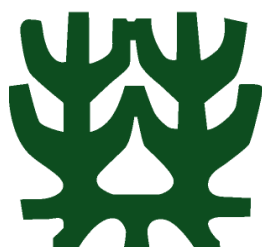


# ANNUAL REPORT 2008



2008

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS



**NORGES  
NATURVERNFORBUND**  
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH NORWAY

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to a presentation of Norges Naturvernforbund's international project activity in 2008. Our activity covered in 2008 projects on environment, education, energy and climate in 17 countries, most of which in Commonwealth of Independent States, but also in several African countries.

Norges Naturvernforbund believes that conceptions and understanding of the processes and consequences around energy production and consumption need upgrading all over the world, and that improved basic knowledge about central energy and environment is crucial for long term solution of global climate change. We are therefore directing our international project activity towards these issues, and clearly see the need as well as positive response and interest for this on local level in our project countries.

Energy and climate issues are all-embracing, and main decisions and directions are outlined by experts on national level. It is therefore a difficult job for small and weak NGOs to influence on energy and climate policy. Through our international project cooperation we have developed activity with three main components – education activities, practical energy projects and policy development. Policy development is the stage where our partner organisations are able to influence on regional and national policies and activities within energy and climate. It is our experience that work with education on energy and climate issues, as well as implementation of practical energy projects, helps the organisations to gradually form a platform where they are able to develop the necessary capacity, strength and self-assurance in order to start on the policy development task on regional as well as national level. In 2008 we have further developed and strengthened our project portfolio within all the three directions.

More information on the different projects follows in this report, but I will highlight some of our achievements in 2008:

- The educational project SPARE has been active in 16 countries, with around 5000 schools and 175 000 pupils participating in the educational year 2008-2009.
- We were able to develop a partnership project with authorities, educational institutions as well as NGOs for adaptation and dissemination of the SPARE project in Belarus.
- We have developed our practical energy projects in EECCA region, with new pilot projects in Kyrgyzstan and Georgia, in addition to Tajikistan and Kazakhstan as former pilot countries. In Georgia we have restored the school number 7 in Gory, which was an active participant in the SPARE projects, and lost all windows as a bomb fell nearby during the war in August 2008. Plans for energy measures in settlements for internally displaced people have also been developed. In Kyrgyzstan our partner BIOM successfully has started village energy planning projects in 3 villages.

Energy efficiency is dramatically low in most of our project countries, and we see repeatedly that even simple and cheap measures for improvement of energy situation are not realized. Naturvernforbundet aims to increase knowledge and reduce barriers for application of low cost measures on energy saving and renewables.

- In 2008 we did the main implementation of an FK Norway project, where expert on efficient combustion from Nepal visited Tajikistan for transferring experience to Tajik stove builders. Also a representative from our partner organisation Little

# INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT

Earth in Tajikistan has visited Nepal in order to study dissemination of efficient stoves.

- For the first time we started cooperation with Mozambique partner ADEL Sofala, on demonstration and dissemination of energy efficient technologies.

- In addition Norges Naturvernforbund has worked actively in 2008 in order to influence on the Norwegian Clean Energy programme, which is collecting all Norwegian energy aid under one umbrella.

Norges Naturvernforbund regards corroboration of local non-governmental organisations as a responsibility in countries where development level is low and where nature protection activities is lacking the understanding and accept from society, decision makers and authorities that we can find in for example Norway. Naturvernforbundet requires that the projects contribute to organisation development as well as development of participation and activity in local societies. We believe this constitute an important step in a long term process of development towards democratisation in any country facing lack of democratic governance structures.

Our main donors in 2008 have been the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NORAD and FK Norway as well as the Norwegian Ministry of Environment. Norges Naturvernforbund expresses its gratitude to these institutions, which are willing to fund what we believe is work that contribute both to environmental protection as well as development in the project countries.



