The network for best practices of river restoration in Greater Europe

ECRR
European Centre for River Restoration

ECRR Annual Report 2024

Approved in the GMM 2024 by electronic Zoom meeting on 21 November 2024

1. Board

Meetings

In 2024 the Board has met 5 times in formal Board Meetings online.
The priority Board tasks were to follow-up the GMM2023 actions, the start of the development of a new strategy proposal, the modest celebration of ECRR 25th anniversary with a webinar, the LIFE Dordogne project, and the progress of the implementation workplan actions for 2024.

Actions

Board activities in 2023 concerned:

- The ECRR governance, especially concerning the EcoAdvance and the LIFE Dordogne project.
- ECRR's anniversary celebration webinar.
- Horizon 2020 MERLIN Project (ECRR Chair Martin Janes member of the Strategic Advisory Group).
- The completion of the transfer of ECRR's legal basis and connected administrative and financial tasks to STOWA.
- The ECRR Membership flyer.

- The GMM 2024.
- The initiation and guidance of developing ECRR's Proposition to support Ecological River Restoration in greater Europe: A multi annual strategic Approach and Plan which should be completed in 2025.

Information on these items can be found in the following chapters of this report.

EU NGO Transparency Register

ECRR is an eligible NGO with the EU, registered in the formal EU Transparency Register. In 2024 the duty to register ECRR's activities in this register and to provide information on ECRR's resources were fulfilled and has met the requirements.

ECRR's Proposition to support Ecological River Restoration in greater Europe.

In November 2024 strategic information was gathered to help define the future role of the European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR). Through interviews with external experts and ECRR members, reflections were captured on current engagement, future needs, and recommended activities. Members emphasized ECRR's value as a long-standing, reliable network that facilitates access to knowledge and connections across Europe. While its impact has been strongest in policy and knowledge sharing, there's a growing call for ECRR to develop practical toolboxes—such as citizen science kits and restoration apps—to support implementation efforts.

Looking ahead, both internal and external stakeholders reaffirmed the relevance of ECRR's mission, especially in light of the Nature Restoration Law (NRL), which is seen as a key driver for river restoration. ECRR is encouraged to anticipate the law's implementation by providing technical assistance, sharing case studies, and helping governments operationalize restoration goals. There's also a recognized need to better connect individuals and stakeholder networks, and to strengthen ECRR's role as a knowledge broker—potentially by partnering in European research programs, provided additional funding and capacity can be secured.

A proposal was made for a structured outline for ECRR's Proposition document, which will articulate its vision, mission, and objectives, explain the broader context of river restoration, and detail planned activities for 2025–2027. These include connecting people and organizations, sharing knowledge, and promoting best practices. It also addresses organizational development and funding modalities, with scenarios extending beyond 2029 to support professionalisation and long-term impact.

Following this, it was agreed that there should be a member discussion in January 2025, where the proposed activities, organizational setup, and funding strategies will be reviewed and refined collaboratively. The overarching message is clear: ECRR should remain a neutral facilitator, showcasing others' work, linking actors, and enabling broad societal engagement in river restoration across Europe.

2. Operational activities.

Website.

The webpages are updated regularly, except the CoP (Community of Practice) page, which needs further development, and the 'how to do river restoration' section, which is outdated and requires urgent renewal. Attempts were made to recruit an intern to gather recent technical advances in river restoration using case studies, trials, and demo projects; these insights will help update the ECRR strategy regarding necessary capacities and resources. But also to revise the 'What is ecological river restoration'pages. This approach was also used in 2012/2013, with results available on our website under "restoration."

Without giving a complete overview of all the site statistics, it can be concluded that the ECRR website is an important instrument and tool for the dissemination of river restoration information and knowledge. Moreover, it is developing towards a community platform with different pages for specific target groups of users. News items are read, and publications are downloaded in increased numbers, thousands of times, often resulting in an (email) contact on certain issues or topics. And even to the involvement of a volunteer for the development of the ECRR Proposition.

