



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Together, we can change the world.

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Cover: LEAF Finland, by the Finnish Forest Association

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Welcome

A Message from the President and Chief Executive Officer

2021 has once again been a year full of positive achievements and progress, in spite of the challenges we have all faced. While the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact both the tourism industry and global education systems, the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) and its members were able to use lessons learnt from 2020 to ensure that our programmes continued in schools and hospitality establishments around the world.

2021 allowed our members to further develop and perfect resources and methodologies to improve programme delivery, despite uncertain times, and we are proud to have seen growth in many areas of our work. In June 2021, the FEE General Assembly approved our new ten-year strategy, GAIA 20:30, our commitment to empowering climate action, protecting global biodiversity and reducing environmental pollution through everything we do. Many FEE members are adopting GAIA 20:30 into their organisation's own strategies, whilst actions to achieve our ambitious goals are being taken across all five FEE programmes. Campaigns, webinars, and educational resources have been created and shared with our global network, and programme criteria have been revised to align with the GAIA 20:30 strategic goals. Through initial monitoring, 2021 offers a first glimpse into the impact of the GAIA 20:30 strategy, with the expectation that 2022 will set the benchmark for FEE's progress in achieving GAIA 20:30 over the coming years.

In addition, several partnerships were established during 2021, increasing participation in the FEE programmes and reaching out to new sectors that have not been part of our network in the past, allowing FEE to synergise our efforts with organisations that share our mission.

Continued funding and support from our existing partners has allowed us to engage millions of children around the world in action-based learning with a strong positive impact on their environment. Such long-term collaborations are testament to the transparent and high-level implementation of these projects by FEE and its members.

Whilst 2022 sees us steadfastly striving to achieve the goals laid out in GAIA 20:30, it is impossible to ignore the war on Ukraine, which continues to wreak havoc on the lives of millions of people. It is our deepest hope that peace and justice are restored swiftly to the people of Ukraine and that we endeavour to free ourselves from our destructive dependency on fossil fuels. It is with these beliefs and goals that FEE, its members, and our global network continue to work for a more sustainable world.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DS'.

Daniel Schaffer
FEE Chief Executive
Officer



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lesley Jones'.

Lesley Jones
President, FEE Board of
Directors

#GenerationRestoration is on the move!

There is no time to lose. We are all #GenerationRestoration!

We live in interesting times. Climate action failure and biodiversity collapse are among the top three global threats on the [World Economic Forum Global Risk Index](#). And the world is responding. After decades of working towards strong climate action and full recognition of the [true value and importance of nature](#), we are seeing serious traction across Governments, the private sector and civil society.

But much more remains to be done, which is why the UN General Assembly established the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030](#) to 'prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide'. Nothing more, nothing less!

Education is arguably the single most important ingredient for the success of this daunting task. At the heart of the UN Decade strategy is a single vision that goes beyond hectares of ecosystems restored, or numbers of trees planted.

The vision is to 'Restore the relationship between humans and nature'. This Decade is about making people see that we are part of nature, that we depend on her for our quality of life and our economic, social, cultural and spiritual well-being. In short, it is all about ecological literacy. This vision is one that is shared by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), which has been promoting environmental education through its five programmes for over 40 years, thereby empowering people to not only connect with nature but also take meaningful and purposeful action to create a more sustainable world.

2021 saw the successful launch of the UN Decade, co-led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with now over 110 partners, including FEE. At the same time, FEE launched its ten-year strategy, GAIA 20:30, which identified protecting global biodiversity as one of three priority areas over the coming years. With this shared commitment, we were pleased to welcome FEE on board as a Supporting Partner of the UN Decade.

In 2022, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration focuses on identifying, celebrating and scaling [World Restoration Flagships](#) – the first, best, or most promising examples of large-scale and long-term ecosystem restoration in support of the Sustainable Development Goals. And we will celebrate the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration as a connector and catalyst for action across the three Rio Conventions. And at the heart of all this is the urgent need to better understand ecology: coming from ancient Greek, this means the 'knowledge of our common home'. And the world economy has the same root: it is the 'management of our common home'. We can only manage what we know. And the defining task for this Decade is to make peace with nature, to understand her and the role we play on a finite Planet. **The United Nations call on everyone, everywhere to join the global movement to restore Planet Earth.**



