



How to start a thriving National Ecovillage Network

There are many ways you can create a thriving national network. The steps below are a suggested path to creating a fully functioning network, but you may not necessarily follow them in this order, or complete all of them. If in doubt, contact secretariat@gen-europe.org with your queries and we will be delighted to help you. Good luck!

1. Come to the GEN Europe conference to familiarise yourself with the network and its members.
2. Get involved in other GEN Europe activities: sign up for newsletters, become a GEN Ambassador, attend regional events.
3. Build the network in your country virtually by referring to the [GEN Project Database](#). Make an inventory of all relevant projects in your country, find out which projects are already enrolled and invite further organisations to link up. Your regional GEN Council or Staff can write a letter of support for this process.
4. Organise a small-scale national meeting with as many national players as possible.
5. Enrol with GEN Europe as an ‘aspiring national network’ by contacting membership@gen-europe.org.
6. Attend the GEN Europe General Assembly
7. Join the yearly European National Networks meeting to meet other National Networks.
8. If applicable and desired, enquire into possibilities for setting up a legal GEN- organisation in your country. GEN will provide ongoing support with model statutes, programmes and the GEN graphic profile.

The Global Ecovillage Network has consultative status in the UN – ECOSOC





GEN EUROPE
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NETWORK

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9. Organise a larger event (e.g. Ecovillage Conference or Ecovillage Design Education) in your country. GEN may be able to support you with fundraising.
10. If applicable, at this meeting, a democratic process can lead to the affirmation of a decision-making process, of legal statutes and the designation of official contact persons/a council for the national network.
11. Officially launch the national network however you like – an event, a celebration, an activity to mark its opening.
12. Apply for full membership with GEN Europe.
13. Celebrate your success and remember to keep your GEN Regional Council or the GEN International Board informed of your Network's activities!

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