway	2	2				1		5
Denmark	1	2	1					4
Latvia	2	1			1			4
Belgium	1	1						2
France		2						2
Hungary	1				1			2
Italy	2							2
Poland	1				1			2
Singapore	2							2
Spain	2							2
Australia	1							1
Belarus					1			1
Chile	1							1
Peru			1					1
1st January 2022	16	8	2	4	0	1	0	31
1st January 2021	19	8	5	4	0	1	0	37
1st January 2020	22	11	6	4	0	1	0	44
1st January 2019	23	10	6	4		1		44
	1281	187	71	39	1	17	12	1608

	Jan-22	Jan-21	Jan-20	Jan-19	Jan-18	Jan-17	Balance
NC members	1577	1676	1711	1363	1387	1441	-99
Non-NC members	31	37	44	44	50	54	-6
	1608	1713	1755	1407	1437	1495	-105

The National Committees of Belarus and CZ are suspended until membership fees are paid.

The Norwegian NC ceased as of January 2016, Polish NC as of Oct 2021 and Latvian NC as of Dec 2021.

Sweden and Russia rejoined as NCs in 2021.

At the end of 2021, the NC fees of the Netherlands, Japan, Ukraine, USA and Malaysia were unpaid.

IPS Honorary Members:

Gerfried Caspers, Germany; Richard S. Clymo, United Kingdom; Jean-Yves Daigle, Canada; A.K Dergunov, Russia; Hartmut Falkenberg, Germany; Neil Godzman, United Kingdom; Donald N. Grubich, USA; Matti Hilli, Finland; Gerry Hood, Canada; Paddy Hughes, Ireland; Piotr Ilnicki, Poland; Ivan I. Lishtvan, Belarus; Markkku Mäkelä, Finland; Thomas Malterer, USA; Juhani Päivänen, Finland; Jaakko Silpola, Finland; Ansis Snore, Latvia; B.N. Sokolov, Russia; Raimo Sopo, Finland; Nick van de Griendt, the Netherlands. Passed away: Ferenc Baranyai, Hungary in 1999 and Yrjö Pessi, Finland in 2021.

Honorary members, including the Honorary President, are long serving members of IPS who have given exemplary service to the Society or to peat or peatlands internationally. Proposals can be sent to ips@peatlands.org any time.

National Committee Reports

Canada (CSPMA)

Science and Policy Highlights

Science and Projects - Achievements

- Coordination of committees and industry meetings
- Meeting (1) of the Science Coordinating Committee (SCC)
- Follow-up of ongoing research projects by the various research collaborators: U. Laval, McGill U., U. Waterloo, U. Alberta, Brandon U., Bangor U., Valorès, IRDA, DUC
- Meetings (2) of the CRD-UL Advisory Committee (AC)



- 5 scientific manuscripts reviewed
- Many specific projects meetings (e.g. Sphagnum farming, certification, Food Safety Task Force)

Projects: development and management

- Development of Manitoba Research Proposal (Brandon University)
- Development of a GHG calculator in support of certification with UQAR
- Economic Impact of sectors that rely on peat-based growing media in North America (completed in June 2021)

Support to:

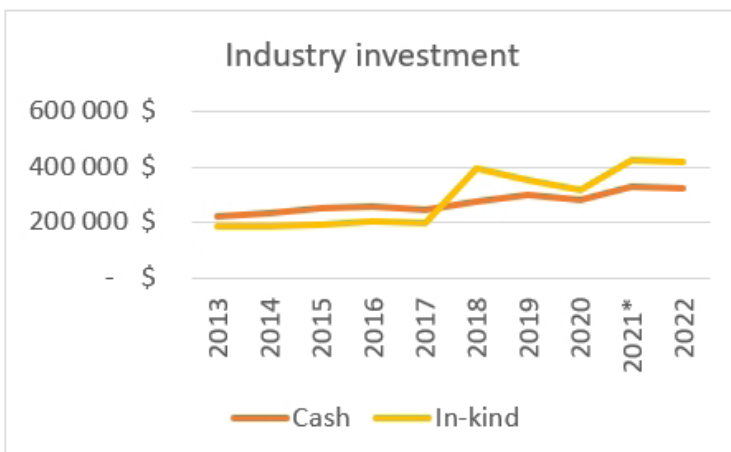
- “Can-Peat: Canada’s peatlands as nature-based solutions to climate change” project proposal to Climate Action and Awareness Fund (ECCC-CAAF)
- CWR “Canadian Wetland Conservation Framework” proposal to Nature-Smart Climate Change Solution (ECCC-NSCCS)