Tim Christophersen
Head, Nature for Climate Branch
Ecosystems Division



2021 Highlights



40 Years of FEE!

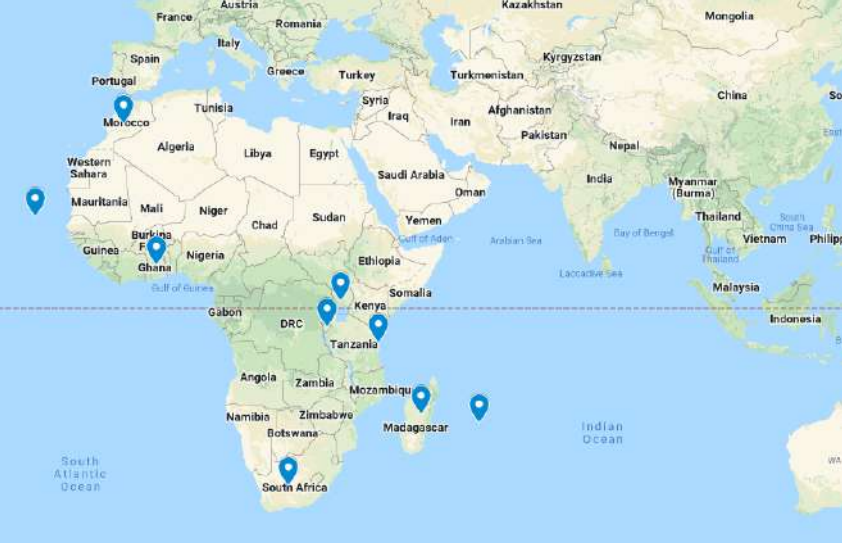
In 2021, FEE celebrated 40 years of excellence in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)! Established in the Netherlands in 1981 as the Foundation for Environmental Education Europe, over the past four decades, FEE has experienced tremendous growth. What began as a regional organisation with just one programme, Blue Flag, and four national members (Spain, France, Germany and Denmark), has since grown into a globally connected network of member organisations in 81 different countries, running five different programmes across thousands of beaches, marinas, hospitality establishments and schools all dedicated to promoting ESD. Find out more about FEE's 40th anniversary by watching [this video](#).

COP26

In November 2021, FEE was invited to participate in the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) held in Glasgow from the 31 October - 13 November. Focused on the theme 'Together for Our Planet', COP26 provided a valuable platform for FEE to showcase the impacts created by its network and to illustrate how each of FEE's programmes drives the agenda of climate action, one of the three strategic goals identified in FEE's strategy, GAIA 20:30. On November 2nd, several of FEE's key stakeholders took part in a panel session that highlighted the power of networks in fostering climate action, while FEE's CEO, Daniel Schaffer and President, Lesley Jones, also spoke at two events focus on education and organized by The Mohammed VI Foundation. Furthermore, ten winning photographs from the 2021 International Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) Competition were selected and displayed at COP26 and four YRE students attended COP26 to report on live sessions and events.



Photo: FEE President Lesley Jones with a YRE student from Scotland at COP26.



Global Forest Fund in Kenya

2021 saw FEE's member organisation in Kenya, the Kenya Organization for Environmental Education (KOE), successfully wrap up their Global Forest Fund (GFF) project 'Tree Planting as a Pathway to Green Growth and Sustainability'. A total of 1,120 students, teachers and community members came together to plant 10,000 native trees best suited for each school's ecological conditions. Students and teachers were also educated on the benefits of trees, forestry practices such as grafting and composting. Each seedling was adopted by two students responsible for ensuring the survival of their tree!

FEE Regional African Network

While the world began to slowly recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, 2021 was still a challenging year for many FEE member organisations, particularly those in the Global South. The COVID-19 pandemic further restricted resources to organisations dedicated to environmental education and ESD, despite the increasingly urgent need to address SDG 4: Quality Education. In response to these challenges, FEE established the FEE Regional African Network (FRAN) made up of representatives from FEE member organisations in Mauritius, Morocco, Cape Verde, Burundi, Ghana, South Africa, Zanzibar, Uganda, Madagascar and Denmark. The aim of the FRAN is to support capacity-building, share best practices and experiences and increase collaboration and financial resources available among the FEE members in Africa. In 2021, an initial meeting was held in 2021 to establish the structure and expected objectives of the FRAN, and bi-annual meetings will continue to be held in 2022.



Photo of tree planting activities as part of the Global Forest Fund project in Kenya (KOE).



Together, we can change the world.

Sustainable surfer seeks waste at Sumner, New Zealand. Photo by Claudia O'Shannessey, 2nd Place Winner, International YRE Competition in the Litter Less Campaign Category.

In June 2021, the General Assembly ratified FEE's new strategic plan, GAIA 20:30.

Inspired by the ancient Greek goddess, Gaia, who personifies the Earth, our GAIA 20:30 strategy is our pledge to address the three burning environmental issues that face our planet today – climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental pollution.

GAIA 20:30 lays out three overarching goals and 12 sub-goals that will guide the work of FEE and its members over the next ten years. As such, the following activities were implemented as part of GAIA 20:30 during 2021 and serve to set the groundwork for coming years.



**EMPOWER
CLIMATE
ACTION**



**PROTECT
GLOBAL
BIODIVERSITY**



**REDUCE
ENVIRONMENTAL
POLLUTION**



Photo from Mary Immaculate College Limerick, Ireland as part of the LEAF programme.



Photo of the Lysaker River shared by FEE Norway as part of the #SpottingNature Challenge.

Global Action Days 2021

In April 2021, our annual Global Action Days campaign ran for three weeks, engaging our network in 21 different activities across our three strategic goals: empowering climate action, protecting biodiversity and reducing environmental pollution! Each week, students, teachers, and parents, were given seven activities they could take part in. Partnering with Now.Here., the Global Action Days campaign was also made available through the Treasure Earth app. Over 3000 participants joined and more than 10,000 positive actions were taken during the 2021 Global Action Days!



