

# NEWSLETTER

**SPECIAL EDITION  
ANNUAL MEETING  
2009**

September/October 2009



Dear members and friends of YEE,

As the Annual Meeting 2009 in Villamanín, Spain, was completed successfully, a lot of work was accomplished - which is pleasant. Even more important though: it will serve us as a starting point to continue developing YEE and its activities in the close future. For that reason this issue of the Newsletter is mainly dedicated to the Annual Meeting and decisions taken there that will be important for the following year.

The elaboration of YEE strategies done during last year's Annual Meeting allowed the General Assembly to approve them this year. Regarding internal communication, external presentation and co-operation with partners, promotion, the website, funding, priority topics and the involvement of MOs several goals were set and await to be reached with the help of all of us.

While three memberships were cancelled two out of three applying organisations were accepted as associate members: Organization for the Promotion of Ecoclubs, Portugal and EDEN Centre, Albania. Even though the number of Member Organizations decreased slowly but surely, the number of delegates sent to the AM increased steadily during the past years.

The time from the Annual Meeting till now passed quickly and I am sure so will the up-coming month. Therefore the first deadlines are approaching and funders wait for us to send our ideas in form of applications.

This year the Member Organizations delegates formed 5 Working Groups: Health risks and food safety, Outdoor education and biodiversity, Environmental education, Internal, Sustainable lifestyle and development. Moreover, in the framework of the General Assembly, the delegates contributed to the elaboration of this year's working plan encompassing 5 Training Courses, 4 Campaigns, 3 Youth Exchanges, 2 Networking Projects, 2 types of publications (YEE Newsletter with 6 issues and YEE Magazine with 2 issues), 1 Seminar and 1 Annual Event.

Even though, due to formal mistakes, the General Assembly was not capable of approving the proposed changes to the Statutes and to the Rules of Procedure, the newly elected Board already complies with two of the envisioned criteria since it consists of 6 members from 6 different countries perfectly reflecting geographical as well as gender balance. Gjoko, Kyryll, Lena, Misa, Monika and me are glad to count with the help of three Assistant Officers, namely Arsen, Lili and Yuliana.

In the name of the board I'd like to encourage every one of you to support us in the implementation of all the plans we made during the Annual Meeting.

Stay in touch with us and with the nature!

All the best,

Anne Kollien  
Chairperson of YEE

## YEE ANNUAL MEETING 2009 Villamanín - Leon, Spain

Dear readers and YEE-ers,

The twenty-sixth YEE Annual Meeting is now behind us. I believe that all of us that participated in this event still recall the impressions from the beautiful village of Villamanín. Between 11th and 21st of August, YEE chose this picturesque place and its surroundings for a lot of indoor and outdoor activities. Firstly, let me express our gratitude to the host organization Oro Verde and



especially to Alejandro and Marta for their perfect organization. Without doubts all the participants enjoyed the time spent in this warm and beautiful country, as well as in the Spanish delights.

This year the AM was divided into two parts: working days dedicated to discussions and decisions about YEE and training course. The first five days were scheduled for the discussions about YEE future and the General Assembly, while the second part was dedicated to workshops about projects planning, networking and writing grants.

The General Assembly as the main and

most important part of the AM was opened by Michal Ruman (Misa), chairperson in 2008-2009 and lead by Aisha Hannibal from LEWE - U.K. 11 member organisations participating in the Annual Meeting, were represented by 35 delegates. 6 Board Members were elected. The next year the steering wheel will be in the hands of our new chairperson - Anne Kollien from DJN - Germany, Kyryll Ivlev - External relations officer from MELP - Ukraine, Elena Raspertova from EYC, Russia - Treasurer, Monika Kotulak from OA PTTK, Poland - Member organisation officer, Gjoko Zorowski from DEM, Macedonia as a Publications officer and Michal Ruman - Coordination officer. Our new assistant officers are: Lili Deyanova and Yulia Yordanova, both from ECO-SouthWest, Bulgaria and Arsen Simonyan from Stepanavan Youth Centre, Armenia. You can read more about new board members in this Newsletter.

Next to adopting some statutory changes in order to improve the performance of our network. We enlarged our "family" by two new member organizations: EDEN Center from Albania and Organisation for the Promotion of Ecoclubs (OPE) from Portugal as associated members. All of us - the "elders" wish them a great welcome!

Analyzing what was done last year, I would like to stress the importance of un-



derstanding everyone's liability as a board member. Now, the new Board members have the task to offer their time, their experience and their energy to improve and advance the "family" called YEE. Here I mean engaging ourselves as much as we can, to accomplish our board's mission we have set out to. Also strengthening a sense of unity towards our mission on the board is very important. Think globally - act locally!

There are as well many activities from the second part of the Annual Meeting worth mentioning. From the outdoor activities the visit to Leon - a nice city, the capital of the Province of León was especially interesting. There, through a city quiz with many various tasks prepared by Oro Verde and YEE office, the participants were able to explore the most remarkable sights in the town. It was interesting to roam the boulevards and the narrow streets of the old part of the city, looking for Leon's most interesting points.

Neither will we forget the hiking to the Valporquero Cave. Spending around 4 hours to reach it, walking, climbing and enjoying the forest fruits. One day we also went kayak-

ing in a lake, which was wonderful, especially for those who did it for the first time. The host organization provided us as well with another outdoor activity that was a useful experience - examining the river Omanas. That activity was carried out together with members of Oro Verde, most of them teachers in natural sciences at the University of Leon. The river, full of trouts and clear like tear was a great refreshment. Divided into several teams we cleaned the river and measured the quality of the water. Moreover, we had the meeting with the specialist dealing with protection of endangered species in this region.