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# STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL NGOS IN RUSSIA



**Project name:** Competence building of NGOs in North West Russia  
**Country:** Russia  
**Web site:** [www.naturvern.no/internasjonalt](http://www.naturvern.no/internasjonalt)  
**Financed by:** Norwegian Ministry of the Environment (NOK 450.000 in 2008)

## Partner organizations:

GAIA

*WEB-site:* [www.kec.org.ru](http://www.kec.org.ru)

*Contact person for this project:* Yuri Ivanov

*E-mail:* [yura.ivanov@kec.org.ru](mailto:yura.ivanov@kec.org.ru)

Zelenyj Mir/ Green World

*WEB-site:* [www.greenworld.org.ru](http://www.greenworld.org.ru)

*Contact person for this project:* Oleg Bodrov

*E-mail:* [bodrov@greenworld.org.ru](mailto:bodrov@greenworld.org.ru)

All-Russian Society for Nature Conservation in Karelia

*Web-site:* <http://voop.karelia.ru/>

*Contact person for this project:* Ludmila Morozova

*E-mail:* [zellist@sampo.ru](mailto:zellist@sampo.ru)

Association of Greens Karelia

*Web-site:* <http://greens.krc.karelia.ru/>

*Contact person for this project:* Dmitry Rybakov

*E-mail:* [greens@karelia.ru](mailto:greens@karelia.ru)

Ariston

*Contact person for this project:* Andrey Koslovich

*E-mail:* [ariston@onego.ru](mailto:ariston@onego.ru)

## Project responsible in Naturvernforbundet:

Kjersti Album, E-mail: [kja@naturvern.no](mailto:kja@naturvern.no)

## Project objective:

Our long-term goal for this project is to enable environmental NGOs in Northwest Russia to be capable of becoming a force of influence in important decisions regarding the environment. We do not seek to establish our own representation in Russia.





### Implemented activities:

All participating organisations have their own targets and strategies, depending on what they find important for strengthening their organisation. This gives the project activities a broad scope. Generally, the work is directed towards local and regional development issues, pollution and nature conservation. Member recruitment and democracy development in organisations are important subjects. In addition, we have some common project activities, where the organisations cooperate on environmental challenges. In 2008 the main common topics have been as follows:

Continue and strengthen the work with the oil spill watch movement Ecodozor, the Northern Coalition and gas pipeline together with GAIA, Green World and Association of Greens.

A summer camp for Ecodozor groups was successfully implemented in June, in Kandalaksha. In the frame of the camp there was carried out an action with participation of other youth groups from the villages situated on the shore line of White Sea. The whole amount of participants of the action was 35 persons, including three specialists-trainers from a specialized organization dealing with cleaning work after oil accidents.

Strengthen competence in NGOs for working with local environmental issues such as pollution and construction.

To increase and spread competence in the environmental NGOs, one of the project's activities is to make manuals for local groups and NGOs on how to work with local issues. The work has turned out to be more difficult than anticipated. Local pollution authorities will not give out any figures, and also state that the situation is fine, and Ariston chose therefore to work in other directions. Thus, the experience basis for the manual has become different than we presumed, and we have had several rounds with discussion around how to solve this. The good thing is that it has forced the organisations to think about strategies for approach in such cases, but the printed result that we wanted is still lacking.

Continue the development of membership in the organisations, both by increasing the numbers of members and developing the organisational structure

This has been a constant process through 2008, and Naturvernforbundet has been very active and discussed a lot with the organisations on this issue. After years of attempts to raise this issue, we now see recognition and agreement between our partners in Northwest Russia on this issue, and they are all ready to direct more attention and efforts to development of membership. We regard this attitude as a result of patient work through several years, and believe it will help the organisations to form a better platform for long term survival.



