

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



SURFRIDER
FOUNDATION EUROPE

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION EUROPE

Since 1990, Surfrider Foundation Europe has become a reference in the fight for the protection of the ocean and its users, with the passion and commitment of its community on the ground.

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Don't forget all the people who do voluntary work for Surfrider and without whom all of this would be meaningless. Thank you to all members and contributors who make this work possible. Remember to renew your membership at www.surfrider.eu

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

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CONTENTS

04

EDITORIAL

06

THE YEAR 2019
IN NUMBERS

08

MARINE LITTER

16

COASTAL MANAGEMENT
AND CLIMATE CHANGE

24

WATER QUALITY
AND HEALTH

30

LIFE IN THE
ORGANIZATION

34

FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT REPORT

42

NEW PROJECTS

EDITORIAL

This year, once again, Surfrider Foundation Europe has mobilized its network and all its expertise to tackle ocean pollution. We filed a civil lawsuit during the sinking of the Grande America off the Atlantic coast, we demonstrated against the construction work in the port of Bretignolles-sur-Mer (France) which has since stopped, and more generally we are continuing our battle on the legislative front, so that new bills continue to improve the protection of aquatic environments throughout Europe.

All these victories have been hard won, year after year, thanks to our action in the field, thanks to local footholds as close as possible to reality, which enables us to fully play our role as a whistleblower, but also thanks to our proximity with institutions, which enables us to bring these issues up directly with political and economic decision-makers.

These victories are not, of course, achieved through our actions alone, and we can only commend in 2019 the growth of social and environmental protests in all four corners of the world. The young generation no longer hesitates to take to the streets to say NO to the world that some would like to leave them with and to expressly ask States to act against

climate change. This ever-increasing mobilization contributes fully to the emergence of an individual and collective lucidity that encourages decisions in favor of an ecological transition.

This impetus gives a glimmer of hope for our future, which might have seemed very bleak. The collective awareness of the urgency to act is spreading in our society, and the messages it conveys are being heard more and more loudly: STOP to our consumerist lifestyle, STOP to the one and only economic growth that we know is incompatible with the finite resources of our planet and generates increased social inequalities.

This lucidity, dear friends of our Ocean community, Surfrider acquires it, strengthens it, and spreads it every day a little more. And if on the eve of our 30th anniversary, we appreciate everything we have achieved, we are conscious above all of the challenges that lie ahead.

But our actions alone will not be enough, nothing will be able to change fundamentally without the commitment of citizens.

Each one of us holds a share of this power to make things change, through our daily behavior, our mode of consumption or transport, but also through our commitment or militancy, associative as well as political, through our actions in the field and of course through our vote, at all levels, local, national or European.

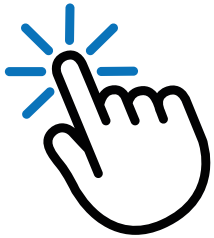
Defend with us these values, these principles, this vision. Defend this reconstruction of our society, which cannot be achieved without you or without a healthy Ocean. We know that we can count on your vigilance and your unfailing commitment to strengthen our collective position as a whistle-blower as well as our action in the field to bring about this transformation.

The ocean is at the center of our lives, and by protecting it we will protect ourselves. We must commit ourselves with all our strength and passion.

Gilles Asenjo, President
Florent Marcoux, Director general



THE YEAR 2019 IN NUMBERS

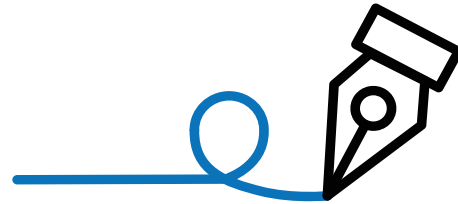


174 626

individuals were exposed to the website content in 2019.

50

civil society members active in the protection of the ocean signed the Ocean Call.



2 000

employees gained awareness of water pollution during Corporate Awareness Days.



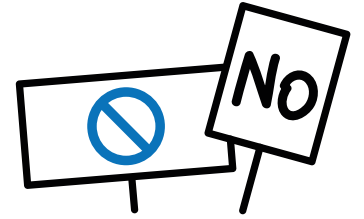
75%

of the 980 participants in the bathing water quality survey feel moderately or not at all informed about the water quality of their swimming areas.



13 660

individuals visited the campuses in 2019.



2 500

people mobilized against the port of Brétignolles-sur-mer.



46

local chapters amongst which

7

are new.

4

days, 80 speakers, 3 round tables, 8 lectures, followed by 1,500 attendees (streaming included) for the Ocean Pavilion.



Have you noticed ?

In 2019, Surfrider Europe has developed a brand new visual identity and logo. Behind these visual changes is the will to reaffirm the founding values of Surfrider Europe: passion, respect, sharing. We wish to highlight the diversity and commitment of the Surfrider community daily in the field.

