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European Centre for River Restoration - Board Director Profile

This is an exciting opportunity to join the ECRR Board of Directors and to help set the direction and secure the future of river restoration, at this critical time of policy change towards Nature Based Solutions thinking and working with natural processes in Natural Flood Management. This is your opportunity to contribute to a world renowned network organisation guiding and informing the community of river restoration practitioners across Europe.

The ECRR Association

The ECRR is an Association, with legal status under Dutch Law. The Association's registered office is in the municipality of Wageningen, the Netherlands.

Purpose

The purpose of the Association is: to encourage and support ecological river restoration throughout greater Europe.

"The network for best practice river restoration in greater Europe."

The Association shall endeavor to achieve this purpose by:

- Connecting people and organisations working on river restoration and management.
- Supporting the development of best practices of river restoration and management.
- Exchanging information about river restoration.

Reputation

The ECRR is considered internationally to be the key network to promote and build capacity for river restoration across Europe.

The ECRR is the authoritative voice on river restoration in Europe, and is respected by the EU, governments, and the wider river restoration community in greater Europe, backed by its formal national network of members.

The ECRR maintains this position by making the most out of the active involvement of its partners, members and contacts.

The ECRR is an independent association, free to voice opinions, irrespective of the interests of partners and supporters.

Management of the ECRR and implementation of its activities, is undertaken by the Board, supported by a Coordinator (volunteer), reporting to the ECRR Board, staff of ECRR Members and volunteers. The ECRR has no formal office and is therefore a network of individuals.

The ECRR manages its own financial affairs, overseen by an ECRR director with responsibility for finance. ECRR undertakes all filing associated with the statutory requirements of a registered NL Association.

The Board

The ECRR is governed by a Board of Directors, who meet regularly using teleconferencing and at least once a year face to face, with an executive formed of the Secretary, Chairman and Vice Chair. Directors are appointed from the academic, business, charity and user communities. The ECRR Board is responsible for the actions of the ECRR and for determining ambition, resources and spend.

The Board of Directors reports to, and needs approval from, the ECRR General Members Meeting on corporate strategy, key strategic objectives, targets and major decisions involving the use of the organisations' resources.

Director Profile

You will be an experienced leader, providing intellectual, business vision and insight in your area of expertise. You set strategic direction by understanding the high level picture and its national/international setting.

Essential Skills & Experience:

- Commitment to ECRRs mission and willingness to act corporately;
- Knowledge of, and strong personal interest in, areas of ECRR's activities;
- Ability to exercise judgement across a broad spectrum of policy and technical issues;
- Proven leadership skills, and an ability to address difficult issues with energy and diplomacy, and to work to reach conclusions;
- Ability to work effectively within the public sector's requirements for accountability and openness, and within financial constraints.

Desirable Skills & Experience:

- A proven track record of working at senior level and/or experience in directing/managing organisations;
- Marketing, fund raising and membership;
- Strategic and business planning;
- Financial strategy and financial management;
- Science and research;
- Experience in the greater Europe water sector;
- Media and communications.

Duties

As a Director you will work to ensure that the ECRR undertakes the work for which it was established. You will be responsible for developing and maintaining a high standard of governance to:

- Comply with Association Law and ensure that high standards of corporate governance are observed at all times,
- At all times act in the Centre's best interest, providing balanced advice and ensuring that no personal interest will conflict with the best interests of the ECRR,
- Ensure that the business is financially sustainable and meets the financial reporting requirements of Association Rules,
- Consider the interests of the members, as well as ensuring that the association complies with all relevant HR, health and safety and environmental protection legislation for their welfare.
- Observe the highest standards of impartiality, integrity and objectivity in relation to the allocation of public and membership funds and strategic management of the organisation.

Commitment

Board members are expected to work for around at least 10 days a year on ECRR business (this includes preparation for meetings). Board members will also be expected to contribute to related business through membership of ECRR working and advisory groups according to their experience and expertise.

The post is held initially for a three year period and Directors may be re-appointed for a further term. The post of Chairman is typically held for two years, acting as Vice Chair for the preceding and following years of office.

Remuneration

These are unfunded voluntary positions for which, only by Board approval per case, exceptional travel and/or subsistence expenses may be reimbursed.

ECRR September 2019.