Newsletters

ECRRNetwork eNews

In 2024 the ECRRNetwork eNews was issued 5 times and continues to serve as a vital channel for sharing updates, insights, and developments within the river restoration community. Distributed regularly to a broad subscriber base, the newsletter highlights ongoing projects, upcoming events, and relevant policy changes, ensuring that members and stakeholders remain informed and engaged. The format is designed to encourage dialogue and the exchange of best practices, further strengthening the network's collaborative spirit and reach.

In 2024, our own ECRR news was again about the various aspects of river continuity restoration this ECRR theme, chosen more than 5 years ago, was a good choice, because of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030. In parallel with these outreach efforts, there has been a noticeable surge in interest around hydromorphology within the river restoration community. This discipline, focusing on the physical characteristics and processes of rivers and their catchments, is increasingly recognised as essential for effective restoration strategies.

Stakeholders are keen to integrate the latest hydromorphological insights into both policy development and ground-level projects, as understanding river form and function can greatly enhance restoration outcomes and inform adaptive management approaches. There is a growing interest in this from the water management sector, especially around the theme of free-flowing rivers. But not only that, fish (by)passes, environmental flows and adaptive flow management and fish-friendly turbines etc. are increasingly a topic of discussion, which clearly reflects the ECRR eNews issues in 2024.

ECRR Technical Newsletter

There were two Technical Newsletters issued in 2024 and were both emphasizing the immense promise of river restoration projects for revitalizing ecosystems, restoring habitats, and promoting sustainable river management. And they also to Europe's broader river restoration landscape. Together, the newsletter stories underscore the transformative potential of river restoration, driven by holistic thinking, strong partnerships, and a recognition of the interconnectedness of social and natural systems.

Looking ahead, the technical newsletter could evolve to reflect the dynamic field of river restoration by deepening its focus and broadening its reach. As restoration science and practice advance, the newsletter should not only report on successful projects but also critically examine the challenges, innovations, and lessons learned along the way. Future editions could explore emerging themes such as the integration of climate adaptation strategies, the use of new monitoring technologies, and the role of community engagement in sustaining long-term outcomes.

Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) are increasingly recognized as essential for effective and sustainable river restoration across Europe. NbS involve working with and enhancing natural processes to address societal challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and water management. In 2024, ECRR and its partners have actively promoted the integration of NbS in

river restoration projects, emphasizing their role in restoring river continuity and habitats, improving wetlands and flood resilience, supporting biodiversity and engaging local communities.

Community involvement and engagement are essential for the success and sustainability of river restoration efforts. The newsletter can play a pivotal role in fostering this by actively highlighting stories of local communities, volunteers, and citizen scientists who contribute to restoration projects. By sharing examples of grassroots initiatives, collaborative partnerships, and participatory monitoring, the newsletter can inspire broader public interest and empower stakeholders to take action. Opportunities for readers to engage—such as submitting project updates, participating in Q&A sessions, or joining restoration campaigns—can further strengthen the sense of shared purpose and collective impact.

The newsletter might also benefit from more in-depth analysis of policy developments and funding mechanisms, helping practitioners navigate the evolving regulatory and financial landscape. By featuring voices from diverse stakeholders—including local communities, indigenous groups, and young professionals—the publication can highlight the social dimensions of restoration and foster a sense of shared purpose.

International collaboration and knowledge exchange should remain central, with comparative studies and cross-border project updates offering valuable insights. Regular features on monitoring and evaluation could help readers understand not just the immediate impacts of restoration, but also the long-term ecological, social, and economic outcomes.

Finally, to keep the content engaging and accessible, the newsletter could incorporate more visual storytelling, such as photo essays, infographics, and interactive maps, as well as opportunities for reader participation through Q&A sections or project submissions.

Twitter account

In 2024 the number of followers of the twitter account @ECRRNetwork slightly increased from 1.553 to 1.426 followers. There appears to be a decrease in interest in the ECRR account, especially since it was renamed X. This from both the ECRR itself and from the outside world.

