



D7.3 Accomplished Demonstrator Activities for All Four Regions

Deliverable for the Horizon Europe Project BirdWatch

Version 1.0



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Introduction

Deliverable D7.3 documents the demonstration activities carried out across the four pilot regions as part of WP7200. The basis for the execution of WP7200 were deliverables D7.1 and D7.2, which laid the ground with detailed plans. This deliverable focuses on the execution and outcomes of the demonstration phase, while the detailed evaluation of stakeholder feedback and KPI-based performance analysis will be addressed in D7.4 under WP7300.

1. Overview of Demonstrator Activities

This section provides a consolidated explanation of why and how the demonstrations were carried out. It describes the objectives of the demonstration activities, the scope of the work under D7.3, and how these activities relate to the preparatory steps described in D7.1 and D7.2. It describes the overarching framework used to organize demonstrations, the common workflow applied across the four regions, and the coordination mechanisms established between project partners. This overview creates a clear narrative of how planning transitioned into implementation, emphasising the operational readiness of the platform for real-world testing.

1.1 Objectives and Scope of D7.3

The purpose of Deliverable D7.3 is to document the implementation of demonstration activities, the engagement of pilot participants, and the initial qualitative observations gathered from end-users. These activities were intended to test BirdWatch functionalities in real environments, validate their usability and thematic accuracy, and capture the experiences of farmers, policymakers, conservation organisations and other stakeholders.

1.2 Preparation and Coordination

The preparation and coordination phase focused on ensuring that the demonstration activities could be delivered effectively across all four pilot regions, in line with the planning framework defined in D7.2. This phase covered coordination between regional partners, scheduling of sessions, preparation of supporting materials, stakeholder communication, and verification of technical readiness of the BirdWatch platform prior to implementation.

Across regions, preparation activities were guided by the common demonstration workflow established in D7.2. This included defining session formats (online, hybrid, or physical), selecting appropriate dates, identifying and recruiting relevant stakeholder groups, preparing demonstration materials, and ensuring that platform components required for live testing were operational. While the overarching framework was applied consistently, region-specific adaptations were implemented to reflect local stakeholder structures, communication channels, and organisational constraints.

In **Lithuania**, preparation focused on organising a series of online meetings following the D7.2 workflow. Several alternative dates were proposed in advance in order to maximise farmer participation



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and accommodate seasonal workload constraints. Invitations were distributed to all identified stakeholders, including farmers and institutional representatives, together with meeting links and introductory information. Prior to the meetings, institutional stakeholders were contacted by phone to provide reminders and a short introduction to the objectives and scope of the demonstrations. Presentation materials were prepared and used during the sessions to introduce the BirdWatch project, including the overall methodology, expected results, and platform functionalities, ensuring a structured and consistent introduction to the demonstrations.

In **Flanders**, preparation followed a similar approach, combining advance planning of multiple demonstration dates with broad dissemination through established communication channels. In addition to direct invitations, the demonstration activities were advertised in the **December 2025 edition of the monthly agricultural journal *Boerenbond*** to reach a wide farming audience. Preparation also included close collaboration with the **Flemish Paying Agency** and the **Flemish Rural Network**, through which invitations and announcements were disseminated via official communication channels. Information about the BirdWatch webinar was published on the website and Facebook page of the Flemish Rural Network. Presentation slides were prepared and used during the sessions to introduce the BirdWatch project, the demonstration objectives, and the platform workflow, ensuring consistency with the approach applied in other regions and providing a structured introduction to the methodology, platform features, and expected outcomes.

In **Brandenburg (Germany)**, stakeholder recruitment and coordination required a more targeted and adaptive approach. To reach farms with a strong affinity for nature conservation, targeted emails were distributed through relevant mailing lists, including the Federal Biodiversity Committee and specialist biodiversity groups. In parallel, farms were contacted directly based on recommendations from nature conservation advisory services, arable farming consultants, and Bioland's regional associations. Information circulars were prepared and distributed, followed by direct phone calls when initial response rates remained low.

Organising larger joint meetings with farms proved challenging, despite offering a wide range of dates. Differences in farm structures and operational focus—ranging from part-time farms to livestock systems and forestry-oriented holdings—made it difficult to identify suitable common time slots. As a result, preparation increasingly shifted towards contacting farms in small groups of up to five participants. These sessions typically included a short demonstration of approximately 30 minutes, followed by the opportunity for participants to test the platform independently after the session. This format significantly reduced organisational effort and noticeably increased willingness to participate.

Ensuring completion of the questionnaire also required additional preparation and follow-up. Reminder emails and targeted phone calls were used to encourage survey completion. In several cases, it became clear that farms perceived both the individual benefit of the platform and the usefulness



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of the survey as rather limited at the current stage, which reduced motivation to complete the questionnaire. Overall, the Brandenburg preparation phase required sustained outreach and flexible organisation to support participation and feedback collection.

In **South Tyrol (Italy)**, preparation activities were similar to those implemented in Lithuania. Demonstration dates were coordinated in advance for both physical and online sessions, and stakeholders were invited through direct communication channels. Phone calls were used to invite institutional stakeholders and representatives of farmers' organisations, providing a short introduction to the BirdWatch project and the objectives of the demonstration. Presentation materials were prepared to introduce the platform, methodology, and expected results during both the physical and online sessions, ensuring a consistent demonstration structure and smooth onboarding of participants.

2. Execution of Demonstration Activities

The BirdWatch demonstration activities were implemented and completed in the four pilot regions—Flanders (Belgium), Brandenburg (Germany), Lithuania, and South Tyrol (Italy)—following the structured demonstration framework defined in D7.2. In line with the planned approach, each region prepared and delivered demonstration sessions using a common implementation logic: (i) session preparation and stakeholder coordination, (ii) delivery of guided demonstrations (online, hybrid, or physical), (iii) participant onboarding and live testing, and (iv) post-session follow-up actions.

As planned, demonstrations were delivered through online, hybrid, and in-person formats to reflect local logistical conditions and stakeholder availability. All sessions were organised to enable participants to (a) access the BirdWatch platform, (b) follow a structured walkthrough of platform navigation and use, and (c) explore region-specific Areas of Interest (AOIs) and relevant platform outputs through hands-on interaction during the live session or directly afterwards. This corresponds to the planned demonstration-session approach described in the Demonstration Activities Planning Guide, including onboarding support, platform navigation, guided testing, Q&A opportunities, and completion of follow-up steps after the session.

In line with the planned demonstration workflow, each regional demonstration followed a consultation-style structure including welcome and introduction, platform demonstration, participant interaction and discussion, and hands-on testing with follow-up actions. While delivery formats and durations were adapted by each region, the demonstrations were implemented through the same operational logic: guided platform walkthrough combined with facilitated user testing.

The consolidated stakeholder participation figures used in this section are reported in **Annex I. Stakeholder Participation Data**, while photographic evidence from the delivered sessions is provided in **Annex II. Photographic Documentation**.



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Overall result - demonstration phases in each region were executed according to the plan and reached all goals.

