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Wetlands have been drained for millennia. However, for over a century, many of them have been recognized and protected as reserves, national parks, and/or Natura 2000 sites. Nevertheless, most of Poland's swamps have suffered degradation, making it worth considering their restoration. This is an immensely challenging issue, especially in the context of the war in Ukraine, growing social polarization around the NRL (Nature Restoration Law) project, the humanitarian crisis at the Polish-Belarusian border, and the ecological crisis in the Odra River. Therefore, World Wetlands Day 2023, celebrated annually on the initiative of the Wetlands Conservation Centre, on the anniversary of the Ramsar Convention signing, had an unusually rich program this year. Apart from the usual debates, open lectures, poster presentations, and field trips held each year, in February 2023, the agenda also included: a strictly scientific conference on wetland protection, two extra field trips, and a series of workshops for practitioners.

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