

Secretary General's Review

ne of the key achievements of the International Peatland Society (IPS) in 2022 was the appointment of its first Scientific Officer. While this took slightly longer than expected, we are sure that the input of the latter will be of significant importance for the relevance and credibility of the Society in the future. The recruitment was initiated via the "IPS Position Paper 2022-2025: Embracing Change" in early 2022.

In addition, it was a relief and a joy to meet IPS members face to face (F2F) once again. We started with a small, but important Executive Board meeting in May, in the beautiful surroundings of Palmse, Estonia, and continued with a knowledge-filled excursion through the peatlands of Ireland in October, accompanied by another Board meeting and numerous discussions with our Irish colleagues.

Other important meetings were held virtually, which facilitated participations from all "corners" of the world without any additional costs, emissions and time. Combining both virtual and F2F formats is an asset that we have inherited from the otherwise malicious Covid-19 era.

In fact, as new Secretary General, I am striving to activate our members to go beyond writing, which seems to be difficult for many of us. We have thus started, for instance, to organise short, oral Peat Update meetings for the main players of the industry community. As regards the scientists within the IPS, we are preparing, together with a number

of other organisations, for the prestigious RE3 conference in Québec next year. This will not only deal with peatland restoration and rehabilitation but will also include an ISHS-IPS symposium on growing media, as well as numerous excursions. You are very welcome to attend.

The year 2022 has also been overshaded by the ongoing aggression of Russia in Ukraine. Consequently, the IPS decided in March to suspend its activities with Russia and Belarus until the end of the war. All those who are suffering from the conflict are in our hearts.

Last but not least, I would like to warmly thank all the people and the organisations that have contributed to our work on a voluntary basis in 2022: the National Committee Chairs and Secretaries, our Executive Board, Commission Chairs and numerous other members and partners.

Special thanks go to Professor Jack Rieley, new Board member Asha Hingorani and President, Marko Pomerants, who are playing a significant role in flying the IPS flag. Their optimism and enthusiasm have set an example for many of us.

Susann Warnecke

Secretary General susann.warnecke@peatlands.org



Report of the Executive Board

Membership

At the end of 2022, IPS membership totalled 1,575 members from 37 countries, of which 16 have National Committees (NCs). A new Latvian NC was approved in the autumn of 2022, however, the Russian NC has been temporarily suspended in support of Ukraine.

In other countries, members are directly associated with the IPS Secretariat, 33 in total. During the course of 2022, the IPS gained 109 and lost 142 members.

More detailed member statistics can be found in the appendices. Membership is open to all individuals and organisations interested in peatlands and peat: www.peatlands.org/join-us.

Science and Data

In 2022, the IPS agreed to accept a Position Paper, drafted by its Canadian members, the main aim of which was to strengthen the IPS by recruiting a Scientific Officer, tasked with communicating and collecting facts and figures, working with the IPS Commissions and giving advice to the Scientific Advisory Board, Executive Board and Secretary General.

The application process started in the summer and a successful candidate was identified at the Board meeting in Tullamore, Ireland. After some negotiating and overcoming certain bureaucratic obstacles, Dr Örjan Berglund from Sweden agreed to accept this important role. He will take up this position on 1 March 2023, in addition to his role at the Swedish University of Agriculture (SLU). We very much look forward to working with him.

IPS' scientists have also started to become involved in the preparations of the RE3 Conference in Québec 2023, with

The first face-to-face EB meeting since 2019 was held in Palmse in Estonia in May. Photo: Susann Warnecke

Board members, Dr Sabine Jordan and Professor Meng Wang, being members of the Scientific Committee.

The peer-reviewed IPS-IMCG scientific journal, Mires and Peat, has enjoyed continued success under the leadership of its editors, Dr Olivia Bragg and Dr Sabine Jordan.

We have also sold numerous printed copies of the Proceedings of the 16th International Peatland Congress via our online shop. The proceedings consist of two A4 volumes, oral and poster presentations, and/or a PDF download consisting of 687 pages.

The online shop can be accessed via https://holvi.com/shop/peatlands. The IPS document database is available at https://peatlands.org/publications/document-database.

Executive Board

The IPS Executive Board traditionally consists of members from the science community and those with an industrial background.

The Annual Assembly elected a new Executive Board (EB) in June.

The members of the EB at the end of 2022 and their terms of office were/are as follows:

President Marko Pomerants, Estonia marko.pomerants@peatlands.org

2020-2024





in Palmse, Estonia and Tullamore, Ireland, respectively. We warmly thank the Irish and Estonian NCs for their kind invitations.

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

Commissions

The IPS Commissions and their Expert Groups foster information exchange,

suggest projects and initiate international conferences and other events.

In 2022, Commission activities mainly took place locally and online, within projects and via expert statements. The IPS is striving to re-activate its Economy Commission as a "home" for its 200 corporate members. The first Peat Update meeting was held on 7 December, initiated by the IPS Secretariat. The Commissions are also involved in the review of scientific abstracts for RE3.

Commission membership is informal and is open to all IPS members; contact should be made with the Chairs. All Commission Chairs are members of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). The SAB met on 2 June and 14 December 2022; most work was carried out by email.

The Commissions and Expert Groups at the end of 2022 were 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: Paul Short (until March 2023)

Vice Chairs: Frank Tamminga (until March 2023), 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

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@btinternet.com **Ordinary Members** Donal Clarke, Ireland 2020-2024 Asha Hingorani, Canada 2022-2024 Giedrius Kavaliauskas, Lithuania 2022-2024 Tuija Vähäkuopus, Finland 2020-2024 Bernd Hofer, Germany 2022-2026 Sabine Jordan, Sweden 2022-2026 Anna-Helena Purre, Estonia 2022-2026

We give heartfelt thanks to Dr Lulie Melling, Erki Niitlaan, Paul Short and Frank Tamminga for their work on the EB over many years! Honorary President Professor Emeritus, Juhani Päivänen, is permitted to attend all meetings. The next EB elections will be held in 2024.

2022-2026

Meng Wang, China

The administrative meetings of the IPS EB were held on 25 January, 9 March, 11 April, 8 June, 18 August and 25 November via MS Teams and on 10 May and 10 October F2F



Communications

Work on the Peatlands and Climate Change book (second edition) has continued under the lead of Professor Maria Strack, who is expected to publish the book as soon as the restoration chapter is finalised.