Projects: development and management

- Oversight of the industry research
- Program and research activities
- Progress with our research partners

Attendance at Scientific Events

- BERA Symposium: April 20, 2020 and February 18, 2021
- ResNet Workshop: April 29, 2020
- GPI Webinars: September 17, 2020, October 15, 2020
- QC Greenhouse Industry Webinar: Sept 23, 2020
- Québec Vert Horticultural Show: November 19, 2020
- McGill Science Symposium: November 20, 2020
- GrowFest21: February 9, 2021
- RRR2021: March 9, 2021
- Wetland Knowledge Exchange Webinar: March 23, 2021



Investment of CSPMA, in CAD.

Policy Achievements

CSPMA Provincial Task Forces

- Manitoba - proclamation of the exploration elements of the Act and Regulations
- Saskatchewan - Companies' advanced interests in the province
- Alberta - Meeting with senior staff on a peatland management policy
- CSPMA continued policy and research with Ducks Unlimited Canada

Federal Engagement

- Horticultural peat industry recognized as an essential business in the supply chain - Food security
- Species at Risk Act (carmine shiner) Caribou Management planning requirements
- Contact maintained with CFIA, GAC & Trade
- AAFC (Food Safety Issues)

CSPMA International Efforts & Influence

- Continued engagement with IPS to engage in UN Forum on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and RAMSAR
- Collaboration with Growing Media Europe

Finland

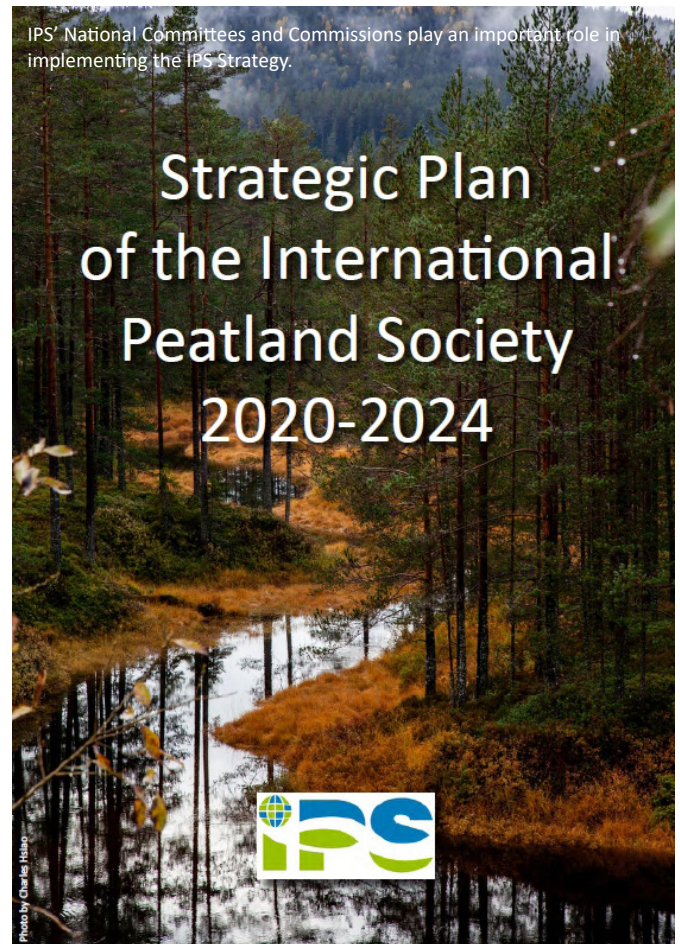
The year 2021 marked the Society's 72nd year of operation. The regular activities of the spring and autumn meetings and seminars were organized online.

Many members of the Finnish Peatland Society participated online in the International Peatland Congress, although the planned pre-congress excursion in Finland was cancelled. The IPS Annual Assembly was held online on 6th May and Tuija Vähäkuopus represented the Finnish Peatland Society. Our board member, Hannu Salo, also attended the meeting.

An excursion for the 2020 student workshop to drained and pristine peatlands around Valkmusa National Park in Southern Finland was arranged in October. In addition, the 72nd volume of the journal Suo - Mires and Peat was published.

