



KESKKONNAMINISTEERIUM



Co-funded by
the European Union

Report on the organisation of international project meetings in phase 2 of the project (E.2)

Tallinn 2022

Report written by Henry Linnard, LIFE IP CleanEST communication manager

This report was created during the LIFE IP CleanEST project. The latter is financed by the European Commissions' LIFE programme and the Estonian government. LIFE programmes' financing contract number is LIFE17 IPE/EE/000007. The report reflects the authors' viewpoints, and the European Commission is not responsible for the further use of the information provided in said report.

Table of contents

1. Summary.....	4
2. The framework of the networking activities	4
2.1 Implementation of the action	4
2.1 The implementation method	5
3. Networking events in the second phase 2021-2022.....	5
3.1 International workshop seminar on water ecosystem services assessment methodologies . 5	
3.1.1 Agenda, list of participants and talking points of the water ecosystem services assessment seminar.....	7
3.2 International workshop seminar on groundwater assessment	9
3.2.1 Agenda and list of participants of the groundwater assessment seminar.....	10
4. Additional work and overview of action progress	12
5. LIFE IP CleanEST participation in external events II phase 2021 – 2022	13
6. Conclusions.....	16
7. Annex.....	17

1. Summary

This report is a deliverable for action E.2 „Networking with other projects and participation in external events“. The aim of this report is to provide an overview of the networking activities of the action E.2, its objectives, expected results, as well as activities during Phase I and planned activities for Phase II. Report on E.2 is to be prepared as a deliverable after every phase, for a total of five times during the Project.

Networking events in the second phase of the project during the years 2021-2022, that took place were an international workshop seminar on water ecosystem services assessment methodologies and an international workshop seminar on groundwater assessment methodologies. The former was held online and saw a total of 35 participants from both local and international establishments. The second was held as an in-person meeting with joint field trips and workshops and also had both local and international participants.

In addition to international seminars organised in the framework of E.2 action, LIFE IP CleanEST project members participated in many international events of which a table can be found in this report.

2. The framework of the networking activities

The main aim of the networking activities is to exchange experiences and expertise with other projects. These include LIFE IP projects, LIFE projects and projects from other funding in local, national and in EU level working in the same field: implementing RBMP, cleaning up contaminated sites, reducing agricultural pollution load and building up fish bypasses. One objectives of the action is to ensure that the LIFE IP CleanEST Project is visible among other LIFE IP Projects at a European level. The Action connects to Project C and D actions, strengthening the Project expertise dissemination of E actions. Dissemination of the evidence-based expertise and sharing of the experience in capacity building, stakeholder involvement, project management procedures and development activities has many benefits. It gives an opportunity to replicate the practice both in RBMP level and in awareness level. It helps to reduce the cooperation weaknesses between different levels of government. There is complexity in different legal areas, different responsibilities in governmental and municipality administration areas. As a result, effective networking leads to concrete measures to achieve the goals set in River Basin Management plan. Networking is the key for unity.

2.1 Implementation of the action

KeM is the coordinating beneficiary of the LIFE IP CleanEST Project and responsible of Action E.2 implementation. Project partners and stakeholders are involved in the action implementation. The ground was prepared during the Project application period. Contacts with LIFE projects from Finland, Sweden, Great Britain, Poland, Denmark, Belgium, and Germany were established and kick-off took place in Finland in 2017. Experiences were shared with other projects as well. For example, with Interreg Estonian Latvian "Waterbodies without borders". LIFE IP CleanEST has transboundary

waterbody, river Narva in the Project. The Action is divided into four combined action types. These are internal and external actions combined with national and international networking. Cooperation with complimentary actions is also linked to networking actions.

2.1 The implementation method

The activities of the action are mostly planned as contact meetings and seminars. Depending on circumstances, online seminars can also be considered. Different traditional activity types such as attending to meetings, organizing them, giving presentations, performing with roll-ups, participating in panels are all planned for the project.

During the project, at least 10 international IP project meetings will be organised, and the results of the project will have been presented at several (at least 20) relevant national and international seminars and events. The experience gained will be used to increase institutional capacity to better coordinate and implement river basin management plans.

3. Networking events in the second phase 2021-2022

The second phase of LIFE IP CleanEST included organising two major international workshop seminars and a few minor international consultations. In addition, project members attended to different national and international events and networking activities and presented project actions in seminars organized by the coordinating beneficiary KeM or by partners.