Four issues of the IPS magazine, Peatlands International, were published online in 2022. The Peatland Snippets newsletter appeared 10 times in members' inboxes. The IPS actively uses its Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram and Twitter pages for quick updates.

Susann Warnecke is Editor-in-Chief of these publications and is responsible for the editing and layout, as well as the updating of member and distribution lists. The IPS Presidents are fully responsible for media responses and official statements.

The IPS has continued its online shop on the Holvi platform, and has sold, in addition to numerous books and proceedings, 10 high quality, peatland tote bags in support of Ukraine. The surplus was donated to the Red Cross Emergency Fund; member discount in the bookshop has remained at 20% (code: IPSMEMBER).

Fvents

During the second half of 2022, peat and peatland experts started to participate more actively in F2F events, as most countries began to emerge from the Covid-19 era. The following events were of special interest to IPS members:

27 January - 10 February - Luke: Finnish Webinar Series: Peat, Science and the Future, including sessions on peatland agriculture, peatland forests, peat and alternatives. Susann Warnecke and other members participated.

2 February - World Wetlands Day: The IPS collaborated with Kekkilä-BVB on a peatland introduction. Marko Pomerants, Jack Rieley and Susann Warnecke participated.

21 February - National Committee Round Table 2022 for NC Chairs and Secretaries, as well as the EB and SAB members, with 30 attendees.

- 1 2 March Kekkilä-BVB Grow22 webinar.
- 6 7 April PERG and SER-EC Science Symposium in Québec City, Canada.
- 28 29 April Care-Peat Conference, Peatland Restoration and Management in Galway, Ireland.
- 19 May Neova Hackathon: "After-use of cutover energy peat extraction areas in Finland" in Saarijärvi, Finland. Attendance and panel membership by Susann Warnecke.

20 May - Finnish Peatland Day 2022, "Peatlands in a Changing Society" in Helsinki, Finland. Susann Warnecke and Tuija Vähäkuopus gave a presentation on behalf of the IPS. 24 May - German Peat Society (DGMT): "Cultural heritage and conservation of peatlands", online (part I).

2 June - World Peatlands Day (WPD) (virtually #worldpeatlandsday) with an IPS 10-day teaser countdown to WPD on its Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram feeds.

2 - 4 June - German Peat Society (DGMT): Annual Meeting in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany.



IPS President Marko Pomerants spoke at AsiaFlux 2022.

8 June - Annual Assembly of National Representatives, virtual meeting with 33 participants.

- 23 24 June GRET/PERG Peatland Restoration Technology Transfer Workshop in Manitoba, Canada.
- 14 20 August ISHS 31st International Horticultural Congress in Angers, France. Attended by Asha Hingorani and other IPS members. Report in Peatlands International.
- 15 16 August Visit of Marko Pomerants and Susann Warnecke in Latvia, talks with new NC
- 12 15 September Merlin All-Partner Meeting, near Fulda, Germany. Attended by Jack Rieley and Bernd Hofer. Report in Peatlands International.
- 14 15 September Baltic Peat Producers Forum 2022 in Riga, Latvia. Marko Pomerants, Bernd Hofer, Giedrius Kavaliauskas, Anna Helena Purre and many other IPS members attended.
- 20 22 September AsiaFlux Conference 2022 "The Nexus of Land Use Change, Ecosystem and Climate: A Path Towards SDGs" in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia. Attendance and speech by Marko Pomerants. Report in Peatlands International.





29 September - Industrieverband Garten (IVG) German Peat and Humus Day in Bad Zwischenahn, Germany. Bernd Hofer attended.

10 - 13 October - EB meeting in Tullamore and Irish Peatland Society Excursion in Offaly, Galway and Mayo with 60 participants, including most EB members and IPS staff. Report in Peatlands International 4.2022.

24 October - Finnish Bioenergy Day 2022 in Tampere, Finland. Susann Warnecke attended.

27 - 28 October - German Peat Society (DGMT): Seminar and Excursion on Peatlands and Peat in Zeven, Germany.

3 November - CSPMA Annual General Meeting in Ottawa, Canada. Report in Peatlands International 4.2022.

- 3 4 November International Conference on Geotechnical Aspects of Peatland Restoration and Management in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.
- 5 13 November Ramsar COP14 in Wuhan, China and Geneva, Switzerland. The IPS followed the discussions.
- 7 18 November UNFCCC COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh, South Sinai, Egypt. The IPS followed the discussions.
- 8 9 November German Peat Society (DGMT): Cultural heritage and conservation of peatlands in Osnabrück, Germany (part II).
- 9 November Growing Media Europe (GME): Growing media Enabling nature restoration and saving natural resources in Brussels, Belgium.



10 November - German Peat Society (DGMT): Future Workshop, Peatlands and Climate Education.

22 November - German BMEL and FNR workshop "Off the peat path - suitability and availability of alternative substrates for peat use in European horticulture", online.

1 December - 30th Anniversary Seminar of the Estonian Peat Association in Tallinn, Estonia. Marko Pomerants, Susann Warnecke, Giedrius Kavaliauskas and Anna-Helena Purre attended.

7 to 19 December - 2022 CBD COP15 2020 UN Biodiversity Conference in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. The IPS followed the discussions.

15 December - Finnish Peatland Society (Suoseura): Rauno Ruuhijärvi memory seminar, online.

The activities of our NCs can be found in the attachments. IPS representatives attended a large number of the virtual conferences of other organizers. An updated list of IPS and related peat(land) events can be found at www.peatlands.org/events.

Conventions and Cooperation

Cooperation with international conventions has continued under the leadership of Professor Jack Rieley. The 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).

It is one of the tasks of the IPS to present science-based facts to its members and stakeholders. This is best conducted F2F and in a balanced manner.

The IPS decided not to participate in person in the UNFCCC COP27, held in Egypt and the CBD COP15 in China and Montréal, but followed the developments and press releases. Asha Hingorani and Professor Line Rochefort attended the major World Biodiversity Summit in New York on 21 September.

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).