Table 1. Overview of Demonstration Activities Implemented (All Regions)

Region	Total Planned (D7.1)	Total Actual Joined	Total Completed Surveys	Demonstration Dates	Format	Notes (as recorded)
Flanders (Belgium)	60	30	7	18 Nov 2025; 27 Nov 2025; 7 Jan 2026; 21 Jan 2026	Physical + Online	18 Nov physical with stakeholders; 18 Nov online with stakeholders, 27 Nov online with stakeholders + farmers; 7 and 21 Jan online with farmers
Brandenburg (Germany)	60	60	21	10 Dec 2025; 11 Dec 2025; 12 Dec 2025; 15 Dec 2025	Online + Physical	Three online sessions, presentation during conference
Germany		3	0	10 Dec 2025 & 12 Dec 2025	Online & Physical	two online sessions and one on-site session
Lithuania	60	97	68	3 Dec 2025; 5 Dec 2025; 12 Dec 2025; 19 Jan 2026	Online	3 Dec online with institutions; 5 & 12 Dec online with farmers; 19 Jan online with farmers and advisory service
South Tyrol (Italy)	25	15	8	12 Dec 2025; 16 Jan 2026	Physical + Online	12 Dec physical session, 16 Jan online session (two separate events)
TOTAL	205	205	104	—	Mixed	Combined outputs across regions

2.1 Demonstration Implementation in Flanders (Belgium)

In line with the planned approach, the demonstration activities in Flanders were implemented through **five sessions**, combining physical stakeholder engagement with dedicated online demonstrations for farmers. This delivery format reflects the planned flexibility in D7.2, where regions could adapt implementation formats (physical, online, or hybrid) while maintaining a consistent workflow based on guided platform introduction, user onboarding, structured walkthrough, and practical interaction with the BirdWatch platform.

The sessions were held on:



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- **18 November 2025:** a physical event (Brussels) targeting a broad group of stakeholders (including farmers);
- **18 November 2025:** an online event targeting a broad group of stakeholders (including farmers);
- **27 November 2025:** an **online session** targeting a broad group of stakeholders (including farmers);
- **7 January 2026:** an **additional online session** targeting farmers.
- **21 January 2026:** an **additional online session** targeting farmers.

A total of **30 participants joined** the Flanders demonstration activities, compared to the planned target of 60. In all sessions, implementation followed the planned demonstration sequence. Participants were first introduced to the BirdWatch platform and the purpose of the demonstration in the Flemish regional context. This was followed by onboarding guidance, including access instructions and explanations of how to navigate the platform interface. Facilitators then conducted a step-by-step guided walkthrough, demonstrating how to access and explore the **regional Areas of Interest (AOIs)**, how to interpret the displayed map outputs, and how to use key platform functions to review the available layers and results relevant to the region.

During the demonstrations, participants were invited to follow the walkthrough in parallel and to interact with the platform through guided exploration. Practical interaction included navigating within the AOIs, exploring map views, checking displayed outputs, and testing key functionalities shown during the sessions. The physical session enabled direct facilitation and discussion across stakeholder groups, while the online farmer-focused sessions provided a dedicated space for farmer participation and live walkthrough support adapted to that target group.

After each session, follow-up actions were implemented in accordance with the planned approach, including distribution of the standardised survey tool to collect structured feedback. Survey completion was initiated after participation following the standard feedback collection procedure.

2.2 Demonstration Implementation in Brandenburg (Germany)

The demonstration activities in Brandenburg were implemented through **three online sessions** held on **10, 12, and 15 December**, reflecting the planned delivery model for online demonstrations supported by guided platform testing, structured facilitation, and discussion opportunities. In addition to these sessions, the BirdWatch platform was presented on **11 December 2025** at the annual conference *“Biodiversity Advisory Services in Agriculture”* in Hofgeismar. This approach corresponds to the D7.2 framework, where online delivery was planned as a viable demonstration format when physical workshops were not required or when stakeholder availability favoured remote participation.

Stakeholder recruitment focused primarily on farms within Bioland’s partner network and on agricultural and conservation advisors. To reach farms with a strong affinity for nature conservation, targeted emails were distributed through relevant mailing lists, including the Federal Biodiversity Committee and specialist biodiversity groups. In parallel, farms were contacted directly based on



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recommendations from nature conservation advisory services, arable farming consultants, and Bio-land regional associations. Information circulars were prepared and distributed, followed by direct phone calls

Organising larger joint meetings with farms proved challenging, despite offering a wide range of dates. Differences in farm structures and operational focus—ranging from part-time farms to live-stock systems and forestry-oriented holdings—made it difficult to identify suitable common time slots. As a result, farms were increasingly contacted in small groups of up to five participants. These sessions typically included a short demonstration of approximately 30 minutes, followed by the opportunity for participants to test the platform independently after the session. This format significantly reduced organisational effort and noticeably increased willingness to participate.

In total, **60 participants joined** the Brandenburg demonstration activities, corresponding to the planned target. Participation included **24 farmers**, representatives of **two agricultural organisations**, and a mix of individual stakeholders and institutional representatives, including **supervisory institutions, policymakers, and research actors** joining through institutional representation. In addition, **24 advisors from agriculture and nature conservation** were contacted directly, as these groups were considered to have the highest potential benefit from the platform.

Each session followed a structured implementation format consistent with the planned demonstrator workflow. Activities included onboarding participants to the BirdWatch platform, providing access instructions, and explaining basic navigation. Facilitators then guided participants through platform use, including map interaction and step-by-step exploration of the **Brandenburg AOIs** and the available regional outputs.

During the live sessions, participants were supported in practical interaction with the platform. This included testing navigation functions, exploring displayed layers and outputs, and using the platform to review information relevant to the Brandenburg region. The online sessions also allowed participants to raise clarification questions and interact with facilitators while progressing through the walkthrough sequence.

Following the sessions, survey completion was initiated as part of the planned follow-up and feedback collection step, using the standardised approach implemented across all regions.

2.3 Demonstration Implementation in Lithuania

The Lithuanian demonstration activities were implemented through **four online sessions in December and January**, organised separately for institutional stakeholders and farmers. This reflects the planned approach to stakeholder segmentation and multi-session delivery where needed to ensure broad participation across groups. Lithuania implemented a combination of institution-focused and farmer-focused sessions to align the demonstration format with stakeholder needs and availability.

The sessions took place on:

- **3 December 2025:** online session with institutions;
- **5 December 2025:** online session with farmers;
- **12 December 2025:** online session with farmers.
- **19 January 2026:** online session with farmers and advisory service provider.



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A total of **97 participants joined**, exceeding the planned target of 60. This included participation from multiple stakeholder categories, with farmers recorded as a major group (65 farmers within total participation), alongside institutional representatives from farming organisations, nature conservation organisations, supervisory institutions, policymakers, and research/academia.

In each session, implementation followed the planned demonstration sequence. Participants were introduced to the purpose of BirdWatch and the Lithuanian demonstration context, followed by onboarding support including access instructions and navigation guidance. Facilitators provided a structured walkthrough of the BirdWatch platform interface, guiding participants through steps required to access and explore Lithuanian **AOIs**, view platform layers, and review available outputs relevant to the region.

Practical interaction was included as part of each session. Participants were invited to test platform functions during the live walkthrough, including navigating map views, exploring displayed layers, and reviewing outputs while receiving facilitator support. The sessions were implemented to enable participants to engage directly with the platform during the meeting and, where relevant, to continue testing immediately afterwards.

Following participation, the standardised online surveys were distributed as part of the planned follow-up step to document structured feedback collected after the hands-on exploration sessions.

