

The background of the cover is a photograph of a mountain landscape. In the foreground, a river flows over a bed of grey rocks, creating white water rapids. The middle ground shows green forested slopes. In the background, steep, rocky mountains rise, some with patches of snow. The sky is a clear, deep blue. Overlaid on the image are several geometric shapes: a light blue trapezoid in the top left, a teal trapezoid in the center, and a white line forming a triangle on the left side.

2015

Annual Report

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The European Environmental Bureau is the environmental voice of European citizens, standing for environmental justice, sustainable development and participatory democracy. We seek to ensure a healthy environment and rich biodiversity throughout the European Union and beyond.

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European Commission: DG Environment and DG Research & Innovation • Austria: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austrian Environment Agency and Austrian Energy Agency • Belgium: Federal Public service: Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment • Denmark: Ministry of the Environment • Finland: Ministry of the Environment • France: Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy • Germany: Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety • Ireland: Environment, Community and Local Government • Luxembourg: Ministry for Sustainable Development and Infrastructure • Netherlands: Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment • Norway: Ministry of Climate & Environment • Sweden: Ministry of the Environment and Energy • Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) • United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) • Swedish Society for Nature Conservation • Energy Saving Trust • Punto Sud • European Environment and Health Initiative • The Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) • Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future – CIVICUS • European Climate Foundation • MAVA Foundation • Packard Foundation • Sigrid Rausing Trust • Rockefeller Brothers Fund • The VELUX Foundations • Climate Works Foundation • Grassroots Foundation • Evangelischen Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e.V. für die Welt – Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst

The start to 2015 was not exactly promising for the European environment.



Jeremy Wates
Secretary General

Jeremy Wates has served as Secretary General of the European Environmental Bureau, Europe's largest federation of environmental citizens' organisations, since May 2011.

The Juncker Commission had just come into office

with a deregulatory 'jobs and growth' agenda from which environmental priorities other than climate change were virtually absent, and lost no time in implementing it by withdrawing the circular economy package issued just months earlier and issuing a veiled threat to undermine the nature directives. Thus the EEB was pushed into defensive mode with a clear task of turning around an anti-environment agenda while at the same time trying to promote a positive narrative based on win-win sustainability scenarios.

For starters, this meant working with a wide range of stakeholders, including supportive governments and progressive business, to push the Commission to come forward with a genuinely more ambitious **circular economy** package to

replace the withdrawn one, as it had promised. The reissued package that eventually came out towards the end of 2015 was hardly more ambitious but would certainly have been far weaker had it not been for a concerted campaign where the EEB played a central role.

Clean air was another big theme of 2015, with negotiations on new EU legislation to limit some of the main air pollutants getting under way. The EEB combined its regular political advocacy work with communications and awareness-raising tools such as the Air-O-Meter which translated each policy position under discussion in the negotiations into the number of avoidable premature deaths due to the air pollution that this would result in.

One of the highlights of the year was the **Nature Alert!** campaign, undertaken jointly with other

...the EEB was pushed into defensive mode with a clear task of turning around an anti-environment agenda while at the same time trying to promote a positive narrative based on win-win sustainability scenarios.

European networks, which succeeded in mobilising more than half a million Europeans to sign up to a petition opposing any weakening of the nature directives, thereby setting a new record in public responses to Commission consultations.

The second half of the year saw two events of major global significance, namely the adoption of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, including the 17

Sustainable Development Goals, and the **Paris climate agreement**. These international instruments gave a welcome lift at the end of the year, helping to add a new narrative in the political discourse and provide a counter-balance to the better regulation agenda.



Jeremy Wates
Secretary General

Our Achievements

Climate & Energy



Pushing energy efficiency

It was great to see that thanks to strong lobbying by the EEB and other NGOs, the message of the Energy Efficiency First principle was picked up in 2015 by EU Vice President Maros Šefčovič and EU Climate Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete as part of their narrative for the Energy Union. Our efforts also contributed to the European Parliament confirming its support for a binding European 40% energy efficiency target for 2030 that would be implemented by means of individual national targets.

The jewel in the climate and energy crown this year was obviously the **Paris Climate Agreement** in December aimed at restricting a global rise in temperature well below 2°C this century and to boost efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The EEB welcomed the agreement and the commitment to move away from fossil fuels as an important step in protecting the global climate. However, we also warned that key elements were missing in the historic treaty, and called on the EU to step up its ambition.

Coolproducts

A major achievement for the Coolproducts campaign was the revision of the energy labelling policy despite strong lobbying by industry for the status quo. The proposal was tabled by the Commission in July 2015 as part of its summer package. This revision is much needed as consumers are regularly confused by multiple pluses beyond A class.

The **new energy label**, that will be the result of the revision, could bring an additional 17Mtoe savings by 2030, on top of the already achieved 160 Mtoe savings linked to existing measures on ecodesign and energy labelling by 2020. That is equivalent to more than 40% of the EU target for energy savings by 2020.

The Coolproducts campaign received explosive media coverage when linked with the ongoing Volkswagen scandal. Working with first class media contacts in several countries, the story set off a wave of TV, radio and print coverage in every European country. Samsung was in the doghouse and we even heard that the Korean foreign minister had made angry phone calls to Europe as a result! That episode and subsequent ones, have notched the campaign up a gear in terms of our reach and impact.

