



**Eurosite**



**Eurosite Annual  
Report 2017**

## **About this Annual Report**

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# Content list

1.	Letter from the President.....	4
2.	Timeline of key activities 2017.....	5
3.	Implementing the Eurosite Strategy 2015 - 2020.....	7
	Objective 1: Networking for Europe's nature.....	7
	Priority Activity 1: Workshops and field meetings on key issues - recognising the importance of face-to-face contact.....	7
	Natura 2000 Monitoring workshop.....	7
	Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process thematic networking event on justifiable Low Hanging Fruits.....	8
	Second Mediterranean Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process Seminar.....	8
	Nature's benefits: Stories from citizens.....	9
	One Site, One Plan. Integrated Conservation Management.....	9
	Priority Activity 2: An online platform to allow members to request and receive specialist information relevant to their needs.....	10
	Priority Activity 3: Working groups on interesting / specific issues.....	10
	Objective 2: A Gold Standard for Information.....	11
	Priority Activity 1: Advice on site management in relation to conservation and development.....	11
	Database Filemaker Pro.....	11
	Eurosite Integration Fund.....	11
	Natura 2000 branding.....	11
	Farmer's Pride.....	12
	European Private Land Conservation Network (LIFE ELCN).....	12
	Terms of Employment.....	12
	Eurosite Twinning.....	12
	Promotional video.....	12
	Priority Activity 2: Training events - at various levels to suit Members' needs.....	13
	Priority Activity 3: Technical information about funding, project management and legislative changes.....	13
	Objective 3: Advocacy for site-based nature.....	14
	Priority Activity 1: Representation for members at European level to provide a role in policy making.....	14
	Priority Activity 2: Timely information to Members about what is happening at EU level.....	14
	Priority Activity 3: Effective communication channels with the European Commission, working in both directions on policy and funding.....	14
	Objective 4: Building a strong future.....	15
	Priority Activity 1: Work with ECNC and other partners to develop funding and project opportunities.....	15
	ELCN & Farmer's Pride.....	15
	Friends of Eurosite.....	15
	Memorandum of Understanding with ECNC - European Center for Nature Conservation.....	16
	Priority Activity 2: Secure and develop present funding: membership fees and funding.....	17
	Priority Activity 3: Create clear financial projections (1-5 years) and build a financial reserve to improve cash flow.....	17
4.	The Eurosite Network - as of December 2017.....	18
	Eurosite Board.....	18
	Eurosite Council.....	18
	Eurosite Members.....	19
5.	Report of the treasurer 2017.....	20
	Contact us.....	22



# 1. Letter from the Eurosite President

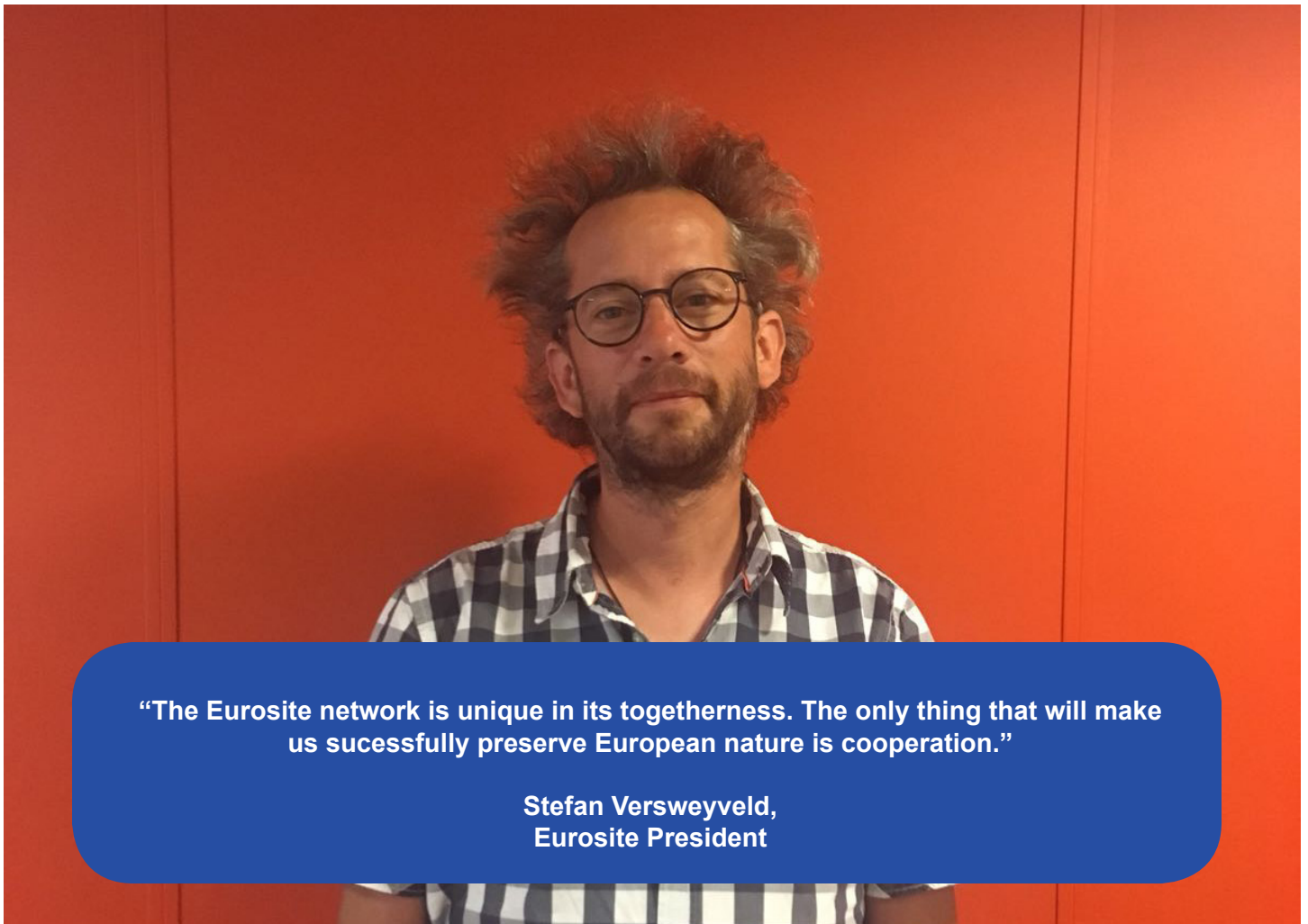
The year 2017 has been eventful and exciting, filled with inspiring new collaborations and the kick-off of two new interesting projects: LIFE European Private Land Conservation Network (ELCN) and Farmer's Pride. It also was the year that was proclaimed as 'the year of Twinning', since the European Natural Sites Twinning Programme was established exactly 30 years ago in 1987. This programme later evolved into Eurosite.