3.1 International workshop seminar on water ecosystem services assessment methodologies

International workshop seminar on the topic of water ecosystem services assessment methodologies was organised and held online on 13.01.2022. The aim of the workshop was to invite experts and managers of ecosystem services working groups of other LIFE IP projects to an online workshop with the aim of sharing knowledge and experience of the water ecosystem services assessment methodologies that have been used and are planned to be used in LIFE IP projects. The workshop took place as an online event due to COVID-19 restrictions. The workshop had participants from Latvia, Finland, Sweden, Netherlands and England for a total of 35 participants. Materials of the workshop were shared with all water thematic LIFE IP projects.

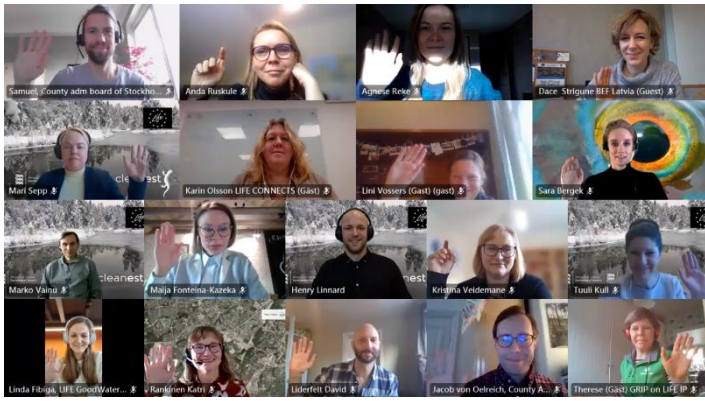


Figure 1 International workshop seminar on the topic of water ecosystem services assessment methodologies on 13.01.2022

3.1.1 Agenda, list of participants and talking points of the water ecosystem services assessment seminar

Agenda

Time	Presenter	Organisation	Topic
10.00 – 10.20	Mari Sepp, Henry Linnard	LIFE IP CleanEST	Greetings, Introduction to LIFE IP CleanEST project, group photo
10.20 – 10.50	Marko Vainu	LIFE IP CleanEST	Assessment methodology of riverine ecosystem services in Estonia
10.50 – 11.00	Marko Vainu	LIFE IP CleanEST	Questions and discussion
11.00 – 11.30	Maija Fonteina Kazeka	LIFE GoodWater IP, Association “Baltic Coasts”	Draft summary of the report “Ecosystem services assessment methodology”
11.30 – 11.40	Maija Fonteina Kazeka	LIFE GoodWater IP, Association “Baltic Coasts”	Questions and discussion.
11.40 – 12.10	Karin Olsson	LIFE Connects	LIFE CONNECTS – towards restored ecosystem services in rivers
12.10 – 12.20	Karin Olsson	LIFE Connects	Questions and discussion
Break until 13.00			

Time	Presenter	Organisation	Topic
13.00 – 13.20	Måns Enander, Samuel Karlstrom, Zandra Camber	LIFE IP RichWaters	Joint presentation in form of a roleplay where the audience can follow a conversation about measures in different environments.
13.20 – 13.30	Måns Enander, Samuel Karlstrom, Zandra Camber	LIFE IP RichWaters	Questions and discussion
13.30 – 14.00	Lena Allthin	GRIP on LIFE IP	The Next Generation - Information about GRIP on LIFE IP’s communication campaign and other work to reach the next generation – children aged 6 to 16 – and inspire them to explore and learn about forests, water and nature.
14.00 – 14.10	Lena Allthin	GRIP on LIFE IP	Questions and discussion
14.10 – ...	Mari Sepp, Henry Linnard, Marko Vainu	LIFE IP CleanEST	Unfinished discussions, conclusion, closing words

Thank you for participating!

