



Eurosites

**Eurosites Annual
Report 2020**



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About this Annual Report

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1. Letter from the Eurosite Presidents

Dear reader,

As the two Presidents that our Eurosite network had in 2020, we would like to present to you the highlights of our activities last year.

2020 was an extraordinary year for all of us. We are pleased to say that despite the Covid-19 pandemic, it was a trend-breaking year for Eurosite. We were not only able to implement most of the networking activities foreseen in our various projects and Eurosite Working Groups (apart from most face-to-face meetings, which had to be held online), we also started new initiatives and actively worked to expand the network. We started an important new project (“European Networks for Private Land Conservation” - LIFE ENPLC) as coordinating beneficiary, slightly increased our membership base, signed new service contracts and laid the ground for new partnerships and project proposals.

This would not have been possible without the selfless dedication of our Secretariat’s staff, in particular Carlijn Poirters, Jelke Brandehof and Wojciech Mróz. After the departure of long-term staff member Kristijan Civic and of Hannah Löwenhardt, they were the crew on the bridge of our ship, steering it with sure hands through turbulent waters. At the end of last year, we were incredibly fortunate to hire two outstandingly talented, passionate and nice people for the Secretariat - Harm Schoten as new Director and Carolina Halevy as Project Officer.

Continuity and renewal were also the governing principles for Eurosite’s Board. At our virtual Annual General Meeting on 30 October, Tilmann - who had already been a Board member since 2019 - and Stefan basically switched positions: Tilmann was elected as new President of the Board, while Stefan was (re-)elected as member of the Board. Kazimierz Rabski, who had served on the Board for six years, became the new Council member for Poland, while Rhys Jones and Miquel Rafa (re-)joined the Board. Anita Prosser continues to serve as Secretary as does Theo de Bruin as Treasurer and Marina Škunca, Naïk Faucon, and Kyriakos Skordas as Board members.

Together, we developed the new Eurosite Strategy 2021-2025, which defines our four key strategic objectives - REACH, RELEVANCE, RESILIENCE, RECOGNITION. The Strategy will guide our work in the next years and will serve as benchmark against which we can measure our success. We are looking forward to implementing the Strategy together with you!

First and foremost, Eurosite lives through, by and for its members. Together, we make up the pan-European network of site managers and land conservationists. We thank you for your continued support, dedication and enthusiasm! Lets continue to make this network a community!

With best wishes,

Stefan Versweyveld & Tilmann Disselhoff
Presidents of Eurosite during 2020



2. Timeline of key activities 2020

14 - 16 January
Peatland exhibition NABU/ELO
(Germany)

30 January
Nature Now Conference
(Belgium)

22 April
ILCN/ELCN Earth Day Plenary
(online)

7 May
LIFE NGO Kick-off
(online)

13 May
ILCN/ELCN webinar: Using EU LIFE funding for
private land conservation
(online)

23 June
Farmer's Pride webinar: CWR conservation —
adding value to Europe's natural sites
(online)

30 September
Care-Peat Policy Workshop
(online)

14 October
EU Green Week: Natura 2000 Award Ceremony
(online)

30 October
Eurosite Annual General Meeting
(online)

15 January
Kick-off LIFE Nardus & Limosa
(Belgium)

4-5 February
Care-Peat PCG and open meeting
(Netherlands)

30 April
LIFE info day
(online)

8 May
European Habitats Forum meeting with DG
Environment
(online)

4 & 18 June, 2 July
Remote Sensing webinar series 2020
(online)

8 - 11 September
3rd Natura 2000 Alpine Biogeographical Process
Seminar
(online)

14 October
ELCN webinar: Boosting ecosystem services on non-
productive farmland
(online)

16 October
European Habitats Forum meeting with DG
Environment
(online)

2 - 5 November
Eurosite Annual Meeting: 'Zooming' in on European natural site management — from plan to action (online)

12 November
Migratory Birds for People Network Annual Meeting (online)

19 November
Care-Peat workshop: Veen in Vlaanderen (online)

5 - 6 November
E-BIND final workshop (online)

16 November
Nature and Cities workshop: Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure (online)

Throughout 2020
ILCN/ELCN webinar series (online)

3. Implementing the Eurosite Strategy 2015-2020

During the last year of the Eurosite Strategy 2015-2020, in 2020 the following actions were implemented in line with the agreed Eurosite objectives, sometimes in a different way than originally foreseen due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

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 30 year history.

The Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process - networking

In 2017, the European Commission, with support from the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process consortium, launched the next phase of the Process (2017-2020), which builds on the success of previous Biogeographical Seminars and Thematic networking events organised around key issues identified during Seminars.

In 2020, another Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process seminar took place, be it online. The Third Alpine Biogeographical region Natura 2000 Seminar was attended by Eurosite. In addition to the organisation of Natura 2000 Seminars in each biogeographical region, the process promotes the exchange of knowledge and cooperation on Natura 2000 management beyond national borders, within and between biogeographical regions.

Workshops, trainings and other events

Remote Sensing webinar series

A Remote Sensing webinar series was organised by the Eurosite Remote Sensing Support Group, lead by Clive Hurford. The webinars attracted many attendees from all different corners of Europe, and even the world.

The first webinar focused on the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in vegetation mapping. This quickly developing technique enables the decrease of costs of field work, and increases its accuracy accordingly. The drones and their software are nowadays quite user-friendly, even for beginners. In this first webinar, optical remote sensing data expert Lucie Kupková provided a unique opportunity to fly over subalpine and alpine vegetation in Krkonoše Mountains.

The second webinar focused on the potential use of QGIS in the everyday tasks of a site manager. The purpose of the webinar was to give participants the confidence to jump into the world of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Even a basic proficiency in GIS can help a site manager gather and analyse available data, map certain features and communicate issues or results with other stakeholders. By providing access to the basic terminology and some of the most useful functions, the aim of the webinar was to encourage site managers in exchanging experiences and advice, and to help better understand what options are at their disposal.



Carrying out field counts of any species, plant or animal, can be fraught with difficulties. Therefore, the third webinar focused primarily on illustrating the unacceptably high levels of observer variation associated with bird counts and how this variation can be minimised using an open source program called ImageJ to process images collected by conventional ‘hand-held’ photography, drones or light aircraft. All three webinars are available on the [Eurosites YouTube channel](#).



Online Annual Meeting, 30 October (AGM), and 2-5 November

In 31 years time, 2020 was the first year in which there was no physical Eurosites Annual Meeting. However, Eurosites is a flexible organisation, leading to the first ever online Annual Meeting themed ‘Zooming’ in on European natural site management — from plan to action. The General Assembly took place on Friday 30 October, during which participants elected a new Board and Council (see chapter 4 for more details). Stefan Versweyveld stepped down as President, and Tilmann Disselhoff was elected the new Eurosites President. Stefan remained a member of the Board. Eurosites thanks Kazimierz Rabski and Fedde Koster who fulfilled their roles in the Board with dedication in the past years, as well as Council members that fulfilled their term!

The event from 2-5 November was divided into four morning sessions. Eurosites’s working groups played a vital role in the organisation of the sessions. The programme entailed a variety of presentations and workshops focusing on management planning, economics and ecosystem services, peatland restoration and management, and remote sensing.

Virginijus Sinkevičius, European Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries thanked participants for their efforts in preserving European nature in a video message. He emphasised the importance of networks such as Eurosites and conferences like the Annual Meeting.

Please find further information and the presentations [here](#).

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

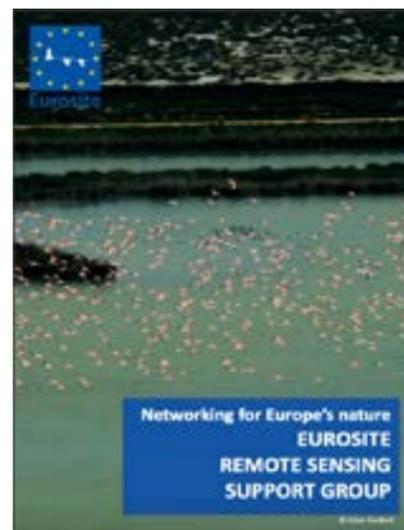
In 2018 it became clear that the Eurosites site management toolkit needed to be updated. It was decided to do this digitally, and to create an online toolkit where site managers can find information from A to Z concerning management planning. A new group was established to realise this task: the Eurosites Management Planning Expert Group (EMPEG). The group had its first live meeting in April 2018, and then met throughout 2018 and 2019 via GoToMeeting and other live meetings. The final product in the form of an online Management Planning Toolkit that can be easily updated when necessary was launched during the Anniversary Annual Meeting in November 2019, in Italy and professionalised throughout 2020. In the coming years, the Eurosites Management Planning Expert Group will be organising trainings on management planning in general and on specific components of a management plan.