LinkedIn

The ECRR LinkedIn page is in 2024 again being used and viewed more and more, the number of followers has grown from 485 to 593. This number could grow faster if we should take an premium account, what is rather costly. And which needs more service. Furthermore, the ECRR uses the group account Restoring Europe's Rivers with about the same frequency, with 838 followers which is slowly growing. We probably should move on to the group N-bS with almost 40,000 users.

Facebook

ECRR has no Facebook account. However, in the past ECRR initiated a River Restoration Community of Practice amongst a few River Basin Authorities. Some of these representatives run a Facebook account of the European River Restoration Community with 391 followers and there is a special page for the CoP at the ECRR website. This CoP is an increasing challenge for the ECRR secretariat to support its further professionalisation.

Youtube

ECRR has a Youtube channel which is used to a very limited extent. Especially all the recorded presentations of the European River Symposium 2021 were converted to Youtube and connected to the ERS webpage on the ECRR site. The channel could be used more, especially in

relation to the ECRR practical expressions concerning river restoration activities, including the CoP activities.

3. Organisation.

Members

The European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR) is actively seeking to broaden its membership base in 2024. Additionally, the ECRR is open to collaboration with regional international entities, including river commissions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that operate within this domain. Various forms of partnerships can be used for this.

In 2024, the ECRR had 14 members, 3 registered partners and 9 project partners, all united by a shared commitment to the ECRR's overarching goal of ecological river restoration. To facilitate the recruitment of new members, the ECRR, in consultation with selected member representatives, uses a comprehensive recruitment brochure. Furthermore, a dedicated web link has been established to provide prospective members with essential information.

Board

In 2024, the European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR) Board was composed of two members who served in the capacities of Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. According to the ECRR's bylaws, the Board should ideally consist of a minimum of five and a maximum of nine members. This stipulation underscores the urgent necessity for additional Board members to enhance the governance and operational efficiency of the ECRR.

Furthermore, it is imperative to note that the two current Board members were re-appointment in November 2023. This re-appointment marked their final term, extending until November 2026. The timely fulfillment of these roles is crucial for maintaining the continuity and stability of the ECRR's leadership

Staff

In 2024, the ECRR Association engaged a Secretariat Coordinator under a Dutch volunteer contract equivalent to 0.3 full-time employment (FTE). Additionally, the association benefited from the contributions of a student volunteer dedicated to the (strategic) river restoration and planning.

Board Support and Coordination

In 2024, the ECRR Association continued its tradition of relying on voluntary efforts for its secretarial needs. These tasks were managed part-time by a dedicated individual, contributing 0.3 of a full-time equivalent (FTE). The secretarial responsibilities encompassed a variety of critical functions, including:

- Coordination of the Technical Newsletter production
- Production of ENews and management of the subscriber's database
- Website maintenance and content updates
- Book keeping and accounting
- Preparation and reporting for Board meetings
- General Members Meeting (GMM) preparation
- Annual reporting
- Management of technical ECRR correspondence

To optimize these operations, a significant portion of these tasks could be delegated to a Communication Officer. In 2022, the ECRR Association introduced a contract model that

facilitates the involvement of one or more volunteers to undertake these or other related activities.

In 2024, serving as an associate expert, the same individual also coordinated the organization of a webinar to the occasion of ECRR's 25th anniversary on a voluntary basis. Additionally, this person represented the ECRR at various international meetings, seminars, and conferences, often contributing with presentations. These responsibilities approximately amounted to another 0.3 full-time equivalent (FTE).

ECRR Member Meetings

ECRR GMM2024 on 21 November 2024.

The meeting was conducted electronically via Zoom, with attendance comprising eight members, one partner, and a total of twelve participants.

Beyond the review of formal annual accounts and related agenda items, substantial focus was devoted to ECRR's Development Process. The Board provided a rationale for their decision not to apply for a LIFE NGO Grant, citing the considerable resources and effort required relative to the anticipated benefits for ECRR. Instead, the Board will prioritize the development of a strategic proposition outlining ECRR's future role in river restoration throughout Europe, particularly in light of the new Nature Restoration Law. This document will formally articulate ECRR's mission, vision, objectives, approach, professional expertise, and notable achievements.

