

YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT EUROPE

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

YEE 
YOUTH AND
ENVIRONMENT
EUROPE

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Introduction

Youth and Environment Europe (YEE) is an international platform that unites 41 European youth organisations that study nature and/or are active in environmental protection. These member organisations come together from 25 countries. The mission of YEE is to unite environmental youth non-profit organisations 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 in 1998, as the Czech Republic was 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 links 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 are carried out on international, national or local level, by YEE Member Organisations and the YEE Secretariat. These activities include exchange of information through our publications, training courses, youth exchanges, work-meetings and campaigns on topics our Member Organisations deal with.

YEE realises 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 2016, 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 2016-2017 YEE Executive Board was elected in August 2016 during the Annual Meeting:

Chairperson – Zaruhi Stepanyan (Khazer, Armenia)

Vice-Chair & External Relations Officer Project Officer – Stefan Rudel (FÖJ-Aktiv, Germany)

Treasurer – Narek Minasyan (FYCA, Armenia)

Project Officer – Jovana Mirjanic (Young Researchers of Serbia, Serbia)

Publications and Promotion Officer – Razmik Sargsyan (Young Biologists Association, Armenia)

Member Organisations Officer – Ketevan Kochladze (SAEM, Georgia)

During the period of 2016-2017, the Executive Board had three physical meetings – one right after the AM 2016, the second in December 2016 and the third one in March 2017. There will be one more physical Board meeting, before the AM 2017. There were also 6 virtual Board meetings held during the business year 2016-2017. Additionally, there were working groups (formed by some members of the Board, Secretariat and MOs) working on different issues that met several times during 2016-2017.

Secretariat

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

Secretary General:	Mercedes Fioravanti Álvarez
Main Coordinator:	Natalia Luchko
Networking Coordinator:	Roxana Nica
Consultant:	Małgorzata Zubowicz-Thull
Intern:	Amelys Erard (June-August 2016)

The Secretariat participated in all the physical Board Meetings and in all the virtual Board Meetings that were held in 2016-2017.

European Voluntary Service (EVS)

The EVS (European Voluntary Service) is a project within the European Commission's Programme "Erasmus+". 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 consist of three parts: work in the YEE office, work at Toulcův Dvůr (the ecological centre where the YEE office is located) and on a personal project.

During 2016 YEE office hosted 4 EVS volunteers.

Volunteers hosted through the EVS programme:

- Judit Suveges (Hungary – from 04/2015 until 04/2016)
- Vladimir Jordanov (Macedonia – from 04/2015 until 04/2016)
- Aljaz Malek (Slovenia – from 06/2016 until 06/2017)
- Diana Podgurskaia (Russia – from 09/2016 until 09/2017)

Development of the organisation

In 2016 YEE implemented most of the activities from the Work Plan and achieved many of the goals set in the Strategic Plan. Some of the achievements reached were:

- Creation and approval of the new "Sustainability Policy".
- Active participation in events organised by the European Youth Forum and the European Environmental Bureau.
- Partnerships with new organisations from Greece, Slovakia, Poland and Hungary.
- Several Work Groups formed by members of Board, Secretariat and MOs were successfully created, in order to work on specific topics and tasks of the network.
- Short trainings were included in all physical Board meetings (in the topics of public speaking, effective communication and task management).
- A capacity building event for YEE members was implemented in August 2016. It consisted of a training course about campaigning (TC "Bee the Change" - Czech Republic).
- The new structure of YEE Work Plan and Strategic Plan was adopted in the Annual Meeting 2016.
- The new position for internship was created in YEE office.

Activities from the Work Plan 2016

1. Training course “Be(e) the change”

Date and venue: 23-30 August 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Training course

Aim: To explore and develop the competences in organising environmental educational campaigns.

Description: The project's activities aimed to improve YEE's and member organisations' campaigning skills by learning about what an educational campaign is, how to plan it or how to motivate young people to participate. An online timeline was prepared to describe activities day by day and share materials and results. As a follow-up a booklet “Be(e) the change” and infographic “10 things you can do to help the bees” were created.

Target group: Youth workers, project coordinators and active volunteers from youth environmental organisations.

Number of participants: 30 participants

Funding: Key Action 1, Erasmus+ (Czech National Agency)

More information: <http://www.yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-completed-projects/1296-training-course-qbee-the-changeq>

2. Strategic Partnership “Environmental challenge accepted”

Date and venue: June 2016 – October 2017, Latvia, Portugal, Estonia, Lithuania and Czech Republic

Type of activity: Strategic Partnership

Aim: To explore innovative approaches for development of youth active citizenship by fostering youth ability to convince stakeholders of the need to implement their proposed solutions for environmental protection.

Description: The project aims to promote direct youth involvement in solving local environmental problems. Each partner organisations chose a real issue in their local community (for example, river pollution, waste management, habitats protection, etc.) and is working on these issues together with youth groups which they coordinate during the project. An international competition will be coordinated by YEE.

Target group: Youth workers and active volunteers from youth environmental organisations.

Number of participants: 40 organisers and participants

Funding: Key Action 2, Erasmus+ (Latvian National Agency) – funds coordinated by the organisation Balta Daba (Latvia).