List of participants

1. Henry Linnard, Ministry of Environment of Estonia, LIFE IP CleanEST
2. Linda Fibiga, LIFE GoodWater IP, Latvia

3. Jānis Šīre Latvian Geology and Meteorology Centre, LIFE GoodWater IP
4. Tuuli Kull, Estonian Environmental Board
5. Mari Sepp, Ministry of Environment of Estonia, LIFE IP CleanEST
6. Maija Fonteina-Kazeka, LIFE GoodWater IP
7. Marko Vainu, Estonian Environmental Board
8. Dace Strigune, BEF Latvia
9. Karin Olsson, LIFE CONNECTS
10. Lini Vossers, LIFE IP Deltanatuur
11. Tatjana Rõõm, Ministry of Environment of Estonia
12. Rankinen Katri, Finnish Environment Institute
13. Anda Ruskule, BEF Latvia
14. Jacob von Oelreich, County Admin Board Stockholm, LIFE IP Rich Waters
15. Agnese Reķe, BEF Latvia
16. Samuel Karlstrom, County Admin board of Stockholm, LIFE IP Rich Waters
17. Lind Lova, County Administrative Board of Västmanland, LIFE IP Rich Waters
18. Kristīna Veidemane, BEF Latvia
19. Katrin Aavik, Estonian Environmental Agency
20. Sara Bergek, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences
21. Sara Jalhed, County Administrative Board of Västmanland, LIFE IP Rich Waters
22. Annabel Runnel, Estonian Environmental Agency
23. Sarah Bazely, Natural Course LIFE IP
24. Madli Linder, Estonian Environmental Agency
25. Therese Stenholm Asp, County administration board of Blekinge, GRIP on LIFE IP
26. Liderfelt David, LIFE IP Rich Waters
27. Lucio Brotto, Italy, ETIFOR. Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World
28. Zandra Camber, County Admin Board of Västmanland, LIFE IP Rich Waters
29. DONATO Silvia, CINEA
30. Måns Enander, County Admin Board of Västmanland, LIFE IP Rich Waters
31. Allthin Lena, Swedish Forest Agency
32. Ericsson Rosita, County Administrative Board of Västmanland, LIFE IP Rich Waters
33. Peep Siim, Estonian Environmental Agency

Talking points

We invited experts and managers of ecosystem services working groups to an online workshop with the aim of sharing knowledge and experience of the water ecosystem assessment methodologies that have already been used or are planned to be used in your LIFE IP projects.

As a result of the workshop, participants came up with new ideas on how to tackle the complex issue of water ecosystem services assessment and were reassured in the effectiveness of used approaches.

Presentations were on the topic of how water ecosystem services are being or planned to be assessed, with lesser focus on specific assessment results. Also, the topic whether and how the methodologies will be used outside of your LIFE project, was covered in the presentation.

3.2 International workshop seminar on groundwater assessment

An international workshop seminar on the topic of groundwater assessment was organised on 07.-08.09.2022. Workshop took place in the Estonian Mining Museum in Kohtla-Nõmme with a field day in various groundwater related places over the project area. The topic of the workshop was monitoring networks for groundwater bodies to assess groundwater and surface water interaction. We discussed best practices with examples from specific case studies as well as how methodologies developed are used in the framework of other LIFE IP projects as well outside of the projects. The workshop was held as a hybrid with a field day and a seminar day. While field day didn't see any international visitors, the hybrid workshop saw participants from Latvian LIFE GOODWATER IP project and Sweden LIFE IP RICHWATERS project. Total number of participants 28. Workshop materials were shared with all water thematic LIFE IP projects.



Figure 1 An international workshop seminar on the topic of groundwater assessment on 07.-08.09.2022.

3.2.1 Agenda and list of participants of the groundwater assessment seminar

Agenda

Time	Topic	Presenter
09:00 – 10:00 (GMT+3)	Gathering and morning coffee (for participants present in person)	
10:00 – 15:00 (GMT+3)	„LIFE IP CleanEST project - actions and support to implement the RBMP measures in Viru sub-basin“	Mari Sepp (Ministry of Environment of Estonia, LIFE IP CleanEST project manager)
	„Influence of groundwater quality on rivers with a high baseflow component in Pandivere Upland, Estonia and its relevance for groundwater body status assessments.“	Joonas Pärn (Geological Survey of Estonia)
	„Problems related to national groundwater monitoring network and groundwater-surface water interaction in groundwater bodies of the Viru-subbasin, Estonia“	Valle Raidla (Geological Survey of Estonia)
	„Methodologies developed for assessing the status of groundwater dependent ecosystems in Estonia“	Marko Vainu (Estonian Environmental Agency/Institute of Ecology at Tallinn University).
	Experiences on groundwater-surface water interaction and assessment by visiting LIFE IP projects	
	<p>Discussion panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-ordination of different national monitoring networks (e.g. groundwater, surface water, soil etc); • Modification of existing groundwater monitoring networks for more reliable groundwater body status assessments in terms of groundwater-surface water interactions; • Establishment of similar monitored parameters and threshold values for groundwater- and surface water bodies 	

List of participants

1. Siret Valge, Ministry of Environment of Estonia
2. Ann Riisenberg, Ministry of Environment of Estonia
3. Joonas Pärn, Geological Survey of Estonia
4. Valle Raidla, Geological Survey of Estonia
5. Riina Maruštšak
6. Olav Ojala, Ministry of Environment of Estonia