The toolkit can be found [here](#).



“You are talking about site management and action on the ground. Both elements are absolutely central for Europe’s policy for biodiversity and getting nature back on track. A conference like this is a great occasion for sharing experience. For learning from each other and preparing for the challenges ahead.” – Virginijus Sinkevičius, European Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries

In 2020, the work of our [Working Groups](#) has continued, also with the alteration of switching to merely online meetings and workshops. 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 produced a [thematic newsletter](#) and gave a workshop during the Annual Meeting, as well as the Eurosite Management Planning Expert Group. The Wetlands and Climate Change Working Group created two new factsheets on natural climate buffers ([Regge River](#) and [the Onlanden](#)). The Remote Sensing Support Group organised a webinar series (see objective 1, priority activity 1).



Paul Leadbitter, PRMG Chair



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

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. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Fund was not used in 2020.

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. It is a 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 2020 the website displayed 84 products and 9 stories about partnerships, covering 13 EU member states.

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

CANDY

Homemade honey candy from National Park Barranco Río Dulce, Spain



Background

The Colmenar de Valderromero is a small family business, which has more than twenty years of experience in the production of honey. The Valderromero honey and recently also honey-related products are produced in the Barranco Río Dulce Natural Park. The clean air and fragrant flowers such as rosemary, thyme and lavender give the honey its special taste.

The Colmenar de Valderromero business processes the materials from the hives with the same craftsmanship and love as from the past, but now in modern facilities. The business is responsible for the entire process, from extraction of the honey to final packaging.

Product price

A bag of candies of 100 gr costs €1,10. For all candy or for ordering, go to [the webshop](#).

Website

www.valderromero.com

European projects

At its core, Eurosite facilitates the exchange of knowledge and experience on natural site management. In addition to the working groups and the Twinning Programme, we do so via participation in European projects. Below these projects are described in more detail. In 2020, Eurosite was involved in seven projects.

Farmer's Pride

Farmer's Pride, a project funded under Horizon 2020 and led by the University of Birmingham, is establishing the European Network for In Situ Conservation of Plant Genetic Resources. It will bring together stakeholders and sites across the region and coordinate actions to conserve diversity for crop enhancement and adaptation in the future. Following a first workshop in Helsingør, Denmark, in 2018, a second workshop was organised at Santorini, Greece, in 2019. Eurosite attended both events, in which the eventual goals of the network to be established were further explored. A final conference was planned in 2020, but has been postponed to July 2021. In June 2020, Eurosite hosted a webinar on Crop Wild Relative conservation. 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. At the Anniversary Annual Meeting in November 2019 in Italy, it was unanimously decided that Eurosite will become the secretariat for the newly established Network after the project has ended, and that the ELCN will fully merge into Eurosite. Therefore, Eurosite's full name was sinceforth Eurosite - the European Land Conservation Network. Throughout 2020, webinars were regularly organised together with the International Land Conservation Network (ILCN), as well as an ELCN webinar that presented the Resifarms toolkit for farmers and agricultural technicians. The final conference of the LIFE ELCN project was planned for April 2020, but has been postponed to December 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.



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

E-BIND (Evidence-Based Improvements in the Nature Directives)

The objective of the 'Evidence-Based Improvements in the Nature Directives' is to advise the European Commission, Member State authorities and other stakeholders on the better use of scientific knowledge and scientific networks in support of the implementation of the nature directives. This project shall mobilise the scientific community in support of better and more effective implementation of the EU nature legislation. The two key aspects of this are to make better use of scientific knowledge and scientific networks and to mobilise the scientific community; both in support of the outcome of the Fitness Check - which requires better and more effective implementation of the EU nature legislation. The lead partner is Wageningen Environmental Research.