The Annual Meeting was an occasion to see old friends and to meet new ones. Along these 11 days the quiet Villamanin became a noisy place, where ecological disputes, different languages, songs and dances were heard. I hope all of us will be noisy in the period ahead of us, fighting for a greener Europe.

Your Publications Officer  
Gjoko Zoroski



## Impressions of participants from the Annual Meeting 2009

I enjoyed the Annual Meeting a lot. For our organization it was the first time to participate in this kind of network between different organizations around the world. For us it was useful, helpful in raising our capacity building and in strengthening the networking between the member organizations. I think that we should discuss more often after the AM to share and to give ideas for different issues that we encounter.

Albana Bregaj  
(EDEN, Albania)



I liked the AM very much!!! It was an unforgettable time! As for me it was an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with wonderful people, to receive lots of interesting information about their organizations, about what they do and so on. It was also an opportunity to set up contacts with new organizations, a very important point for MELP and for me personally. Being at the AM for the first time, I managed to gather a lot of information about YEE, its structure, aims and principles. And of course I should mention Spain - a beautiful country, which was our home for 11 days. It's an amazing country with rich culture, beautiful helpful people, great cuisine and favourable climate. I liked it very much! I do appreciate the work of those who took part in preparations of this Annual Meeting - it was really wonderful!!!

Kyrylo Ivliev  
(MELP, Ukraine)

I think that the meeting itself was pretty well performed. I was nice that they took it from being very seriously to a number of days just to enjoy ourselves. However, I would like to point out that I don't see the reason why the meeting was located in Spain, even if I personally enjoyed that fact. It is a waste of money and natural resources as most of the people had to take the plane. Instead more convenient meeting points should be chosen for these kind of activities in the future. Secondly, I never saw anything organic. Organic foods is known to be one of the most important aspect in the environmental struggle on an individual level. It's neither healthy nor environmental friendly to eat meat every day. I don't mind the others eating meat, I just think that if we're working to set an example for the rest of the world, we should at least keep the most obvious standards.

Ylva Hyrkäs  
(Fältbiologerna, Sweden)





*What I liked the most:*

- the place
- the workshops (especially the one concerning finances, applications and communication)
- the Oro Verde actions
- meeting other NGOs for real

*What I liked the least:*

- weak participation
- weak organisation during the first week, as well as late beginnings, long unnecessary breaks (because participants did not return in time)
- the general assembly nearly without any preparation
- too few participants, especially from full members

*Suggestions:*

- 2 weeks is a long time, make the AM shorten and you will have more chance to invite more MOs
- clear rules about not active participants – they shouldn't receive the travel reimbursement. It's just not fair if delegates use the AM for a trip to the Spanish Atlantic coast as their only contribution.

*Comments:*

I really liked the two weeks in Spain!!! Meeting friends and colleagues from other European NGOs was very fruitful for future projects and workshops really helped my everyday work at the NAJU office.



Juliane Rosin  
(NAJU, Germany)



“Traditional annual meetings seldom make the pulse racing. When I got an invitation from my organization to participate in this event I couldn't even imagine how interesting and amazing it will be. In my opinion this AM was very interesting and unique.

First of all, I can mention that the place was well chosen. The accommodation, activities and the time division were perfect. The participants were very interesting - with enthusiasm, very active, with an infectious energy.

Of course, my first YEE annual meeting taught me certain lessons about future elections, this kind of meetings, etc. I'm sure the program was useful for everybody. I hope that we can share our skills and new information we got in Villamanín with our friends and colleagues in our countries.”

Valentina Yenokyan  
(Stepanavan Youth Center, Armenia)

In the Annual Meeting 2009 two new member organisations were accepted to join YEE network: EDEN from Albania and OPE from Portugal (both as associated members). We would like to welcome them again in YEE federation!

Below you can find their presentations - you can get to know them better and maybe start shared projects in the future.

## EDEN Center

### Environmental Center for Development, Education and Networking

Environmental Center for Development, Education and Networking (EDEN Center) is a non governmental, non political, non profit organization aiming to contribute to the development of sustainable and healthy environment in Albania.

EDEN was established in March 2004 and it has within its structure:

- A well established group of trainers which commits itself to offer assistance and capacity building to its target groups;
- Nature Guides – young people prepared to offer nature guided trips and environ-

mental education in nature (especially in Dajti Mountain National Park, Artificial Lake of Tirana's Park, Qafë-Shtama National Park, Llogora National Park and Black Cave).

- Youth group – volunteers motivated and engaged to different projects about the awareness in the community.

- Resource centre - a diverse library with editorials and environmental information, which is created by centre staff, individual donation and partners' contribution.

