

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1 / CM /Res/Dip (2020) 3  
on the revised regulations for the Euroean Diploma for Protected Areas**

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008  
at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)<sup>1</sup>*

**Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports**

**Annual report for the year 2020**

Annual reports should describe the changes that have taken place since the previous year in dynamic terms of management and function and not be limited to basic data. Any new text or map introducing a change in the situation of the area should be attached to the annual report.

State: Germany

Name of the area: Deutsch-Luxemburgischer Naturpark

Year and number of years since the award or renewal of the European Diploma for Protected Areas:  
1973, 9 years.

**Central authority concerned:**

Name: Großherzogtum Luxemburg und Land Rheinland-Pfalz

Address:

Tel:

Fax:

e-mail:

www: -

**Authority responsible for its management:**

Name: Vereinigung Deutsch-Luxemburgischer Naturpark

Address: Auf Omesen 2

Tel: 06525 79 206

Fax:

e-mail: [info@naturpark-suedeifel.de](mailto:info@naturpark-suedeifel.de)

www: [www.naturpark-suedeifel.de](http://www.naturpark-suedeifel.de)

---

<sup>1</sup> As amended by Resolution CM/ResDip(2014)2 on 2 July 2014 at the 1204th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies.  
Internet : <http://www.coe.int/cm>

**1. Conditions:** List here all conditions which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain either how the conditions have been totally complied with or detail the progress in complying with the conditions. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

**a) At the initiative of the States concerned, resume the work of the intergovernmental committee as soon as possible;**

In 2020, a meeting of the environment ministries from Luxembourg and Rhineland-Palatinate took place to resume the work of the intergovernmental committee.

**b) Engage in an in-depth analysis of the mission, the medium-term objectives and future structure of the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park;**

The Ministers of Environment of Luxembourg and Rhineland-Palatinate have agreed in a joint meeting, the preparation of an analysis for the future orientation and organization of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park. The study was put out to tender and commissioned in 2020. A study-accompanying steering group was established, which has already met once in 2020.

**c) Define specifications and a road map for the drawing-up of a global management plan for the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park incorporating those of the nature parks on its territory; prepare the management plan before the next renewal of the European Diploma falls due and ensure the funding required for its implementation;**

It should be noted that in the area of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park, the Nature Parks of the Southern Eifel (D) and Our (L) as well as the Nature & Geopark Mëllerdall (L) are located. All three nature parks have developed up-to-date nature park plans, with broad public participation and involvement of all relevant stakeholders, experts and decision makers. These nature park plans form the basis for the sustainable development of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park.

As already mentioned under b), a development concept for the German-Luxembourg Nature Park was commissioned on the basis of the nature park plans.

Description of the services to be provided

The services to be provided are to be developed in two phases. The subject of the present request for proposal are the services of phase 1.

Phase 1:

1. analysis of the existing situation:

- a. Presentation of the current organization, structure and cooperation within the framework of the D-L-Nature Park.
- b. Spatial analysis of the D-L Nature Park in terms of possible cross-border priority themes and projects and presentation in a GIS-based system.
- c. Elaboration of the strengths and weaknesses (SWOT) as well as the potential of the D-L- Nature Park on the basis of the existing documents and interviews to be conducted with the individual members of the working group.

2. elaboration of concrete proposals for future cooperation:

- a. Elaboration of proposals concerning the possibilities and thematic priorities of a deepened cooperation within the framework of the D-L Nature Park. In this context, existing cross-border cooperation and projects in the border region or in Central Europe should be taken as possible examples.
- b. Conducting a full-day workshop (about 60 persons) for the purpose of participation and involvement of the various stakeholders (municipalities, administrations, politics, economic actors, associations, existing networks; corresponding list of participants will be provided) in the development of thematic priorities and a possible future organizational structure. The organizational costs (premises, catering, invitation) of the workshop will be borne by the client.

The work is to be carried out in close coordination with the working group mentioned under 1. 3 meetings with the working group are to be scheduled.

After completion of the work of phase 1, the possible future organizational structures (e.g. EGTC, GEIE, asbl, etc.) for the D-L- Nature Park will be discussed and evaluated for their feasibility in phase 2. Subsequently, the financial and personnel framework for the D-L-Nature Park (5-year plan) will be worked out and the possible time schedule will be presented.

