

# Evaluation of the impact of GHG emission reduction measures and their socioeconomic implications

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LIFE OrgBalt, LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158

EU LIFE Programme project

“Demonstration of climate change mitigation potential of nutrients rich organic soils in Baltic States and Finland”







FOREST

ARABLE

ABANDONED

GRASSLAND

FOREST

?

ARABLE

?

ABANDONED

?

GRASSLAND

?

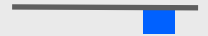
FOREST



ARABLE



ABANDONED

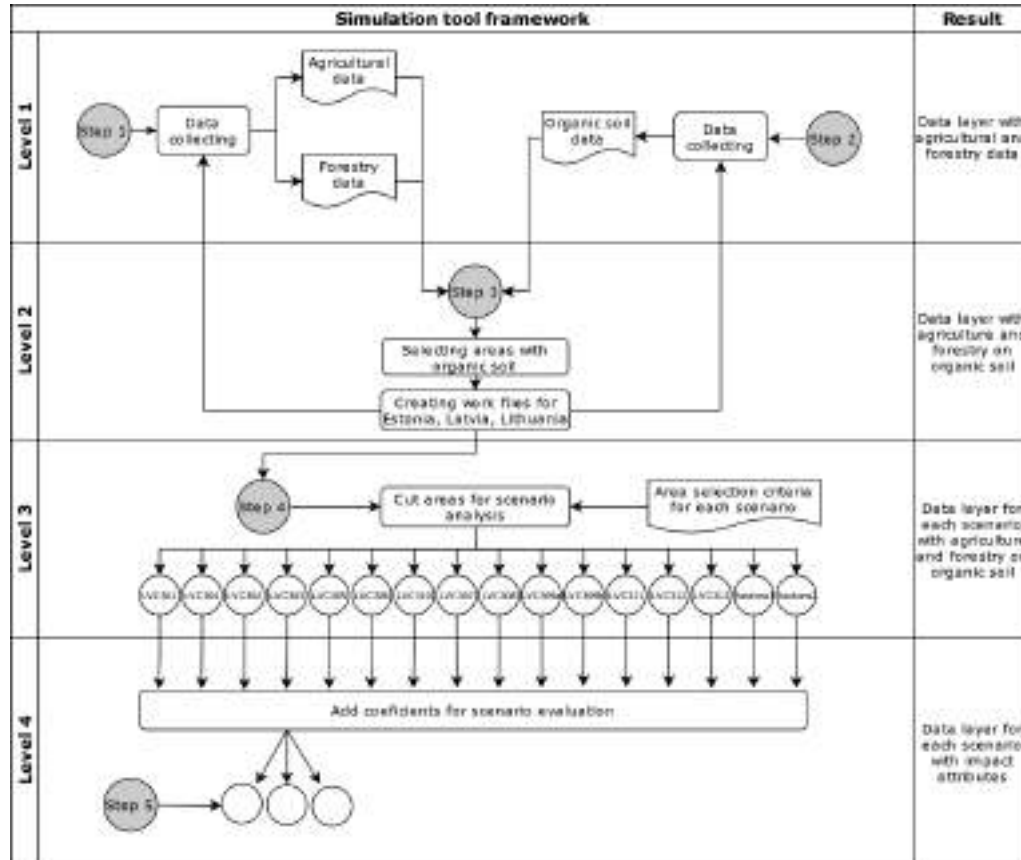


GRASSLAND



## SIMULATION TOOL

- Simulation tool is data-based tool for policy planning and decision making at regional and national level.
- It evaluates the impact of climate change mitigation measures on socio-economic indicators and GHG emission reduction at national level for three Baltic States.
- Results of Simulation tool also shows possible spatial location of the GHG emission reduction measures.



**Step 1:** to collect agricultural and forestry data for the creation of a detailed land use data layer for each polygon.

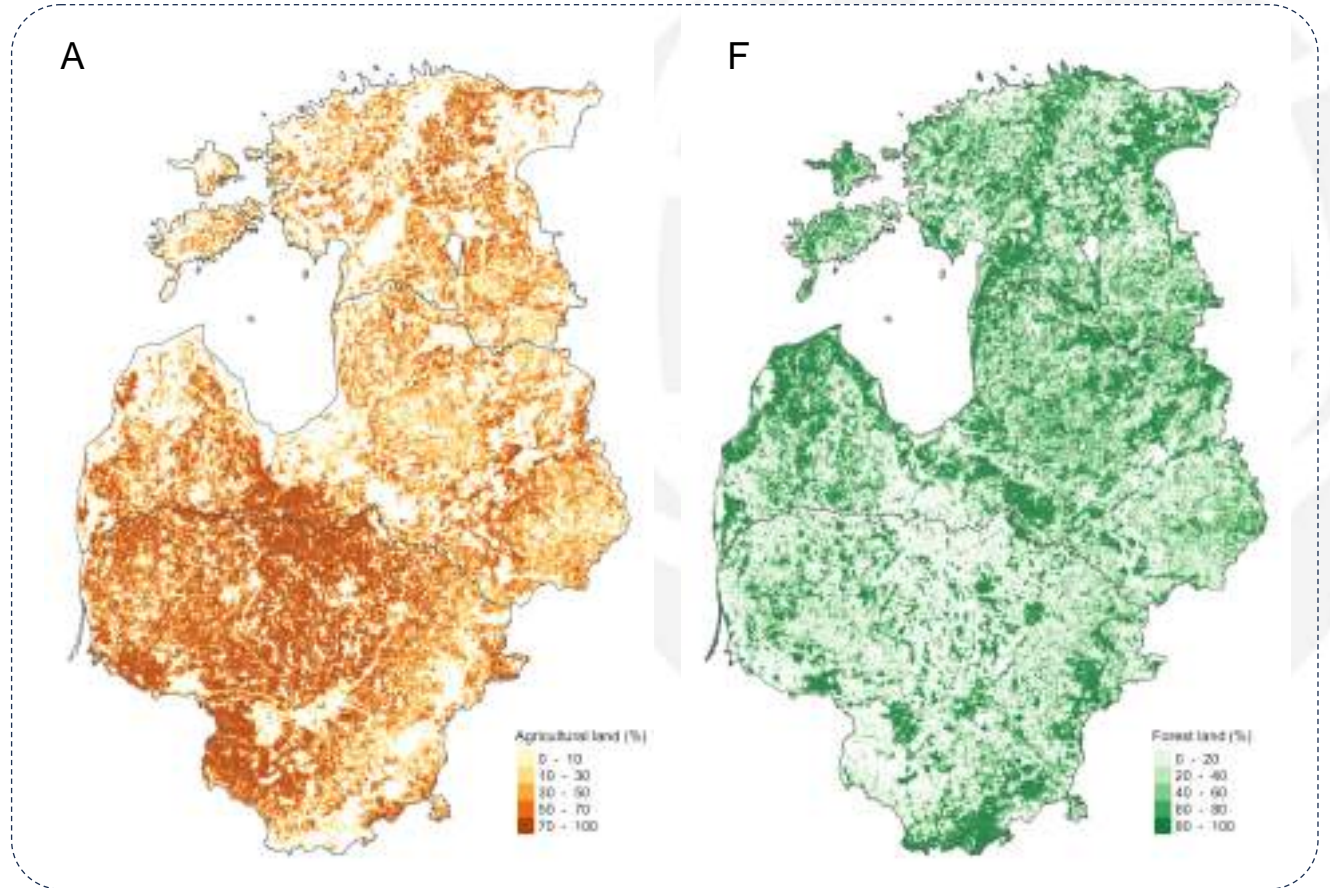
**Step 2:** to collect data for organic soil.