To complete our strategic mission and

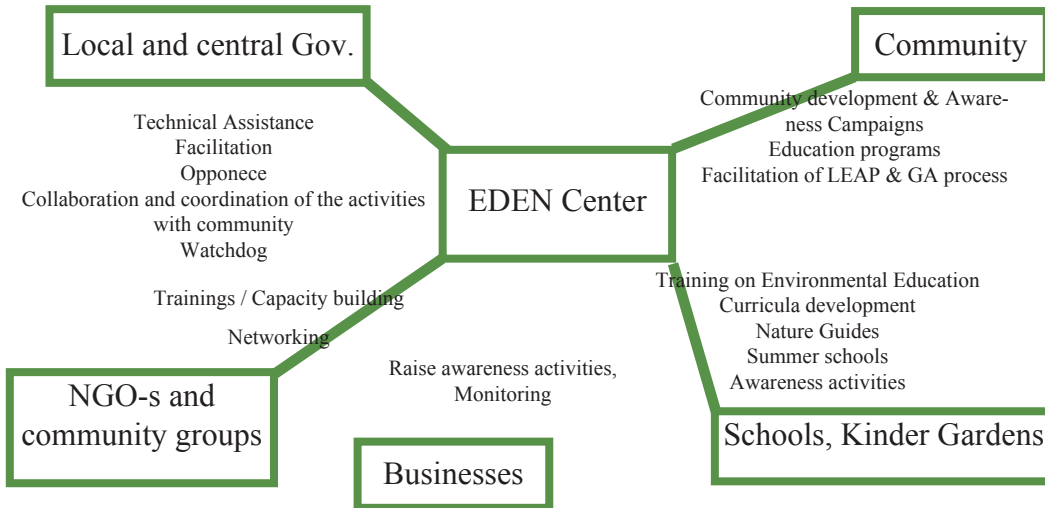


objectives, EDEN is focusing its work in four thematic pillars:

- Capacity building of NGOs, GOs and other interested groups;
- Environmental Education;
- Good Environmental management prac-

tices:

- Public information and participation
- After more then 4 years of collaboration, investment, motivation and intensive work, EDEN offer for its target groups these services:



## What we have done so far

### Capacity building

- Technical support to Tirana Municipality in: designing 2004 action plans on waste management, recreational areas and public awareness. (February – March 2004)
- Assistance to Tirana Municipality “Environmental needs assessment” December 2004 – March 2005);
- “First local strategy for a healthy environment in Tirana Municipality “ (November 2004 – July 2005);

- “Providing training and coaching on Advocacy and Lobbying” for the CSDC staff (August - October 2006)
- Public rights on environmental information and participation in decision making (June – November 2006)
- “Sustaining Albanian environmental movement” (2005 -2006)
- “Training about role of the watchdog in NGO-s of development project“ (March – August 2007).
- Albanian civil society in their respond to

development projects – September 2007 - December 2009)

- “Joining forces for a Sustainable Future in western Balkans” – Milieukontakt International & EDEN as partner organization for Albania for the capacity building component of the program (2007 -2010)
- Green agenda in 3 communities in Albania – capacity building component (2007 -2010)

### Environmental Education

- Publication of an Environmental Calendar 2004 (November 2003)
- “Eden’s Nature Guide as ambassadors of sustainable development” ( December 2004 – June 2005);
- “Grand Lake Park of Tirana, something more than just a park“ (October 2006 - August 2007)
- Celebration of the environmental world days
- “Tirana Zoo” a starting point of Environmental Education for the citizens of Tirana (June 2005 – continuing)
- Youth and healthy environments (Sep-

tember 2007 – June 2008)

- Young environmentalist Kit (June 2008 - January 2009)
- Management of environmental practice*
- “My city without garbage” Campaign (May – December 2005)
- Paper waste segregation and recycling in 14 pilot elementary schools - (September 2005 – April 2006)
- POPs situation in Albania (January – April 2006)
- POPs situation in Sharra Landfill (January – April 2006)
- Monitoring the waste collection services of Tirana Municipality (April 2006- February 2007)
- “We recycle for a healthy and cleaner school” - (June 2008-January 2009)
- “Live it green, live it healthy” (June 2008 – June 2009)

### EDEN is a member / partner of:

- Eco movement network.
- WECF network (Women of Europe for a Common Future)
- KITE network (Network for Lighter Steps in Planet)
- International network for Pops prevention (IPEN)
- CEE Bank watch network
- Milieukontakt International
- YEE Network (Youth Environment Europe)



## NEW MOs PRESENTATIONS

### **OPE** **Organization for the Promotion of** **Ecoclubes in Portugal**



Organization for the Promotion of Ecoclubes in Portugal (OPE), consists of over 100 young people responsible for promotion of Ecoclubes in Portugal.

Ecoclubes are, since 1992, gathered in an international network of young people who, in partnership with several other organizations, work voluntarily with the local community in solving social and ecological problems. They use the particular methodology, especially non-formal and socially participatory interactions that allows the citizens to be involved in social life and encourages them to be active in

the community. There are 30 countries in the world that involve around 15000 young volunteers. In Europe there are now present in 6 countries. Ecoclubes organize different kinds of actions, such as information sessions, awareness and information campaigns, publication of materials, workshops, exhibitions, environmental marches and manifestations, training courses, youth exchanges, etc. The aim is to help young people and other social groups to acquire social values, feelings of friendship and interest in the environment that is serving as a tool in promoting active participation in its protection and improvement.

[www.ecoclubes.org](http://www.ecoclubes.org)

**More information about OPE and its activities in the next YEE Newsletter.**

### **Cancellation of memberships**

This year the General Assembly was forced to cancel the membership of three organisations: Ekolyceum from Czech Republic, VNPS Vilnius Nat. Prot. Society from Lithuania and Sissian Development Center from Armenia. The cancellations took place because of various reasons, especially due to lack of contact with the federation and not fulfilling their obligations of being YEE member organisation.

