

# PEER FACTS AND FIGURES

PEER members are dedicated exclusively to environmental research focusing on the interaction between man and the environment, and sustainable development. PEER addresses complex environmental challenges on different spatial and temporal scales, integrating natural sciences, social sciences and engineering, and linking basic and applied research. The research activities are based on PEER members' multi-annual strategic research programmes, and financed through public sector budget allocation and by competitive project funding.

The directors of the PEER organisations from left to right:  
Leen Hordijk, JRC-IES | Kees Slingerland, Alterra | Lea Kauppi, SYKE | Roger Genet, Cemagref  
Pat Nuttall, CEH | Henrik Sandbech, NERI | Georg Teutsch, UFZ  
Jacques Jansen, PEER Secretary General (until summer 2011)



## PEER MEMBER INSTITUTES

### ALTERRA – Wageningen UR

Headquarters: Wageningen,  
The Netherlands – Parent Body:  
Wageningen University & Research  
Centre  
Staff: 430 | Budget: 54 Million Euro

### CEH – Centre for Ecology & Hydrology

Headquarters: Wallingford, United  
Kingdom – Parent Body: Natural  
Environment Research Council  
Staff: 500 | Budget: 40 Million Euro

### CEMAGREF – Environmental sciences and technologies research institute

Headquarters: Antony, France  
Staff: 1,600 | Budget: 110 Million  
Euro

### NERI – National Environmental Research Institute

Headquarters: Roskilde, Denmark  
Parent body: Aarhus University  
Staff: 450 | Budget: 56 Million Euro

### JRC-IES – Institute for Environment and Sustainability

Headquarters: Ispra, Italy  
– Parent Body: European  
Commission – Joint Research Centre  
Staff: 430 | Budget: 48 Million Euro

### SYKE – Finnish Environment Institute

Headquarters: Helsinki, Finland  
Staff: 655 | Budget: 50 Million Euro

### UFZ - Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research

Headquarters: Leipzig, Germany  
Staff: 960 | Budget: 68 Million Euro

## VISION

The vision of the Partnership for European Environmental Research (PEER) is to be a world leader in integrating knowledge and expertise for sustainable development.

## MISSION

The mission of PEER is:

- to build a strategic partnership of major European public environmental research centres;
- to lead a European Research Area that strengthens the knowledge base for the sustainable development of a changing world;
- and to foster innovative interdisciplinary research and cross-cutting approaches in support of national and European policy-makers, industry and society.

## HISTORY

On the 10th of August 2001 in Helsinki five leading national environmental research centres in Europe decided to found the "Partnership for European Environmental Research Initiative" (PEER) with the aim of combining their forces in order to follow a joint strategy in environmental sciences and to enhance research on ecological sustainability. This co-operation was confirmed by a Framework Agreement signed on the 25th of June 2002 in Roskilde and renewed in 2007.

Currently, PEER consists of seven member institutes that together employ approximately 5,000 persons. The combined annual budget is about 430 Million Euro. The PEER institutes have a wealth of experience in participation in major international networks and programmes, and are actively involved in a number of projects funded by the EU's Framework Programme for Research and Development.

## MAJOR ROLE IN INSTITUTIONAL NETWORKS

ALTERNET – A long-term Biodiversity,  
Ecosystem and Awareness Research  
Network (FP6 Network of Excellence)

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LANDSCAPE EUROPE - European Network  
of Expertise on Landscapes

•  
EURAQUA - Network of European Freshwater  
Research Organisations

•  
NORMAN – Network of reference laboratories for  
monitoring of emerging environmental pollutants

•  
ESBN - European Soil Bureau Network

## EXAMPLES OF MAJOR PAN-EUROPEAN ACTIVITIES

LIAISE – Linking Impact Assessment  
Instruments with Sustainability  
Expertise (FP7 Network of Excellence)

EBONE – European Biodiversity  
Observation Network (FP7 Integrated  
Project)

SCALES – Securing the  
Conservation of biodiversity Across  
administrative Levels and spatial,  
temporal, and Ecological Scales  
(FP7 Integrated Project)

NitroEurope – The nitrogen cycle  
and its influence on the European  
greenhouse gas balance  
(FP6 Integrated Project)

SCENES – Water Scenarios for  
Europe and for Neighbouring States  
(FP6 Integrated Project)

ETC CC – European Topic Centre  
on Climate Change impacts,  
vulnerability and adaptation  
2011–2013

PRESS – PEER Research on  
EcoSystem Services

## CONTACTS

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