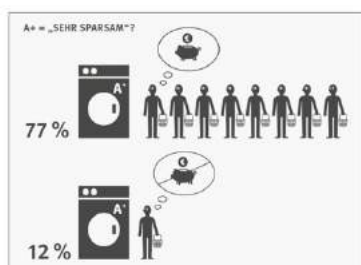


1,519

Mostly TV, radio, mainstream print and mainstream web hits by the Coolproducts campaign in 2015, smashing the previous year's coverage, which had already smashed the year before.

Consumer Survey: A+ = "very efficient"?

77 % thought that a product labelled A+ is "very efficient". 12 % knew that this was the least efficient product allowed to enter the market.

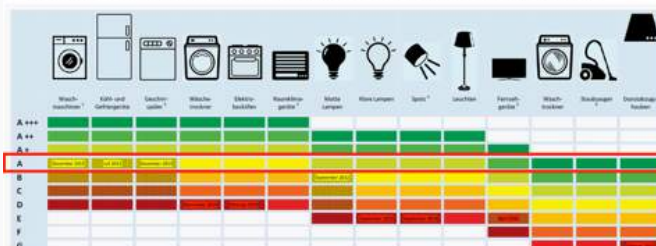


vzbv, representative survey by forsa, February 2015, n = 1000

verbraucherzentrale
Bundesverband

We need a simple label based on the well understood A to G for all products

While for one product group "A" is the most-efficient class (green), for others it's the least efficient class (yellow).



1. A+++ steht für 1 kg Brennstoffverbrauch
2. Bei einem bestimmten Brennstoffverbrauch, der hier bei 20 Liter pro Liter, ist es nach dem Brennstoffverbrauch
3. Die Effizienzklassen werden in einem bestimmten, festgelegten und bestimmten
4. Lampen mit geringem Stromverbrauch
5. Energie für die Effizienzklasse kann durch andere Faktoren
6. Bei einem bestimmten A+++ ist die Effizienzklasse für andere Faktoren und eine Leistungsangabe von mindestens 1.000 Watt
Abbildung: MarktChecker Juni 2015, Quelle: Deutsche Energie-Agentur, Stiftung Warentest, Grafik: MarktChecker für Energie- und Umweltforschung Hamburg

MarktChecker
www.markt-checker.de



A new EU priority

The proposal for a circular economy was one of the major environmental proposals developed and published by the Barroso Commission after four years of intensive preparations, consultations and studies. And it was one of the first pending proposals that the Juncker Commission sought to axe. The new Commission attempted to justify its decision by citing a previously little known principle of 'political discontinuity', following a call from Europe's largest industry lobby outfit, Business Europe, for the Circular Economy package to be taken off the table. The EEB played a central role in the ensuing outcry from civil society, more progressive industries, as well as from the European Parliament and Member States. Although this did not dissuade the Commission from moving ahead and withdrawing its pending proposal, which it formally did in early 2015, the pressure forced it to make a commitment to the European Parliament to retable a new 'more ambitious' package. Throughout the year, the EEB was closely involved in the process that led to the publication of a new package at the end of 2015. In the end we were not able to avoid a weakening of the ambition level in relation to recycling targets, but a worse outcome than that was avoided. And the European Parliament, which will be co-drafting the new legislation, is now strongly committed to restoring the ambition level to that of the original proposal.



Image from the Make Resources Count Campaign

Making resources count

The EEB and partners launched the **Make Resources Count Campaign** in May 2015. During the rest of the year, we continued to build up strong cooperation with service providers for reuse, repair and refurbishment, and held a conference in the European Parliament with around 80 participants and cross-party support from MEPs from the EPP, S&D and the Greens. We also set up a one-day exhibition in the Parliament that was attended by about 250 people, many of whom wanted to speak to iFixit, whose experts help people repair things, about mobile phone repair. Overall, our action helped to raise awareness of the issues of repair and re-manufacturing - mission achieved!



To help ensure that our vision of the **circular economy becomes reality**, in 2015 we worked with countries that are already advanced in terms of resource conservation and with those where there is real potential to make a significant difference. We therefore reinforced the EEB's involvement in Poland, working with 10 Polish NGOs on the issue of waste management. We also organised training that resulted in improved cooperation and gave local NGOs the capacity to boost their visibility at the national level and to reach out to media and the national government.

With these partners, we held a **conference** during the largest environmental fair in Poland on the subject of the circular economy. We **welcomed over 150 guests** to hear speakers that included government officials, international and national NGOs and foundations, Zero Waste municipalities, local activists, businesses and local authorities.



Since the **European Commission** launched its Circular Economy Package in December, we have been **looking ahead to how the EU can now work to reduce our consumption of natural resources** and keep the ones we have in the economy for as long as possible.

This doesn't just mean more recycling – it means **prioritising repair and re-manufacturing** of products. This is crucial for creating jobs, saving on costs for industry and cutting waste.



Ida Auken
Danish MP and
former Environment Minister

WATCH: MEPs explain why repair and remanufacturing are central to the circular economy — and what the EU can do to help.



Claude-Alain
Cormerais

WATCH: A case study in remanufacturing — how ANOVO, a company developing solutions to extend the lifecycle of high-tech products, are making brand new products from discarded ones.



