

LIFE International networking conference

LIFE farming – environmentally sustainable agriculture

8th and 9th MAY 2018, SLOVENIA

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME*

Tuesday, 8 May 2018 – FIELD TRIP

10.00	Departure from Ljubljana
11.00 – 12.30	Visit of project LIFE ViVaCCAdapt in Ajdovščina
12.30	Departure from Ajdovščina
13.30 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.30	Visit of the Ljubljana Marsh Nature Park and the presentation of LIFE project Intermittent Cerknica Lake
16.30	Departure from Ljubljana Marsh Natural Park

Wednesday, 9 May 2018 – CONFERENCE (Brdo Congress centre, Brdo pri Kranju)

08.30	Registration opened
08.30 – 10.00	LIFE knowledge fair Presentation of projects (stands) and networking
10.00 – 10.20	Opening address
10.20 – 11.20	Introductory panels Environmental challenges in agriculture <i>LIFE – new solutions for the environment and agriculture</i> Contribution of LIFE programme to European agriculture <i>Challenges in agriculture</i> Presentation of agricultural areas with highest demand for new development solutions <i>Agriculture and environment</i> Presentation of identified environmental problems in agriculture
11.20 – 11.40	Break
11.40 – 13.00	LIFE farming Presentation of five LIFE projects from different member states
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.30	Potential of LIFE programme for Slovenian agriculture Five workshops on current problems and new possible solutions
15.30 – 16.15	Conclusion of the conference (summary of workshops conclusions)

*The programme is subject to change.

The event will be held in Slovene, interpretation to English will be available.



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

TUESDAY, 8th May 2018 – VISIT OF LIFE PROJECTS

Project LIFE ViVaCCAdapt - Adapting to the impacts of climate change in the Vipava Valley ([LIFE15 CCA/SI/000070](#) - ongoing)

The purpose of the project is to establish measures to avoid the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture in the area of the Vipava Valley. The project team already prepared a strategy for climate change adaptation. Next steps are establishment of decision support system for irrigation and increasing the surface of green windbreaks.

LIFE project Intermittent Cerknica Lake ([LIFE06 NAT/SI/000069](#) - finalised)

The project aimed to ensure long-term favourable conditions for the conservation of turloughs and other endangered habitat types and associated plant and animal species at Lake Cerknica. It simultaneously sought to promote an even development of local agriculture, forestry, fishing, tourism, recreation and education in accordance with natural values. In overall the project tackled the three main threats identified to the habitats: modified watercourses, abandoning of meadow mowing by local landowners and lack of knowledge of local nature and its conservation. Numerous nature conservation activities were performed, from restoration of the natural watercourses, mowing of abandoned meadows to raising awareness of nature-friendly farming and agricultural policy.

Ljubljana Marsh Natural Park ([website](#))

Ljubljana Marsh Natural Park is a good example of a mosaic landscape with rich biodiversity, shaped through time also by agriculture. The Nature Park faces numerous challenges, from preventing the biodiversity loss and pollution to more frequent extreme climatic events. It demonstrates numerous challenges; protected area managers and farmers are facing, and will serve as basis for further discussion at the conference.

Wednesday, 9th May 2018 - CONFERENCE

LIFE knowledge fair

Presentation of projects on stands, networking of participants. If you wish to present your LIFE project at the fair, register yourself in the registration form as a representative of LIFE Project. Further information on participation in the fair you will receive after the registration.

Workshop TOPICS and related LIFE projects (will be presented in the panel LIFE farming):

Topic NITRATES – moderator **dr. Jože Verbič** (Agricultural Institute of Slovenia): how to solve the problems of excessive amount of animal manure; LIFE project **AQUA** ([LIFE09 ENV/IT/000208](#))

Topic SOIL – moderator **dr. Borut Vrščaj** (Agricultural Institute of Slovenia): soil management in relation to sustainable agriculture and ecosystem services; project **LIFE HelpSoil** ([LIFE12 ENV/IT/000578](#))

Topic GRASSLANDS – moderator **mag. Mateja Žvikart** (Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation): how to manage Natura 2000 sites with habitat types, used by farmers (e.g. dry grasslands); projects **BurrenLIFE** ([LIFE04 NAT/IE/000125](#)) and **AranLIFE** ([LIFE12 NAT/IE/000995](#))

Topic COEXISTENCE – moderator **mag. Aleksandra Majič Skrbinšek** (University of Ljubljana): how to coexist with species, frequently in conflict with humans (e.g. brown bear); projects **LIFE DINALP BEAR** ([LIFE13 NAT/SI/000550](#)) and **SloWolf** ([LIFE08 NAT/SLO/000244](#))

Topic CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION – moderator **prof. dr. Lučka Kajfež Bogataj** (University of Ljubljana): how to make Slovenian/European agriculture more resilient to climate changes; project **LIFE-Montado-adapt** ([LIFE15 CCA/PT/000043](#))



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