**Step 3:** to generate working files for three Baltic States including only those agricultural and forestry areas located on organic soil

**Step 4:** to cut area from generated working files for each scenario based on predefined area selection criteria.

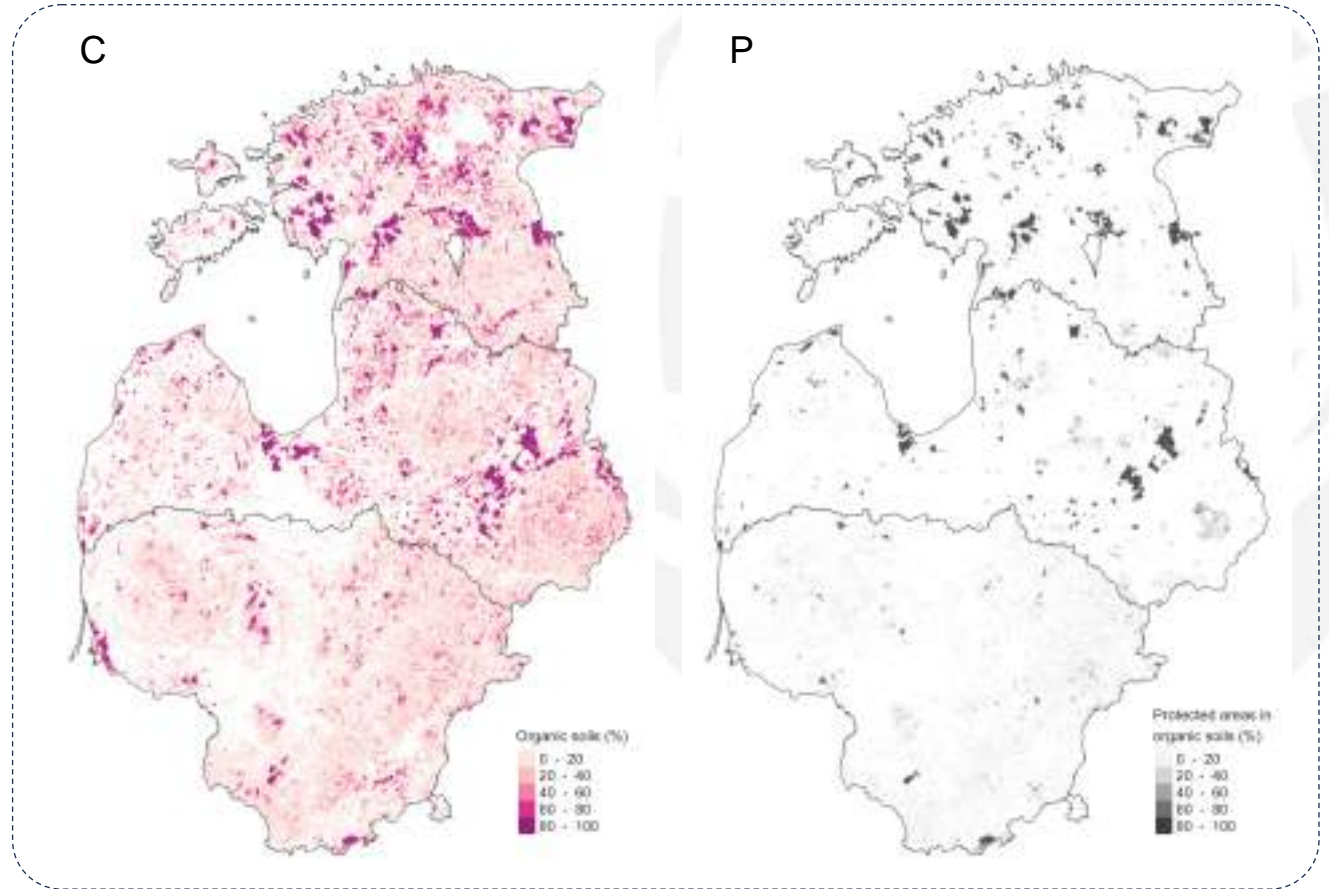
**Step 5:** impact assessment on profit, employment, and GHG emissions after implementation of scenarios.

Agricultural and forest  
land areas ...





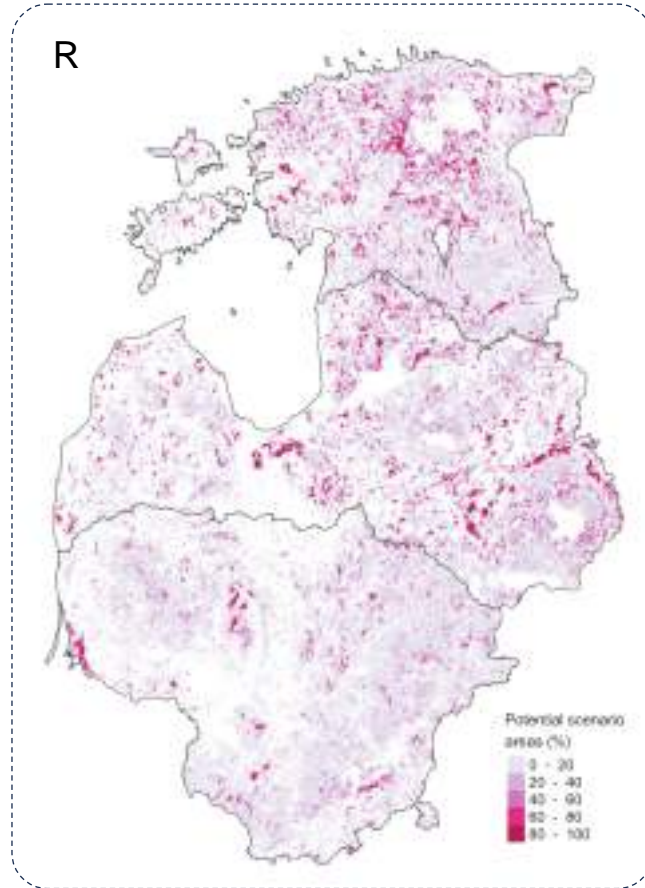
... are overlapped with  
organic land areas and  
protected areas