MARINE LITTER

For 30 years, Surfrider Europe has been fighting against the problem of marine litter. In 2019, this issue is attracting more attention than ever. This year is marked by several records with more than 2,000 employees raising awareness of aquatic pollution during the Corporate Awareness Days, 20,621 signatures were collected for the petition for stricter regulation of maritime transport and 91,160 participants in the Ocean Initiatives. These figures encourage us to continue our commitment. Some changes are also worth noting with the Riverine Input program, which became Plastic Origins, and now a single campaign to reduce plastic pollution, the Global Plastic Campaign. Nevertheless, the original idea remains, that reducing pollution is the solution.



VICTORIES / PROGRESS

Anti-Waste and Circular Economy Bill

Surfrider Europe, together with other NGOs, has committed itself to the anti-waste and circular economy bill, voted in the first reading by the national assembly in December 2019 and validated by the joint commission in January 2020. This victory represented an unprecedented step forward in the fight against plastic pollution, since to date, single-use plastic constitutes 80% of the total waste present in the Ocean.

Hence, the law has planned to ban food containers (in line with Surfrider US and the Surfrider International network) and to expand the ban on plastic drinks, single-use plastic packaging and containers in public procurement, as well as intentionally added microplastics, in the coming years. Exemptions to bioplastics for single-use plastic products will be lifted. The National Assembly has also adopted a definition of single-use plastic. Finally, preventive measures for industrial plastic granules have been accepted and maintained.

Le Havre: for a complete excavation of the former Dollemard landfill site

In 2019, Surfrider Europe continued its work on a complete excavation of the Dollemard (France) landfill, which is eroding two meters per year into the canal. As a reminder, an estimated 400,000 tons of waste have been deposited there over the last 60 years.

The association organized a film-debate in the city of Le Havre on the 10th of January 2019 to raise awareness among local citizens. Following this event, more than 130 people took part in the Ocean Initiative organized by the local chapter on the 13th of January 2019. As of today, an evaluation report, carried out



by a private company, is underway to solve the problem and establish the cost of the work to be carried out. It should be published by the end of 2020. Work on a complete excavation of the landfill can thus hopefully start within the next two years.

A petition for stricter regulation of maritime transport

In March 2019, the Italian ro-ro hybrid ship Grande America caught fire and sank more than 300 kilometers west of the French coast. It was carrying 2,200 tons of heavy fuel for propulsion, 365 containers, 45 of which were listed as carrying dangerous goods, and 2,000 vehicles. After this incident, two oil pollution slicks were identified in the days that followed.

Surfrider Europe launched a petition to improve the regulation of international shipping. This petition, which collected 20,621 signatures in a few days, aimed to show public authorities, our national and international governments, the world maritime authorities, but also shipowners and professionals in the maritime sector, that it is no longer acceptable to experience such environmental disasters and that exemplary sanctions will have to be taken. Surfrider Europe then became a plaintiff in the prosecution to ensure that the polluters are sentenced to the extent of the environmental damage caused to the ocean, its biodiversity, and its coasts.

PROJECTS / PROGRAMS

Ocean Initiatives

Every year, 8 million tons of plastic waste end up in the largest dustbin of our modern society: the Ocean. Suffocation of marine mammals, asphyxiation of the oceans and danger to mankind: this kind of pollution has many harmful consequences on the environment.

In 2019, a few new features have been added to the program. For example, measures have been taken to facilitate citizen participation by improving the ergonomics of the website. The organizer's kit has also been expanded to include gloves in sizes suitable for children. Last year, we also carried out two quantitative satisfaction surveys to be able to continue building a project that is as close as possible to the needs of people in the field. Finally, events, in collaboration with the ambassadors and influencers of Surfrider Europe, were organized to make the program known to as many people as possible and to mark the highlights of the project during the year.

Last year, the Ocean Initiatives brought together 91,160 participants over 2,279 collections organized in 47 countries, a record!

Riverine Input became Plastic Origins

In 2019, the Riverine Input project changed its name to Plastic Origins. The project's ambition has remained the same: to reduce pollution from ocean waste by studying inflows from rivers and offering solutions at a local scale. [The medium-term objective is to map pollution in all European rivers.](#)

This year, Surfrider Europe continued to develop its expertise in monitoring river microplastics. A sampling kit has been designed in order to carry out basic analyses. In addition, 200km were travelled in kayaks in order to geolocate visible waste on the banks using the Marine Debris Tracker application. Work was also carried out to identify solutions and raise awareness to provide local elected officials with a list of solutions to act against plastic pollution. To monitor more effectively, Surfrider Europe has worked with several organisations such as Découverte Pêche and Protection des Milieux, Nature Libre, WaterTrek, Along Clean Rivers or the OdySeine association. The volunteer chapter, Surfrider Calvados (France), has carried out the first test of the microplastic analysis and sampling kit.



A single campaign to reduce pollution at the source: the Global Plastic Campaign

In 2019, Surfrider Europe combined all of its anti-plastic campaigns into one for the first time. The Global Plastic Campaign was born with the same objective: to reduce pollution at the source. Until now, a campaign was focused on a plastic object. From now on, the Global Plastic Campaign will aim to reduce plastic production both at the macro level (single-use plastics, cigarette butts,...) and at the micro level (intentionally added microplastics or those caused by wear and tear while using certain objects). The aim of this campaign is to make citizens aware of the plastic pollution that is flooding the oceans but also to initiate a profound shift to limit its progression. The fight is led with both the help of educational tools and with our national and European legislative institutions lobbying team.