GAIA 20:30 Biodiversity Campaign

During 2021-22, FEE focused on engaging its global network in the first of its three strategic goals, protecting global biodiversity. As a result, the GAIA 20:30 Biodiversity Campaign was launched in September 2021, spearheaded by the LEAF programme, with the support of the Blue Flag, Eco-Schools, Green Key, and YRE programmes. The campaign encouraged stakeholders across all five programmes to take action to support the protection of global biodiversity and preserve our natural environments through various activities that emphasised the importance of global biodiversity and ecosystems.

Educational Materials

Throughout the year, a number of educational resources were developed that engaged our global network in the key areas identified in GAIA 20:30. Across the five programmes, a total of 11 webinars with over 2700 participants were organised, covering topics such as green curriculum integration in higher education, the sustainable management of coastal zones, combatting pollinator loss and preserving and creating natural areas. As part of the E-SPACE project, Eco-Schools developed the 'Curricular Framework for Advancing Circular Economy', while the LEAF programme published 'Outdoor Education Activities for Schools, Using Nature as a Classroom'. The YRE programme, in collaboration with the UK-based charity Speakers Trust, offered a two-day communications workshop for youth on the theme of climate change.

Changes in Programme Criteria

2021 offered an opportunity for both the Green Key and Blue Flag programmes to revise their programme criteria to ensure they aligned with FEE's priority areas as outlined in the GAIA 20:30 strategy. While Blue Flag will be finalizing their new criteria in 2022, the Green Key programme announced significant changes in the certification criteria for hotels and hospitality establishments. New criteria include, but are not limited to, the monitoring of hotels' carbon footprint, recognizing establishments that have been verified carbon neutral and encouraging guests to compensate their carbon emissions. Climate change education will be included in staff training, and establishments are encouraged to engage staff and guests in climate change awareness activities, such as tree-planting and other climate change adaptation strategies. Several existing criteria were expanded upon, such as criteria regarding litter and waste and the promotion of responsible consumption and production. 2022 will see the implementation of these criteria in the certification and recertification of Green Key establishments.



Photo of litter-picking from the Farsund School in Norway.



*Photo from Castle North Middle School, USA.
Tree planting as part of the Alcoa W5 project.*

Projects Working Towards GAIA 20:30

Several long-term projects such as the Alcoa W5 and the Litter Less Campaign align with GAIA 20:30 by contributing to the education and engagement of various stakeholders in the three overarching goals of empowering climate action, protecting global biodiversity and reducing environmental pollution.

Alcoa W5

Coordinated by the Eco-Schools programme and made possible with support from the Alcoa Foundation, the Alcoa Warming-Waste-Water-Watts-Wildlife (W5) project continued in 2021. The Alcoa W5 project engaged 33 schools in the United States, Canada, Norway, and Australia in environmental literacy initiatives focused on Green STEM and the Sustainable Development Goals. In line with the strategic goals presented in GAIA 20:30, participating schools focused on the themes of waste, watts, warming, wildlife and water to educate students on environmental issues through science, technology, engineering and math skills.

Litter Less Campaign

The Litter Less Campaign (LLC) is a joint project between the Mars Wrigley Foundation and FEE. Running for 11 consecutive years around the globe, the LLC underlines the importance of dealing with the issues of litter and waste in tangible ways. The LLC Phase IV (2020-21) was implemented through the Eco-Schools and YRE programmes in 15 countries and saw an increase in students' knowledge, behaviour and opinion leadership with regard to litter and waste management, directly contributing to the GAIA 20:30 strategic goal of reducing environmental pollution.

Celebrating Old and New Partnerships

Supporting Partner of the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration

Launched in 2021, by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration is a rallying call for the protection and revival of ecosystems all around the world, for the benefit of people and nature. It aims to halt the degradation of ecosystems, and restore them to achieve global goals. In line with FEE's goal of protecting global biodiversity as laid out in our strategy, GAIA 20:30, FEE was proud to be named a Supporting Partner of the [UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration](#) for the protection and restoration of ecosystems and biodiversity around the world.



Photo from YRE India



The Litter Less Campaign Turns 10!

FEE was proud to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Litter Less Campaign (LLC) during 2021. Made possible with the support of the Mars Wrigley Foundation, the Litter Less Campaign aims to educate students on the issues of litter and waste, engage their communities in awareness-raising activities, and encourage them to make choices that will reduce their environmental impact and conserve resources. Launched in 15 countries in 2011, the reach and impact of the Litter Less Campaign has grown steadily, with 40 different countries having participated at various times over the past ten years and engaging over 4.6 million students. In 2021, the Litter Less Campaign was run in Australia, China, Kenya, Northern Ireland, Russia, Scotland, Spain, India, Ireland, Wales, Brazil, England, New Zealand, Malta, and France through the Eco-Schools and YRE programmes. You can learn more about the Litter Less Campaign and its impact over the last ten years [here](#).