The Eurosite network has yet again proven to be a framework composed of valuable members that each bring their own expertise.

Striving for a Europe where nature is cared for, protected, restored and valued by all, it is magnificent and encouraging to witness all the continuous tireless efforts of all that are involved in the network. I would therefore like to sincerely thank our members, the dedicated Eurosite Board and Council, and the Secretariat staff.

I hope you will enjoy reading the Annual Report, and I thank you all for the trust in the Eurosite network as a means to strengthen nature conservation implementation all around Europe.

Stefan Versweyveld  
Eurosite President



**"The Eurosite network is unique in its togetherness. The only thing that will make us successfully preserve European nature is cooperation."**

**Stefan Versweyveld,  
Eurosite President**

## 2. Timeline of key activities 2017

**30-31 January**

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process  
kick-off service contract  
(Brussels)

**9 March**

Memorandum of Understanding meeting with ECNC  
(Mechelen)

**12 April**

European Solidarity Corps Stakeholder Forum  
(Brussels)

**20 April**

LIFE NGO info day (Brussels)

**6 June**

Conference on the EU Action Plan for nature, people  
and the economy (Brussels)

**7 June**

Kick-off Natura 2000 branding social media campaign

**10-13 July**

Eurosite office move (Tilburg)

**24 September**

Face-to-face meeting Eurosite Board & Council  
(Espoo)

**27 September**

Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process thematic  
networking event on Low Hanging Fruits (Espoo)

**2 February**

Conference: Working with Nature for Disaster  
Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation  
(Brussels)

**4-6 April**

Natura 2000 Monitoring workshop  
(Litoměřice)

**4 May**

Boreal Steering Committee meeting (Brussels)

**9-10 May**

European Habitats Forum meeting and  
EHF meeting with EC (Brussels)

**7 June**

Conference: How can people and the economy  
benefit from nature? Stories from citizens (Brussels)

**7-8 June**

Workshop: One site, one plan. Integrated conservation  
management (Amersfoort)

**13-14 September**

European Old Growth Forest Conference  
(Brussels)

**25-26 September**

Eurosite Annual Meeting (Espoo)

**9-11 October**

Migratory Birds for People Annual Meeting  
(Remerschen)



**9-10 October**  
EU NGO NEEMO monitoring visit  
(Tilburg)

**7 November**  
NADEG meeting (Brussels)

**23 November**  
Nationaal Congres '1001 verhalen - de kracht van  
duurzaam toerisme (Loon op Zand)

**11-14 December**  
Farmer's Pride kick-off meeting (Ancona)

**22-26 October**  
LIFE ELCN Colorado study tour (Colorado)

**14-16 November**  
Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process Second  
Mediterranean Seminar (Limassol)

**23-24 November**  
European Habitats Forum meeting and  
EHF meeting with EC (Brussels)

**18 December**  
Launch of the Eurosite Thematic Library





### 3. Implementing the Eurosite Strategy 2015-2020

Following the adoption of the new Eurosite Strategy 2015-2020 in January 2015, in 2017 the following actions were implemented in line with the agreed Eurosite objectives.

#### **Objective 1: Networking for Europe's nature - Eurosite is recognised as a vital, relevant and active network organisation with a solid, essential agenda for European nature**

Priority Activity 1: Workshops and field meetings on key issues - recognising the importance of face to face contact

The clear prioritisation of this activity reflects the central role that networking and field meetings have played over Eurosite's 28 year history. That is why until the end of 2017, Eurosite has been a member of the ECNC-led consortium delivering the implementation of the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process, which clearly prioritises the importance of networking and knowledge sharing.