The process is being led by the ECRR coordinator, with consultant Martijn van Staveren assisting in drafting the strategic proposition. Following the formal proceedings, a session facilitated by Martijn invited members to reflect on key questions regarding ECRR's future strategy and activities. Members affirmed their support for the revised direction, emphasizing the growing significance of ECRR's role, especially in response to the new legislation and the increasing need for capacity and professionalization. The emerging strategy will concentrate on priority themes, activities, and organizational requirements necessary to advance river restoration, and will be further discussed with members, stakeholders, partners, and donors.

4. ECRR Workplan 2024.

ECRR's 25th Anniversary Celebration Webinar

To the occasion ECRR's 25th Anniversary Celebration a special webinar was organised with the title Advancing Freshwater Ecosystem Restoration with 125 participants.

Valentina Bastino, Policy Officer EC DG Environent, Freshwater Management presented that the European Union's current policy landscape is shaped by the EU Biodiversity Strategy and the proposed Nature Restoration Law, which together set a legally binding target to restore at least 25,000 kilometers of free-flowing rivers by 2030. This target is not just aspirational but is embedded in a broader legislative and technical framework.

The Nature Restoration Law requires Member States to systematically inventory river barriers—of which there are nearly one million across Europe, many now obsolete—and to develop strategic, prioritized plans for their removal. The European Commission's technical guidance is central to this process, providing methodologies for identifying priority sites and ensuring that the definition of "free-flowing river" is robust, encompassing both longitudinal and lateral connectivity, groundwater interactions, and natural hydrological variability. The approach is holistic, integrating the objectives of the Water Framework Directive and emphasizing the restoration of natural river and wetland functions as a foundation for long-term sustainability.

Professor Tom Buijse of Deltares & Wageningen University Research marked a paradigm shift in river restoration science and practice. He argues that restoration must move beyond the

simplistic replication of historical conditions, recognizing that most European rivers are now "novel ecosystems" shaped by centuries of human intervention. Restoration, therefore, must be adaptive and process-based, focusing on restoring dynamic hydro-morphological processes rather than static endpoints. This includes the removal of barriers to restore longitudinal continuity, but also the rehabilitation of floodplains and the anticipation of future changes in climate, hydrology, and species composition. Buijse emphasized the importance of treating rivers as socio-ecological systems, where restoration delivers multiple co-benefits, including flood and drought mitigation, biodiversity enhancement, and improved ecosystem services. He advocates for a "learning by doing" approach, underpinned by rigorous monitoring and research to continually refine restoration strategies.

The role of wetlands was explored in depth by Tomasz Okruszko, Warsaw University of Life Sciences highlighted their critical ecological functions—particularly in agricultural landscapes—such as supporting biodiversity and regulating water quality. Wetland conservation is technically complex, requiring the maintenance of specific hydrological regimes, especially for bogs and fens that depend on precipitation or groundwater. He discussed the challenges of balancing wetland preservation with agricultural and land use demands, illustrated by case studies from Polish national parks. Technical solutions such as adjustable water level thresholds and the restoration of natural channel morphology are presented as ways to reconcile these competing interests. The discussion also addressed the need to manage vertical and horizontal connectivity, control bed erosion, and adapt legacy infrastructure to contemporary environmental challenges.

Martin Janes, European Centre for River Restoration and UK River Restoration Centre situated the ECRR as a central knowledge broker and catalyst for river restoration across Europe. Since its founding in the late 1990s, the ECRR has championed an integrated approach to river management, supporting the Water Framework Directive and facilitating cross-border collaboration through its network of practitioners, researchers, and policymakers. The ECRR's work includes the development of practical tools (such as RiverWiki), the dissemination of best practices, and the coordination of efforts to address critical issues like river continuity and barrier removal. Despite its small size and reliance on volunteer engagement, the ECRR has built a strong reputation for independence, technical expertise, and effective advocacy.