In November 2019, a campaign was launched on social networks during the European waste reduction week to talk about the misconceptions of reducing marine litter.

[A total of 129,481 people were reached by the campaign across all our social networks.](#)

Biomedica: Our sights are set on wastewater treatment plants

Since the early 2000s, thousands of biomedica have washed up on the coasts. Surfrider Europe has rapidly mobilized to fight against this new plastic pollution and observation networks have been set up to monitor their dispersion in the natural environment. After more than 10 years of investigation, the operation of the WWTPs (Wastewater

Treatment Plants) has been clearly pointed out. In 2019, through a report, we shared our information on the origin of pollution and the implementation of regulatory measures.

Containers at sea, a little-known form of abuse

Maritime transport today covers 90% of the world's flow of goods. To keep pace, ship owners are building increasingly colossal vessels. The problem is that this new form of gigantism is far from being harmless to the marine environment. It is at the origin of a form of pollution that is little known to the general public: drifting containers. Indeed, the length of cargo ships makes them more exposed to parametric rolling. A rough sea is therefore often enough to break these essential lifelines.

Since 2014, Surfrider Foundation Europe has been conducting studies on these drifting containers in order to quantify them and identify their impacts as well as their origins. This is a unique study since the declaration of container losses are unfortunately not standardized and have not been made mandatory to date. In 2019, Surfrider Europe published a report "*Containers overboard ! 10 proposals to prevent container losses*".



EDUCATION

Ciné'Ma Plage in Marseille

Every Wednesday from the 7th August to the 11th September 2019, Surfrider Europe offered free film screenings on the Prophète beach in Marseille (France). Through the five sessions, the themes of the impact of climate change on coastlines, the protection of the sea and coastline, marine litter and chemical pollution of water were addressed. [Around 650 people enjoyed a film on the beach](#), an audience that is usually only slightly or not at all sensitive to environmental issues.

« Constellations » Exhibition

Surfrider Foundation Europe hosted the “Constellations” project of the collective L’Ensemble from the 3rd to the 15th of October in the Art Campus at the association’s headquarters in Biarritz (France). L’Ensemble is a group of artists, creators and journalists who have realized that art and artists have a role to play, at least in the global awareness, and at best in action and change.

The collective L’Ensemble has transformed the Art Campus into a cosmic improvisation,

making several narratives heard as well as testimonies on the relationship between the ocean and the cosmos, placing the Ocean as the main theme. The event was mainly centered around the immersive installation “Constellation” by artist Rebecca Bournigault, and was also punctuated by various animations and performances.

More awareness on microplastics with educational content

In 2019, as part of the Global Plastic Campaign, Surfrider Europe wanted to address the issue of microplastics,

a hot topic that questions our consumption patterns, focuses on single-use products and its direct impact on marine life and indirectly on human health.

The animated video produced on microplastics was broadcast at the end of 2019. [It was viewed by more than 20,000 people.](#)

COASTAL MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Human activity, both collectively and individually, has a negative impact on the coastline and on climate change. The year 2019 is marked by the mobilization against these increasingly urgent issues. Indeed, one will remember the 2,500 people mobilized against the port of Brétignolles-sur-mer, the 7,000 participants in the European consultation Voice for the Ocean, or the 50 civil society actors active in the protection of the Ocean who signed the Ocean Call. Climate change is one of the major challenges for the years to come, which is why Surfrider Europe is constantly campaigning on this subject and counting every victory contributing to a better future for the coming generations.



VICTORIES / PROGRESS

Ocean Pavilion:

a statement entitled « Ocean Call »

In order to bring the ocean to the G7 negotiating table in Biarritz (France) in 2019, the Ocean Pavilion hosted daily hands-on roundtables and workshops. Attended by 1,500 spectators (including streaming), these four days featured 80 speakers, 8 lectures and 3 round tables. This led to the elaboration of an official written declaration. **Co-signed by some 50 civil society actors active in the protection of the ocean, this declaration entitled «Ocean Call» aims to offer concrete solutions and demand political measures for the preservation of the environment.**

The Ocean Pavilion and the Ocean Call are the result of the intense lobbying and partnership work carried out by Surfrider Europe with public authorities and companies. The significant media coverage that accompanied the event, as well as the presence of celebrities as diverse as they were inspirational, enabled the advocacy work to increase its influence.

Unprecedented mobilization against the port of Brétignolles-sur-mer

In 2019, the government had given its authorization for the start of construction work on the marina. Surfrider Europe had appealed against the decision, once again strongly opposing this project, which poses a threat to coastal ecosystems, currents and the seabed. Nonetheless, construction work had started, and the first bulldozers had arrived on the beach of Normandelière (France). However, thanks to the mobilization of 2,500 people (local citizens and organizations on the

spot, including Surfrider Europe) in October 2019 the construction work was halted pending a court decision which could potentially reverse the government's agreement.



