

YEE ANNUAL MEETING 2013  
Annual Report 2012-2013  
Date of issue: 17.06.2012



# **Youth and Environment Europe Annual Report 2012-2013**

Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) is an international platform that unites 45 European youth organisations that study nature and/or are active in environmental protection. These member organisations come together from 26 countries. The mission of YEE is to unite environmental youth non-profit organizations in Europe in order to enhance international cooperation, increase knowledge about nature, raise awareness of environmental problems and to strengthen participation of youth in environmental decision-making. We aim to encourage youth to be involved in environmental protection and to provide a platform where these organisations can work together.

In 1983 YEE derived from the European branch of the International Youth Federation for Environmental Studies and Conservation (IYF) which was founded in 1956 under the sponsorship of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). After the first Annual Meeting in 1983 YEE office was settled in Denmark. Then in 1990, the headquarters was moved to Utrecht in the Netherlands. Finally, the office was moved to Prague, Czech Republic in 1998 to be more central and more accessible to the growing number of NGOs from Eastern part of the European continent. Now it is based in the Ecological Centre 'Toulcův Dvůr', what provides a big advantage in organising joint events, campaigns and trainings.

Our objective is to offer young people the opportunity to meet, exchange ideas and experiences, and to learn more about the protection of nature. For this, YEE is linking activities of member organisations on international level. Another aim is to raise public awareness on environmental problems through international actions.

A large number of YEE activities is carried out on international, national or local level, by YEE Member Organisations and the YEE Secretariat. These activities include information exchange through our publications, training courses, youth exchanges, working meetings and campaigns on topics our Member Organisations deal with.

YEE realizes that taking care of the environment means taking care of our future. Young people that YEE works with are the future and in YEE they have the voice. That is why thanks to YEE they can work together for a better future.

## STRUCTURE

### Executive Board

According to the YEE Statutes valid since 2011, the Executive Board of YEE consists of six people – members of the YEE Member Organisations representing at least four different countries. The Board is made up from volunteers, being elected every summer during the Annual Meeting by the General Assembly and is entitled to follow the decisions of the General Assembly.

The 2012-2013 YEE Executive Board was elected in July 2012 during the Annual Meeting:

Chairperson – Kyrylo Ivliev (EYC, Russian Federation)  
Vice-Chair & Publications and Promotion Officer – Tomek Janiak (OA PTTK, Poland)  
Treasurer – Girts Baranovskis (Balta Daba, Latvia)  
External Relations Officer – Zaruhi Stepanyan (Khazer, Armenia)  
Project Officer – Christiane Klemm (FÖJ ACTIV e.V., Germany)  
Member Organizations Officer – Tijana Lubenovic (Young Researchers of Serbia, Serbia)

In the work year 2012-2013, the Executive Board has held 2 physical board meetings – one right after the AM 2012 and the second one in February in Prague. There will be the third physical board meeting convened before the AM 2013. Apart from that, there have been conducted 8 virtual board meetings by Skype.

### Secretariat

The Secretariat consists of paid employees who are appointed and guided by the Executive Board and of the EVS volunteers. The work of the Secretariat is coordinated by the Secretary General.

**Secretary General:** Maria Dokupilova (June 2012-May 2013), Mercedes Fioravanti (from June 2013)

**Main Coordinator:** Małgorzata Zubowicz-Thull (2009-July 2013), Natalia Luchko (from May 2013)

The Secretariat participated in both physical Board Meetings and in all the virtual Board Meetings that were held in the period of 2012-2013.

### European Voluntary Service (EVS)

The EVS (European Voluntary Service) is a project within Action 2 of the European Commission's Programme "Youth in Action". The European Voluntary Service (EVS) provides young Europeans with the unique chance to express their personal commitment through unpaid and full-time voluntary activities in a foreign country within or outside the EU.

The EVS project in YEE consists of three parts: work in the YEE office, work in Toulcův dvůr (the ecological centre where the YEE office is located) and a personal project.

### **European volunteers hosted:**

- Cameron Murphy (Ireland – 02.2012-02.2013)
- Natalia Luchko (Russia – 05.2012-05.2013)
- Jesus de la Hoz Trapero (Spain – 04.2013-04.2014)
- Jessica Massucco (The UK – 04.2013-04.2014)

## **Development of the Organization**

### **Internally:**

- There has been reached a high level of cohesion in the work of the Executive Board and the Secretariat, which resulted in smooth cooperation in frames of fulfilment of the Work Plan 2012-2013.
- The board set up regular Skype meetings to discuss current issues and implementation of the working plan, which considerably contributed to the effectiveness of the whole organisation.
- Member Organizations accepted by the General Assembly in 2012, actively engaged into activities of YEE, namely by means of both organizing their own projects and joining the projects run by the other YEE MOs.
- Internal Audit has been successfully carried out in April 2013. The results will be presented to the GA at the AM 2013.
- A lot of efforts have been put into getting in touch with so-called 'sleeping MOs' that resulted in many of them getting back, explaining their current problems that made them being inactive and promising to be more involved in the future. Some of them paid or promised to pay membership fees.
- A success has been reached in improving online promotion tools, namely Facebook. The number of 'likes' has been increased almost twice within this year.

