

ANNUAL REPORT 2023



SURFIDER
FOUNDATION

EDITORIAL

First of all, we would like to welcome the formation of a new Board of Directors following the last Annual General Meeting.

3 new directors have joined this governing body, and the office has been reshuffled, with Nathalie Van Den Broeck elected as the new Chairwoman.

We would also like to pay a sincere and warm tribute to Gilles Asenjo, who chaired the organisation for 28 years. He has supported every phase of the organisation's development, ensuring that its history, DNA and values have been respected at all times. Many thanks to him for all the victories he has made possible through his unwavering commitment and leadership in the service of the ocean.

As you read through this annual report, you will see that 2023 is a perfect illustration of the systemic approach used by Surfrider to strengthen the impact of its action.

In other words, we activate all the levers at our disposal to bring about change at every level. You will, of course, find out about our lobbying activities with the European Commission (in particular our campaigns against single-use packaging and microplastics), our work with the industrial sector (for example, those aimed at reducing pollution linked to the use of bio-media and industrial plastic granules), our awareness-raising and educational activities for as many people as possible (with a record number of people taking part in our Ocean Initiatives programme and new educational exhibitions).

You will also find our participation in local battles against proven pollution or harmful projects (such as the Castets surf park or the judges' tower for the Olympic surfing events at Teahupo'o) and, of course, our expert work to develop our knowledge of growing issues (such as the invasive algae *Ostreopsis ovata* or the ecosystem services of blue carbon).

Over the course of 2023, Surfrider Europe has also continued its efforts to promote our expertise and our battles beyond Europe's borders. We would like to thank Surfrider Portugal, our new national entity, which was inaugurated at the beginning of the year and brilliantly organised the 7th edition of the international Global Wave Conference. We are also very proud to have been able to support Surfrider Senegal in the construction of a bathing water monitoring project in Dakar, which lays the foundations and the beginnings of a long-term project to restore Senegal's waters to good ecological status.

And, of course, none of this would have been possible without you, without this wonderful community that is growing every day and working to protect the ocean, which is vital to our survival.

Thank you, and let's keep up the fight!

***Nathalie Van Den Broeck, President
& Florent Marcoux, Managing Director***

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2023 IN FIGURES

100 

rivers monitored as part of
Plastic Origins

828 

branch volunteers and
445 skills volunteers

10 818 

people reached
by the ACT! team during
Corporate Awareness
Activities

60 

sampling campaigns
(Mediterranean and South
Atlantic) as part of the
Ostreopsis monitoring
programme



20 public and
private partners
133 support Surfrider's
projects

148 

Greeting cards were placed in
the mailboxes of Members of the
European Parliament to raise
awareness about the threat
posed by IGOs.

15 

échappées bleues

35 

new OFR

+ D'1M 

cigarette butts collected in 1 hour
as part of the "Mégothon"
organized with InoxTag

OUR ASSOCIATION



A PIVOTAL YEAR FOR SURFRIDER'S FEDERAL MODEL

The year 2023 marked a decisive step in the development of Surfrider Foundation's federal model, with significant progress achieved following the implementation of the 2022 complementary investment plan. The completion of Surfrider Foundation Portugal's establishment was a major milestone, thereby completing the network of national legal entities that already includes Germany, the Netherlands, and Spain.

Efforts to strengthen these entities have been extensive. Licensing agreements were established, and particular attention was given to reinforcing the Surfrider headquarters team to support the national entities and help them grow, notably through the organization of workshops focused on operational plans.

The finalization of the recruitment of national coordinators for each entity, along with the strengthening of the Spanish team with a position dedicated to fundraising, were also key steps in this process.

Each entity has made notable progress.

- In Germany, the development of a 2024 action plan and the successful organization of events and grant applications were achieved.
- In the Netherlands, the team expanded and intensified its efforts in partnerships and fundraising.
- In Portugal, the focus was on event management, highlighted by the successful organization of the "Global Wave Conference."
- Finally, in Spain, fundraising through telemarketing initiatives and partnership development were prioritized and placed at the center of the strategy.

At headquarters, targeted recruitments provided direct administrative, financial, and legal support to the entities. This support was further strengthened by collective meetings allowing entities to share their experiences and discuss specific topics. The entities also benefited from assistance in applying for national grants and in communication strategy.

At the end of 2023, meetings held with each entity revealed significant progress regarding their action plans and budgets. By continuing to monitor their financial outlooks and support them through the investment plan, Surfrider Foundation continues to strengthen its ability to develop local actions across Europe and enhance its impact at the national level.

TOWARD A STRENGTHENED CSR

Surfrider actively implemented its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) action plan, developed following the assessment conducted in 2021. The working committee closely monitored the progress of projects in the three key areas grouped under the Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) criteria.

On the environmental front, notable progress was made, including the introduction of composting guidelines, collaboration with Tree6Clope for cigarette butt management, and the organization of seven actions and workshops to raise staff awareness.



On the social front, workshops were organized in January 2023 for all staff on psychosocial risks, which are now integrated into annual evaluations and the human resources onboarding process.

