

Industrial transformation

Changing a negative into a positive
– the example of peatlands

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Expert Inputs for Working Group
Understanding and Managing Industrial
Transitions



Umsetzung von Paludikultur
auf landwirtschaftlich
genutzten Flächen in
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

Fachstrategie zur Umsetzung der nutzungsbezogenen
Vorschläge des Moorschutzkonzeptes

Maastricht University

Power from *peat*—*more polluting than coal*—is
on its way out in Ireland



- By the end of 2019, the Irish government will eliminate all of the roughly €100 million in annual industry subsidies paid for peat-generated electricity.
- Industrial peat extraction has stripped dozens of Irish bogs of their heather and moss

Multiple Value Creation aspects of Paludiculture – *the productive use of rewetted peatlands*

- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (5.6% of global total)
- The market value of food, fodder, fibre and biomass as a fuel
- Reduction of flood risks and droughts by acting as temporary water storage areas (Geurts et al., 2019)
- Tourism in renatured wetlands
- **Possible sources for support:** Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation, CAP, Structural Funds, regional government, science, ...



About unemployment

- Skills are worth something and may attract investments (*but global companies are footloose and pay low wages*)
- Unemployment takes away people's dignity (self-worth) which can be restored through **activities in the informal economy**: volunteering, service trading (time banks), ...
- Sharing of space, tools (fablabs) and land offers possibilities for social interaction, education, cultural activities and the production of tradeable products
- The psychological and social costs of unemployment can be reduced in a low-cost manner