More information: <http://www.yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/1324-strategic-partnership-qenvironmental-challenge-acceptedq>

3. Partnership in the project STEP (Societal and political engagement of young people in environmental issues)

Date and venue: 1 June 2015 - 31 November 2017, Czech Republic, Greece, Spain, Sweden, U.K., Germany, Turkey, Italy, etc.

Type of activity: Research, campaign and creation of e-platform

Aim: To develop and test an eParticipation cloud platform, which will promote the societal and political participation of young people in the decision-making processes on environmental issues.

Description: In 2016 the research for user requirements was run, the first version of the online platform was created and the project was promoted in the 5 pilots and among young public in general.

Target group: Young people interested in environmental issues, municipalities and policy makers.

Number of participants: 50 people working on the project, at least 1000 people reached

Funding: Horizon 2020 (European Commission), funds coordinated by Draxis (Greece).

More information: <http://www.yeenet.eu/index.php/step>

4. Sustainability in NGOs

Date and venue: October 2016 – February 2017, online

Type of activity: Online campaign, online materials and webinar

Aim: To explore the concept of a sustainability in youth NGOs in order to improve the quality of work of youth organisations.

Description: The project was based on extended needs analysis within our member organisations. In 2016, we created how-to guides on topics such as: learning organisation, sustainable project management, human resources, etc. and started preparations for a webinar that took place in January 2017.

Target group: NGO workers, youth workers, project coordinators.

Number of participants: 6 young people worked on the project, over 300 reached.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://www.yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/1372-sustainability-in-ngos>

5. Meet your trainer

Date and venue: November – December 2016, online

Type of activity: Online campaign

Aim: To provide knowledge and good practices to young people who want to become trainers in non-formal educational field.

Description: The project was developed by YEE team after successful experience of co-organising training course “Environmental Training of Eco-Trainers” (March 2014, Germany). We collected and published interviews with experienced trainers who shared their experiences and gave some tips to young people who are beginning their career paths as NFE trainers.

Target group: Young people who would like to become NFE trainers

Number of participants: 12 people working on the project and over 500 people reached.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://www.yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/1379-meet-your-trainer>

6. Campaign “Change climate change”

Date and venue: October 2016 – February 2017, Czech Republic, Portugal, Serbia, Croatia, Armenia, Italy, Georgia, etc.

Type of activity: International campaign

Aim: To encourage young people and youth organisations to take action against climate change and to raise awareness at European and local level about the impacts of climate change.

Description: Partner organisations planned local actions and were running international online campaign. There were 9 different local actions organised in 7 countries for different target groups. An online group was kept active, sharing news, materials and videos about the topic of climate change.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, public in general.

Number of participants: Over 150 young people directly involved in the local activities.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

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

7. Campaign “The Right to Be(e)”

Date and venue: April – May 2016, Macedonia, Georgia, France, Spain, Serbia, Albania, Czech Republic

Type of activity: International campaign

Aim: To support the survival of bees and raise awareness about the disappearance and well-being of bees in Europe.

Description: In the frame of the campaign we planned a competition throughout Europe, encouraging people to organise actions that help the bees in urban areas. We collected materials from all teams, promoted them within the YEE network and included them in the bee competition for best activity to help the bees.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, public in general.

Number of participants: 40 young people directly involved in the activities.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

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

8. Water Campaign

Date and venue: September – November 2016, Albania, Georgia, Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia, Czech Republic

Type of activity: International campaign

Aim: To promote and encourage youth participation in order to raise awareness about water protection.

Description: We invited interested organisations to set up local actions to highlight the importance of water in our life. As a result, 6 local actions were organised in 6 countries.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, public in general.

Number of participants: 50 young people involved in the local activities.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

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

9. Participation in “People4soil” campaign

Date and venue: Throughout 2016, EU countries

Type of activity: International campaign

Aim: To put pressure on European institutions to adopt specific legislation on soil protection, fixing principles and rules to be complied by the Member States.

Description: YEE joined the People4Soil campaign in order to increase the awareness about the topic of soil degradation in Europe. We raised awareness about the issue and promoted a petition (European Citizens Initiative) with the purpose of collecting one million signatures to propose a law for soil protection and soil as a common good at the European level.

Target group: Environmental organisations, European institutions, policy makers, public in general.

Number of participants: over 400 organisations

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/campaigns/people4soil>

10. Office cuisine blog campaign

Date and venue: Throughout 2016, online

Type of activity: Online campaign

Aim: The aim of the campaign is to promote healthy eating habits and lifestyle based on YEE's vegetarian and sustainability principles and with a focus on aspects such as multiculturalism, sense of community and food sovereignty.

Description: The blog (launched in 2010) with healthy vegetarian recipes was developed and updated with new entries from many young people. Four seasonal recipes competitions were organised.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, public in general.

Number of participants: 30 people contributed to the campaign, over 3000 visitors in the blog in 2016.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/campaigns/office-cuisine>

11. Youth for Environment - European Voluntary Service

Date and venue: Throughout 2016, Czech Republic.

Type of activity: European Voluntary Service

Aim: To develop competences of young people needed in environmental youth work.

Description: We hosted 4 volunteers who were developing their various competences in the office of the network in Prague.

Target group: Young people between 18-30 years old.

