
Annual Report 2011/2012
Monika Kotulak, Project Officer & Vice-chairperson

Dear YEE friends and workmates,

In the year 2011/2012 I was happy to occupy the position of the Project Officer and Vice-chairperson in the YEE Board. As the Annual Meeting is coming closer and my mandate is finishing I would like to present you what I achieved.

As Project Officer my task was to **support project teams with their work**. I proofread applications of three projects:

- Media, communication and nature, training course,
- Give pedestrians their city back, youth exchange,
- Be a leader in an environmental organization, training course.

Happily all of those projects were approved.

I, together with other team members was coordinating two projects:

- European environmental law and youth participation, study session
- Women leadership programme, feasibility visit.

Coordination of those projects meant inventing and preparing concept and agenda of the meeting, looking for trainers in the first case, looking and choosing the participants, preparing the session outlines, leading the sessions, evaluating the meeting and helping to write the final report. This work required a few skype meetings and one physical preparatory meeting in the first case.

Together with Adriána Harnůšková, the Secretary General, I wrote application for the next project **Women for the planet**, training course.

Together with Patrick Scott Rossi I was coordinating cooperation of YEE with **Ocean 2012**, which is a platform for many organizations which aims to improve EU Common Fisheries Policy. Under this we are planning to organize YEE day dedicated to the topic of overexploitation of oceans and seas, it will be held in July.

In my daily work I was trying to stay up-dated about other projects, but the Secretariat was doing their work very well, so I didn't need to interrupt it.

Unfortunately I didn't manage to encourage member organizations to make more **local project** and cooperate among each other. It was caused by lack of time and bad cooperation with the Member Organizations Officer.

I was participating in every **discussion of the Board and Secretariat** and most of the **skype meetings** as well as one (and only) physical board meeting. Unfortunately due to my full-time and demanding job, I could not be on each skype meeting.

As every board member I am also **preparing the Annual Meeting**, its sessions and future documents like short and long term strategies. I also proposed some changes in Rules of Procedure and I contributed to fulfilling some short term strategies for this year.

As for work as the Vice-chairperson my task was to substitute the Chairperson when it's necessary. This was never needed and the Chairperson never asked me for replacing or help.

To summarise my work: my goal in YEE for this year was to promote local, small project in regions and countries in order to lower impact on environment and my other goal was to bring YEE to higher level discussion on environmental topics.

As those two tasks are quite challenging for just one year it is hard to see effects. Anyway I believe I started some process which might be continued if member organizations are willing to do it. We became members of OCEAN 2012 which gives us opportunity to work on high level of European Union policies. On the other hand, using this platform, we are planning to make many small actions all over Europe to promote sustainable fishing and knowledge about oceans and seas.

With this mandate I am also finishing my work in YEE. I am very happy I got the opportunity to be there, create projects, change things and meet people. But time for me has come. I believe that YEE has great potential and many paths to go through, but it also needs clear vision and goals, I wish good luck to the next board and I'm willing to help with my advices.