#### **The Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process - networking**

In 2015, the European Commission, with support from the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process consortium, launched the next phase of the Process (2015-2017), which builds on the success of previous Biogeographical Seminars and Thematic networking events organised around key issues identified during Seminars.

In 2017, there were six Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process networking events, two of which were co-organised by Eurosite.

#### **Natura 2000 Monitoring workshop, 4-6 April, Litoměřice, Czech Republic**

On 4-6 April 2017, in Litoměřice, Czech Republic, Eurosite organised its third Natura 2000 Monitoring Workshop: Developing conservation management objectives and condition indicators for monitoring on Natura 2000 sites. The workshop was organised as a thematic networking event of the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process and it was hosted by Eurosite member Krkonoše Mountains National Park. The topic attracted some 45 participants from across Europe.

The workshop has confirmed that developed condition indicators ensure that conservation management can actually be monitored. Condition indicators are important because they allow us to develop efficient and reliable monitoring methods that will directly inform site management. Regarding the decision-making process, several questions were raised like whether or not a habitat can still realistically achieve Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) if it no longer supports the species that should be present. As a follow-up of the workshop a guidance document will be developed. Following the needs expressed by the participants during the workshop, this guidance will cover the following topics:

- the role of condition indicators;
- how and where to find existing indicators;
- selection criteria, e.g. simple / robust - but fit for purpose and budget;
- how key or 'typical' (animal or plant) species can be linked to site-specific habitat attributes to define favourable status;
- how plant and animal species assemblages can be used to form proxy condition indicators;
- facilitating communication and collaboration between habitat and species experts;
- identifying and defining negative indicators (e.g. invasive species, threats);
- setting measurable limits (quantitative and qualitative);
- options for data collection - i.e. sampling methodologies;
- options for QA and validation.

Participants were very keen to attend the next workshop from the Monitoring Series. Following their interest this workshop will be focusing on the roles of remote sensing and related new technologies in Natura 2000 monitoring.

#### Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process thematic networking event on ecologically justifiable Low Hanging Fruits, 27 September 2017, Espoo, Finland

On 27 September Eurosite and Metsähallitus Parks and Wildlife Finland organised a thematic networking event of the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process on ecologically justifiable Low Hanging Fruits in restoration and nature management as part of the Eurosite Annual Meeting 2017.

The event was kicked-off by an introduction by Angelika Rubin of the European Commission explaining the European policy context for this approach (the 'why') and the definition (the 'what'). Low Hanging Fruits are in this context defined as "Features for which an improved conservation status on biogeographical level could be reached with the least possible effort (e.g. by improving only few parameters in one or two Member States)".

During the past year, Finland has invested a lot of work in the development of this approach and has used the opportunity to present the results on this occasion.

Participants learned about the Finnish approach to identifying the socially relevant Low Hanging Fruits and the role of scale when selecting these (national versus European versus global). An ecologically justifiable Restoration Prioritisation Framework, developed and applied in Finland, was also presented. Both approaches are already being applied in Finland, and the initial analyses have shown that it is possible to make significant savings while still achieving the maximum effect or restoration.

The Boreal Member States were invited by Finland to compile and submit their national data as Finland is willing to support them in processing it in order to apply and fine-tune the Finnish methodology in determining their own national Low Hanging Fruits and restoration priorities.

Presentations of the event can be found [here](#).

#### Second Mediterranean Natura 2000 Biogeographical Seminar, 14-16 November, Limassol, Cyprus

About 100 participants from all 9 EU Mediterranean countries attended the Second Mediterranean Biogeographical Seminar. Organised by Eurosite as part of the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process, the event aimed to improve and strengthen implementation of Natura 2000 in the Mediterranean region and ensure progress towards the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy targets. Specific attention was given to drafting a roadmap of actions for further cooperation on the improvement of the conservation status of Natura 2000 habitats at the biogeographical level. Eurosite used this opportunity to present the LIFE project 'European Private Land Conservation Network - LIFE ELCN', and especially the project's pilot actions in the Mediterranean region. Private land conservation is an approach that has a lot of potential for expansion in the region, with some good examples already in place.

Eurosite had a large role in preparing for and organising the Seminar, as a member of the ECNC-led consortium of partners that supported the EC in the development and implementation of Natura 2000. The Seminar was hosted in Limassol by our member Terra Cypria, the Cyprus Conservation Foundation.

The [workshop report](#) can be found on the Natura 2000 Communication Platform.



## Workshops, trainings and other events

### How can people and the economy benefit from nature? Stories from citizens conference, 7 June, Brussels

With this conference, we aimed to inform, inspire and provide participants with arguments for discussions in the European Parliament that will or should involve issues related to the natural environment. Why? Because for many challenges our society faces today, such as air pollution, climate change, land use changes, droughts, and economic crisis, the solution is – nature.