The signing of the Diversity and Respect Charter by volunteers and staff also marked a strong commitment, and the second edition of Duo Day was implemented.

The NGO also continued to train employees in shared governance, extending this year to a third level of training. Significant effort was dedicated to improving shared governance processes, with clarifications on the responsibilities of the Strategic Committee and Thematic Commissions, as well as the recruitment of first links (responsible for implementing orientations and strategies) with more clearly defined responsibilities.

OUR EXPERTISE

MARINE LITTER

In 2023, the fight against plastic pollution remained a crucial priority for Surfrider, emphasizing the urgency of taking action against this growing threat to our oceans and marine biodiversity. In this context, the year was marked by significant events.

In January, the legal action initiated against the Danone group for failing to fulfill its duty of care regarding plastic highlighted the need for increased corporate responsibility in reducing plastic production.

The 2nd session of international treaty negotiations in Paris in the spring, closely followed by our advocacy team,

reinforced the importance of global cooperation in tackling this environmental crisis.

Finally, a year after calling out nine major French agri-food companies, the NGO published a report exposing the ongoing strategies to maintain plastic use. The report underscores the importance of plastic reduction and the need for stronger actions to truly decrease the production and use of plastic.

SIGNIFICANT ADVANCEMENTS ON THE ISSUE OF BIOMEDIA

Surfrider Foundation's commitment and actions on the issue of biomedica reached a new level this year, marked by a series of positive advancements.

→ Citizen mobilization across Europe was facilitated by the launch of a new pollution reporting platform, available in three languages (French, English, and Spanish). These reports are essential and form the basis of our expertise.

→ Volunteer training during the workshops held at Chapter Days in the fall helped disseminate the latest updates on biomedica across Europe and provided tools for effective local action.

→ Beyond acknowledging the scale of pollution, Surfrider published a best practices guide.

This represents a major step in the fight against this recurring form of pollution.

The acquisition of multi-year funding now allows Surfrider to continue its efforts to combat biomedica pollution by supporting sanitation professionals and implementing best practices aimed at reducing biomedica loss. Some improvement actions are already underway.

Surfrider's involvement in European marine waste working groups (OSPAR) and awareness campaigns directed at Members of the European Parliament have helped alert European decision-makers to the importance of taking effective measures to combat this form of pollution.

The introduction of regulation on biomedica use during the revision of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (UWWTD—final vote in 04/24) highlights the significance of Surfrider's actions and reflects the recognition of our expertise by institutions.



THE FIGHT AGAINST POLLUTION FROM PELLETS CONTINUES

The year 2023 witnessed Surfrider Foundation's exceptional commitment and concrete actions in the fight against pollution from industrial plastic pellets (IGOs).

Our organization has stood out at various levels, notably through the organization of an influential conference at the European Parliament, which brought together leading scientists, passionate activists, and local and national policymakers. This conference played a crucial role in raising awareness among a wide range of stakeholders about the disastrous consequences of IGOs on the environment.

To support this awareness, the exhibition "Making the Invisible Visible," highlighting the presence of microplastics in the ocean, was showcased at UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

and then at the European Parliament during Ocean Week. It highlighted this often-overlooked form of pollution, drawing public and media attention to a critical issue.

The mobilization of various action levers, including exhibitions and advocacy efforts, allowed us to emphasize the urgency of regulating the production, transport, and use of IGOs to Members of the European Parliament. These efforts were ultimately successful in October 2023 with the European Commission presenting a proposal aimed at significantly reducing pollution caused by pellets.

This marks a key step in the process of placing the ocean at the heart of European legislative discussions.



THE CHALLENGES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST PLASTIC PACKAGING POLLUTION

Surfrider Foundation's steadfast commitment to combating pollution from plastic packaging has remained unwavering over the past year. This is evidenced by its active participation in the call for citizen mobilization leading up to the vote on the PPWR (Proposal for Packaging and Packaging Waste Reduction).

Despite its efforts and those of other stakeholders aiming to reduce the environmental impact of waste, the power of the packaging and fast food lobbies unfortunately led to the weakening of the proposal during the vote in Parliament. However, this experience has strengthened the coalition's determination to continue the fight.

The initial text, despite undergoing modifications, outlines a promising future for reducing packaging and waste.

It emphasizes crucial measures such as the ban on single-use packaging (SUPPackages) in the foodservice sector (HORECA) for on-site consumption, and sets ambitious goals for packaging reuse.

Despite the challenges faced, Surfrider Foundation remains steadfast in its commitment to promoting policies that reduce plastic packaging use, thereby encouraging the adoption of more sustainable practices such as bottle deposit schemes.



ONE YEAR LATER: THE MODEST PROGRESS OF COMPANIES IN THE DE-PLASTICIZATION CAMPAIGN



In December 2022, Surfrider, in collaboration with ClientEarth and Zero Waste France, issued a formal notice to nine major agri-food and retail companies, urging them to reduce their plastic use.