**THE RESULT:**

Agricultural and forest land layer on organic soils, except protected areas

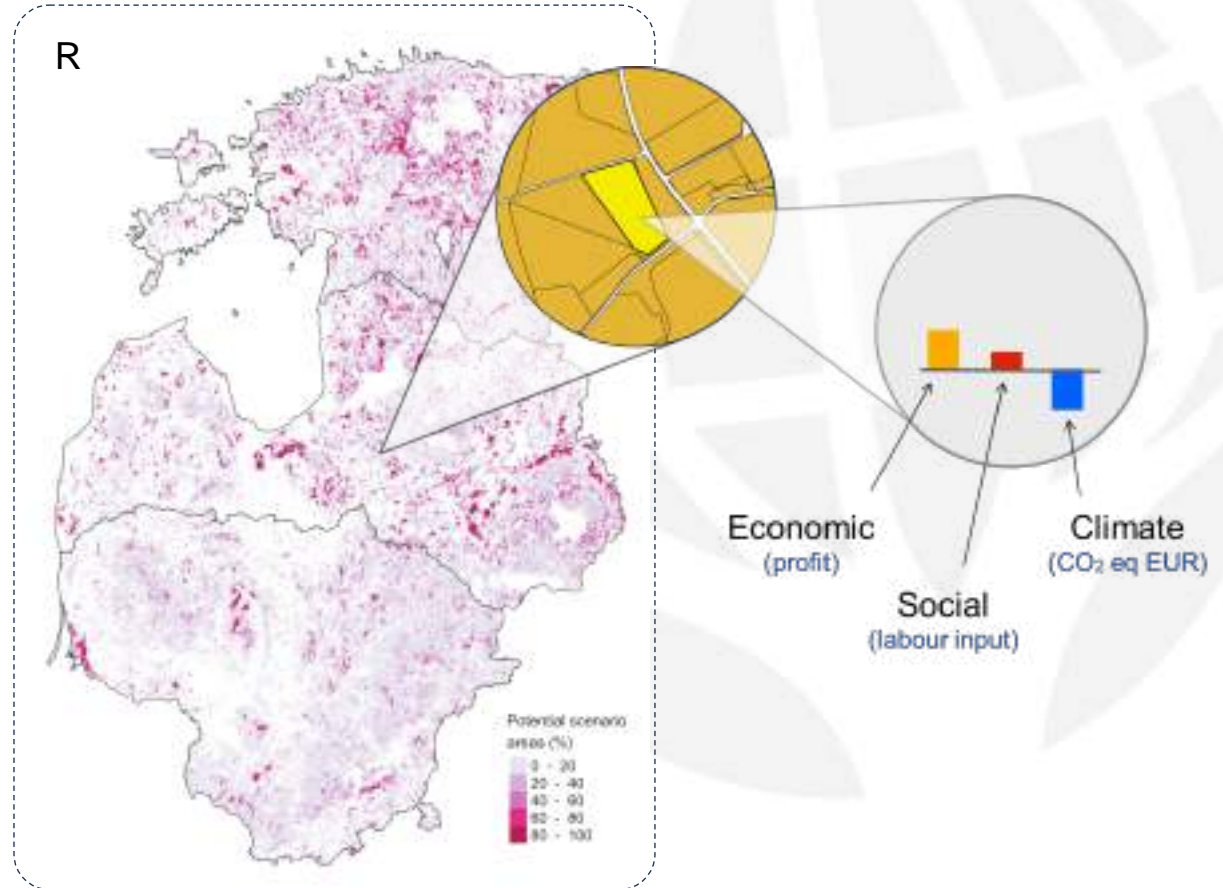
$$R = (A + F) \cap (C - P)$$

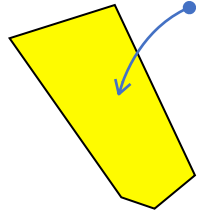


**THE RESULT:**

Agricultural and forest land layer on organic soils, except protected areas

$$R = (A + F) \cap (C - P)$$



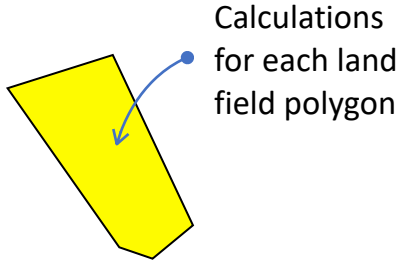


Calculations  
for each land  
field polygon

	<b>BEFORE</b>	<b>AFTER</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
Net GHG emissions (CO <sub>2</sub> eq)			OrgBalt
Profit (eur)	algorithms	algorithms	
Employment (hours)	algorithms	algorithms	

Evaluation for 2030

Evaluation for 2050



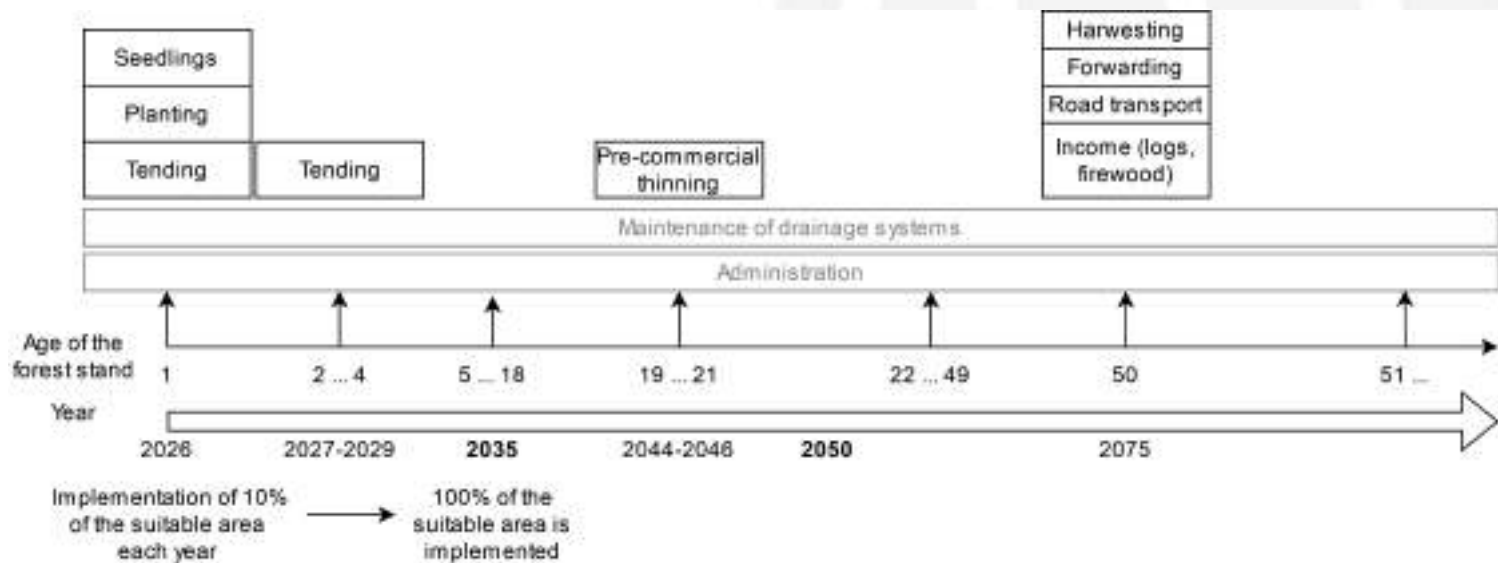
	BEFORE	AFTER	DIFFERENCE
Net GHG emissions (CO <sub>2</sub> eq)			OrgBalt
Profit (eur)	algorithms	algorithms	
Employment (hours)	algorithms	algorithms	

	Labor input (h/ha)			
	Large farms	Medium farms	Small farms	Mikro farms
Grains, oilseeds, pulses	15	18	24	32
Potatoes	72	165	223	315
Vegetables, strawberries, flowers	284	370	545	585
Perennial plantations	380	450	550	550
Other crops	90	115	160	225
Fallow land	6	7	12	22
Grasslands	16	19	25	34
Meadows and pastures	6	8	11	23