Number of participants: 4 (Slovenia, Russia, Macedonia and Hungary)

Funding: Key Action 1, Erasmus+ (Czech National Agency)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/evs>

12. Publication – Art for the Environment

Date and venue: April 2016, Czech Republic.

Type of activity: Online publication

Aim: The aim of the publication was to promote and share further the tools and ideas explored during the youth exchange “Art for the Environment” (November 2015).

Description: This online booklet was created for young people who are interested in the topic of environmental art and would like to get some ideas and inspiration for organising their own workshops and activities with friends or local communities. The booklet was spread by various channels and promoted on social media.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, environmental organisations.

Number of participants: 9 young people created the publication, shared with over 300 people and organisations.

Funding: Key Action 1, Erasmus+ (Czech National Agency)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1315-yeepublication-art-for-the-environment>

13. Publication – Be(e) the Change - Guide on campaigning

Date and venue: December 2016, Czech Republic.

Type of activity: Online and printed publication

Aim: The aim of the publication was to promote and share further the topics, tools and tips for campaigning explored and developed during the training course “Be(e) the change” (August 2016).

Description: The booklet (online and printed) was created for all young environmental enthusiasts who want to organise a campaign. It includes chapters which explore different aspects of the campaign: definition of the campaign, planning a campaign strategy, fundraising, communication and evaluation.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, environmental organisations.

Number of participants: 6 young people created the publication, shared with over 500 people and organisations.

Funding: Key Action 1, Erasmus+ (Czech National Agency)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1408-new-yeepublication-be-e-the-change>

14. Publication – Best recipes

Date and venue: December 2016, Czech Republic.

Type of activity: Online publication

Aim: The aim of the publication was to promote the recipes collected for the Office Cuisine blog during the year and encourage young people to have a healthy diet.

Description: The booklet is a summary of one year of seasonal vegetarian recipe competitions which were held in the frame of YEE’s ongoing project “Office Cuisine” and it includes 14 recipes from 9 countries.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, environmental organisations.

Number of participants: 15 young people created the publication, shared with over 300 people and organisations.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1405-best-recipes-from-office-cuisine>

15. Publication – Meet your trainer

Date and venue: November 2016 – January 2017, Czech Republic.

Type of activity: Online publication

Aim: The aim of the publication was to inspire young people who would like to become trainers for non-formal education.

Description: The interviews with trainers in non-formal education field were gathered into an online publication.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, environmental organisations.

Number of participants: 3 young people created the publication, 9 trainers were interviewed, shared with over 500 people and organisations.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/projects/yee-ongoing-projects/1379-meet-your-trainer>

16. Online articles for international environmental celebrations and other local events

Date and venue: Throughout 2016, Czech Republic.

Type of activity: Networking and promotional activities

Aim: The aim of these activities and articles is to promote international days linked to environment, youth and volunteering and to promote YEE.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, public in general.

Number of participants: 2 to 6 people organising each action, many participants attending.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information:

- Earth Day – Prague, 22 April 2016 – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1289-celebrating-earth-day-in-prague>
- NGO Market – Prague, 27 April 2016 – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1291-ngo-market-2016>
- International Day of Biodiversity – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1297-international-day-for-biodiversity>
- World Environmental Day – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1302-world-environmental-day>
- World Oceans Day – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1303-world-oceans-day>
- Sustainability Day – Prague, 12 June 2016 – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1309-sustainability-day-2016>
- World Animal Day – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1361-world-animal-day>
- Volunteering day in the ecological farm Toulcuv Dvur – Prague, 17 November 2016 – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1385-tamjdem-2016-in-toulcuv-dvur>
- World Soil Day – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1391-world-soil-day>
- International Youth Conference on Environment, Health and Mobility – Vienna, 27-29 November 2016 – <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1402-yee-at-the-international-youth-conference-on-environment-health-and-mobility>

17. Participation in the European Youth Event (EYE)

Date and venue: 20-21 May 2016, Strasbourg, France

Type of activity: Youth event

Aim: The aim of the event was to create a space for young people to exchange ideas and perspectives on youth-related issues, to develop innovative solutions to crucial questions for the future and meet with European decision-makers and speakers with a wide range of professional experience.

Description: A group of 6 members of YEE took part in this event as part of International Young Naturefriends (IYNF) delegation. They presented many activities, such as learning how to be more sustainable with ecomaps, learning more about the TTIP or discussing how to organise green events.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, European decision-makers.

Number of participants: 6 young people represented YEE

Funding: IYNF – YEE delegation supported by the European Youth Forum.

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1298-european-youth-event-2016-in-a-few-words>

18. World Water Monitoring Day

Date and venue: 27 October 2016, Pribram, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Local action

Aim: The aim of this action was to raise awareness on water pollution issues and involve people in water resource protection.

Description: As every year, YEE office team organised a trip to measure water quality. We shared the results in the official website of World Water Monitoring Day and promoted the action to encourage other organisations to plan similar activities.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, environmental organisations.

Number of participants: 5 young people directly involved in the action.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/1373-world-water-monitoring-challenge-2016-pribram-czech-republic>

19. YEE Website

Date and venue: Throughout 2016, Prague, Czech Republic and online

Type of activity: Website

Aim: The aim of the website is to share news from the network and its members, and to spread news and information about environmental issues, non-formal education and youth work, news about Europe, its institutions and opportunities for young people.