By the end of 2023, a year later, their progress was assessed, and the results are far from satisfactory. Despite the urgency of starting a de-plasticization process, the companies involved seem hesitant to fully commit.

The report "Plastic Forever," authored by Surfrider, highlights this critical situation and calls for immediate action. Although awareness of the risks associated with excessive plastic use appears to have improved among most of these companies, some remain lagging, either not fully grasping the risks or failing to implement effective measures to address them.

TOWARD A FUTURE WITHOUT MICROPLASTICS IN COSMETICS

Through tireless efforts and a collaborative strategy, Surfrider has achieved a major milestone in the fight against microplastics in cosmetic products.

The highlight of these efforts was the plenary vote on the legislative text aimed at banning intentionally added microplastics in cosmetics.

This success is the result of remarkable groundwork by Surfrider's advocacy team, who effectively joined forces with other NGOs and associations. Together, they formed a powerful coalition, amplifying the impact of their demands and recommendations.

A significant milestone in this campaign was the drafting and sending of a letter, co-signed by several brands of microplastic-free cosmetics, to Members of the European Parliament. This initiative aimed to highlight the urgency of addressing this crucial issue.

Although the adopted text on restricting microplastics in cosmetics did not meet all of Surfrider's expectations, it represents a significant first step. This progress demonstrates Surfrider's ability to catalyze change and influence environmental policies at the European level.

RIGOROUS MONITORING OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY NEGOTIATIONS ON PLASTIC POLLUTION

The year 2023 was marked by two crucial negotiation sessions for the international treaty against plastic pollution: in Paris at the end of May and beginning of June, and in Nairobi in November.

On this occasion, Surfrider released a position paper advocating for the adoption of legally binding measures that address the entire lifecycle of plastic.

The organization called for setting ambitious targets, including the reduction and even banning of the most environmentally harmful plastics and additives.

Although the majority of states have expressed support for a robust treaty, resistance has emerged, particularly from some oil-producing and exporting countries seeking to hinder the negotiations and weaken the proposed measures.

Despite these challenges, Surfrider Foundation remains committed and will closely monitor the next stages of the treaty, which will take place in Canada in April 2024, with a final adoption expected by early 2025.

OUR EXPERTISE

WATER QUALITY & USER HEALTH

Water quality is a central theme for Surfrider Foundation. In 2023, it saw growing enthusiasm among both volunteers and national entities.

The Expertise and Advocacy teams also dedicated significant effort to promote measures aimed at improving bathing water quality. This increased interest was driven by heightened awareness of the environmental and health issues related to water quality, prompting Surfrider to intensify its efforts and engage more deeply in the fight for cleaner and safer waters.

These efforts have proven fruitful, as evidenced by the incorporation of Surfrider's analysis results and conclusions by organizations such as the French Office for Biodiversity (OFB) and the Central Office for the Fight Against Environmental and Public Health Damage, among others. The NGO collaborates with these bodies in environmental investigations.

WATER QUALITY: A GROWING ISSUE

Bathing water quality is a major focus for Surfrider. This year, the issue has generated increasing interest, particularly among the organization's various chapters, national entities, and ambassadors.

The mobilization of Surfrider Blue water testers, as well as national entities (Spain, Germany, and the Netherlands), for example, has demonstrated a strong commitment to this issue.

Surfrider has engaged a wide range of networks, particularly in regions such as Brittany and Ireland, as well as in departments like Gironde and Guadeloupe, where many water testers have been actively involved.

The NGO has thus increased the number of sampling points, with the analysis results enriching advocacy efforts, improving knowledge of bathing sites, and raising awareness among local authorities about various types of pollution.

This comprehensive approach has not only strengthened Surfrider's ability to influence public policies regarding bathing water quality but has also contributed to better understanding and protection of coastal areas. It has also established Surfrider as a recognized player on the issue at the national level.



UWWTD: THE ADVOCACY TEAM PARTICULARLY ACTIVE

The year 2023 marks the culmination of extensive lobbying efforts concerning water quality, particularly in the context of the revision of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (UWWTD). The advocacy team's involvement, which began in 2020 with the launch of the European Commission's consultation, has helped maintain pressure on the institutions involved in the trilogue.

This active engagement was bolstered by the formation of a European coalition dedicated to the issue. Surfrider collaborated with three other major European NGOs, forming an influential alliance to work together on the legislative process.

The work done in coalition has allowed Surfrider to enhance its expertise, particularly on the issue of chemical pollutants—a crucial point since the revised text includes an update to the list of pollutants for surface and groundwater.

The strategic actions undertaken by the coalition enabled Surfrider Foundation to influence European decision-makers to present a stricter and more effective proposal for urban wastewater treatment.



SUNSCREENS AND THEIR IMPACTS ON THE OCEAN UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

Surfrider Foundation has intensified its efforts regarding the impact of sunscreens by releasing a position paper developed following a thorough study on the harmful effects of these widely used summer products.

To make this document more accessible to the general public and address the specific concerns of sea and coastal users, Surfrider adapted it into an infographic.

