

EUROPEAN

COORDINATION



European Diversity Cereal Festival
26-28 June 2019

11th Nordic Heritage Cereal Meeting 4th European Let's cultivate diversity Meeting

Sow your Resistance 2019

Final Summary Report
Peasant Seeds International Meeting
4 - 9 November 2019
Occitanie, France

Organizing associations :



In collaboration with :



SIDE EVENT
The Importance of Sustainable Use of PGRFA in Europe
ETHIOPIA ROOM
FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER
13.15-14.30



Riccardo Bocci (Rete Semi Rurali, Italy). Why sustainable use matters in Europe and how to set up a network of actors: the experience of DIVERSITY.

Regine Andersen (Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Norway). Community Agrobiodiversity Management in Europe: the role of Community Seed Banks.

François Meinenberg (Pro Specie Rara, Switzerland). Social actor implementing the Treaty, the experience of Pro Specie Rara.

Matthias Lorimer (European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity, Europe). The EU on-farm network.

Annual Report
2019

General Assembly
May 20th 2020



● LET'S LIBERATE **DIVERSITY!**

Index

1. Association

- a. Secretariat
- b. Board meetings
- c. General Assembly 2019
- d. Elections of board members
- e. Members situation
- f. New members
- g. Accountant

2. Activities

- a. 4th Let's Cultivate Diversity!
- b. 10th Let's Liberate Diversity!
- c. Main meetings/events/gathering list

3. Projects

- a. DYNAVERSITY
- b. GenRes Bridge
- c. Community Seed Bank Project
- d. New projects

4. Communication and media

- a. Information material
- b. Website
- c. ECLLD-News! Newsletter
- d. Social media
- e. Office supplies

5. Accounting 2019

1. Association

This report shows the main activities that have been carried out by the Association *European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity!* during the year **2019**. They have been divided into small chapters to give an overview of the single **activities** and a summary of the economic situation. In Annex the **complete account** created with the accounting software Banana 8 (<https://www.banana.ch/en>).

a. Secretariat

Since April 6th 2019, the Association has the possibility to use a **workstation** inside the new space inaugurated by the member Rete Semi Rurali. The headquarter, called **Casa dell'Agrobiodiversità**, has a workspace, a meeting room, a library and the “**Casa dei Semi**”. The Secretary uses the space together with RSR Staff on Monday - Friday during working hours.





b. Board meetings

During the year 2019, the EC-LLD board organised **8 virtual meetings**: January 18th, May 10th, June 18th, July 25th, September 2nd, October 3rd, October 23rd, December 19th.

c. General Assembly 2019

The Ordinary Assembly was called for the day **Tuesday June 25th 2019** from 10:00 to 19:00, the day before the beginning of the *4th Let's Cultivate Diversity!* meeting, located in Kalø, Denmark.

Participants: Béla Bartha -ProSpecieRara-, Riccardo Bocci, Riccardo Franciolini, Matteo Petitti -Rete Semi Rurali-, Matthias Lorimer -Secretary of EC-LLD-, Cyrille Pacteau, Amelie Hallot-Charmasson, Ismael Rodriguez -Réseau Semences Paysannes-, Adam Veitch -Scottish Crofting Foundation-, Kostas Koutis -Aegilops-, Josep Salva Serra -Red de Semillas-, Joanne Newton, Deirdre Morrissey -Irish Seed Savers Association - new elected EC-LLD member-.

Absent associations: Bede, Centro Crocevia Internazionale, Dachverband Kulturpflanzen- und Nutztiervielfalt e. V. Dachverband, Seed.

Below the agenda of the Assembly and for more details, the minutes of the Assembly is available.

Agenda GA 2019:

- 1) Welcome to the GA and presentation of the new members -Irish Seed Savers-
- 2) Voting the entrance of the ISSA
- 3) Presenting and voting the report and accounting 2018
- 4) Presentation and vote of candidates for the EC-LLD Board
- 5) Workshop on EC-LLD "*Vision and Mission*" and results of the survey
- 6) Presentation of Dynaversity work and events planning
- 7) LLD 2019: International meeting France
- 8) LLD 2020: Organisation
- 9) Presentation of GenRes Project
- 10) Presentation of Community Seed Bank Academy project
- 11) Brainstorming on Salvia Project



d. Elections of Board Members

Every **two years** the board is re-elected, and the last election was in 2017. So at this GA, there was the presentation and **vote** of **candidates** to the Board of Directors.

