good news:

solutions exist at all levels

two simple solutions:

1 keep remaining peatlands wet

to lock carbon in the ground (continued sequestration)
to providevital habitat for endangered species
to provide services and benefits to people

2 find economic incentives to re-wet drained peatlands

develop business cases fore water and climate regulating services
look at livelihood/economic options to use alternative crops
with high water levels (paludiculture)

Convention on Biological Diversity

Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and Aichi Targets

halt peatland biodiversity loss
avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biodiversity
eliminate harmful incentives and subsidies to biodiversity

Sustainable Development Goals *(Agenda 2030)*

SDG 6: *water availability and sustainabe management*

SDG 12:
sustainable production and consumption patterns

SDG 13:
action to combat climate change and its impacts

SDG 15: *sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, forest management, combat desertification, halt land degradation and biodiversity loss*

… the global Convention for the conservation and wise use of wetlands:

Guidelines for Global Action on Peatlands

Parties asked to limit peatland drainage to avoid subsidence, flooding and the emission of greenhouse gases

Greater international cooperation (including with UNFCCC), **technical assistance and capacity building**

the Ramsar Convention has:

Guidelines for national inventories and mapping of peatlands, to determine their carbon sequestration capacity.

Parties to designate peatlands as Ramsar Sites, for their role in relation to climate change, the protection of biodiversity, the provision of water supplies, and for communication, education and awareness raising.

Advice on practical methods for peatland rewetting and restoration is in preparation.

conserving and restoring peatlands …

… *including paludiculture and* Sphagnum *farming*

- **should become part of the Nationally Determined Contributions to implement the Paris Agreement by all Parties to the UNFCCC**

- **best practices in peatland restoration techniques to be shared through the Ramsar website, and brought to the attention of the national focal points of other MEAs**

- *plan to develop a structured cooperation between UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, Ramsar and others*

2 rewetting:

GREIFSWALD MIRE CENTRE

1 ha of drained peatland produces as much CO_2 per year

as flying three times around the world

globally 14% of all organic soils were drained, (but 48% in Europe) …

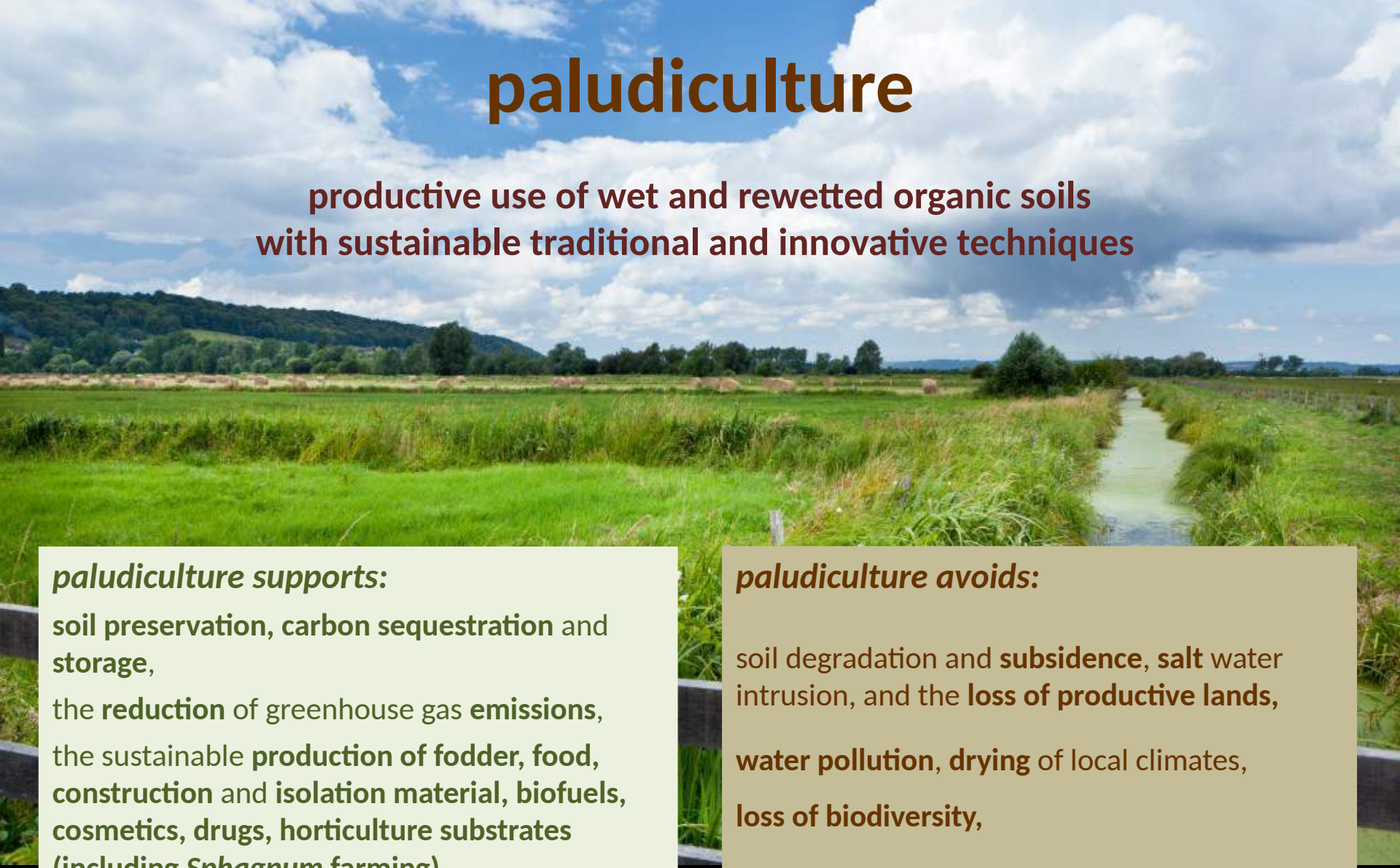
… such areas have a great restoration potential