PROJECTS / PROGRAMS

Voice for the Ocean

The aim was to bring the voice of citizens and the ocean to the heart of the new European parliamentary mandate. Launched in June 2018, the Voice for the Ocean campaign ran for one year and greatly enriched our political advocacy work. Nearly 7,000 participants spoke out on their environmental concerns about the Ocean. The international dimension of the consultation was showcased by the 59 different nationalities of contributing citizens.

Taking up the challenge of cooperation to make the energy transition successful

Surfrider Europe s'est engagée en soutenant la transition énergétique pour atténuer le

innovations and new ways of doing things, prioritizing integrated governance of coastal territories, increasing the knowledge of all stakeholders, stimulating the energy transition and promoting sustainable territorial dialogue.

Surfrider Europe is committed to helping everyone offer their experience in the service of citizen participation, to inform them about territorial dialogue approaches, to remind them of their scope of action and to encourage them to be vigilant.

For Surfrider Europe, the issue of climate implies that we must collectively move to adjust, modify or rethink our position in relation to the coastline and accompany the necessary ecological transitions to deal with it.

Several challenges accompanied the discussions that took place. Timing, the decision-maker often starts to exchange and discuss with the stakeholders of a project when it has already been decided. When a specific project emerges, it is important to be vigilant about the specific and full involvement of all the stakeholders directly or indirectly affected by the project. The legitimacy of the dialogue: good information is better than bad debate. The quality of the dialogue, its organization should not be limited to putting different stakeholders in a position to debate or exchange views. As for the collective interest versus individual interests, it is necessary to ensure that the general interest prevails.

changement climatique tout en préservant les ressources de la planète et orientant nos sociétés vers des modes de développement durable. Pour autant, il s'agissait aussi de viser à préserver l'équilibre Homme-Nature.

Surfrider Europe is committed to supporting the energy transition to mitigate climate change while preserving the planet's resources and guiding our societies towards sustainable development.

At the same time, it also aims to preserve the balance between man and nature. This was the subject of the booklet produced by Surfrider Europe on cooperation and territorial dialogue, based on five pillars :

EDUCATION

A survey to improve the educational platform of Surfrider Europe: Ocean Campus

To get to know its users better, an online questionnaire has been set up via «Hotjar» on the Ocean Campus website. 1,300 answers were collected during this survey which took place during three months in 2019. This questionnaire allowed the Ocean Campus project team to get to know its site visitors better (age, socio-professional category), their research intentions (themes, topics ...), the reasons for their visits (to learn more about a topic, schoolwork, animation, research topic) as well as their preferences on the expected format (computer graphics, courses, videos, games ...).

In 2019, in France, Spain and Germany, 112,456 people were reached by the content offered by the Ocean Campus website.

2nd edition of the escape game and a web-based version

Since 2018, the Bordeaux (France) office has been offering an escape game, available from the age of 7, to share with family the impact of human activity on land and water environments.

For the 2019 edition of the escape game called "l'Enquête en Gironde", the Surfrider Foundation Europe teams have developed a slightly more advanced and aesthetic web version to try to push back geographical barriers and allow a wider public to participate in our educational offer.



« Ocean Pavilion » Exhibition

In parallel to the Ocean Pavilion event, preceding the G7 in Biarritz (France), Surfrider Europe welcomed three artists. The painter, Federico Sanchez and the visual artists, Mister Ride and Esteban Richard were able to express their thoughts on the ocean through their art. The event brought together approximately 450 people at the Surfrider Campus in Biarritz.





WATER QUALITY AND HEALTH

In 2019, Surfrider Europe's fight for better water quality and health could be symbolized by a shocking figure: 75% of the 980 participants in our swimming water quality survey feel moderately or not at all informed about the quality of the water in their swimming areas. Therefore, Surfrider Europe has worked at both French and European level to reverse the trend. Our commitment has been illustrated by major victories such as the one against SDS Rain, a historic victory against maritime pollution in the Mediterranean. We have also worked on a new protocol for monitoring *ostreopsis ovata*, on raising awareness through educational walks but also with legislation on the new swimming water quality directive that will be voted on in 2020.





VICTORIES / PROGRESS

SDS Rain trial: a victory against maritime pollution in the Mediterranean Sea

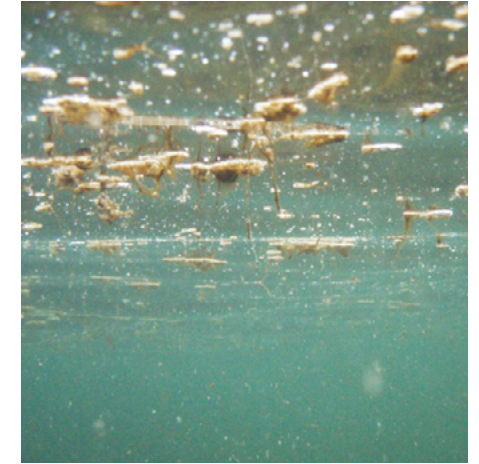
The SDS Rain trial: it was the longest legal action taken by Surfrider Europe. In 2010, the Italian vessel, SDS RAIN, was caught in the act of unlawfully discharging oil near Marseille, France. The vessel was en route from Fos-sur-Mer (France) to Turkey. The discharge caused pollution nearly 22 kilometers long and 50 meters wide. The SDS Rain was diverted from its destination, stopped, and detained in the port of Marseille.