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### **New YEE Chairperson**

Dear MOs delegates and members,

Being 19 years old, I graduated from High School in June. After having travelled Eastern Europe during the month of July and having attended the AM in August, I currently do an EVS in Salamanca, Spain, which will last until June 2010. My motivation to work for YEE can be derived from my interest in ecological matters but also to a great extent from the believe that I will never ever have more time to dedicate to volunteering work than I do now since I mean to start studying Psychology next year.

The decision to take on the responsibility of the Chairperson was furthermore influenced by my wish to be able to obtain and maintain an overview over all YEE related activities while being involved at the maximum.

During the first month in my office I sought and still seek to familiarize myself with all important aspects of YEE work. On the short term the procession of all kinds of paperwork (recently several minutes, the Working Plan, welcome letters, ..., in the close future (project) application for grants) will always draw upon my attention while on the long term I set myself more abstract goals that can be reached only in teamwork with everyone of you: I wish to increase the credibility and visibility of YEE. Several measurements going

along with the implementation of this business year's strategies are: 1) performance of an environmental audit of YEE within the framework of a TC, 2) enforcement of a stronger corporate identity realized also within the framework of better promotional materials. I clearly see the need for some internal changes but once working on that the external impression has to be reviewed also. That is why regarding the second point I would be pleased if you knew anyone who was educated in such field as communications design since I believe promotional materials could and should be more professional. Why don't YOU try to motivate him or her to get in touch and contribute?

The elections have shown that few people were willing to engage in YEE during the entire year but it would naturally be desirable if they were open to take on smaller tasks in the course of the year. So, as happy as I am to be able to contribute myself I see a great task in motivating a lot of other people to be proactive.

Best regards,

Anne Kollien  
Chairperson of YEE  
[anne@yeenet.eu](mailto:anne@yeenet.eu)





## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### New YEE Treasurer and Project Officer



My name is Elena Raspertova. I am a board member of Environmental Youth Club (EYC), Moscow. Since 2006 I started to participate in external activities, especially in YEE. So, I first came to the AM of YEE in 2007 and became Assistant Officer to the board 2007-2008. Then in AM 2008 in Romania I was elected as Coordination Officer of YEE for the period 2008-2009 and held my office successfully. During the AM 2009 in Spain I was elected as Treasurer and Project officer of YEE.

As a Treasurer, I would like to contribute in the following way:

- To learn more about financial flow of the organization
- To contact SG about financial situation

and ask for detailed explanation of where and on what money is spent

- To make sure that internal audit will be done
- To double check the financial part of the grants at least applied by the office
- To be ready to help the working groups with financial part of the grants
- To control the reimbursement process
- To estimate the travel costs at least to BMs
- To check the costs of AM 2010

As a Project officer I would like to contribute in a following way:

- To coordinate the work of working groups
- To make sure the projects are applied according to the deadlines
- To find out whether the projects are approved or not

Elena Raspertova  
elena@yeenet.eu



## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### New YEE External Relations Officer and Vice-chairperson



My name is Kyrylo (Ukrainian variant of the name) Kyryll (Russian one). My surname according to the external passport is Ivliev, though in my internal passport it is written like Ivlev. But it doesn't matter!;)

I study in the Dnepropetrovsk National University at the Juridical Faculty and now I'm a fourth-year student. I'm a member of MELP-Youth Environment

League of Prydniprovya region, which is Full Member of YEE. In my organization I have a position similar with the one in YEE-so my task in MELP is to keep contacts with our partners, find new partners and so on. As a lawyer I try to help people who have different problems in sphere of environment and who appeal to our organization. With other members of MELP we organize different kinds of activities, such as surveys, training courses etc. to raise public awareness on environmental issues and to involve vast masses of society in decision-making process.

Kyrylo Ivliev  
kyrylo@yeenet.eu

### New YEE Coordination Officer

Dear young eco-activists,

After three years in the Board and the last year being the Chair of YEE I decided to concentrate fully on projects that I am developing: energy self-sufficient complex of hemp and other traditional crops production at Vysocina region and Greener festivals Sunny campaign project. Anyway, I will, little bit by chance and need, stay one more year in YEE Board as Coordination Officer and do my best to help new Board and YEE to continue its inner constitution and eco-development.

These transition times are exciting, aren't they?



I hope to have as many positively exciting experiences as possible this year.

Stay united, be strong, radical and open-minded! Be young!

Yours,  
Michal Ruman  
michal@yeenet.eu

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### New YEE Member Organisations Officer



My name is Monika Kotulak, I am the new Member Organisations Officer. I study biology at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland.

As MOs Officer in YEE I would like to update the list of our members, put all of their localisations in our map on the website. I'll try to wake up sleeping members and keep good cooperation with active ones. I'll try to find new organizations, especially from countries from which we still don't have any members. I'm going to deal with applications for membership and scan our MO's list to find inactive organisations which can be possibly excluded from the network. I'm going to coordinate one project which will be hosted in Poland and I'm also, as a member of the Outdoor and Biodiversity Working Group, one of responsible persons for another project. I'm going to contact all MOs and invite them for our projects, provide them with new information about YEE and try to make sure that they know everything that is needed about the network and potential benefits from being our member. I will

participate in as many projects as I will be able to in order to get to know our members and being known by them. I'll also take part in seminars of other networks to invite new organizations to YEE. I would like to encourage MOs to use the forum at our website to exchange information about themselves, their projects, ideas, successes and failures that can become good advices for others. Moreover, I'll try to strengthen the cooperation between member organizations.