LIFE Nardus and Limosa

The central objective of the project is the cross-border restoration of meadow-heathland systems that are rich in Nardus grasslands (6230*) with healthy meadow bird populations. The five project areas are the best areas in the Campine region where somewhat nutrient-rich heath systems occur, with a lot of grassland birds. The LIFE project Nardus & Limosa focuses on studying, testing and implementing a P-mining method that takes breeding birds into account. The focus of the project is the restoration of 255 ha of Nardus grasslands (6230*), which are rich in the typical meadow birds. At the same time, as a result of a diverse hydrology, geomorphology, and soil, inland dunes grasslands (2310 and 2330), wet heaths (4010), and to a more limited extent, dry heaths (4030) will be restored in close interdependence with the Nardus grasslands.

Care-Peat

The aim of the Interreg North-West Europe project is to develop new policies and methods for managing and monitoring carbon reduction from peatlands. The project involves partners from Ireland, the UK, Belgium, France and the Netherlands. Care-Peat funds local peatland restoration and monitoring as well as the development of innovative policies based on the data collected from restoration works. Eurosite's role is to involve nature organisations all over North-West Europe and the rest of the EU by organising activities to show and explain developed strategies and methods. Other project partners are Natuurpunt (lead partner, Belgium), Centre National de La Recherche Scientifique (France), Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières (France), Lancashire Wildlife Trust (UK), Manchester Metropolitan University (UK), National University of Ireland Galway (Ireland), Natuurmonumenten (Netherlands), Université d'Orléans (France). An open partner meeting was organised on 4 and 5 February in Deurne, the Netherlands.



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

Nature and Cities

Specific objectives of the project Nature and Cities (awarded under Europe Aid funding for Supporting Civil Society Dialogue Between the EU and Turkey) are to enhance dialogue, know-how transfer and cooperation between civil society organisations of both Turkey and The Netherlands on environmental and sustainable development within the scope of EU acquisition and policies on environment. Additionally, it is the aim to promote nature-based solutions and green infrastructure in cities as an effective tool for awareness raising on environment. This is also of importance to the potential EU membership of Turkey. The project is led by the Turkish Nature Conservation Centre (DKM). An online workshop was organised in 2020 focusing on Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure, of which [a recording](#) is available online, and in October 2020 the project organised a photo exhibition in Tilburg, the Netherlands. The exhibition provided a short journey through Turkey's unique nature. It consisted of 58 different photographs from 22 different photographers and offered visitors an insight into Turkey's natural values: forests, marine and coastal areas, mountains and caves, steppes, wetlands, plants, birds, mammals, butterflies, and nature in cities together with different ecosystems and important plant and animal species.



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

LIFE European Networks for Private Land Conservation

European Networks for Private Land Conservation (ENPLC) is a four-year project funded by the European Commission's environment and climate action funding instrument LIFE that started in 2020. The project intends to expand the use of private land conservation tools in the European Union, to improve the financial incentives and funding for private land conservation, to foster citizen engagement in private land conservation and to continue the existing networking among organisations and individuals engaged in private land conservation with the aim to establish a durable governance structures for private land conservation in Europe. The ENPLC project is a follow-up project of the LIFE ELCN project, and brings together 18 organizations from 11 European countries- Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Portugal, Romania, Spain and the Netherlands.



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. In 2020, the pandemic had its effect on ongoing Twinnings, since exchange visits were not possible. A new thematic twinning on conservation and recreation in a post-lockdown society was formed among six Eurosite members, with the goal to support site managers dealing with the new reality.



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

Trainings that were given this year comprise the workshops of the Eurosite Management Planning Expert Group and the Economics and Ecosystem Services Working Group, and the webinar series on remote sensing by the Remote Sensing Support Group. These 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. Among the most important topic in this field was the development of the 2030 Biodiversity Strategy, for which the network was updated and activated to provide feedback to the European Commission.



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 2020, Eurosite staff attended a number of mainly virtual key meetings and events on EU level in order to represent the networks' members and ensure that the members remain informed about the latest nature-related policy processes:

- January: Nature Now conference, Brussels;
- April: LIFE Info Day;
- May: biannual European Habitats Forum meeting with DG Environment, Brussels;
- September: 3rd Alpine Natura 2000 Biogeographical Seminar;
- October: biannual European Habitats Forum meetings with DG Environment;
- November: E-BIND final workshop.

Additionally, Eurosite became an official supporter of the Global Coalition for Biodiversity, an initiative by the Directorate General for the Environment in preparation of COP 15, and became a member of the Global Peatland Initiative under the auspice of the United Nations Environment Programme.