Béla Bartha, Maria Carrascosa -present by Skype-, Cyrille Pacteau, Riccardo Bocci, Jennifer McConnell -not present but delegated two members of the association-, were elected by the Assembly at **unanimity**. The list of new Board Members was sent to the Belgian authorities as required by Belgian law.

The three designated people for digital bank account signature -Riccardo Bocci, Béla Bartha, Maria Carrascosa- remain the same.

e. Members situation

At the December 31st 2019 all the associations have paid the annual membership fee for the year 2019, except for Dachverband Kulturpflanzen & Nutztiervielfalt (DKNV). The **association paid** the fee for 2018 and 2019 the April 30th 2020, before the GA 2020.

For the year 2018, SCF payments of €50 were missing. As said at the last GA, it can be thought to make some exchange of working hours / **English proofreading** instead of paying the annual fee (Internal Regulation - Fees - The membership fee can also be paid as an in-kind contribution or voluntary work).

f. New Members

In the year 2019 the **Irish Seed Savers Association** -Ireland- became new members of EC-LLD. There was also a request from **Arche Noah**, Austria. As the formal application for membership did not arrive in time, it was decided to postpone their entrance during the Assembly 2020.

Thanks to the workshops held and the numerous associations invited, other informative requests were also made, especially with regard to **Northern Europe** and **East Europe**.

g. Accountant

In March 2018, we started a collaboration with an accountant -Didier Verelst- to follow all EC-LLD bureaucratic procedures - e.g. TVA, statute, personnel, budgeting - according to the Belgian laws. The collaboration continued throughout the year 2019 and the obligatory **UBO** -Ultimate Beneficial Owner- the practice was obligatory carried out.

2. Activities

a. 4th Let's Cultivate Diversity!

From 26th to June 28th the 4th LCD European meeting dedicated to cereals took place in Kalø, Denmark, organised by the European Project CERERE, the *European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity!* and the Nordic Heritage Cereal Network. As in previous editions held in France, Italy and Belgium, there were **three intense days** of an in-depth study of **agricultural and processing practices**.



Some of our **members coordinated** the activities and workshops during the event:

1. Organisation and cooperation through the whole **value chain**: The role of **food policy** in promoting the local cereal production. *Giuseppe de Santis RSR (IT)*



2. **Cultivation of evolutionary varieties**. A proposition to mobilise untapped diversity for **on-farm breeding** - example of rivet wheat. *Matteo Petitti RSR (IT)*

3. **Farmers participation in breeding**. Starting a selection network of farmers without funding. Roundtable animated by *Ismael Rodriguez RSP (FR)*

4. **Legal frame** and consequences of the new heterogeneous population and organic plant breeding 2021 EU legislation. *Riccardo Bocci RSR (IT)*

5. Storing and drying for **healthy seed** - toolbox. *Bettina Bussi RSR (IT)*

6. **Seed networks for conservation varieties**. *Béla Bartha PSR (CH)*,

7. Cooperation between **small seed companies**, farmers and communities. *Riccardo Franciolini RSR (IT)*



8. Intellectual Property Rights on Seeds (**Patents, Plant Variety Protection, Farm-saved seeds**) and negotiations on **Farmer's Rights** under the Plant Treaty. *François Meienberg PSR (CH) Amélie Hallot-Charmasson RSP (FR)*.

9. The **EU network of on-farm actors**, DYNAVERSITY project and the European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity. *Cyrille Pacteau RSP (FR), Matthias Lorimer (ECLLD)*

10. Local consumption of cereals: how producers, processors and consumers are articulating access to their food. The Filigrane experience in Italy, *Riccardo Franciolini (IT)*

All the information and program on the event's website: <https://www.tilmeld.dk/cereal2019/organizers.html>.