Meetings, seminars and a student excursion

The spring meeting and seminar took place online on the 29th March, and the autumn ones on the 13th December. In the spring seminar, Prof. Leena Finér from the Natural



Resources Institute Finland (Luke) first presented a project on the sustainable use of peatland forests and then seven student presentations on the outcomes of the 2020 student workshop concerning the topic of the sustainable use of peatlands. The spring seminar had 29 participants.

The topic of the autumn seminar was the diversity of the mires and peatlands and the resilience of mire plants in the changing climate. Professor Anne Tolvanen, from Luke, and researcher Dr Anna Laine-Petäjäkangas presented their work and thoughts on these topics. The autumn seminar had 19 participants.

With the aid of the Metsämiesten Säätiö Foundation, we organized a student excursion to the peatlands around Valkmusa National Park in Southern Finland on 13th October, where the participants were able to explore actual practices in peatland forestry, restoration and conservation. Altogether, 10 students from the University of Helsinki participated in the excursion. A written report of the excursion will be published in the journal Suo - Mires and Peat in winter 2022.

The fourth National Peatland Day symposium was actively being prepared to take place in 2022 in Helsinki. Due to the prevailing severe Covid situation, the symposium was postponed from 2nd February until at least the second half of May 2022. The core organizing team consisted of Dr Anna Laine-Petäjäkangas, Dr Aino Korrensalo and Dr Markku Koskinen. More information can be found at our website, www.suoseura.fi.

Ireland

Activity in 2020 and 2021 was limited to on-line only due to pandemic-related restrictions. Furthermore, as the 16th International Peatland Congress was postponed until 2021, the Executive Board of the Irish Peatland Society remained in place until AGM 2021.



The Irish Peatland Society was represented virtually at the both the 2020 and 2021 IPS Annual Assemblies; the latter took place in Tallinn, Estonia in conjunction with the International Peatland Congress.

Donal Clarke was nominated by the Irish Peatland Society for election to the Executive Board of the IPS and was subsequently elected at the 2020 Annual Assembly for a 6th term. It is a measure of the esteem in which Donal is held by his IPS peers globally that he continues to be honoured in this way.

As peatlands play a significant role in the natural and cultural heritage of Ireland a collective of peatland community representatives, practitioners, researchers and specialists, including the Irish Peatland Society, came together in early 2021 to organise a relevant event. The outcome of this collective effort was the first Peatlands Gathering, an online event that took place in October 2021, with several members of the Irish Peatland Society involved in making presentations as well as chairing and note-taking at sessions.

The Society managed the accounts for the event and also provided financial support.

The aim of the Gathering was to share knowledge and understanding of peatlands and to cultivate a new beginning for peatlands in Ireland. Over two days of online presentations and discussions as well as a third day of localised field trips, the organisers welcomed all those interested in peatlands: community groups, farmers, land managers, forestry groups, peat producers, academics, public representatives, policy makers and the general public.

Key messages from the Gathering were subsequently presented at the Peatlands Pavilion held during COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021. A full report on the Peatlands Gathering is available on www.peatlandsgathering.com

The AGM was held virtually in November and the outgoing Executive Board was returned with one exception: Janice Fuller from Coillte (the state forestry company) replaced her company colleague Aileen O'Sullivan. Catherine O'Connell remains as Chair with Maurice Eakin taking on the role of Vice Chair and Pat Fitzgerald continuing as Secretary/Treasurer.

Soon after the AGM the Executive Board began planning for an in-person event to be held in Ireland in October 2022 that it is hoped will attract overseas participation. More about that in due course.

Other National Committees

For possible late submissions, visit our website at www.peatlands.org/about-us/national-committees.

IPS Executive Board elections 2022

At least six seats will be vacant. National Committees are kindly asked to submit their nomination letter and a CV by March 2022. Contact your National Committee if you are ready to volunteer!

Commission Reports

Peatlands & Economy

Expert Group Peatlands for Agriculture

To gain an overview of the most relevant and actual topics in agricultural peatland use, in 2020 a questionnaire was prepared and sent to experts in different countries to ask about their knowledge and experiences.

In early 2021 we organized four meetings to discuss the results of this survey and to prepare our contribution for the IPS congress in June.

The results of this survey offer a global picture of regional differences and similarities in:

1. regulations and policies for responsible peatland use and the related challenges and incentives for transitions in land use.
2. corresponding challenges and perspectives for agricultural enterprises, smallholder farmers and local communities.

Based upon the results of the questionnaire, we concluded that:

1. Responsible peatland use has to include the recognition that the reduction of GHG emissions in relation to climate change is urgently needed.
2. The IPS community should encourage different stakeholders to have dialogues about what types of peatland use can be regarded as responsible, including options for agricultural use.
3. These dialogues should be based upon an integral approach, including economic, social and ecological aspects.