2.4 Demonstration Implementation in South Tyrol (Italy)

The South Tyrol demonstration activity was implemented as a **physical session and two online sessions**, reflecting the planned approach for workshop-style implementation in regions where direct interaction and in-person facilitation were prioritised by representatives of local institutions (supervisory institutions and policy makers), non-commercial organizations (NCOs) and research. The physical setting enabled immediate hands-on exploration of the Birdwatch platform with facilitator support and active in-session interaction among participants. As the optimisation scenarios for South Tyrol could not be generated in time and were therefore not available in the Birdwatch platform (see D5.4), the demonstration sessions primarily targeted stakeholders who could effectively interpret the available information, including local institutions, NCOs, and research institutions. The farmer stakeholder group was not included in these sessions, as the absence of site-specific optimisation results meant that the information available was considered insufficient to provide meaningful insights for their decision-making. Other stakeholder groups, such as farming organizations and policymakers, were considered able to engage with the platform despite the missing site-specific data by interpreting results from other sites.

The sessions took place on:

- **12 December 2025:** physical session with institutional representatives;
- **16 January 2025:** online session with the Farmers Association;
- **16 January 2025:** online session with Bioland South Tyrol.

The session was initially planned for a target of 25 participants, however, a total of **15 participants attended** the physical demonstration session. The in-person setting enabled onboarding support,



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guided navigation through the BirdWatch platform, and facilitated exploration of regional AOIs and related outputs during the live demonstration. Each online session was attended by one representative from the Farmers Association and Bioland South Tyrol.

Each demonstration session followed the planned demonstrator structure. The workshop began with an introduction to the BirdWatch platform and its relevance to the South Tyrol pilot context, followed by onboarding support to ensure participant access to the platform. The facilitator then guided participants through a step-by-step platform walkthrough, demonstrating how to navigate the interface, how to explore **regional AOIs**, and how to review available outputs and data layers displayed for the region.

The physical format enabled hands-on participant interaction throughout the session. Participants were supported in testing platform functionalities in real-time during the workshop, including navigation across map views, exploration of the AOIs, and practical testing of platform features demonstrated by the facilitators. Similarly, the online sessions enabled the demonstration to be delivered to representatives of the farmers associations who are not located in Bolzano and who preferred to participate remotely.

3. Collection of Stakeholder Feedback

Stakeholder feedback was collected across all four regions following the **multi-method data collection strategy** defined in D7.2. The planned approach combined (i) structured survey-based feedback as the core standardised method, and (ii) complementary qualitative feedback captured through live session interaction, Q&A, workshop discussions, and direct participant remarks. This section reports how feedback was collected in practice and documents the raw feedback collection outputs, without interpretation or evaluation.

In line with the planned approach, the **standardised BirdWatch User Survey** served as the primary tool for consistent cross-regional feedback collection. The survey was designed to collect both quantitative input (rating scales and structured responses) and qualitative input (open-ended comments), enabling consistent documentation and later aggregation across regions and stakeholder groups. Survey distribution was implemented primarily through digital channels following sessions, with flexibility for facilitation and support where required.

During implementation, survey collection was complemented by direct stakeholder remarks documented during live sessions. This corresponds to the planned consultation and demonstration model, where feedback is also gathered through participant questions, clarification requests, and workshop discussion during platform walkthroughs and hands-on testing.

All stakeholder participation figures used to contextualise feedback collection are reported in **Annex I. Stakeholder Participation Data**, all collected survey responses are reported in **Annex III. Survey Answers**, and photographic documentation of the demonstrations is provided in **Annex II. Photographic Documentation**.



3.1 Summary of Collected Feedback and Observations in Flanders (Belgium)

In Flanders, stakeholder feedback was collected following the **three** implemented demonstration sessions held on **18 November 2025** (physical session in Brussels and online event), **27 November 2025** (online event), and **7 January 2026** (additional online session). Feedback collection followed the planned approach, combining structured inputs through the standardised survey process with additional observations captured during the live sessions. The Flanders activities also produced dedicated demonstration reports documenting the feedback collection process and the types of remarks raised by participants during the events.

During the sessions, participants provided comments and questions linked to the BirdWatch platform demonstration, focusing on the information displayed in the platform, the ability to explore regional Areas of Interest (AOIs), and the interpretation of the presented outputs and suggested measures. Feedback was captured through questions raised during the walkthrough, clarifications requested during the demonstration sequence, and remarks expressed during the discussion segments.

As recorded in the demonstration reports, participants raised remarks concerning the input data used for the Flemish region, including questions on reference year choices and dataset updates, and comments on which local ecological or landscape variables were reflected or not reflected in the displayed outputs. Participants also raised questions about how the modelling outputs should be interpreted in relation to local land-use conditions and the extent to which the displayed suitability patterns align with observed conditions in the region.

Participants also provided remarks on platform interaction and information display, including comments on navigation, parcel-level exploration, and the type of contextual information that users expect to see when reviewing results. In addition, practical session observations were documented, including comments related to platform performance during concurrent use in the second session. The feedback collected in Flanders was documented through the standardised survey approach and through remarks recorded during the demonstration events, and it is reported as raw stakeholder input for subsequent evaluation work.

3.2 Summary of Collected Feedback and Observations in Brandenburg (Germany)

In Brandenburg, feedback collection was carried out after the online and live sessions held on 10, 11, 12, and 15 December, using the standardised survey distribution approach. A total of 16 completed surveys were recorded for the region.

During sessions, additional observations and remarks were captured through live participant engagement, including questions raised during platform walkthroughs and discussions linked to the exploration of regional AOIs and platform outputs. Overall, farms generally found the underlying information interesting but did not yet perceive substantial added value due to the current level of platform refinement, while feedback from agricultural and conservation advisors was noticeably more positive, with multiple advisory and institutional stakeholders indicating potential future usefulness of the platform provided continued development and refinement.



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3.3 Summary of Collected Feedback and Observations / Institutional feedback (Germany)

a) **Dr René Höfer (German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (Bundesamt für Naturschutz, BfN), Unit I 1.2 - Nature Conservation Information, Geoinformation, Open Data)**

The stakeholder input of Dr. Höfer can be seen best as a set of implementation requirements for making Birdwatch usable in a federal-agency context. First, he prioritizes a clear “front-end” planning function: Birdwatch should reliably support the initial identification and delineation of suitable areas, while optimization should be treated as a secondary module that may be relevant to other expert groups but is not required to demonstrate value for BfN users.

Second, he highlights the key scientific and operational challenge that Birdwatch should tackle: extending **beyond breeding birds toward migratory and stopover birds**. This is, because breeding bird distributions are often clearer due to existing monitoring, whereas stopover birds are temporally dynamic and underrepresented in observations—making them harder to model but also more important for improved decision support. Accordingly, Birdwatch should anticipate different temporal logics (e.g., seasonal windows) and explicitly communicate the confidence level and suitability of outputs for these dynamic contexts.

Third, he places **strong emphasis on risk management through communication**. The portal should explicitly state what it cannot do, warn against inappropriate uses, and help users recognize when outputs are likely unreliable—for example, when datasets of different years or spatial resolutions are combined without compatibility checks. This requirement is not merely a “nice-to-have”: it directly affects whether a federal agency can recommend or rely on the tool, because misuse can lead to incorrect conclusions that appear authoritative, because they are computed within a platform.