Description: The section for ongoing projects was improved. The working group to create a design for the new website was created.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, environmental organisations, public in general.

Number of participants: 20 young people managing the website and its content, an average of 1260 visits per month

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: www.yeenet.eu

20. YEE social media

Date and venue: Throughout 2016, Prague, Czech Republic and online

Type of activity: Online social media

Aim: The aim of YEE presence in social media is to share news from the network and about environmental and youth issues.

Description: YEE has a Facebook page, few Facebook groups for various projects, Twitter and Instagram account.

Target group: Young people, youth organisations, environmental organisations, public in general.

Number of participants: 8 young people managing the social media platforms, over 3650 followers in Facebook, 148 in Twitter, 42 in Instagram.

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: www.yeenet.eu

Statutory meetings held in 2016

- **Annual Meeting (YEE General Assembly meeting)**

Date and venue: 30 August – 1 September 2016 - Prague, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Statutory Meeting

Aim: The aim of the Annual Meeting was to gather representatives of YEE member organisations, take important decisions about the network, adopt official documents, plan and approve the Work Plan and Budget, monitor the progress of the Strategic Plan, accept new members and elect the new Executive Board.

Target group: Young people representing YEE member organisations.

Number of participants: 36 participants

Funding: Coordination and costs supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/annual-meeting-2016>

- **Board Meetings**

- **Virtual Board Meetings – 8 online meetings**

Date and venue: Throughout 2016, online

Type of activity: Statutory Meeting

Aim: The aim of the Virtual Board Meetings was to gather the Board and Secretariat once per month and discuss the ongoing issues of the network, take needed decisions and plan tasks and responsibilities.

Additionally, many skype meetings of special Work Groups took place where members of Board and Secretariat in smaller groups discussed concrete issues, such as creation of new policies or a new structure of Work Plan.

Target group: YEE Board and Secretariat, member organisations.

Number of participants: 10-12 participants

Funding: Coordination supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information: <http://yeenet.eu/index.php/documents>

- **Physical Board Meeting**

Date and venue: 5-8 March 2016, Ochoz u Brna, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Statutory Meeting

Aim: The aim of this meeting was to discuss the main issues of the network, share the progress of the Board Work Plans, Strategic Plan and YEE Work Plan, plan the Annual Meeting and take part in a short training about communication and public speaking.

Target group: YEE Board and Secretariat.

Number of participants: 10 participants

Funding: Coordination and costs supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information:

http://yeenet.eu/images/stories/DOCUMENTS/OFFICIAL_DOCUMENTS/Minutes/Minutes_BM_2015-16/Minutes_3rd_Physical_Board_Meeting_05-08.03.2016.pdf

- **Physical Board Meeting**

Date and venue: 29 August 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Statutory Meeting

Aim: The aim of this meeting was to finalise the preparations of the Annual Meeting, plan the handover to the new Board and evaluate the work of the Board finishing the mandate.

Target group: YEE Board and Secretariat.

Number of participants: 10 participants

Funding: Coordination and costs supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information:

http://yeenet.eu/images/stories/DOCUMENTS/OFFICIAL_DOCUMENTS/Minutes/Minutes_BM_2015-16/Minutes-Physical-Board-Meeting-29-August-2016.pdf

- **Physical Board Meeting**

Date and venue: 1 September 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Statutory Meeting

Aim: The aim of this meeting was to share the expectations and working methods of the new Board, transfer the ongoing issues and tasks from former to the new Board and set the upcoming deadlines and tasks.

Target group: YEE Board and Secretariat.

Number of participants: 15 participants

Funding: Coordination and costs supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information:

http://yeenet.eu/images/stories/DOCUMENTS/OFFICIAL_DOCUMENTS/Minutes/Minutes_BM_2016-17/Minutes-Physical-Board-Meeting-1-September-2016.pdf

- Physical Board Meeting

Date and venue: 3-6 December 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Statutory Meeting

Aim: The aim of this meeting was to discuss the ongoing issues of the network, share an update about the progress of the Board Work Plans and YEE strategic planning, evaluate the Work Plan 2016, create the Work Groups to work on the major tasks of the network and attend a training in effective communication and communication styles.

Target group: YEE Board and Secretariat.

Number of participants: 12 participants

Funding: Coordination and costs supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information:

http://yeenet.eu/images/stories/DOCUMENTS/OFFICIAL_DOCUMENTS/Minutes/Minutes_BM_2016-17/Minutes-Physical-Board-Meeting-3-6-Dec-2016.pdf

• Internal Audit

Date and venue: 2-3 June 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

Type of activity: Statutory Meeting

Aim: The aim of the Internal Audit is to control the work of the network by interviewing members of the Board and Secretariat and assessing projects' reports and questionnaires.

Target group: YEE Board and Secretariat.