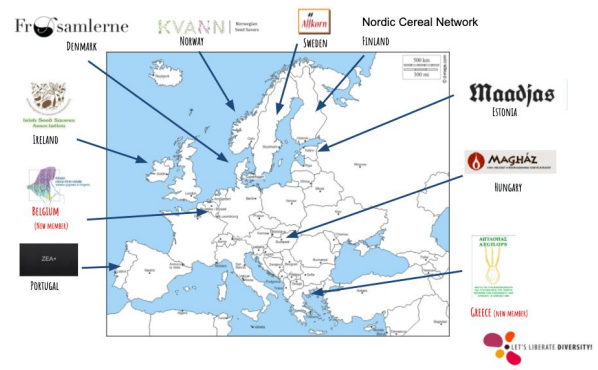
b. 10th Let's Liberate Diversity!

From 7th to November 9th 2019 the **10th European Forum "Let's Liberate Diversity!"** took place in **France**, organised in partnership with the International meeting "*Seme ta Resistance*" managed by **BEDE** and **RSP**. The gathering was attended by more than **300 people** from all over the world (countries of West Africa, Guatemala, Vietnam, Mexico) and EC-LLD!



organised the invitation of **14 European associations** (countries of Northern Europe, Hungary, Greece, Croatia, and the UK plus the internal Members) and coordinated **two workshops**:

1. "**Creating the EU network of on-farm actors** and in situ sites: challenges and bottlenecks."
2. "**Defining and designing innovative seed system**: defining the boundaries between **formal** and **informal**".



Here you can find a complete report of the meeting:

<https://liberatediversity.org/news/159-report-seme-ta-resistence-2019-and-10th-let-s-liberate-diversity-and>



#credits - *D for Diversity* facebook page, Dylan Wallman, Allkorn (Swedish invited association).



c. Main meetings/events/gathering list

Below is a list of the main meetings, workshops, seed exchanges, conferences, in which EC-LLD has participated:

1. 14th/17th January, Budapest - DYNAVERSITY, second Annual meeting
2. January 20th, Genova - Mandillo seed exchange
3. February 17th, Florence - Fierucola dei semi
4. 22th/24th March, Wolkersdorf - Arche Noah Legal-policy workshop
5. March 26th, Rome - FAO: Meeting between EC-LLD Members and FAO Treaty Secretariat
6. 22/23rd May, Aquila - Biodiversity Day Regione Abruzzo, Presentation of EC-LLD
7. 6/7th June, Pisa - Italian Let's Cultivate Diversity! Rosario Farm, Workshops
8. 25/28th June, Kalo - 4th European Let's Cultivate Diversity!
9. 19/21th July, Caselle in Pittari - Dynaversity workshop and photo exhibition
10. 25/28th August, Leuven - SAVE Foundation Annual meeting, Presentation of EC-LLD
11. October 5th, Florence - Pomodoro, old varieties seed exchanges
12. October 25th, Florence - Seed systems RSR workshop
13. 27/30th October, Helsinki - GenRes Bridge meeting
14. 3/7th November, Meze - Erasmus+ fields visits
15. 7/10th November, Meze - 10th Let's Liberate Diversity meeting, seme ta resistance
16. November 15th, Rome - Presentation of ECLLD activities at FAO side event, the eighth session of the Governing Body to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)
17. 2/4th December, Florence - Dynaversity Annual meeting

Note

Meeting with ITPGRFA Secretariat

EC-LLD presentation become one of the power points of the Toolbox on Sustainable Use of PGRFA of the IT-PGRFA
<http://www.fao.org/plant-treaty/tools/toolbox-for-sustainable-use/overview/en/>

Annual SAVE Foundation Meeting

Next annual meeting on **September 19th 2020** in Bavaria, **Germany**.



3. Projects

a. DYNAVERSITY

The project activities of the tasks *1.3 Mapping actors, stakeholders and sites* and *5.3 Capacity building and face to face events (5.3.3 LLD events and 5.3.4 Seed exchanges events)*, **continued** during the year as previously shown.

In **addition** to EC-LLD assignments tasks, within DYNAVERSITY, the Secretariat drafted a **case study** (WP2) on the interesting way of working of the Majella National Park. This natural Park plays an important role in “*crop wild relatives management (CWR)*” and works with numerous local agricultural varieties. Moreover, the Park is a founder of the **RIBES network**, a national network for ex-situ conservation in **Italy**. The complete report: [Majella National Park and RIBES Network \(Italy\)](#) available also on the website of the project.