### One Site, One Plan. Integrated Conservation Management, 7-8 June, Amersfoort

At the beginning of June, the two-day conference 'One Site, One Plan' on integrated conservation management took place in Amersfoort, the Netherlands, organised by Natuurmonumenten, Staatsbosbeheer, Natural England and Eurosite. Dutch and UK national conservation organisations have been working closely together on a new approach to the management of conservation sites.

Therefore the workshop evolved around this approach that:

- is adaptive and integrates planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;
- is scalable, integrating the management of individual sites with the management of site networks;
- harmonises conflicting interests by integrating all land interests into a single, dynamic site plan;
- is software supported, integrating mapping, data and documents to create a one-stop information system;
- enables organisations to integrate information from other sites into their site management.

In the conference we had presentations from practitioners, a choice of workshops, and site visits to experience how it works in the field with regards to Natura 2000 implementation and further site management. Above all, the conference was designed for delegates to share their 'real-life' practical experiences (the good and the bad) of adaptive management so participants could take home new ideas for their own organisations and sites.

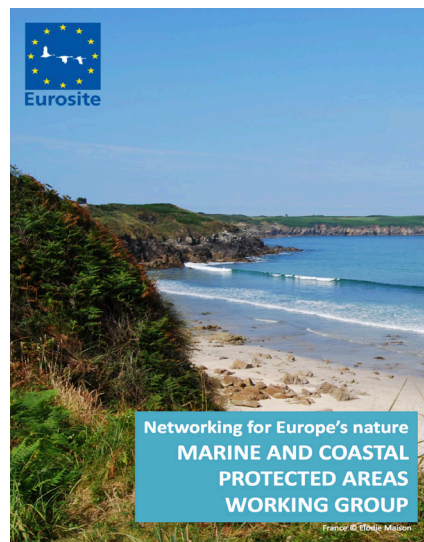
Presentations can be found [here](#).

Priority Activity 2: An online platform to allow members to request and receive specialist information relevant to their needs

In the previous working year information was collected to fill such a platform. Throughout 2017 additional content was collected, after which the Eurosite Thematic Library was launched towards the end of the year. Thematic pages include: management planning, communication, ecosystem services, monitoring, forestry, funding and resources, green infrastructure, climate change, invasive species, marine and coastal, tourism, wilderness and policy. New topics are considered based on the demand for information coming out of the Eurosite network. Eurosite Working Groups have an important role in collecting and generating the knowledge that populates the thematic library section pages.

Priority Activity 3: Working groups on interesting / specific issues

In 2017, the work of our Working Groups has continued. These working groups are stimulating the dialogue and the exchange of information on the relevant topics, by organising thematic events and exploring joint work possibilities through joint projects. Accompanying communication and promotion of their activities and results helps awareness raising on the topics they cover. The activity of the working groups strengthens the Eurosite network by increasing the knowledge exchange. The Economics and Ecosystem Services Working Group (13 members from 11 organisations) has met several times throughout the year, as did the Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Working Group (21 members from 18 organisations) and the Wetlands and Climate Change Working Group (12 members from 11 organisations).



## Objective 2: A Gold Standard for Information - Eurosite is recognised as a the leading source of information about best practice in nature site management and related European matters

### Priority Activity 1: Advice on site management in relation to conservation and development

#### Database Filemaker Pro

With more information entered in 2017, the database has become more and more useful. Also, after having gained some experience in working with it, additional functionalities were added to the database, based on the ideas that came from using the database in day-to-day work. For example, delegates lists of events can be entered into the database, after which they are processed into new contacts. Participants that already were included in the database get an automatic note at their profile mentioning they have attended the event.

#### Eurosite Integration Fund

The Eurosite Integration Fund was put in place to offer financial support to members when travelling to Eurosite workshops, meetings, seminars or other events. The total number of people supported in 2017 is 13 with 16 subsidies.

#### Natura 2000 branding

In aiming to promote the benefits of Natura 2000 to society, the branding campaign was kicked-off early 2017. A functional searchable website database is online. The website is a result of the work which started in 2016. It is a searchable database of products and stories concerning successful partnerships, demonstrating the socio-economic benefits the Natura 2000 sites provide for local stakeholders. The products that are promoted all have a clear link to Natura 2000 sites and there is a mutual benefit for both the Natura 2000 site and the product and its producer. At the end of 2017 the website displayed 73 products and 6 stories about partnerships, covering 10 EU member states. A social media branding campaign was launched during the Nature's benefits: Stories from citizens conference in Brussels (June 2017).

Natura 2000 branding website: <https://www.natura2000branding.eu/>

#### CHEESE

##### Bio cheese 'De Schorren'



##### Background

De Schorren is a biological cheese awarded with a silver 'best biological cheese award' at the International Cheese Awards in 2014. The cheese has ripened for a year and is made with milk of the Jersey cow. These cows roam freely in the Loonse & Drunense Duinen & Leemkuilen Natura 2000 area.