Our Achievements

Nature & Agriculture



Showing nature matters

2015 was an eventful year for biodiversity policy at European level. One of the EEB's greatest achievements was its key role in the **largest campaign ever run** to defend Europe's nature legislation, the EU Nature Alert! campaign. The threat associated with the Commission's evaluation of EU nature legislation brought together a large coalition of environmental NGOs active in the field of nature conservation to prevent a weakening of the legislation. This led to an unprecedented level of awareness regarding the pivotal role of Europe's nature legislation – the Birds and Habitats Directives – in establishing a network of protected areas across the continent and protecting some of Europe's most vulnerable plant and animal species.

A great contribution the EEB made to the debate was its publication *Europe's Nature Laws Matter – For biodiversity, people and the economy*. This featured interviews with 17 representatives of 10 economically relevant sectors that work with the legislation on a daily basis such as farmers, drinking water and wind energy providers and electrical grid operators as well as local and nature conservation authorities. All were adamant that EU nature laws must be upheld due to the positive impact they have on their sector's activities. We also found a clear appetite for better implementation and enforcement of the rules. In the context of ongoing debates about the burden of regulation it was important to contribute to debunking the

myth about environmental legislation being a brake on economic activity.

Over 500,000 citizens, encouraged by the EEB and our partners, took the time to take part in the Commission's public consultation on the future of Europe's Nature legislation in the context of the NGO Nature Alert! campaign. This level of participation in a Commission public consultation is unprecedented, which was jointly run by the EEB, BirdLife, WWF, and Friends of the Earth.



Image from the Nature Alert! campaign



17 case studies were collected in our 'Europe's Nature Laws Matter' publication.



At the **Fitness Check conference** we made sure everyone arriving at the conference was given a furry welcome. We brought the voices of citizens who don't want EU nature laws revised to Brussels - and we made conference-goers smile on a chilly November morning.

Our Achievements

Nature & Agriculture



Encouraging sustainable farming

In March 2015, the EEB jointly with our Danish Member the EcoCouncil organised a successful conference on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and farming. This conference was entitled ‘A Sustainable Future for EU farming,’ EU Agriculture Commissioner Phil Hogan gave a keynote speech and several MEPs and other high level speakers participated. This was a great way to set the tone for the future of the policy and make the new Commission hear our positions and voices on the matter from the start.

This conference marked the beginning of a series of very successful events on the CAP that allowed the EEB to expose facts in Brussels and elsewhere, such as at the EXPO Milano, about the failure of EU policies to green agriculture.

In November 2015, two new EEB-commissioned studies were published. These highlighted the alarming state of nature on Europe’s arable farms and the likelihood that Member States’ lack of ambition when putting new CAP greening measures in place will only further exacerbate problems.

The first study, from the Institut für Agrarökologie und Biodiversität (IFAB), investigated the state of biodiversity on arable land in 10 countries across Europe. The second piece of research, from the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), analysed the flexibility afforded to Member States when putting greening measures in place to find out what impact this has had on their environmental ambition.

Our work in 2015 confirmed that the CAP is not working; €53 billion are paid out in EU farm subsidies every year, yet the state of the environment in farmed areas is alarming, and a plethora of other problems, including human health risks from poor food, polluted air and contact with pesticides, are not being tackled by the CAP. It is clear that the focus in 2016 should be on making sure that this inefficient spending of public money ends and that there is a proper reform post 2020.

Nearly 90% of countries looked at in an EEB study do not fully restrict pesticide use on farm nature protection areas.

95% of all investigated arable land has low levels of biodiversity.



Commissioner Hogan standing with us for sustainable farming in the EU at the beginning of his mandate. Will that translate into real political action when the CAP post-2020 is negotiated?

Our Achievements

Health & Industry



Challenging air quality

In 2015, the EEB launched the **#AQchallenge** which was a great way of raising awareness of air pollution among Members of the European Parliament (MEPs).

The challenge was launched by MEP **Seb Dance** in London. He challenged all 751 Members of the European Parliament to take the challenge in a video. MEPs were encouraged to measure air pollution with the help of a particle counter and then post a picture of themselves on social media, challenging two other MEPs to take the challenge before a major vote on air pollution (National Emissions Ceiling Directive) at the end of October.

In a just a couple of weeks, we managed to **mobilise over 30 MEPs** from across the EU and different political parties to take up the challenge and measure air quality. Here are just a few names of MEPs who took the challenge:

Kathleen van Brempt, Belgium, S&D
Karl-Heinz Florenz, Germany, EPP
Nils Torvalds, Finland, ALDE
Guillaume Balas, France, S&D
Reinhard Bütikofer, Germany, Greens
Miriam Dalli, Malta, S&D
Marijana Petir, Croatia, EPP
Timothy Kirkhope, UK, ECR
Glennis Willmott, UK, S&D
Franc Bogovic, Slovenia, EPP
Jeppe Kofod, Denmark, S&D
Ska Keller, Germany, Greens
Alessia Mosca, Italy, S&D

The **#AQ challenge** is a great example of a successful campaign making use of social media and bringing an environmental issue close to people by making it real, visible and personal.



Photos from the #AQchallenge campaign

Our Achievements

Health & Industry



Advocating safer chemicals

In 2015, the EEB focused on the restriction and phase out of the chemicals of most concern on the EU market and their substitution by safer solutions through the REACH authorisation and restriction processes.