Finally, Dr. Höfer is commenting a governance argument for Birdwatch: centralized tools improve transparency and reproducibility compared to many fragmented, black-box calculations by individual actors. He also identifies an internal anchoring point for uptake at BfN and references ongoing work where breeding and migratory bird data are prepared for route planning and related regulatory contexts—an application area where clear, traceable Birdwatch outputs could be valuable if they are properly scoped and quality-controlled.

b) **Dr. Stefan Erasmi (Lead of the Thünen Earth Observation (ThEO) working group, Institute of Farm Economics; Thünen Institute)**

From the perspective of the Thünen Institute (TI), Birdwatch is seen as a promising decision-support concept that should be pursued through dialogue and co-design, but only under a framing that remains scientifically defensible. Dr. Erasmi’s interest is concrete: he has been



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aware of Birdwatch since its early phase, views it as relevant to ongoing TI work, and is interested in continued updates for expert review. He also associated Birdwatch primarily with potential mapping and analysis workflows (including optimization elements), which is consistent with how public authorities and research institutes often use such tools—as exploratory support rather than prescriptive instruction.

His most important technical critique concerns validity limits of habitat-suitability products derived from habitat-structure/diversity indicators. Thünen’s internal experience suggests that the link between habitat-diversity indicators and species diversity can be weak, and therefore not an adequate basis for strong claims about biodiversity outcomes. In particular, he stressed the distinction between correlation and causation: statistical associations between breeding bird occurrence patterns and indicator patterns do not imply that adjusting an indicator will produce a predictable biodiversity response. For Birdwatch, this implies a requirement to (i) avoid causal or overly deterministic language in user-facing outputs, (ii) make uncertainty and scope-of-validity visible, and (iii) position results as decision support that helps prioritize attention and formulate hypotheses, while clearly separating hypothesis generation from evidence of impact.

If Birdwatch aims to move toward measures and optimization, Dr. Erasmi suggests to start with robust, well-validated descriptive outputs (e.g., potential maps and occurrence-related modelling), then develop evidence-oriented “measure effectiveness” components only where the required validation information exists. In his view, even when measure and cost information is available, it must be systematically prepared and provided as time series before it can underpin defensible evaluation and scenario modelling. Finally, he implicitly emphasized that transfer across species groups is not automatic; therefore, Birdwatch should be explicit about which taxa and contexts the modelling logic applies to.

- c) **Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Environment and Consumer Protection (MLEUV) Brandenburg, Lindenstraße 34a, 14467 Potsdam**

Participants:

Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Environment and Consumer Protection (MLEUV) Brandenburg (Christoph Molkenbur, Paul Arnold, Annegret Engelke, Juliana Grün, Doris Klughardt, Jan Paulusch, Frank Plücken)

Landesamt für Umwelt Brandenburg (LfU) – Regional Agency for Environment Brandenburg (Martina Düvel, Anne Kruse, Antje-Koch, Lehker, Martin Horny, Peter Jansen, Annemarie Kaiser, Lars Lachmann, Nils-Arne Tamm)



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Birdwatch is viewed by the MLEUV as a promising decision support concept for public authorities, provided it is developed within a scientifically defensible and transparent framework. In the context of the Nature Restoration Law, its main value lies in supporting evidence-based prioritization, spatial screening, and hypothesis generation rather than in delivering prescriptive or causal claims about biodiversity outcomes.

From a regional administrative perspective (LfU), this aligns well with the Birds Directive and also with Nature Restoration Laws (NRL) need for large scale, harmonized, and repeatable assessments of habitat condition and trends. Birdwatch can help identify areas where restoration efforts may be most urgently needed or potentially effective, and where closer monitoring or targeted field assessments should be focused. This makes it useful for planning, reporting, and allocating limited resources across landscapes.

However, the experts critique highlights a critical boundary: habitat suitability and habitat diversity indicators, while informative, do not provide direct evidence of restoration success or species recovery. Correlations between bird occurrence and structural indicators cannot be interpreted as proof that changing those indicators will produce predictable biodiversity gains. For the Bird Directive and the NRL implementation, this means Birdwatch outputs must not be used as proof of compliance or ecological impact, but rather as a screening and orientation tool that supports administrative planning and further investigation.

If optimisation or scenario modelling is applied, it can only be meaningful where restoration measures are known to induce changes in habitat structure that are detectable by remote sensing indicators, so that any simulated improvement is grounded in observable and monitorable variables rather than assumed ecological effects.

To remain fit for use under the Nature Restoration Law, Birdwatch should therefore (i) avoid causal or deterministic language, (ii) clearly communicate uncertainty and limits of validity, and (iii) distinguish between exploratory analysis and verified impact assessment. Descriptive products such as habitat potential maps are seen as robust first steps.

Finally, Birdwatch should explicitly state for which species groups and ecological contexts its modelling applies. This is essential for Birds Directive and NRL reporting, where authorities must justify which indicators are used for which habitats and taxa.

Under these conditions, environmental experts would see Birdwatch as a valuable component of the administrative toolkit: not as a compliance engine, but as a transparent, scalable system for structuring evidence, guiding priorities, and supporting defensible, data informed restoration planning



3.4 Summary of Collected Feedback and Observations in Lithuania

The Lithuanian demonstration activities were implemented through four online sessions in December and January, organised separately for institutional stakeholders and farmers. This reflects the planned approach to stakeholder segmentation and multi-session delivery, where needed, to ensure broad participation across groups. Lithuania implemented a combination of institution-focused and farmer-focused sessions to align the demonstration format with stakeholder needs and availability.

Following participation, the standardised survey tool was distributed as part of the planned follow-up step to document structured feedback collected after the hands-on exploration sessions. In total, **68 completed survey responses** were received, providing the basis for the structured synthesis of stakeholder feedback reported in this section.

Feedback gathered through the post-session survey, complemented by observations raised during the online discussions, indicates that stakeholders perceive BirdWatch as a promising tool with clear potential relevance for Lithuanian contexts. Overall responses were constructive and implementation-oriented, focusing on practical refinements that would support broader and more sustained uptake across user groups.

Farmers (primary end-users). Farmers' feedback emphasised the platform's applicability for parcel-level understanding and decision support. Perceived "missing" or "incomplete" outputs were often linked to challenges in locating and validating information for specific parcels, rather than to a fundamental lack of underlying layers. Participants highlighted the value of simplifying area discovery beyond reliance on exact parcel identifiers and improving clarity on what the platform is able to provide at different spatial scales. Farmers also noted that clear messages explaining why an output cannot be displayed (e.g., coverage or processing constraints) would increase confidence and reduce uncertainty in interpretation.

Farming organisations. Representatives from the **Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania** and the **Lithuanian Farmers' Union** discussed usability from an outreach and adoption perspective. Discussion points focused on how quickly end-users can find relevant areas and understand outputs without extensive support, and how platform guidance could be strengthened to facilitate wider dissemination through farmer-facing channels.

Nature conservation organisations (NCOs). Participants from **Baltic Environmental Forum Lithuania** and the **Lithuanian Ornithological Society** emphasised interpretability and ecological context. They highlighted the value of clearly linking suitability outputs and proposed measures to underlying rationale and habitat/bird ecology, so that results can be communicated credibly and applied consistently in conservation-related discussions.

Supervisory institutions. The **National Paying Agency** and the **State Service for Protected Areas** primarily focused on transparency, traceability, and operational clarity. Discussion highlighted the usefulness of outputs for screening and communication, while noting the need for clearer explanations where information is not available or where results depend on coverage and processing constraints, to support consistent interpretation in administrative or advisory settings.



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Policymakers. Stakeholders from the **Ministry of Environment** and the **Ministry of Agriculture** discussed potential relevance for planning and policy-support functions. They noted that usefulness increases when outputs can be interpreted unambiguously and when the platform provides concise, stakeholder-appropriate explanations that support decision-making and communication across institutions.