Naturvernforbundet has also supported the development of Russian Socio Ecological Union (RSEU). For several years there has been no strong Russian umbrella organisation uniting the many smaller organisations at local and regional level. The umbrella organisation International Socio-ecological union has on paper had a Russian chapter, but in practice this has been equal to the board of the international organisation, and has had no particular focus on Russian environmental policy. The many smaller organisations need an organisation where their work can be transformed into influence on national level, and Norges Naturvernforbund has therefore supported development of RSEU.

#### **Achieved results:**

Naturvernforbundet has been cooperating with Russian environmental groups since the early 90s, and during this time the NGOs have become increasingly stronger and more professional. Still, the democratic situation in Russia poses everyday challenges that are not always easily met.

Regarding the work with oil, gas and Ecodozor, the most important result is that more activists are trained and ready to participate in cleaning work in case of emergency situations. The environmental organisations within Northern Coalition have gradually improved their position as constructive cooperation partner within the sphere of extraction and transport of fossil fuel in the northern areas.

Gas pipeline and lack of EIA requirements highlighted was in mass media both in Murmansk and in Karelia. GAIA has continued its work within Northern coalition on fossil fuel extraction and transport in northern areas.

#### **Membership development**

All organizations report that recruiting members are difficult. People, also those interested and agreeing with the activity, are reluctant to sign up, and if they do, it is difficult to make them pay. Systems for bank transfer of money are impossible for the organisations to organize so far. They have to collect the fees manually, which make this quite much work for the organisations.

Still, all the member organisations (GAIA, KANC and GW) have started work on web site section about membership, but only Green World has pub-

lished information so far. GAIA has developed a magazine intended for members., and All-Russian society has developed several tools for attracting new members, as new member forms, member cards, badges etc. Green World members have received member card and a badge, starting from February 2008.

All 3 organisations have made plans for increasing number of members, and are working continuously to accomplish these tasks. KANC has during 2008 welcomed as many as 30-40 new members to their organization, a quite remarkable victory.

#### **Support of development of Russian Socio-Ecological Union**

In 2008 this work took a great step forward. RSEU had several meetings for development of a new constitutional basis, and developed policy on climate issues.

Our work towards RSEU involves several of our projects, and in addition we have assisted RSEU with fundraising elsewhere, most notably in 2008 from Norwegian embassy in Moscow and the general consulate in St. Petersburg.



# DECOMMISSION OF OLD NUCLEAR REACTORS IN RUSSIA



**Project name:** From closed room to openness: Involvement of civil society in the future of the nuclear reactors in North West Russia

**Country:** Russia

**Web site:** [www.decomatom.org](http://www.decomatom.org)

**Financed by:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NOK 1.400.000 in 2008)

**Partner organizations:**

GAIA

*WEB-site:* [www.kec.org.ru](http://www.kec.org.ru)

*Contact person for this project:* Yuri Ivanov

*E-mail:* [yura.ivanov@kec.org.ru](mailto:yura.ivanov@kec.org.ru)

Zelenyj Mir/ Green World

*WEB-site:* [www.greenworld.org.ru](http://www.greenworld.org.ru)

*Contact person for this project:* Oleg Bodrov

*E-mail:* [bodrov@greenworld.org.ru](mailto:bodrov@greenworld.org.ru)

Centre of nuclear ecology and energy policy of Socio-Ecological Union

Community ATGAJA

*WEB-site:* [www.atgaja.lt](http://www.atgaja.lt)

*Contact person for this project:* Saulius Piksrys

*E-mail:* [saulius@atgaja.lt](mailto:saulius@atgaja.lt)

**Project responsible in Naturvernforbundet:**

*Kjersti Album, E-mail:* [kja@naturvern.no](mailto:kja@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

The long-term goal of the project is that an official plan for decommissioning of the oldest Russian nuclear power plant reactors is developed and implemented. The plan should provide a safe, secure and environmentally reliable way to decommissioning, and set an acceptable time table for closure. In shorter term, the project shall contribute to a public debate on the future of the reactors, to participation of civil society in the process, and capacity building in environmental NGOs.