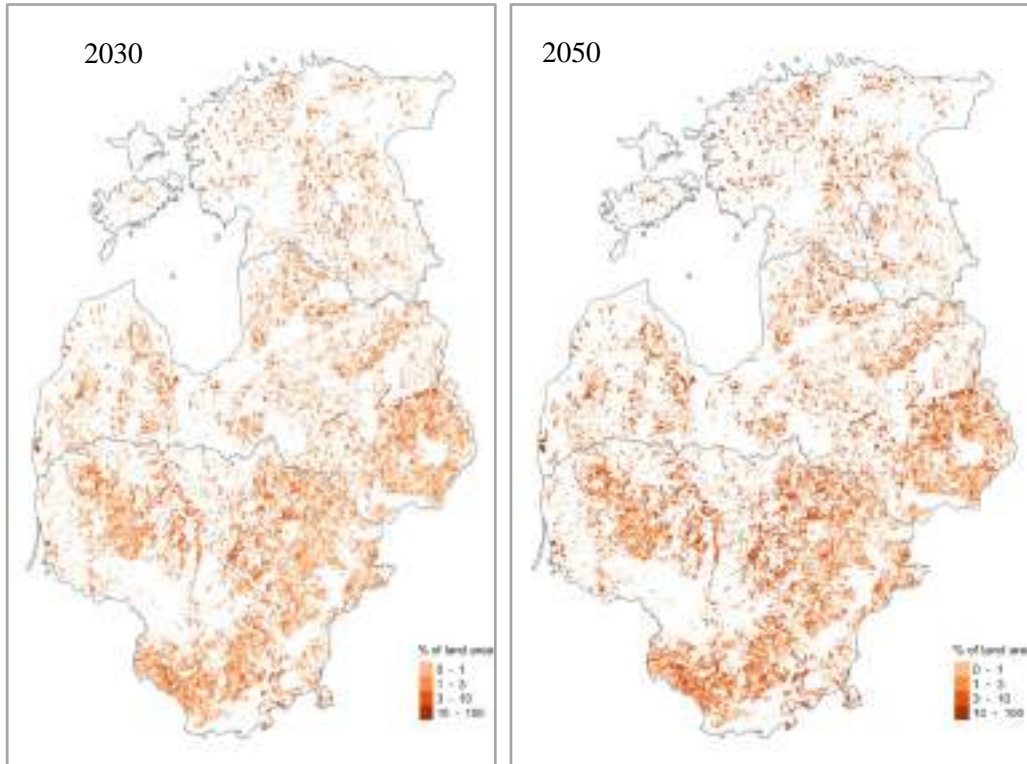
Evaluation for 2030

Evaluation for 2050

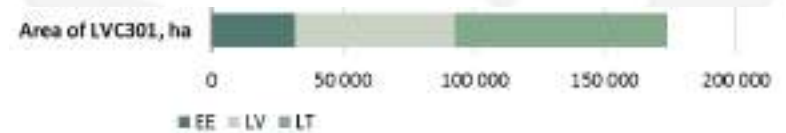
## FOREST LAND



## LVC301: CONVERSION OF CROPLAND TO GRASSLAND



Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
Cropland with nutrient-rich organic soil conversion to grassland. Increased carbon stock in soil and below-ground biomass, reduced risks of nutrient leaching and soil erosion.	Organic soil, arable land without perennial plantations	Grassland




## LVC302: CONVENTIONAL AFFORESTATION (SPRUCE)

2030



2050



Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
<p>Demonstration of the reduction of GHG emissions from area previously used as pasture or perennial grassland for fodder production by afforestation with spruce. Reduced GHG emissions from soil. Accumulation of CO<sub>2</sub> in living and dead biomass, soil and litter and replacement effect of forest biofuel and harvested wood products. Shorter rotation and more intensified management ensures higher yield and replacement effect, as well as reduces carbon losses due to root rot and other disturbances.</p>	<p>Organic soil, grassland, perennial grassland, arable land without perennial plantations</p>	<p>Forest stand with spruce</p>
<p><b>Area of LVC302, ha</b></p>  <p>0 50 000 100 000 150 000 200 000 250 000 300 000</p> <p>■ EE ■ LV ■ LT</p>		



## LVC303: INTRODUCTION OF FOREST PALUDICULTURE (DECIDIOUS TREES)

2030



2050



**Description**

Reduction of GHG emissions by establishing forest paludiculture (dominant species - black alder and birch) in grassland with nutrient-rich organic soil and increased groundwater level.

**Area selection criteria**

Organic soil, grassland, perennial grassland, arable land without perennial plantations