Research and academia. Participants from **Vytautas Magnus University** and the **Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry** engaged with the platform from the perspective of methodological clarity and communication of outputs. They stressed the importance of explaining what suitability scores represent and how they should be interpreted, particularly where users are expected to translate results into practice-oriented conclusions.

Advisory and support actors. Advisory and intermediary support in Lithuania was represented by the **Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service**. Discussion emphasised the value of enabling repeatable, low-effort support for end-users, including integrated guidance such as short walkthroughs, contextual hints, and concise “how to interpret” explanations to support users returning to the platform after registration. It was also noted that entry steps can influence engagement; for example, access issues were sometimes linked to registration workflows (including cases where users did not receive a confirmation email), limiting independent testing after participation.

Cross-cutting observations. Two priorities emerged consistently across stakeholder categories:

- **Performance and responsiveness.** Participants highlighted that faster map interaction and quicker loading of layers and outputs are important for routine use. These points were generally framed as enabling factors for adoption, with stakeholders indicating that improved performance would directly support continued engagement.
- **Clarity and interpretability of outputs.** Stakeholders asked for clearer explanations of what suitability scores represent, how recommended measures relate to ecological rationale, and how outputs should be used in practice. Suggested improvements included simple in-platform explanations (e.g., tooltips or information panels), clearer definitions, and short guidance text tailored to different user perspectives (farmer, adviser, institutional user).

3.5 Summary of Collected Feedback and Observations in South Tyrol (Italy)

In South Tyrol, stakeholder feedback collection was linked to the three sessions (one physical, two online). The survey collection followed the standard feedback method and 8 completed surveys were recorded for South Tyrol in the available reporting table.

Feedback in South Tyrol was also captured through direct participant remarks and workshop discussion during the demonstration sessions. Observations were documented during the platform walkthrough and hands-on testing interactions.

In summary, the platform was regarded as a very valuable tool for farmers' advisors and has the potential to be used in daily work (comments from Bioland South Tyrol and the Farmers Association). The representatives from the institutions were very satisfied with the habitat suitability maps provided in the platform and see further potential linked to the implementation of the restoration law to identify and prioritize areas for conservation actions.



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Most questions and comments from stakeholders focused on the accuracy of the habitat suitability maps and the methods used to generate them. It was particularly positively received that the maps incorporated the expertise of local bird specialists, ensuring that the outputs reflected knowledge of the area.

Conclusion

The BirdWatch demonstrator activities were delivered in all four regions (Germany/Brandenburg, Flanders, Lithuania, and South Tyrol), providing stakeholders with guided, hands-on interaction with the platform and enabling structured follow-up feedback collection. Across the four regions, 202 stakeholders participated in the demonstrations, and 104 standardised survey responses were collected, forming the quantitative basis for the cross-regional evaluation that follows in D7.4.

Stakeholder participation reflected a multi-actor profile, combining farmers with a wide range of institutional users. Overall participation included 91 farmers and 111 institutional stakeholders, distributed across: farming organisations (9 participants), nature conservation organisations (22 participants), supervisory institutions (43 participants), policymakers (18 participants), and research and academia (19 participants). This confirms that BirdWatch was tested not only with end-users but also with organisations relevant for implementation, advisory support, administration, and policy-level use.

Regional participation and feedback return differed, but each region contributed evidence for platform validation:

- Lithuania achieved the highest engagement with 97 participants and 68 completed surveys, including strong farmer participation (65 farmers) and broad institutional representation. Farming organisations were represented by 3 institutions (3 participants); nature conservation organisations by 2 institutions (6 participants); supervisory institutions by 2 institutions (7 participants); policymakers by 2 institutions (8 participants); and research/academia by 3 institutions (8 participants).
- Germany engaged 60 participants and returned 21 completed surveys, with participation concentrated in farmers and supervisory institutions, complemented by farming organisations, policymakers, and research/academia.
- Flanders engaged 30 participants and returned 7 completed surveys, with institutional participation strongly represented (notably by nature conservation organisations and research/academia), alongside a smaller farmer group.
- South Tyrol engaged 15 participants and returned 8 completed surveys, with participation dominated by institutional stakeholders (supervisory institutions, policymakers, and research/academia), complemented by farming organisations and nature conservation organisations.



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Annexes

The annexes contain supporting material that documents the demonstration activities. This includes tables showing the number and type of participants in each region, photographic evidence of demonstrations and screenshots of platform use, and any raw survey answers or feedback forms collected. These annexes should serve as factual evidence for the activities described in the main report and support the evaluation to be carried out in D7.4 and D7.5.

Annex I. Stakeholder Participation Data

Test groups per region	Germany	Flanders	Lithuania	South Tyrol	Total institutions Joined	Total participants Joined
1. Farmers	24	2	65	0	-	91
2. Farming Organisations	1. Bioland 2. Landwirtschaftskammer Nordrhein-Westfalen	1. Boerenbond	1. Chamber of Agriculture of the Republic of Lithuania 2. Lithuanian Farmers' Union 3. Lithuanian Agricultural Advisory Service	1. Bauernbund 2. Bioland Südtirol	8	9
3. NCO	1. BfN 2. 15 advisers who focus on biodiversity in farming	1. vzw Veldwerk 2. Natuurpunt 3. Inagro vzw 4. Nationaal Park Scheldeland	1. Baltic Environmental Forum Lithuania 2. Lithuanian Ornithological Society 3. State Scientific Research	1. Umbrella organisation for nature and environmental protection 2. Working Group for Ornithology and Bird Protection	22	22



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Test groups per region	Germany	Flanders	Lithuania	South Tyrol	Total institutions Joined	Total participants Joined
		5. Regionaal Landschap Brabantse Kouters 6. Regionaal Landschap de Voorkempen 7. Regionaal Landschap Dijleland 8. Regionaal Landschap Meetjesland en Leievallei 9. Regionaal Landschap Pajottenland & Zennevallei 10. Regionaal Landschap Rivierenland vzw 11. Regionaal Landschap West-Vlaamse Hart 12. Vogelbescherming Vlaanderen	Institute Nature Research Centre			
4. Supervisory Institutions	1. MLEUV 2. LfU	1. Vlaamse Landmaatschappij 2. Agency for Agriculture and Fisheries	1. National Paying Agency 2. State Service for Protected Areas	1. Department of Agriculture 2. Paying agency	8	43



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Test groups per region	Germany	Flanders	Lithuania	South Tyrol	Total institutions Joined	Total participants Joined
5. Policymakers	1. MLEUV 2. BfN	1. Agent-schap voor Natuur en Bos	1. Ministry of Environment 2. Ministry of Agriculture	1. Nature, Landscape and Spatial Development Division 2. Agricultural department	7	18
6. Research and Academia	1. LfU 2. Thuenen Institute	1. INBO 2. VITO	1. Vytautas Magnus University 2. Lithuanian Research Centre for Agriculture and Forestry	1. Natural Museum Bolzano 2. EURAC	8	22
Total					205	202



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Annex II. Photographic Documentation

Demonstration event	Photos, Evidence
Flanders (Belgium)	
18 Nov 2025 physical	



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Meeting Title: BirdWatch Platform demonstration