The European Commission seemed to be intent on slowing down and reducing the scope and impact of the authorisation process by introducing new public consultations on the socioeconomic aspects of phasing out toxic chemicals even before substances of very high concern (SVHCs) have been identified. This prolonged the moratorium on including SVHCs in the Authorisation List, the “simplification and streamlining of the authorisation process” and the non-written agreement of granting by default all authorisation applications for the continued use of SVHCs by companies.

To counter this, the EEB sent comments, together with ClientEarth, to the public consultation on the “simplification and streamlining of the authorisation process”, and a letter to EU Commissioners Elzbieta Bienkowska and Karmenu Vella calling for a lifting of the moratorium. In response, the Commission confirmed its intention to resume its work in this area.

The EEB focused in particular on the authorisation applications of the phthalate DEHP in plastic PVC consumer items, lead chromates in paints and the Persistent Organic Pollutant (POP) HBCDD. We argued that these applications should not be granted authorisations since they are not properly

documented and safer alternatives are available. To achieve the rejection of such applications, the EEB drafted media briefings, launched scorecards, collaborated with the European Parliament to draft a letter to the Commission, and drafted template letters used by our national members in order to ask Member States to vote against these applications.

The EEB was also very active in supporting some Member State proposals to restrict DecaBDE, a very toxic flame retardant, bisphenol A, an endocrine disruptor and reprotoxicant and PFOA, a widely used PBT (persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemical).

Applications for the use of lead chromates in paints			
Uses applied for are specific and sufficiently documented.			Red
Information provided by the applicant conformed with the legal text requirements.		Yellow	
Information was accessible to the public.	Green		
Applicant demonstrated adequate control or that the proposed risk management measures were appropriate and effective.		Yellow	
Applicant demonstrated that there were no suitable alternatives.			Red
Applicant demonstrated that the socio-economic benefits of using the substance outweighed the risks.			Red
RAC's opinion	Green		
SEAC's opinion			Red

Example scorecard

Our Achievements

Health & Industry



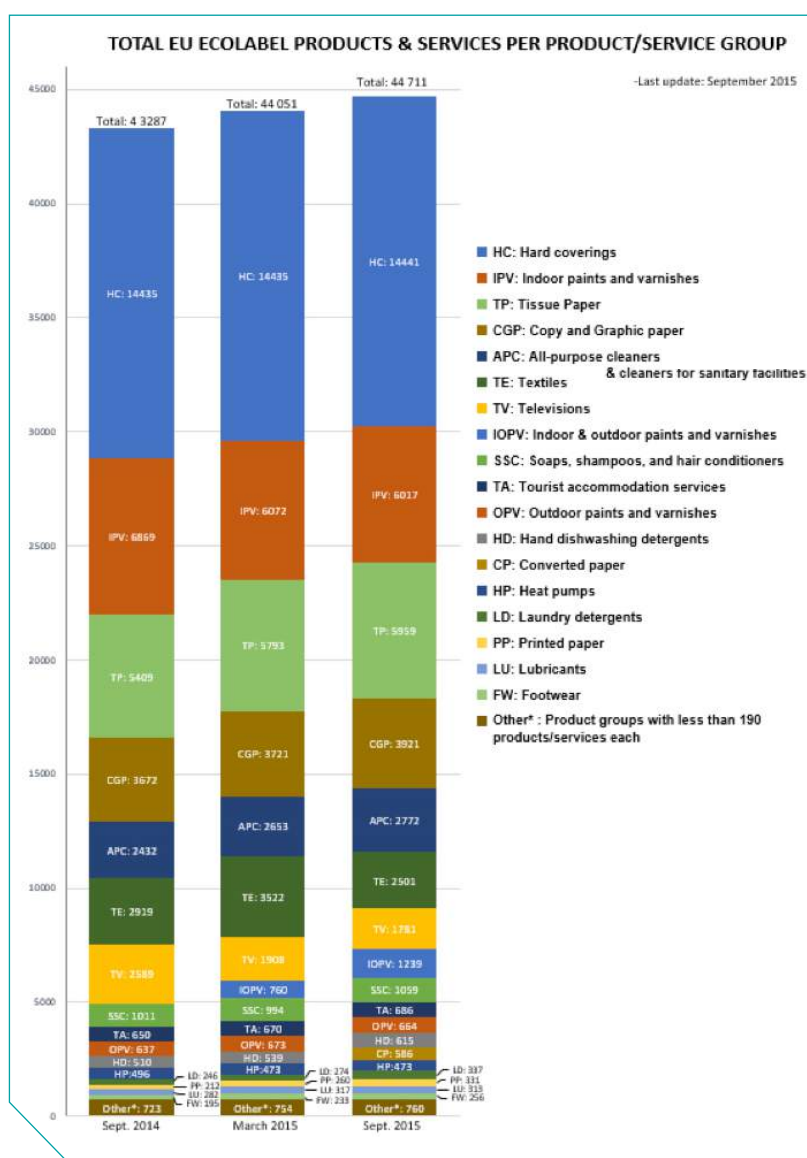
photo: bartb_pt

EU Ecolabel

In 2015, the EEB represented environmental NGOs in the revision and development of EU Ecolabels for a wide range of product groups. This included a **win against the peat industry**, which means that peat will be kept out of Ecolabelled composts for another four years, and the **exclusion of PVC** from EU Ecolabelled footwear and furniture! While the final vote by Member States on the latter didn't take place until January 2016, 2015 was when the hard work happened to ensure this victory.



