

**EUROPARC Federation
Report to Council
16th June 2011**



Title:
Director's Report

Summary :
Update on activities of the Directorate, financial
update.

Recommendations :
❖ To note the report.

EUROPARC Federation

Summary Report June 2011 - Update

Please note: reports will be provided to the council at end of each quarter, when the financial information is received from the bookkeeper. I anticipate reports to be made available to council in mid- July, mid-October, mid-January and mid-April.

However the lack of current Treasurer input is having some impacts of the financial information provided.

Overview

The following summarises the activities undertaken since the last report in September 2010:

Financial update

Due to a shortfall in income a request in November 2010 was made and agreed by council for €50,000 to be moved from the savings account to the giro account in order that financial commitments could be met. The full amount has now been returned to the savings account. Cash flow remains stable for the time being, with 2 months operating cash in hand (assuming no additional income) and 146K in reserves .

Membership payments are good at 56% of potential income. The remaining 44% will be much harder to obtain! The principal gaps in payments are:

Italy – no payment received as yet

France – 12 out of 32 paid = €12.912 outstanding

Germany – 39 out of 52 paid = €12.270 outstanding

Netherlands – Dutch National Parks Foundation not paid yet (19 members) = €13.445

Spain – 8 out of 29 paid = €36.725 outstanding

UK – 22 out of 31 paid = €4.199 outstanding

Between them (F, D, NL, E, UK) they make up €79.551 of the outstanding €137.407,59. The rest is bits and bobs from varying countries.

EUROPARC/Eurosite Joint Committee

The committee met in April 2011 and agreed the draft paper, submitted to both councils for consideration.

Project development: Please see table provided.

- Youth in Action –An application for a Partnership Building activity “Action for youth in Parks” was successful and work will commence with Junior Ranger/Ranger Training seminar in October.

Workplan 2011 Summary

The summary table below shows activity begun in all areas of the workplan. The activities only show the operation of the directorate team and do not include the work undertaken by sections and working groups. It would be too onerous to gather this information at this stage.

Colour code:



Some progress, ongoing work



No/little activity or change in activity



Achieved

Table 1: Summary table of work undertaken against strategic headlines and objectives of the EUROPARC strategy.

	EUROPARC Strategy Objectives	Summary of progress to mid July 2010
Support the management of Europe's protected areas		
Indicate and share the benefits and values of Europe's protected areas		
1.	To communicate the importance of protected areas in the adaption to and mitigation of climate change and biodiversity loss, and facilitate the sharing of best practice and expertise the management of protected areas in climate change and biodiversity loss	<p>Lobbying</p> <p>Liaison with other NGOs (ELO-IFOAM-IUCN) . . EU consultation responses on DG enterprise on sustainable tourism, financing N2000, Future of Life programme.</p> <p>Collaborated with EHF no position paper to DG env on Financing N2000</p> <p>Produced article with birdlife on CAP in European Voice</p> <p>Meetings with commission and other bodies</p> <p>Meeting of NGO in relation to CAP reform, meeting with DG Environment re biogeographical seminars</p> <p>Communications , Enews , articles, publications</p> <p>2 e-news since last meeting with numerous articles</p> <p>Translated texts and email in French, Spanish and Italian texts, updating the distribution lists for mailings</p> <p>Project development</p> <p>Work with slow food: defined project concept on Agriculture and Biodiversity conservation within protected areas, liaise with other potential</p>

		<p>partners (IFOAM, ELO and some PAs); overview of potential funds sources</p> <p>International work</p> <p>Worked with Park form on latest draft of staff exchange scheme. Invitation from Redparques to WCPA world leadership forum in Columbia in Sept.</p>
2.	<p>To improve the management of biodiversity management in Europe's Natura 2000 and protected areas network, and enhance knowledge of EU policies among EUROPARC members</p>	<p>Joint work with Eurosite –</p> <p>Meeting of joint committee in Netherlands</p> <p>worked with Eurosite on production of joint paper</p> <p>Communications articles: Brussels news updates. News and information on Facebook pages</p> <p>Regular promotion of Natura 2000 and of EU policies in all EUROPARC publications, Brussels News updates and new Europe section in the E-News</p> <p>Charter</p> <p>17 Charter application are in for 2011</p> <p>Transboundary update</p> <p>Preparation of Transparcnet meeting for June 2011</p> <p>Green week</p> <p>attended green week and life conference.</p>

3.	To demonstrate the values and wider benefits of protected areas to their surrounding landscapes, regions and communities to increase knowledge and information about sustainable development.	<p>Parks and Benefits</p> <p>Monitoring report sent in to project managers</p> <p>Parks and &Benefits preparing best practices about Charter implementation and PPP (Public-Private-Partnership) in Protected areas.</p> <p>Exhibition “Living Parks” going Baltic; fostering experience exchange, Presentation about Charter Part I+II, Development of Charter Part II; promotion material: Flyer, film, brochure, calendar (2012)</p> <p>Sustainable Tourism Destinations</p> <p>Designing flowchart for the assessment of the TSG indicators and designing table for the assessment of the magic numbers all have gone out to project partners for feedback and collation of data</p> <p>Charter park verification report have been analysed and examples of best practice collated</p> <p>Steppa – meeting took place in Adamello Brenta, business and customer surveys ongoing and draft of accreditation manual in progress</p>
4.	Raise awareness of the role that Natura 2000 sites and Europe's protected areas play as providers of opportunities for the promotion of public health	No update from health working group

	and well-being	
5.	Illustrate the contribution of Europe's protected areas to the sustainable use of natural resources and their links to a range of other policy areas.	
Develop the European Protected Area network		
Capacity building, training and education of staff and stakeholders of Europe's protected areas		
6.	To build capacity in and provide training for managers of Europe's protected areas on relevant aspects of EU policy, and	Siggen series workshop will be held in July. Verifiers training on island of Vilm. In July Transparcnet and Charter networking meeting also in June!
7.	To explore opportunities for partnership working and strategic alliances across all aspects of the Federation's output	Development of project concepts alongside multiple partners.
Organisational Development and Capacity Building		
8.	To adopt and disseminate best practise in governance in the EUROPARC Federation	Making calls to collect information we are yet to receive. Regular calls to members realising excellent results in database being completed. Translating e-mails into Fr, Sp, It and also send the e-mails to the members.
9.	To rationalise processes, seek efficiencies and develop capacity in the resources and management of the EUROPARC Federation	Risk Management analysis undertaken for directorate , await input for internal Auditor Increase of internal efficiency of administrative processes and communication (general , project management) Work of joint committee to look a collaboration with Eurosite on going