I like to travel, to listen to the music, to read good books, go trekking in the mountains, cook delicious vegetarian food and later eat it... I like to make some hand-crafts and from time to time I play violin. I'm totally in love with horses and long talks accompanied by many cups of good tea. I enjoy very much trying new things (that's why I'm so excited to be a part of YEE's board).

So don't hesitate to call me on skype - we can drink tea in front of the computer and talk about YEE, your ideas, problems or anything else! :)

Monika Kotulak  
monika@yeenet.eu



## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### New YEE Publications Officer



My name is Gjoko and I'm an active member of the Ecologists' Movement of Macedonia (DEM), the Macedonian member of YEE. I have a background in environmental engineering and I am currently a member of the local ecological society "Grashnica" from Ohrid and DEM as well. Main tasks I complete are writing project-proposals, running projects, media relations for the purpose of informing the public of environmental concerns and our activities and so on.

I feel fulfilled when I work on environmental projects, moreover, when I work with people from different countries and cultural backgrounds. I love learning foreign languages and get to know different cultures. I enjoy exploring nature and having environmental outdoor activities. I strongly believe and know from my own experience that non-formal education can significantly enhance personal development. That's why I've already participated and I wish further to take part in many

training courses, seminars and workshops throughout Europe. Many of them are focused on environmental concerns but also on personal and team acting. They can be also a benefit for the organisation where I work.

I was elected assistant officer last year. This year I was chosen for the position of the Publications Officer so I will be responsible for the YEE's Newsletters and Magazines. For me, that means improving their content and hearing from readers. Besides this, I'll be helpful and assist in the projects of the YEE in general. The experience gained last year will help me to assist the new Board members as well.

Due to my new position, I'm looking forward to your contribution. Your ideas, suggestions, proposals are welcome at any time.

I wish successful and fruitful work to all YEE-ers!

Gjoko Zoroski  
gjoko@yeenet.eu





## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### New YEE Assistant Officer

Hi everyone!

I'm Yulia Yordanova from Bulgaria. I'm 22 years old student from Sofia University, studying cultural studies.

The most important thing for me, during all events of YEE and youth exchanges, is the communication with so many



different nations. I've took part in the student exchange Erasmus and together with all activities related with my NGO I can say I'm already addicted to looking for new and new events, projects, people, places...

My NGO is "Ecosouthwest" and it was founded in Southwest Bulgaria, in my hometown Blagoevgrad. I work there as a volunteer since 2006. I like my activities there, because I take part in different events, where I find my activeness in society. It is a perfect possibility to meet so

many people from all over the world and work together. This cultural and ideas' exchange help me to be more creative and to be more open to the world.

My NGO is focusing more on the field of GMO policy and sustainable development. During the last years we ran more youth projects, where I learned the techniques of the youth trainer and leader in a youth group. I'm happy that I have the possibility to take part in YEE activities and projects, because for me they create the possibility to build really valuable friend- and partnerships for cooperation in NGO work. My organization is a member of YEE since 2006. I thank YEE that it gave me the opportunity to meet such nice young people from everywhere!

At the last AM in Spain I became an assistant officer. I would like to help in keeping YEE Newsletter and Magazine with fresh and interesting ideas. I would like to join the working environment by writing articles, related with all interesting events in Bulgaria and my NGO. The second reason I joined the YEE team is that I would like to take part in more youth exchanges and to help representing YEE in seminars or conferences. I hope to be a good and successful assistant for YEE. I'll give my all free time for it!

Yulia Yordanova  
yulia@yeenet.eu

## NEW BOARD MEMBERS

### New YEE Assistant Officer

Hallo dear YEEers!!!

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Lili Deyanova and for the past two years I have been part of YEE Board as Member Organizations and External Relations Officer, but this year I will be part of the Federation as an Assistant Officer. I am Leader Youth Initiatives of EcoSouthWest (Bulgaria) and have Bachelor Degree in European Studies and International Relations/Political Science from the American University in Bulgaria (Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria) and Master Degree in European Integration Studies from the Center for European Studies (Bonn, Germany).

Since this year would be very challenging for me personally, I decided I can only contribute to YEE's work as an Assistant Officer and help Board Members and Of-



fice as much as I can and time allows me. I would like to assist any Board Member in his/her YEE work, especially the MO and ER Officers, because I have some experience in those fields. In addition, I wish to help YEE Office with whatever help they might need and contribute to the Federation's Publications as well.

I hope we'll have a very productive and eventful year with YEE's new Board and will successfully realize many environmental projects.

Lili Deyanova  
lili@yeenet.eu

### New YEE Assistant Officer

I am Arsen Simonyan. Two years ago I graduated from Yerevan State University, where I studied physics.

Since 2002 I work in the youth organisation Stepanavan Youth Center, which is a member organisation of YEE. Due to my increasing interest in environ-

ment, I found YEE a good opportunity for me to learn from and cooperate with other youth workers around Europe and outside of its borders. I truly believe that objectives that YEE has and values it wants to promote among youth are still actual, even after 25 years of existence.

I hope that I can be helpful for reaching the goals of YEE.

Arsen Simonyan  
arsen@yeenet.eu



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Lili Deyanova  
lili@yeenet.eu

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Arsen Simonyan  
arsen@yeenet.eu



## New/Old Person in YEE Office



Dear YEE friends,

I said goodbye in the last issue of YEE Newsletter just to say hello again in this one. And I have the opportunity to create this publication once again.