By September 2015, the label was displayed on **44711 products and services**, including cleaning products, paints, textiles, shampoos and televisions.



Our Achievements

Health & Industry



Regulating mercury use

Over the past year, we have garnered yet more evidence of how the global mercury crisis is affecting the food we eat. This is why the EEB has continued to push the European Commission towards quicker ratification of the Minamata Convention on Mercury. Twenty-two countries have already ratified it and 50 are expected to do so by the end of 2016. This is a tremendous victory, representing the successful culmination of over a decade's worth of work by the EEB leading the global mercury coalition, the **Zero Mercury Working Group**. Ratification will result in the Convention entering into force and much-needed funds being given to developing countries and economies in transition to reduce their mercury footprint.

In the meantime, the EEB continues to support NGO involvement globally to assist governments with treaty preparations and ratification, and engage in interim mercury reduction initiatives. In particular, we are leading a three-year mercury reduction project in four African countries, supported by funds from the European Commission Development and Cooperation Directorate-General (EC/DEVCO) via the UN Food & Agriculture Organization

(FAO). The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the preparation for ratification and implementation of the Convention through the development of national action plans for reducing mercury in Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) and developing strategies to phase out mercury in products. The results achieved in 2015 were encouraging with strong contacts established with the relevant government authorities and stakeholders and increased awareness concerning treaty ratification and implementation.

At the EU level, progress in protecting citizens from mercury exposure continued with a revision of the Batteries Directive, various studies on the phasing out of dental amalgam and the adoption of best available technique (BAT) conclusions for the chlor-alkali industry that will result in thousands of tons of mercury being removed from highly polluting practices.



Working together for Zero Mercury.

Our Achievements

Health & Industry



Reducing industrial emissions

The EEB's involvement in the BREF reviews (environmental performance benchmarks under the Industrial Emissions Directive) increased in 2015 as we pushed hard for strong **Best Available Technique** (BAT) conclusions in various key sectors (large combustion plants, waste management, chemicals industry). A highlight of the year was the **Smoke and Mirrors report** published by the EEB and Greenpeace International, exposing industry infiltration in the Sevilla process. A second report also included an updated health impact assessment and questioned the ambition levels of the proposed environmental benchmarks in the draft version of the BREF for Large Combustion Plants (LCPs). We also published our death ticker to show additional deaths because of delays in the adoption of these new benchmarks.

In other work, the EEB continued to provide ad-hoc support to other projects related to the stop coal campaign and LCP work under the Industrial Emissions Directive with a focus on challenging the Transitional National Plans (delaying tighter emission limits by another five years) as this will have a big impact on old coal power plants. The EEB is also focusing more on the implementation of the Directive in the sectors of coal combustion, iron and steel, and chlor-alkali.

COSTS OF INACTION ON COAL POLLUTION

Premature deaths

41,411 cases

Asthma attacks

6,461,540 cases

Health-related costs

40,684,308,023 euros

[Learn more](#)

'Death ticker' on the EEB's homepage

Our Achievements

Global Policies & Sustainability



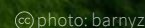
Leading sustainable development

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development “Transforming our World” was a milestone for global and national policy making. The EEB was heavily involved in the last two years of negotiations with our Director of Global Policies and Sustainability Leida Rijnhout acting as Organising Partner for the Major Groups of NGOs. Working together with colleagues in New York from CIVICUS, the World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Leida helped to bring together the global NGO community before and during the Rio+20 Summit, culminating in the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. The significant role played in them by civil society is clearly detectable in the language of the **17 SDGs and their 169 targets**, which are focused on transforming the economy, human rights, equality, justice and the rule of law. The environmental agenda is also well represented.



Source: UNEP draft report “healthy environment – healthy people”

Global Policies & Sustainability



In 2015, the 28 co-applicants of the Supply Cha!nge project, including the EEB, came together to raise awareness about sustainable production and consumption patterns. This included organising a photo contest in which consumers shared their vision of a better world and a more sustainable retail industry. **More than 600 participants** from all European countries entered the contest, with some pictures elected to be part of the European Food Vision Photo Exhibition that has been touring through various locations in Europe.

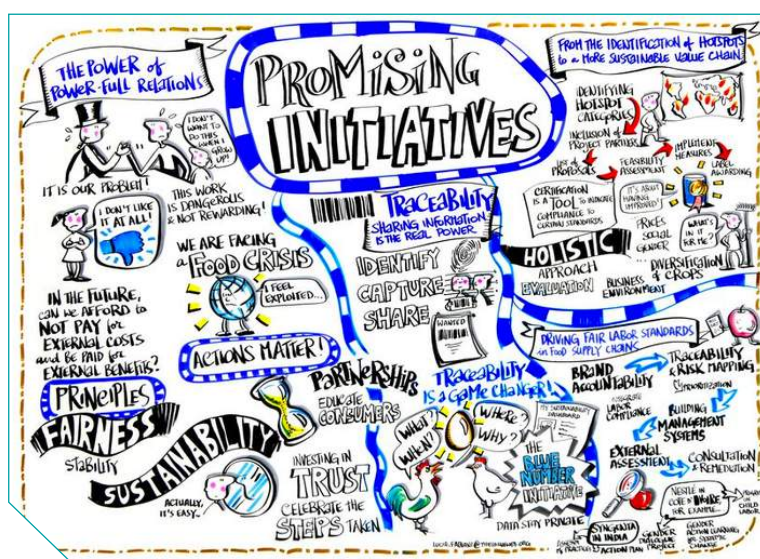
In October, we organised a Business Forum in the Milan Expo to initiate a dialogue with retailer, supplier, policy maker, civil society and consumer representatives aimed at promoting strategies for more sustainable supply chains.