The results of the survey were published in Peatlands International 3.2021.

The Expert Group discussed its role within IPS and decided that - in line with the IPS strategic plan - its main tasks are (1) to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, (2) to promote the raising of awareness and (3) to organize dialogues between stakeholders.

Therefore, in October, we arranged an online session with leading scientists studying GHG emissions from agricultural peatlands. Results and conclusions from field experiments in Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom were presented.

It was interesting to notice that observations on the relation between groundwater behaviour and GHG emissions

can differ and may sometimes even seem opposing. By organizing this session, the Expert Group contributed towards acquiring a better consensus amongst the scientists about important methodological aspects in this type of research.

We will continue to invite different research groups working on peatlands and agriculture and ask them to share and discuss the results of their work.

When trying to contribute to raising awareness and facilitating dialogues between stakeholders it is important to listen to various stakeholder groups and to link these to expert knowledge. The Expert Group tries to act as a facilitator and advisor.

In November we organized the first session on the topic 'awareness raising' with presentations about experiences in northwestern Europe and Indonesia.

For some of our online sessions in 2021 we invited interested colleagues from different countries to participate. We think this will not only contribute to the quality and diversity of the discussions, but it also offers an excellent opportunity to show these non-IPS members the work that is done by IPS and its Expert Groups.

Currently, the following persons are active members of the Expert Group:

Jan van den Akker (Wageningen University, Netherlands), Christoph Buschmann (Thünen Institute, Germany), Chris Evans (Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK), Barbara Kalisz (University of Warmia and Mazury, Poland), Susan Page (University of Leicester, UK), Marcel Silvius (Global Green Growth Institute, Indonesia), Hesti Tata (Forest Research and Development Center, Indonesia), Bärbel Tiemeyer (Thünen Institute, Germany), and Jos Schouwenaars (Coordinator, Netherlands).

For the activities of the other Commissions and Expert Groups, please contact the Chairs and Coordinators.



Thank you very much for your work and support! Photo: Annie Spratt

International Peatland Society

Business ID: 1074181-4

Financial statement in accordance with the Accounting Ordinance for
small- and micro-sized enterprises
between 01.01.2021 - 31.12.2021

This financial statement is to be stored until 31.12.2031

Financial statement 01.01.2021 - 31.12.2021

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Date and signatures.....	7
Auditor's note	8
List of accounting records and materials	9

The financial statement and accounting journals are to be stored for 10 years after the financial year.

Financial year's bookkeeping material is required to be stored for 6 years, beginning from the end of the year the financial year has ended.

This financial statement has been prepared by:
UHY TietoAkseli, authorized accounting firm
info@tietoakseli.fi

Contact information for International Peatland Society

Address: Nisulankatu 78, 40720 Jyväskylä

Business ID: 1074181-4

Domicile: Jyväskylä

1074181-4

Balance sheet

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
ASSETS		
NON-CURRENT-ASSETS		
Tangible assets		
Machinery and equipment	508,29	677,71
Tangible assets in total	508,29	677,71
NON-CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL	508,29	677,71
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables		
Short term		
Trade debtors	35 891,75	11 172,50
Other receivables	557,94	1 413,37
Prepayments and accrued income	595,20	595,20
Short-term receivables in total	37 044,89	13 181,07
Total receivables	37 044,89	13 181,07
Cash in hand and at banks	249 756,44	179 758,46
CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL	286 801,33	192 939,53
ASSETS IN TOTAL	287 309,62	193 617,24

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	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
LIABILITIES		
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Retained earnings	170 586,51	179 753,84
Surplus (-deficits) for the financial year	99 185,12	-9 167,33
CAPITAL AND RESERVES TOTAL	269 771,63	170 586,51
CREDITORS		
Short term		
Accounts Payables	1 661,10	1 661,16
Other creditors	2 277,39	3 591,68
Accruals and deferred income	14 099,50	17 777,89
Short term creditors total	17 537,99	23 030,73
Creditors in total	17 537,99	23 030,73
LIABILITIES IN TOTAL	287 309,62	193 617,24

