

Restoring Nature: A Peatlands and People Targeted Event Showcasing the Project

The LIFE IP Peatlands and People project celebrates EU Green Week on June 10, 2025 with a targeted event showcasing the project (invite only). The event will include bog site visits, guided walks and hands-on sphagnum planting at the Lough Boora Discovery Park in Offaly to enable participants to explore Ireland's peatland restoration in action.

Description

Aligning with the EU Green Week, the EU LIFE IP Peatlands and People project is organising a targeted event on June 10th, showcasing the project to a number of different bodies affiliated with EU LIFE. The event will include bog site visits, guided walks and hands-on sphagnum planting activities.

Our peatlands have immense value - they combat climate change, protect biodiversity, maintain water quality and provide a space for wellbeing, as well as other important benefits. While the harvesting of peatlands is damaging to the environment, restored and intact bogs store excess carbon dioxide they have removed from the atmosphere.

The 7-year Peatlands and People project connects Ireland's peatlands, policies and people to support the realisation of a carbon-neutral, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable society and economy by 2050. A European Commission (EC)-funded LIFE Integrated Project, it aims to play a significant role in achieving Ireland's Climate Action Plan.

To celebrate the restoration and rehabilitation work done to date and the commencement of the project's last two years, the Peatlands and People project is having a visit from a number of different bodies affiliated with EU LIFE (invite-only), as part of a targeted event showcasing the project at the BnM visitor centre in Boora, Co Offaly, Ireland.

The event will kick off with a hands-on introduction to sphagnum planting across two peatland sites, Ballaghurt bog and Killaranny bog, introducing participants to the importance of sphagnum planting for peatland restoration and giving them a chance to plant new plugs themselves. As part of this, BnM will highlight its successful sphagnum planting campaign to date, with over 1 million sphagnum plugs planted to date. The event will then move on to showcase one of the peatland sites proposed for rehabilitation in 2026.

Following the restoration work, the event will move on to highlight the project's success in setting up a new Accelerator programme for systemic innovation focused on low-carbon and [circular economies](#). Participants will be invited into the [Accelerate Green building](#) to meet the innovative green businesses as part of the Accelerator programme that are driving

transformative solutions for a greener future. As part of this, visitors will get a first-hand introduction to the work done on the electrification of a tractor used in sphagnum planting.

Find more information in the draft programme.

Draft programme:

Location:

Boora Accelerate Green Building,
Lough Boora Discovery Park
Visitor Centre
Boora, Co Offaly, Ireland

Agenda:

- 11:00 Hands-on sphagnum planting - Meeting point: Tullamore Court hotel
 - 11:15 Ballaghurt bog
 - 12:15 Killaranny bog
- 13:15 lunch break
- 14:15 Site visit of peatland site proposed for rehabilitation in 2026
- 15:15 Coffee break
- 15:30 Accelerate Green: Introduction of accelerator programme - electrification of the tractor used in sphagnum planting
- 16:30 Event closes