##### Website

[www.jerseyhoeve.com](http://www.jerseyhoeve.com)



### Farmer's Pride

Eurosite attempted to better connect with academia during 2016. The attempt was successful in that a partnership was formed with the intention to submit an Horizon 2020 proposal. The University of Birmingham led the development of the proposal and the consortium. Eurosite is pleased that the submitted project proposal was accepted and a contract was awarded. In 2017, a kick-off meeting was organised in Ancona, Italy. Eurosite planned to attend this meeting, but was unfortunately unable to, due to weather circumstances in the Netherlands. The Farmer's Pride project will be executed in 2017-2020. Farmer's Pride is a project involving a diverse range of stakeholders. We are building a collaborative network for on-site conservation and sustainable use of Europe's plant diversity for food, nutrition and economic security throughout the region.



More information can be found on <https://www.eurosite.org/eurosite-network/partners/>

### European Private Land Conservation Network (LIFE ELCN)

In 2016 a proposal was developed for the Development of a European Private Land Conservation Network (ELCN) and submitted to the LIFE Preparatory Call for Proposals. The proposal was successful and the project began in 2017. Eurosite has the leading role in the networking and project communications. If the project is successful, Eurosite will become the secretariat for the newly established Network after the project has ended. The ELCN network will be officially launched during the Eurosite Annual Meeting in 2019, which will also be the final conference of the project. This LIFE project is led by NABU (Germany), and other partners are Natuurpunt (Belgium), Montis (Portugal), Fundacion Biodiversidad (Spain), Fundatia ADEPT (Romania), ELY Centre Lapland (Finland), IMA Europe (EU) and WWF Oasi (Italy). In 2017, the project website was launched and a kick-off meeting took place in June. Also, a survey was carried out in order to identify existing private land conservation initiatives. Lastly, Eurosite's Network and Development Manager attended a study tour in Colorado that was organised by the International Land Conservation Network to inspire a delegation of the LIFE ELCN project partners.



More information can be found on <https://www.eurosite.org/eurosite-network/partners/>

### Terms of Employment

Eurosite's Terms of Employment were reviewed and updated in 2017. They ensure Eurosite has the correct documentation in place to operate as an up-to-date and modern working environment for its employees.

### Eurosite Twinning

Twinning has always been an important part of Eurosite's work. In 1987 – the European Year of the Environment – the European Natural Sites Twinning Programme was launched with the financial support of the European Commission and to support the cooperation of nature conservation management organisations from across Europe. Eurosite was born from this Twinning Programme, and ever since then we have been facilitating twinings of natural sites across Europe. The attentive reader will have noticed that this means that 2017 reflects 30 years of Twinning. Therefore, 2017 was proclaimed as 'The year of Twinning'. Throughout the year, four new twinings were realised and the [Eurosite Twinning Guidelines](#) have been revised and translated into [French](#) and [Spanish](#).



### The value of Twinning:

*“It was really interesting to see how a similar organisation of another country approached management decisions and monitored progress and results of works”*

**Christopher Evans, Natural England**

### Promotional video

In order to attract new members we created a promotional video: <http://bit.ly/JoinEurosité>

#### Priority Activity 2: Training events - at various levels to suit Members' needs

Trainings that were given this year comprise the One Site, One Plan. Integrated Conservation Management workshop and the Natura 2000 Monitoring workshop. Both trainings are described under Priority Activity 1 of Objective 1 of this report.

#### Priority Activity 3: Technical information about funding, project management and legislative changes

Through our website, social media and monthly eNewsletter we have shared the latest information about funding and site management, as well as updates on legislative changes and developments in European environmental policy. Probably the most important topic in this field was the Fitness Check evaluation of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives that resulted in the Action Plan for nature, people and the economy. There is a need for a substantial improvement in the implementation in close partnership with local authorities and different stakeholders in the Member States to deliver practical results on the ground for nature, people and the economy in the EU. Eurosité has closely followed this topic by regularly publishing updates throughout the year, in several of the 12 monthly eNewsletters. Additionally, we attended the Conference on the EU Action Plan for nature, people and the economy in Brussels. In addition, a thematic eNewsletter was published in 2017, prepared with the support of the Marine and Coastal Protected Areas Working Group.

### **Objective 3: Advocacy for site-based nature - Eurosite provides the advocacy that is required at the EU level to provide political and practical support for site-based nature conservation in Europe**

#### **Priority Activity 1: Representation for Members at European level to provide a role in policy making**

In 2017, Eurosite attended a number of key meetings and events in Brussels in order to represent the members and ensure that the members remain informed about the latest nature-related policy processes:

- January: kick-off meeting of a new service contract related to the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process;
- February: Working with Nature for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation;
- April: LIFE NGO Info Day;
- April: The European Solidarity Corps Stakeholder Forum;
- May: Boreal Steering Committee meeting in Brussels;
- May and November: biannual European Habitats Forum meetings with DG Environment;
- June: Conference on the EU Action Plan for nature, people and the economy;
- November: EU Expert Group on the Birds and Habitats Directive (NADEG).

#### **Priority Activity 2: Timely information to Members about what is happening at EU level**

We regularly provide our members with relevant news and updates in EU policy development. While using our communication channels (website, social media and the eNewsletter) to keep the Eurosite network informed, we also ensure that we send a report back to members about meetings and events attended in Brussels. This provides many of our members, who do not have the resources to attend such events, with a valuable service. Both the website and the eNewsletter contain a 'Brussels section' especially for the purpose of transmitting information on what is happening on EU level.