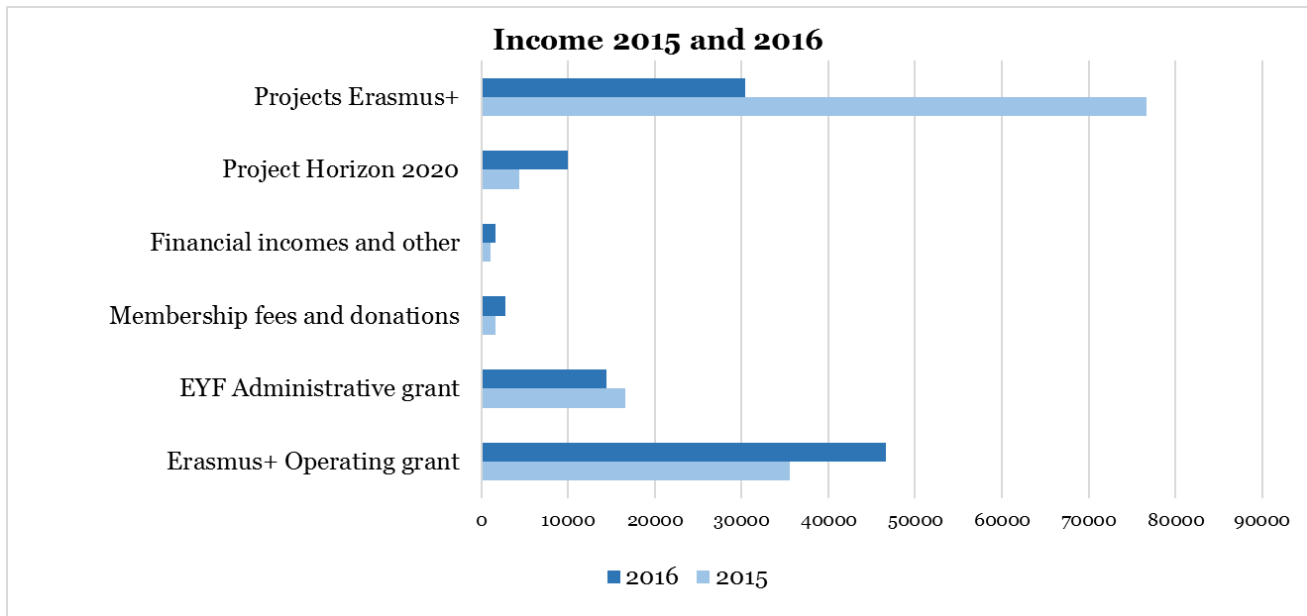
Number of participants: 1 auditor and 9 people interviewed

Funding: Coordination and costs supported by operating grants received from the European Youth Foundation (Council of Europe) and Erasmus+ (EACEA)

More information:

http://yeenet.eu/images/stories/YEE_PROJECTS/Annual_Meetings/Annual_Meeting_2016/Internal_audit_report_2015-2016.pdf

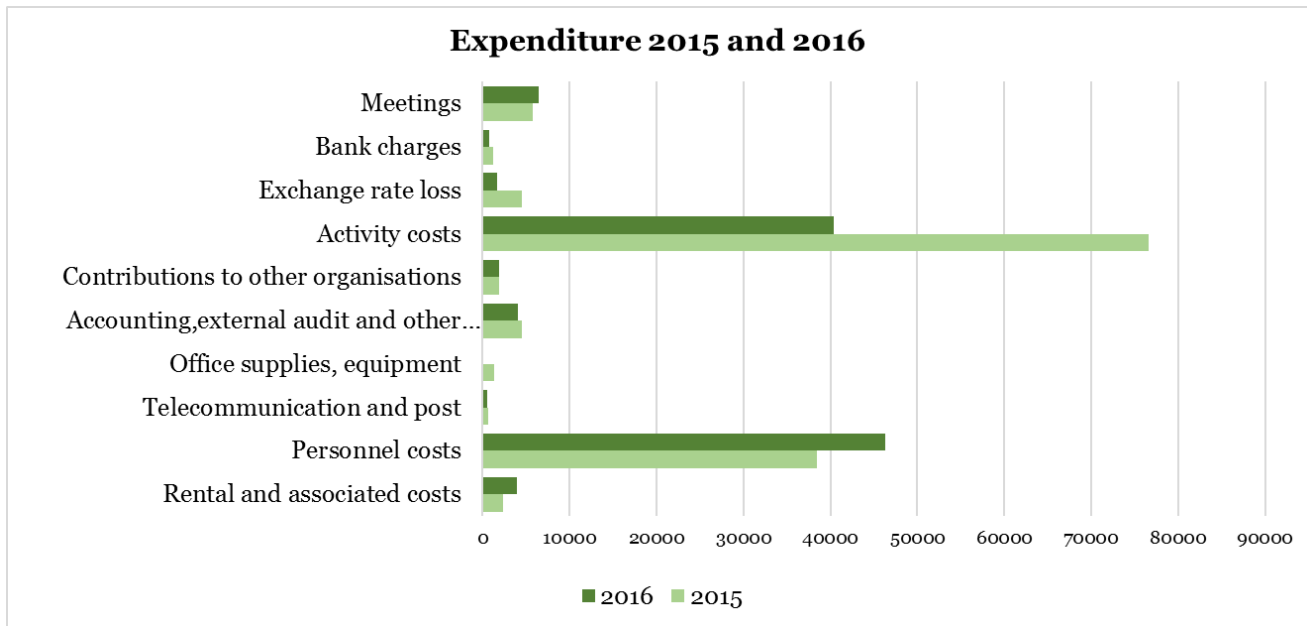
Finances 2016



Income 2016	AMOUNT in EUR
Erasmus+ Operating grant	46670
EYF Administrative grant	14410
EVS (Erasmus+)	10529
TC Bee the Change (Erasmus+)	15297
Environmental Challenge Accepted (Erasmus+)	1166
Green Entrepreneurship (Erasmus+)	1818
YE Art for the Environment (Erasmus+)	1604
STEP (Horizon 2020)	9980
Membership fees	2785
STEP H2020 overhead funds + profit E+ projects	1524
Financial incomes (Interests, exchange rate profit)	109
TOTAL	105892