**2. Recommendations:** List here all recommendations which were attached to the award or the renewal of the European Diploma. Explain either how the recommendations have been totally complied with or detail the progress in complying with the recommendations. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

**a) Maintain and step-up consultation and collaboration between the parties concerned by the Our and Sûre basins, focusing on relations between the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg and the Rhineland-Palatinate Land;**

The transnational cooperation is anchored in the three nature park plans (in Luxembourg: Etude détaillée) as an objective/measure. The practical implementation of this objective is documented by numerous joint projects that have been running or continued since the last reporting in 2012: The joint INTERREG project "Accessibility without borders" (2016-2020). This project aims to make the sights of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park accessible to all, including people with impairments. The INTERREG project "Dry-stone walls in the Greater Region" (2016-2010), whose partners (including the Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark and the Southern Eifel Nature Park) are working to preserve dry-stone walls in the Greater Region through further training, restoration construction sites and awareness-raising campaigns. Intensive cooperation also takes place in the marketing, further development and maintenance of the premium hiking trails developed under the INTERREG project NaturWanderPark delux (2010-2012). Since 2016, the Nature Parks Our and Southern Eifel have been cooperating within the framework of the cultural tourism project "500 Years of Postal Routes Thurn&Taxis" (anniversary event 2016 and annual Living History guided tours, joint homepage). For the protection and development of the orchards, the Nature & Geopark Mëllerdall and the Nature Park South Eifel are in an intensive cross-border exchange. The duration of the mentioned projects lasts until the end of 2021 and 2022 respectively.

The two exchange meetings planned for 2020 between the South Eifel and Our Nature Parks and the Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark and their partners from the fields of sustainable rural development (LEADER) and tourism (regional tourist associations) had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

**b) Pursue public awareness-raising and information activities;**

It should be noted that this is done within the framework of the event calendars of the Our and South Eifel Nature Parks and the Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark, as well as within the framework of the information work of the joint projects mentioned above. In addition, in 2020, several short films were produced About the natural and cultural heritage of the region and About sustainable development. These films are mainly used in internet on social media platforms to inform and raise awareness among the population and visitors.

**c) Encourage the swift creation of the Müllerthal-Kleine Luxemburger Schweiz Nature Park and incorporate it as far as possible in the Germano-Luxembourg Nature Park;**

In 2016, the Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark was founded. It is the third nature park in Luxembourg besides the already existing nature parks Obersauer and Our. The establishment of the nature park took place within the framework of intensive citizen participation. The establishment and management of nature parks in Luxembourg are regulated by the Nature Parks Law of August 10, 1993.

A first important step was the preparation of the Etude Préparatoire - it was presented to the public in spring 2012 and provides a rough framework for action for the future nature park.

In March 2013, the Etude Détaillée was launched. This study can be understood as a kind of roadmap that defines and describes the themes and the financial framework of the nature park for ten years. The participation of citizens were particularly important in this phase. Therefore, on March 23, 2013, the launch event for the Etude Détaillée took place in Bech at the Centre Culturel Hanner Bra under the title "Building the Mëllerdall Nature Park - help shape your nature park!".

During about 15 months, all interested and active people could participate in the elaboration of the Etude Détaillée by joining working groups, elaborating project ideas or writing comments on the meeting minutes, which were always available online, by e-mail. Everyone was thus able to help shape the future Mëllerdall Nature Park, of course only insofar as the ideas were in line with the objective of the nature parks - i.e. the model sustainable development of a region.

The finished Etude Détaillée was presented to the population in November 2014 in three information events (Echternach, Müllerthal and Heffingen). Cross-border cooperation is one component of the study.

Since then, the Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark has established itself as a nature park in Luxembourg and maintains intensive cross-border cooperation with the other Luxembourg nature parks and the South Eifel Nature Park.

In November 2020, the Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark submitted a candidacy for the UNESCO Global Geoparks program. UNESCO Global Geoparks are regions that have an internationally recognized geological heritage and are developed sustainably on this basis. Protection, education and science play an important role in this.

Regions use their geological heritage in conjunction with all other aspects of natural and cultural heritage to promote awareness and understanding of key issues facing society (such as natural hazards and climate change).

**d) Find a solution allowing aquatic fauna to pass or circumnavigate the obstacle of the Vianden hydroelectric dam;**

For this purpose, different possibilities have been discussed both within the framework of the INTERREG project "Nat'Our" (deconstruction of the weirs above the dam) and by the river committee within the framework of the project River Contract Our. Currently, there is no feasible technical solution to establish passability. Moreover, from an ecological point of view, a mixing of the fish stocks of the reservoir with those of the flowing waters of the Our is not reasonable.

**e) Maintain vigilance with regard to leisure and sporting pursuits (camping, rock-climbing, canoeing, etc.).**

Sustainable visitor management is an integral part of the aforementioned nature park plans and is taken into account in the designation of hiking trails and recreational facilities. Within the management plans (Plans de Gestion) for the NATURA 2000 zones, specific protection goals are also specified.

In 2020, an information meeting was held at the Ministry of Environment, where the topic was a cross-border regulation of canoeing on the Sûre River with increased consideration of nature conservation aspects.

For the climbing area in Berdorf, the Luxembourg Climbing Association had new information boards with rules of etiquette developed in 2020. At the same time, work was done on a new climbing guide for the area, which, among other things, also points out the geological and floristic features and thus the value of the area. Mëllerdall Nature & Geopark was involved in the development and provided information, texts and visual material.