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Income statement

	01.01.2021 - 31.12.2021	01.01.2020 - 31.12.2020
ACTUAL OPERATION		
PUBLISHING		
Income	7 839,84	6 350,70
Expenses	-10 182,70	-7 574,98
PUBLISHING TOTAL	-2 342,86	-1 224,28
CONFERENCES		
Income	20 716,50	0,00
Expenses	-496,58	0,00
CONFERENCES TOTAL	20 219,92	0,00
PROJECTS		
Income		
Expenses	-115,94	-1 140,00
PROJECTS TOTAL	-115,94	-1 140,00
OTHER ACTUAL OPERATION		
Income		
Income	89 039,99	90 219,99
Expenses		
Wages and salaries	-79 999,34	-115 411,13
Pensions	-13 870,83	-18 333,02
Other insurances required by law	-1 961,00	-2 661,32
Depreciations	-169,42	-225,91
Other expenses	-29 071,91	-52 941,91
OTHER ACTUAL OPERATION TOTAL	-36 032,51	-99 353,30
ACTUAL OPERATION TOTAL	-18 271,39	-101 717,58
SURPLUS-/OPERATING DEFICIT	-18 271,39	-101 717,58
MEMBERSHIP FEES		
Income	144 223,00	148 350,50
Expenses	-26 766,50	-55 870,50
MEMBERSHIP FEES TOTAL	117 456,50	92 480,00
SURPLUS-/TRADING DEFICIT	99 185,11	-9 237,58
INVESTMENT AND FINANCING ACTIVITY		
Income		
Expenses	0,00	70,25
INVESTMENT AND FINANCING ACTIVITY TOTAL	0,00	70,25
SURPLUS-/OPERATING DEFICIT	99 185,11	-9 167,33
SURPLUS (-DEFICIT) FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	99 185,11	-9 167,33

Income Statement

INCOME STATEMENT	Realised 2021	Budget 2021	Realised 2020
INCOME			
Membership fees total	144 223 €	142 730 €	148 351 €
Publishing			
Sales of magazines	60 €	60 €	60 €
Advertisement income	4 436 €	4 400 €	4 900 €
Sales of publications	3 258 €	500 €	1 288 €
Other publication income	86 €	40 €	103 €
Publishing total	7 840 €	5 000 €	6 351 €
Events			
Conference income (15% IPC)	20 717 €	0 €	0 €
Events total	20 717 €	0 €	0 €
Other			
Debited salaries	40 €	240 €	380 €
Grant contributions	3 000 €	3 000 €	3 840 €
Other income (SG contributions)	86 000 €	86 000 €	86 000 €
Other income total	89 040 €	89 240 €	90 220 €
INCOME TOTAL	261 819 €	236 970 €	244 921 €
EXPENSES			
	GL until Feb, SW	GL until Feb, plan: new	
	Acting SG	SG as of July	
Staff and external services			
Salaries	-79 999 €	-116 000 €	-115 411 €
Auditing	-1 860 €	-2 000 €	-1 860 €
Accounting	-6 034 €	-9 200 €	-7 299 €
Social security	-1 204 €	-1 775 €	-1 572 €
Pension funds	-13 871 €	-20 474 €	-18 333 €
Insurances required by law	-757 €	-1 073 €	-1 089 €
Healthcare	-804 €	-700 €	-1 451 €
Other social costs	-186 €	-300 €	-241 €
Training	-250 €	-250 €	-500 €
Staff and external services total	-104 965 €	-151 772 €	-147 757 €
Facilities and administration			
Rent	-5 628 €	-5 000 €	-9 657 €
Cleaning	-92 €	-150 €	-45 €
Office equipment	70 €	-3 000 €	-3 440 €
Office materials	-282 €	-200 €	-95 €
Printing and copying	-1 132 €	-2 300 €	-1 121 €
Books and magazines	-156 €	-100 €	-23 €
Mailing	-1 417 €	-1 500 €	-787 €
Phone and internet	-582 €	-2 000 €	-978 €
IT and maintenance	-2 138 €	-3 000 €	-3 746 €
Office catering and staff occasions	-69 €	-200 €	-148 €
Other insurances	-1 640 €	-1 300 €	-1 703 €
Other costs	-279 €	-1 000 €	-625 €
Facilities and administration total	-13 345 €	-19 750 €	-22 368 €
Travelling			
Domestic travelling and accommodation	-3 €	-1 000 €	-397 €
Domestic allowances	0 €	-300 €	-172 €
Foreign allowances	0 €	-2 000 €	-338 €
Mileage allowances	0 €	-200 €	-88 €
Secretariat foreign travelling and accommodation	0 €	-2 000 €	-3 899 €
EB travelling and accommodation	0 €	-2 000 €	0 €
SAB travelling and accommodation	-350 €	-1 500 €	-5 606 €
Meeting costs/room rents	-7 €	-1 000 €	0 €
Representation / catering	-138 €	-500 €	-617 €
Registration fees	-788 €	-1 500 €	-389 €
Convention travelling	0 €	-1 000 €	-555 €
Other travelling costs	0 €	-1 000 €	-135 €
Travelling total	-1 285 €	-14 000 €	-12 197 €