**Implemented activities:**

The project has been running from 2004 onwards. During the years



we have organized several seminars and meetings, and participated in events organized by others. In 2006 we made a study trip to Ignalina, with important representatives from Leningrad NPP as participants. In 2007 we successfully invited also representatives from Kola NPP for a study trip to Greifswald. The two study trips have been extremely important in getting contacts and improving dialogue.

The project has an extensive list of activities in 2008, but the main directions have been to:

- Present and lobby our concept for decommissioning plan for Russia
- Promote alternative development
- Follow and lobby the new law on waste handling
- Work for reduced dependency of nuclear power

Oppose new nuclear power

Among the main events we have organized is a conference about solutions for old reactors organized in Sosnovy Bor, seminar in Polarnye Zori, and a workshop on power trade and old nuclear reactors, with participants from Nordic energy authorities has been organized

#### **Achieved results:**

In the course of the project, we have attained more knowledge and more contacts, and we have seen that our work has given results. The conditions for an open debate are improved, as the NGOs have gathered new and valuable information and created better contact and dialogue with important stakeholders.

During 2008 we have made progress on coming closer to achieving the long-term goal of the project as such, an official plan for decommissioning. Rosatom, the regulatory body of the Russian nuclear complex, has made a small draft concept for decommissioning. We regard this as a great victory for our project, as it is an important step towards a decommission plan for Russian nuclear reactors.

Our concept for a Russian decommissioning plan was presented at Rosatom's public council in Moscow in February, after having been presented as a draft on an international nuclear conference in the autumn 2007. Our concept was also presented in the Rosatom magazine "Environmental Safety" number 1/2008. We believe our efforts have contributed to the choice of Rosatom to make a draft concept for nuclear decommissioning.

We are pleased that Rosatom started this work and actually made such a concept. Still, the concept is vague; it gives little concrete on who will do what and when. In addition, we tend to disagree with several of the statements in the concept. Thus the Rosatom concept draft represents an important step for decommissioning plans not because of its content, but because of its existence.

According to our information obtained during the fall, the concept will most likely not be signed, but remain a draft. It will form the basis of 3 laws: on radioactive waste, spent nuclear fuel and decommissioning.





# CLIMATE & RUSSIA



**Project name:** Climate 2012

**Country:** Russia.

**Web site:** [www.spareworld.org](http://www.spareworld.org)

**Financed by:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NOK 760 000 in 2008)

**Partner organizations:**

National coordinator: Russian Socio-Ecological, [www.rusecounion.ru](http://www.rusecounion.ru)

Friends of the Baltic, St. Petersburg; [www.balticfriends.ru](http://www.balticfriends.ru)

**Regional coordinators:**

*St. Petersburg/Leningrad Oblast:* Friends of the Baltic, St. Petersburg;

[www.balticfriends.ru](http://www.balticfriends.ru)

*Murmansk:* Gaia, Murmansk; [www.kec.org.ru/](http://www.kec.org.ru/)

*Karelia:* All Russian Union for Nature Protection, Petrozavodsk

*Arkhangelsk:* Aetas, Arkhangelsk

*Central region:* Viola, Briansk

*Volga region:* Eco centre Dront; [www.dront.ru](http://www.dront.ru)

*Ural region:* Ural Ecological Union, Ekaterinburg

*Siberia region:* Baikal Environmental wave, Irkutsk; [www.baikal-wave.eu.org/](http://www.baikal-wave.eu.org/)

*Far East region:* Centre for Environmental Education, Vladivostok

**Project coordinator in Naturvernforbundet:**

Kjersti Album, [kja@naturvern.no](mailto:kja@naturvern.no), and Dag A. Høystad, [dah@naturvern.no](mailto:dah@naturvern.no),

**Project objective:**

To strengthen environmental NGO's capacity and influence in the field of energy efficiency and climate change. An active and well informed civil society will contribute to constructive Russian positions in the international climate negotiations and mitigation measures at home.