**Land use after implementation**

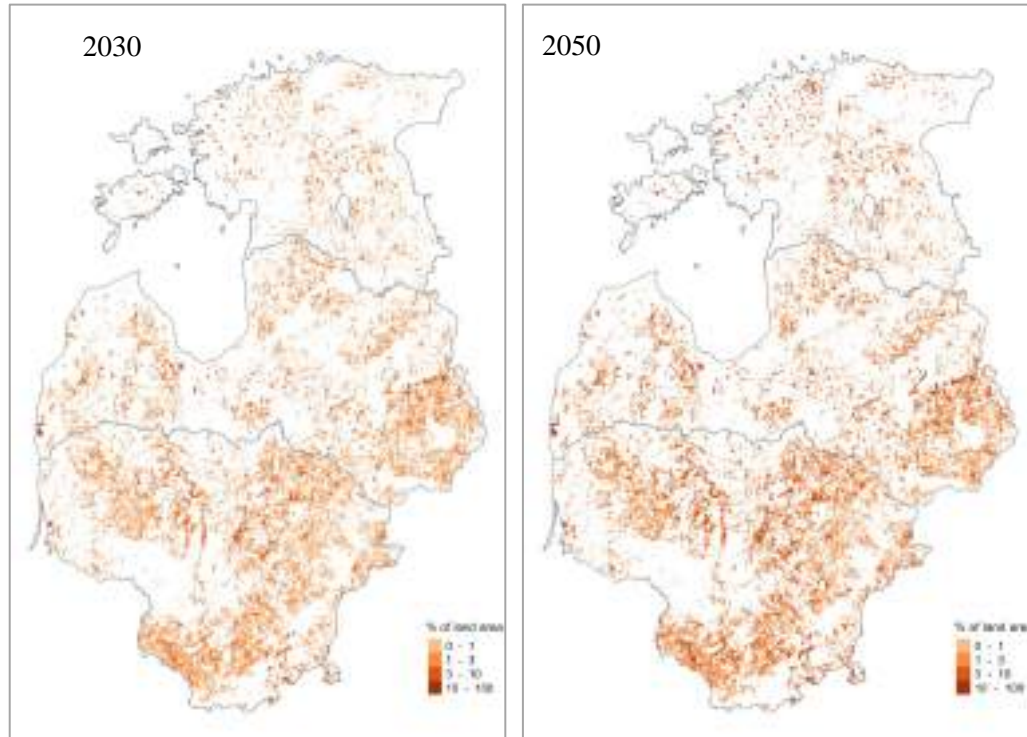
Forest stand with black alder and birch

Area of LVC303, ha

0 50 000 100 000 150 000 200 000 250 000 300 000

■ EE ■ LV ■ LT

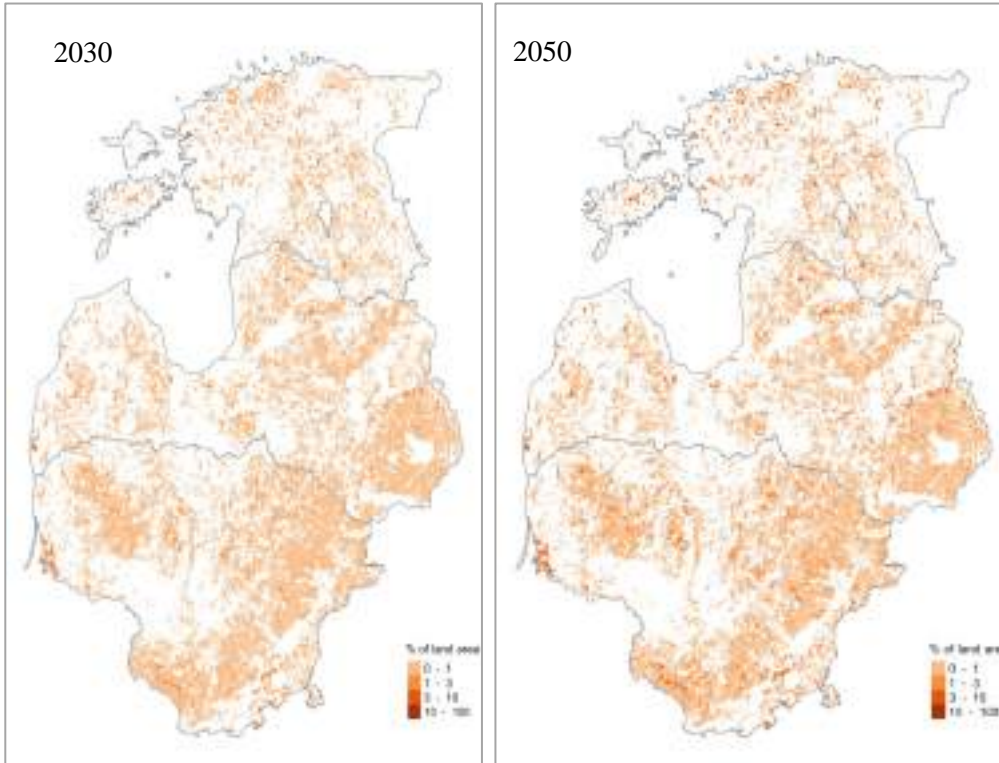
## LVC306: AGROFORESTRY – FAST GROWING TREES AND GRASS



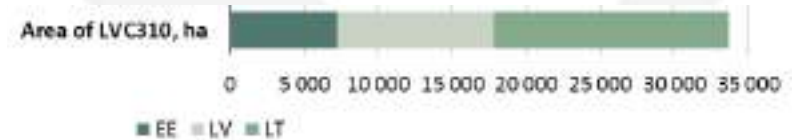
Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
GHG emissions reduction through transformation of cropland to tree plantation. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to the decrease of N <sub>2</sub> O and CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from soil as well as to the increase of CO <sub>2</sub> removals in living biomass and other carbon pools.	Organic soil, arable land without perennial grassland and perennial plantations	Forest stand with poplar



## LVC310: FAST GROWING SPECIES IN RIPARIAN BUFFER ZONES



Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
GHG emissions reduction through transformation of strip areas along drainage ditches in cropland to tree plantation areas that avoid nutrient leaching and increase carbon removals in living biomass and other carbon pools. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to the decrease of N <sub>2</sub> O and CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from soil as well as to the increase of CO <sub>2</sub> removals in living biomass and other carbon pools.	Organic soil, agricultural land, buffer zone at least 9.5 m wide from the edge of the ditch	Forest plantation with poplar and willow



# LVC307: APPLICATION OF WOOD ASH IN SPRUCE TREE STANDS

2030



2050



**Description**

GHG emissions reduction in spruce stands on organic soils and lowered ground water table by implementation of wood ash after thinning thus enhancing stand growing conditions. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to groundwater level reduction, related to increase in growing stock increment and increased water amount used for transpiration processes – thus decreasing CH<sub>4</sub> emissions and increasing CO<sub>2</sub> removals in living biomass.

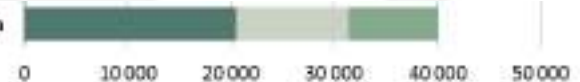
**Area selection criteria**

Organic soil, forest stand classification Kv, Km, Ks, Kp, II-IV site index, spruce at least 50%, age at least 20 years

**Land use after implementation**

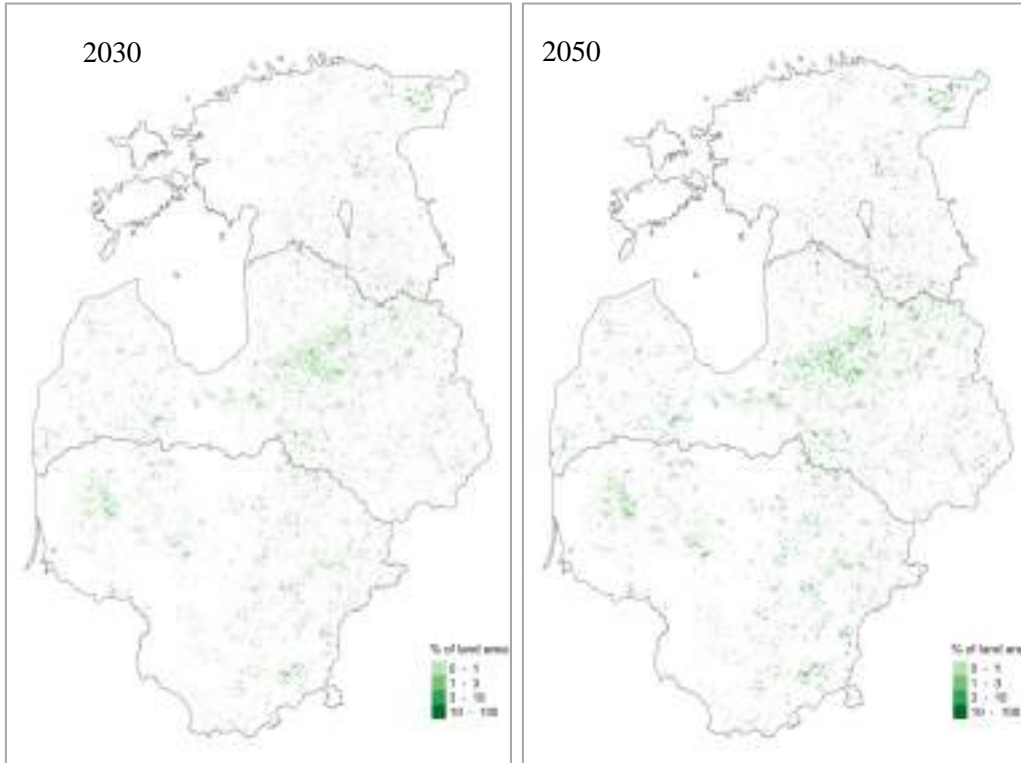
Forest stand with spruce

Area of LVC307, ha

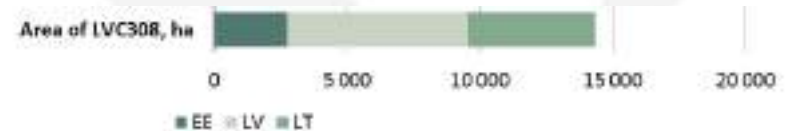


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## LVC308: CONTINUOUS FOREST IN SPRUCE STAND



Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
<p>GHG emissions reduction in spruce stand by replacing clear felling with selective felling. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to the increase of groundwater level in an alternative – clear felling scenario. Increase of groundwater level is associated with significant increase of CH<sub>4</sub>. In the case of selective felling increase of groundwater levels should be smaller thus also increase of GHG emissions is smaller.</p>	<p>Organic soil, forest stand classification Pv, Nd, Db, Lk, Kv, Km, Ks, Kp, main specie spruce, age 81 years</p>	<p>Forest stand with spruce</p>



## LVC309: FOREST REGENERATION WITH B. ALDER / BIRCH IN NON-DRAINED ORGANIC SOIL

2030



2050



**Description**

GHG emissions reduction in black alder and birch stand by using genetically selected planting material and improving hydrological regime. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to groundwater level stabilizing during forest regeneration phase and better growth conditions and increased CO<sub>2</sub> removals in forest biomass and other carbon stocks.