Projects

The IPS participated actively in the EU Merlin H2020 project, "Mainstreaming Ecological Restoration of Freshwater-related Ecosystems in a Landscape Context: Innovation, Upscaling and Transformation". This project 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 work of the IPS is mainly related to Work Package 4 on Transformation. This includes round tables with the peat industry on the technical and scientific details of peatland restoration, as well as the provision of expert advice from an international point of view at sector and local case study site meetings.

An all-partner meeting was held near Fulda, Germany between 12 and 15 September, attended by Jack Rieley and Bernd Hofer. Peat sector round tables were also held on 20 and 25 April, and IPS members participated by commenting on the draft documents.

For 2023, an excursion to Scotland in April and a virtual allpartner meeting in September are planned, including field visits.



In 2022, the staff of the IPS Secretariat consisted of the Acting Secretary General of the IPS, Susann Warnecke, who was appointed Secretary General on 10 October 2022.

The major tasks of the Secretariat include overall administration and the organisation of the EB, the SAB and other meetings, as well as conferences, communications and finances

The IPS Secretariat continues to be based at the facilities of the Start Up Leipomo, Nisulankatu 78 B 6, 40720 Jyväskylä. The accounting is conducted electronically by TietoAkseli, together with the IPS staff. Jenni Kovanen, KHT of now Saimaa Oy was appointed auditor by the Annual Assembly.

Finances and Funding

The income statement of the IPS shows a surplus of €19,243 for the financial year, but this needs to be balanced against the receivables totalling €19,112, which mostly constitute unpaid membership fees.

The surplus was caused by a delay in recruiting the Scientific Officer and the publication of the Peatlands and Climate Change book, as well as smaller event and travelling expenses



as expected, and the fact that the potential bad debts were not removed at the end of the year. We hope that the remaining fees will be paid in the spring.

The income from the Merlin H2020 project was only partly used, and has been moved to the balance, as a special project manager was not recruited after the departure of the previous Secretary General. This task could be partly taken over by the Science Officer in 2023.

The EB proposes that the surplus be used to fulfil the IPS Strategy during 2023-2024, in particular, to help fund the position of Scientific Officer, as the income aimed at in the Position Paper is unlikely to be achieved in full.

The total income of the IPS was €159,462, with expenditure amounting to €140,218. Assets and liabilities were €350,498 on 31 December.

The IPS is mainly financed by membership fees, of which the largest number are paid by corporate associations and NCs. In addition, the IPS collects a 15% commission when organising major events, such as International Peatland



Congresses. The 2021 Congress contribution of €19,722 was paid in February 2022 with effect for the financial year 2021.

Allan Robertson Grants

The IPS awarded seven Allan Robertson Grants to Research Students and Young Professionals last year. The winners were Natasha Underwood, Olivia Kuuri-Riutta, Yvet Telgenkamp, Li Wang, Annuri Rossita, Ennia Bosshard (later replaced by Marie Maxwell due to change of site) and Thibaud Glaesener.

Each grant amounts to €500 and the reports will be published in Peatlands International. The application period usually closes on 31 January. Funds are provided by the IPS, as well as voluntary NCs and individual persons.

Honorary Members

The IPS currently has 16 honorary members. It was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of our honorary member and dear friend, Neil Godsman, on 7 October 2022.

Gerfried Caspers, Germany Richard S. Clymo, United Kingdom Jean-Yves Daigle, Canada Hartmut Falkenberg, Germany

Donald N. Grubich, USA Matti Hilli, Finland Gerry Hood, Canada Paddy Hughes, Ireland

Piotr Ilnicki, Poland Markku Mäkelä, Finland Thomas Malterer, USA Juhani Päivänen, Finland

Jaakko Silpola, Finland Ansis Snore, Latvia Raimo Sopo, Finland Nick van de Griendt, the Netherlands Paused in support of Ukraine: A.K. Dergunov and B.N. Sokolov, Russia; Ivan I. Lishtvan, Belarus (passed away in February 2023)

Honorary membership nominations can be sent to the EB via the Secretariat at any time.

National Committees

At the end of the year, the IPS was represented locally by the following NC Chairs and Secretaries (Russia embargoed as of March). The most up to date contact details are available at www.peatlands.org/about-us/national-committees.

Canada

Dr Jean-Yves Daigle, jydaigle@nb.sympatico.ca (until January 2023) Asha Hingorani, asha@peatmoss.com

China

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

Estonia

Merilin Kalmaru merilin@turbaliit.ee (as of December 2022) Erki Niitlaan, erki@turbaliit.ee (until December 2022)

Finland

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

Germany

Dr Andreas Bauerochse, bauerochse@dgmtev.de Ann Christin Sieber (sieber@dgmtev.de) Philip Testroet testroet@ivg.org (IVG, industry)

Indonesia

Prof. Suwardi Suwardi, suwardi-soil@ipb.ac.id (until January 2023?)

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 Prof. Takashi Inoue, tino@ env.agr.hokudai.ac.jp

Latvia (since October 2022) Dr Maris Klavins, maris.klavins@lu.lv Dr Ilze Ozola, ilze.ozola@epicentrs.lv

Lithuania

Giedrius Kavaliauskas, giedrius.kavaliauskas@klasmann-deilmann.com

Malaysia

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

Sweden

Dr Sabine Jordan, sabine.jordan@slu.se Pia Holmberg, pia.holmberg@hasselforsgarden.se

The Netherlands

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

Ukraine

Andrii Ozerchuk, uapeatsociety@gmail.com Volodymyr Hnieushev, volod-g@ukr.net

United Kingdom

Prof. Susan E. Page, sep5@le.ac.uk Prof. Jack Rieley, jack.rieley@btinternet.com

USA

Prof. Curtis Richardson, curtr12@gmail.com Sandra Neuzil, sneuzil.ips@gmail.com

NC and Commission reports are published on the IPS website and in this report.

Outlook

Since the end of 2022, the activities of the IPS have continued normally. However, the unpaid membership fees

and the ongoing uncertainty with regard to future industry fees present certain challenges.

The IPS expects to increase NC fees by 3% to compensate for inflation. Industry fees are proposed to be increased in line with the Position Paper. The budget for 2023 is written in accordance with the Position Paper.