percentage of peatlands drained in:

98 %	Germany
95 %	Netherlands
93 %	Denmark
85 %	Austria
84 %	Poland
83 %	Ireland
81 %	Romania
73%	France
72 %	Lithuania
67%	United Kingdom
66 %	Belarus - Latvia

paludiculture

productive use of wet and rewetted organic soils with sustainable traditional and innovative techniques



paludiculture supports:

soil preservation, carbon sequestration and **storage**,

the **reduction** of greenhouse gas **emissions**,

the sustainable **production of fodder, food, construction** and **isolation material, biofuels, cosmetics, drugs, horticulture substrates (including *Sphagnum* farming),**

local livelihoods and **economies.**

paludiculture avoids:

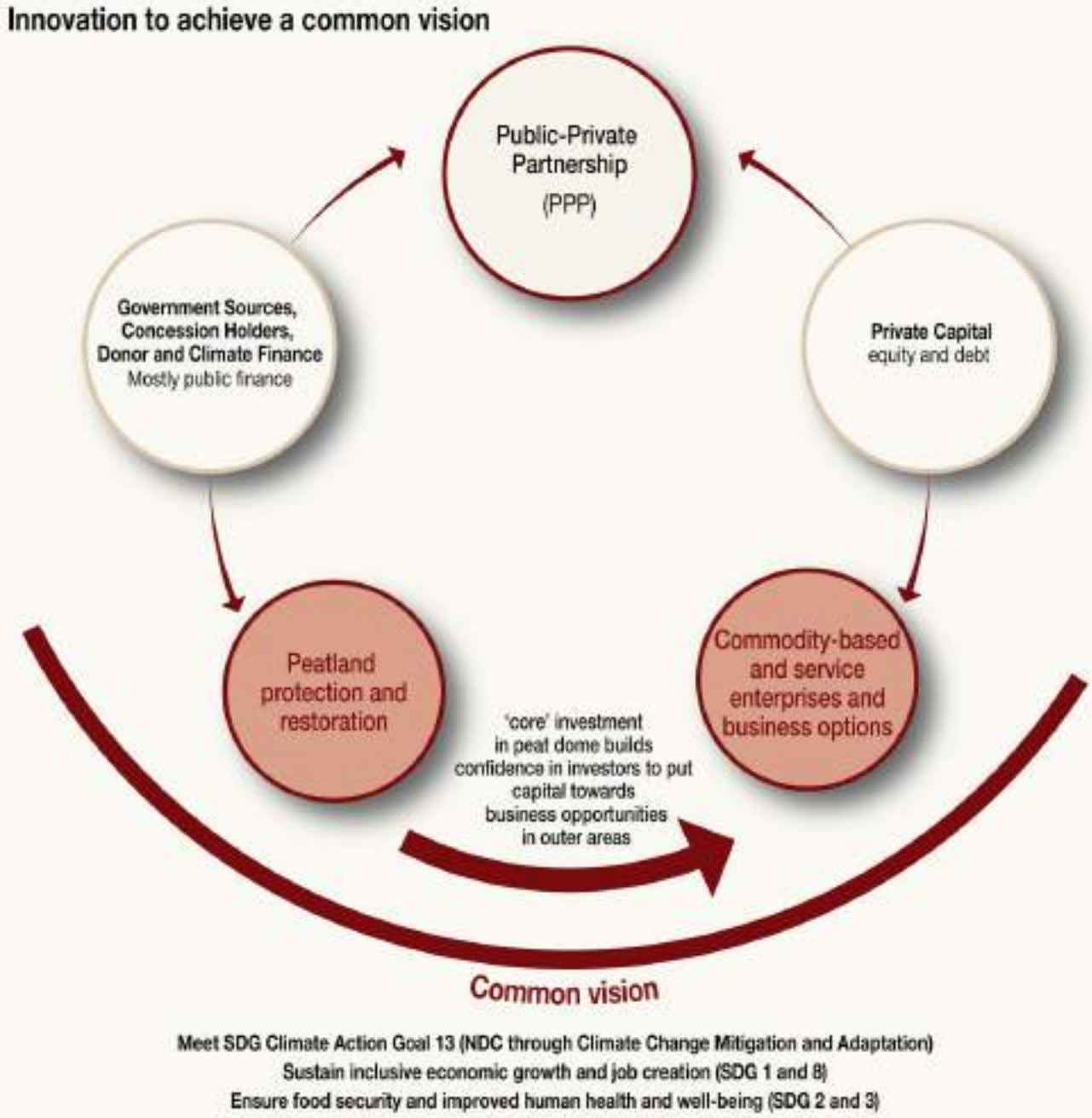
soil degradation and **subsidence**, **salt** water intrusion, and the **loss of productive lands,**

