

eNaBLS

eNaBLS' Finnish Living Lab

Coordinated by UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND

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Pioneering Digital NBS & Boreal Ecosystem Restoration

ENABLS

The Rationale

Addressing biodiversity loss and climate pressures in Eastern Finland demands specialised knowledge across boreal forest ecosystems, peatlands, and urban environments.

The **Finnish Living Lab** (LL) established Finland's first open university learning hub dedicated to Nature-Based Solutions (NBS). By uniting higher education, continuous learning, and regional nature actors, the LL bridges scientific research with practical restoration, delivering digital education nationwide while tackling real-world wetland and forestry challenges.

The Core Question

How can digital education and research networks empower students and stakeholders to restore boreal ecosystems?

Key Pillars & Goals

- **Open Digital Hub:** Launching Finland's first open online NBS course, reaching 1,000+ enrolled students and 2,000+ material downloads globally.
- **Boreal Restoration Focus:** Driving nature-positive actions across peatland wetlands, forest management, and green campus spaces.
- **Lifelong & TVET Integration:** Extending university courses to vocational sectors, including specialised biodiversity modules for forest machine operators.

Scan for LL updates

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Bringing the Finnish NBS Hub to Life

The 3-Phase Implementation Journey

STEP 01

Co-Create & Launch: Co-designed multidisciplinary online NBS and biodiversity courses across UEF, Open University, and European education networks.

STEP 02

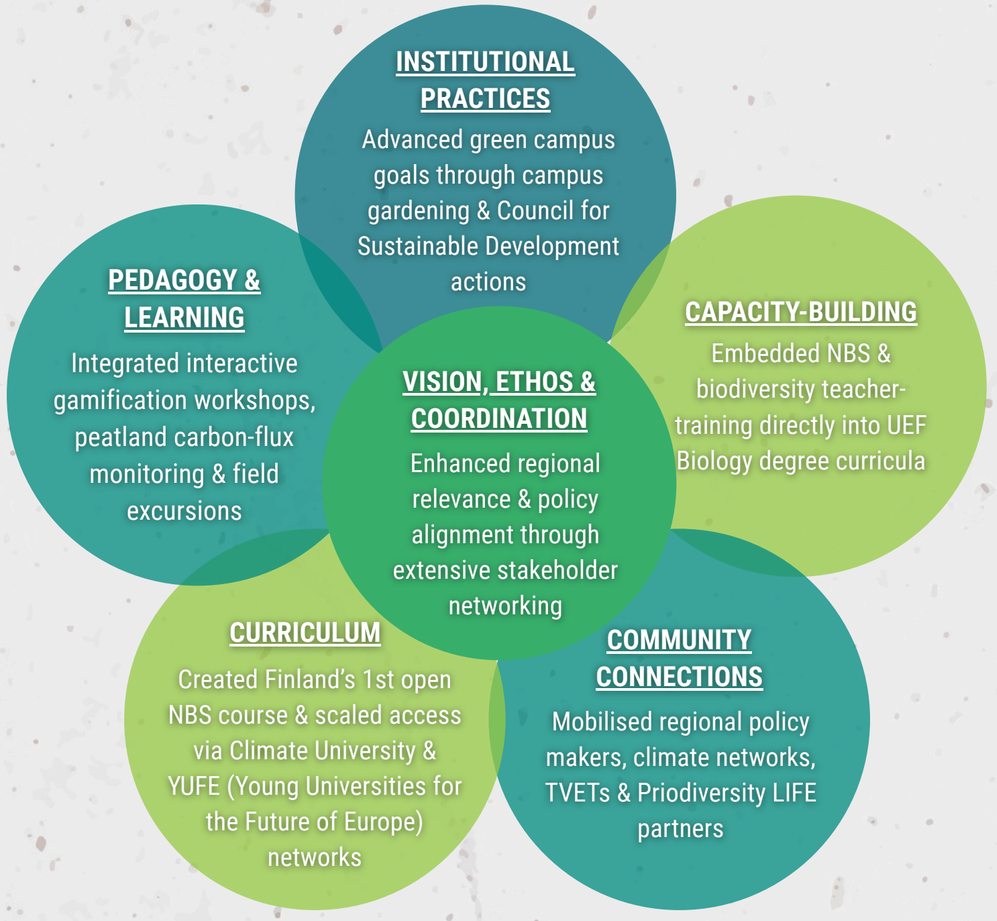
Network & Demonstrate: Joined the 8-year Priodiversity LIFE umbrella, hosted policy workshops, and utilised peatland Open Labs for field measurements.

STEP 03

Scale & Influence: Published regional policy recommendations for North Savo and expanded specialized TVET and continuous learning modules.

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The Whole Institution Approach (WIA)



"Scaling Knowledge Beyond Campus": Combining open digital education with field-based boreal research enabled the LL to bridge theoretical ecology with tangible regional policy and TVET practices across Finland.

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National Ecosystem & Strategic Scaling

Core Partner Network

PRIODIVERSITY

must
Enabling multispecies transitions

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Global Networks & Policy Outreach

- **International Academic Networks:** Shared open learning assets across Climate University, YUFE, OPPLA, and international conferences.
- **Regional Policy Impact:** Formulated and delivered North Savo NBS Policy Recommendations, accepted by regional policy leaders.

Permanent Open Learning Hub

Established Finland's foundational, open-access online NBS curriculum that continues to train university students, TVET operators & continuous learners.

Long-Term Legacy

Boreal Restoration Synergy

Anchored the LL within the 8-year Priodiversity LIFE framework and Ylpässuo Open Lab, securing long-term student thesis sites & policy influence.

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