However, as feedback from industry at the end of the year indicated, contributions from the latter might be smaller, which poses a risk for the IPS. Rolling budgets will be used to balance income and expenses throughout the year.

As of EB meeting 133 on 7 March 2023, previously accumulated surpluses can be used to ensure IPS' activities with a total industry income of €139,000 in 2023.

Attachments

Member Statistics National Committee Reports Commission Reports (not received yet) Financial Report Signatures Auditor's Statement

Approved by the EB on 7 March 2023, to be approved by the Annual Assembly on 13 June 2023. Official version in Finnish. Signed by the EB and the Auditor.

Susann Warnecke

Secretary General susann.warnecke@peatlands.org +358 40 418 4075



IPS Membership Statistics

	Individual members	Corporate Members	Research Institutes,	Government al Institutes	NGOs	Honorary Members	Students	TOTAL
			Universities			(NC+IPS)		
Indonesia	431							431
Germany	282	43	5	6		11	42	389
Finland (Suoseura+Bery	230	18				9	9	266
The Netherlands	38	13	3			1		55
China	48							48
Malaysia	41	5					1	47
United Kingdom	27	4	1	1	1	1	7	42
Ireland	34	2		1	2	1		40
Japan	36	1				2		39
Estonia		38				1		39
Canada (CSPMA+CSPI	5	24				2	2	33
USA	21	5		1		3		30
Sweden	12	13						25
Latvia	16	3	1		3	1		24 20
Lithuania	2	18						
Ukraine	10	3	1					14
1st January 2023	1233	190	11	9	6	32	61	1542
1st January 2022	1265	179	16	12	1	35	69	1577
1st January 2021	1346	201	12	10	1	41	65	1676

	Individual Members	Corporate Members	Students	Honorary Members	NGOs	Research Institutes, Universities	Government al Institutes	TOTAL
Norway	2	2				1		5
Denmark	1	2	1					4
Latvia	2	1		1				4
Poland	2		1	1				4
Belgium	1	1						2
France		2						2
Hungary	2							2
Spain	2							2
Australia	1		1					2
Italy	1							1
Singapore	1							1
Rwanda		1						1
Chile	1							1
Peru			1					1
Portugal			1					1
1st January 2023	16	9	5	2	0	1	0	33
1st January 2022	16	8	2	4	0	1	0	
1st January 2021	19	8	5	4	0	1	0	37

	Jan-23	Jan-22	Jan-21	Jan-20	Jan-19	Jan-18	Jan-17	Balance
NC members	1542	1577	1676	1711	1363	1387	1441	-35
Non-NC members	33	31	37	44	44	50	54	2
	1575	1608	1713	1755	1407	1437	1495	-33

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

At the end of February 2023, fees of the Netherlands, Malaysia, Indonesia and Ukraine were unpaid.

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

Sweden and Russia rejoined as NCs in 2021, Latvia rejoined in October 2022.

National Committee Reports

Canada (CSPMA)

With the guidance of the CSPMA Board of Directors, in 2022 CSPMA actualized some long-needed files, including a commitment to renew our industry's Social Responsibility Report, update our 2016 economic numbers, a commitment to revamp our industry website, and develop a CSPMA Communications Plan that the industry can stand behind.

With 2022 pandemic restrictions lifting, the CSPMA was successful in organizing two in-person meetings for the membership. The semi-annual meeting was held in Miramichi, New Brunswick, and our annual general meeting was held in Canada's national capital, Ottawa. Both meetings enabled the industry to reengage, discuss our successes, our challenges and come together as a collective voice to work toward influence and change.

While in Ottawa, the CSPMA team delivered a presentation that spoke to last year's achievements but also focused on what we are working on to deliver results for in 2023. Our key successes and achievements this year were seen in the areas of advancing our science projects and partnerships, communications and research and our impact and ability to make change at the policy level.

Of note, the CSPMA's science coordinator, Stéphanie Boudreau, spearheaded and led the coordination of many projects that have helped advance our industry's 35-year commitment to research and science. Through our Scientific Coordination Committee (SCC) we have progressed our research programs with Université Laval and McGill, for example, and the research is drawing attention from the international scene.

In 2022 the industry investment totalled over \$320,600 CND in cash and over \$420,600 in-kind. CSPMA's current collaborative Research Program include:

- Responsible Management and Ecological Restoration of Peatlands (U. Laval, U. Waterloo, U. Alberta, Valorēs, etc.)
- Carbon Emissions during Peat Production, Use and Enduse (McGill U., U. Waterloo, U. Alberta)
- Fen restoration and ecotone creation in South East Manitoba (Brandon U. and U. Waterloo)

CSPMA's Project and Communication Manager, Marie-Claire LeBlanc, helped to spearhead critical projects that will take the industry into 2023 with resolution such as our 2023 communication action plan, field excursions and restoration workshops for RE3 and especially over the last few months, attaining success with media to ensure our industry responsible management facts and figures are an integral part of the discourse. This will be a focal point in our

efforts as we work towards being proactive and building the narrative first rather than having our story told for us.

CSPMA's policy achievements domestically saw great advancements. For instance, in early 2022, the Manitoba Task Force was successful in achieving a Fuel Tax Exemption for the Peat Harvesting Industry. Further, domestic peat tours with government officials were advantageous to the industry allowing producers to demonstrate the success of 35 years of investment in peatland restoration and showcasing the minds behind some of the ground-breaking research. These tours also proved that it is easy to influence and build champions for our sector once knowledge is attained, at all political levels.

The CSPMA's international efforts saw a true impact in 2022. CSPMA's president was elected to the Executive Board of the International Peatland Society (IPS). IPS will see the hiring of a science officer within the IPS in 2023. Moreover, CSPMA's memorandum of understanding with Growing Media Europe (GME) strengthened this year, as the Secretary General, Cecilia Luetgebrune, attended our semi-annual meeting in Miramichi, and CSPMA's president attended GME's annual meeting in September. Over the next year you will see a growing collaboration between the CSPMA, IPS and GME as a strong science-alliance will advance with the hiring of science officers for both the IPS and GME organizations.

Now more than ever we will need a strong alliance with science expertise and industry to help deliver factual, sourced based information to be included in all levels of debate.





