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**Report of  
YEE Chairperson 2014-2015  
Anja Wilken**

Dear YEE team and members,

by re-electing me, the General Assembly gave me the opportunity to continue the work I have started in the previous mandate. YEE again has been very active and so it has been a year full of various challenges. Although I felt as if saving some time, because I did not need an introductory period, time went fast. I started working right-away to seize the time, but at the beginning of the mandate, I was working on my master thesis for university. This is why, over a certain period I was too busy to contribute as much as I liked for YEE. Nevertheless, I managed to uphold the main tasks like convening and chairing in total 10 Virtual Board Meetings, preparing the Physical Board Meeting in February, checking documents, checking the office (by appraisal interviews and by checking their work hours and reading office meeting minutes), etc.

In addition to my master thesis, a high-committed preparatory team and me planned, organised and implemented a great project: “Environmental Training for Eco-Trainers”. In this project I could apply all I learned about project management so far. Many of the skills, guiding questions and work-procedures I have learned from my time in YEE and from trainings about Project Management. However, as every project, this one offered us challenges, from which to learn, and to even grow more professionally. Afterwards, I joined the preparatory team for the training “Give international dimension to your project”.

This year, I could set up a more realistic work plan, as I knew what could and should be done. Therefore, I managed to fulfill about everything that I planned – and even more. For example, we tackled many tasks by initiating work groups to better divide tasks. However, this meant that I have of course been involved in several work groups, too: “Values”, “Sustainability Policies”, “Rewards for Board Members”. Furthermore I contributed and checked the outcomes of other workgroups. Being able to improve YEE also on the organisational- and content-level (official documents, visions and strategies for the future) was very satisfying for me.

I feel settled in the network and all tasks and am ready to prepare for the Annual Meeting and continue to work in our work groups and all tasks to come until summer.

I would like to thank the Secretariat, Mercedes, Natalia, Malgorzata and fellow Board Members Bianca, Christiane, Lira, Vasily, Zaruhi for their commitment and high level of competences and passion to work for and contribute to the network. It is great how much can be done by such a small but great team – especially when many of them need to work or study next to volunteering for YEE. Without you, I would not have been able to uphold my motivation, and I would not have reached all the plans stated in my work plan. Working for YEE can be done most successfully, when working in a team.

This is why my thanks also go to all members of our Member Organisations, as they are active and also participating in all projects, campaigns and ideas that we develop every year together – you are the network!

**Anja Wilken, Hamburg (Germany), June 13, 2015**