Date: 18 November 2025

Location: Herman Teirlinckgebouw (Brussels), Belgium

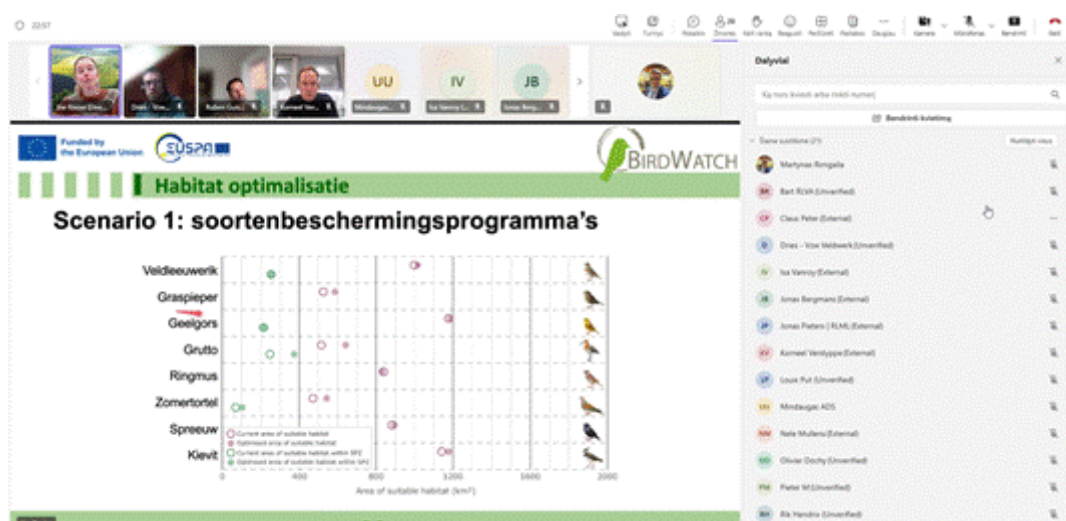
Participant List

No.	Full Name (Name & Surname)	Email	Company / Organization	Signature
1.	De Lange Kathy	kathy.delange@vogelbescherming.be	Vogelbescherming Vlaanderen	
2.	De Meyer Annelies	annelies.demeyer@vito.be	VITO	
3.	Hendrix Rik	rik.hendrix@vito.be	VITO	
4.	Jena Tuur	tuur.jena@lv.vlaanderen.be	Agentschap Landbouw en Zeevisserij	
5.	Nick François	nick.francois@boerenbond.be	boerenbond	
6.	Rosier Ine	ine.rosier@vito.be	VITO	
7.	Vanermen Lucas	lucas.vanermen@rlf.be	Regionaal Landschap Rivierenland vzw	
8.	Verhaegen Tim	tim.verhaegen@vlaanderen.be	Agentschap Natuur en Bos	
9.	Vermeire Justin	justin.vermeire@boerenbond.be	Boerenbond vzw	
10.				
11.				
12.				

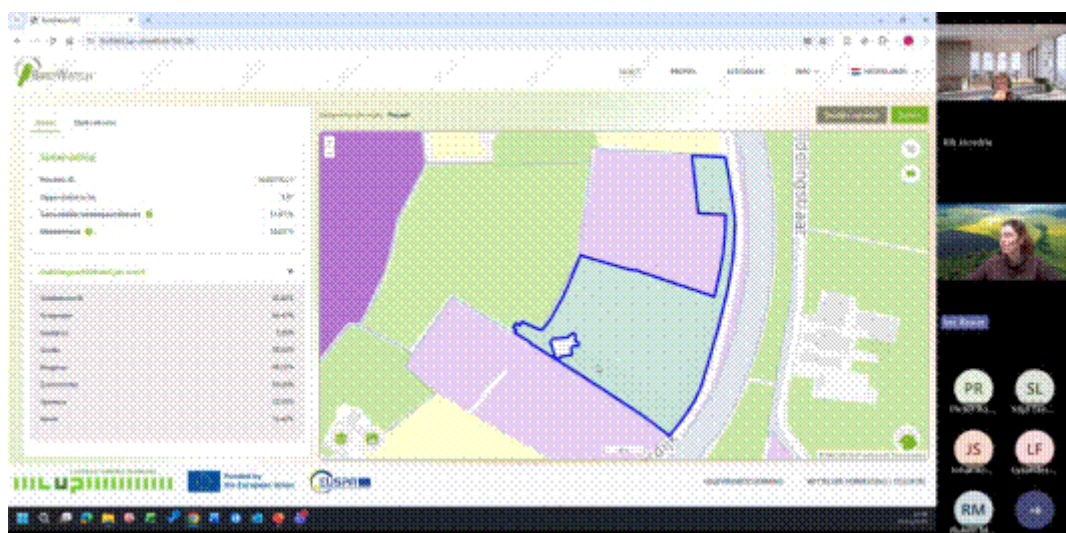


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18 Nov 2025
online



27 Nov 2025



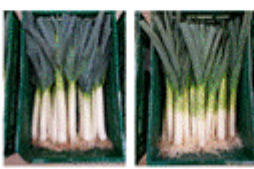
**Funded by
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7 Jan 2026

Telentechniek

Druiven, efficiënt en exportklaar

Op groen landbouw met een speciale toevoeging van de klassieke wijn. De plantentechniek die voor een beter bodemleven, en de mogelijkheid om per jaar meerdere oogstcycli te realiseren, kan in de toekomst een belangrijke rol spelen. Dit wordt mogelijk gemaakt door de combinatie van een speciale telentechniek en een speciale druivensoort. Dit wordt mogelijk gemaakt door de combinatie van een speciale telentechniek en een speciale druivensoort.



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Automatisering als een nieuw landbouw

Op groen landbouw met een speciale toevoeging van de klassieke wijn. De plantentechniek die voor een beter bodemleven, en de mogelijkheid om per jaar meerdere oogstcycli te realiseren, kan in de toekomst een belangrijke rol spelen. Dit wordt mogelijk gemaakt door de combinatie van een speciale telentechniek en een speciale druivensoort.



Topigs Norsvin wenst U prettige eindejaarsfeesten en een vreedzaam 2026!

Knijp direct in de energie van de toekomst

Er zijn twee manieren om uw landbouw te verbeteren. De eerste is door de productie te verbeteren. De tweede is door de productie te verbeteren.

UITNODIGING VOOR LANDBOUWERS

7 januari 2026
15:30 – 17:00 uur

Online evenement
Gebruik de QR-code om in te loggen
Ontdek hoe deze nieuwe oplossing u kan helpen slimme beslissingen te nemen voor uw bedrijf.

Meer informatie:
birdwatch-europe.org

UITNODIGING VOOR LANDBOUWERS

Een nieuwe digitale tool om uw land slimmer te beheren. Wij nodigen u uit voor een online presentatie en demonstratie van een nieuw platform dat is ontworpen om landbouwers te ondersteunen bij het nemen van betere beslissingen over landbeheer.

Deze tool maakt gebruik van satellietgegevens om u te helpen bij het:

- te identificeren waar landverbeteringsmaatregelen de meeste waarde creëren,
- beplantings- en landschapsbeslissingen te optimaliseren,
- uw veldgegevens efficiënter te gebruiken,
- acties te plannen die zowel de productiviteit als de bodem- en habitatkwaliteit op de lange termijn ten goede komen.

Uw feedback is essentieel – help ons een systeem te ontwikkelen dat praktisch, gebruiksvriendelijk en afgestemd is op de werkelijke landbouwomstandigheden.



7 januari 2026
15:30 – 17:00 uur

Online evenement
(gebruik de QR-code om in te loggen)
Ontdek hoe deze nieuwe oplossing u kan helpen slimme beslissingen te nemen voor uw bedrijf.