### **Externally:**

In the work year 2012-2013 YEE has been represented in the following international events:

- Statutory meeting of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe held on November 12-14, 2012 in Strasbourg, France – by Kyrylo Ivliev, YEE Chairperson;
- General Assembly of the European Youth Forum that took place on November 21-25, 2012 in Maribor, Slovenia - by Zaruhi Stepanyan, YEE External Relations Officer and Kyrylo Ivliev, YEE Chairperson;
- Statutory meeting of the Programming Committee on Youth of the Council of Europe, taking place on December 7-10, 2012 in Strasbourg, France – by Kyrylo Ivliev, YEE Chairperson;

- Statutory meeting of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe held on April 3-5, 2013 in Budapest, Hungary – by Kyrylo Ivliev, YEE Chairperson;
- Council of Members of the European Youth Forum held on April 19-20 in Brussels, Belgium – by Zaruhi Stepanyan, YEE External Relations Officer;
- Preparatory meeting of the expert group on sustainable development that took place on April 22-23 in Strasbourg, France – by Kyrylo Ivliev, YEE Chairperson;
- Statutory meeting of the Programming Committee on Youth held on June 4-5, 2013 in Budapest, Hungary – by Kyrylo Ivliev, YEE Chairperson.
- Funding Workshop by European Youth Forum, June 17-20, Antwerp, Belgium – Natalia Luchko, Main Coordinator of YEE.

YEE External Relations Officer Zaruhi Stepanyan together with YEE Chairperson Kyrylo Ivliev coordinated the process of negotiation with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in regard to acquisition of accreditation which will allow YEE to be present in the capacity of observer at various UNEP meetings and contribute to discussions on the high political level.

Since the process usually takes quite a long time, we are waiting for good news from the UNEP.

### **Contacts with new organizations:**

4 organizations applied for membership in YEE. Some others consider applying next year. Many organisations participated in various YEE projects – this way we hope to establish with them stronger partnerships.

## **ACTIVITIES FROM THE WORK PLAN**

### **2012 YEE Working Plan**

Next follow projects that were implemented in 2012 and are part of the 2012 YEE Working Plan:

#### **Training courses:**

#### ***1. “Be a leader in an environmental organisation”, October 5-12, 2013, Bela u Jevicka, Czech Republic (Title in the Working Plan Study Session 'Leadership skills')***

The training course was designed for young people who are leaders, coordinators, youth workers in their organizations and want to improve their skills in leading projects and managing groups. 22 young people from 10 youth organizations (from Latvia, Germany, Portugal, Albania, Serbia, Armenia, Macedonia, Italy and Czech Republic) met to practise the skills of being a good leader in environmental projects. The TC addressed the need of young organizations to have competent, experienced and skilled volunteers and workers that will know well how to use the potential and energy of young people involved in the

organisation. The project focused especially on young people working in the field of environmental protection and non-formal education so that they could pass their knowledge on the topic well, involve in their projects many people and give the biggest possible impact to their activities.

The project was organised by Youth and Environment Europe.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-completed-projects/751-training-course-be-a-leader-in-an-environmental-organisation>

The follow-up of the project was creating the publication 'How to be a leader in an environmental organisation'.

The project was funded 9812,73 EUR by the Youth in Action Programme, the European Commission.

### **Youth Exchanges:**

#### **1. “Give Pedestrians Their City Back”, September 16-23, Tirana, Albania**

The youth exchange aimed to share experiences and best practices about the concept and various actions on green cities and also to develop cooperation and common awareness rising actions (campaign) that shall be afterwards implemented in several European countries.

Project's activities were built upon above mentioned rationale and included practical workshops, outdoor activities, environmental games, presentations, methods of non-formal education, interactive workshops – learning by doing, creative activities, reflection in small groups, discussions, simulation games, role plays, group work and more. On 22<sup>nd</sup> September the participants joined a street action linked to the EU mobility week, and particularly to the World Carfree Day.

The project was organised by EDEN Center, Albania and Youth and Environment Europe.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-completed-projects/787-youth-exchange-give-pedestrians-their-city-back>

The project was funded 17650.19 EUR by the European Youth Foundation, the Council of Europe and 3837.81 EUR the Youth in Action Programme, the European Commission.

### **2013 YEE Working Plan**

Next follow projects that were or will be implemented in 2013 and are part of the 2013 YEE Working Plan:

#### **Training courses:**

#### **1. “Women for the Planet”, June 1-8, 2013, Maribor, Slovenia**

The project focused on women in Central and Eastern Europe and Balkan and Caucasus region to empower them to be leaders in their organizations and their communities. During this TC YEE aimed to provide the participants with the knowledge and skills about leadership, possibility to discuss and exchange experience with other environmental organizations and the opportunity to develop and practise their leadership skills. This TC has been built upon a variety of practice, theoretical input and sharing experience. A particular focus was placed upon gender equality and rights, elimination of gender discrimination, different leadership styles etc.

The project was organised by EPEKA, Slovenia and Youth and Environment Europe.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/862-training-course-qwomen-for-the-planetq>

The project was funded 16000 EUR by the European Youth Foundation, the Council of Europe and the Youth in Action Programme, the European Commission (the final amounts will be known after submitting the final report).

**2. “Youth for Rivers”, October 6-13, 2013, Aghveran, Armenia (Title in the Working Plan “River restoration”)**

*To be realised*

The aim of the project is to foster creation of a young European community that will take an active role in society by improving the state of European rivers; To develop leadership skills of participants through the methods of non-formal education; To exchange ideas and experience in the area of environmental citizenship; To make participants aware of their role in the sustainable development of the current and future of Europe; To establish networks, that will foster cooperation in future project development; to promote the spirit of European unity through intercultural learning.

Partners and participants of the project come from inside and outside of the EU. This fact will make them think of the benefits of European citizenship and what role they can play in the construction of the current and future Europe, especially regarding promotion and development of sustainable policies. Active participation of young people will be present at all stages of the project using interactive methods of NFE for fostering active participation. This will lead to many personal developments and improvements of different competences. The project gathers 11 partners from 9 countries. Intercultural learning will be a natural part of the project supported by the various planned program activities.

