

# The EFAEP Bulletin

News from the European Federation of Associations of Environmental Professionals



## Greetings from the President

Dear colleagues,

We send you a fairly short Bulletin this time, but with some important topics.

I would also like to highlight some of the important issues to be discussed at the next General Assembly, in Porto, on 28 May (formal meeting) and 29 May (side event: 'Clima 2010' Conference). The development of Working Groups within the Federation is one; the proposal to rename the Federation another. We also hope to have some news regarding the recruitment of an extra staff member, the badly needed 'Project Officer' that will help us propel the Federation into a next phase.

We are happy to announce that EFAEP has been selected from many entries to participate in the European Green Week

at the EU in Brussels this year. To make the most out of that, we will come back to those of you who are actively involved in the theme 'Biodiversity', as this is this year's Green Week topic – and an important one too, in view of the latest disconcerting news regarding global biodiversity losses.

And finally there is also good news on the EFAEP membership front: not only are we happy that the large and prestigious British Society for the Environment will join as an associate member; we also look forward to welcoming a new full member from a new European country: Iceland. That is, if the General Assembly accepts them, of course. I hope to see you all in Portugal at the end of May!

**Jan Karel Mak**  
President



## EU Services Directive

### Doing business becomes easier: less bureaucratic nonsense, faster procedures, easy market access

The Services Directive has been officially operative since 28 December 2009. The purpose of this new regulation is to stimulate the internal market in Europe. There are a lot of administrative and legal hindrances in the EU member states that make the provision of services outside national borders expensive and time consuming.

Services make up about 70% of the European economy. Only 20% of that is exported to foreign countries. In some cases it is a conscious business decision, but it can also be the result of the many legal and administrative boundaries that exist in many EU countries and that made the expansion of business outside national markets expensive and time consuming. After years of preparation, the Services Directive was put into operation on 28 December 2009 to take away those boundaries.

All the countries of the European Union are now obligated to remove these boundaries.

This actually means that it is the national governments' obligation to simplify the rules, reduce the procedures and remove the bureaucratic nonsense so that all service providers from all over Europe have the opportunity to expand their business horizons all over Europe. In support of this, EU countries need to submit all necessary information about doing business in their national market to a central contact point or 'point of single contact'. This way, everyone who wants to become part of that market, can quickly understand what formalities are needed.

We have to face the fact that nowadays many companies are losing unnecessary time and money on trying to figure everything out. In particular, small and medium sized businesses are often lost in a swamp of administrative procedures if they want to do business in another EU country. Hopefully, with this Directive all EU countries will implement sufficient rules and regulations to make it possible for all service providers to experience the true feeling of the basic European legal principle of freedom of services.



## Soil Framework Directive

On March 15 2010, the Environment Council adopted conclusions on the conclusion of post 2010 biodiversity strategy but failed to clarify a way forward on the adoption of a soil directive: Germany, the UK, France, the Netherlands, Austria and Malta continue to form

a blocking minority in the Council on the grounds of respecting the principles of subsidiarity (i.e. soil being not a cross border issues) and proportionality over its expected cost (to be compared with the costs of non action) and administrative burden.

### GOOD & GREEN GUIDES

## Good & Green Guide Amsterdam

Amsterdam is the first European capital with an own sustainable travel guide; the *Good & Green Guide Amsterdam* has been launched in November.

Over 500 carefully selected addresses divided up into 23 categories show you how to really enjoy the city and at the same time taking care for people and the environment.

You will find carbon-neutral, eco-friendly addresses of hotels, vegetarian restaurants, gardens, transportation, fairtrade shops, organic (super)markets, yoga studios, aid organisations and many more in this guide. Every listing is measured with the Good & Green Star System and can score up to 10 stars.

The guide also offers practical information needed to visit the city: maps, indexes, public transport information, etc.



The guide, in English, contains 250 full color, richly illustrated, pages. Nice to have it with you during a good and green day out in Amsterdam and a unique, green, responsible and handy gift for friends and relations.

### Offer for EFAEP-members:

You pay 17,50 euro per copy including postage and packaging (normal price is 19,90 euro per copy without postage and packaging).