A few days later, the vessel set sail again after the company had paid the 800,000 euros bail. Surfrider Europe then filed a civil action suit to ensure that this pollution did not go unpunished. After more than eight years of proceedings, the captain and owner of the vessel were finally convicted in 2019 by the Court of Appeal in Aix en Provence (France) following a decision of the Court of Cassation. One more victory in our fight against the impunity of marine polluters.

Surfrider Europe raises business awareness

Once again, this year, Surfrider Europe accompanied and gained the attention of a large number of company employees and professionals during the Corporate Awareness Days. These awareness-raising actions, aimed at employees of small and large companies alike, were a real success this year, both in terms of the number and satisfaction of participants.

Thus, in 2019, the Corporate Awareness Days made it possible to raise awareness among more than **2,000 employees**, i.e. three times more than in 2017. The Surfrider Europe teams spent no less than 44 days alongside the 45 companies during the year to raise awareness and guide them in their development. In the form of an eco-citizen team-building day, Surfrider Europe led conferences, workshops and organized waste collection initiatives.



PROJECTS / PROGRAMS

Sea Smart Land

This project aims to maintain the quality of coastal waters through a territorial approach based on soil dewatering and the restoration of coastal urban centers.

Thus, three levers of action were undertaken in 2019. Firstly, awareness-raising and education initiatives were done through the production of teaching aids such as the mock-up of the water cycle. In addition, educational activities were organized to experience soil and the phenomenon of infiltration. Training was also conducted with the implementation of thematic web conferences for local authorities or the organization of conferences/debates presenting the project. Finally, participative workshops were designed such as the operational and technical implementation of these initiatives within the European headquarters of Surfrider Europe in autumn 2020.

New monitoring protocol for *Ostreopsis Ovata*

After 10 summer seasons of regular monitoring of this toxic microalgae, Surfrider Europe established a new monitoring protocol in 2019. This protocol, developed by the Oceanographic Laboratory of Villefranche-sur-Mer (France) and carried out in close collaboration with the PACA Regional Health Authority, could be applied every week in the summer of 2019 on two French sites in the Bouches du Rhône (in Carry-le-Rouet) and the Var (in Toulon). The particularity of this protocol was the origin of the sampling. Indeed, they are no longer carried out only on water samples but also on samples of algae on which *Ostreopsis ovata* attaches itself. This new protocol has made it possible to obtain information on the presence of *Ostreopsis ovata* in the Mediterranean ecosystem. All the samples taken from the algae during the 2019 summer season revealed the presence of the microalgae in the environment. The concentrations, which were always low, did not present any health risks.



PROJECTS / PROGRAMS (CONTINUED)

Resistance to antibiotics

Numerous studies and reports indicate that resistance to antibiotics is increasing every year and that this is likely to become one of the major challenges from a health point of view. In this context, analytical, monitoring and observational studies are essential to understand the microbiological quality of water to guarantee the safety of aquatic activities.

For Surfrider Europe, the main challenge of antibiotic resistance is to reduce the risk by carrying out a microbiological study on target populations. After 3 years of monitoring campaigns and carrying out research of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in coastal waters and sand, Surfrider Europe has joined forces with a team of researchers, an environmental and health analysis laboratory and a research department to carry out a new and large-scale study.

Bathing Water Quality Directive

In June 2019, Surfrider Europe released an annual report on bathing water quality in Europe. Just over 85% of Europe's bathing sites were monitored in 2018 and classified as "Excellent Quality" and less and less sites are classified as "Poor". If Surfrider Europe was pleased with this analysis, it also appeared important to anticipate new sea activities, new analysis technologies and new information and communication systems, but also to consider emerging pollution!

As an example, in 2019, via the Surfrider Coastal Defenders program, a network for monitoring the quality of bathing water and nautical activities was set up in the region north of Porto (Portugal). This monitoring has made it possible to observe urban pollution, the extension of the port dyke and the problem of coastal water traffic.



EDUCATION

More and more people are aware of Surfrider Europe's campuses

The Surfrider Campus covers the entire Nouvelle-Aquitaine region as well as the Adour-Garonne basin, with Biarritz and Bordeaux (France) at its epicenter. The Biarritz Campus, located within the European headquarters of the association, welcomes every year nearly 5,000 people, including 4,000 schoolchildren and young people. The Bordeaux Campus is more mobile. Environmental and sustainable development education courses are delivered directly in partner schools and colleges or at events for the general public in the region.

In 2019, more than 6,660 schoolchildren will have benefited from Surfrider Europe's educational programs, as well as 7,000 people from the general public.