The project team applied for funds to the Youth in Action Programme.

**3. “Youth participation for environment”, July 13-19, Svycarna, Josefov, Adamov, Czech Republic (Title in the Working Plan Study Session “Youth participation”)**

The training will train skills of youth leaders in methods of participation of young people in environmental volunteering activities. YEE aims at training skills in motivating young people to participate in environmental actions, finding new ways of attracting youth and methods of youth participation, as well as making activities visible and attractive. One of the focuses of the training will be on the existing EU mechanisms supporting activities of

young people. The training course is designed for young people who are youth leaders, coordinators, youth workers in their organizations and want to improve their skills, share good practices and plan future projects.

The project will be organised by Hnutí Brontosaurus, Czech Republic and Youth and Environment Europe.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/852-training-course-youth-participation-for-environment>

The project received funding of 18723,2 EUR from the Youth in Action Programme, the European Commission (the final amounts will be known after submitting the final report).

**4. “Green Power”, 12-18 September, Sardinia, Italy (Title in the Working Plan “Saving Energy”)**

*To be realised*

The training course aims to promote the transfer of knowledge in the European green project management field to young people from rural areas and to encourage the development of new skills offering them the opportunity to be able to organise international projects to be implemented at local level in their areas.

The project will be organised by Mine Vaganti, Italy and Youth and Environment Europe.

The project team applied for funds to the Youth in Action Programme.

**5. “Let's live sustainably”, October, Macedonia (Title in the Working Plan “Teaching people on sustainable living”)**

*To be realised*

The aim of the training course is to teach people how to make and repair things instead of buying them. The participants will also learn how to use the resources from the environment without being harmful to it. There will be also space to learn how to transfer the knowledge learnt during the training to other young people and children.

The project will be organised by DEM, Macedonia, Mine Vaganti, Italy and Youth and Environment Europe.

The project team applied for funds to the Youth in Action Programme.

**Youth Exchanges:**

**1. “Snapshot to Environment”, June 10-17, Stepanavan, Armenia (Title in the Working Plan “Environment and photography”)**

The youth exchange connected 36 young people from 6 European Union and European Neighbouring (EECA) countries with the aim to provide space to discuss global environmental challenges, their local impact and work together to create tools for rising



awareness on those issues in their communities. The tools of YE were photography and video that promoted creativity among participants, created an encouraging space for youth to freely express, share opinions and learn from each other. Participants shared experience, developed knowledge and skills on environment, water, sustainable development issues. The project engaged and empowered them to advocate and participate in solving local environmental issues. Methods used included taking photos in communities, creative presentations, simulation, discussions, workshops on quality in photo/video making, street photography, etc., developing skills in eco-campaigns, event management, etc. The project culminated with the outdoor exhibition in Yerevan where selected photos were shared with larger public. Many of the participants were from rural areas, unemployed youth, minority groups, and/or migrants.

The project was organised by Stepanavan Youth Center, Armenia and Youth and Environment Europe.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/872-youth-exchange-snapshot-to-environment>

The project received funding of 23876,4 EUR from the Youth in Action Programme, the European Commission (the final amounts will be known after submitting the final report).

## Campaigns

### **1. *Upcycling campaign, January – June 30, 2013, Czech Republic, Russia, Latvia, Armenia, Portugal, Albania.***

The international campaign on upcycling was prepared during 6 months by 7 youth environmental organizations from 6 countries. It was aimed at raising environmental awareness by promoting in various ways the concept of upcycling among European young people.

The idea of upcycling is to take waste and make it into something that has equal or greater use or value. It is a very valuable environmental concept which acts as an alternative for, or complement to re-cycling. It raises awareness of the value of objects and highlights the environmental consequences of consumerism.

In the frame of the campaign various activities were prepared in order to promote upcycling: Upcycling booklet, videos with instructions, local workshops and promotion in media.

The campaign was created by Youth and Environment Europe, AYA (Russian Federation), Balta Daba (Latvia), EDEN Center (Albania), OPE (Portugal), Khazer (Armenia), Stepanavan Youth Center (Armenia).

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/campaigns/up-cycling-campaign>

The project received funding of 3500 EUR from the European Youth Foundation, the Council of Europe (the final amounts will be known after submitting the final report) and cofunding from all partners from local funds.

## **2. “The Right to Be(e)”, spring 2013, internationally.**

The campaign was created to attract more attention to the disappearance and well-being of bees in Europe and encourage young people from all over Europe to take action to improve the situation.

YEE wanted to promote the idea of helping honey bees by organizing the all European planting actions close to the Day of Earth celebrations on the weekend 20-21 of April. The local actions were organised in the Czech Republic and Germany.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/campaigns/the-right-to-bee>

## **3. “30 Years of Volunteering for Environment”, April – September 2013, Czech Republic, Spain, U.K., Russia, Albania.**

In the year of 30<sup>th</sup> YEE anniversary YEE wants to promote the concept of volunteering for environment. With promotional ecological materials we aim to reach more young people and to make the work of YEE more visible and known.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/867-30-years-of-volunteering-for-environment>

The project received funding of 3000 EUR from the European Youth Foundation, the Council of Europe (the final amounts will be known after submitting the final report) and co-funding from YEE administrative grant from the Youth in Action Programme, the European Commission.

## **4. Sunny Campaign, all year**

*To be realised*

The project will focus on updating the Sunny Campaign webpage with inputs from different countries of Europe. Topics to cover: local, organic food, eco-clothes, housing, energy.