PART 1: DESCRIPTION

1.1 Contextualising the case

Majella National Park is in the middle of the Abruzzo region in central Italy. The park was chosen as a case study because of its activities and its association with the RIBES network. In fact, the Park plays an important role in Crop Wild Relatives (CWR) management, as well as working to promote numerous local agricultural varieties. The Park also has its own Seed Bank, two botanical gardens and an agreement with a nursery for marketing the varieties.

Moreover, the Park is a founder of the RIBES network, a national network for ex situ conservation in Italy. There are several Germplasm Banks in Italy. These banks exist mostly at the local level and are responsible for preserving the seeds of plant species that belong to the native flora of each region in order to preserve their genetic heritage. The local banks that are members of the RIBES network are: Banca del Germoplasma delle Alpi sud occidentali, Lombardy Seed Bank, Trentino Seed Bank, Laboratorio per la conservazione della diversità vegetale ligure, banca del Germoplasma di Padova, Banca del Germoplasma di Pisa, Banche del Germoplasma livornesi, Banca del Germoplasma di Perugia, Banca del Germoplasma delle Marche, Banca del Germoplasma della Toscana, Banca del Germoplasma di Roma, Banca del Germoplasma della Majella, Banca del Germoplasma della Sardegna, Banca del Germoplasma di Palermo, Banca del Germoplasma di Catania.

3.4 Community Seed Banks and databases

With regards to the task 3.4, during the last year of the project 3 manuals on CSBs will be drafted.



b. GenRes bridge Project

The Secretary participated at the “The GenRes Bridge Sharing Perspectives Workshop” that was held in Tuusula, Finland 28-30 October 2019. A workshop **report** of the organisers and one of the Secretary was shared. Within this project at the moment it was requested to reread and comment on the documents that came out of the workshop.

c. Community Seed Bank Academy project - Survey

The survey was conducted as part of the *Community Seed Banks Academy project* in collaboration with the *European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity!* (EC-LLD). We invited people to participate in a survey on “*Training needs of persons that are managing seed collections*” (for example seed archives, seed



libraries, maisons de semences, case delle sementi, farmers seed networks) in European Community Seed Banks (CSB). The purpose of the CSB Academy is to **support specific pieces of training for CSB initiatives** and to connect people engaged in CSBs. The EC-LLD platform has taken charge of this survey as it could perform this **linking function**. The survey was composed by EC-LLD and subsequently reviewed by the project board. It has been created inside the google-form platform to generate a link feasible to share. The tools to disseminate the survey were through the Newsletter of the European Coordination, on the Coordination website www.liberatediversity.org and during the 10th Let's Liberate Diversity! meeting. Some Members shared the link also in their national newsletter.

The survey was first published in English on 11/09/19, then in Italian and French, lastly into Spanish.

d. New Project

In December 2019 was approved the project “*Strengthen and Enlarging the European Coordination - LLD network*” by Salvia Foundation discussed at the GA in Denmark. The subject of the project is to strengthen and support EC-LLD, enlarging its functionality and impact at European level. The project's goal is to let EC-LLD still has a Secretariat who works, contribute economically to the LCD/LLD meetings, try to involve new members in the three years of the project (based on the current new organizations with which is he working within DYNAVERSITY project).

The organization to take part in the DIVACTION partnership -H2020 - began in December 2019.



4. Communication and Media

a. Informational material

During the year were produced some informational material:

EUROPEAN COORDINATION LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY

The European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity! is an EU non-profit organisation, created in 2012 under Belgian law. Its objective is to encourage, develop and promote the dynamic management of agricultural biodiversity in farming systems and gardens.

The members are:

- Scottish Crofting Federation (Scotland)
- Pro Specie Rara (Switzerland)
- Réseau Semences Paysannes (France)
- BEDE (France)
- Red & Semilla (Spain)
- Centro Internazionale Grecois (Italy)
- Rete Semi Rurali (Italy)
- SEED (Luxembourg)
- Dachverband Kulturpflanzen- und Nutzwirtschaft e. V. (Dachverband) (German speaking countries)
- Agropolis (Greece)
- Réseau Meuse Rhin-Meuse (Belgium)

EUROPEAN COORDINATION - LLD
Office: Via Caviglioglio 12 Scandicci (Italy)
www.liberatediversity.org

EUROPEAN COORDINATION LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY!