#### **Priority Activity 3: Effective communication channels with the European Commission, working in both directions, on policy and funding**

Eurosite has been a reliable partner of the European Commission ever since our establishment in 1989. The emphasis of this cooperation has always been on building a two-way relationship with the European Commission. In 2017 there have been multiple occasions on which the Eurosite President had meetings with the European Commission: on 20 January 2017 he had a meeting with the DG Environment Nature Protection Unit about Natura 2000 implementation in Flanders, and another meeting on 14 December 2017 meeting with the same unit about Nitrogen Deposition in Natura 2000 sites.



## Objective 4: Building a strong future - Eurosite is a resilient organisation with the human and financial resources necessary to deliver the expectations of the members

Priority Activity 1: Work with ECNC and other partners to develop funding and project opportunities

### ELCN & Farmer's Pride

In 2017, Eurosite was successfully involved in LIFE ELCN and Farmer's Pride. The European Private Land Conservation Network and the Farmer's Pride project will both last three years. For more information see Objective 2, Priority Activity 1.

### Friends of Eurosite

Friends of Eurosite are nature conservation related organisations or networks with which we have established a long-term working relationship. Friendships are formalised through a Friends of Eurosite agreement, which sets out the goals for the friendship and is reviewed on an annual basis.

In 2017 CEEweb for Biodiversity became a 'Friend of Eurosite'. Given the clear complementary aims of Eurosite and CEEweb for Biodiversity, particularly regarding the exchange of knowledge and experience, geographic coverage, and a number of common themes addressed by the two networks, both organisations expressed interest to formalise their working relationship.

CEEweb for Biodiversity is a network of non-governmental organisations in the Central and Eastern European region working in 20 countries. The mission of CEEweb is the conservation of biodiversity through the promotion of sustainable development. CEEweb works through advocacy, influencing decision making, common projects, capacity building, networking and awareness raising. It targets its members, local, national and international decision makers, NGOs and NGO networks, companies and the scientific community.

The Migratory Birds for People Programme (MBP) has been a friend of Eurosite since July 2015 and the friendship agreement was renewed in 2017. The agreement was signed at the MBP Annual Meeting in Remerschen, Luxembourg. Eurosite's Communications and Membership Officer participated, gave a presentation on Twinning, and gave a workshop on the use of social media in the nature conservation sector.



SER Europe also became a friend of Eurosite in September 2017. SER Europe is a network of restoration experts, exchanging knowledge and expertise for the promotion of ecological restoration in Europe. Their aim is to promote ecological restoration as a means of sustaining the diversity of life on Earth and re-establishing an ecologically healthy relationship nature and culture.



#### Memorandum of Understanding with ECNC - European Center for Nature Conservation

Following a meeting to explore the continuation of the Memorandum of Understanding between Eurosite and ECNC, unfortunately ECNC ceased to exist in December 2017.



## Priority Activity 2: Secure and develop present funding: membership fees and funding

Compared to 2016 Eurosite received slightly less membership fee income in 2017. We welcomed new individual members, but sadly also received a couple of resignations. Fortunately, we had been successful in securing EU NGO Funding for 2016/17. In 2015, Eurosite successfully applied for an EU NGO Framework Partnership Agreement for the years 2016 and 2017, based on the new Eurosite Strategy 2015 - 2020, which we wrote together with our members.