The new board offered me the work in YEE as Coordinator of Projects and Publications. I spent the last year in YEE Office as EVS volunteer so I had a chance to learn a lot and go deeply into the YEE world. As you can imagine, there is always a lot of work in YEE so I am happy that I can stay here to help with all projects and activities.

As a new member of YEE office team I would especially like to increase the

quality of YEE publications as I am working on them already for one year. I will as well try to help with fundraising and the development of projects. If you need my help you can always contact me at: gosia@yeenet.eu

Last year in YEE and the Annual Meeting gave me new ideas and enthusiasm to work in this organisation and develop many interesting project. So let's do it together!

Malgorzata (Gosia)  
Zubowicz



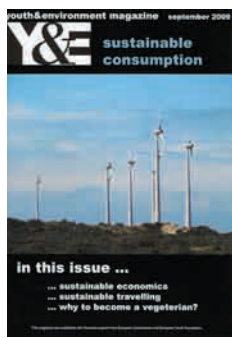
## TOPIC OF THE YEAR

**During the Annual Meeting YEE decided to choose a topic of the year. It will be the topic that many activities will focus on, that we will investigate and write about.**

**2009-2010 will be a year dedicated to "Sustainable Lifestyle and Development".**

**If you would like to take part in the discussion about this topic or propose some activities**

**- write to: yee@yeenet.eu**



**You can check the newest YEE publication - Y&E Magazine 'Sustainable consumption' at YEE website [www.yeenet.eu](http://www.yeenet.eu) in the section Publications.**



## Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) Working Plan 2009 - 2010

Adopted by the General Assembly,  
Villamanín, Spain, August 15th 2009

**"YEE aims 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."**

**Mission Statement of YEE adopted in 2008**

Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) is an international youth non-governmental organisation that faces many challenges but in the same time promising opportunities.

YEE is a federation of 49 member organizations in 28 countries and it aims to seek to organise and encourage all that might increase the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of nature and the awareness of environmental problems among young people throughout Europe in order to promote the commitment of youth to the principles of environmental conservation and to stimulate young people's voluntary action for the protection of nature, the enhancement of the environment and the sustainable use of the Earth's resources.

ple's voluntary action for the protection of nature, the enhancement of the environment and the sustainable use of the Earth's resources.

In the executive year 2009 - 2010, the YEE Strategic Plan shall be implemented to increase quality of the inner and external communication and cooperation. The Strategic Plan was developed by the participants of the YEE Annual Meeting 2008 and was adopted by the General Assembly 2009 along with this Work Plan. Together with the various YEE policies adopted in 2007, the Strategic Plan will be guidance for the implementation of the Working Plan.





## 1. YEE INTERNAL STRUCTURE

### Executive Board

The executive board of YEE 2009 - 20010 has 6 members.

**Chairperson:** Anne Kollien

**Treasurer:** Elena Raspertova

**Project Officer:** Elena Raspertova

**Member Organizations Officer:** Monika Kotulak

**External Relations Officer:** Kyrill Ivliev

**Publication Officer:** Gjoko Zoroski

**Coordination Officer:** Michal Ruman



### Assistant Officers:

Lili Deyanova

Arsen Simonyan

Yuliana Yordanova

### Internal Auditors

Theresa Brosge and Valentina Yenokyan (updated) are elected as internal auditors

for YEE. They shall carry out the internal audit for the financial years 2007 and 2008.

Mikhail Khomin and second person (to be confirmed) are elected as internal auditors. They shall carry out the internal audit for the financial year 2009.

### Secretariat

**Secretary General:** Alberto Mogio Perez

**Local Coordinator:** Katerina Lejkova

**Coordinator:** Malgorzata Zubowicz (updated)

EVS volunteer: pending

EVS volunteer: pending

The office of YEE is located in the ecological centre Toulcuv Dvur in Prague, Czech Republic. A lot of the international coordination work of YEE is carried out from there. The ecological center can be used for hosting international activities and meetings. On a local level, YEE will be involved in environmental activities and support initiatives of Czech organizations based in Toulcuv Dvur.



## Volunteers

The Secretariat and the Executive board are not meant to cover alone all the different aspects of environmental activism on a regional or international level. YEE projects and activities can be hosted by YEE as a federation or by one of its member organizations. Volunteers from YEE member organisations are encouraged to get involved in YEE and help actively with implementation of the Work Plan and the Strategic Plan of YEE and to develop their own ideas for bringing YEE forward. Volunteers are welcome to get in touch with the YEE board and secretariat at any time during the year and get involved in tasks according to their interests.

Volunteers participating in the Annual Meeting can present themselves there and be appointed by the General Assembly.



## 2. PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Projects and activities of YEE 2009-2010 will include a number of training courses, trainings for trainers, youth exchanges, seminars, study visits, networking projects, campaigns, conference participations and annual events. YEE will continue to produce publications and the website will be updated and improved. During the last years YEE has used “youth” and “environment” areas for funding and for setting up activities and will continue to apply for such funds for the activities in this Work Plan. Hopefully all activities can be implemented.

## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

### Training Courses

#### • *Environmental audit of YEE/Analysis of environmental impact of YEE*

Febr/March 2010, Prague, Czech Republic

Implementation of an environmental audit/creation of an ecological balance sheet by analyzing and interpreting statistics under the guidance of professionals; development of a strategy on how to reduce YEE negative impact on the environment

Persons in charge: Anne Kolien, Michal Ruman

#### • *Conflict Management and Conflict resolution*

March 25th – 31st 2010, Czech Republic

The TC aims to develop and improve communication, facilitating and problem solving



skills of young people working in the youth field as trainers, youth leaders or project coordinators. The TC is a final part of a series of training courses focused on communication and cooperation in the youth NGOs. It focuses on conflicts which may appear in teamwork especially in an intercultural working environment and it puts an emphasis on intercultural tolerance, problem solving and conflict resolution.

Person in charge: Katerina Lejckova

## • *How should I start?*

Spring-Summer 2010, Serbia

The purpose of this meeting in short term is to support organisations, to train people in order to make them capable of taking the practical arrangements of activities. We hope that organisations will be able to prepare their activities well and carry them out successfully.

Person in charge: Alberto Mogio Perez

## • *Innovate your life and make it sustainable*

Spring/summer 2010, Serbia

The TC will focus on education in renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and materials. It will connect theoretical knowledge, practical skills and the implementation of natural resources.

Person in charge: Vladimir Novakovic

## • *Basic skills facilitating*

August 2010

The training course for trainers addresses the needs of youth organisations and other youth work institutions to have competent and autonomous volunteers and staff capable of facilitating training and education processes for their membership needs. The “transitional” nature of youth work implies a very regular turnover of volunteers and staff in the organisations active in this field, especially those doing training on a sporadic and voluntary basis. Therefore a constant training of the new generations of young people should be ascertained.

Person in charge: Katka Lejckova



## Seminars

### • *New creative approaches to environmental education for young generation*

May 2010, Moscow, Russia

We want to exchange experience on environmental education in Moscow as big mega polis to contribute to the promotion of environmental education development in terms of new technologies, education of youth and international cooperation.

Person in charge: Elena Raspertova



## Youth Exchanges

### • *Sustainable symbiosis in the forest*

July 2010, Poland

The project aims at discovering the biodiversity of Bieszczady National Park, Poland through informal and practical educational workshops. During this period the participants will live in mountain huts and self made forest shelters and develop sustainable alternatives to meet basic needs. The project will enable young people to do voluntary conservation work, connect with nature and exchange cultural experience and knowledge.

Person in charge: Stepan Adamyan

### • *Youth Ambassadors for Sustainable Living: Renewable Energy and Climate Change dimensions*

July/August 2010, Transcarpathian region, Ukraine

The YE aims to study the Carpathian region, to find ways how to protect it, how to achieve sustainability in this region. It will try to share information and expertises on the way of participation in decision-making processes at European level, national and local levels as well.

Person in charge: Kyrlyo Ivliev

### • *Learning from each other – YE on games from environmental education*

September 2010, Krakow, Poland

The Youth Exchange ‘Learning from each other’ will involve 6 organizations from different European countries which work in the field of youth and environmental work, especially environmental education. We would like to exchange ideas, experience and

best practices through workshops prepared by each of the organisations taking part in the YE, using the method 'learning by doing'. The aim is to transmit the most successful and inventive practices to other organisations and to improve and to vary the everyday work of the youth NGOs. The follow-up of the project will be the creation of a booklet with games presented during the youth exchange.

Person in charge: Malgorzata Zubowicz, Monika Kotulak

## Networking Projects

### • *Together for environment*

May 2010, Armenia

The idea of the project is to organize a PBA for environmental organizations from different geographical regions. During the actual event there will be discussed possibilities for cooperation under YIA program on a topic of environment. Project ideas created under the name of YEE during the PBA will be presented to the next AM of YEE for the approval.

Person in charge: Arsen Simonyan

### • *Experts networking*

All year

The purpose of the project is to find experts which could contribute with their knowledge to the MOs projects and activities. It will be developed by work shadowing.

Person in charge: Katka Lejckova

## Campaigns

### • *Sunny Campaign (web page update and upgrade)*

All year

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

Person in charge: Anne Kollien



### • *Water – its importance in pictures*

Summer 2010

The project will try to take and collect pictures of people drinking from different sources of fresh water and publish them at the website [www.sunnycampaign.net](http://www.sunnycampaign.net) or [www.yeenet.eu](http://www.yeenet.eu) and create the exhibition. A description of the water importance will be prepared and adapted to each country where the exhibition will be presented.

Person in charge: Michal Ruman

### • *Health risks and food safety*

The second half of 2010

The projects will focus on collecting materials preparing a brochure with following content: Healthy food, organic food production techniques; GMO, chemical additives and impact on the human health; advices how to avoid pesticides and fertilizers at maximum extent.

Person responsible: Gjoko Zoroski

### • *Engaging the public through sustainable festivals*

Spring-winter 2010, Czech Republic, Serbia

We want to encourage cultural festivals' organisers to supply their events with biodegradable, renewable and zero-waste facilities such as renewable energies, compostable dishes or toilets... At the same time we want to encourage environmentally friendly businesses to use festivals as an opportunity to promote their work and save nature. By bringing positive examples to our regions we want to facilitate the creation of a broader network of cultural events organisers, environmental NGOs and private companies and deliver a clear picture of sustainable solutions to festivals visitors.

