

**Resolution CM/ResDip(2008)1
on the revised regulations for the European Diploma for Protected Areas**

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

Appendix 5: Model plan for annual reports

Annual report for the year 2019

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

www: www.naturpark-suedeifel.de

¹ 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 2019 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;**

In a joint discussion, the two Environment Ministers of Luxembourg and Rhineland-Palatinate agreed on the preparation of an analysis for the future orientation and organisation of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park. Appropriate funds are to be made available for this purpose.

- 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 in this respect that the nature parks South Eifel (D), Our (L) and Mëllerdall (L) are located in the area of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park. All three nature parks have developed current nature park plans with broad public participation and the involvement of all relevant actors, experts and decision-makers. These nature park plans form the basis for the sustainable development of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park.

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;**

Transnational cooperation is enshrined in the three nature park plans (in Luxembourg: Etude détaillée) as an objective/measure. The practical implementation of this objective is documented by a number of joint projects that have been running or will be continued since the last reporting in 2012: The joint INTERREG project "Barrier-free without borders" (2016-2020). The aim of this project is to make the sights of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park accessible to all, including people with disabilities. The INTERREG project "Dry stone walls in the Greater Region" (2016-2010), whose partners (including the nature parks Mëllerdall and Südeifel) are developing a joint concept for the preservation of dry stone walls in the Greater Region. Intensive cooperation is also taking place in the marketing, further development and maintenance of the premium hiking trails developed as part of the INTERREG project NaturWanderPark delux (2010-2012). Since 2016, the nature parks Our and Südeifel have been cooperating within the framework of the cultural tourism project "500 Years Post Routes Thurn&Taxis" (anniversary event 2016 and annual living history tours, joint homepage). The nature parks Mëllerdall and Südeifel are engaged in an intensive cross-border exchange to protect and develop the orchard meadows. The projects will run until the end of 2020.

In 2019 two project-related exchange meetings took place between the nature parks South Eifel, Mëllerdall and Our and their partners from the fields of sustainable rural development (LEADER) and tourism (regional tourism associations): 15.5.2019 Born (topics: Orchards, regional products, tourism quality offensive); 7.11.2019: Esch-s-Sûre (themes: Light pollution, nature park values, partners, water protection & agriculture)

Pursue public awareness-raising and information activities;

It should be noted that this is part of the calendar of events of the Our, Mëllerdall and Southern Eifel Nature Parks, as well as the information work on the joint projects mentioned above.

b) 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;

The Mëllerdall Nature Park was founded in 2016. It is the third nature park in Luxembourg after the existing nature parks Obersauer and Our. The nature park was founded as part of intensive citizen participation. The establishment and management of nature parks in Luxembourg are regulated by the Nature Park Act of 10 August 1993.

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

The Etude Détaillée was launched in March 2013. 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 the citizens was particularly important in this phase. On 23 March 2013, the launch event of the Etude Détaillée in Bech took place at the Centre Culturel Hanner Bra under the title "Building the Mëllerdall Nature Park - help shape your nature park".

For about 15 months, all interested and active people were able to participate in the development of the Etude Détaillée by participating in working groups, developing project ideas or writing comments on the meeting minutes, which were always available online, by e-mail. This meant that everyone was able to help shape the future Mëllerdall Nature Park, only if the ideas were in line with the objectives of the nature parks, i.e. the model sustainable development of a region.

The finished Etude Détaillée was presented to the public in November 2014 at three information events (Echternach, Müllerthal and Heffingen). Cross-border cooperation is an integral part of the study.

The Mëllerdall Nature Park has since established itself as a nature park in Luxembourg and maintains intensive cross-border cooperation with the other Luxembourg nature parks and the Southern Eifel Nature Park.

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

To this end, various possibilities were discussed both within the framework of the INTERREG project "Nat'Our" (dismantling of the weirs above the dam) and by the river committee within the framework of the project "River Contract Our". There is currently no feasible technical solution to achieve continuity. Furthermore, from an ecological point of view, it is not sensible to mix the fish stocks of the reservoir with those of the Our watercourse.

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

Sustainable visitor guidance is part of the nature park plans mentioned above and is taken into account in the designation of hiking trails and recreational facilities. The management plans (Plans de Gestion) for the NATURA 2000 zones also contain specific protection objectives.

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 2019 wurde im Naturpark Südeifel ein Streuobstbüro für den Erhalt und die Entwicklung der Streuobstwiesen eingerichtet und eine Fachkraft eingestellt.

In April 2019, a coordinator (employer: Our Nature Park) was appointed to initiate and plan 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 interdisciplinary 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 the Mëllerdall Nature Park, a coordinator was appointed in July 2019 to initiate and plan concrete measures from the Natura 2000 management plans in the Mëllerdall Nature Park region and surrounding municipalities. As in the Our Nature Park, this person accompanies the interdisciplinary steering committee

COPIL ("Comité de pilotage Mëllerdall"), founded in June 2019, whose national, regional and local members from the fields of nature conservation, agriculture and forestry, regional development, energy, water management and tourism work together to implement the Natura 2000 management plans. In addition, in May 2019, a coordinator was appointed in the Mëllerdall Nature Park to monitor the implementation of measures in the drinking water protection areas of the region and adjacent areas. Here, too, an interdisciplinary steering committee (Comité d'accompagnement Mëllerdall, November 2019) was set up, comprising all stakeholders.

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 currently no changes in the external borders of the German-Luxembourg Nature Park.

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