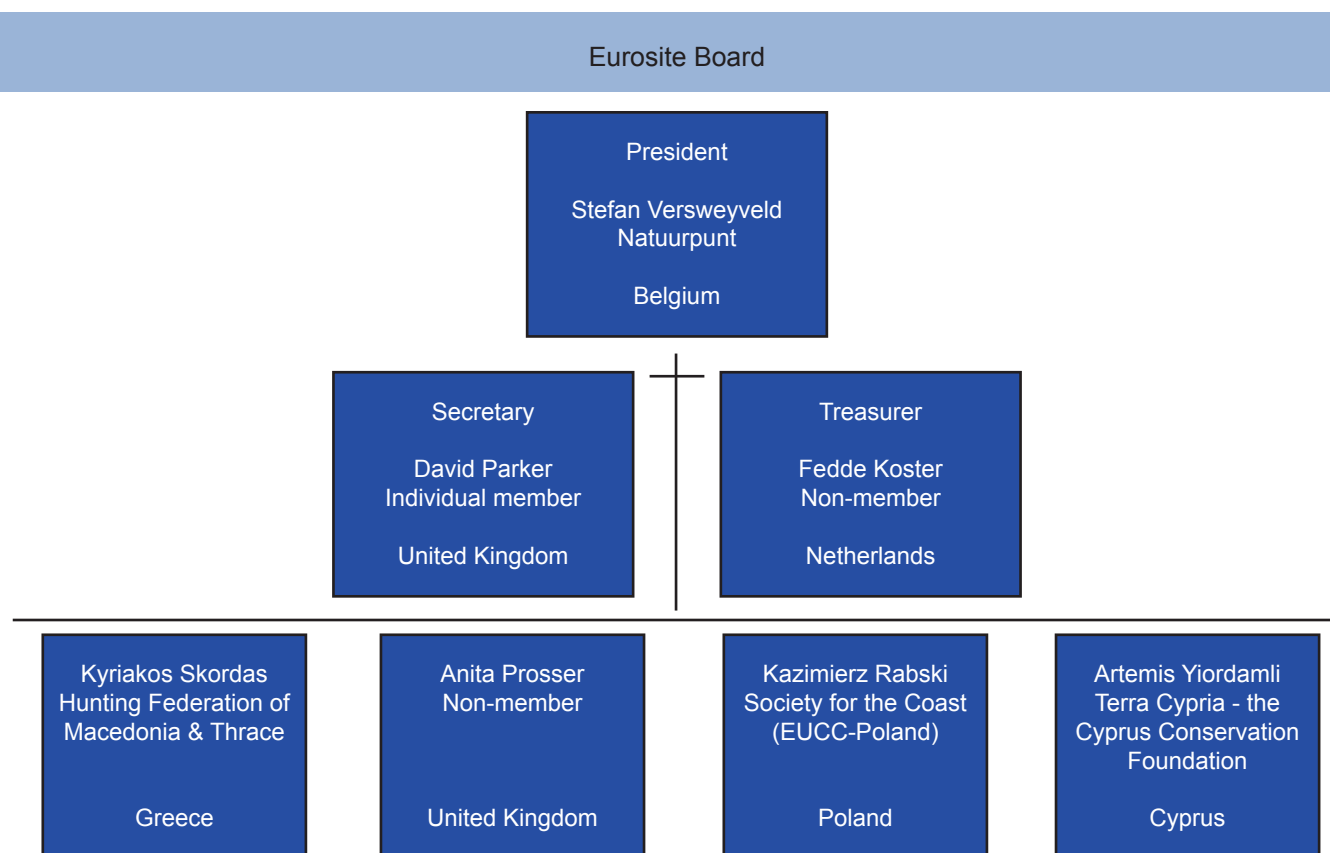
To realise an expanding Eurosite network and membership base, the Eurosite Secretariat attended a marketing training given by Gert Koot of Branded Entertainment. It created a clearer insight into tactics for ensuring membership satisfaction and therefore a higher retention rate, as well as effective approaches for recruiting new members. Lessons learned were converted into a membership recruitment strategy, a promotional recruitment video and a clearer overview of membership benefits.

## Priority Activity 3: Create clear financial projections (1-5 years) and build a financial reserve to improve cash flow

Eurosite's main aim in 2017 was to closely monitor the budget and cash flow and to review any outstanding membership fees. Despite our best efforts, the financial result for 2017 unfortunately could have been better: we were able to add an amount to our reserves to improve cash flow, but because of ECNC's bankruptcy we suffered a loss instead of building a financial reserve. Eurosite aims to participate in multi-annual contracts which will help to make clearer financial projections for years to come.



## 4. The Eurosite Network - as of December 2017



On behalf of all members of the network, our grateful thanks are extended to them for their service on the Board.

Eurosite Council		
Kevin Feytons	Natuurpunt	Belgium
Alžběta Čejková	The Krkonoše Mountains National Park	Czech Republic
Jussi Päivinen	Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland	Finland
Jean Jalbert	Tour du Valat - Institute de recherche pour la conservation des zones humides méditerranéennes	France
Lydia Alvanou	Axios Delta Management Authority	Greece
Carlotta Maggio	WWF Oasi	Italy
Harry Koenders	Staatsbosbeheer	Netherlands
Teo Wams	Natuurmonumenten	Netherlands
Anna Wilińska	Kampinos National Park	Poland
Malin-Matei Muşatescu	Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority	Romania
Phil Eckersley	Natural England	United Kingdom

#### Belgium

- Natuurpunt

#### Cyprus

- Terra Cypria, the Cyprus Conservation Foundation

#### Czech Republic

- The Krkonoše Mountains National Park

#### Finland

- Metsähallitus Parks and Wildlife Finland
- City of Turku

#### France

- Agence Française pour la Biodiversité
- Eden 62
- Parc Naturel Régional des Marais du Cotentin et du Bessin
- Tour du Valat - Institute de recherche pour la conservation des zones humides méditerranéennes

#### Germany

- Landesamt für Umwelt

#### Greece

- Authority for the Management of the Protected Area of Axios Loudias Aliakmonas Estuaries
- Hunting Federation of Macedonia & Thrace (KOMATH)
- Management Body of Samaria (White Mountains) National Park

#### Hungary

- Ministry of Agriculture

#### Ireland

- National Parks and Wildlife Service

#### Italy

- WWF Oasi

#### Luxembourg

- Ministère du Développement Durable, département de l'environnement

#### Netherlands

- Brabants Landschap
- Crossbill Guides Foundation
- Dutch Montagu's Harrier Foundation
- Natuurmonumenten
- Staatsbosbeheer
- Vanellus Vanellus