Estonia

The Estonian Peat Association represents 38 companies in the field of substrate production and peat production in Estonia. In 2022, there was no change in the membership number.

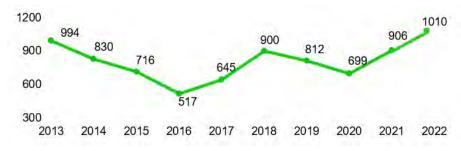
Statistics

In Estonia, the amount of extracted peat in 2022 was approximately 1,010 kt from an area of 20,708 hectares, 11,594 hectares of which is in active use. Due to the dry summer, the production was above average,



which is about 700 kt annually. More than 90% of peat products are exported, mostly as constituent of growing media.

For many years the reclamation of cutover peatlands standing without active use has been a high priority. On 1 245 hectares of exhausted sites, the reclamation process has been started. Within five years we aim to restore 4,000 - 5,000 hectares of cutover peatlands. The main target of reclamation is ecological restoration where possible. This creates the conditions for carbon accumulation and supports the biodiversity.



Peat Production in Estonia 2013 - 2022.

Projects

The socioeconomic study was conducted by Ernst & Young. The study took place from February to June 2022 and was based on statistics from 2020. The aim of this study was to analyse the direct and indirect cross-sectoral contribution of the peat industry to the Estonian economy (added value, employment, tax revenue). For example, the study concluded that direct added value per company or per employee in the peat sector is more than five times higher than the average in Estonia!

The Estonian Peat Association and the Estonian Environmental Investment Centre signed a contract with Tallinn University and Tartu University to conduct a study examining the circular

economy principles of the horticultural peat products produced in Estonia to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the LULUCF sector. The study should be completed in 2024.

The aim of this study is to:

- find out and take into account the dynamics of peat decomposition during its use;
- learn more about the carbon cycle of plants during growth on peat-based substrates (short carbon cycle);
- think more about the end-of-life process of the peat substrate - circular economy, carbon circle (back to soil or compost);
- find out the actual percentage of carbon emitted during the life span of peat-based substrate;
- improve the national emission calculation methodology.

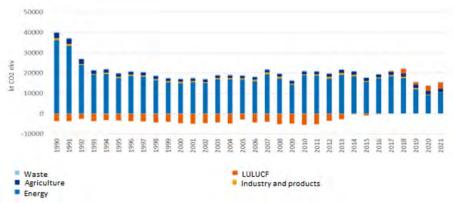
Topic of the year

In the previous year, the main focus was on the European Union and national issues related to climate policy and greenhouse gas emissions. The European Commission's "Target 55" target level for Estonia in the LULUCF category for the year 2030 is -2.5 t $\rm CO_2$ eq. In order to achieve this goal and at the same time ensure continuity for the peat industry, we must initiate a study in Estonia to quantify actual $\rm CO_2$ emissions from peat production sites, restored areas and abandoned areas. This will help us to reduce GHG emissions from sites in production areas. It is also important to determine the peat's chemical compounds in order to gain data on the carbon content and take this into account when

calculating the annual results.

Events

The Estonian Peat Association was represented at many events after the long Covid-19 pandemic period. In September, the Baltic Peat Forum took place in Riga where we discussed the role of the peat industry in the economy and climate change. In



Estonian Ministry of Environment, GHG inventory (2023)

addition, we had our national Peat Roundtable this year coordinated by the Estonian Ministry of Environment.

The main event for us took place at the beginning of December when we celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the Estonian Peat Association. We had an outstanding conference with many powerful and mind-opening presentations on the relationship between environmental impact and economic well-being.

Many thanks to all participants! More information can be found here: www.turbaliit.ee/en/etl-30.

Finland (Suoseura)

The year 2022 was the Society's 73rd year of operation. The regular activities of spring and autumn meetings, as well as the spring and autumn seminars were organized online and the 73rd volume of the journal, Suo - Mires and Peat, was published.

The IPS Annual Assembly was held online on 8 June and Tuija Vähäkuopus represented the Finnish Peatland Society. The most important activity of the Society in 2022 was organizing the National Peatland Day 2022.

Assemblies, seminars and the Suopäivä 2022

The spring assembly and seminar were organized on 28 April, online. In the spring seminar, Dr Tapani Sallantaus of the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) gave a presentation on the new research results relating to the significance and function of mires as a sink of dissolved nutrients and suspended solids. Dr Anna Laine-Petäjäkangas (Geological Survey of Finland) presented new research project consortia, focusing on sustainable Sphagnum harvesting, and Dr Päivi Väänänen gave a presentation on the carbon balance in peatland forests, managed by wood ash

fertilization. The spring seminar had 19 participants.

The fourth National Peatland Day (Suopäivä 2022) symposium took place on 20 May in Helsinki. The event was postponed from February, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The theme of the event was "Peatlands in a Changing Society" and it included 50 scientific oral and poster presentations, the topics of which related to peatland ecology, carbon and greenhouse gas balances and dynamics, peatland forestry and

agriculture, mire conservation, mire culture and the effects of climate change on the mire ecosystems.

The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry in Finland, Antti Kurvinen, and the Minister of Environment and Climate,

Emma Kari, opened the event. There were three keynote speeches, firstly, by Prof. Maria Kopsakangas-Savolainen (SYKE), who focused on the role of peat in the energy transition.

Prof. Annukka Vainio (University of Helsinki) gave a presentation on the fair transition in mires and peatlands:

challenges and possibilities, and Prof. Harri Vasander (University of Helsinki) presented the change of research and the use of peatlands in Finland over the last few decades.

The event also included a gala dinner in Villa Kivi, a restaurant in Helsinki. The core organizing team consisted of Dr Anna Laine-Petäjäkangas, Dr Aino Korrensalo and Dr Markku Koskinen; and the Metsämiesten Säätiö Foundation partly funded the organisation of the Finnish







administrations, NGOs and students; the 20th seminar also took place in the autumn with international participation.

Two events on "Cultural heritage and nature conservation in peatlands - area of conflict and synergies" were organized by the Lower Saxony State Service for Cultural Heritage, in cooperation with the DGMT on 24 May in digital format, and on 8 - 9 November as a F2F event, with an excursion to the premises of the German Federal Environmental Foundation (Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt DBU) in Osnabrück.