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

The Secretariat regularly provides members with relevant news and updates on EU policy development. While using the 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 2020 there have been multiple occasions where the Eurosite Board members or Secretariat Staff had meetings with the European Commission, as for example during the EHF meetings, but also during networking opportunities at attended events. Additionally, updates from the network were channeled to the European Commission in a special newsletter called the 'Eurosite Update' once per semester.

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 partners to develop funding and project opportunities

ELCN, Care-Peat, Farmer's Pride, Nature and Cities, E-BIND, Nardus & Limosa, ENPLC

In 2020, Eurosite was successfully involved in LIFE ELCN and Farmer's Pride. The European Private Land Conservation Network and the Farmer's Pride project were both supposed to last three years until the end of 2020, but are extended into 2021 due to the global pandemic. Care-Peat was initially supposed to last until 2022, but has been extended to 2023. The Nature and Cities is a shorter 1-year project that finished towards the end of 2020. The E-BIND service contract was also finalised in December 2020, whereas LIFE ENPLC Nardus and Limosa started in 2020. 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 2020, the friendship agreement with CEEweb for Biodiversity was renewed during the Eurosite Annual General Meeting on 30 October. 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 maintain 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 also renewed in 2020 at the MBP Annual Meeting. The Migratory Birds for People (MBP) programme is about 30 wetland visitor centres across Europe and West Africa, in a network that follows the migratory route of many migratory wetland birds species. These centres are working together to share best practice and develop new approaches to delivering wetland messages to their visitors.

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.



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

During 2020, Eurosite's membership grew in number of organisational members and individual members. We could however not invoice as much membership fee income as in earlier years, because of changes and a modification of the membership fee system that was done in 2019, resulting in lower annual membership fees for our largest members. This caused the membership income to decrease.

Eurosite was successful in securing (multi-annual) funding from different (mainly EU) funding streams. In 2020, we received funding from Horizon 2020, Interreg North-West Europe, LIFE (EU NGO Funding, LIFE Preparatory project), and Europe Aid funding for Supporting Civil Society Dialogue Between the EU and Turkey.

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

During 2020, Eurosite managed to implement and work on several activities which the Eurosite Board and members defined in our Strategy for 2015 — 2020.

The Specific Grant Agreement, Farmers Pride, LIFE-ELCN, Care-Peat, and LIFE ENPLC give a foundation for the organisation. To manage the membership risks, we focus on:

