

The IPS is an organisation of corporate and individual members dedicated to the responsible management and Wise Use of peatlands and peat. It promotes the gathering, exchange and communication of knowledge and experience. The Society serves all those interested in peat and peatlands including the scientific, industrial and commercial, and regulatory communities. It respects the economic, social and environmental values of the peatland resource. Currently the IPS has more than 1,400 individual and institutional members from 42 countries.

## Next Peatlands International Electronically

Peatlands International will be published for the first time as an electronic magazine now in October and December 2013. This is a trial to speed up the editing and publishing process, to inform you earlier on developments and to better allocate the increasing printing and distribution costs. As forwarding and sharing will be easier, we expect to increase the readership of the magazine significantly.

We invite all IPS members to submit until **1 September**:

- High quality articles and news of 1-2 pages (max 1000 words) in Arial pt 10, in English (proof read if possible)
- Shorter news on all kinds of current peat and peatland matters: news, reports and updates on your work
- Photos and illustrations as separate files with captions and the name of the photographer
- Events for 2013-2016 together with a link to their websites

A basic article specimen, further information and most previous issues of Peatlands International (printed edition) are posted at [www.peatsociety.org/publications/peatlands-international](http://www.peatsociety.org/publications/peatlands-international). In addition selected authors will be invited to contribute keynote papers to this first issue.

Advertisements for the new magazine are also very welcome from our member companies and their partners. There are many different sizes available, e.g. € 830 for A4 down to € 50-115 for logos. These prices are valid if you post your ad in both issues, giving you a discount of 50% per contact (2,000 recipients). For more information, see our [Media Kit 2013](#) and do not hesitate to contact [susann.warnecke \(at\) peatsociety.org](mailto:susann.warnecke@peatsociety.org) as soon as possible.

## Have you signed up for the IPS Commissions?

As you know, membership and cooperation in the nine IPS Commissions and the Standing Committee on Climate Change is open to all IPS members interested in the subject. Therefore we would like to ask you to mark once again those Commissions and their working fields that interest you the most so that we can add you to their mailing lists. Like this you will get all the information about their current activities and stay in touch with the other members of the Commission. To sign up, please visit [www.peatsociety.org/about-us/commissions-and-working-groups](http://www.peatsociety.org/about-us/commissions-and-working-groups) and follow the link to our special sign up form. Note that you need to be a member of the IPS to participate. (Sandra Lubinaite, IPS)

## Survey to Utilise and Develop SRPM

The IPS project to further utilise and develop the IPS Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management (SRPM) has made progress during the summer. As a first step, IPS Intern Ms Henna Honkala has contacted each of the National Committees in the form of a preliminary questionnaire. This survey was carried out to gather some initial thoughts on SRPM utilisation and development needs on a global and local level. Many thanks to all National Committee officers who made the effort to participate in this first round!

On the basis of the results, now an elaborated questionnaire is about to be launched for ALL IPS members and stakeholders. This will be available soon on the IPS website, and you will also receive a special e-mail invitation to the second round of the survey. Please be prepared to participate. The project is scheduled to be finalised by the end of 2013. To learn more about the Strategy for Responsible Peatland Management (SRPM, 2010), see [www.peatsociety.org/peatlands-and-peat/strategy-responsible-peatland-management](http://www.peatsociety.org/peatlands-and-peat/strategy-responsible-peatland-management) or order your free copy of the document (2010) at [www.peatsociety.org/shop/books/0](http://www.peatsociety.org/shop/books/0). (Henna Honkala, IPS)

## Upland Bogs Conservation Conference in York, UK

A conservation conference on upland bogs will be held in York at St John University on **12 October 2013** on initiative of the People, Landscape and Cultural Environment Education and Research Centre (PLACE). The event will focus on the future of the region's upland areas, including blanket bogs. Registration fees amount to £20 in general or £15 for pensioners, including coffee, tea and a buffet lunch. Speakers will include:

- Rob Stoneman: The climate catastrophe – peatlands to the rescue
- Vince Carter: Slowing the Flow: the role of woodland in the water agenda
- Blaise Vyner: Managing the historic environment of the moorlands for the future
- Roger Martlew: Upland quarries as past and future landscapes
- Lois Mansfield: Rural Development: supporting the 'third leg' for sustainable upland farming
- John O'Reilly: What are upland hay meadows and how do we conserve them?
- Jen Deadman: Farm Buildings of Nidderdale: a Sense of Place in the 21st century?
- Gill Cookson History in Action: the manor court of Danby.

For more information visit <http://place.uk.com/2013/08/place-autumn-conference-the-future-of-the-uplands>.

## FAO Workshop Report Released

FAO has published its report of the workshop "Towards sustainable land management practices for peatlands: special focus on drained areas" held in Rome on **7 - 9 May 2013**. The report can be downloaded at [www.fao.org/climatechange/micca/peat](http://www.fao.org/climatechange/micca/peat) and shared with potentially interested contacts. MICCA's activities are supported by the governments of Finland, Germany and Norway. The report states the following recommended priority actions (proposals for further actions, including appropriate fund raising):

### Mapping and state of peatlands

- Develop in the short term (2015) a new updated global inventory and mapping of peatlands based on existing data and information (Global Atlas of Organic Soils).
- Standardize the definitions and methods used for the assessment of drained peatlands.
- Invest into land survey and soil samples analyses.
- Development of platform(s) for data sharing.

### Uses of peatlands and options for responsible peatland management

- Conserve undrained peatlands.
- Demonstrate the value of undrained peatlands for food production and livelihoods (e.g. diverse forest products, native fisheries for food and recreation).
- Identify the key regions for advancing the responsible management practices of drained peatlands, mitigating GHG emissions, protecting biodiversity and supporting livelihoods.
- Use a negotiation approach for involving local people in planning peatland management to achieve successful long-term results.
- Develop information on potential and impacts of developing fisheries and aquaculture as livelihood options in rewetted peatlands.
- Develop technical guidelines towards the responsible management of degraded peatlands.
- Identify investments, grants and subsidies for rewetting of drained peatlands.

### Guidebook Towards responsible peatland management practices

- Concept note, invitation to new contributors and an outline will be sent out by FAO.

### NAMAs for peatland rehabilitation and livelihoods

- Support countries in planning NAMAs on peatlands for development and livelihoods; and
- Develop collaboration between funding organizations for developing finance structures for NAMAs from multiple sources.

The workshop also promoted the networking and knowledge sharing among specialists, as well as joint project establishment for improved regional mapping. For more information, visit [www.fao.org/climatechange/micca/peat](http://www.fao.org/climatechange/micca/peat).