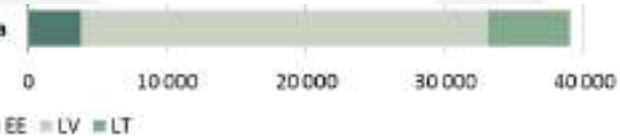
**Area selection criteria**

Organic soil, forest stand classification Pv, Nd, Db, Lk, main specie black alder, birch, age 71 years, I-III site index

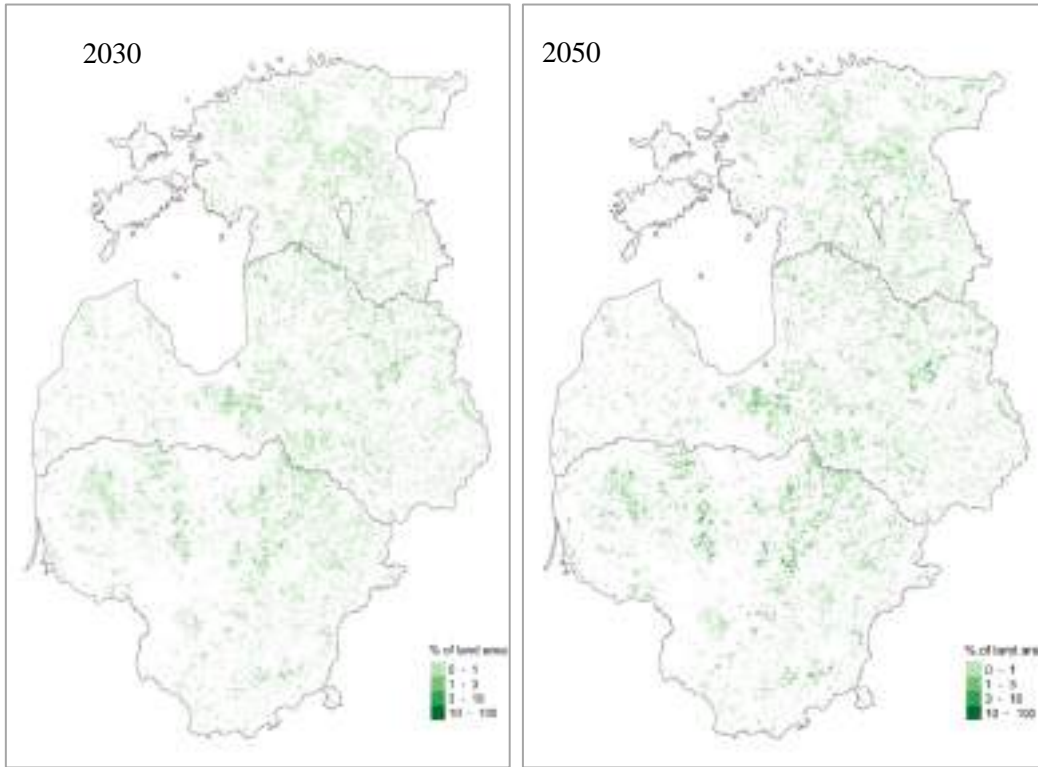
**Land use after implementation**

Forest stand with black alder and birch

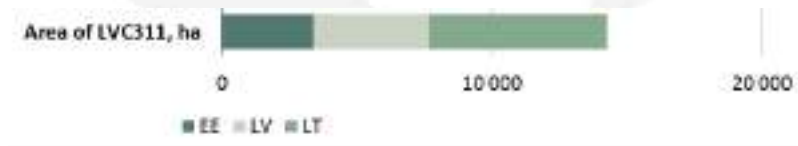
Area of LVC309, ha



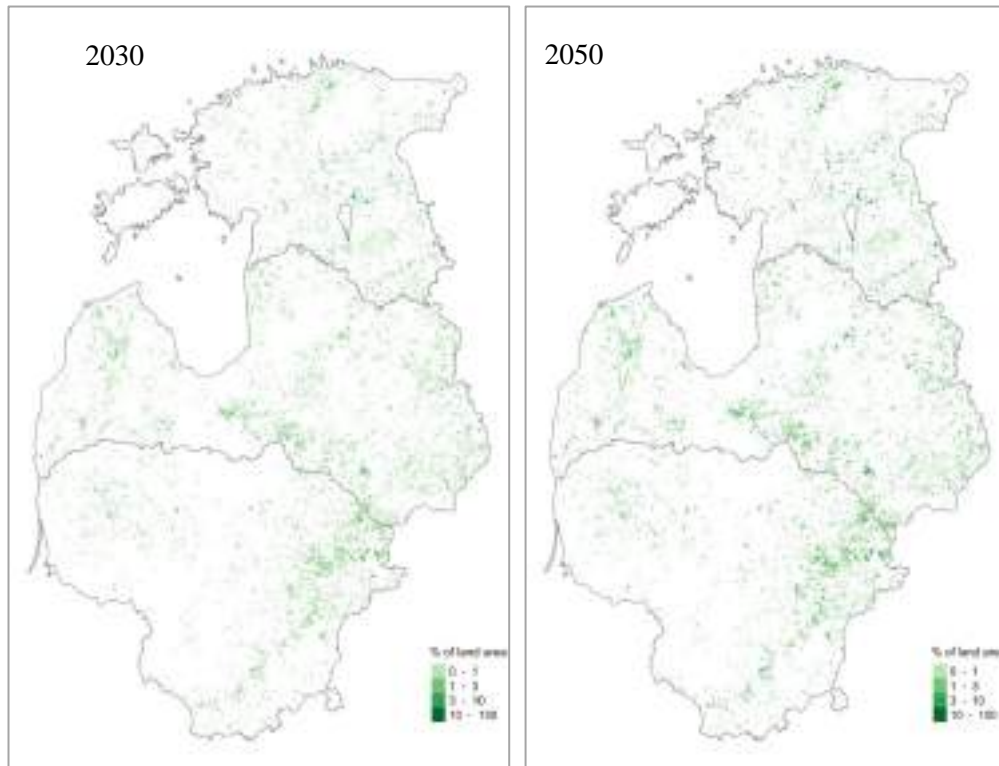
## LVC311: RIPARIAN BUFFER ZONE IN FOREST LAND PLANTED WITH B. ALDER



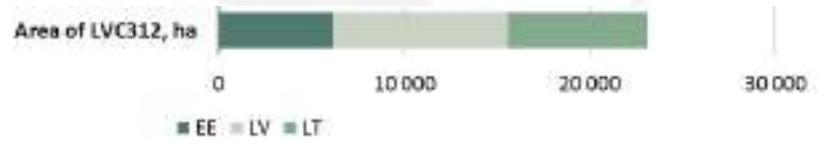
Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
<p>GHG emissions reduction in deciduous tree stands on organic soils with increased ground water table by enhancing tree growing conditions, using high quality planting material and preparing soil with mounding method including establishing of deep furrows for excess surface water drainage in spring time and after rainfalls. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to groundwater level reduction, related to establishment of deep furrows - as a result decreasing CH<sub>4</sub> emissions and increasing CO<sub>2</sub> removals in living biomass.</p>	<p>Organic soil, forest stand classification Ks, Kp, buffer zones of reclamation systems in forest lands</p>	<p>Forest stand with black alder</p>