This scientific outreach approach has facilitated a better understanding of the issues related to sunscreens, making it easier to disseminate to a broader audience.

This work not only highlights the dangers of sunscreens for the marine environment but also emphasizes the responsibility of cosmetic manufacturers. It urges them to consider the impacts of their products on aquatic environments, encouraging more ocean- and biodiversity-friendly production practices.

This approach by Surfrider significantly contributes to raising awareness about the importance of choosing environmentally friendly products.



MONITORING AND AWARENESS: SURFRIDER AT THE FOREFRONT AGAINST OSTREOPSIS

Surfrider Foundation conducted 60 biological sampling and analysis operations during the summer period, covering the South Atlantic coast (notably the Basque Country) and the Mediterranean.

The organization actively contributed to monitoring and surveillance of the toxic algae's development, collaborating with local stakeholders. It also engaged in local governance bodies, leading a complementary water monitoring network in recreational areas (surfing, snorkeling, etc.), thus supporting the zones monitored by municipal authorities.

This work enabled broader coverage and enhanced monitoring of waters, which is crucial for public health. Additionally, engagement with ANSES was strengthened, leading to specific demands related to the management of Ostreopsis at the European level.

Surfrider and its local groups acted as mediators and intermediaries between decision-makers and scientists, facilitating exchanges and information sharing. A notable highlight of the year was a visit by a Member of the European Parliament to the field, underscoring the importance of the issue at the European level.

Finally, by collaborating with the Regional Health Agencies (ARS) of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Pyrénées-Atlantiques regions, Surfrider worked locally in areas where Ostreopsis is present. The data collected was provided to the ARS to support their decision-making and optimize management protocols in their territories, taking into account feedback from affected individuals. The work of Surfrider's team of experts was complemented by the creation of an educational booklet on Ostreopsis (scheduled for publication in 2024), aimed at informing and educating the public about this environmental and health issue.



OCEAN-FRIENDLY GARDEN: RAISING AWARENESS AND TAKING ACTION FOR WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION

Surfrider's Ocean Friendly Garden (OFG) project has proven to be an excellent tool for raising awareness, effectively engaging both internal and external collaborators (including students and partners).

This year, Surfrider's garden successfully captured and reused approximately 700 m³ of rainwater, demonstrating the effectiveness of these environmental practices.

The year was marked by a notable influx, with nearly 2,500 visitors. A highlight of the Ocean Campus visits, the Ocean Friendly Garden (OFG) served as a major educational interface, showcasing concepts such as sustainable development, soil de-sealing, and rainwater storage and reuse.

Additionally, the installation of an educational beehive in March 2023 enriched the project by adding a new educational and ecological dimension to the initiative.

DEVELOPMENT OF WATER QUALITY MONITORING IN SENEGAL

The water quality monitoring project conducted in Senegal in 2023 marked a significant milestone in environmental surveillance.



This operational and multi-year program, launched in September, aims to establish a monitoring network for aquatic water quality on the Dakar Peninsula. It has been supported by various partners, including embassies, local authorities, and local and territorial stakeholders.

An innovative aspect of the project has been the coordination of a group of water testers who commit to weekly analysis of water quality at seven surfing sites. This initiative has not only enabled regular monitoring but also directly involved local communities in the project.

Through this monitoring work, the teams have gained a better understanding of the bacteriological quality of the monitored areas, allowing them to work with public managers and decision-makers on water rehabilitation.

In parallel, significant efforts have been made to establish steering and technical committees at the national level, in collaboration with Surfrider's headquarters in Biarritz. These efforts have been complemented by organizing awareness sessions for schoolchildren on issues related to water, sanitation, health, and biodiversity.

OUR EXPERTISE

COASTAL MANAGEMENT

In 2023, Surfrider Foundation intensified its commitment to the field of energy transition, particularly focusing on marine renewable energies, highlighting its support for the fight against climate change.

SURFRIDER COMMITTED TO THE ENERGY TRANSITION

In the context of ongoing developments in marine renewable energies, Surfrider has officially positioned itself in favor of the transition to decarbonized energy sources, emphasizing the importance of energy efficiency to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The organization acknowledges that marine renewable energies are an effective means of mitigating climate change.

However, it underscores that the implementation of these green solutions must be carefully and thoroughly studied to minimize their impact on the Ocean and the biodiversity it supports.

This year was marked by the launch of the public consultation “The Sea in Debate” in November, a major event on the environmental agenda.

Surfrider established a team of specially trained volunteers to actively participate in this consultation. The organization was also invited to share its expertise and opinions in the drafting of an actor's report, in which it will make recommendations and actively contribute to the consultation process. Additionally, the organization has committed to a thorough study of the projects presented by the project leaders.

A PIONEERING PROJECT TO STUDY CARBON SEQUESTRATION IN MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

Surfrider Foundation has embarked on an ambitious project focused on blue carbon, exploring the potential of marine and coastal ecosystems in carbon storage.

This project, conducted in collaboration with scientists and partly funded by 1% For the Planet, aims to study how blue carbon ecosystems can significantly contribute to combating climate change.