## **5. Office cuisine (blog)**

This project is an initiative of the YEE Secretariat since it has been using the method of everyday switching in the kitchen in sense one cooks for all. The Secretariat would like to promote this method in order to get it more spread to small-team offices as it is more sustainable way of lunching in these types of offices. It supports creativity and team spirit, supports the idea of healthier eating habits and of cost-efficiency. In international teams as it is the case of YEE, the intercultural learning becomes another benefit. The promo-campaign will be based on a blog

More information: <http://officecuisine.wordpress.com/>

## **Youth Initiatives:**

### ***1. River Campaign, Autumn 2013 – Autumn 2014, Portugal, Latvia, Italy, Spain, Romania, Greece, Spain.***

It shall be a long-term project in which each partner organisation will work on improving the quality of the rivers in their community. The project shall consist of 3 stages – seminar in Portugal aimed to equip participants with tools for water monitoring. After return to participant's home countries, second stage shall start with the activities like: river cleaning; riverside walks; reforestations; recovery mills; exhibitions (movie screening), presentations in schools, collection of short stories. Third stage should be the campaign celebration in Portugal, with an Ecological Music Festival and publication of booklet on the conditions of rivers of each European partner country.

The project will be organised by OPE, Portugal.

The project team applied for funds to the Youth in Action Programme.

## **Local projects and activities**

### ***1. World Water Monitoring Day, October-November 2013***

*To be realised*

- YEE water monitoring team measuring the quality of water
- Spreading information about WWMD through YEE webpage
- Call for public to join water monitoring team

### ***2. Day of Earth celebrations***

In the frame of the Day of Earth YEE organised a local action connected with “The Right to Be(e) Campaign”.

### ***3. Development of media tools***

- Facebook – YEE promoted all projects and issues connected with the network and reached 1300 fans (June 2013)
- Twitter – YEE opened an account and is posting information mainly during projects

### ***4. Publications***

#### ***a) Booklets***

***- “How to be a leader in environmental organisation” December 2012 (from the Working Plan 2012)***

The creation of the booklet became a follow-up project of the training course “Be a leader in an environmental organization” that took place in the Czech Republic in October 2012 and was organized by YEE.

This booklet was designed to be a starting point for a youngster to become a more effective leader. It aims to help identify one’s leadership style, get a deeper knowledge of the organization a young person is a member of, learn more about project management, work on one’s skills in facilitating, giving feedback, motivating others and dealing with conflicts.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/news/807-new-yee-application-for-youth-leaders>

**- “The Environmentalist’s Guide to the Media Galaxy” November 2012 (from the Working Plan 2012)**

The publication was a follow-up project to the training course 'Media, communication & Nature' that took place in July 2012 in the Czech Republic.

The booklet helps to find out how to be heard in the media and among the public. It describes the possibilities of social media, how to write press releases and how to get them into the newspapers.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/news/801-new-publication-on-media-and-communication>

**- “Upcycling” June 2013 (from the Working Plan 2013)**

The booklet was prepared in frame of the 'Upcycling Campaign'. It describes the concept of upcycling and gives easy ideas and instructions for upcycling objects. It promoted eco-friendly behaviour and alternative to recycling.

More information: <http://www.yeenet.eu/index.php/news/877-yee-new-publication-upcycling>

**b) Newsletters**

**- 6 newsletters have been produced (Annual Meeting 2012, October 2012, December 2012, February 2013, April 2013, June 2012)**

**c) Publication proofreading team**

A publication proofreading team has been set up to help proofread all booklets and articles published by YEE and ensure proper use of the English language.