water pollution, **drying** of local climates,

loss of biodiversity,

damage caused by **floods** and **fires**.

Ramsar Site *Marais Vernier* in France: ***sustainable and productive use of rewetted peatlands***



peatland **restoration to mitigate climate impacts** from anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions

develop policies and plans

value de ecosystem services

put legal and fiscal arrangement in place

coordinate between sectors and stakeholders

invest in peatland research to fill knowledge gaps

methodologies to obtain carbon credits exist:

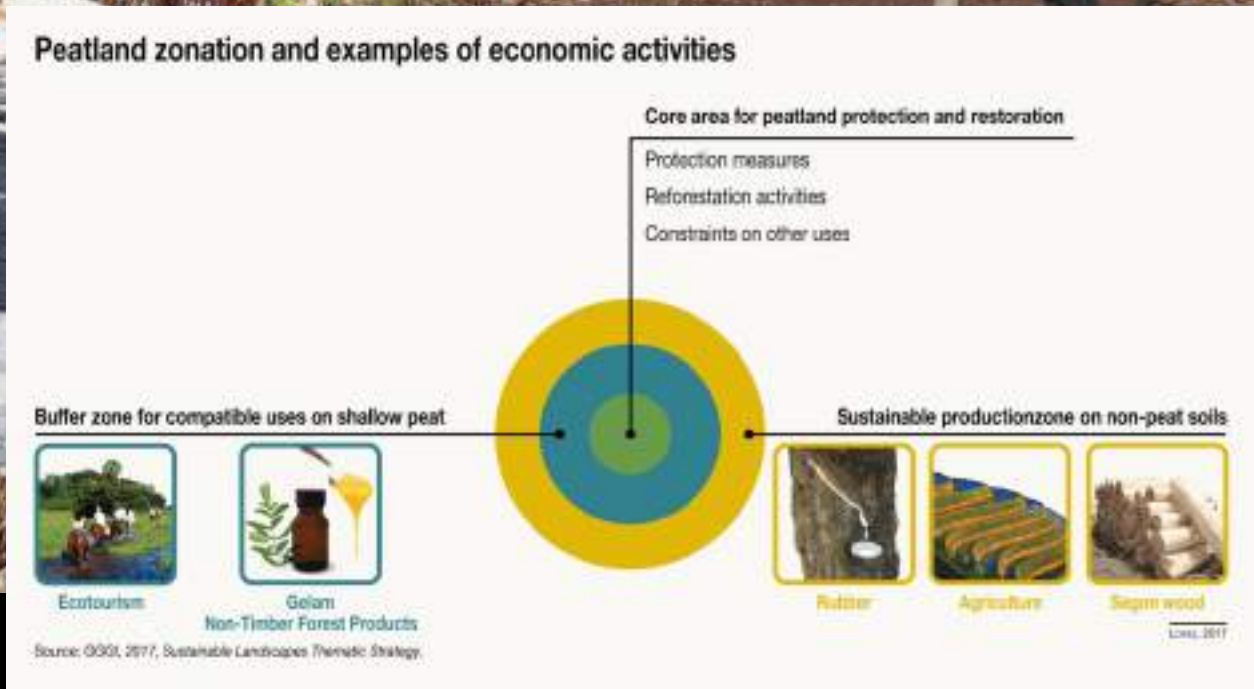
VCS
Verified Carbon Standard

WCR Wetland Conservation and Restoration

peatland restoration area in the buffer zone of

Berbak National Park and Ramsar Site

Indonesia



2003

dams built by local communities with traditional techniques

peat swamp restoration zones as buffers around protected areas

2012

phasing out drainage-based plantations

community-based land-use management