Note: YEE Secretariat and Board worked on the implementation of the following projects but they were grass-root projects or the funding did not go through YEE accountancy:

- *Sustainability in NGOs (Autumn 2016)*
- *Meet your Trainer (November-December 2016)*
- *Office Cuisine (Throughout 2016)*
- *Campaign "The Right to Be(e)" (Spring 2016)*
- *Change Climate Change Campaign (Autumn 2016)*
- *Water Campaign (Autumn 2016)*

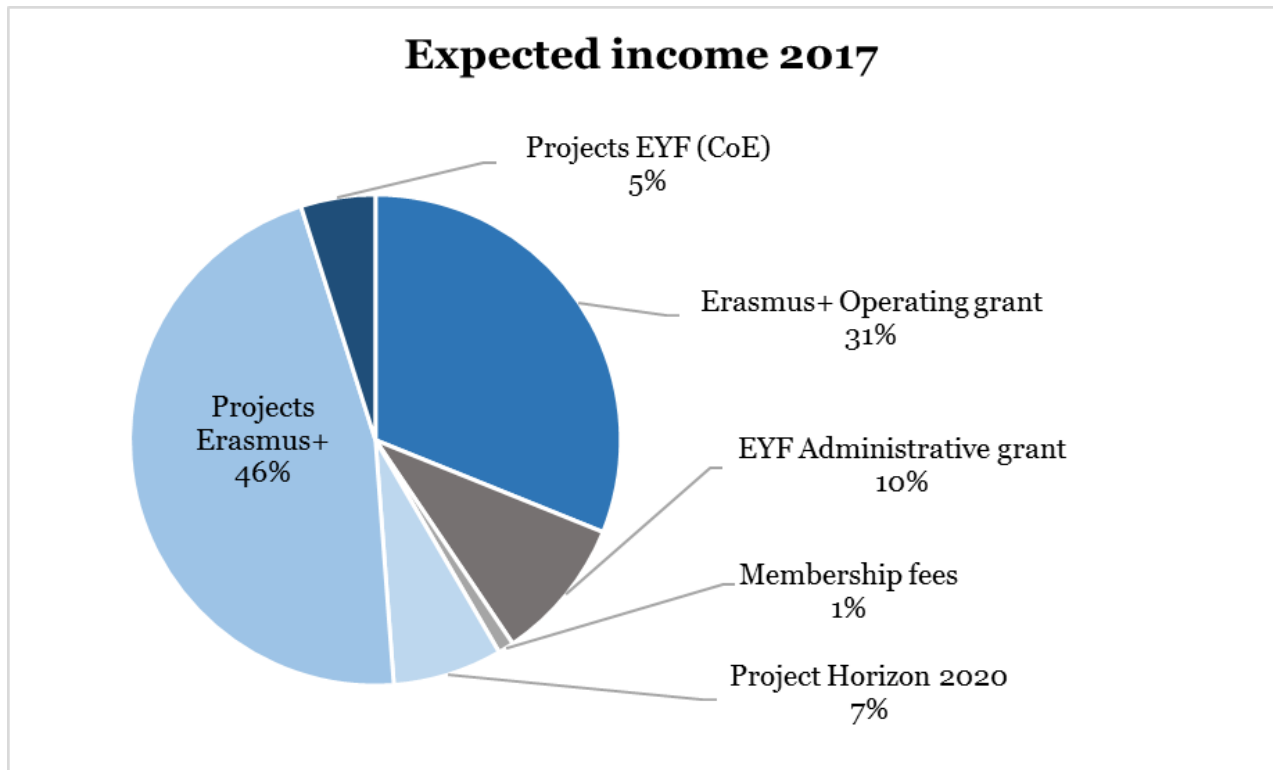


Expenses 2016	AMOUNT in EUR
Personnel costs	46278
Rental and associated costs	3938
Telecommunication and postal costs	475
Office supplies, equipment	81
Accounting and external audit	3206
Other costs	847
Bank charges	717
Contributions to other organisations	1882
Exchange rate loss	1609
Activity costs *	40394
Meetings (Annual Meeting, Board Meeting, Internal Audit)	6452
TOTAL	105879