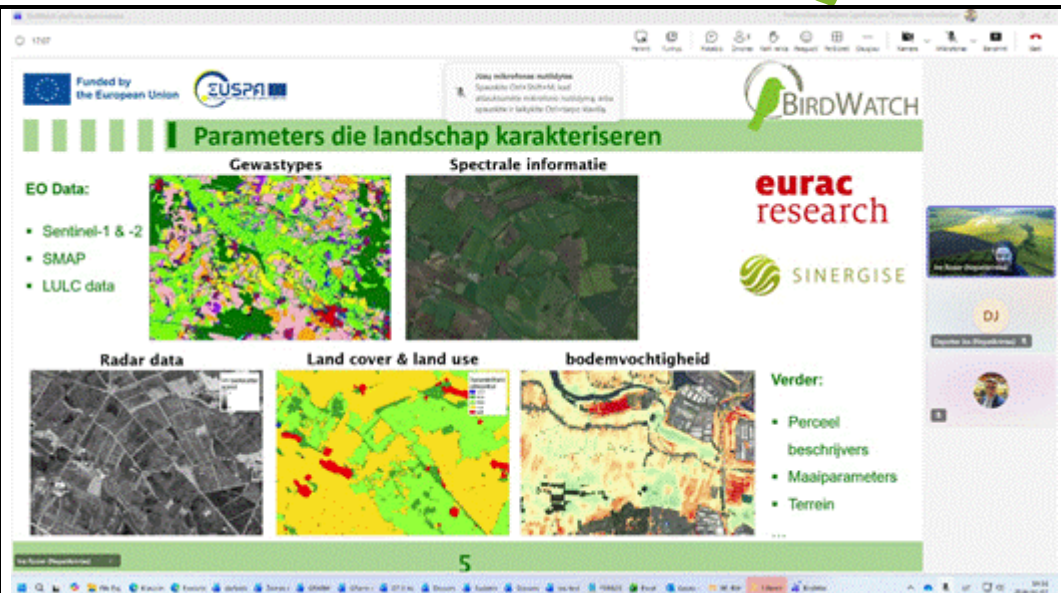
Meer informatie:
birdwatch-europe.org



13776M102648



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Brandenburg (Germany)

12 Dec 2025

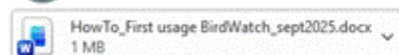
BirdWatch-Anmeldung mit Umfrage



Janosch Fiedler <Janosch.Fiedler@bioland.de>
To: Lspinnarke@taifun-tofu.de

Reply
 Reply All
 Forward

pr 2025-12-08 10:25



Hallo Luis,
magst du vielleicht auch teilnehmen an einem kleinen BirdWatch-Test? Wie gesagt dadurch das die Entwicklung noch wirklich nicht weit ist, reicht ein ganz oberflächlicher Blick. Wäre super, falls du das bis Ende des Jahres noch schaffst. Ansonsten gerne kurz Bescheid geben!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdx6zAnq4G716JluhrPIMw2Zt87GtuclyZr4P-lSKa1cDYC6w/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

Bei Fragen oder Anmerkungen melde dich und schonmal tausend Dank und schöne Weihnachten

Liebe Grüße

Janosch

15 Dec 2025

BirdWatch-Plattform & Feedback bis Jahresende



Janosch Fiedler <Janosch.Fiedler@bioland.de>
To:

Reply
 Reply All
 Forward

pr 2025-12-15 00:36

Translate message to: English
 [Translation preferences](#)

Hallo ihr Lieben,
vielen Dank, dass ich euch am Donnerstagabend noch kurz stören durfte!
Hier findet ihr die Links zur Plattform (zum Registrieren und gerne auch selbst ausprobieren) sowie zum kurzen Fragebogen:

- **BirdWatch Plattform:** <https://bw1test.lup-umwelt.de/>
- **Fragebogen:** <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdx6zAnq4G716JluhrPIMw2Zt87GtuclyZr4P-lSKa1cDYC6w/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

Es wäre super, wenn ihr den Fragebogen **bis Ende des Jahres** ausfüllen könntet. Falls ihr es nicht schafft oder noch Fragen habt, gebt mir gerne kurz Bescheid.

Liebe Grüße nach Baden-Württemberg



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30 Dec 2025

Feldvogel Applikation BirdWatch



Janosch Fiedler <Janosch.Fiedler@bioland.de>
To: info@schmoelz-hv.de

 Reply
  Reply All
  Forward
 


an 2025-12-30 15:03

Hallo!

hier noch der Einwahl Link zum Telefonieren:

[Jetzt an der Besprechung teilnehmen](#)

Besprechungs-ID: 322 612 711 421 04

Passcode: sb9mj7hY

Und die weiteren Links:

- **BirdWatch Plattform-Registrierung:** <https://bw1test.lup-umwelt.de/>
- **Fragebogen für Feedback:** <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdx6zAnq4G716JluhrPIMw2Zt87GtuclvZr4P-ISKa1cDYC6w/viewform?usp=publish-editor>

Die Applikation ist leider erst kurz vor Projektende fertiggestellt worden und enthält daher noch nicht alle geplanten Funktionen. Umso wichtiger ist uns Ihr Feedback: Wir möchten gerne erfahren, **ab welchem Entwicklungsstand die Plattform für Sie in der Beratung eine echte Unterstützung darstellt** und welche Funktionen für Ihre Arbeit besonders relevant sind.

Bitte nehmen Sie sich ein paar Minuten Zeit, um den Fragebogen auszufüllen. Ihre Rückmeldungen sind für die zukünftige Weiterentwicklung von großer Bedeutung.

Vielen Dank für Ihre Unterstützung! Bei Fragen oder Problemen melden Sie sich gerne jederzeit bei uns.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Janosch Fiedler

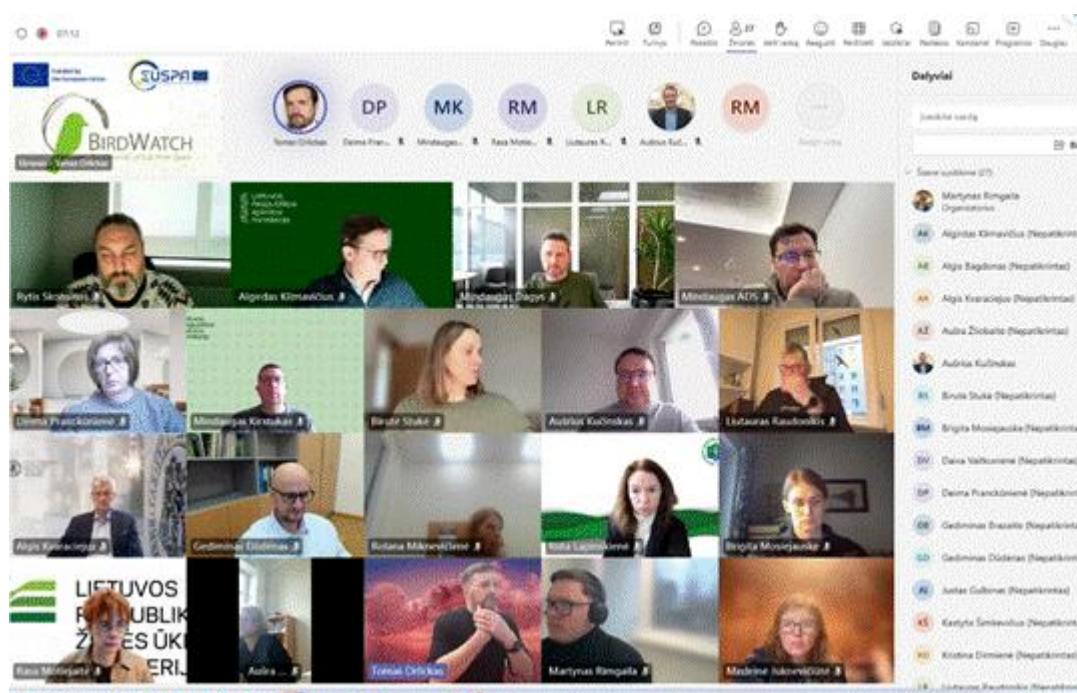
—
Janosch Fiedler
Bioland-Naturschutzberatung
Bioland e.V.
Auf dem Kreuz 58, 86152 Augsburg