7. Kersti Türk, Ministry of Environment of Estonia
8. Merle Truu, Geological Survey of Estonia
9. Mari Sepp, Ministry of Environment of Estonia
10. Marko Vainu, Estonian Environmental Agency
11. Annika Mikomägi, Ministry of Environment of Estonia
12. Indrek Tamm, Estonian Environment Research Centre
13. Vallo Kõrgmaa, Estonian Environment Research Centre
14. Henry Linnard, Ministry of Environment of Estonia
15. Kaire Toomingas, Estonian Environmental Agency
16. Tuuli Kull, Estonian Environmental Board
17. Siim Tarros, Geological Survey of Estonia
18. Toomas Padjus, Estonian Environmental Agency
19. Elvira Lundin, LIFE IP Rich Waters, Länsstyrelsen Stockholm
20. Inga Retike, LIFE GoodWater IP, University of Latvia
21. Marlen Hunt, Geological Survey of Estonia
22. Herman Carr, LIFE IP Rich Waters, Länsstyrelsen Stockholm
23. Merli Hass, Estonian Environmental Board
24. Annabel Runnel, Estonian Environmental Board
25. Linda Fibiga, LIFE GoodWater IP, Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre
26. Triin Trautmann, Estonian Environmental Board
27. Jolanta Jekabsone, LIFE GoodWater IP, Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre
28. Nicole Reid, LIFE IP Rich Waters, Länsstyrelsen Stockholm

Talking points

We discussed best practices for monitoring and assessing groundwater and surface water interaction, with examples from specific case studies as well as how methodologies developed in the framework of LIFE projects are to be used outside of the project.

In addition, a joint field trip to Purtse and Erra rivers in Ida-Viru County of Estonia was organised to demonstrate how groundwater and surface water interaction and status improves by removing of Soviet era residual waste from Purtse and Erra rivers. Erra river is especially unique and interesting because the river flows underground through a karst area. After that, a short hike was taken around Kurtna trail by nearby monitoring wells where the Republic of Estonia Geological Survey further explained their work on monitoring groundwater bodies.

During the workshop, an introduction to the LIFE IP CleanEST project and its actions for monitoring and assessment of groundwater quality in the Viru sub-basin was given. In addition, following topics

were discussed and workshopped: Monitoring groundwater-surface water interaction near lakes: Quality problems of Quaternary Vasavere groundwater body, northeastern Estonia; Monitoring the quality aspect of groundwater-surface water interaction in rivers with a high baseflow component; sharing of experience from other projects and countries. Sessions were led by the Republic of Estonia Geological Survey.

4. Additional work and overview of action progress

On 27.05.2021 a report on the organisation of international project meetings in phase 1 of the project was written, which includes a summary of the event program, presentations of talking points, and the list of participants.

On 29.04.2022 a virtual workshop seminar was held with the project partner Rivers Trust organisation. Discussion took place on the topic of RBMP and catchment-based approach. The main points of discussion were the III cycle of the River Basin Management Plan, Rivers Trust experience and preparation of the cycle in Estonia, reducing pollution from agriculture and sewage water – Rivers Trust, GIS tools for ecosystem services mapping, monitoring and NBS, communication and participation in the LIFE IP CleanEST conference 2023. Participants were from Rivers Trust, KEM, EPKK, KAUR, KEA, EKUK and EMÜ.

Event	Date	Participants
International workshop seminar on the topic of water ecosystem services assessment methodologies (online)	13.01.2022	33
International workshop seminar on the topic of groundwater assessment (hybrid)	07.09.2022 08.09.2022	28
International workshop seminar on the topic of RBMP and Catchment-based approach with partner Rivers Trust	29.04.2022 11.10.2022	11 6

In addition to organising international workshops, we participated in several seminars and conferences organised by other projects.

5. LIFE IP CleanEST participation in external events II phase 2021 – 2022

Organiser	Event	Time	Place	Participants from LIFE IP CleanEST	Topic
LIFE IP RichWaters (Sweden)	LIFE IP network meeting	20 - 22.04.2021	Online	All partners of LIFE IP CleanEST	Presentations will be made by: Mari Sepp (project introduction); Arvo Iital (Diffuse Load Studies); Olav Ojala (pillar approach)
LIFE IP GoodWater (Latvia)	Interim report consulting	11.02.2022	Online	Mari Sepp, Henry Linnard	Sharing experiences and advising on how to write the interim report for CINEA