Preliminary results from this study, centered on the Txingudi Bay (Hendaye), have revealed a promising potential as a carbon sink and open up important perspectives for understanding the role of these coastal ecosystems in carbon sequestration.

The campaign conducted around this project has yielded conclusive results, laying the groundwork for the preparation of a scientific report.

It will aim to share the findings and implications of the study with the scientific community and the general public, highlighting the importance of blue carbon in global strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conserving marine ecosystems.



AN EXHIBITION TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT THE URGENCY OF COASTAL EROSION

The exhibition "At the Limit," organized by Surfrider in the second half of 2023, aims to alert and educate the public about the critical issues of coastal erosion.

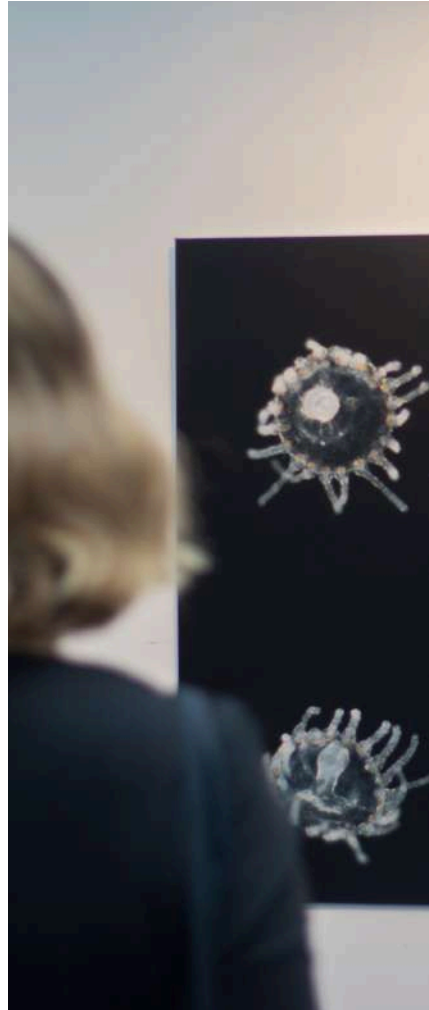
This immersive and educational exhibition is designed to highlight the increasing challenges associated with coastal erosion, a phenomenon exacerbated by climate change and human activity.

Through a series of photographs, "At the Limit" invites visitors to explore the impacts of coastal erosion on ecosystems, local communities, and infrastructure.

The exhibition addresses themes such as rising sea levels, loss of biodiversity, and socio-economic implications, providing a deep insight into the challenges our coasts face.

The goal of "At the Limit" is to raise awareness and inspire collective action for the preservation of our coastlines.

By showcasing concrete cases of coastal erosion, "At the Limit" serves as an invitation to recognize the urgency of protecting our shores and to act towards a future where coastlines are secure and preserved for future generations.



LOCAL ACTION



Surfrider's fight against pollution and projects threatening the Ocean knows no bounds.

Whether it takes place on the continent or thousands of kilometers away, the commitment of the Coastal Defenders has once again allowed the organization to achieve notable victories and create genuine awareness about the issues related to Ocean protection this year.

WATER QUALITY: COASTAL DEFENDERS SENSITIVE AND ACTIVE INTERNATIONALLY

In **Landunvez**, the organization joined an official local discussion group on water quality. Through a press kit detailing the results of samples taken during the summer, Surfrider highlighted that the samples collected by the ARS were too far from the bathing areas, making their results unreliable. Continuous monitoring of these waters helps to verify the effectiveness of recent measures.

In **Guadeloupe**, Surfrider was involved in a legal action with the OFB to address inadequate wastewater treatment infrastructure, which led to bacterial pollution on Petit Havre Beach in March 2023. The suspicion of widespread pollution resulted in the implementation of thorough monitoring of water quality at two sites, Le Gosier and Petit Havre, to gather more data.

WATER POLLUTION: 2023, A YEAR OF ACTIONS AGAINST INDUSTRIAL PLASTIC PELLETS

In **Tarragona**, in collaboration with Good Karma Project, a specific effort was made to address the issue of industrial plastic pellets (GPI) in response to numerous leaks from a major petrochemical complex. A notable event was organized at the European Parliament in May, featuring the Spanish entity team and Good Karma Project, to raise awareness among European lawmakers about GPI pollution.

Following this, a petition was filed with the Catalan administration to recognize pellet pollution and hold the responsible companies accountable.

Although the collective has refocused some of its efforts on air quality, Surfrider continued to support efforts in **Wijk aan Zee**, Netherlands, to address beach and swimming water pollution around the Tata Steel plant. The organization contributed to the creation of an awareness video on this issue.

Finally, in **Martigues**, legal action was taken against KEM ONE for ferric chloride pollution. Although the outcome was only moderately positive, this action underscores Surfrider's unwavering commitment to combating pollution and protecting the aquatic environment.

This petition was accepted, and an investigation is underway to identify the industries responsible for the pollution.