## LVC312: FOREST REGENERATION WITH PINE IN NON-DRAINED ORGANIC SOIL



Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
GHG emissions reduction in coniferous stands on organic soils and increased ground water table by application of forest regeneration with high quality coniferous planting material and by using mounding method for soil preparation. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to groundwater level reduction, related to establishment of deep furrows - as a result decreasing CH <sub>4</sub> emissions and increasing CO <sub>2</sub> removals in living biomass because of enhanced forest growing conditions.	Organic soil, forest stand classification Pv, Nd, Db, main species birch (age 71, II-V site index), aspen (age 41, site index II-V), black alder (age 71, II-V site index),	Forest stand with pine

Area of LVC312, ha

0 10 000 20 000 30 000

■ EE ■ LV ■ LT



## LVC313: STRIP HARVESTING IN PINE STAND

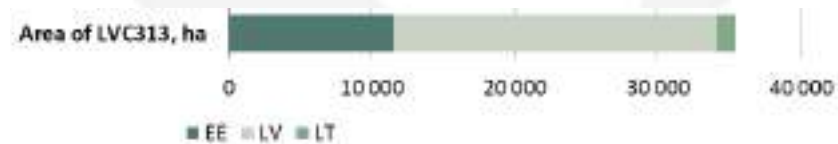
2030



2050



Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
<p>GHG emissions reduction in pine stand by replacing clear felling with strip harvesting. Projected reduction of GHG emissions is related to the increase of groundwater level in an alternative – clear felling scenario. Increase of groundwater level is associated with significant increase of CH<sub>4</sub>.</p> <p>In the case of strip harvesting increase of groundwater levels should be smaller thus also increase of GHG emissions is smaller.</p>	<p>Organic soil, forest stand classification Kv, Km, Ks, Kp, main specie pine, age 101 years, I-III site index</p>	<p>Forest stand with pine</p>



## RESTORE1: GROWING BLUEBERRIES IN WETLANDS



Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
Conversion of former peat extraction sites to agricultural land where tall highbush blueberry <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> , or lowbush blueberry <i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i> are grown.	Former peat extraction field	Perennial plantation



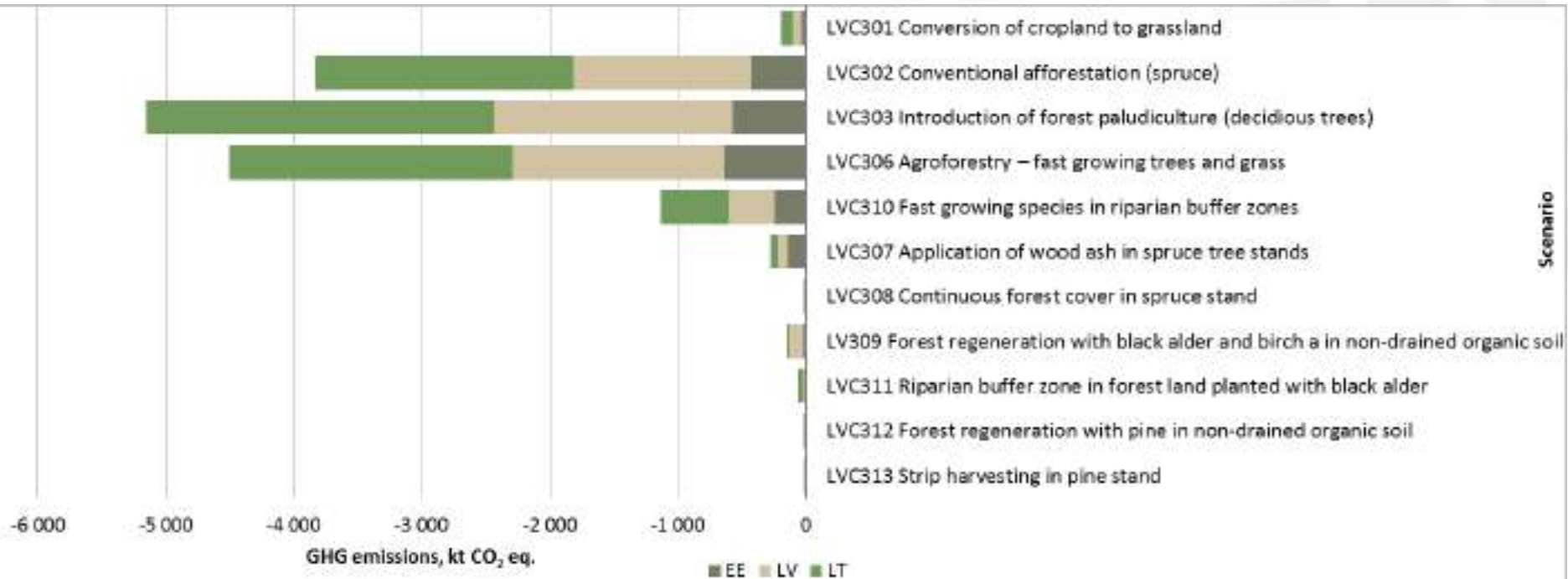
## RESTORE2: GROWING CRANBERRIES IN WETLANDS



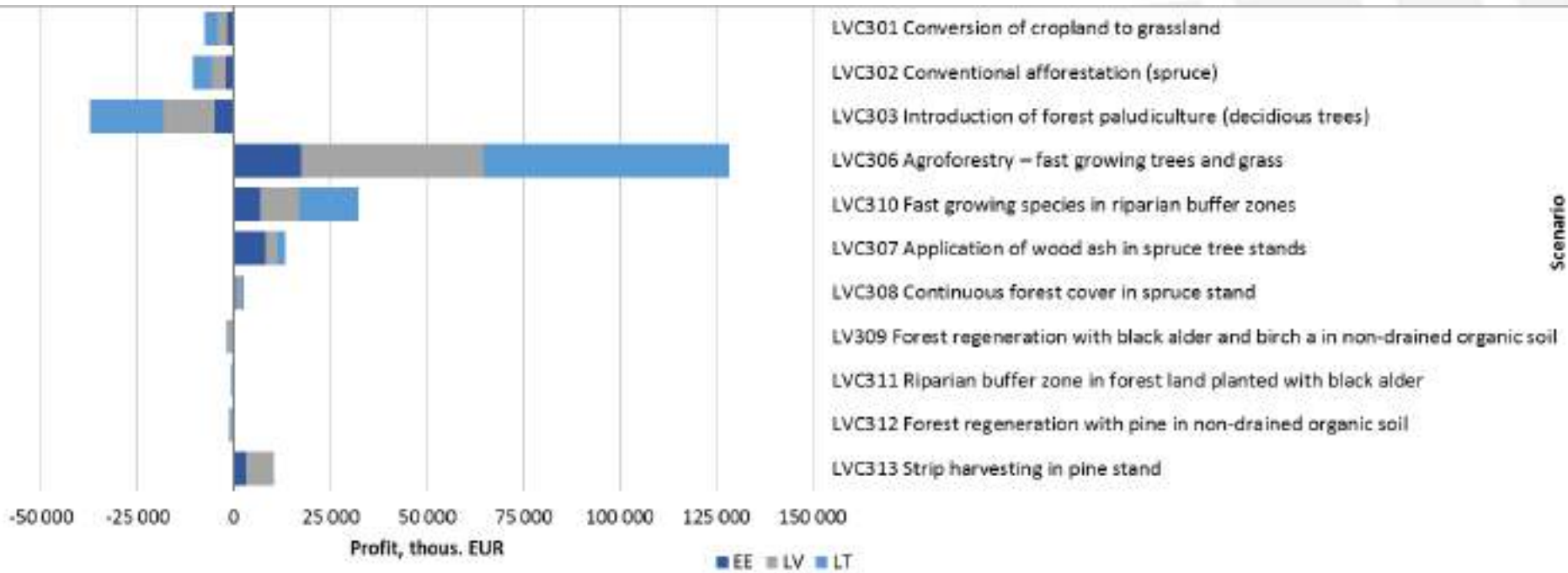
Description	Area selection criteria	Land use after implementation
Conversion of former peat extraction sites to agricultural land where large cranberry <i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i> is grown.	Former peat extraction field	Perennial plantation