An experiential approach to the area

In order to complete the offer of the "Ocean Friendly Gardens" program, Surfrider offers to discover its local territory with an "experiential" approach through the prism of water. Accompanied by a supervisor, the schoolchildren discover their local basin to understand the challenges of water conservation. This journey of a few kilometers in the area allows participants to understand the use of water and the importance of preserving and protecting it. Thematic stops in wild spaces, near urban or man-made areas (operation of a wastewater treatment plant, coastal landscape reading, study of the biodiversity of a river, sanitation, etc.) punctuate this educational and entertaining walk.

LIFE IN THE ORGANIZATION

We can never say it enough, the strength of Surfrider Europe comes from its network, its volunteers, its members. The strength of the organization comes from its presence and actions in the field. Surfrider Europe has 39 active volunteer chapters in 12 countries. They engage local communities, organize events, and lead the missions of the NGO in the field. This year, 10 new local chapters were created, and 90 new volunteers joined the chapters, the Facebook volunteers group now has 700 more people and 6 new languages are spoken by skill-based volunteers.



A more fluid platform for engagement

A mobilization platform, launched online in December 2018, has enabled Surfrider to offer increasingly rich and varied missions to promote and enhance the action of young volunteers in support of the causes defended by the association.

In 2019, the Surfrider Europe Volunteers website (<https://volunteers.surfrider.eu/>) had about 7000 visitors. In addition, 724 people contacted the association directly in order to get involved in the association either to join a local chapter or to put their professional skills at the disposal of the association. At the end of 2019, we counted 250 skill-based volunteers.

Figures on the rise

By the end of 2019, Surfrider Europe had 700 more volunteers in the Facebook volunteer group, 6 new translation languages available amongst their skilled volunteers, 10 new local chapters and 90 new volunteers in the local chapters.

Volunteer chapters involved in campaign participation

In 2019, the local chapters in France organized 171 Ocean Initiatives. Indeed, the campaigns around marine litter inspire the chapters since 372 actions were organized by volunteers around this theme. Two actions were also carried out on the theme of water quality and people's health.

In order to help and accompany the volunteers in the organization and planning of their actions, Surfrider Europe provides them with a guide, "The Campaign Book", which allows them to know what campaigns exist and how to participate in them in their territory.

Days dedicated to the local chapters or « Chapters Days »

As in previous years, the Chapter Days are organized to mobilize and federate the volunteer networks. This meeting took place in October 2019 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The objectives were to facilitate dialogue and exchange good practices amongst volunteers but also between employees and volunteers; to promote local actions by presenting the year's flagship actions and to improve the synergy between the volunteer chapters, strengthen their actions and their operating methods.

Over two days, 76 people took part in the meeting, including 56 volunteers representing 29 chapters.

The Ocean celebrated throughout Europe

Many events were organized on the 8th of June 2019, World Ocean Day, thanks to the work of the local chapters. It is indeed a special day to highlight the commitment and motivation of thousands of ocean lovers throughout Europe to protect the ocean, with volunteers from Surfrider Europe, but also other associations and citizens who are mobilizing to preserve their environment.

The Surfrider Europe offices have organized Ocean Initiatives in Rome, Toulouse, Brest and Dorbogea in Romania, awareness raising events such as in the Loire-Atlantique region and dancing on the beach in Biarritz with the Malandain Ballet. Finally, a first march for the Ocean took place in Paris and Pointe-à-pitre. More than 2,000 people responded to the call from 21 associations mobilized for the event.



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT

The transformation of our business model continues and our financial structure continues to strengthen. Thanks to the efforts of the entire team and the resource development strategy, we are very pleased to be able to share with you the good results of our 2019 management efforts, which is reflected in a marked improvement in all macroeconomic indicators (lower debt, positive earnings, increase in cash, etc).

It is important to specify that we have kept the same accounting method for our marketing investments as last year, which explains the reservation made by our Statutory Auditor. We therefore remain in disagreement with our Statutory Auditor on this subject but we have maintained this method in agreement with our accounting firm and because it allows, beyond the accounting vision, to represent more faithfully the economic situation of the association.



ASSETS	2019	2018	USABILITIES & EQUITY	2019	2018
FIXED ASSETS	169 378	208 574	ASSOCIATION FUNDS AND RESERVES	332 738	168 591
			Retained earnings from equity	168 591	45 697
			Operating results	164 146	122 894
			Other associative funds		
RECEIVABLES	2 684 212	2 234 737	DEBTS	2 520 852	2 274 720
From users and related accounts	1 659 014	1 312 890	Loans & Liabilities	884 907	1 067 167
Liquid assets	584 347	204 489	Suppliers and related accounts	556 264	557 752
Others	440 851	717 358	Deferred income	768 256	262 719
			Others	311 425	480 564
TOTAL	2 853 590	2 443 311	TOTAL	2 853 590	2 443 311

BALANCE SHEET ANALYSIS

Our organization's economic performance continues to improve on its key indicators:

- **Our associative funds continue to grow thanks to the positive operating result for 2019**, which amounts to 164,000 euros, bringing our associative funds to 332,000 euros.
- **The cash position improved significantly** and grew by more than 500,000 euros over the year.
- **Our capacity to auto-finance continues to grow by more than 40%**, enabling the association to meet its debt and capital requirements for the year.