The intention is to hold this event every two years in future to facilitate an exchange of experiences in the different peatland areas of Germany.

Peatland Day. Altogether, approximately 80 participants were present or participated online.

The Society organized a one-day spring excursion to the pristine mires and peatlands in the Janakkala and Lammi regions of Southern Finland as a pre-symposium tour and to honour the memory of the former Chair of the Finnish Peatland Society, Tapio Lindholm. The themes of the excursion were the ecology and scientific research achievements in the pristine and forestry drained peatlands. Altogether 10 members participated in the excursion.

The autumn assembly and seminar were held online on 15 December. The webinar was also organized to honour the memory of Rauno Ruuhijärvi, who was one of the pioneers of mire conversation in Finland. The topics of the webinar included a presentation of the career of Dr Ruuhijärvi (Heikki Simola) as a scientist and conservationist, the distribution, structures and current condition of the palsa mires in Finland (Pekka Salminen), the drying of the pristine boreal mires (Prof. Eeva-Stiina Tuittila), the conservation of the endangered eutrophic mires in Finland (Aira Kokko) and a presentation on the new database of the mire types, fertility classes and land-use of mires and peatlands, constructed by the Geological Survey in Finland (Maarit Middleton). The webinar ended with a general discussion, which was very popular; 81 people participated in the webinar.

Several members also participated in a project, which involved writing a new textbook on the use of peatlands for forestry and agriculture in Finland, coordinated by Juhani Päivänen.

Germany (DGMT)

2022 was a year in which F2F events have been taking place again. The series started with the 19th Seminar on "Peatlands and Peat" in Zeven, as a training course for laypeople, employees from the peat industry,

The annual DGMT-Assembly took place from 2 - 4 June in Freiburg im Breisgau. Since last year's event had to be cancelled due to the pandemic, more than 100 participants from Germany and abroad travelled to the conference to exchange ideas. New results in peatland and peat research were presented in 30 lectures and on 17 posters. In order to be able to take into account the considerable number and broad spectrum of contributions submitted, the presentations were organised into two parallel sessions for the first time. The new format met with general approval.

In addition to the lectures, several excursions to the surrounding peatlands of the Black Forest and to a peat moss reactor at the University of Freiburg were organised on Thursday afternoon. The Annual Assembly was concluded on Saturday with a full-day excursion to the peatlands of the Vosges.

One special aspect of the conference was the poster presentations and the awarding of prizes, selected by a panel. This year, for the first time, the three best posters had the same number of points. These were the posters by Melanie Lütke (Peat-free growing media from paludiculture), Lennard Gosch (Development of peatland-compatible management measures for agricultural peatland and climate protection) and Oliver Hirschler (Peat extraction and use



in Germany and Europe) and their co-authors. They were awarded €100 each.

An essential part of the annual conference was the general meeting (assembly) with elections to the Board, as well as the appointment of section leaders and members to the Advisory Board.

The honours and awards were a special highlight. Honorary life membership was awarded to Mr Jörn Kasch for his services to the Society and his many years as treasurer. Since it was founded in 1970, the Society has awarded the Carl Albert Weber medal in recognition of outstanding services to peat and peatland science. Dr Gerfried Caspers received this award for his services to peat and peatland research, in particular, peat stratigraphy and peatland mapping.

Since 2008, the DGMT has awarded a sponsorship prize to honour outstanding scientific achievements and significant developments in the field of peat and peatland. This time, the prize of €1,000 was awarded to two students, Ms. Antonia Hartmann and Ms. Eva Weber, for their master's theses on "Greenhouse gas emissions from compacted peat soils" and "Rewetting and afforestation as after-uses for extracted peatlands in nemo-boreal Sweden - Assessing carbon-related ecosystem functions". Both works were compiled in collaboration with the University of Hohenheim and the Technical University of Munich, as well as the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences in Uppsala.

The "Future Workshop on Peatland Climate Education" concluded this year's series of events on 10 November, which was organised by the Emsland Moor Museum and the Greifswald Mire Centre in cooperation with the DGMT.

TELMA 52, our national, annual journal, with articles and reports relating to peat and peatlands, can be ordered at https://www.dgmtev.de or may be found online at https://e-docs.geo-leo.de/handle/11858/6421. Check out our website, www.dgmtev.de and join!

5%. The sites visited, some of which are SAC's, demonstrated issues relating to various projects such as FarmPEAT, LIFE. Wild Atlantic Nature and PCAS; and these issues could be grouped under the following headings: restoration; conservation;

farming on peatland;

forestry on peatland; peatland archaeology; community involvement in peatland management; carbon fluxes on peatland; and issues facing the use of peat in horticulture.

The highlights included visiting Carrownagappul Bog SAC, Co. Galway where the restoration of active peat-forming has been demonstrated; the community aspect indicated in particular at Mountbellew in Galway as well as in Clonboley Co. Roscommon and Ballycroy Co. Mayo; and the demonstration of CO₂ emissions reduction due to rewetting of post-industrial peatland at Derryfadda Bog, Co. Galway (see photo below). With the significant investment in the rehabilitation of former industrial peatland under the PCAS scheme in the midlands of Ireland, a key return expected is the reduction in CO₂ emissions.

Acknowledgement and gratitude are due to Bord na Móna, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for their sponsorship.

As regards routine business, the IrPS was represented virtually at the 2022 IPS Annual Assembly that was hosted from IPS headquarters in Finland. Relevant returns were made to IPS as well as payment of annual fee. The IrPS also supported the "Allan Robertson Grants for research students and young professionals" by way of a donation of €500.

Ireland

Apart from the routine business of the Society, the principal activity of the Irish Peatland Society in 2022 was the organising of the Peatland Road Trip in October the purpose of which was to study issues which currently confront peatland management in Ireland.

The event took place on the 11 - 13 October 2022 and started and finished in Tullamore, Co. Offaly. The programme for the study tour included visits to some eight peatland sites located in the Midlands and Mayo in the scenic west of Ireland. In all 60 people participated in the event, with 10% coming from overseas while students amounted to



Finally, the society's AGM took place in November and focused in particular on ideas for the 2023 programme to be decided by the Executive Board early in the new year.

