



German Restoration Network (GRN): Workshop on restoration of sandy grassland



EU LIFE project – Sandy Grasslands Brandenburg

As part of the final evaluation of the EU LIFE project *Sandy Grasslands in Brandenburg* a workshop was held in Blossin east of Berlin in late May 2019. About 50-70 experts and practitioners (including many GRN members) met to discuss current topics in restoration of nutrient-poor grasslands on inland dunes. The workshop was organised by Holger Rössling and his team from *Naturschutzfonds Brandenburg*. It started with a series of presentations on this ambitious project supplemented by contributions from the Czech Republic, Belgium and Sweden. The second day was dedicated to field visits to all major project sites. The measures applied were clear-cutting, topsoil removal, (hay) seeding and transplantation, and first results of transforming pine plantations to pioneer grasslands looked very promising. Most target species had established, while the continued colonisation by pine and birch seedlings was slightly worrying. The LIFE project was successful due to careful planning, application of appropriate measures, strategic regional partnerships and adequate information of stakeholders.



EU LIFE workshop on restoration of sandy grasslands in Brandenburg. (Foto: S. Tischew)