Repayment of loans granted in 2018 has started and our debt is starting to decrease. In line with our plan, we reduced our direct marketing investments in 2019, which we were able to finance out of our equity without generating any new bank loans.

Finally, we can note a sharp increase in revenues from advances consistent with the signing of new multi-year agreements.

Use of total resources in 2019



Use of resources issued from donations made by contributors



ANALYSIS OF THE PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT :

Resource analysis

After a strong increase in 2018, we managed to consolidate revenues and maintain a growth of 7% in 2019. In particular, we will note :

- **A decrease in subsidies of around 21%**, mainly due to a decline in subsidies from public agencies in France.
- **Donations from the public, which continue to grow solidly (+30%)**, enabled this source of funding to represent nearly 40% of the organization's total resources at the end of 2019.
- **Reinforced support from our private partners**, whose subsidies are increasing by 19%.
- **Finally, a 50% increase in resources generated by our services** (Corporate Awareness Days), which made it possible to mobilize more than 2,000 employees from 27 companies and to bring in unallocated resources that contribute once more to consolidating our equity capital and thus our investment capabilities.

Employment analysis

Operating expenses are up by nearly 6%. We still have a significant portion of expenses related to the investment decided in 2018 to develop our unrestricted funds due to the decision to spread the expense over several years.

However, our fund-raising and operating expenses are stable overall, while our social mission expenses increased by 9% due to the deployment of new projects and the ramping-up of the organization's flagship campaigns such as the Ocean Initiatives.

We can thus see the beginning of an improvement in our ratios, with 62% of our resources allocated to our social missions (+2 percentage points).

JOB	2019	2018	RESOURCES	2019	2018
PROJECTS	2 337 996	2 152 279	PUBLIC FUNDRAISING INCOME	1 447 004	1 121 219
Coordination Programs	163 598	205 872	OTHER PRIVATE RESOURCES	1 038 035	865 627
In Europe	163 598	205 872	Patronage	1 038 035	865 627
Outside Europe	0	0	PUBLIC FUNDING	948 409	1 209 355
Topical Programs	949 787	1 057 940	International	419 912	474 378
Water Quality and Health	299 529	133 094	Ministries	176 400	200 350
Marine Litter	588 903	651 195	Employment	27 022	39 626
Coastal Management and Climate Change	61 355	273 651	Regions	75 000	89 000
Cross-cutting programs	1 224 611	888 467	Departments	34 807	40 404
Information, mobilisation and local voluntary actions	492 507	448 391	Municipalities	29 000	36 700
Education and Awareness	732 104	440 075	Other (semi-public organisations)	186 268	328 897
OFFICE EXPENSES	524 066	574 426	Other revenues	348 319	361 836
Management, Admin, finance, Head Office	524 066	574 426	Services rendered	229 017	153 089
PUBLIC FUNDRAISING COSTS	516 930	499 680	Royalties	0	0
EXPENSES FOR SEARCH OF PRIVATE PARTNERS	238 629	208 758	Lawsuit compensation payments	2 056	12 275
SURPLUS	164 146	122 894	Exceptional revenues	4 158	124 540
			Investment Income	73	477
			Others	113 015	71 455
			BUDGETARY SHORTFALLS		
TOTAL	3 781 767	3 558 036	TOTAL	3 781 767	3 558 037

BUSINESS MODEL

« The evolution of the economic model is accelerating »

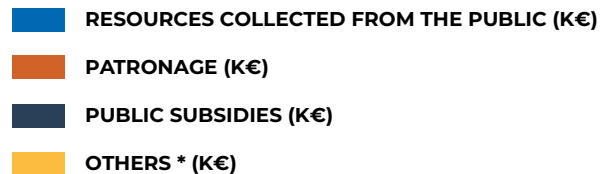
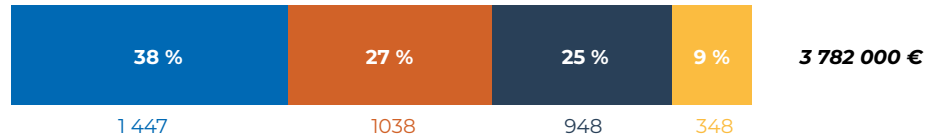
As announced in the introduction to this financial report, our transformation of the business model is continuing and even accelerating. This is in line with our strategy, as the investments made in 2018 will fully pay off in 2019. At the end of the year, 40% of our financing comes from public donations, which reinforces our financial base and its stability as well as its legitimacy as an influential player.

We should also welcome once again the increase in company payments and the provision of services, which will enable us to further develop our unrestricted funds and thus our financial independence.