Latvia

In 2022, the activities of Latvia's National Peat Society (LPS) have increased significantly after a period of relative inactivity, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Certain activities were related to lobbying during the development of the peatland management policy in Latvia, in respect of the use of EU structural funds and the further development of peat extraction and peatland conservation. The LPS supported solutions involving peatland use for peat extraction, while, at the same time, addressing the need to reduce the impact on the environment and restore peat extraction sites. LPS members actively participated in the evolution of GHG emissions, as well as the diverse impacts on peatlands and biological diversity studies relating to peatlands.

Other activities were associated with discussions at national level regarding the possibilities of using peat as a source of energy in special situations, such as the energy crisis. Considering the major reduction of fossil fuels (gas, oil, oil products) from Russia due to economic sanctions, the national standpoint and that of the LPS could be to use locally available energy resources as much as possible; this position was communicated to governmental authorities and mass media, and positive responses were received.





In August 2022, the Secretary General of the IPS, Susann Warnecke and the President of the IPS, Marko Pomerants, visited Latvia and participated in a meeting of the LPS Board. Several new members have joined the LPS, in particular, the largest peatland owner, Latvia JSC; Latvia State Forests has also joined, as well as several NGOs and individual members.

The highlight of 2022 was the approval of LPS as IPS NC of Latvia in October 2022. During the few last months of the year, activities have been initiated related to the further development of legislative activities regulating peatland management.

Malaysia

The Malaysian Peat Society (MPS) plays a pivotal role in promoting the wise and sustainable use of peat and peatlands in the country.



In 2022, with the announcement of the re-opening of international borders and the transition to the endemic phase in Malaysia, most of the meetings have either changed to a F2F or hybrid format, with fewer meetings being conducted online. A number of significant activities of the MPS have been undertaken successfully in 2022.

The 12th Annual General Meeting of the MPS was convened on 7 May 2022 in Kuching, Sarawak to review and discuss the reports of the Secretary and Treasury General, the proposed budget and the proposed plan of activities for 2022, and to appoint auditors for the financial year, 2022.

Participants in the meeting also approved the newly elected committee (2021-2022) without any amendments. The MPS will continue to provide technical training and financial aid to students and those interested in enhancing their knowledge and skills in the area of tropical peat research. A total of 13 students from both local and international universities underwent their training at the Sarawak Tropical Peat Research Institute (Sarawak TROPI) in 2022.

Another major event for the MPS last year was the organisation of the highly specialized conference, AsiaFlux

2022, which was held in Sarawak TROPI from 20 - 22 September 2022, followed by a Tropical Peat Swamp Excursion at the Maludam National Park on the 23 September 2022.

This event was organised by the MPS, Sarawak TROPI and the AsiaFlux steering committee, in collaboration with the National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan, Hokkaido University in Japan, the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB), the Forest Research Institute, Malaysia (FRIM) and the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (Mardi), supported by the Sarawak



The purpose of this event was to build a rapport and encourage camaraderie among team members, as well as to show some appreciation for the staff and TROPI associates with regard to the milestones achieved in 2022.

Sweden

In 2022 and after 39 years, the Swedish Peat Research Foundation (TorvForsk) as the Swedish NC in the IPS, separated from the Swedish Peat Producers Association (Svensk Torv). TorvForsk shall be the umbrella organisation for conducting joint research and development issues,

by maintaining the trade union contacts between science, peatland and the peat-using sectors (peat and substrate industry, agriculture, forestry), peatland protection and nature conservation, public authorities, related organisations and anyone interested in mires, peatlands and peat.

Convention Bureau (SCB). More than 250 delegates from all around the world, such as Japan, South Korea, Indonesia, Estonia, Germany, China, India and the United States of America participated and more than 100 poster and oral presentations were given during the conference.

To capitalize on the latest national and international updates on peat and peatland research, MPS members successfully gave their oral and poster presentations at several conferences, congresses and workshops, both locally and internationally, based on their work relating to tropical peatland research.

Another memorable event for the MPS last year was the joint organization of the TROPI Appreciation and Christmas Night with Sarawak TROPI on Friday 2 December 2022.

United States

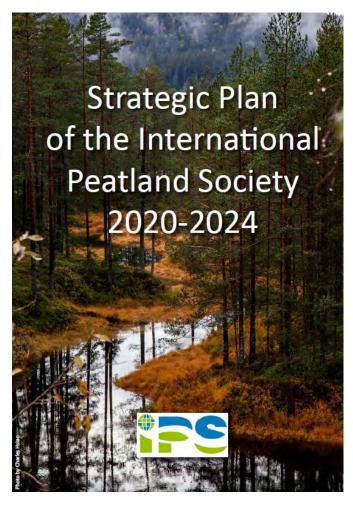
The USNC-IPS held its annual meeting on 14 December 2022 via Zoom. All active members were invited and the meeting was chaired by Dr Curtis J. Richardson, with Society information presented by Secretary, Sandra Neuzil and the financial status presented by Treasurer, Rich Hendricks.



A brief update on the status of the USNC-IPS was given by the Chair. The key points covered were related to the need to attract new members, revitalize the role and contributions of the USNC-IPS to the IPS and the election of new officers for the USNC-IPS. A brief introduction was given by all attendees. During this time members were asked to make suggestions regarding how the USNC-IPS could reach out to other professional (e.g., SWS) and trade meeting groups, as well as peat companies in the USA, so as to encourage membership.

Other meetings in which the USNC-IPS could/should have a presence over the coming years was also discussed. Secretary Neuzil reported on the membership of the organisation, including corporate, individual and honorary membership, which has decreased significantly in recent years due to Covid-19 and a lack of USNC-IPS activity. A campaign to increase both corporate and individual membership was discussed, as well as student membership. Treasurer Hendricks presented the financial statement and current budget, and announced that the annual dues had been sent to the international office. Two business items were voted on at the meeting.

Firstly, an increase in the annual dues (from \$30 to \$50) is to be implemented in 2023 to cover international dues and local expenses. Secondly, the attending members held an election and the following officers were elected: US Chair, Dr Curtis Richardson; Secretary, Sandra Neuzil; Treasurer, Rich Hendricks. Finally, it was announced that that Chairman Richardson will attend and represent the USNC-IPS at the Reclaim, Restore and Rewild meeting in Quebec in June 2023, organised by the IPS and other organisations.