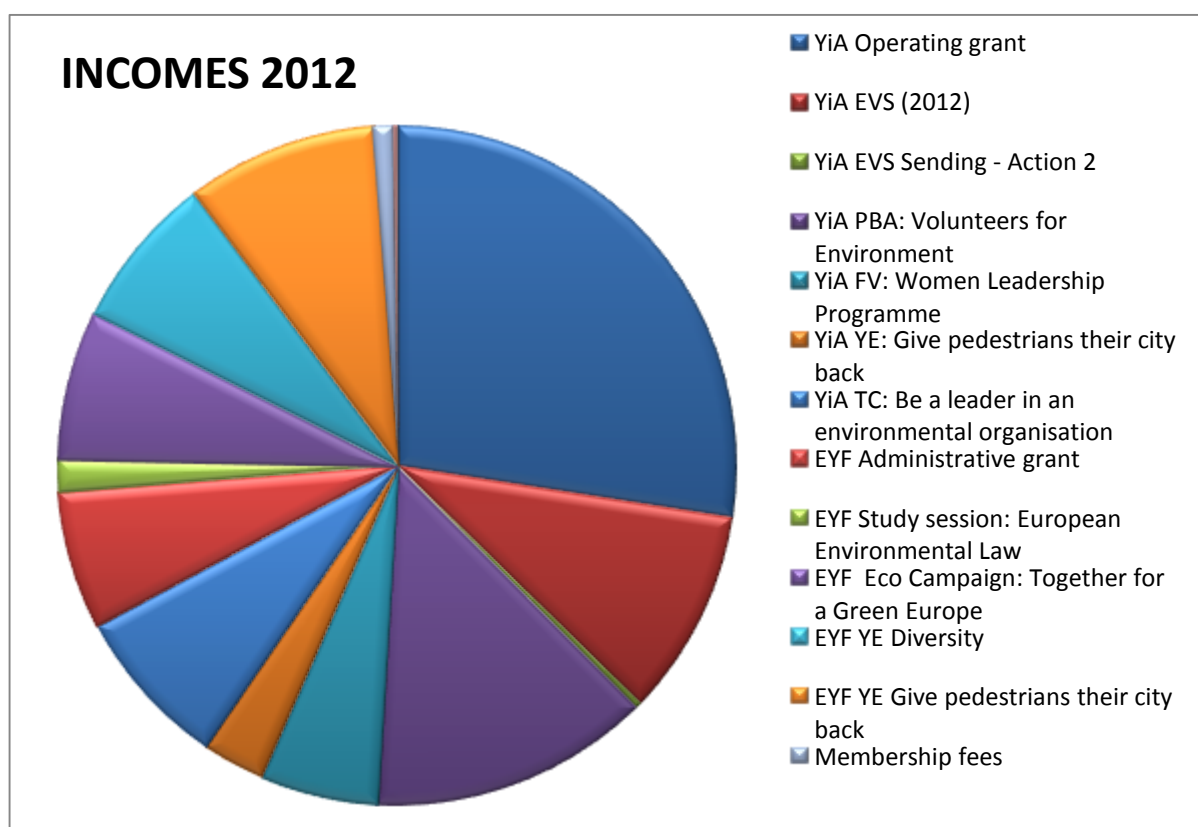
## Website

The YEE website has been gradually improved in 2012/2013. Several sections have been more developed, e.g.:

- Campaigns - providing information about the previous and current YEE campaigns (especially Upcycling Campaign, the Right to Be(e));
- MOs news – a new section for member organisations to post information about their activities

The website is interactive – the content is gained from young volunteers from all around Europe, who can provide their experience and views on environmental protection in their country. It serves to exchange information among them and by sharing the experience it provides a valuable knowledge pool.

## YEE FINANCES

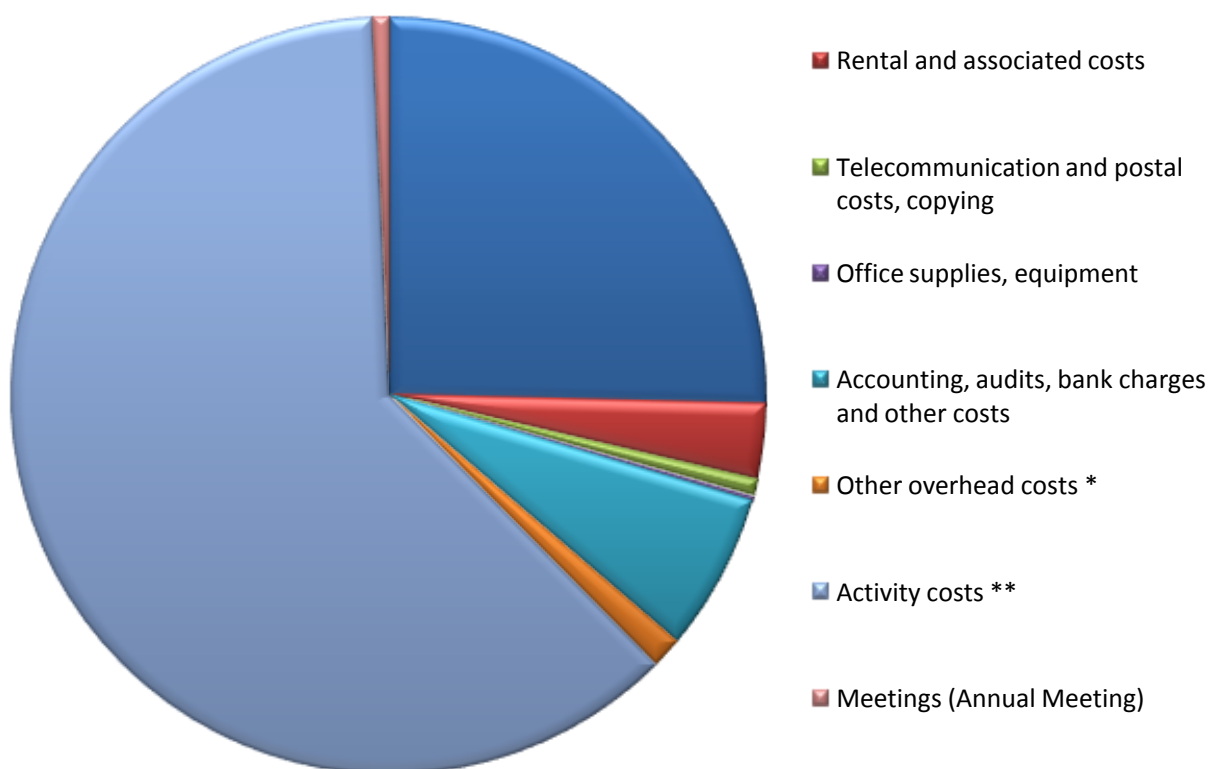


## INCOMES 2012

	<b>AMOUNT in EUR</b>
YiA Operating grant	35000
YiA EVS (2012)	12580,1
YiA EVS Sending - Action 2	400
YiA PBA: Volunteers for Environment	17037,08
YiA FV: Women Leadership Programme	7102,71
YiA YE: Give pedestrians their city back	3837,81
YiA TC: Be a leader in an environmental organisation	9812,73
EYF Administrative grant	8413
EYF Study session: European Environmental Law	1955,94
EYF Eco Campaign: Together for a Green Europe	9000
EYF YE Diversity	9426
EYF YE Give pedestrians their city back	11649
Membership fees	1188

Financial incomes (Interests, exchange rate profit)	262
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>127664,4</b>