2018



2019



Assessment of volunteer engagement

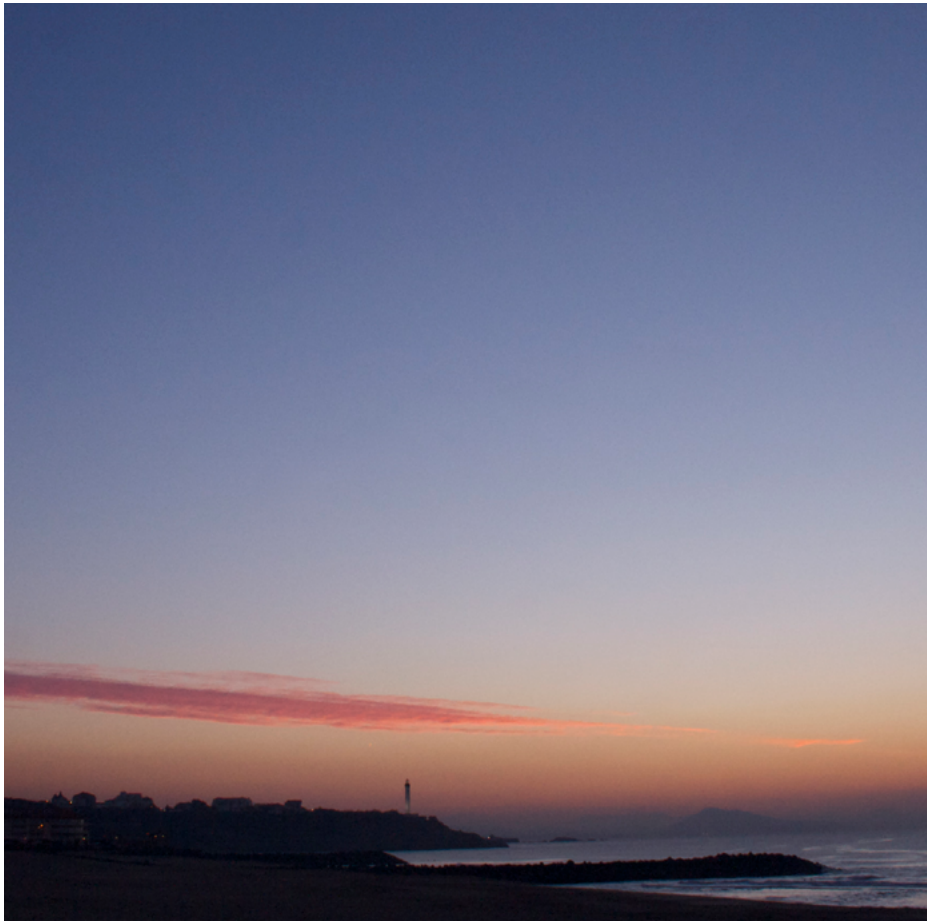
We are very pleased to see in 2019 a strong increase in our network of activists in the field. This is undoubtedly proof of a growing citizen awareness, but it is also the result of a reinforced work to offer new campaigns and new tools allowing a greater number of people to find suitable ways to get involved

In particular, the creation of 10 new volunteer teams has enabled us to extend our intervention to 12 European countries.

For the second consecutive year, we can congratulate ourselves on a new record for our historic Ocean Initiatives program, with more than 2,000 waste collections organized throughout the world which brought together more than 90,000 citizens who have been made aware of the problem of marine litter.

Our volunteers' engagement in the field represents the equivalent of the mobilization of 75 full-time staff and is valued in our financial statements at more than 2,000,000 euros.

NEW PROJECTS



The year 2020 already promises to be full of projects, here is a small glimpse of the year to come.

Towards the end of offshore oil drilling?

April 20th, 2020 will be associated with the unfortunate 10th anniversary of the largest oil spill in history. Indeed, in 2010, the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon, the deepest offshore well in the world, made a lasting impression. The 500 million liters of oil released into the ocean and the 400+ marine species impacted are all consequences of this tragic accident that claimed the lives of 11 people. Today, despite the risks, drilling is still allowed in all European seas (by 14 EU countries). This anniversary will be an opportunity to look back at the dangers of this activity.

Ocean Friendly Restaurants

Surfrider US's flagship project has captivated the volunteers of Surfrider Europe, who have expressed their willingness to adapt this program to the old continent. The objective? To label restaurants that meet certain environmental criteria, such as removing single-use plastics in the restaurant or using local, organic and seasonal products.

Just One Thing / 30 years SFE

It all starts with a first step... Surfrider Europe too. In 1990, it was a first thought, followed by a first gesture and then a first step that brought the association to where it is today. The fight for the protection of the Ocean was rooted in an action, then a project. Marine pollution is everyone's business, which is why, in 2020, we will launch a "Just One Thing" awareness campaign, inviting everyone to make their first gesture, their first action to preserve the Ocean.

Label Shipping

The maritime industry, which accounts for 80% of the world's freight transport, has a major impact on the ocean and the environment in general. This includes greenhouse gas emissions, noise pollution that disrupts the balance of marine biodiversity and oil pollution. This is why Surfrider Europe and the Green Alliance will launch in 2020 the Green Marine Europe label, a certification program to guide the maritime industry towards a more sustainable model.

#WeAreSurfriderEurope



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