Discovering Trash Hacks with UNESCO

A long-standing partner, FEE was excited to join UNESCO's ASPnet Schools for their Trash Hack Campaign in early 2021, which aimed to encourage young people to take action to promote sustainable development, reflect on their actions, and share their learnings. As part of the campaign, schools from the Eco-Schools, YRE and LEAF programmes were invited to share their best trash hacks through social media and on the campaign [website](#).



Photo from CM Lagos for Blue Flag Best Practice Competition: Requalification and Valuation of Ponta da Piedade in Portugal.



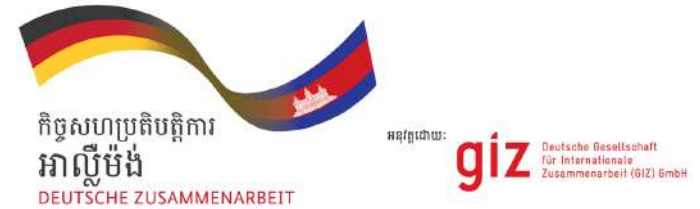
Treasure Earth with Now.Here

For the 2021 Global Action Days, FEE partnered with Now.Here, an organisation devoted to positive social impact, empowering people with the skills of compassion. Now.Here.'s app, Treasure Earth, was used to build a 21 day journey of 'Compassionate Actions' for students, teachers and parents participating in the Global Action Days. Using the Treasure Earth app helped actively engage our global network in taking small positive actions to become more compassionate towards Earth.

Supporting Sustainable Tourism in Cambodia with the GIZ

2021 saw an exciting collaboration between the Green Key programme, the École d'Hôtellerie et de Tourisme Paul Dubrule (EHT), and the German agency GIZ's Regional Economic Development Program IV (GIZ RED IV) through the development of a specialisation course on sustainability in tourism and hospitality for young tourism professionals in Cambodia.

As part of the course, International Green Key Coordinator, Isabel Lissner, developed a module that focused on the concept of sustainability, sustainable tourism and eco-certification in tourism and hospitality. The module was delivered through both online sessions and a course on FEE Academy.



Helvellyn Foundation Grant to Support FEE Academy and Research

Led by the LEAF programme, FEE was awarded a generous grant from the Helvellyn Foundation for the development of courses on FEE Academy and to support young researchers on Eco-Campuses globally. The development of the GAIA 20:30 Biodiversity course was made possible as a result and 2022 will see research studies in collaboration between FEE and students completing degrees in sustainability.



Photo from Blue Flag Mexico



Photo from Blue Flag Turkey



The Blue Flag network has continued to resiliently face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and with the ever-growing need and desire for sustainability in the tourism sector, has seen more sites join the Blue Flag during 2021.

In 2021, the Blue Flag programme awarded 4,045 beaches, 707 marinas and 79 tourism boats for a total of 4,831 sites in 50 countries.

The Tobago tourism boat operator, Top Catch Charters, was awarded the prestigious Blue Flag in 2021 in recognition of their ongoing commitment to preserving their natural environment and reducing their operations' environmental footprint while providing quality service and high safety standards to their guests. Top Catch is the first Blue Flag awarded boat operator in the English-speaking Caribbean, leading the way for others in Tobago and the region. The Blue Flag programme was also represented at the 4th Ibero-American Summit on Accessible Tourism in Havana, Cuba, where International Blue Flag Director, Johann Durand, shared best practices in accessibility at Blue Flag awarded beaches as part of a panel discussion on inclusive and accessible nature tourism. In addition, the Blue Flag programme was featured as a best practice in the UN World Tourism Organization's (UNWTO) 2021 publication 'Accessibility and Inclusive Tourism Development in Nature Areas'.

With FEE's new strategy, GAIA 20:30, came the clear mandate from FEE's member organisations to revise the Blue Flag's criteria and offer an even more holistic approach towards sustainability that would be reflected in future awards, partnerships and projects at the global level. The Blue Flag programme began the process of revising the criteria to include ones that address the adaption and mitigation of climate change, the protection of biodiversity and the reduction of pollution. Furthermore, Blue Flag aims to strengthen its network of National Operators with capacity-building and knowledge sharing opportunities, alongside increased training and resources for local Blue Flag site managers. Looking forward, the Blue Flag programme will be deeply engaged with the issues of climate change, biodiversity loss and environmental pollution for the benefit of all Blue Flag sites worldwide.

Lastly, the Blue Flag programme warmly welcomed Sanskriti Menon as the new Blue Flag representative on the FEE Board of Directors. The Blue Flag community would also like to extend its sincerest thanks to Lourdes Díaz Colón for her contribution to the Blue Flag programme as member of the FEE Board of Directors over the past years.

KEY PARTNERS IN 2021



As of 2021, Blue Flag certified beaches are flying flags made out of recycled PET bottles! You can learn more [here](#).

www.blueflag.global





As the world slowly began to recovery in 2021, the call for sustainable, quality education became louder than ever.

A truly global movement, 2021 saw over 1.4 million teachers and more than 20 million students participating in the Eco-Schools programme worldwide.