### How it works?

1. Send an e-mail to [order@goodandgreenguides.com](mailto:order@goodandgreenguides.com) and specify the number of guides you would like to order including your delivery address.
2. Pay 17,50 euro per guide to bank account number 3904.200.42 of Focus Consultancy BV, based in Lekkerkerk, The Netherlands (BIC: TRIONL2U; IBAN: NL62TRIO0390420042). Specify "G&GGA offering to EFAEP-members" on your payment.

[www.goodandgreenguides.com](http://www.goodandgreenguides.com)

Check out a video about the *Good & Green Guide Amsterdam* on: [www.rnw.nl/english/video/amsterdam-gets-sustainable-guidebook](http://www.rnw.nl/english/video/amsterdam-gets-sustainable-guidebook)



## John Rose Award

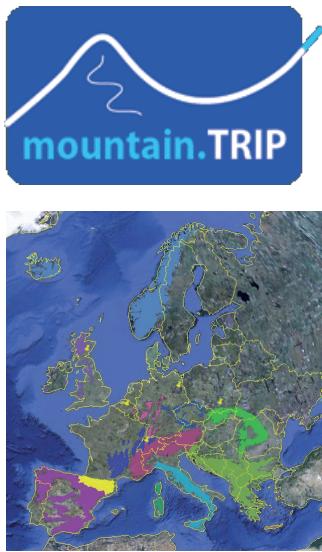
### Win a grant to publicise your environmental science post-grad research

The annual John Rose award, run by the IES will grant £1000 to an outstanding piece of post-graduate environmental research which can inform and motivate the general public. The award will enable the winner to disseminate

their findings amongst the general public and promote themselves within the environmental sector.

For more information and to apply, please go to: [www.ies-uk.org.uk/awards/awards.php](http://www.ies-uk.org.uk/awards/awards.php)

Closing date: 4th October 2010



## Mountain Sustainability: Research into Practice

EU funded research projects dealing with sustainable development in mountain areas of Europe have produced and will produce valuable results and information. This research information can support and improve the daily work that is done within the field of sustainable mountain development tremendously - if it were available and understandable. The problem with having a gap between EU project findings and the needs of policy- and decision-makers, stakeholders in economy and environment, end-users, etc. was recognised and the Mountain. TRIP project was initiated in order to bridge this gap. Euromontana, the European association for mountain areas, is one of the partners of this two-year research project.

The objective of Mountain.TRIP is to provide stakeholders dealing with mountain development with readily accessible and understandable forms of research-based information by Transforming Research Into Practice. This is a huge challenge and they won't be successful without feedback from the end-users' side: they need the opinions of people working in the field of sustainable mountain development on the availability of information.

Their targets are associations, civil society organisations, policy-makers, industry representatives, etc. working on issues linked with sustainable mountain development. In particular, they would like a few associations and

individuals to work more closely with the project, in order to be sure that they are going in a right direction, and producing useful results for end-users. They would therefore like to gather a few people in a practitioners' board. The members of this board will:

- provide the practitioners' perspective for the duration of the project;
- ensure that each project phase is grounded in the practitioners' institutional, legal and political reality;
- guide the translation of research results into useful formats; and
- support the scientific partners in all phases of the project.

Of course, environmental issues are at the heart of sustainable development in mountain areas and this is why they want to have the opinion of some representatives from this sector. Knowing that your work contributes to a sustainable development of (amongst others) mountain regions, they would be interested in talking to a variety of environmental professionals.

For more information please visit the mountain.TRIP website ([www.mountaintrip.eu](http://www.mountaintrip.eu)) or contact the Euromontana MountainTRIP project managers, Birte Viétor ([birte.vietor@euromontana.org](mailto:birte.vietor@euromontana.org)) and Marie Guitton ([marie.guitton@euromontana.org](mailto:marie.guitton@euromontana.org)).