Bart Fokkens, European centre for River Restoration reflected on 25 years of the European Centre for River Restoration (ECRR), tracing its origins from a LIFE project initiated in 1999 in Denmark to its evolution into a formal association by 2016. It highlights the development of a pan-European network promoting best practices in river restoration through collaboration among national institutions, NGOs, and practitioners. Key milestones include international conferences, the RESTORE project's recognition as a top EU LIFE initiative, and the growing integration of ecosystem services and climate adaptation into restoration strategies. The ECRR now connects almost 2.000 practitioners globally and continues to focus on knowledge exchange, policy alignment, and resilience-building in freshwater ecosystems.

Free Flow Conference

At the Free Flow conference held in Groningen from April 15 to 17, 2024, Bart Fokkens presented the findings of two ECRR studies focused on national policies for river continuity restoration. The central conclusion was that these policies generally fall short of meeting the requirements necessary for effective freshwater ecosystem restoration. To address this gap, the presentation emphasized the need for better integration of river continuity restoration into broader sectoral policies. It also stressed that restoration efforts should support all river functions, including water flow, sediment and nutrient transport, food web maintenance, hydro-morphological processes, and climate change adaptation.

Policy prioritization must consider ecological, economic, and social dimensions, and the completeness of policy frameworks should be adapted to local conditions. To enable the development and implementation of adequate policies, Member States must be empowered through stronger legal frameworks, improved organizational structures, enhanced human resource capacity, participatory approaches, and the demonstration of best practices.

UK River Restoration Centre Conference, River Restoration Prize Winners and LIFE Projects

The ECRR highlighted in the communications in 2024 the UK River Restoration Centre's special activities. At the UK River Restoration Centre Network Conference held in Llandudno, North Wales from April 24 to 26, 2024, two outstanding projects were recognized for their contributions to river restoration. The Ullswater Catchment Restoration project received the Nigel Holmes Trophy for its catchment-scale efforts, having restored over 843 hectares of key habitats including rivers, ponds, hedgerows, wood pasture, peat, and wetlands. Meanwhile, the Rewilding the Rom project won the project-scale award for revitalizing a heavily urbanized river in Romford, Greater London, enhancing flood resilience, biodiversity, water quality, and community engagement.

The conference featured over 440 participants and included keynote speeches, workshops, and a tour of the LIFE DEE River Catchment. The LIFE DEE project showcased innovative restoration techniques such as bypass channels and oak baffles to improve fish passage and sediment flow, especially around heritage sites and regulated river sections.

INBO World Assembly

The Assembly was held in Bordeaux from 6 to 16 October in Bordeaux, France. The event focused on strengthening basin management to address climate change challenges, with sessions on governance, financing, data, and nature-based solutions. It invites global stakeholders to share experiences and foster collaboration in integrated water resources management. And gives a very good global overview of the 'state of the art' of river management. The event is very much a networking event, also amongst various European participants, most of them from government or water authorities. ECRR's participation as a NGO is very special.

European River Restoration Community

Representatives of the Cumbrian River Restoration Partnership with invited guests from various UK River Trusts and others made a study trip to learn about two major river restoration efforts in northern Spain. The Gipuzkoa Connectivity Masterplan (2020–2035) is working to restore river health by removing or modifying barriers like dams, improving water flow, and supporting aquatic species. The LIFE Kantauribai project, funded by the EU, focuses on boosting populations of migratory fish and other threatened species by removing obstacles, restoring habitats, and reducing fish deaths at hydropower plants. Both initiatives aim to create sustainable, replicable models for river restoration and species conservation, with collaboration and knowledge exchange between Spanish and UK experts. ECRR made a report of this visit and an article was published in an issue of the Technical Newsletter. A year before they made trip to the Vjosa River in Albania. The group intends om met behulp van de ECRR deze activiteit verder uit te bouwen zijnde de European River Restoration Community.

SERE2024

ECRR was represented at SERE 2024 by the coordinator. The conference included significant focus on the recently adopted EU Nature Restoration Law. For the first time, SERE featured several sessions about river management and restoration. The Endangered Land & Sea Scape Program organized and contributed to multiple sessions, and also held a private meeting alongside the conference. These developments contributed to the overall experience of the event. And the ECRR could also support the final declarative.