## EXPENSES 2012



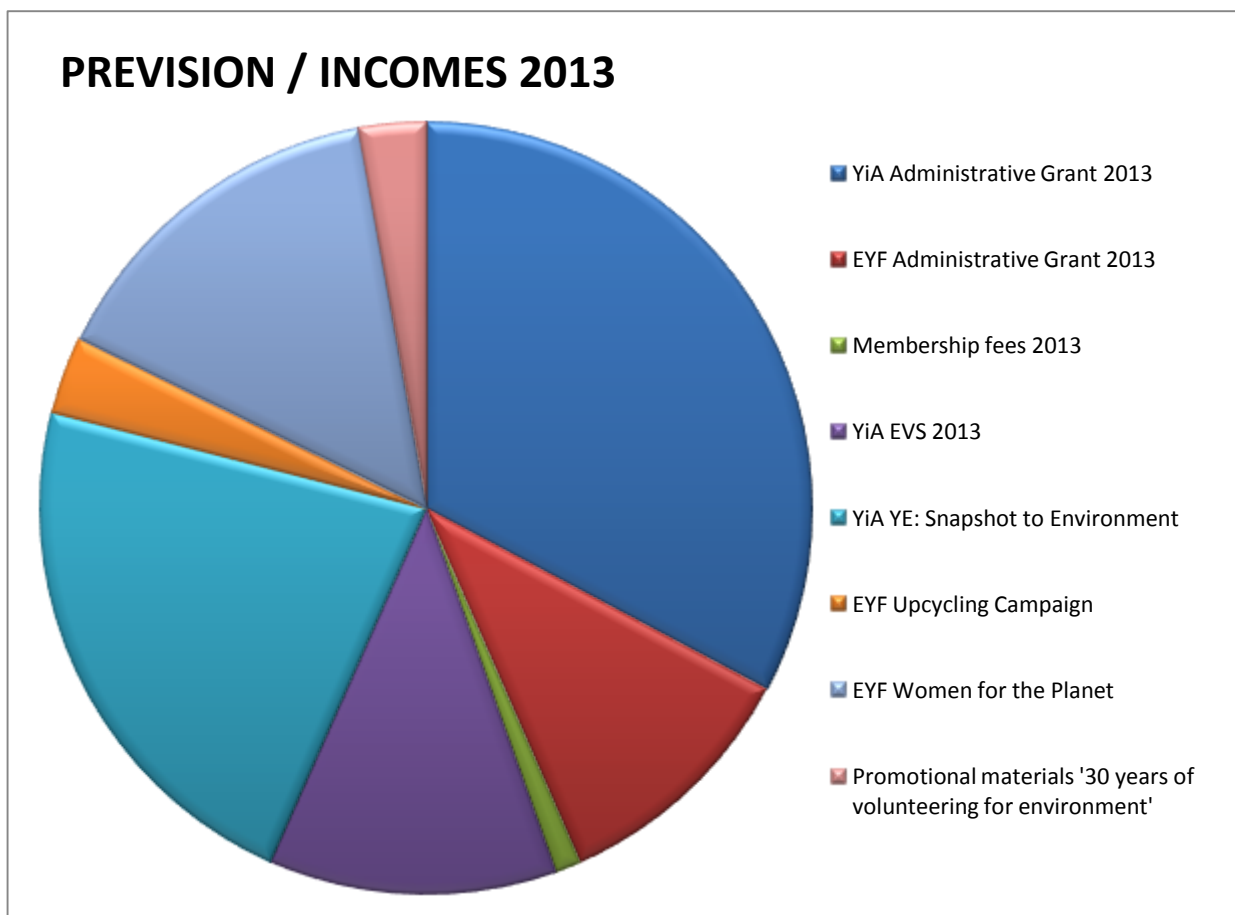
## EXPENSES 2012

	AMOUNT in EUR
Personnel costs	34000,64
Rental and associated costs	4236,87
Telecommunication and postal costs, copying	959,54
Office supplies, equipment	344,07
Accounting, audits, bank charges and other costs	9036,28
Other overhead costs *	1803,6
Activity costs **	82801,37
Meetings (Annual Meeting)	936,78
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>134119,2</b>

\* Other overhead costs include exchange rate loss, etc.

\*\* Activity costs include costs for projects, EVS and other activities

## PREVISION 2013

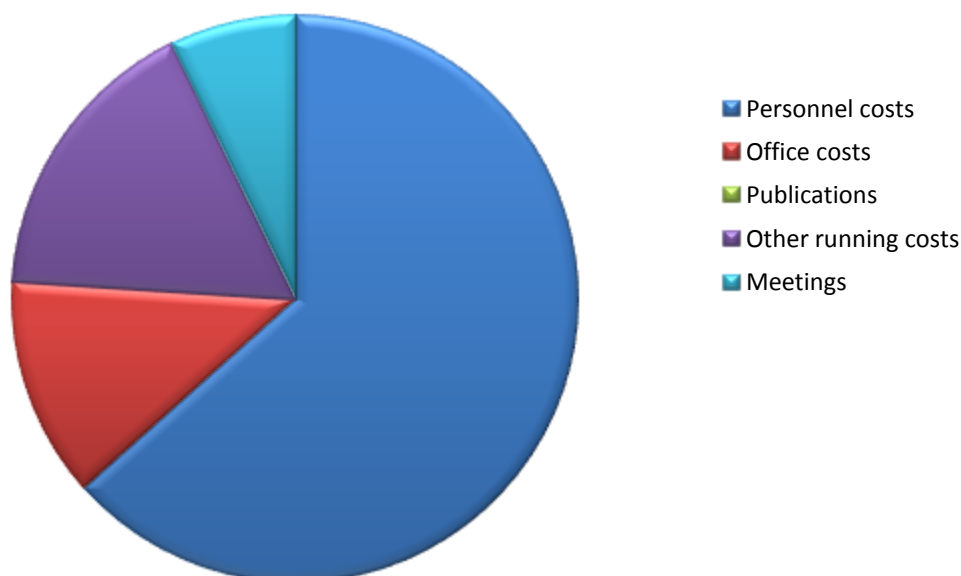


## Incomes

ITEM	AMOUNT in EUR
YiA Administrative Grant 2013	35000
EYF Administrative Grant 2013	11426
Membership fees 2013	1200
YiA EVS 2013	12890
YiA YE: Snapshot to Environment	23876,4
EYF Upcycling Campaign	3500
EYF Women for the Planet	16000
Promotional materials '30 years of volunteering for environment'	3000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>106892,4</b>