Common Forum on Contaminated Land in Europe	Meeting of the EU Contaminated Soil Working Group Common Forum	31.05 - 4.06.2022	France, Orleans	Olav Ojala	Obtaining an appropriate overview of the future development of the European Commission's policy on contaminated soil. Collection of source data for the preparation of a guide to the remediation of contaminated soil to be prepared within the framework of LIFE IP CleanEST, the aggregation of international professional practice. Making a proposal to Common Forum to organize a joint venture between Common Forum and LIFE IPs in Estonia.
LIFE IP GoodWater (Latvia)	Agriculture and good water quality: policy and management measures	26 - 27.05.2022	Latvia, Jelgava	Mari Sepp, Henry Linnard, Ann Riisenberg, Annika Mikomägi, Arvo Iital, Riina Maruštšak,	Agriculture and nutrient balance calculators
Nordic Association of Hydrology: 2022 event organisers Estonian Environment Agency and Tallinn Univesrity	Hydrology and water-related ecosystems	15 - 18.08.2022	Tallinn (place: Tallinn University)	Annika Mikomägi (KeM), Merle Truu, Joonas Pärn (EGT)	Annika Mikomägi posterettekanne: Water quality of mine water outlets and their impact on surface water. EGT posterettekanne:

The International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research	IAHR Congress: nitrates	19 to 24 June 2022	Granada, Spain	EKUK Vallo Kõrgmaa, Ülle Leisk and Indrek Tamm	Soolikaoja creek nitrate filter test. Vallo makes an oral presentation, and an article appears in the conference collection (the same file as in the previous square)
Ecosystem Services Partnership	4th ESP Europe conference	10th-14th of October 2022	Heraklion (Crete)	Marko Vainu (KAUR)	Ecosystem services
LIFE IP GoodWater	Nature Based Services seminar	26-27. okt	Riga	Henry Linnard, Siret Valge, Annika Mikomägi (KEM), Marko Vainu (KAUR)	Ecosystem services, nature-based solutions
Finnish Institute in Estonia	Baltic Sea Day	25. augustil 2022	Tallinn	Taavi Liblik	presentation of the C.7.2 report on marine water bodies
Finnish Ministry of the Environment in cooperation with the European Commission	LIFE IP Pan-European meeting of project managers	12. - 14.09.2022	Finland (Helsinki, Espoo and Salo region)	Mari Sepp	Organisation of LIFE IP projects. We sent a pre-filled survey form, on the basis of which a seminar on IP projects was held.
International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO)	EUROPE-INBO 2022: 20th International Conference for the implementation of European water directives	26.09 - 29.09	France, Annecy	Annika Mikomägi	Implementation of LIFE programme projects to meet the objectives of the Water Framework Directive. Finding contacts for cooperation and information exchange.

Meeting with LIFE IP BuildESTiga	Meeting with LIFE IP BuildESTiga	12. oct 2022	Ministry of the Environment	Henry Linnard, Mari Sepp, Siret Valge, Riina RIng, Anni Martin, Lauri Suu	Presentations of what the projects are working on and discuss the implementation, communication activities and financial engineering
LIFE LATESTadapti	LIFE LATESTadapti kick-off participation	12 - 13.10.22	Lavendel SPA Hotel conference hall	Mari Sepp (in person), Henry Linnard, Siret Valge (online)	LIFE LATESTadapti kick-off
Rivers Trust	RBMP and catchment based approach seminar	12.10.22	Online	Mari Sepp, Henry Linnard, Olav Ojala, Marko Vainu, Ann Riisenberg, Katrin Aavik, Vallo Kõrgmaa, Alar Astover	RBMP and catchment based approach

6. Conclusions

Action E.2, networking with other projects and participation in external event is done with the aim of sharing experiences and knowledge of the LIFE IP project and to disseminate the results as widely as possible at local, regional, national, and EU levels. As a result, two international workshop-seminars for LIFE IP projects have been organised with additional minor international consultations and a wide participation in external events.

Participating and organising international workshops and seminars has provided a good opportunity to not only exchange experiences with different projects but also to make arrangements and propose collaborations for future actions. Organising these events has been difficult at times in finding times suitable for other projects. A shared calendar for workshops would help to plan these events.

Expected results of the third phase of the project include having organised a total of five international consultations between IP projects have been by 31.12.20237.

Furthermore, LIFE IP CleanEST project plans to hold an international conference in Narva in 2023 October to disseminate project results and create a dialogue among politicians, EU officials, NGOs, and other interested parties. The conference is expected have around 150 participants and will cover different topics related to the project's achievements, river basin management plan, implementation issues, capacity building, and use of complementary funds. The conferences will be scheduled for two days, including workshops and presentations.

7. Annex

Materials such as PowerPoint slides etc. presented in “International workshop seminar on water ecosystem services assessment methodologies” and “International workshop seminar on groundwater assessment methodologies” can be found in Annex 1 Materials presented in international seminars in the second phase.