National Committees and Commissions play an important part in implementing the Strategy of the IPS.



International Peatland Society

Business ID: 1074181-4

Financial statement in accordance with the Accounting Ordinance for small- and micro-sized enterprises between 01.01.2022 - 31.12.2022

This financial statement is to be stored until 31.12.2032

Financial statement 01.01.2022 - 31.12.2022

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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

Balance sheet

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
ASSETS		
NON-CURRENT-ASSETS		
Tangible assets		
Machinery and equipment	381,22	508,29
Tangible assets in total	381,22	508,29
NON-CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL	381,22	508,29
CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables		
Short term		
Trade debtors	17 618,05	35 891,75
Other receivables	399,37	557,94
Prepayments and accrued income	1 095,38	595,20
Short-term receivables in total	19 112,80	37 044,89
Total receivables	19 112,80	37 044,89
Cash in hand and at banks	331 003,68	249 756,44
CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL	350 116,48	286 801,33
ASSETS IN TOTAL	350 497,70	287 309,62

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
LIABILITIES		
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Retained earnings	269 771,63	170 586,51
Surplus (-deficits) for the financial year	19 552,28	99 185,12
CAPITAL AND RESERVES TOTAL	289 323,91	269 771,63
CREDITORS		
Short term		
Accounts Payables	5 642,28	1 661,10
Other creditors	41 167,01	2 277,39
Accruals and deferred income	14 364,50	14 099,50
Short term creditors total	61 173,79	17 537,99
Creditors in total	61 173,79	17 537,99
LIABILITIES IN TOTAL	350 497,70	287 309,62

Income statement

	01.01.2022 - 31.12.2022	01.01.2021 - 31.12.2021
ACTUAL OPERATION		
PUBLISHING		
Income	6 087,86	7 839,84
Expenses	-9 449,88	-10 182,70
PUBLISHING TOTAL	-3 362,02	-2 342,86
CONFERENCES		
Income	0,00	20 716,50
Expenses	-53,17	-496,58
CONFERENCES TOTAL	-53,17	20 219,92
PROJECTS		
Income	2 735,22	
Expenses	-4 419,28	-115,94
PROJECTS TOTAL	-1 684,06	-115,94
OTHER ACTUAL OPERATION		
Income		
Income	2 500,00	89 039,99
Expenses		
Wages and salaries	-70 253,79	-79 999,34
Pensions	-12 891,88	-13 870,83
Other insurances required by law	-1 479,85	-1 961,00
Depreciations Other systems	-127,07	-169,42
Other expenses	-41 577,13	-29 071,91
OTHER ACTUAL OPERATION TOTAL	-123 829,72	-36 032,51
ACTUAL OPERATION TOTAL	-128 928,97	-18 271,39
SURPLUS-/OPERATING DEFICIT	-128 928,97	-18 271,39
MEMBERSHIP FEES		
Income	148 772,25	144 223,00
Expenses	-291,00	-26 766,50
MEMBERSHIP FEES TOTAL	148 481,25	117 456,50
SURPLUS-/TRADING DEFICIT	19 552,28	99 185,11
INVESTMENT AND FINANCING ACTIVITY Income		
Expenses	0,00	0
INVESTMENT AND FINANCING ACTIVITY	0.00	•
TOTAL	0,00	0
SURPLUS-/OPERATING DEFICIT	19 552,28	99 185,11
SURPLUS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR	19 552,28	99 185,11

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

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
Rental liability	609,09	468,98

Notes on employees and members of governing bodies

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
Average number of employees per annum	1	1

Notes on capital and reserves

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
Retained surplus	269 771,63	170 586,51
Surplus (-deficit) for the financial year	19 552,28	99 185,12
Capital and reserves	289 323,91	269 771,63

Total income

	31.12.2022	31.12.2021
Total income	160 095,33	261 819,33
Total expenditure	-140 415,98	-162 464,80
Depreciation	-127,07	-169,42
Surplus (-deficit) for the financial year	19 552.28	99 185.11

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

zyväshylä 7. March 202	3
Jyväshylä 7. March 202	Sixlice
Marko Pomerants	Susann Warnecke
hallituksen puheenjohtaja	pääsihteeri
Guus van Berckel	Jack Rieley
Donal Cfarke	Sabine Jordan
Asha Hingorani	Bernd Hofer
- 5 C	(D)
Giedrius Kavaliauskas	Anna-Helena Purre
	Tayn Voer
Meng Wang	Tuija Vähäkuopus

Auditor's note

Auditor report has been issued today.

Jyraskyla 10. March 2023

Auditor Mrs. Jenni Kovanen , authorized public accountant

List of accounting records and materials

Accounting records and materials and method of preserving

Financial statement

Financial statement
Balance sheet specifications

Digital archive Digital archive

Chart of accounts and balance list

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

Accounting records

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

Receipts

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

Digital archive Digital archive Digital archive Digital archive Digital archive Digital archive Digital archive

All material is digitally archived.



AUDITOR'S REPORT (Translation of the Finnish original)

To the Annual General Meeting of International Peatland Society

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of International Peatland Society (business identity code 1074181-4) for the year ended 31 December 2022. The financial statements comprise the balance sheet, income statement and notes.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the society's financial performance and financial position in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the preparation of financial statements in Finland and comply with statutory requirements.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with good auditing practice in Finland. My responsibilities under good auditing practice are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the society in accordance with the ethical requirements that are applicable in Finland and are relevant to my audit, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors (Executive Board)

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the preparation of financial statements in Finland and comply with statutory requirements. The Board of Directors is also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Directors is responsible for assessing the society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention to liquidate the society or cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with good auditing practice will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with good auditing practice, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
 appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the
 society's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board of Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the society's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events so that the financial statements give a true and fair view.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Other reporting requirements

Other information

The Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the report of the Board of Directors. My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. My responsibility also includes considering whether the report of the Board of Directors has been prepared in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

In my opinion, the information in the report of the Board of Directors is consistent with the information in the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors has been prepared in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of the report of the Board of Directors, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Jyväskylä, 10 March 2023

Jehni Kovanen

APA