The Tartu Declaration SERE2024, issued at the 14th European Conference on Ecological Restoration, emphasizes the urgent need to effectively implement the EU Nature Restoration Law, which came into force on August 18, 2024. It highlighted the critical role of nature restoration in addressing the climate and biodiversity crises, recognizing NRL as a cornerstone for ensuring the well-being of future generations of Europeans.
The Declaration outlines several key recommendations for the successful implementation of the NRL. Immediate action is urged, taking advantage of existing scientific knowledge to begin restoration efforts across Europe's ecosystems. Long-term, coherent financing is also pointed out as essential and the establishment of a dedicated EU fund for biodiversity protection and restoration is of utmost importance, and a prerequisite to leverage private capital.

Moreover, the declaration emphasizes the importance of inclusive information sharing and stakeholder engagement, advocating for the integration of bottom-up approaches and promoting a nature restoration culture. It also calls for creating ambitious, scientifically grounded National Restoration Plans, supported by a collaborative effort between policymakers, scientists, and practitioners. Finally, the Declaration insists on rigorous monitoring, reporting, and enforcement to ensure the success of the NRL, with a focus on transparency and the involvement of citizen science.

The Declaration was anonymously supported by 674 participants from 47 countries, reflecting a broad consensus on the need for decisive action to restore and preserve Europe's natural heritage.

Dordogne Project

In 2024 there was quite a lot of restoration work ongoing the ECRR was not directly involved with. An article on these restoration results will be published in an ECRR Technical Newsletter in 2025. The next main ECRR activity will be the organisation of an international seminar to share and to get tested the results of the project with others involved in the same type of river management and restoration and is foreseen in 2027.

EcoAdvance

EcoAdvance supports decision makers by disentangling the threads and knots of Freshwater restoration research, practice and assessment to help funders invest in projects that are prone to success and maximize synergies and impacts. EcoAdvance will highlight – country-by-country – for member states – through a literature searches and bibliometric research -- the factors that will help or hinder project success. In 2024 they made use of ECRR information and contacts and by the end of the year they were about to wrap up the project results to be published in 2025. The products concerned are:

- Freshwater key factors Survey
- In depth search and analyses of both peer reviewed and grey literature on the key factors that make freshwater restoration projects Prone to Succes
- A tool that helps visualize the impact of freshwater restoration particulary nature-based solutions where ecological, social economic and other factors are in play
- A people catalog of successful individuals-Showcase from every Member State-who inform, inspire and promote a wide variety freshwater solutions and innovations. This segment gives the highlight.

Furthermore they consider to cluster the project activities with the MERLIN project and Ecosystem Services Partnership for one of the final events.

ResiRiver

ECRR is an associated partner of the ResiRiver project and stands for a Resilient Rivers project focusing on the creation of Resilient Rivers Systems through the mainstreaming and upscaling of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) The project builds on strong partnership that covers river systems in Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, and The Netherlands. ECRR is interested in the NbS cases developed, sharing the gained knowledge and contributing to the training modules developed.

The EU Interreg NWE project ResiRiver seeks to accelerate the upscaling and mainstreaming of NBS by bridging the gap between practice, science, society, and policy. A crucial step in this process was the assessment of learning needs for mainstreaming NBS, identifying target audiences and knowledge gaps across technical, organisational, and strategic levels.

Insights reveal that demonstrating NBS effectiveness requires collecting and communicating diverse evidence (ecological, hydrological, societal, financial) in an accessible manner, often by literally showing it through practical examples, living labs, demonstration sites, or pilot projects. Using hard data, flood risk models, and focusing on benefits like damage reduction, cost savings, and broader environmental gains are crucial for convincing decision-makers and funders.

Communication needs to be supported by this data, be adaptable, utilise attractive tools, and highlight "what's in it for" the target audience. We contribute practical perspectives to inform the development of tailor-made training and support mechanisms within ResiRiver and for broader application, aiming to make NBS a truly 'normal' way of working in river systems management.

A partner meeting was held by the end of 2024 in Lyon in France where the progress of the project and the experiences gained were shared.

