

# SER-EUROPE ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

Type of organization:	Non Governmental Organisation, NGO
Organisation name:	European Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) International IVZW/aisbl, SER-Europe
Country	Belgium
Address:	Havenlaan 88, Box 73 - 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Organisation Number:	BE0849.548.764
Organisation size ( <a href="#">see our organogram</a> ):	<b>Board of Directors:</b> 14 members from 6 Affiliate Organisations from 12 European Countries (9 EU Member States) <b>Executive Positions:</b> Chief Operating Officer, Finance and Admin Manager, 2 Project Officers (Marine Restoration, Education and Training), Communications Consultant <b>Supporting a Network:</b> 500+ members across Europe
Contact person:	Mr Boris Barov, Chief Operating Officer (COO)
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## MISSION

To foster the exchange of knowledge and expertise among ecological restoration practitioners and scientists from diverse disciplines and backgrounds, and to communicate leading-edge tools, technologies, science, and development opportunities.

We actively promote standard-based restoration, international best practices and effective restoration policy, and work to ensure that ecological restoration is recognized and utilized as a fundamental component of global conservation, biodiversity, and sustainable development programs, enabling restoration projects to provide people with opportunities to repair ecological damage and improve human wellbeing.

## VISION

Ecological restoration becomes a fundamental component of European and global conservation and sustainable development programmes, by virtue of its inherent capacity to provide the opportunity to repair ecological damage and improve the human condition.

## ORGANISATION PROFILE

SER-Europe is the European Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER), the only global non-profit organisation dedicated to advancing ecological restoration to sustain biodiversity, repair degraded ecosystems, and strengthen human-nature relationships. We occupy a unique position at the interface of science, policy, and practice, in Europe, bridging EU and national policy frameworks with on-the-ground restoration expertise.

This dual influence enables us to:

- Translate European restoration policies (e.g., the EU Nature Restoration Regulation, Biodiversity Strategy, Water Framework Directive) into actionable guidance for practitioners.
- Facilitate collaboration between researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and communities, ensuring restoration initiatives are science-driven, policy-aligned, and replicable.
- Support projects to meet regulatory requirements, deliver measurable ecological impact, and scale up best practices across Europe.

### For more information contact:

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## COMPETENCIES & TEAM EXPERTISE

SER-Europe provides a comprehensive and tailorable package of expertise, combining strategic, technical, and operational support to ensure restoration projects are policy-aligned, scientifically robust, standards-based, and effectively implemented. We collaborate with leading research and practice organisations across Europe, mobilising a broad network of expertise to support projects from design through to implementation and evaluation.

### Technical Leadership & Standards:

Supporting training for and implementing ecological restoration principles and standards across terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems projects.

### Policy Integration:

Translating EU Biodiversity policy and Nature Restoration Regulation into practical, project-ready guidance; supporting policy design, implementation, and evaluation at local and national scales.

### Governance & Stakeholder

**Engagement:** Facilitating multi-level governance, citizen participation, and stakeholder collaboration, including environmental education and outreach.

### Applied Restoration Expertise:

Improving restoration expertise and knowledge by sharing lessons learned from existing projects and initiatives.

### Expert Advisory & Consultancy:

Appointing qualified experts to support project assessment, technical consultancy, and strategic guidance.

### Monitoring & Evaluation:

Advancing and applying methods for assessment, adaptive management, and impact evaluation of projects.

### Networking & Knowledge Exchange:

Connecting projects with Europe-wide networks of practitioners, research centres, NGOs, and policymakers, enabling knowledge transfer and scaling of best practices.

### Communication & Dissemination:

Delivering targeted communication, engagement, and dissemination through publications, media, and events including the biennial European Conference on Ecological Restoration.

### Capacity Building & Training:

Organising workshops, training programmes, and professional development activities to strengthen restoration expertise and support the upskilling of the European workforce.

## WORKING GROUPS

SER-Europe's strength lies in its ability to leverage targeted expertise through dedicated working groups, which directly support projects and policy processes. Learn more here: [ser-europe.org/working-groups](https://ser-europe.org/working-groups)



**Marine Restoration Working Group (MRWG):** A Europe-wide network of marine experts advancing restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems, developing methods, standards, and toolkits for marine restoration, while ensuring strong links between marine science, policy, and implementation.



**Legal Working Group (LWG):** A highly qualified group of environmental lawyers providing legal expertise on EU and national restoration frameworks, supporting the interpretation and delivery of the Nature Restoration Regulation and related legislation, and contributing to policy consultations to ensure projects are compliant and future-proof.








**Education & Training Working Group (ETWG):** A dedicated team supporting skills development for restoration practitioners and institutions, facilitating knowledge exchange and professional networks across Europe, and ensuring that restoration projects are supported by qualified and well-trained practitioners.

## SELECTION OF RELEVANT PROJECTS

Ongoing contributions to:

- SER Restoration Resource Centre (with SER Global): a global platform linking restoration projects, experts, and knowledge.
- International Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration (with SER Global): ongoing development, revision and application of global restoration standards.

SER-Europe's combination of policy influence, practitioner networks, and technical expertise is demonstrated in past and active projects (see below). Learn more here: [ser-europe.org/active-projects](https://ser-europe.org/active-projects)

 <p><b>REBORN</b> (2026-2029, Interreg NWE) Advancing seagrass restoration through capacity building in North-West Europe</p>	 <p><b>LIFE WoodMeadow</b> (2021-2027, LIFE) Restoration and capacity building in Boreal wood meadows; dissemination and transferability</p>	 <p><b>LIFE BiodiverCité</b> (2023-2028, LIFE) Restoring nature in urban settings within Bordeaux Métropole</p>
 <p><b>TEAM#UP</b> (2023-2027, Erasmus+) Training and vocational curriculum development for restoration practitioners (linked to ETWG)</p>	 <p><b>REDRESS</b> (2024-2028, Horizon Europe) Marine restoration methodologies, toolkits, and stakeholder engagement (linked to MRWG)</p>	 <p><b>ALFAWetlands</b> (2022-2026, Horizon Europe) A EU wide wet- and peatland restoration, climate mitigation and adaptation</p>

Recently completed projects (see below). Learn more here: [ser-europe.org/completed-projects](https://ser-europe.org/completed-projects)

 <p><b>CLIMAREST</b> (2023-2025) Coastal resilience and marine restoration strategies; toolkits for replication and policy alignment</p>	 <p><b>MEDITERRANEAN FOREST RESTORATION CERTIFICATION PILOT</b> (2021-2023) Development of a framework for restoration project certification</p>	 <p><b>TRAIN#ER</b> (2023) Innovating towards a shared model for vocational training in Ecological Restoration</p>	 <p><b>Eklipse H2020 Project</b> (2020) Expert Working Group on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration</p>
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