Publishing			
Online journal Mires and Peat	-5 000 €	-5 000 €	-5 000 €
Proofreading + translations	-1 411 €	-1 500 €	-1 833 €
Other publication costs	-1 665 €	-100 €	-12 €
Website and email	-2 107 €	-1 000 €	-729 €
Book scanning	0 €	-92 €	0 €
Publishing total	-10 183 €	-7 692 €	-7 575 €
Other			
Other costs	-40 €	0 €	0 €
Project expenses (CC-book)	-116 €	-9 000 €	
Peat Project 2.3 (Peat Supply)	0 €	0 €	-1 140 €
Conference expenses	-497 €	0 €	0 €
Allan Robertson Grants	-4 000 €	-4 000 €	-5 000 €
Marketing	-124 €	-1 000 €	-635 €
Membership fees	-125 €	-1 000 €	-205 €
Others total	-4 902 €	-15 000 €	-6 980 €
Financial			
Credit losses**	-26 767 €	-27 162 €	-55 871 €
Depreciations	-169 €	-145 €	-226 €
Banking fees	-785 €	-900 €	-1 045 €
Webshop/credit card fees	-233 €	-400 €	-140 €
Interest expenses	0 €	0 €	0 €
Other financial expenses	0 €	-149 €	70 €
Financial total	-27 955 €	-28 756 €	-57 211 €
EXPENSES TOTAL	-162 634 €	-236 970 €	-254 089 €
SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	99 185 €	0 €	-9 167 €

Surplus of 2017 (81K) used over the years 2018-2021; same with 2021 for 2022-2024.

**Credit losses according to unpaid invoices in forecasts.

Note that 86K SG contributions are paid, but GL salary only until February + accrued holidays, partly approved.

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Notes on the financial statements

Notes on the preparation of the financial statements

The financial statement has been prepared by using the valuation and sequencing presumption of principles and procedures in accordance with the Accounting Ordinance for small and micro-sized enterprises.

Information Concerning the Nature and Business Purpose of the Essential Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements and the Total Amount of Financial Commitments

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
Rental liability	468,98	1 406,94

Notes on employees and members of governing bodies

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
Average number of employees per annum	1	2

Notes on capital and reserves

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
Retained surplus	170 586,51	179 753,84
Surplus (-deficit) for the financial year	99 185,12	-9 167,33
Capital and reserves	269 771,63	170 586,51

Total income

	31.12.2021	31.12.2020
Total income	261 819,33	244 921,19
Total expenditure	-162 464,80	-253 862,61
Depreciation	-169,42	-225,91
Surplus (-deficit) for the financial year	99 185,11	-9 167,33

1074181-4

Date and signatures of the financial statement and the report of the Board of Directors

_____ 2022

Marko Pomerants
hallituksen puheenjohtaja

Susann Warnecke

Guus van Berckel

Jack Rieley

Donal Clarke

Sabine Jordan

Ingrida Krigere

Lulie Melling

Erki Niitlaan

Paul Short

Frank Tamminga

Tuija Vähäkuopus

1074181-4

Auditor's note

Auditor report has been issued today.

_____ . _____ 2022

Auditor Mrs. Jenni Kovanen , authorized public accountant

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List of accounting records and materials

Accounting records and materials and method of preserving

Financial statement

Financial statement	Separately bound
Balance sheet specifications	Separately bound

Chart of accounts and balance list

Account-specific income statement	Digital archive
Account-specific balance sheet	Digital archive
Account-specific balance sheet	Digital archive

Accounting records

Accounting journal	Digital archive
General ledger	Digital archive
Accounts receivable	Digital archive
Accounts payable	Digital archive
Payroll accounting	Digital archive
Salary/wage ledger	Digital archive

Receipts

Bank statements	Digital archive
Sales invoices	Digital archive
Purchase invoices	Digital archive
Salary statements and reports	Digital archive
Memo vouchers	Digital archive
Kausiveroilmoitukset	Digital archive
Note vouchers	Digital archive

All material is digitally archived.