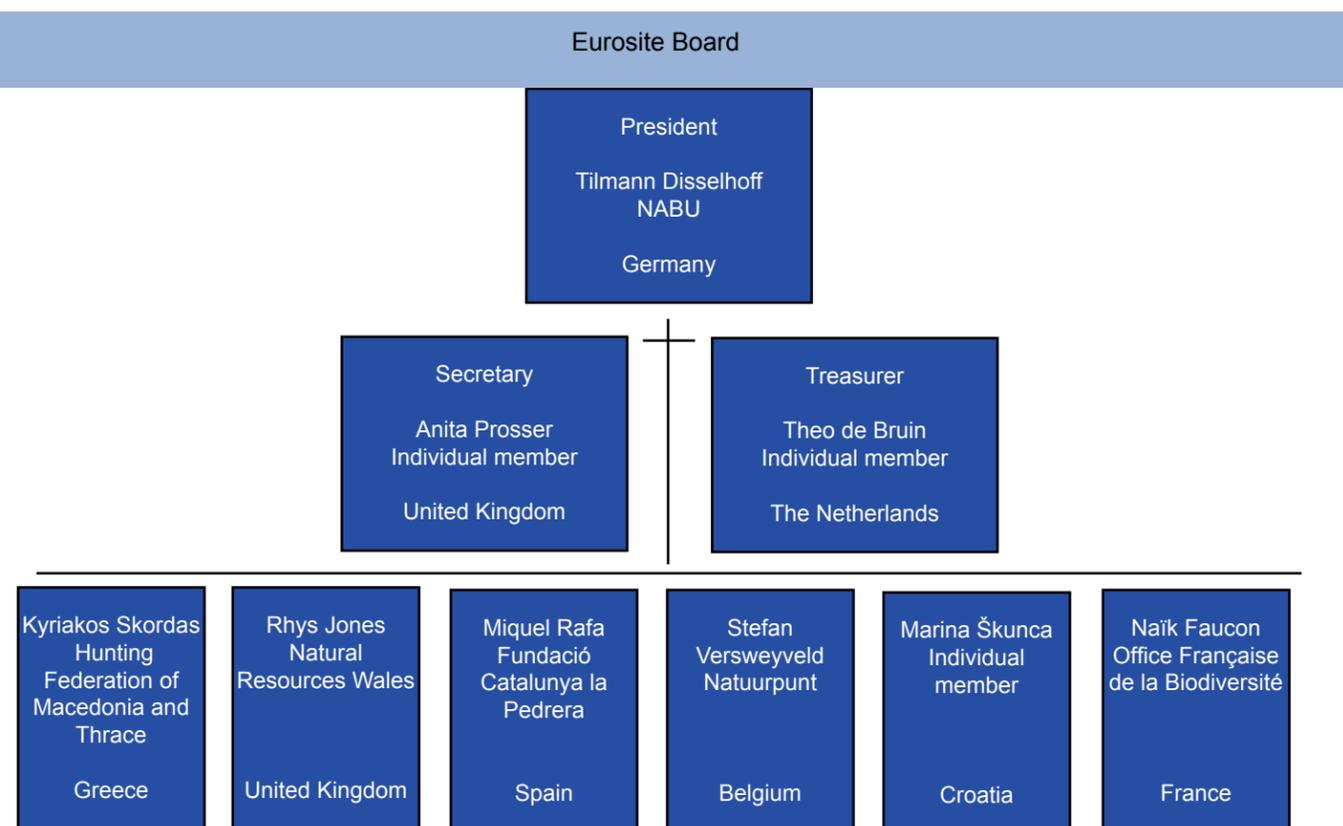
- Halting the decrease in membership fee income;
- Ensuring growth of the Eurosite network through improving the membership experience;
- Diversifying funds and applying for new project funds;
- Tight cost control and regular financial reporting.

Additionally, a Finance Task and Finish Group was established to further stabilise Eurosite's finances on the long-term.



“Natural Resources Wales is very proud to be a member of the Eurosite network, with opportunities to work with, learn from and help likeminded conservationists in Europe and beyond.” – Rhys Jones, Conservation Land Management Team Leader at Natural Resources Wales

4. The Eurosite Network - as of December 2020



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
Lefkios Sergides	Terra Cypria — the Cyprus Conservation Foundation	Cyprus
Stanislav Brezina	The Krkonoše Mountains National Park	Czech Republic
Christophe Lépine	Fédéraion Conservatoires d'espaces Naturels	France
Eva Katrana	Thermaikos Gulf Management Authority	Greece
Carlotta Maggio	WWF Oasi	Italy
Debbie Kamphuis	Staatsbosbeheer	Netherlands
Patrick Nuvelstijn	Natuurmonumenten	Netherlands
Kazimierz Rabski	Society for the Coast (EUCC Poland)	Poland
Ion Munteanu	Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority	Romania
Xavier Escuté	Foundation Catalunya-La Pedrera	Spain
Bohdan Prots	Danube-Carpathian Programme	Ukraine
Nick Edwards	Natural Resources Wales	United Kingdom

