



## **EXPBIO** Expanding transnational capacities to strengthen plant biodiversity and restoration in the NSR

EXPBIO addresses the critical challenge of biodiversity degradation in the North Sea Region. The project unites eight partners, each contributing to three core areas: the development of effective restoration practices, the creation of diverse seed mixes suitable for different ecological contexts and stakeholders, and the launch of transnational educational and communication initiatives. These activities aim to enhance our common capacity for restoring degraded ecosystems, thereby promoting biodiversity and ecological health in the North Sea Region.

## **Project Duration and Goals:**

Starting in 2024 and running for four years, EXPBIO seeks to strengthen plant biodiversity and restoration efforts in the region. The project aligns with the EU's Nature Restoration Law and the Biodiversity Strategy 2030, part of the European Green Deal.

## **Core Activities:**

- Development of locally-sourced seed mixes for different restoration and educational purposes.
- Experimentation with various restoration methods aiming to support local ecosystems.
- Raising awareness about biodiversity among students, the public, businesses, and policymakers.
- Incorporating citizen science, where the public collaborates with researchers to gather data and contribute to the knowledge base.
- Knowledge and experience exchange between participating countries.

## The Partnership of EXPBIO

PARTNERS OF EXPBIO Göteborgs botaniska trädgård (Lead Partner) Carl von Ossietzky-Universität Vlaamse Landmaatschappij Departement Omgeving Plantentuin Meise Hjørring Kommune Trollhättans Stad Provincie Gelderland

The partnership unites five public authorities (regional and local) and three knowledge partners (universities and botanical gardens), all of whom bring specialised expertise in plant biodiversity, restoration practices, and native seeds, as well as proficiency in engagement, education, and outreach.

EXPBIO strongly emphasises community involvement in biodiversity promotion, which is evident through its robust local and regional partnership. This partnership includes over 30 representatives from various sectors, such as businesses, government bodies, community groups, and researchers. Together with the formal partners of the project, this wide network ensures that our experiences, solutions, and results are effectively communicated and implemented.

The collective approach will enhance the impact of EXPBIO and also fosters a collaborative environment for addressing the critical issue of biodiversity degradation in our region.