The programme was implemented in over 59,000 schools in 72 countries by FEE members, including four new countries: Georgia, Ecuador, Uzbekistan and Argentina. While most educational institutions that join the programme are schools, Eco-Schools has seen steady growth in higher education settings as well, with 135 Eco-Campuses in 22 different countries.

Developed by the Eco-Schools team at the FEE Head Office, the *Eco-Schools Seven Steps - A Project Based Learning Best Practice* course was launched on FEE Academy in August 2021. The course was created for educators, with the objective of introducing the concept of project-based learning and the Eco-Schools Seven Steps framework. Participants felt they gained a better understanding of not only environmental education and project-based learning, but also the value of the student-centered Seven Steps process. As one teacher expressed, *"It helped me see that we can be more inclusive and trusting of learners when they are invested."* Following up on the success of the course, Eco-Schools will be collaborating with the Office for Climate Change Education (OCE) in 2022 to produce a teacher-training course on incorporating climate change in the classroom.

Since 2016, the Eco-Schools programme has been running the Alcoa W5 project with the support of the Alcoa Foundation. In 2021, the Alcoa W5 project was implemented in 33 schools in USA, Canada, Norway and Australia. Through the Eco-Schools Seven Steps framework and with a particular focus on five Eco-Schools themes - warming, waste, water, watts, wildlife (W5) - the project aimed to develop environmental literacy among both students and teachers, as well as promote Green STEM and the Sustainable Development Goals. From removing invasive plant species, to river clean-ups and recycling awareness campaigns, students participating in the Alcoa W5 project during 2021 actively engaged with the three overarching goals of FEE's GAIA 20:30 strategy.

The Eco-Schools programme also produced a number of resources over the year, such as the Curricular Framework for Advancing Circular Economy as part of the E-SPACE project. Looking forward, the programme aims to launch a qualitative app that will be used to compare levels of circularity in schools across countries.

The Eco-Schools programme was recognized for the third year in a row by HundrEd as one of the 100 inspiring innovations that are changing the face of education in 2021.

KEY PARTNERS IN 2021



www.ecoschools.global



Photo from Collège Sainte-Anne in Dorval, Canada. Students cleaning-up the local river.



Photo of The Hotel. Brussels.



Green Key

With the tourism and hospitality industry greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Green Key programme was perhaps busier than ever during 2021 preparing for the post-COVID reality.

With a COVID-19 strategy in place until the end of 2021, certification periods were extended beyond 12 months for establishments that were closed or operating with very reduced staff, and with the option to conduct on-site audits virtually. Green Key also launched a campaign to recognize those establishments that received the Green Key award during 2020, in spite of the immense challenges set forth by the COVID-19 pandemic. Even so, the first Green Key award was received by an establishment in Madagascar, and two establishments in Trinidad & Tobago were the first to receive the Green Key award in the English-Speaking Caribbean.

Partnerships continued to flourish in 2021, as Green Key partnered with the small hotel chain, Story Hospitality, entered a new cooperation agreement with Beirholm, a company that produces environmentally friendly textiles and renewed their cooperation agreement with Drinkable Air, which develops technologies to reduce the use of disposable water bottles. The Green Key programme was also represented at COP26 in Glasgow, and the Association of Hotels, Restaurants and Cafés (HOTREC) highlighted Green Key as an example robust and well-run sustainable tourism scheme in their publication 'Towards sustainable tourism in Europe' (2020).

The Green Key team at the FEE Head Office also launched its first course on FEE Academy which was used to support a training project for a hospitality school in Cambodia. As part of FEE's GAIA 20:30, the Green Key programme completed a comprehensive revision of their criteria to ensure their alignment with the strategic goals. Green Key's new standards for 2022-2025 were also announced and have been recognized by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council.

In 2022, Green Key is excited to see the establishments in the hospitality industry return to normal operation with sustainability getting an even higher priority than previously. Green Key continues to look forward to entering new partnerships with hotel chains and tour operators, and is eager to see Green Key establishments implementing the new and up-to-date criteria.

KEY PARTNERS IN 2021



With 2,790 establishments in 57 countries, the Green Key programme continued its position as a leading certification programme for hotels and other tourism establishments.

www.greenkey.global





2021 was an active year for the LEAF programme, which saw increased engagement with students and schools globally and the spearheading of a number of impactful activities at the international level.

To support the continued growth of the LEAF network, the *LEAF Handbook for International Schools* was developed as a guide for both National Operators and newly joined international schools. The handbook includes a set of initiation activities, connected to the LEAF objectives as well as performance indicators for international schools, a Biodiversity Register template and an Educational Plan template.

In addition to the handbook, the *LEAF for National Operators* course was also launched on FEE Academy in July 2021. The publication "Outdoor Education activities for schools, using nature as a classroom" was also released and contains twenty-three examples of activities that have been implemented all over the world through the LEAF programme. By collecting and sharing these stories, LEAF aims to promote outdoor education, inspiring schools and teachers on how to use nature as a classroom.

LEAF was also represented at the virtual Colombia BirdFair 2021 that took place in February. Two LEAF students from international schools in Colombia participated in the event, presenting their projects on preventing the extinction of native bird species.