**3. Site Management:** List here any changes to the European Diploma holding site management, in relation to both terrestrial and aquatic environments (as appropriate), and in relation to staff and finances, since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

In 2020, numerous measures for the preservation and development of orchard meadows were implemented by the orchard office.

Since April 2019, a coordinator (employer: Our Nature Park) has been working on the initiation and planning of concrete measures from the Natura 2000 management plans for the 13 Natura 2000 zones (16,697 ha) in the region of the Our Nature Park and surrounding municipalities. The coordinator accompanies the multidisciplinary steering committee COPIL ("Comité de pilotage Éislek"), founded in October 2018, whose national, regional and local members from the fields of nature conservation, agriculture and forestry, regional development, energy, water management and tourism work together on the implementation of the Natura 2000 management plans. In 2020, concrete work was done on the following transnational implementation:

Also in the Nature & Geopark Mëllerdall a coordinator for the management of the N2000 areas was hired. The implementation of the measures from the management plans is carried out in close coordination between the stakeholders involved in the steering committee COPIL Mëllerdall (Comité de Pilotage). Measures taken so far include renaturation and restoration of spring habitats, the recording of special mosses (e.g. Dicranum viride) and their consideration, e.g. in forestry work, or the planning of the restoration of swamp forests by removing spruce forests that are not adapted to the site.

**Measures for the protection of the caged emerald dragonfly (Oxigastrea curtisii)**

For the protection of the very rare and highly endangered Caged Emerald Dragonfly in the Our Valley, a German-Luxembourgian working meeting with the participation of the following persons took place in January 2020 in the Directorate of the Luxembourg Nature Administration in Diekirch on the initiative of the two Nature Parks Our and South Eifel:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>
<i>Thierry Kozlik</i>	<i>Ministerium für Umwelt und Landesplanung (L)</i>
<i>Dr. Michael Altmooos</i>	<i>Landesamt für Umwelt (Mainz)</i>
<i>Andreas Weidner</i>	<i>Biotopbetreuer, Kreis Bitburg-Prüm</i>
<i>Tiago de Sousa</i>	<i>Naturverwaltung (Service de la Nature) (L)</i>
<i>Roland Proess</i>	<i>Büro Ecotop</i>
<i>Dr. Sonja Heumann</i>	<i>natur &amp; ëmwelt (L)</i>
<i>Judith Boveland</i>	<i>Koordinatorin COPIL Mëllerdall (L)</i>

The aim of the meeting was the discussion and development of common cross-border measures for the protection of the Caged Emerald Dragonfly in the Our Valley. Among other things, it was decided to coordinate the regular species monitoring on a transboundary basis in the future.

**4. Boundaries:** Give details of any changes to the boundaries of the European Diploma holding site since the last annual report was submitted to the Council of Europe. If there are any changes, please attach an appropriate map to this report. Please also indicate any unresolved difficulties that you have encountered.

There are no changes in the external boundaries of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park at this time.

**5. Other information:** List here any other information about the European Diploma holding site which you consider should be provided to the Council of Europe.

No other information.

The following sections of the form should only be filled in if your area is in the year before a renewal of its European Diploma for Protected Areas, i.e. year 4 after the award of the European Diploma or year 9 after its renewal.

**6. Natural heritage (general abiotic description: geomorphology, geology and hydrogeology, habitats, flora, fauna, landscape) – State of conservation**

- 6.1. Environment: changes or deterioration in the environment, of natural or anthropic origin, accidental or permanent, actual or anticipated
- 6.2. Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes
- 6.3. Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

**7. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context**

- 7.1. Cultural heritage
  - 7.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage
- 7.2. Socio-economic context
  - 7.2.1. Changes concerning the socio-economic context

**8. Education and scientific interest**

- 8.1. Visitors – Information policy
  - 8.1.1. Arrangements for receiving and informing the public (building, booklets, maps, cards, etc.)
  - 8.1.2. Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)
  - 8.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.)
- 8.2. Scientific research
  - 8.2.1. Current or completed research (observation, experimentation, etc.; identification or inventory of the species listed in the appendices to the Bern Convention, etc.)
  - 8.2.2. Scientific publications

**9. Site description (vulnerability, protection status, ownership, documentation)**

- 9.1. Changes in legislation or regulations
- 9.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.)
- 9.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve)

**10. Site management (management plans, budget and personnel)**

- 10.1. Improvements made
  - 10.1.1. Ecological action affecting the flora and biotopes; controls of fauna
  - 10.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime)
  - 10.1.3. Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.)
  - 10.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)

- 10.1.5. Waste management
- 10.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems

10.2. Management

- 10.2.1. Administrative department: changes made
- 10.2.2. Wardens' department: changes made
- 10.2.3. Internal policing measures
- 10.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action

**11. Influence of the award of the European Diploma for Protected Areas**