In **Roscanvel**, a petition was submitted to the Finistère Prefecture regarding an old, poorly documented landfill located less than 100 meters from the coastline. The landfill is eroding, causing waste to be released into the sea.

The efforts led to this landfill being classified as a site at risk of marine release, paving the way for funding to address its cleanup.

COASTAL MANAGEMENT

This year, the Coastal Defenders remained actively engaged in coastal preservation, intervening in several controversial development projects.

Regarding the Surfpark project in **Castets**, a notable victory was achieved with the project's abandonment in March 2023, following the withdrawal of the technology provider and the builder. This success underscores the importance of vigilance and action in preserving coastal ecosystems.

In July, legal action was initiated in **Canéjan** to prevent the construction of a Surfpark. Surfrider requested the cancellation of the building permit from the Bordeaux Administrative Court. The Surfrider Coastal Defenders conducted extensive work collecting additional data to strengthen the legal case, aiming to halt the construction of this infrastructure and protect local ecosystems and groundwater reserves. The organization also launched a petition that gathered 60,000 signatures, demonstrating public opposition to the project.

In **Teahupo'o**, Surfrider Foundation became involved in protesting against the construction project for a control tower for the 2024 Olympic surfing events.

The organization criticized the lack of transparency and dialogue in the decision-making process, noting that stakeholders were informed only after the decision had already been made. Surfrider called for greater dialogue among all parties involved, emphasizing the importance of consultation and consideration of environmental and community concerns in such projects.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT 2023



In accordance with the announcement made at the last General Assembly, the year 2023 was marked by the launch of an additional investment plan aimed at strengthening and accelerating the local action capacity of the association through the structuring and financial development of national legal entities. Four countries are covered by this plan: Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, and Germany.

The progress of this investment plan is detailed in the activity report, and the 2023 accounts include the grants provided to these four countries for their structuring and development.

Thanks to cost control, the overall result for the year remains positive at €107,000.

This financial report presents the key elements of our 2023 accounts, which have been approved without reservation by our Auditor.

BALANCE SHEET ANALYSIS

We continued to make some investments in 2023 amounting to 334,000 euros. Most of these investments were related to fundraising activities, but we also invested in equipment and IT development to support the implementation of some of our projects.

These investments were funded through our own resources, which has led to a decrease in our cash reserves but also reduced our debt. For the year 2024, we plan to secure a new medium-term loan to continue the necessary investments for unrestricted fundraising without compromising our cash flow.

The positive result for the fiscal year of +107,000 euros allows us to continue strengthening our association's funds, which have reached 1,748,000 euros. This is above the target set in our strategic plan for one quarter of activity.

ASSETS	2023	2022	LIABILITIES	2023	2022
FIXED ASSETS	763 142	702 499	ASSOCIATIVE FUNDS AND RESERVES	1 788 245	1 721 135
			retained earnings		
			shareholders' equity	1 640 603	1 374 425
			profit for the year	107 376	268 179
			other association funds	40 266	80 532
RECEIVABLES	2 798 458	2 718 674	DEBTS	1 773 355	1 700 237
receivables from customers and related accounts	1 732 908	1 273 541	loans and debts	91 608	215 391
availability	463 548	594 596	suppliers and related accounts	203 745	260 165
other	602 003	450 737	deferred income		
			income	1 009 472	682 257
			other	468 530	542 424
TOTAL	3 561 600	3 421 372	TOTAL	3 561 600	3 421 372

ANALYSIS OF THE INCOME STATEMENT/CER/CROD

Analysis of Resources

The association's overall resources have increased by 3%. This rise is primarily driven by donations and memberships (+15%) and partnerships (+9%).

The significant growth in public generosity is attributed to our ability to offset attrition through investments in direct marketing operations and a noticeable increase in one-time donations via solidarity financial products and donation platforms.

Grants have experienced a substantial decrease (-17%). This decline was anticipated as it corresponds to the end of a specific project implemented during the French presidency of the European Union.

Finally, some sponsorship support for event actions from 2022 has ceased, which explains the 19% decrease in services.

Analysis of Expenditures

Our operating expenses have grown by 9% overall. The main changes are as follows:

- Salaries: There has been an increase in salaries due to the rising cost of living.
- Depreciation: There has been a significant increase in depreciation (+63%) due to the full-year accounting of direct marketing investments made in 2022.
- Grants: Grants have surged by +155%. This increase directly results from the supplementary investment plan decided by the Board of Directors following the extraordinary positive result achieved in 2021. These grants were provided directly to Surfriider's national entities in Europe (Germany, Netherlands, Spain, and Portugal) to enable them to hire a national coordinator to advance the organization's mission in their respective territories.