**Implemented activities:**

- Assistance to establishment of Russian Socio-Ecological Union as a Federal umbrella for regional environmental groups, facilitate development of a climate policy, information activities and participation in international NGO networks and COP.



- Support to regional environmental groups in promotion of climate friendly development on regional level.
- Dissemination of the school project SPARE on energy and climate in all Russian Regions.
- Implement competition on best pupils and teachers work on energy and climate with regional and federal finals.

### **Educational part/SPARE**

SPARE (School Project for Application of Energy and Resources) was first introduced to North-West Russia in 1996. In the period 2003-2006 Norges Naturvernforbund was cooperating with the Ministry of Education of the Russian federation, UNDP and other partners in the project “Low-cost energy efficiency measures for the Russian Educational sector”. This offered the possibility to have the SPARE educational program officially approved for use in the Russian educational system. Since then the educational activities in the field of energy efficiency and climate change has steadily increased. All seven Russian regions from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok participated actively in 2008.

The second annual SPARE competition for pupils and teachers was successfully implemented, with regional finals followed by nomination to all-Russian and international finals. All regions have implemented seminars and trainings for teachers, as well as various activities for pupils. An All-Russian workshop for SPARE coordinators was held in Nizhniy Novgorod in June 2008.

### **Achieved results:**

#### **Russian Socio-Ecological Union**

With support from Norges Naturvernforbund it has been possible to mobilize local and regional environmental groups and establish the first all-Russian environmental union. The new organisation is based on Socio-Ecological Union (SEU). SEU was established in the 80s, but with the disintegration of Soviet Union, SEU become an international organisation with less and fewer activities directed towards the specific Russian challenges. Russian Socio-Ecological Union (RSEU) is now formally reorganized as an all-Russian organisation and has started its activities. Norwegian support made it possible for RESU to gather regional groups, elect a national board, develop a common policy platform on climate questions and establish its own web page.

Climate change and energy policy have been of the main issues for the new organisation. Norges Naturvernforbund has together with RESU conducted a common climate seminar for RESU regional member groups in St. Petersburg in November 2008. This was an important event in order for RESU to develop its own climate policy and to be up-dated on international climate negotiations. Later on RESU was invited to participate under COP in Poland. Here RESU got the opportunity to meet the international NGO commu-





nity as well as the Russian Federation delegation.

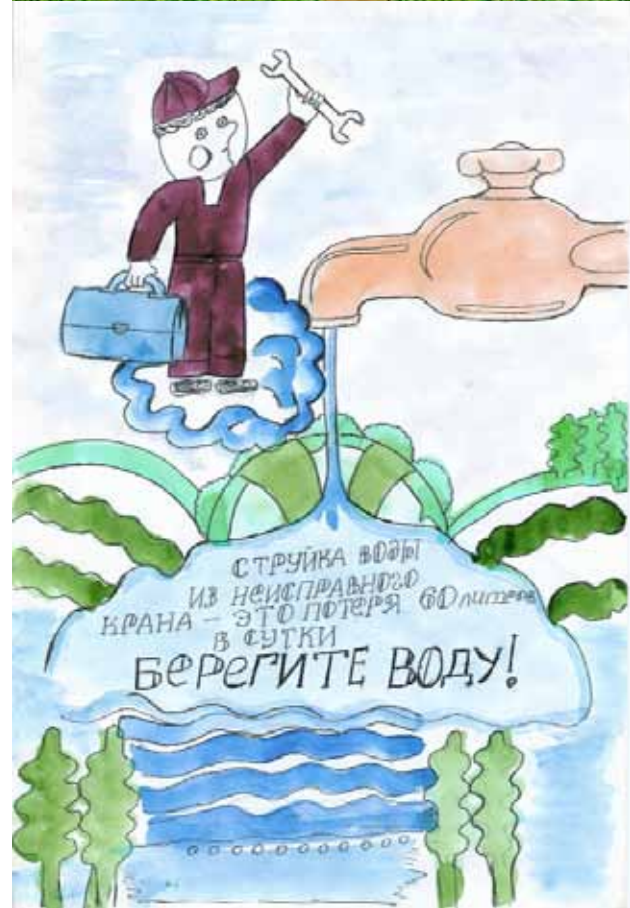
### Regional multi-stakeholder workshops on climate