In November, the Supply Cha!nge campaign culminated in a European Day of Action with **activities across the EU.**

We also **started a petition** to demand fairer and more sustainable supply chains for orange juice production.



Photo part of the European Food Vision Photo Exhibition



Documentation of the Business Forum in the Milan Expo

Our Achievements

Global Policies & Sustainability



Fighting for justice

In 2015 we held two days of events to showcase the EJOLT project that maps environmental justice, organising five events for hundreds of people from all over the world: a conference for policy-makers, a course for environmentalists, a film followed by a debate, a future looking workshop and a project meeting. The **report of the well-attended conference is here**.



Photos from EJOLT events

In 2015 over a
quarter of a million
people found their way to
the EJOLT website.



Our Achievements

Global Policies & Sustainability



© photo: barnyz

Improving environmental governance

The EEB continued to play a strong role in environmental governance in 2015, coordinating NGO input into the 19th meeting of the Aarhus Convention Working Group of the Parties in Geneva in June, and organising a meeting between NGOs and EU Member States and a short NGO strategy meeting to plan future cooperation. The EEB Secretary General represented the environmental NGO community at meetings of the Aarhus Convention Bureau in February and June.

The EEB has also actively supported the development of a regional instrument equivalent to the Aarhus Convention for the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region.

The EEB has likewise continued to work hard this year in conjunction with other NGOs on ensuring the correct use of the Aarhus Convention in the EU and to incite the Commission to finally come out with an Access to Justice Directive.



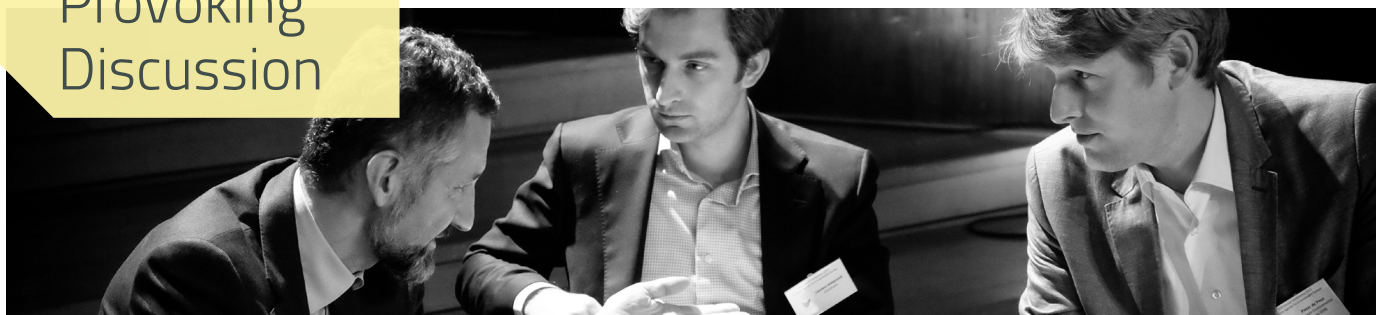
© photo: United Nations Photo



Latin American and Caribbean region.

Our Achievements

Provoking Discussion



2015 Annual Conference

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker came to power promising to be “big on big things and small on small things”, yet aside from climate change the environment is almost totally absent from his agenda. The 2015 Annual Conference ‘A reform agenda for a sustainable Europe’, which took place in October, focused attention on the real priorities for Europe and how regulation, sustainability and the rule of law are essential to creating a Europe that is fit to face the environmental and social challenges of today and tomorrow.

Speakers included European Environment Commissioner Karmenu Vella and the new Director General of DG Environment Daniel Calleja Crespo. The panel debates were moderated by leading commentator and analyst on European Union affairs Jackie Davis.

The Annual Conference was followed by the EEB’s Annual General Meeting that introduced EEB members to the [sustainable venue](#) La Tricoterie.

The menu during the Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting was 100% vegetarian and vegan and the leftovers from the Annual Conference were donated to a social charity.

More than 200 participants joined the EEB for heated debates in a fully packed auditorium at the Flagey cultural centre in Brussels.



Photos from the EEB's 2015 annual conference



EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU
2015 Annual Conference

Our Members

 See a list of Our Members online

The EEB is pleased

that by the end of 2015 it represented more than 150 member organisations. We are particularly happy to announce that one of our new members is from Bulgaria, a country that had not been represented at the EEB for several years, and that the Bulgarian NGO “Europe and We” is also sitting on our Board.

Since many of our members are now European networks, the AGM agreed in 2015 to change the statutes to allow them to be represented on the Board. At the 2015 AGM representatives from the Fédération Spéléologique Européenne (FSE), Justice & Environment (J&E), Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF) and Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) were present. This decision is yet another sign of the depth and richness of the EEB’s membership.



Our Staff

Staff numbers have

continued to grow over the past year, with the policy post covering biodiversity, soil and water being split into two posts and three new posts being established: a Finance Officer, a Technical Officer on Industrial Production and a Communications Officer for Nature and Agriculture.