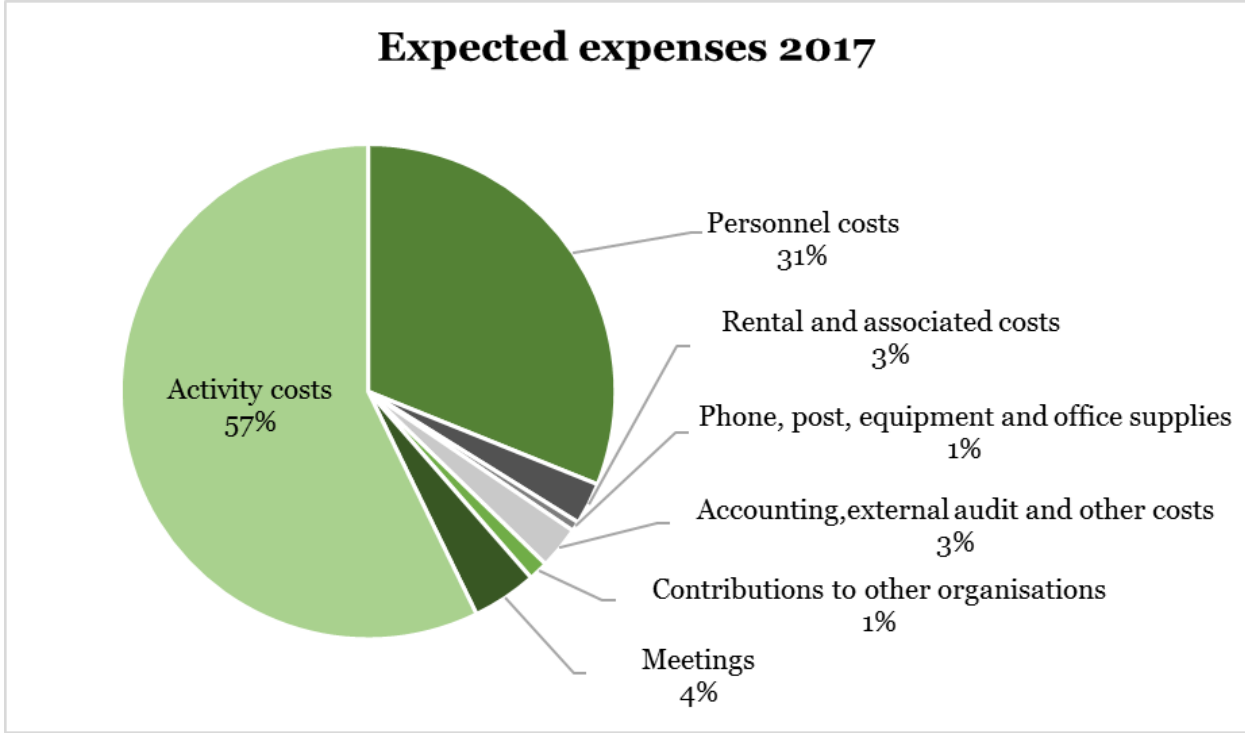
RESULTS 2016

PROFIT (Positive result)	13 EUR
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Budget prevision 2017



	AMOUNT in EUR
Erasmus+ Operating grant	47511.96
EYF Administrative grant	14410.5
EVS Youth for Environment (Erasmus+)	15000
TC Be(e) the change (Erasmus+)	2773
SP Environmental Challenge Accepted (Erasmus+)	6277
YE Postcards from Nature (Erasmus+)	10390
TC Uniting Youth for Ecotourism (Erasmus+)	21856
TC YEE-nclude (Erasmus+)	14381
TC YEE-nclude (European Youth Foundation, CoE)	7500
STEP (Horizon 2020)	11000
Membership fees	1600
TOTAL	152699.46



	AMOUNT in EUR
Personnel costs	47508
Rental and associated costs	4200
Telecommunication and postal costs	576
Office supplies, equipment	396
Accounting and external audit	3000
Other costs	442.46
Bank charges	800
Contributions to other organisations	1950
Activity costs	87377
Meetings (Annual Meeting, Board Meeting, Internal Audit)	6450
TOTAL	152699.46

Member Organisations of YEE in 2016 - 2017

Name of the organisation	Country	Type of membership
EDEN Centre	Albania	Full
IPAS Association	Albania	Associate
Active Young Citizenship Initiative – AYCI	Armenia	Associate
Stepanavan Youth Center – SYC	Armenia	Associate
Federation of Youth Clubs Armenia – FYCA	Armenia	Associate
Khazer	Armenia	Associate
Yeghvard Youth Ecological NGO	Armenia	Full
Young Biologists Association	Armenia	Associate
Youth Without Borders	Armenia	Associate
ÖNJ - Die Österreichische Naturschutzjugend	Austria	Full
Natuur 2000	Belgium	Full
Youth Organisation for Nature and Environment – JNM	Belgium	Full
Jeunes et Nature	Belgium	Full
Argonauta	Croatia	Associate
Hnuti Brontosaurus	Czech Republic	Associate
Natur & Ungdom	Denmark	Full
Luonto-Liitto	Finland	Full
Georgia Youth EcoMovement – SAEM	Georgia	Full
Deutscher Jugendbund für Naturbeobachtung - DJN	Germany	Full
FÖJ-Aktiv	Germany	Full
Naturschutzjugend – NAJU	Germany	Full
ECO-Unesco	Ireland	Full
Mine Vaganti NGO	Italy	Associate
7Arte	Kosovo	Associate
Balta Daba	Latvia	Full
Let's do it Macedonia	Macedonia	Full
Eco-Logic	Moldova	Associate
Gutta-Club	Moldova	Full
Oddział Akademicki Polskiego Towarzystwa Turystyczno-Krajoznawczego w Krakowie - OA PTTK	Poland	Associate
O.P.E - Organisation for the promotion of Ecoclubs	Portugal	Full
Green Echoes Association	Romania	Associate
Regional non-governmental organization for development of volunteering - AYA	Russia	Associate
EcoCenter Zapovedniks	Russia	Associate
Environmental Youth Club – EYC	Russia	Associate
Young Researchers of Serbia	Serbia	Full
Association Biodiversa	Spain	Associate
Libertas International	Spain	Associate
Fälbiologerna	Sweden	Associate
Look East Wild Earth (LEWE)	UK	Associate
InYouth Ukraine	Ukraine	Associate
Ipsa Jure	Ukraine	Associate