Citizen awareness Seeds Exchange

Open and technical meetings Showing cultivated biodiversity

11^{ème} Libérons La Diversité!

SAVE THE DATE
22 - 24 Mai 2020
Scandicci (Florence) - Italie

LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY!
www.liberatediversity.org - info@liberatediversity.org

10th Let's Liberate Diversity!

10th Let's Liberate Diversity 1 *within le Rencontres "Sème ta résistance"*

7-9 November 2019

Mèze (Hérault), France

www.liberatediversity.org
info@liberatediversity.org

#WORKSHOP 1

Creating the EU network of on farm actors and in situ sites: challenges and bottlenecks

In the framework of the DIVERSITY project this workshop will present the European Coordination Let's Liberate Diversity (EC-LLD) with its vision and mission. It will also present the work of networking done in past months and discuss with participants the objectives and needs of an European network. In addition to a moment of exchange there will be a special guest: **Sinead Fortune** who will illustrate the program of Gaia Foundation on food sovereignty in England.

#WORKSHOP 2

Defining and designing innovative seed systems: defining the boundaries between formal and informal

This workshop will present the results of the EU project DIVERSIFOOD on seed systems and will open the discussion with participants on the boundaries between so-called **informal and formal seed systems** based on concrete case studies.

EUROPEAN COORDINATION

Let's Liberate Diversity!

The European Forum for Cultivated Biodiversity



LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY!
Scandicci (Florence) 22nd / 24th May 2020

LET'S LIBERATE DIVERSITY!
10th LLD European Forum
Mèze 7 / 8 November 2019 - France

European Coordination
Let's Liberate Diversity!
TVA BE 0521-783-982
N° d'entreprise 0879791978

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% Piazza Brunelleschi, 8 Scandicci
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b. Website

The website has been **updated** with events of the members and with articles shared by members on weekly basis. In collaboration with RSP, it was still included the box of the “*Legal Watch*” and the CSB Academy Project survey.

c. ECLLD-News! Newsletter

In July 2019 the first **ECLLD-News!** (ENG,FRA,SPA,ITA) was sent to **250 contacts**. An email list has been created with the emails of all the people who have been interested in the past or met during this year.

n# 1 July 2019 (ENG, FRA, SPA, ITA)

n# 2 September 2019 (EN, FRA)

n# 3 November 2019 (EN, FRA)

News to share in the newsletter is **always welcome**.

d. Social Media

The Facebook page -<https://www.facebook.com/eclld/>- or search with “@eclld” tag, has been updated weekly with information from members. There are **189** (previous year 91) like and **212** (103 previous year) follower. Less frequently but always active also the Twitter account-<https://twitter.com/ECLLD>- is updated.

e. Office supplies

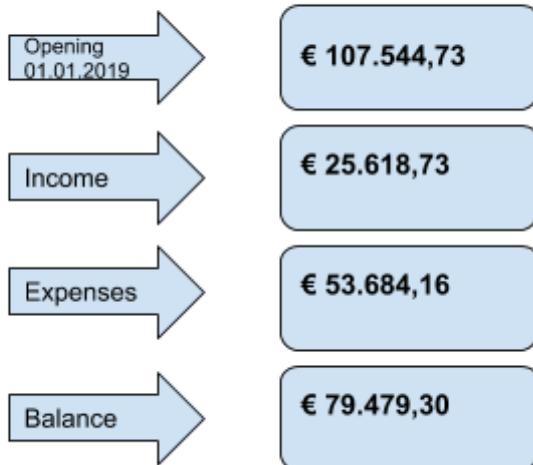
On 28th June 2018 a telephone contract with the company ILIAD at 5,99 € per month was registered (still ongoing).

5. Accounting 2019

In the figure below the economic balance sheet with the accounts at 31/12/2019. The Banque Triodos is the account of the Association based in Belgium, Paypal account is used for the transport tickets, Soldo as a debit card for traveling and Paypal card for phone fees.