A new post of Development Officer was created early in the year to further the organisational development of the EEB by stepping up resource mobilisation, strengthening membership engagement, developing new information and communication

tools and streamlining events management. Another change was the departure of our Communications Officer and her replacement by a Senior Communications Officer with a mandate to coordinate the various staff working on communications.

The EEB office continues to be a happy place to work, with monthly staff meetings and an annual retreat providing structured opportunities for communicating about issues and building team spirit, on top of the more informal socialising that takes place.



Secretary General's Unit

Secretary General | Jeremy Wates

Deputy Secretary General | Joanna Sullivan (to January)

Coordinator Aarhus & Enlargement | Mara Silina (Retired end of April)

Development Officer | Emma Ernsth (from April)

Personal Assistant | Ritalee Birabwa (50 %)

Legal Adviser | Barbara Goby, Umweltdachverband, Austria (January to March, seconded)

EU Policy Unit

EU Policy Director | Pieter de Pous

Products & Waste Policy Manager | Stephane Arditi

Policy Manager - Industrial Production | Christian Schaible

Technical Officer, Industrial Production | Alik Krikouki (from March)

Senior Policy Officer, Chemicals & Nanotechnology | Tatiana Santos

Senior Policy Officer, Biodiversity, Water & Soil | Leonardo Mazza

Senior Policy Officer, Air & Noise | Louise Duprez

Senior Policy Officer, Agriculture & Bioenergy | Faustine Defossez

Policy Officer, Water | Balázs Horvath (from August)

EU Ecolabel Coordinator | Blanca Morales (40%)
On maternity leave | Blandine Cupidon (50%)
replacing Blanca Morales

Policy Officer, EU Bioenergy | Sini Eräjää

Policy Officer, Climate, Energy & Fiscal Reform | Roland Joebstl (from January)

Project Coordinator, Zero Mercury Campaign | Elena Lymberidi

Project Support Officer, Zero Mercury Campaign | Margherita Tolotto (50% from January to October)

Policy Officer, Air & Waste | Piotr Barczak

Policy Officer, Resource Use & Product Policy | Carsten Wachholz

Global Policies and Sustainability Unit

GPS Director | Leida Rijnhout

Project Officer | Nick Meynen

Project Support Officer | Sonia Goicoechea

Policy Officer, Aarhus & Neighbouring Countries | Richard Filcak (from August)

Project Officer | Eva Izquierdo (from December)

Membership and Enforcement

Head of Membership & Enforcement | Regina Schneider

Communication Unit

Director of Communications | Joanna Sullivan - also Deputy Secretary General (to January 2015)

Communications Officer | Alison Abrahams (to March)

Senior Communications Officer | Philippa Nuttall Jones (from May)

Communications Officer, Coolproducts Campaign | Jack Hunter

Communications Officer, Air & Resource Efficiency | Sébastien Pant (to December)

Communications Officer, Nature & Agriculture | Emily Macintosh (from May)

Administration Unit

Finance & Personnel Manager | Isabel de Jesus Fonseca

Finance Assistant | Margherita Tolotto (50% from January to July)

Secretary | Aleksandra Kolodziejska

Secretary & Events Coordinator | Nicole Mindlin (50% retired in June)

Secretary & Events Coordinator | Abraham Lombrana (50% until July and then full time)

Accounting Assistant | Julie Verdier (50 %)

Finance Officer | Cristina Constandache (from September)

Administrative Assistant | Ritalee Birabwa (50 %)

Interns

Enforcement | Sebastian Bechtel (from February to June)

Communications | Wietse Frickel (from September to December)

Policy Assistant, Agriculture & Air | Charlotte Lepitre (from January to September)

Energy & Climate | Lucia Billeter (from May to September)

Global Policy Unit | Martin Söderberg (from January to February)

Global Policy Unit | Eva Izquierdo (from May to November)

Agriculture & Bioenergy | Claire Cance (from March to July)

Agriculture & Bioenergy | Jessica Greenstein (from October to December)

Waste | Nùria Cases (from January to February)

Waste | Dimitra Papoutsoglou (from September to November)

Our Governance

The Board of the EEB is the highest-level decision-making body of the EEB between meetings of the General Assembly.

In 2015 the Board held meetings on 16-17 February 2015 (Brussels), 28-29 May 2015 (Riga) and on 18 October 2015 in Brussels, two days before the AGM, to inter alia decide on final proposals to the AGM.

The Board represents the member organisations and oversees the work of the Secretary General. Following the elections at the AGM in late 2014, the EEB Board had the following composition through to December 2015:

Board

Mikael Karlsson President | Sweden

Bernhard Zlanabitzig Vice-President | Austria

Lieze Cloots Vice-President | Belgium
Replaced as Board member in March by **Mathias Bienstman** (however not as Vice-President)