The breakdown of our expenditures is detailed in the Resources Expenditures Account (CER) and the Income Statement by Origin and Destination (CROD) presented in this report. Key points to note include:

- Social Mission Expenses: These have increased by nearly 5%.
- Coastal Management and Climate Change Program: This program has seen a significant increase of 35% due to the substantial growth of the Green Marine Europe program, which supports the ecological transition of the maritime transport sector.
- Coordination Costs: These have also risen sharply (+92%) due to the grants given to national entities for their development within their territories.
- Fundraising Costs: These have increased by 10% due to greater investment in enhancing public generosity collection. This investment is yielding results this year with a 15% increase in donations and subscriptions.
- Operational Expenses: These have risen by 12%, primarily due to the full-year inclusion of depreciation from 2022 investments.

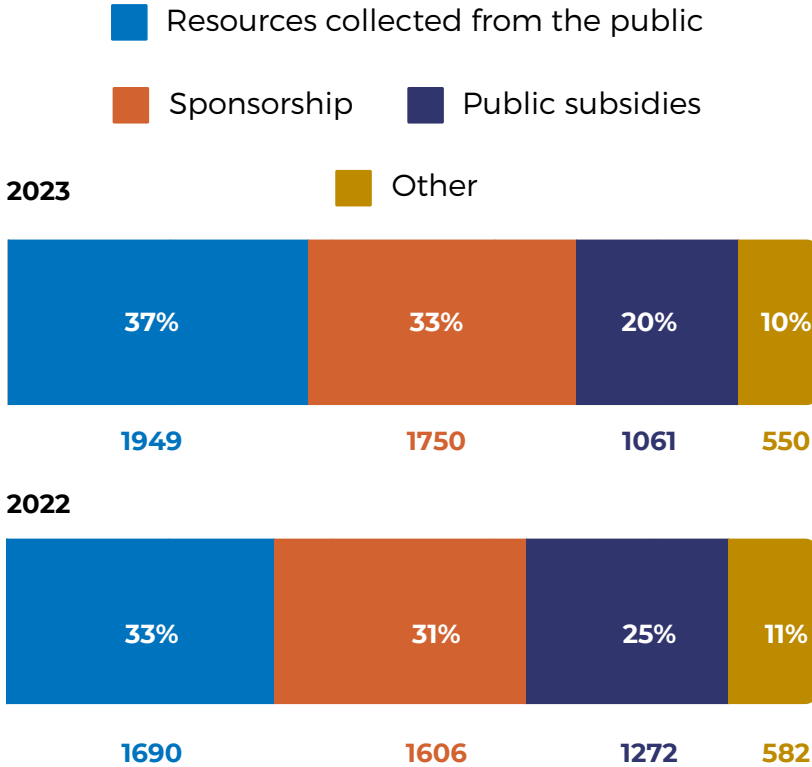
Income statement by origin and destination				
A - Income and expenses by origin and destination	2023		2022	
	Total	Of which generosity from the public	Total	Of which generosity from the public
PRODUCTS BY ORIGIN				
1 - INCOME FROM PUBLIC GENEROSITY	3 699 324	1 949 452	3 295 453	1 689 783
1.1 Unrequited contributions	1 424 949		1 460 543	
1.2 Donations, legacies and sponsorship				
– manual donations	524 503		229 240	
– bequests, donations and life insurance				
– sponsorship	1 749 872		1 605 670	
1.3 Other income from public generosity				
2 - INCOME NOT RELATED TO PUBLIC GENEROSITY	550 235		530 351	
2.1 Matching contributions				
2.2 Company sponsorship			65 000	
2.3 Unrequited financial contributions				
2.4 Other income not related to public generosity	550 235		465 351	
3 - SUBSIDIES AND OTHER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	960 110		1 271 628	
4- REVERSALS OF PROVISIONS AND IMPAIRMENT	100 986		51 753	
5 - USE OF PREVIOUS DEDICATED FUNDS				
TOTAL	5 310 655	1 949 452	5 149 185	1 689 643

Income statement by origin and destination				
A - Income and expenses by origin and destination	2023		2022	
	Total	Of which generosity from the public	Total	Of which generosity from the public
EXPENSES BY DESTINATION				
1 - SOCIAL MISSIONS	3 712 853	1 330 075	3 545 501	1 016 691
1.1 Carried out in France	3 116 085	838 422	3 235 783	773 995
– Actions carried out by the organisation	3 116 085	838 422	3 235 783	773 995
– Payments to a central body or other bodies acting in France				
1.2 Carried out abroad	596 768	491 653	309 718	242 696
– Actions carried out by the organisation	69 208	491 653	45 640	
– Payments to a central body or to other bodies operating abroad	527 561		264 078	
2 - FUNDRAISING COSTS	643 065	153 491	580 924	200 273
2.1 Costs of appealing to the generosity of the public	321 985	117 080	256 811	181 691
2.2 Search costs for other resources	321 080	36 411	324 113	18 583
3 - OPERATING EXPENSES	533 639	104 234	748 006	76 096
4 - CHARGES TO PROVISIONS AND IMPAIRMENT LOSSES	313 722		8 576	
5 - CORPORATION TAX				
6 - DEDICATED FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD FOR THE YEAR				
TOTAL	5 203 279	1 567 800	4 863 007	1 293 061
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT	107 376	107 376		