Organisations applying for membership in YEE

This year there are **three organisations applying for membership** in Youth and Environment Europe, one is applying for full membership and two for associate membership.

Full membership:

- Blejan NGO (Armenia)

Associate membership:

- Public Awareness and Monitoring Centre NGO (Armenia)

- Umbrella (Georgia)

1. Blejan – ecological, social, business support NGO

The environmental, social, business support non-governmental organisation “Blejan” is a non-profit organisation founded in 2007 in Gavar, Armenia.

Country: Armenia

Applies for: Full membership

Website: www.blejan.org

Number of members: 27 members

Age limit: Over 16 years old

Aims: To support the implementation of projects in the environmental, social and agricultural fields.
To support local and international cooperation connected with environmental protection and youth development.
To support solutions connected with human ecology, health and local tourism.

Activities: - Project “Support to the implementation of the Aarhus Convention, capacity building and strengthening of civil society structures of the Aarhus Centres and environmental public organizations” (to promote transparent and democratic management system at local level in the town of Gavar).
- “Transparent local self-government” project.
- “Mission of creation” project (to promote changes in discriminatory attitude towards women and girls in Gavar and decrease gender inequalities in family and society).

Blejan NGO applies for full membership. Since the organisation is not completely run by young people or have a youth section, we recommend the General Assembly to postpone their acceptance as full members and consider accepting them as associate members.

2. Public Awareness and Monitoring Centre NGO

Public awareness and Monitoring Centre is a non-governmental organisation founded on 14 March 2016, in Yerevan, Armenia.

Country:	Armenia
Applies for:	Associate membership
Website:	-
Number of members:	37 members
Age limit:	No age limit
Aims:	To unite the efforts of all those individuals and organizations who are interested to invest their skills and abilities to solve problems with regard to the state of surrounding environment and raising citizens' legal awareness to live in healthy environment.
Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- National and international projects aimed at solving problems related to environmental monitoring and protection.- Public environmental monitoring in collaboration with state and local authorities.- Public events aimed at environmental monitoring.- Promotion of public participation in environmental decision-making.- Education and training of youth.

Public Awareness and Monitoring Centre NGO applies for associate membership. The organisation shared some of their latest activities and although PA&MC is not run by young people, their activities are focused on environmental issues, so we recommend the General Assembly to consider accepting them as associate members.

3. Umbrella

Umbrella is a non-governmental youth Organisation from Georgia founded in September 2016.

Country:	Georgia
Applies for:	Associate membership
Website:	-
Number of members:	up to 20 members
Age limit:	14 to 35 years old
Aims:	To promote the establishment of a modern, healthy, tolerant, inclusive and educated society. Some of their objectives are: preservation of rights of minorities, settlement of environmental issues, protection of human rights, establishment of peace, promotion of European and democratic values and cultural diversity, etc.

Activities:

The association has been implementing the educational and youth development programs. Environmental issues are among the top priorities of the organisation. Main activities are trainings, awareness raising campaigns, exhibitions, etc. The youth project “Belated friendships” took place on 28-30.04. 2017 in Tsalka municipality. Young people from two villages in Georgia and Armenia met for cultural, environmental and educational activities.

Umbrella applies for associate membership. As they fulfil all the criteria necessary (youth organisation, dealing with environmental topics) we recommend the General Assembly to accept their application for associate membership.

Review of membership

The following Member Organisations will be reviewed during Annual Meeting 2017:

- ❖ **Natuur 2000 (Belgium):** Did not pay its membership fee for the last 2 years and did not attend the YEE Annual Meeting for over 5 years. Natuur 2000 explained that they are currently facing some financial difficulties that make it hard for them to take part in Annual Meetings and pay membership fees. They value their membership in YEE, follow news and communication from the network and have contributed in the last years with articles to YEE e-newsletter. Therefore, they would like to continue the cooperation with YEE which lasts for over 30 years and get more involved when their financial situation will improve.
- ❖ **Jeunes et Nature (Belgium):** Did not pay its membership fee for the last 2 years and did not attend the YEE Annual Meeting for over 5 years. They were contacted by YEE Secretariat and Board by email. They replied but did not send clarifications about their situation and involvement in the network.
- ❖ **Libertas International (Spain):** Did not pay its membership fee for the last 2 years and did not attend the YEE Annual Meeting for the last 4 years. YEE Secretariat and Board have used all possible means of contacting them but they could not reach them.

Funders

In 2016 YEE received the financial support from:

Erasmus+, the European Commission.



European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.



European Youth Foundation, the Council of Europe.



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