Person in charge: Michal Ruman

## Conference Participation

UNFCCC conferences COP-15 in Denmark (December 2009)



## Publications

- Y&E Magazine on “Youth organizes green events”  
July 2010
- Y&E Magazine on “Environmental education through the eyes of youth”  
October 2010
- YEE Newsletters, 6 issues  
2009-2010

## Website

Improvement of the interactive YEE website

**If you have any questions about YEE projects, please write to:  
yee@yeenet.eu**

## 3. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The growing dimension of global environmental problems asks for international teamwork by environmental activists to promote change and encourage solutions. YEE believes in such an effort and has the potential and experience to participate in it.

### UNEP Tunza

On a global level, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is recognised by YEE as an important platform for youth activities and policy making. A global perspective is necessary in order for YEE to help promote a sustainable development. Tunza is the long-term strategy of UNEP on engagement and involvement of

young people in environmental activities.

### European Commission

The European Commission is undertaking an exercise to seek improved European governance, with emphasis on participatory democracy and capacity building in civil society organisations. YEE can play an important role in speaking out on environmental interests on behalf of European youth. YEE will be oriented on closer cooperation with the DG Environment next year, especial under implementation of The Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

### European Environment Bureau (EEB)

The European Environment Bureau is a network of environmental organisations

including YEE. The EEB supervises the environmental issues more than anyone else as they arise in European policies and sends information to its member organisations. The working groups of EEB are specific in expertise and in interest. YEE aims to explore the full potential of this membership by participating actively in working groups and activities organized by EEB. YEE member organizations will be encouraged to be involved in EEB in the name of YEE.

### European Youth Forum (YFJ)

European Youth Forum is the greatest platform for international youth non-governmental organisations (IYNGOs) and National Youth Councils (NYCs) in Europe. Their role is to promote youth interests across the policies at European level. As a member of European Youth Forum, YEE is regularly represented in their various activities and statutory meetings and will continue to cooperate with YFJ to build capacity on youth work.



### Taiga Rescue Network (TRN)

TRN works for the protection and conservation of the Taiga, the boreal forests in the world. YEE is a member of TRN and will support its activities and try to be involved in their important work.

### Other networks/entities

YEE will continue to explore the possibilities of cooperating with other networks and entities with common interests, in order to strengthen each other and get closer to reaching our mission.

## 4. MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

### Member Organisations

After the General Assembly 2009, YEE has 49 member organizations (24 full members and 25 associated members) in 28 countries. YEE will do its best to keep in close contact and collaborate with its members during the year, to inform them and to be informed about their local, regional and national activities.

The list of NGOs involved in environmental youth work in Europe is far larger. It will be a challenge for YEE to increase its roll of members. This is not for pure statistical reasons but for member organisations to have a wider platform for exchanging ideas and experiences, and for YEE to be

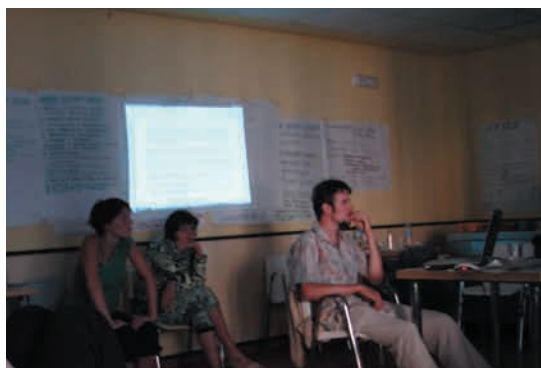


able to speak out more strongly on behalf of European youth.

## Membership Fees

In order to be fair to the different member organizations and to ensure the stability of its economical situation, YEE will be strict about collecting the membership fees and to cancel the possibility to excuse the fee. The amount of the membership fee depends on the annual budget of the member organisation, see table below.

The fee should be transferred to the bank account of YEE before the deadline set up by the Executive Board. In case the bank transfer is too expensive for a particular organisation, it can be brought in cash to one of the YEE meetings. The fee has

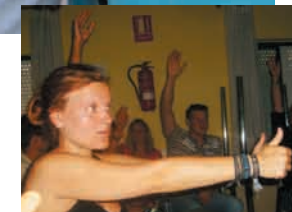
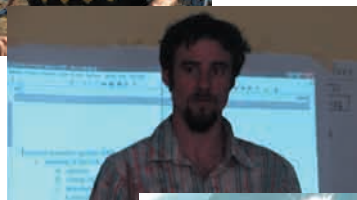


to be paid before the General Assembly takes place, otherwise the voting right of the organisation is suspended.

## Membership Solidarity Fund

The Membership Solidarity Fund will receive donations that are meant to cover membership fees of the membership organisations.

Member Organization's budget 2008/09	Membership fee for 2009 FULL MEMBERS	Membership fee for 2009 ASSOCIATED MEMBERS
EUR 0 – EUR 12.500	EUR 30	EUR 15
EUR 12.500 - EUR 25.000	EUR 45	EUR 30
EUR 25.000 – EUR 37.500	EUR 60	EUR 30
EUR 37.500 – EUR 62.500	EUR 75	EUR 37,5
EUR 62.500 – EUR 125.000	EUR 90	EUR 45
EUR 125.000– EUR 250.000	EUR 105	EUR 52,5
EUR 250.001	EUR 120	EUR 60



The majority of pictures used in this issue of the Newsletter was taken during the Annual Meeting 2009. More pictures you can see at YEE website [www.yeenet.eu](http://www.yeenet.eu) in the section Photogalleries and at the address: <http://picasaweb.google.cz/youth.and.environment.europe/YEEAnnualMeeting2009#>



## Publication of Youth and Environment Europe

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