Lithuania



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the European Union**

3 Dec 2025

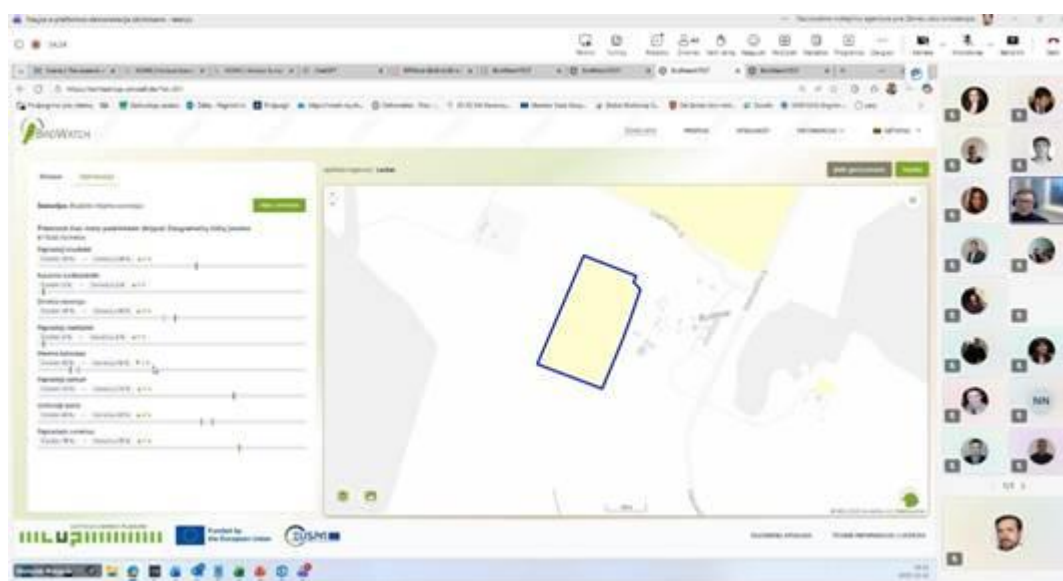


5 Dec 2025

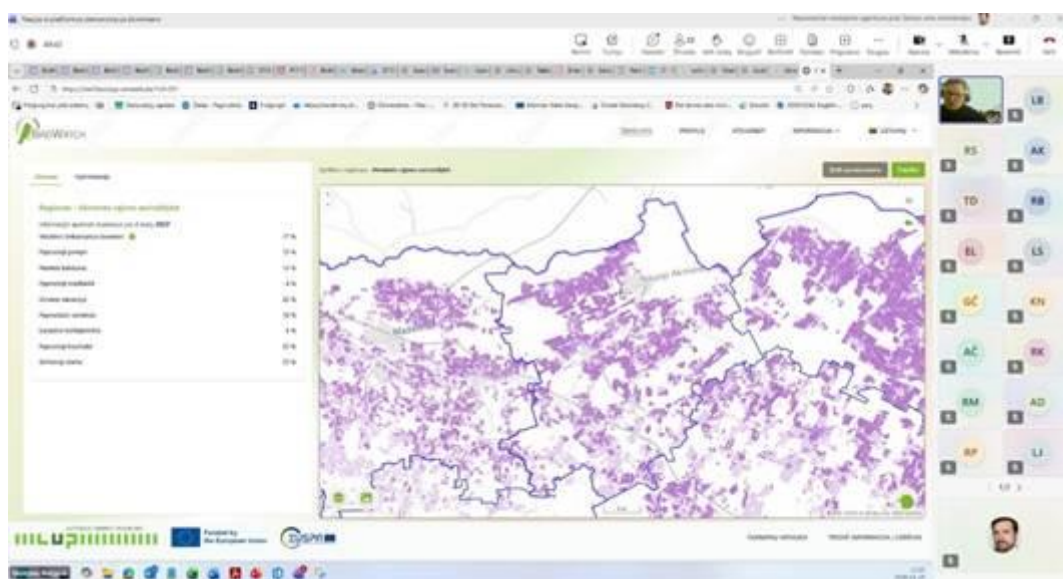


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12 Dec 2025



19 Jan 2026



South Tyrol (Italy)



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12 Dec 2025

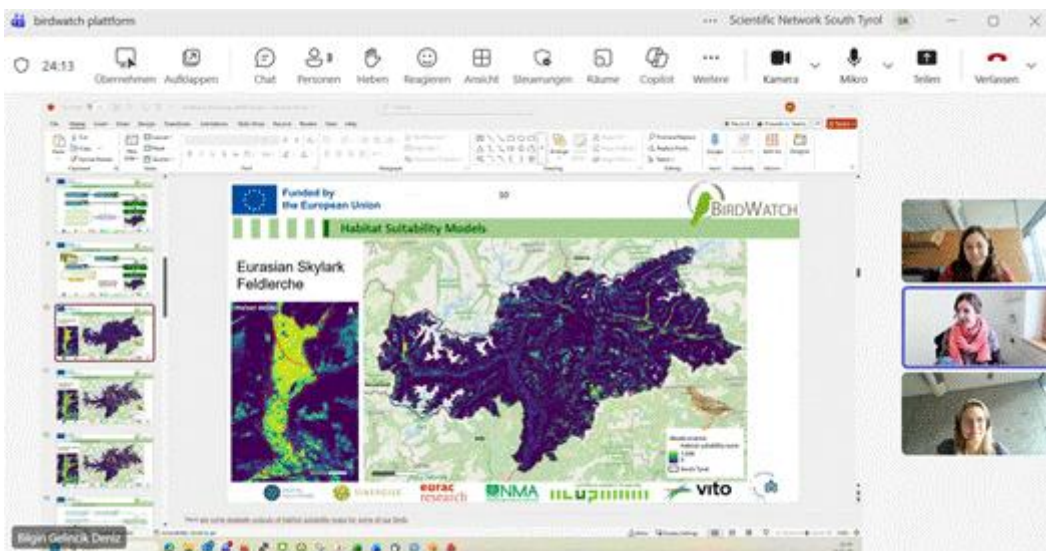
  **Funded by the European Union** 

Meeting Title: Birdwatch Demonstration
Date: 10.12.2025
Location: Nature Office, Bolzano, Italy

Participant List

No.	Full Name (Name & Surname)	Company / Organization	Email	Signature
1.	MULSEN JOSEPH	Prof. f. Natur	joseph-mulsen@proton.it	
2.	Kempert Jutta	DVN	jutta.kempert@proton.it	
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9.	SIEGMUND MARTIN	Bruchschelle	martin.siegmund@proton.it	
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12.	DERZ BILGIN	EURAC - Institute for Earth Observation	bilgin.derz@eurac.edu	
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14.	Henrike Dierkes	EURAC - Institut für EO	henrike.dierkes@eurac.edu	

16 Jan 2026



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Annex III. Survey Answers



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