In May 2021, Anna Linehan and Eric O'Donnell, a student and teacher from Thomond Community College, Ireland represented the LEAF and Eco-Schools programmes at the UNESCO World Conference on ESD. Their session explored how ESD activities could be best introduced in secondary education and discussed some success factors in effectively implementing ESD. As part of the LEAF programme in Ireland, soon-to-be-teachers at Mary Immaculate College Limerick, took part in LEAF workshops and learned about connecting curricula with outdoor education.

At the international level, the LEAF programme spearheaded the GAIA 20:30 Biodiversity Campaign, developing a set of actions (quiz, Lesson Plan & Best Practice Competitions, Spotting Nature Challenge and Global Action Days 2022). This has proved to be an excellent way to engage the whole FEE network in raising awareness about the importance of global biodiversity and how we can all contribute to its protection. Winning biodiversity lesson plans and best practices collected during the campaign will be awarded in 2022.

In 2021, the LEAF programme was implemented in over 10,000 schools across 26 countries. 965,000 students and 43,200 teachers participated in programme activities, including planting over 84,200 trees worldwide.

KEY PARTNERS IN 2021



www.leaf.global



Photo from LEAF South Africa





Photo from YRE Morocco



Reaching over 6,5 million people and engaging over 495,000 Young Reporters in 42 countries around the world, the Young Reporters for the Environment programme continues to support passionate youth in speaking up about environmental issues in their communities.

With the support of close to 16,000 teachers, these Young Reports addressed a wide range of environmental issues in 2021, from highlighting the effects of pollution to showcasing efforts to protect native species.

The biggest event of the year naturally remains the national and international YRE Competitions. Focused on FEE's three strategic goals, competition entries highlighted both the effects and solutions to biodiversity loss, climate change and environmental pollution. 2021 saw a total of 19,764 submissions from students around the world. That's roughly 11,600 photographs, 1,500 videos and 6,900 articles from 4,405 schools. International collaboration between students in different countries was positively received, with 505 participants entering in the International Collaboration category.

YRE was also present at a number of international conferences in 2021. Young Reporters participated in a communication workshop organised by Speakers Trust, covered events at the COP26, the World Environmental Congress and the International Conference on Sustainability Education and participated in two workshops as part of Jota-Joti, the world's largest digital Scouts event.

Other collaborations included the UNESCO Trash Hack campaign, which aimed to raise awareness, educate and inspire communities to take actions to reduce litter and waste. Almost 500 best practice entries were submitted from the YRE network. In 2021, the Litter Less Campaign celebrated its 10 year anniversary with the annual Community Action Days which reached an audience of 1,400,000 people. In October, the Mini Litter Less Campaign received over 180 entries around the theme of 'Zero-waste Actions'. Implemented through the YRE programme in 11 countries, the Litter Less Campaign continues to be a successful project with the generous support of the Mars Wrigley Foundation.

Looking forward to 2022, the YRE programme is launching Phase V of the Litter Less Campaign and will be collaborating with the World Scouts Movement and UNESCO ASPnet schools network. YRE will also be coordinating the upcoming GAIA 20:30 Pollution Campaign and will focus its activities on the three strategic areas outlined in FEE's GAIA 20:30 strategy.

Ten photographs by Young Reporters from the Republic of Korea, Greece, Israel, Montenegro, Portugal, India, China, Singapore, Iceland, and New Zealand were selected to be presented at the largest annual climate summit, the COP 26, in Glasgow during 2021.

www.yre.global



KEY PARTNERS IN 2021



General Assembly 2021

On June 17th, 2021, FEE held its first virtual General Assembly, which had been postponed from 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The FEE Board of Directors, Head Office Staff and a representative of each of FEE's member organisations was in attendance. It was an opportunity to celebrate FEE's accomplishments over the past 40 years and look towards the coming years with optimism and enthusiasm.

Updates to FEE's Rules of Procedure were presented to the participants and approved by FEE's member organisations. An overview of FEE's new ten-year GAIA 20:30 was shared with participants, before being ratified by member organisations with enthusiastic support. A prior meeting in March 2021 had served to introduce the GAIA 20:30 strategy and received feedback from members, with members finding the strategy to be relevant and coherent, while approximately 75% indicated that they would use at least some aspects of the strategy in their own organisations' work.

The following new associate and affiliate FEE members organisations were confirmed, while existing FEE members who had been evaluated during 2020-21 were reconfirmed.

New Members in 2021

The Board of Directors was pleased to welcome the following organisations as members of the Foundation for Environmental Education in 2021.

Affiliate Members:

- **Estonia:** Estonia Blue Flag (ELA)

Associate Members:

- **Japan:** Japan Alliance of Responsible Travel Agencies (JARTA)
- **Kuwait:** Kuwait Water Association
- **Uzbekistan:** Zamin International Public Foundation

2021 also saw several changes in FEE's Board of Directors, with Nikos Petrou, formerly representing the Learning About Forests programme, being elected as Vice President. Furthermore, Joaquín Díaz was elected as representative of the Green Key programme, Sanskriti Menon as representative of the Blue Flag programme and Petra Schut as representative of the Learning About Forests programme.