January	February	March
April	May	June
July	August	September
October	November	December

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event title	Location	Weblink
5 May 2010	EFAEP EMS FORUM	Brussels, Belgium	<a href="http://www.efaep.org/diary/event/25/">www.efaep.org/diary/event/25/</a>
28 May 2010	EFAEP GENERAL ASSEMBLY	Porto, Portugal	<a href="http://www.efaep.org">www.efaep.org</a>
27 - 29 May 2010	CLIMA 2010	Porto, Portugal	<a href="http://www.apea.pt">www.apea.pt</a>
1 - 4 June 2010	GREEN WEEK	Brussels, Belgium	<a href="http://www.greenweek2010.eu">www.greenweek2010.eu</a>
8 - 10 June 2010	SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES TO REMEDIATION OF CONTAMINATED LAND IN EUROPE	Ghent, Belgium	<a href="http://www.redoxtech.com">www.redoxtech.com</a>
7 July 2010	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER DAY	Munich, Germany	<a href="http://www.vnu-ev.de">www.vnu-ev.de</a>
13 - 14 July 2010	1ST GLOBAL BUSINESS OF BIODIVERSITY SYPOSIUM	London, UK	<a href="http://www.businessofbiodiversity.co.uk">www.businessofbiodiversity.co.uk</a>
2 - 4 November 2010	IEEM CONFERENCE - BIODIVERSITY BEYOND 2010: MISSED OPPORTUNITIES, NEW TARGETS	Dublin, Ireland	<a href="http://www.ieem.net">www.ieem.net</a>



[www.ategrus.org](http://www.ategrus.org)

## Member in Focus - ATEGRUS

### Asociación Técnica para la Gestión de Residuos y Medio Ambiente

ATEGRUS is the Spanish Technical Association for Waste Management and Environment, a non-profit making organization, created in 1974.

ATEGRUS is the only Spanish organization involved in all waste management systems, urban cleansing and the environment. Its members are municipalities, public institutions, private companies, universities, research centres and technicians from this sector.

The main objectives of ATEGRUS are:

- To put together all parties involved in environmental management, in order to join efforts and criteria.
- To establish a joint co-operation among equipment manufacturers, service companies, engineers and technicians in order to share experience.
- To contribute to the progress and update waste management, environmental and public cleansing techniques.
- To stimulate research, statistics, training and public awareness.
- To get in contact through co-operation agreements with those organizations and

national and international associations related to the environment.

ATEGRUS is the National Member and only Spanish representative of the International Solid Waste Association – ISWA, and Clean World International - CWI.

ATEGRUS is a member of several other umbrella bodies and has many collaboration agreements. It is represented by its technical magazine, RESIDUOS.

ATEGRUS conducts studies and holds conferences and seminars on waste management and other environmental issues.

ATEGRUS organizes training courses in the field of waste management: Waste legislation, sanitary landfill management, construction waste, biological treatments, etc.

ATEGRUS participates regularly in external stakeholder working groups (e.g. Ministry of Environment) and also has its own working groups in all fields of waste management (biological treatment, waste to energy, mechanical treatment, sanitary waste, hazardous waste, collection and transport, landfills and contaminated sites).

ATEGRUS also undertakes public awareness activities.



### Current members:

AFITE, France  
AIAT, Italy  
AIN, Italy  
AISA, Italy  
APEA, Portugal  
ASEP, Switzerland  
ATEGRUS, Spain  
CIWEM, UK  
CSPZP, Czech Republic  
FAEP, Finland  
IEEM, UK  
IEMA, UK  
IES, UK  
VBU, Germany  
VDI, Germany  
VMD, Belgium  
VNU, Germany  
VVM, the Netherlands

## About EFAEP

EFAEP is the European Federation of Associations of Environmental Professionals, which seeks to promote and coordinate the professional status, level and content of environmental work and of those working in this field.

Its objectives are:

- to be the representative organisation for all Environmental Professionals across Europe;
- to promote and co-ordinate environmental work and environmental professionals while recognizing the separate identities of its member organisations;
- to promote adherence to environmental professional standards as one of the

essential prerequisites for achieving sustainability;

- to influence and implement the environmental policy, science and education agenda throughout Europe.

It will do so by being respected for its adherence to sound science rather than political lobbying but will be proactive where supported by scientific or technical evidence. Where possible it will also use its influence within the global context, beyond the European boundaries.

For full statutes and how to become a member association of EFAEP, please consult the website: [www.efaep.org](http://www.efaep.org).