## PREVISION / EXPENSES 2013



### Expenses (administrative costs)

	AMOUNT in EUR
Personnel costs	30200
Office costs	5990
Publications	0
Other running costs	7998,76
Meetings	3437,24
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47626</b>

### Projects applied by member organizations and prepared together with YEE 2013

Name of the project	Amount granted (EUR)
YiA TC 'Youth participation for environment '	18 723,20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18 723,20</b>

### Grants approved for 2014

Name of the project	Amount granted (EUR)
EYF Environmental education for sustainability	10,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>

## Member Organizations of YEE in 2012 - 2013

Name of the organization	Country	Type of membership
EDEN Centre	Albania	Full
EPER Center	Albania	Full
Active Young citizenship initiative – AYCI	Armenia	Associate
Stepanavan Youth Center – SYC	Armenia	Associate
Federation of Youth Clubs Armenia – FYCA	Armenia	Associate
Khazer	Armenia	Associate
Young Biologists Association	Armenia	Associate
ONJ	Austria	Full
Natuur 2000	Belgium	Full
Youth Organisation for Nature and Environment – JNM	Belgium	Full
Jeunes et Nature	Belgium	Full
YEO Rhodope	Bulgaria	Full
Baobaby	Czech Republic	Associate
Konopa	Czech Republic	Associate
Hnuti Brontosaurus	Czech Republic	Full
Natur & Ungdom	Denmark	Full
Luonto-Liitto	Finland	Full
Georgia Youth EcoMovement – SAEM	Georgia	Full
Alliance For Society Advancement – ASA	Georgia	Associate
Studio Re	Georgia	Associate
FÖJ-Aktiv	Germany	Full
Deutscher Jugendbund für Naturbeobachtung - DJN	Germany	Full
Naturschutzjugend – NAJU	Germany	Full
Club of Young Naturalists – FTK	Hungary	Full
Mine Vaganti European Youth Group	Italy	Associate
ECO-Unesco	Ireland	Full
BALTA DABA	Latvia	Full
Ecologists' Movement of Macedonia – DEM	Macedonia	Full
Gutta-Club	Moldova	Full
WoesteLand	Netherlands	Full
Oddział Akademicki Polskiego Towarzystwa Turystyczno-Krajoznawczego w Krakowie - OA PTTK	Poland	Associate

GAIA	Portugal	Associate
O.P.E	Portugal	Associate
Green Echoes Association	Romania	Associate
EcoCenter Zapovedniks	Russia	Associate
Regional non-governmental organization for development of volunteering «AYA»	Russia	Associate
LUGA Environmental Organisation (LEO)	Russia	Associate
Environmental Youth Club –EYC	Russia	Associate
Young Researchers of Serbia	Serbia	Full
Asociación Ambiental y Cultural Oro Verde	Spain	Associate
Libertas International	Spain	Associate
Fälbiologerna	Sweden	Full
Look East Wild Earth (LEWE)	UK	Associate
Ipsa Jure	Ukraine	Associate
Youth Environmental League of Prydniprovyia – MELP	Ukraine	Full

## Organizations applying for membership in YEE

This year there are **four** organizations applying for membership in Youth and environment Europe, **two** applying for full and **two** for associate membership.

### **Full membership:**

- Yeghvard (Armenia)
- Youth Without Borders - YWB (Armenia)

### **Associate membership:**

- InYouth (Ukraine)
- Biodiversa (Spain)

### **1) Yeghvard youth and ecological NGO**

Yeghvard is an Armenian Youth and Ecological NGO that was established in 2009. It is a non-profit, grassroots organization, completely managed by local youth members in Yeghvard, a city located within Kotayk region of Republic of Armenia. The NGO was created in order to address the needs of Armenian youth by providing them an opportunity to gather together and share information about current social, ecological, and economical issues in Armenia. With a particular focus on promoting environmental awareness and appreciation, Yeghvard Youth and Ecological NGO is committed to spreading ideas and

information through young people, with the hope that youth can be empowered to take action locally to improve their communities.

**Country:** Armenia

**Apply for:** full membership

**Number of members:** more than 80

**Age limit:** 14-30

**Aims:**

- To address the needs of Armenian youth by providing them an opportunity to gather together and share information about current social, ecological, and economical issues in Armenia.
- To further the sustainable development of the Republic of Armenia

**Activities:** After-school English and Spanish clubs, youth-led ecological and cultural projects, and a variety of social events for youth, such as concerts, intellectual games, nature excursions, and inter-cultural exchanges, free informational seminars, environmental lessons in Yeghvard's primary and secondary schools. They cooperate with national and international organisations as OSCE, WWF, Norwegian Society for the Conservation of Nature in the project of School Project for Application of Recourses and Energy.

*Yeghvard applies for full membership. As they fulfil all the criteria necessary (youth organization, dealing with environmental topics), we recommend the General Assembly to accept them.*

## **2) Youth Without Borders (YWB) non-governmental organization**

Youth Without Borders is an Armenian national non-governmental organization founded in 2009.