Amine Ahlafi, Lourdes Díaz Colón, and José Hendriksen stepped down from their positions on the Board of Directors, and it is with our heartfelt thanks that FEE recognises their immense contributions to the organisation during their time as Board Members.

In celebration of FEE's 40th Anniversary, the Board decided to name the following eight new Honorary Members in recognition of their many contributions to FEE over the years.

- **Patricia Oliver**
- **Erol Güngör**
- **Henny Kromhout**
- **Aliki Vavouris**
- **José Sanchez Moro**
- **Lourdes Díaz Colón**
- **Amine Ahlafi**
- **José Hendriksen**

They join **Jan Eriksen, Malcolm Powell** and **Ole Løvig Simonsen** as Honorary Members of FEE.

FEE at a Glance

FOUNDATION
FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION

104
Members

81
Countries

BLUE FLAG

4,831
Sites

50
Countries

GREEN KEY

3,600
Establishments

60
Countries

LEARNING ABOUT
FORESTS

965,000
Students

26
Countries

ECO-SCHOOLS

59,000
Schools

72
Countries

YOUNG REPORTERS
FOR THE
ENVIRONMENT

495,000
Students

42
Countries

FEE Board of Directors and Head Office Staff

FEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2018-2021)

Lesley Jones, FEE President
Amine Ahlafi, FEE Vice President
Lourdes Díaz Colón, Responsible for Blue Flag
Sasha Karajovic, Responsible for Young Reporters for the Environment
José Hendriksen, Responsible for Green Key
Nikos Petrou, Responsible for Learning About Forests
Laura Hickey, Responsible for Eco-Schools
Ian Humphreys, FEE Treasurer

FEE HEAD OFFICE STAFF (During 2021)

Daniel Schaffer, Chief Executive Officer
Rikke Florager, Administrative Director
Bjarke Kronborg, Finance Director
Pramod Kumar Sharma, Senior Director of Education
Finn Bolding Thomsen, International Green Key Director
Johann Durand, Acting International Blue Flag Director
Gosia Luszczek, International Young Reporters for the Environment Director
Nora Schuh, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
Shimon Ginzburg, Project Evaluation Officer
Isabel Lissner, International Green Key Coordinator
Nicole Andreou, International Coordinator of Education
Kristina Madsen, International Coordinator of Education
Arnau Macià Pou, International Coordinator of Education
Chao Zhang, Finance Assistant
Alessandro Venti, Green Key Assistant
Amalia Christina Peithi, Litter Less Campaign Assistant
Arthur Potts, LEAF Communications Assistant
Floriane Laumond, YRE Assistant
Karla Porpora, Blue Flag & Green Key Assistant
Qiwen Zheng, Eco-Schools Communications Assistant
Reeza Hanselmann, FEE Academy & YRE Assistant
Saga Oskarson Kindstrand, YRE Communications Assistant
Silvia Mugnaini, LEAF & Eco-Schools Assistant
Simone Greyling, Blue Flag & Green Key Assistant



The establishments, located in the Ari and Baa Atolls in the Maldives, are the first to hold the Green Key certification in the archipelago.

Member Organisations

As of 31st December 2021

FULL AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Albania: Albanian Coast Lifeguards and Water Rescue Federation

Argentina: Alma Tierra – Civil Association for the Environment

Australia: Keep Australia Beautiful National Association Ltd

Bahamas: Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation

Belgium: FEE Belgium

Bermuda: Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Social Innovation Incubator MUNJA

Brazil: Instituto Ambiental em Rede

Bulgaria: Bulgarian Blue Flag Movement

Burundi: Initiative for Rural Health Promotion and Integrated Development (IPSDI)

Canada: Eco-Schools Canada

Chile: Fundación Educarse

China: Center for Environmental Education and Communications of Ministry of Environmental Protection

Colombia: Association Colombiana de Ingeniería Sanitaria y Ambiental (ACODAL)

Comoros: Mouvement Associatif pour l'Éducation et l'Égalité de Chances (MAEECHA)

Croatia: Association “Lijepa Nasa”

Cyprus: Cyprus Marine Environment Protection Association

Czech Republic: TEREZA, Educational Centre

Denmark: Friluftsrådet (Danish Outdoor Council)

Dominican Republic: Instituto de Derecho Ambiental de la Republica Dominicana

Ecuador: Ecuador Coastman Foundation

England: Keep Britain Tidy

Estonia: Estonia Blue Flag (ELA)

Finland: Sykse - Suomen Ympäristökasvatuksen Seura (Finnish Association for Environmental Education)

France: Teragir

Georgia: Keep Georgia Tidy

Germany: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Umwelterziehung (FEE Germany)

Ghana: Centre for Sustainable Transformation

Greece: Hellenic Society for the Protection of Nature

Iceland: Landvernd (Icelandic Environment Association)

India: Centre for Environment Education

Ireland: An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland

Israel: EcoOcean

Italy: FEE Italia (FEE Italy)