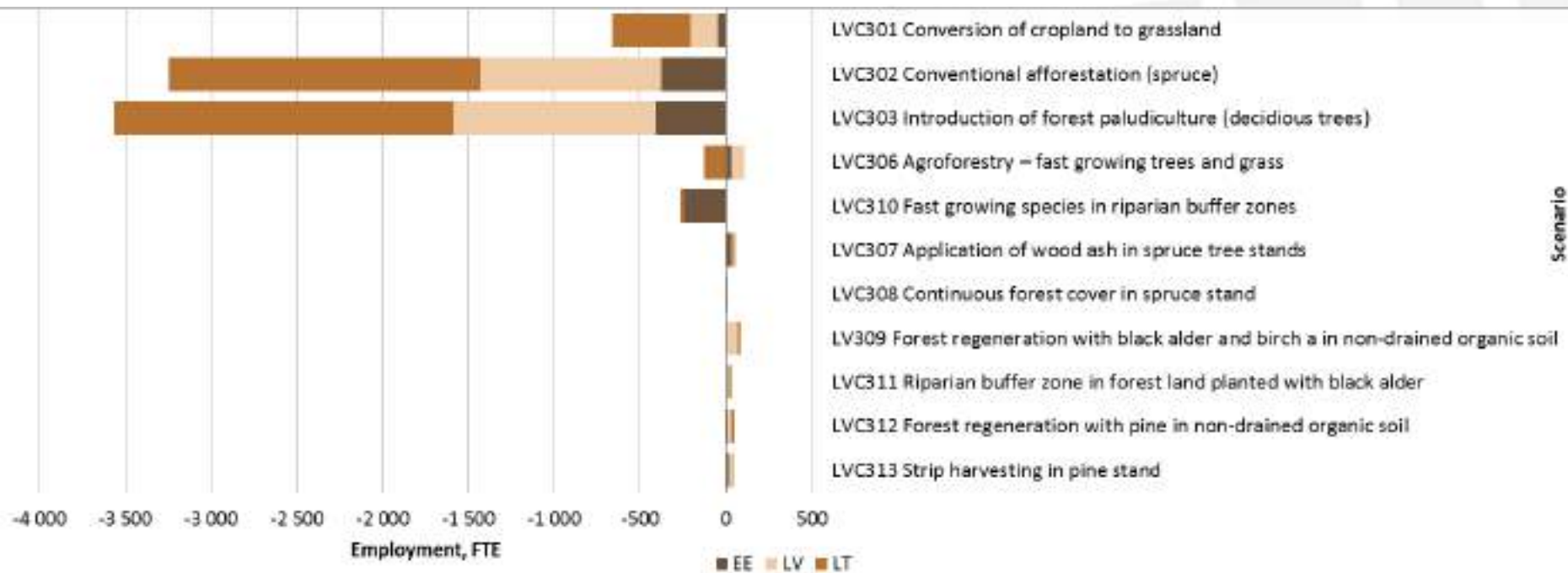
## IMPACT ON GHG EMISSIONS IN 2050



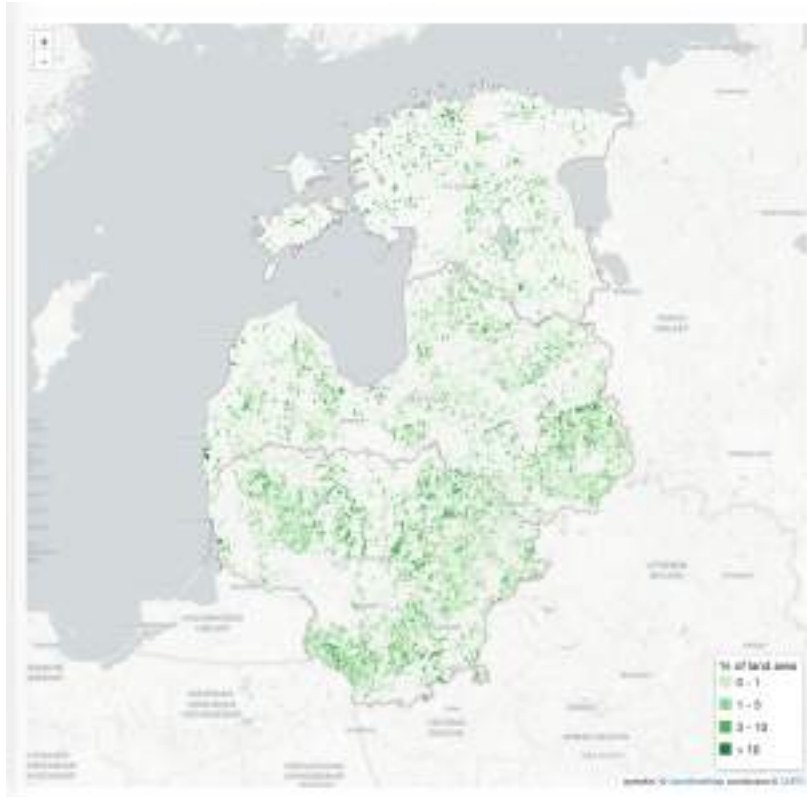
## IMPACT ON PROFITS IN 2050



# IMPACT ON EMPLOYMENT IN 2050



# APPLICATION OF SIMULATION TOOL



Select scenario:

LVC01 - CONVERSION OF CROPLAND TO GRASSLAND

### Description

Conversion of cropland with nutrient-rich organic soil to grassland. Increased carbon stock in soil and below-ground biomass, reduced risks of nutrient leaching and soil erosion.

Select year:

2000 2050

### Estonia

Scenario area: 18 619 ha  
 GHG emissions: -17 181 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq.  
 Profit: 840 thousand EUR  
 Employment: -23 full time persons

### Latvia

Scenario area: 38 767 ha  
 GHG emissions: -35 844 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq.  
 Profit: -1 272 thousand EUR  
 Employment: 81 full time persons

### Lithuania

Scenario area: 48 764 ha  
 GHG emissions: -46 843 t CO<sub>2</sub> eq.  
 Profit: -1 727 thousand EUR  
 Employment: -233 full time persons

# Thank you!



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The project "Demonstration of climate change mitigation potential of nutrients rich organic soils in Baltic States and Finland" (LIFE OrgBalt, LIFE18 CCM/LV/001158) has received funding from the LIFE Programme of the European Union and the State Regional Development Agency of Latvia.  [www.orgbalt.eu](http://www.orgbalt.eu)

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