Jouni Nissinen Vice-President | Finland

Bjela Vossen Vice-President | Germany

Inga Račinska Vice-President | Latvia

Axel Jansen Treasurer | Belgium

Enes Cerimagić | Croatia

Lefkios Serghides | Cyprus

Jiří Dlouhý | Czech Republic

Jens la Cour | Denmark

Juhan Telgmaa | Estonia

Céline Mesquida | France

Gerassimos Arapis | Greece

Gabor Bendik | Hungary

Attracta Ui Bhroin | Ireland

Mauro Albrizio | Italy

Rita Raum-Degrève | Luxembourg

Patrick Nuvelstijn | Netherlands

Krzysztof Kamieniecki | Poland

Replaced in October by

Wojciech Szymalski

Ana Marta Paz | Portugal

Christian Theodorescu | Romania

Pavel Suska | Slovakia

Anamarija Slabe | Slovenia

Ana Barreira | Spain

Johanna Sandahl | Sweden

Duygu Kutluay | Turkey

Stephen Hinchley | UK



Riga, Latvia



Brussels, Belgium

Our Operations

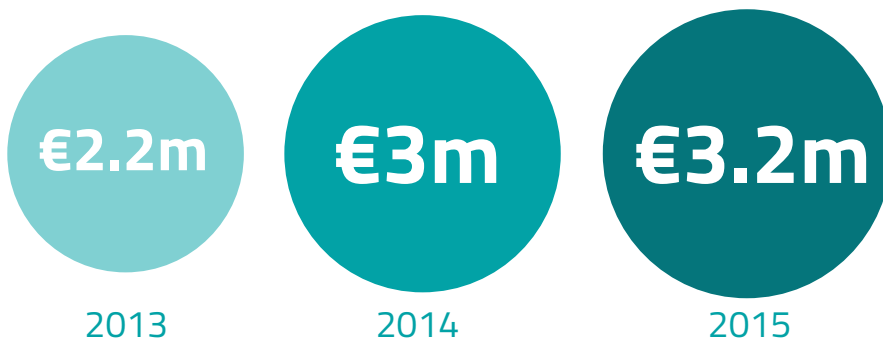
The EEB impact in relation to its budget and its staff of around 30 in 2015 is impressive by any standards.

The high staff morale not only makes the EEB a pleasant and interesting place to work but also improves efficiency and effectiveness. This together with new professional growth opportunities has undoubtedly contributed to a reduced staff turnover.

The EEB subscribes to the International NGO Accountability Charter, which supports members in meeting global best practice for accountability, transparency and organisational development.

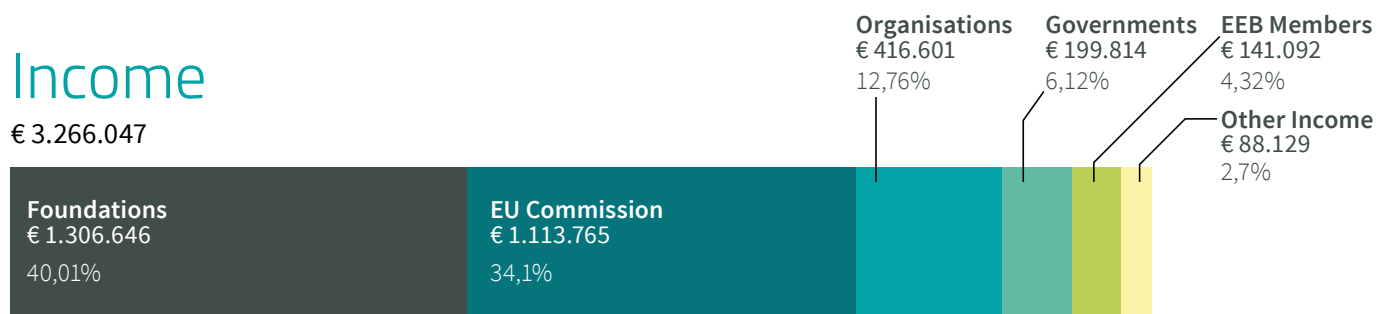
Annual Accounts

Successful fundraising enabled a significant increase in the EEB's financial turnover, with revenue increasing from around €3m in 2014 to over €3.2m in 2015.



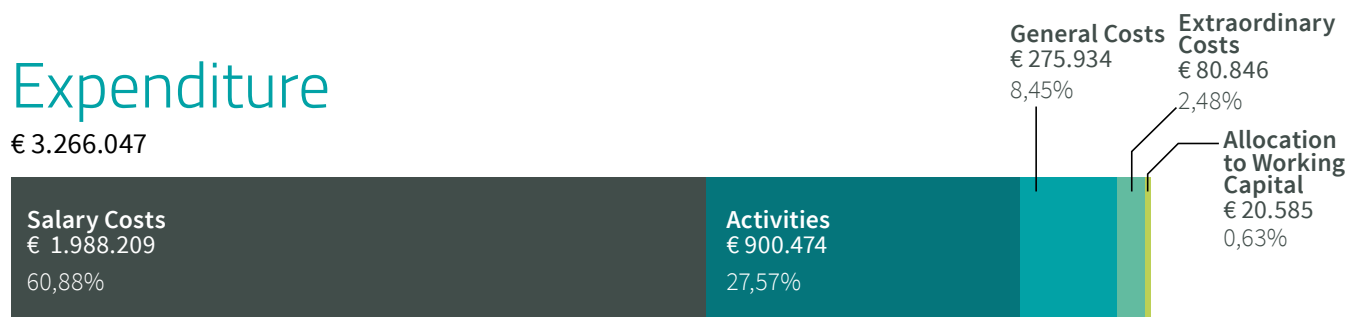
Income

€ 3.266.047



Expenditure

€ 3.266.047





EUROPEAN
ENVIRONMENTAL
BUREAU