Income statement by origin and destination				
B - Voluntary contributions in kind	2023		2022	
	Total	Of which generosity from the public	Total	Of which generosity from the public
PRODUCTS BY ORIGIN				
1 - VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC	1 547 502		2 265 628	
Volunteering Services in kind Donations in kind	1 547 502		2 265 628	
2 - VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS NOT LINKED TO PUBLIC GENEROSITY				
3 - PUBLIC CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND	131 606		140 800	
- Benefits in kind	130 013		131 289	
- Donations in kind	1 593		9 511	
TOTAL	1 679 108		2 406 428	
EXPENSES BY DESTINATION				
1 - VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO SOCIAL MISSIONS	1 675 824		2 401 563	
- Carried out in France Carried out abroad	1 675 824		2 401 563	
2 - VOLUNTARY FUNDRAISING CONTRIBUTIONS				
3 - VOLUNTARY OPERATING CONTRIBUTIONS	3 284		4 865	
TOTAL	1 679 108		240 648	

ECONOMIC MODEL

ORIGIN OF RESOURCES (K€)

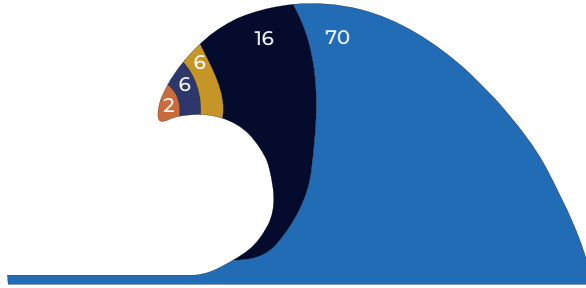


Despite the significant decrease in public grants (due to the end of support related to the French Presidency of the European Union), overall resources continue to grow, driven by public generosity and sponsorship.

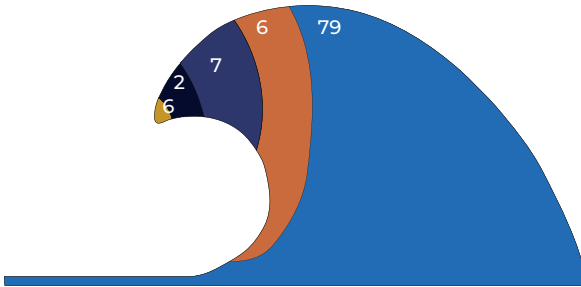
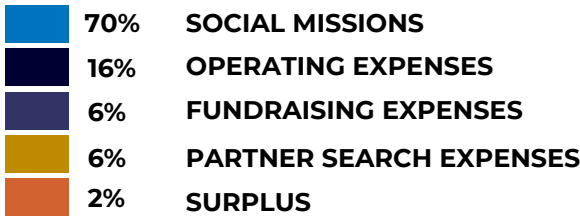
We observe an increase in both absolute value and percentage of public generosity, in line with the organization's strategic plan that seeks to develop unrestricted and regular funding.

Surfrider thus maintains a highly diversified economic model that allows it to adapt to economic changes year after year.

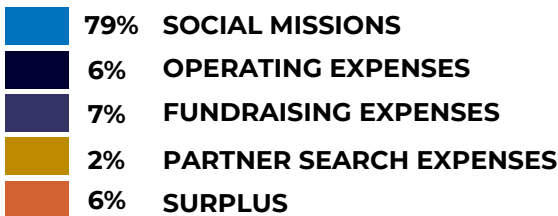
SOURCES OF RESOURCES



USE OF TOTAL RESOURCES 2023



USE OF RESOURCES FROM PUBLIC GENEROSITY IN 2023



THE VALUATION OF VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT



Our commitment to scientific rigor in our aquatic waste monitoring work has led us to revise the accounting of volunteer participation in our Ocean Initiatives program.

Starting this year, we will only account for participants recorded through a completed reporting form, without extrapolating data. Despite a historic year in terms of the number of clean-ups conducted across Europe, our official figures for citizen volunteer participation have significantly decreased compared to previous years.

However, we are pleased to have had the support of many dedicated volunteers once again this year, equivalent to 49 full-time positions, valued at €1,547,500 in our financial report. We extend our gratitude to them!

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION EUROPE

Since 1990, Surfrider Foundation Europe has become a leading voice in the fight to protect the ocean and its users, driven by the passion and commitment of its community on the ground.

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HONORARY MEMBERS: Arthur Chamberlain, Pierre-Bernard Gascogne, Cécile & Yves Gilot, Vincent Goujard, Family Georges Légliše, Marc Luchini, Raphaël Mallié, Dylan Pacaud-Tunnicliffe, Julien Poublan.

And not forgetting all the individuals volunteering on behalf of Surfrider, without whom this work would have no meaning. Thank you to the members and donors for making this work possible.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REPORT 2023

The Annual Report is published by Surfrider Foundation Europe.

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Writing and Layout: Lucie Leteurtre

Photographers: Camdam Photography, Audrey Béziat, Cyrielle Dufau, Elena Covellec

#WE ARE SURFRIDER

