

## Report

# Organizations applying for membership in YEE at the Annual Meeting 2013

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:***

- Biodiversa (Spain)
- InYouth (Ukraine)

## **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

corporate 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.

<b>Country:</b>	Armenia
<b>Apply for:</b>	full membership
<b>Number of members:</b>	65
<b>Age limit:</b>	more than 80% of their members are between 26 – 32 years old
<b>Aims:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ To enlarge educational frames commenting the innovations of the local regulation.</li><li>❖ To support in spreading marketable economical idea</li><li>❖ To pursue introduction of green economics</li><li>❖ To support in realizing the necessity of national and international economical formation among students</li><li>❖ To support the formation and development of the relations between students and people close to economy.</li><li>❖ To build capacity of youth groups to take an active part in decision-making on issues concerning young people</li><li>❖ Etc.</li></ul>
<b>Activities:</b>	<p>Trainings and seminars on various topics, activities for Youth support and environment protection activities. They have implemented several ecological projects during last 3 years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Water monitoring of the river Vorotan done by students from different Universities</li><li>- The collection of garbage in the beaches of lake Sevan and in Dilijan</li></ul>

- 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.

<b>Country:</b>	Spain
<b>Apply for:</b>	associate membership
<b>Number of members:</b>	12
<b>Age limit:</b>	18 – 30 (average age of members and youth workers is 23-24 years old)
<b>Activities:</b>	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- TC “Small Foot: How to reduce your ecological footprint” with YiA support</li></ul>

- 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.

<b>Country:</b>	Ukraine
<b>Apply for:</b>	associate membership
<b>Number of members:</b>	20
<b>Age limit:</b>	majority of their members are students (18 – 23 years old)
<b>Aims:</b>	Creating a comfortable environment for European integration processes of Ukrainian youth.
<b>Activities:</b>	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Trainings on the following topics: Green technologies, Sustainable farming, Usage of organic fertilizers in agriculture</li><li>- Seminar “Future of Ukraine in the energy sphere”</li><li>- Discussion on the following topic: “Effects of the Chernobyl disaster on the ecology of Ukraine”</li></ul>

*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.*