Eurosite Members

- Belgium**
- Instituut Natuur- en Bosonderzoek (INBO)
 - Natuurpunt
- Croatia**
- Geonatura Ltd.
 - Public Institution NATURA VIVA for the management of protected natural resources in the County of Karlovac
- Cyprus**
- Terra Cypria, the Cyprus Conservation Foundation
- Czech Republic**
- The Krkonoše Mountains National Park
- France**
- Office Française de la Biodiversité
 - Fédération Conservatoires d'Espaces Naturels
 - Parc Naturel Régional des Marais du Cotentin et du Bessin
 - Tour du Valat — Institute de recherche pour la conservation des zones humides méditerranéennes
- Germany**
- Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU)
- Greece**
- Thermaikos Gulf Protected Areas Management Authority
 - Hunting Federation of Macedonia & Thrace (KOMATH)
 - Lake Kerkini Management Authority
 - Management Body of Mt. Aenos National Park
 - 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
 - Dutch Montagu's Harrier Foundation
 - Nature.house
 - Natuurmonumenten
 - Provincie Drenthe
 - Provincie Noord-Holland
 - Staatsbosbeheer
- Poland**
- Kampinos National Park
 - Society for the Coast (EUCC—Poland)
- Romania**
- Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority (DDBRA)
- Spain**
- 3eData Ingeniería Ambiental
 - Fundació Catalunya la Pedrera
 - Ministry of Territory and Sustainability (Government of Catalonia)
 - Xarxa de Custòdia del Territori (XCT)
- Turkey**
- Doğa Koruma Merkezi Vakfı (DKM) - Nature Conservation Centre
- Ukraine**
- Danube-Carpathian Programme
- United Kingdom**
- Forestry and Land Scotland
 - Natural England
 - Natural Resources Wales
 - North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership
 - Ulster Wildlife Trust
- Individual members**
- Brady Mattsson, Austria
 - Omer Kovčić, Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Stefan Avramov, Bulgaria
 - Edin Lugić, Croatia
 - Marina Škunca, Croatia
 - Dunja Delić, Croatia
 - Artemis Yiordamli, Cyprus
 - Nicole Nowicki, France
 - André Große-Stoltenberg, Germany
 - Dimitris Poursanidis, Greece
 - Aysegul Cil, Netherlands
 - Ben Delbaere, Netherlands
 - Irene Bouwma, Netherlands
 - Roelof Heringa, Netherlands
 - Hans Hofland, Netherlands
 - Michiel Jorissen, Netherlands
 - Nel Sangers, Netherlands
 - Jan Veenstra, Netherlands
 - Henk Zingstra, Netherlands
 - Tijana Nikolic, Serbia
 - Juraj Svajda, Slovakia
 - Kazimierz Rabski, Poland
 - Jovita García Collado, Spain
 - Jude Nunga, Sweden
 - Anita Prosser, United Kingdom
 - Phil Eckersley, United Kingdom
 - David Parker, United Kingdom
 - Bernie Fleming, United Kingdom
 - Clive Hurford, United Kingdom

5. Report of the Treasurer 2020 ¹

The present financial statements are the first fruits of my work as Eurosite's new treasurer. Having taken office in the middle of 2020, during the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic, I can say that we have had an extraordinary year. Zoom and Teams meetings have become an everyday occurrence. Personal contact and connections became virtual but no less cordial and involved. As reflected in our financial performance.

First of all, the decision to bring membership fee levels closer together has been implemented and the Eurosite membership fees have been adjusted. The network remains vital, given the growing number of members. A warm welcome to all new members!

In recent years, staff salaries have not kept pace with developments within the collective labor agreement of the Dutch Government. This has been rectified.

Because connecting people and communication are key activities of Eurosite, various software packages have been purchased, business mobile phone subscriptions have been arranged for all employees and investments have been made in good computers. After all, this forms the basis for maintaining connections within Eurosite's network.

The new way of 'home-bound' working, and the expectation that this will continue, has made us decide to move into a flexible office for Eurosite; available when needed, a good postal address and lower costs.

In 2020, we increased the number of EU funded projects we participated in. Apart from benefitting from the EU NGO specific grant agreement, Eurosite received project funding from LIFE, Horizon 2020, Interreg NWE, etc. Many (ongoing) valuable projects which support our mission to develop a strong and effective community of European land conservation practitioners by helping them to network, connect and exchange experience on the protection, restoration and stewardship of diverse, healthy and resilient ecosystems and natural spaces, both terrestrial and marine, across Europe. One of our key roles has been to organise meetings and the exchange and dissemination of information, during 2020 mostly online. For Eurosite this is an attractive feature to continuously provide our networks with up-to-date and relevant information.

The first steps have been taken to apply for ANBI status for Eurosite. With this Dutch non-profit tax designation Eurosite can be eligible for donations and other non-business contributions. This will enable us to strengthen the financial basis of the association.

