

## **Alternative use of biomass for maintenance of grassland biodiversity and ecosystem services**

**The main objective of the project:** to ensure maintenance of biologically valuable grasslands by enhancing alternative, economically sustainable approaches to the use of grassland biomass as well as establishing co-operation models between farmers, entrepreneurs and local authorities, this would ensure viability of grassland management and proposed technological solutions.

**Project implementation:** 01.10.2013-31.12.2017

**Project number:** LIFE12 BIO/LV/001130

**Project acronym:** LIFE GRASSSERVICE

### **Project tasks:**

- To assess biological and economic value of grassland ecosystems and available amount of biomass at the two project pilot areas;
- To assess the use potential of the grassland biomass of the project pilot areas;
- To develop area specific technological solutions for grassland management and utilization of biomass in economically sustainable way;
- To inform local stakeholders about alternative options for use of grassland biomass;
- To establish contacts and co-operation networks among land owners and entrepreneurs engaged in production of energy and various goods from grassland biomass;
- To demonstrate in practice alternative technological solutions for biomass processing to wide range of interested stakeholders thus promoting application of proposed technologies and co-operation models elsewhere.

Project activities will be carried out in two local municipalities of Latvia (Sigulda and Ludza), characterized by large areas of non-used agriculture land and abandoned grasslands, which due to lack of management are overgrowing and losing their biological value.

**Project lead partner:** Baltic Environmental Forum-Latvia, [www.bef.lv](http://www.bef.lv)  
Project manager Ms. Anda Ruskule, [anda.ruskule@bef.lv](mailto:anda.ruskule@bef.lv)

### **Project partners:**

Latvian Fund for Nature [http://www.ldf.lv/pub/?doc\\_id=27928](http://www.ldf.lv/pub/?doc_id=27928)

Riga Technical University <http://www.rtu.lv/en/>

Bio Refinery Entrepreneurship LTD <http://www.biore.lv/>

Farm „Skujas”, Glūda parish, Jelgava district, LV-3040

Sigulda Municipality Council [www.sigulda.lv](http://www.sigulda.lv)

Ludza Municipality Council [www.ludza.lv](http://www.ludza.lv)



**Project is funded by:** European Union LIFE+ Nature & Biodiversity program  
<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/index.htm>