Merlin Project

The MERLIN EU Horizon project commits to transformative ecosystem restoration, mainstreaming Nature-based Solutions for the urgent systemic change of our society. MERLIN's Advisory Board is composed of six representatives from environmental policy, science and economic sectors relevant to restoration, and the community of practice. The Advisory Board provides an external view of the project, gives feedback on project progress and outcomes, and connects MERLIN to relevant stakeholders in policy, business, and academia. ECRR is represented in the Board through the Chair Martin Janes.

IRF International River Symposium

IRF announced the International River Symposium, including the International River Prize, for 2025 from 8 -10 September in Brisbane. ECRR was contacted for cooperation and participation. Cooperation concerning the organisation of an online pre-event and Bart Fokkens' participation in the river prize judging panel. Moreover they asked if it would be possible to organise for the pre-event and a symposium session something together with the Asian River Restoration Network and the Australian River Restoration Centre.

By chance Siwan Lovett, the CEO of the Australian River Restoration Centre visited the Netherlands in summer 2024 and we met in Amsterdam. We discussed the possibility for (more) cooperation between the three River Restoration Networks and agreed to emphasize this with a first focus on the symposium pre-event and session contribution. Afterwards contacts were made with the Asian River Restoration Network and they agreed also on this approach. Moreover, the ARRC contributed already in 2024 with an article for the second issue of the ECRR Technical Newsletter in 2024. To be continued with an article from the Asian River Restoration Network.

5. ECRR's Financial Reports 2024

Financial Statement 2024 **Accountancy €**			
Revenues		**Costs**	
Member fees 2023	9.750.00	Bank costs	293,00
Donations	48.00	ICT, Mailchimp	2,704,00
		ISBN Registration	0,00
		Newsletter	431,00
		Volunteeer allowance	2,100,00
		Insurances	844,00
		Total	**6,372,00**
		Result	**3,426.55**
Total	**9,798.00**	**Total**	**9,798.00**

Assets	**1-1-2024**	**31-12-2024**	**Liabilities**	**1-1-2024**	**31-12-2024**
Bank	35069.00	40,753.00	Work capital	8,029.00	12.694.00
Debits *)	0.00		ECRR Dordogne reserve	4,000.00	5,000.00
			Life Dordogne reserve**)	12,375.00	12,923.00
			ECRR Strategic reserve	5,000.00	5,000.00
			Surplus*)	5,665.00	3,426.00
			Creditors		210.00
			Recieved adv.		1,500.00
	35,069.30	**40.753.00**		**35.069.00**	**40.753,00**

**) Proposed to add to the work capital 2025 € 3,426,00*

NB We still have to pay a part of a consultant contract over partly 2024 and 2025 of ca. € 5,800.00 of which ca. € 2.000,-- for 2024.

Explanatory remarks concerning costs made outside the justified and presented funding budget for 2024.

- ✓ Board members have no (direct) costs claimed made for the regular fulfilling of the activities in relation to their position with the ECRR.
- ✓ Coordinator has made (direct) costs claims, totalling € 2,100,-- . This is based on a volunteer contract (Dutch Law and Tax regulation) for fulfilling his secretarial (coordination) tasks. Coordinator was, as Associated Technical Expert, working for and representing ECRR pro bono (including travel and accommodation costs).

6. ECRR's Members and formal partners in 2024

Members

1.	Italian Centre for River Restoration	Italy
2.	The River Restoration Centre	United Kingdom
3.	Iberian Centre for River Restoration	Spain / Portugal
4.	Finnish Environment Institute	Finland
5.	Blue Rivers Stichting (Foundation)	Netherlands
6.	Foundation for Applied Research STOWA	Netherlands
7.	Norwegian Environment Agency	Norway
8.	Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management	Sweden
9.	Institute for Water Problems and Land Reclamation	Ukraine
10.	Department of Hydraulic Engineering of the Warsaw University of Life Sciences	Poland
11.	French Agency for Biodiversity	France
12.	International Network of Basin Organisations	France
13.	Wetlands International European Association	Netherlands
14.	Finnish Freshwater Foundation	Finland

Partner

1.	GWP(CEE)	Slovakia
2.	I.S. Rivers	France