**Country:** Armenia

**Apply for:** full membership

**Number of members:** 65

**Age limit:** more then 80% of their members are between 26 – 32 years old

**Aims:**

- To enlarge educational frames commenting the innovations of the local regulation.
- To support in spreading marketable economical idea
- To pursue introduction of green economics
- To support in realizing the necessity of national and international economical formation among students
- To support the formation and development of the relations between students and people close to economy.
- To build capacity of youth groups to take an active part in decision-making on issues concerning young people
- Etc.

**Activities:** Trainings and seminars on various topics, activities for Youth support and environment protection activities. They have implemented several ecological projects during last 3 years:

- Water monitoring of the river Vorotan done by students from different Universities
- The collection of garbage in the beaches of lake Sevan and in Dilijan
- Ecological labelling for the importers and producers of food and beverages in Armenia
- Productions of eco-packs from recycled paper (still going on)
- Making bags and toys from the waste of sewing factory (still going on)
- Creation of the tables, chairs and cottages from pallets brought by importers
- Movie on eco-technologies in Karberd region of Armenia (undeveloped region)

*Youth Without Borders applies for full membership. In their Statutes it is stated that the Presidency is composed of 10 people – members of the organization, of which 5 should be under 35 and more than 80% of their members are between 26 – 32 years. Their main activities are not entirely connected with environment, but they deal with “green economics” and some environmental issues. Therefore we would recommend the General Assembly to accept them as an associate member organisation.*

### 3) Biodiversa

Biodiversa is a Spanish national association founded in February 2012. Biodiversa aims at the protection and defence of nature and the environment through fostering its knowledge and appreciation, and the cooperation with all people and institutions, public or private, involved in this field.

**Country:** Spain

**Apply for:** associate membership

**Number of members:** 12

**Age limit:** 18 – 30 (average age of members and youth workers is 23-24 years old)

**Activities:** Environmental education projects and campaigns, education for sustainable consumption, promotion of rational use of natural resources, sustainable mobility, organic agriculture, eco-design, solidarity, tolerance and multi-ethnic society, development of projects aimed at fixing population in rural areas and support of sustainable lifestyles, involvement with local communities, partnership building. Wide experience with European programmes. They have implemented several ecological projects during last years:

- TC “Small Foot: How to reduce your ecological footprint” with YiA support
- TC “Transition communities: alternatives for sustainable city life” with YiA support
- Video forum on “new energy models”
- Environmental education talks
- Beach cleanings
- Radio programs about ecological footprint
- They are funders and participants of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network
- Partners in several YiA projects

*Biodiversa applies for associate membership. As they fulfil all the criteria necessary (youth organization, dealing with environmental topics), we recommend the General Assembly to accept them as an associate member.*

#### **4) InYouth youth non-governmental organization**

InYouth is an Ukrainian NGO funded in February 2012.

**Country:** Ukraine

**Apply for:** associate membership

**Number of members:** 20

**Age limit:** majority of their members are students (18 – 23 years old)

**Aims:** Creating a comfortable environment for European integration processes of Ukrainian youth.

**Activities:** Carrying out seminars and lectures, conduction of trainings on the topic of the future of the ecological, social, political situation in Ukraine. Local actions were their main mission, but now they would like to become active on the international level as well. They have implemented several ecological projects during last years:

- Trainings on the following topics: Green technologies, Sustainable farming, Usage of organic fertilizers in agriculture
- Seminar “Future of Ukraine in the energy sphere”
- Discussion on the following topic: “Effects of the Chernobyl disaster on the ecology of Ukraine”

*InYouth is applying for associate membership. As they fulfil all the criteria necessary (youth organization, dealing with environmental topics), we recommend the General Assembly to accept them as an associate member.*

## **Cancellation and review of membership**

We are providing you with a list of YEE Member Organizations whose membership rights should be reviewed in 2013. Next follows our suggestions together with a brief explanation of the decision:

### **Review and suggestion of cancellation of membership:**

#### **❖ LUGA (Russia)**

Membership fee unpaid for 3 years (2011-2013), problems with communication. Their last reply to our e-mails was in February with an explanation that they do not have any financial support and their survival is under the question.

#### **❖ Studio Re (Georgia)**

Membership fee unpaid for 3 years (2011-2013), not active and problems with communication. No replies to any of our e-mails.

❖ ***Baobaby (Czech Republic)***

Membership fee unpaid for 3 years (2011-2013), problems with communication. Their last reply to our e-mails was in March with an explanation that they do not have enough people who speak English and it is the reason of their inactiveness. We tried to contact the organisation in Czech but also no reply was received.

❖ ***Konopa (Czech Republic)***

They would like to cancel their member because of lack of young people involved in the organisation.

**Review and suggestion of keeping membership:**

❖ ***ONJ (Austria)***

Membership fee unpaid for 3 years (2009, 2010, 2012), they are not active for four years. We couldn't reach the contact person. The organisation explained that they couldn't pay the membership fee because of other urgent payments. In their last e-mail they explained that their membership in YEE is of great importance so they paid membership fee for 2013.

❖ ***SAEM (Georgia)***

Membership fee unpaid for 3 years (2011-2013), we had problems with communication. Finally YEE managed to contact them and they are willing to pay their membership fees (first for 2013 and later on the rest) and they sent application for AM 2013. They have shown the willingness to become more active in the future.

❖ ***Woestland (Netherlands)***

Membership unpaid for 3 years (2011-2013), not active. In their last e-mail they told us that they will pay their fees and they really want to stay in YEE and be more active.

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European Youth Foundation, the Council of Europe.



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