#### Poland

- Kampinos National Park
- Society for the Coast (EUCC-Poland)

#### Romania

- Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority (DDBRA)

#### Spain

- Ministry of Territory and Sustainability (Government of Catalonia)

#### Sweden

- The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

#### United Kingdom

- A Rocha International
- Conservation Management System Consortium
- Forest Enterprise Scotland
- Natural England
- Natural Resources Wales
- The Wildlife Trusts

#### Individual members

- Edin Lugić, Croatia
- Marina Škunca, Croatia
- Eric Wirsy Fondzenyuy, Cameroon
- Nicole Nowicki, France
- Ben Delbaere, Netherlands
- Irene Bouwma, Netherlands
- Roelof Heringa, Netherlands
- Hans Hofland, Netherlands
- Nel Sangers, Netherlands
- Jan Veenstra, Netherlands
- Jovita García Collado, Spain
- David Parker, United Kingdom
- Francis Staub, United Kingdom
- Phil Eckersley, United Kingdom

## 5. Report of the Treasurer 2017 <sup>1</sup>

2017 has been a challenging year for Eurosite. We worked on several projects but could unfortunately not receive all the expected revenue. More specific, we had problems collecting the revenues for the service contract regarding the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process, led by ECNC. Fortunately, we managed to secure EU NGO funding, which supported the implementation of our Strategy (2015 - 2020) greatly. In addition, we were able to secure extra project income for the Horizon 2020 project Farmers Pride and LIFE ELCN – European Private Land Conservation Network.

As a result of the ECNC problems and bankruptcy, Eurosite incurred a loss for 2017 of 8,770 euro. We however managed to control the 2017 cash flow and successfully applied for a European Commission Specific Grant Agreement for 2018, as part of a new Framework Partnership Agreement.



Fedde Koster  
Treasurer, Eurosite

**Table 1: Balance as of 31 December 2017**

	31-12-2017	31-12-2016		31-12-2017	31-12-2016
<b>ASSETS</b>			<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Fixed assets</b>			<b>Equity</b>		
			Association capital	€23,958	€32,728
<b>Tangible fixed assets</b>					
Furniture and office equipment	€3,086	€2,123	<b>Current liabilities</b>		
			Trade creditors	€9,357	€11,975
			Taxes and social securities	€3,254	€3,236
			Other liabilities and accruals and deferred income	€95,963	€152,724
<b>Current assets</b>					
<b>Trade and other receivables</b>					
Trade receivables	€20,566	€64,798			
Other receivables, deferred assets	€31,476	€61,346			
<b>Cash at banks and in hand</b>	€77,404	€72,396			
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>€132,532</b>	<b>€ 200,663</b>	<b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>€132,532</b>	<b>€ 200,663</b>

<sup>1</sup> The amounts in this Treasurer's report are derived from the report regarding Eurosite's financial statements of the year 2017, prepared by WVDB Adviseurs Accountants. The report, including an independent auditor's report, is available upon request.



**Table 2: Profit and loss account for the year 2017 <sup>2</sup>**

	2017		2016	
<b>Sum of revenues</b>		€202,677		€227,661
<b>Expenses</b>				
Costs related to grants	€166,653		€172,774	
Wages and salaries	€26,518		€4,624	
Amortisation and depreciation	€268		€156	
Other operating expenses	€17,868		€20,795	
		€211,307		€198,349
<b>Balance of revenues and expenses</b>		- €8,630		€29,312
Financial income and expenses		- €140		-€190
<b>RESULT</b>		-€8,770		€29,122

**Proposed resolutions 2017:**

As Treasurer, I would like to ask the Eurosite members to consider the following resolutions for the financial year 2017 and to carry them unanimously during the Annual General Meeting 2018, Budapest, Hungary, 27 September 2018:

**Resolution n° 1**

The Eurosite Council, having listened to the reading of the Financial Report of the annual accounts for the financial year ended upon 31 December 2017, approves the report of the annual accounts of the financial year which states a result of -8,770 Euro. On 31 December 2017, Eurosite therefore has a reserve of 23,958.00 Euro. In consequence, the General Assembly discharges without reserve the Administrative Council of its responsibility in the execution of its mandate for the financial year that has been closed.

**Resolution n° 2**

The General Assembly confers all powers to the bearer of a copy or an extract of the present record of its decision in order to carry out all legal formalities.

<sup>2</sup> Expenses have been allocated to grants / projects according to the appropriate regulations. The other expenses categories (Wages and salaries, Amortisation and depreciation, and Other operating expenses) represent the net general expenses after the allocation to grants / projects.

# Contact us

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Eurosite is working to create a Europe where nature is cared for, protected, restored and valued by all.

We do this by providing practitioners with opportunities to network and exchange experience on practical nature management. We are a network of site managers, non-governmental and governmental organisations, individuals and organisations committed to our vision. Our members are based across Europe, from the Atlantic islands to the Black Sea; and from Scandinavia to the Mediterranean.

Nature knows no boundaries: we believe the future protection and conservation of Europe's nature will only be achieved through international cooperation.

Interested in what we do? Take a look at our website to find out more and become a member.

Together we can make a difference.