ESTATE		31/12/2019
BANQUE TRIODOS		77.105,79
PAYPAL		1.249,77
SOLDO		892,40
CASH		230,20
PAYPAL CARD		1,14
TOTAL		79.479,30

At 31/12/2019 the value of net assets of the Association is € **79.479,30**



From the figure above we have to consider that the real entrance from DYNAVERSITY entrances, the Membership fee of the Members and the reimbursement for the participation in GenRes Bridge project is € **20.398,73**. The above figures take into account expenses, and inputs between the different accounts.



On the following page there is a table summarising the costs items of expenses.

Segments	31/12/2019
DYNAVERSITY	-26.851,16
GENRESBRIDGE	-73,90
General expenses	-1.140,37
OPERATING RESULT	2019
EXPENSES	
Travel expenses	-2.546,14
Secretariat Travel (without LCD and LLD)	-2.113,27
LLD Meetings	-10.161,25
LCD Meeting	-4.081,64
TOTAL TRAVEL EXPENSES	-18.902,30
Bank account expenses (Triodos)	-36,00
Soldo Commission / fee	-12,10
Office supplies	-50,00
Telephone	-95,89
TOTAL EXPENSES	-193,99
Secretary - Consultant	-27.272,76
Accountant	-726,00
Consultant - IT	-600,00
TOTAL STAFF	-28.598,76
Tax	-17,00
Paypalcard commision / costs	-1,00
TOTAL TAXES	-18,00
Printing material	-102,38
TOTAL COMUNICATION	-102,38
TOTAL EXPENSES	
INCOME	
Membership fees	500,00
TOTAL MEMBER INCOME	500,00
DYNAVERSITY project	19.250,00
TOTAL PROJECT CONTRIBUTION	19.250,00



They were spent € **26.851,16** for the DYNAVERSITY Project, € **1.140,37** € for costs marked as overheads and therefore not included in project costs, and € **73,90** for GENRES BRIDGE. Car fuels was not part of the project's reimbursement so it should be counted as overheads.

The cost of travel of the Secretariat, not considering LLD and LCD events, has been of € **2.113,27** while that of the Members was € **2.546,14**.

The total cost of the *10th Let's Liberate Diversity!* France was € **10.161,25**.

The total cost of the *4th Let's Cultivate Diversity!* Denmark was € **4.081,64**.

Commissions and telephone charges € **193,99**.

Secretary annual cost € **27.272,76**, was more than the € 25,000 per year, since the two months of the start of the project (November-December 2017) that had not yet been paid were added in the monthly invoices (in view of the last two months of the project).

Accountant € **726,00** and web-master € **600**, for a total of EC-LLD consultants € **28.598,76**

During the year, the second tranche of DYNAVERSITY has paid for an amount of € **19.250,00**.



In the table below, the costs of the individual Associations considering the annual Membership fee of € 50.

COST AND PROFIT CENTERS	
	2019
ProSpecieRara	-336,20
Rete Semi Rurali	50,00
Red de Semillas	-904,85
Centro Internazionale Crocevia	50,00
Reseau Semences Paysannes	-1.744,93
Scottish Crofting Federation	-279,02
BEDE	50,00
Irish Seed Savers Ass	-835,58
SEED	50,00
Aegilops	-514,77
Réseau Meuse-Rhin-Moselle	-122,60
Secretariat	-34.699,27
Cumulative LLD Members expenses	-3.680,42
Invited EU Association	-4.385,79
Total	-47.303,43
LLD Meeting FRANCE	-10.161,25
LCD Meeting DENMARK	-4.081,64
Other EU Meetings	-1.283,27

The total cost of the EC-LLD Secretariat taking into account salary and travel was € **34.699,27**

As previously shown, the costs of EC-LLD meetings have been:

- LLD France € **10.161,25**
- LCD Denmark € **4.081,64**

Within LLD/LCD the Coordination paid cumulative invoices (e.g. 16 beds, 7 entrance fee in Denmark) for internal EC-LLD Members for € **3.680,42** (not counted under individual items).

The cost for the invitation of the various Associations (mainly to the LLD event in France) was € **4.385,79**

The cost of the Secretary's participation in European meetings (SAVE annual meeting, Arche-Noah workshop) was € **1283,27**.



Kalo, Denmark 2019