Theo de Bruin,
Eurosite Treasurer

Table 1: Balance as of 31 December 2020

	31-12-2020	31-12-2019		31-12-2020	31-12-2019
ASSETS			EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Fixed assets			Equity		
			Association capital	€7,270	€6,755
Tangible fixed assets					
Furniture and office equipment	€6,077	€4,617	Current liabilities		
			Trade creditors	€2,427	€11,004
			Taxes and social securities	€4,295	€4,080
			Accruals and deferred income	€117,281	€108,173
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables					
Trade receivables	€2,341	€2,238			
Taxes and social securities	€766	€848			
Prepayments and accrues income	€93,437	€33,235			
Cash at banks and in hand	€28,652	€89,074			
TOTAL ASSETS	€131,273	€130,012	TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	€131,273	€130,012

¹ The amounts in this Treasurer's report are derived from the report regarding Eurosite's financial statements of the year 2020, 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 2020 ²

	2020	2019
Sum of revenues		
Grants	€155,572	€121,058
Membership fees and registration fees	€82,147	€73,106
Co-financing from member organisations	€460	€12,310
Other	€16,729	€626
	€254,907	€207,100
Expenses		
Costs related to grants	€230,570	€181,663
Wages and salaries	€9,349	€9,498
Social security charges	€1,811	€2,669
Pension costs	€358	€572
Amortisation and depreciation	€844	€278
Other operating expenses	€11,346	€12,009
	€254,278	€206,689
Balance of revenues and expenses	€629	€411
Financial income and expenses	- €114	- €222
RESULT	€515	€189

Proposed resolutions 2020:

As Treasurer, I would like to ask the Eurosite members to consider the following resolutions for the financial year 2020 and to carry them unanimously during the Extraordinary General Meeting, on 8 July 2021, online:

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 2020, approves the report of the annual accounts of the financial year which states a result of 515 Euro. On 31 December 2020, Eurosite therefore has a reserve of 7,270 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.

² Expenses have been allocated to grants / projects according to the appropriate regulations. The other expenses categories (wages and salaries, social security charges, pension costs, amortisation and depreciation, and other operating expenses) represent the net general expenses after the allocation to grants / projects.

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<http://www.eurosite.org>

Please note that Eurosite staff is mainly working from their homes. You can therefore not visit us without an appointment.

Keep up to date about Eurosite:

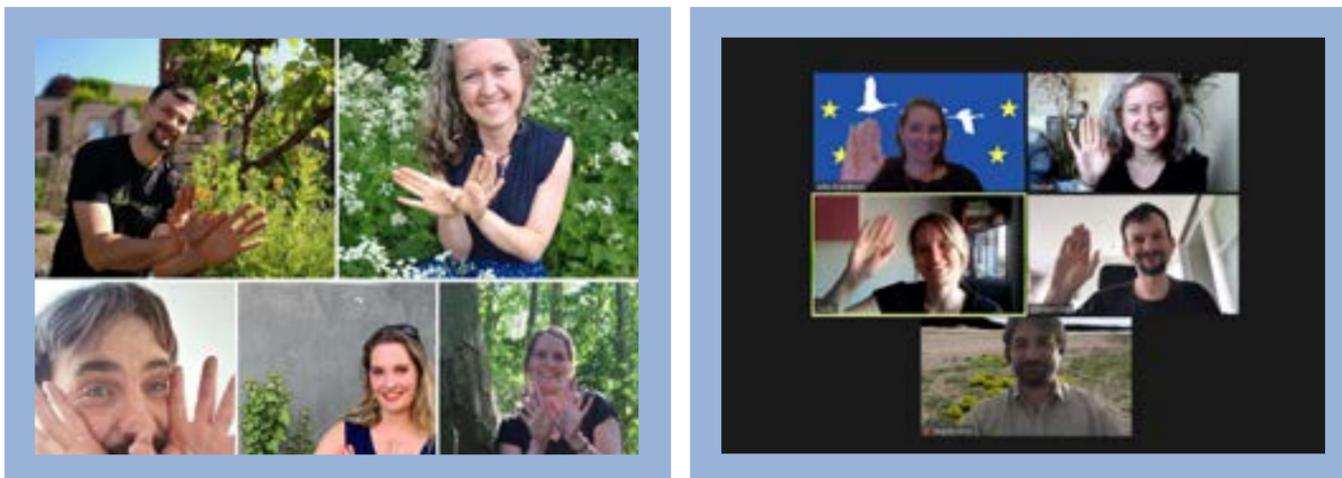
Register for Eurosite's eNewsletter at: <http://eepurl.com/U7SP1>

Come and join us at our network events: <http://www.eurosite.org/events>

Follow us on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/eurosite-org>

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eurosite.org>

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/eurosite>





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.

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.