Japan: Japan Alliance of Responsible Travel Agencies (JARTA)

Jordan: The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan

Kenya: Kenya Organisation for Environmental Education (KOEI)

Kuwait: Kuwait Water Association
Latvia: Vides izglitības fonds (FEE Latvia)

Lithuania: Lietuvos Zaliuju Judejimas (Lithuanian Green Movement)

Madagascar: Madagascar National Parks (MNP)

Malaysia: Tabung Alam Malaysia (WWF-Malaysia)

Malta: Nature Trust Malta

Mauritius: Reef Conservation

Mexico: FEE Mexico

Mongolia: Information and Training Centre for Nature and Environment

Montenegro: ECOM - Environmental Consultancy of Montenegro

Morocco: Fondation Mohammed VI pour la Protection de l'Environnement

Netherlands: Stichting IVN

New Zealand: Keep New Zealand Beautiful

Northern Ireland: Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful

Norway: Stiftelsen FEE Norway (Foundation FEE Norway)

Poland: Fundacja dla Edukacji Ekologicznej (Polish Foundation for Environmental Education)

Portugal: Associação Bandeira Azul da Europa (FEE Portugal)

Puerto Rico: Organización Pro Ambiente Sustentable (OPAS)

Qatar: Qatar Green Building Council

Romania: Centrul Carpato-Danubian de Geocologie (CCDG Romania)

Russia: Keep Saint-Petersburg Tidy

Scotland: Keep Scotland Beautiful
Serbia: Ambasadori održivog razvoja i životne sredine (Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development)

Singapore: WWF-Singapore

Slovakia: Spirala

Slovenia: Društvo DOVES (FEE Slovenia)

South Africa: Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa

South Korea: FEE Korea

Spain: Asociación de Educación Ambiental y del Consumidor (ADEAC)

Sweden: Keep Sweden Tidy Foundation/Swedish Forestry Association

Switzerland: Association J'aime ma Planète

Member Organisations

As of 31st December 2021

Tanzania: Tanzania Forest Conservation Group
Thailand: WWF Thailand
Trinidad and Tobago: Green T&T
Turkey: Türkiye Çevre Eğitim Vakfı (Foundation for Environmental Education in Turkey)
Uganda: Conservation Efforts for Community Development
Ukraine: Ekologitschna Initsiativa (Ecological Initiative NGO)
United Arab Emirates: Environmental Centre for Arab Towns (ECAT)
United States of America: National Wildlife Federation
US Virgin Islands: Virgin Islands Conservation Society
Uzbekistan: Zamin International Public Foundation
Wales: Keep Wales Tidy/Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus
Zanzibar: Jumuiya isiyu ya Kiserikali inayohusisha Maendeleo ya Vijana katika Elimu, Ujasiriamali na Uhifadhi wa Mazingira Zanzibar (Zanzibar Youth, Education, Environment, Development Support Association)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Åland Islands: Visit Åland
Belgium: Fédération Internationale de Camping et de Caravanning (FICC)
Belgium: BOS+ Vlaanderen vzw
Belgium: MOS (Department of Environment and Spatial Development)
Canada: Swim Drink Fish
Denmark: Skovskolen
Denmark: HORESTA (Association for the Hotel, Restaurant and Tourism Industry in Denmark)
Estonia: Ettevõtluse Arendamise Sihtasutus (Enterprise Estonia)
Estonia: Foundation Tartu Environmental Education Centre
Finland: Suomen Metsäyhdistys (Finnish Forest Association)
Georgia: LEPL Batumi Boulevard
Iceland: Vottunarstofan Tún ehf.
Japan: Japan Alliance of Responsible Travel Agencies (JARTA)
Kuwait: Kuwait Water Association
Latvia: Latvijas valsts meži (JSC Latvia's State Forests)
Malaysia: Green Growth Asia Foundation
Montenegro: Bureau for Education Services of Montenegro
Netherlands: Foundation KMKV Netherlands: SME Advies
Norway: Skogbrukets Kursinstitutt (Forestry Extension Institute)
Sail Training International
Sweden: The Swedish Forestry Society
Sweden: Ecobi AB
United Arab Emirates: Emirates Green Building Council
United States of America: American Shore and Beach Preservation Association
US Virgin Islands: US Virgin Islands Hotel and Tourism Association
Uzbekistan: Zamin International Public Foundation

HONORARY MEMBERS

Ole Løvig Simonsen
Malcolm Powell
Jan Eriksen
José Sanchez Moro
Patricia Oliver
Erol Güngör
Henny Kromhout
Aliko Vavouris
Lourdes Díaz Colón
Amine Ahlafi
José Hendriksen

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

Recognised as a world leader within the fields of Environmental Education and Education for Sustainable Development, the Foundation for Environmental Education partners with some of the world's foremost organisations in the fields of education and environment.



CORPORATE PARTNERS

Corporate partners are crucial to the global success enjoyed by the Foundation for Environmental Education and its programmes. Working closely with environmentally conscientious organisations is a mutually beneficial arrangement that helps us broaden our reach while affording our partners the chance to highlight their dedication to environmental concerns.



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