Regional environmental NGOs, mainly members of Russian Socio-Ecological Union, have initiated multi stakeholder workshops in their regions on measures to reduce emission of green house gases. Many regions have put emphasis building sector in general and educational buildings in particular. The multi-stakeholder-workshops have contributed raise the attention to the global responsibility for climate change, and to identify important and cost efficient measures to reduce emission of greenhouse gases.

### School educational activities

The same regional organisations coordinate school educational activities. The SPARE project has in 2007-08 reached the goal of involving around 600 schools (1 %) in educational activities on energy and climate. Schools all over Russia participate; nevertheless the highest concentration is in North-West Russia. In addition to the pedagogical activities, SPARE participants have implemented concrete energy saving measures at school and at home, and have informed their local societies about the importance of efficient energy consumption.

The work with education and practical projects on environment, energy and climate has increased the competence and network of our partners-organizations, which increasingly are capable of lifting these issues on the local, regional and national agenda. The project helps to stimulate activity in the local society, and we believe these components are important parts of a long term transfer to more democracy and public participation in general.





# SPARE IN CENTRAL ASIA, CAUCASUS AND MOLDOVA

## Project name:

SPARE in Central Asia, Caucasus and Moldova

**Country:** Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia, Moldova

**Web:** [www.spareworld.org](http://www.spareworld.org)

**Financed by:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
(NOK 4 200 000 in 2008)

## Partner organizations:

Tajikistan: Little Earth; [tajikistan@spareworld.org](mailto:tajikistan@spareworld.org)

Kyrgyzstan: BIOM, [kyrgyzstan@spareworld.org](mailto:kyrgyzstan@spareworld.org)

Kazakhstan: EcoObraz, [kazakhstan@spareworld.org](mailto:kazakhstan@spareworld.org)

Uzbekistan: ADEK, [uzbekistan@spareworld.org](mailto:uzbekistan@spareworld.org)

Turkmenistan: DEK, [turkmenistan@spareworld.org](mailto:turkmenistan@spareworld.org)

Azerbaijan: Azerbaijan Youth Union, [azerbajan@spareworld.org](mailto:azerbajan@spareworld.org)

Georgia: Ekokhedva, [georgia@spareworld.org](mailto:georgia@spareworld.org)

Armenia: Tapan, [armenia@spareworld.org](mailto:armenia@spareworld.org)

Moldova: Gutta, [moldova@spareworld.org](mailto:moldova@spareworld.org)

## Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

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Kay Asbjørn Knutsen Schjølrien ([kaks@naturvern.no](mailto:kaks@naturvern.no))  
is responsible for Caucasus countries.

## Project objective:

Contribute to solve problems related to environment, energy and development through education and practical energy activities.

## Implemented activities:

### - Educational part/SPARE

SPARE (School Project for Application of Energy and Resources) was firstly introduced to the region in 2000. Since then the project activity has steadily increased. The third annual SPARE competition for pupils and teachers was successfully implemented, with participation on international level from 7 of the countries in this region. All countries have implemented seminars and trainings



for teachers, as well as various activities for pupils. SPARE has in 2008 continued work on development of educational materials directed at primary schools, which has been responsibility of our partner in Moldova. An international workshop for SPARE coordinators was held in Karaganda, Kazakhstan, in April 2008. 11.11.2008 SPARE arranged for the first time an international energy saving day, where pupils and schools from most of our project countries participated with enthusiasm.

#### Practical energy projects

The educational activities of SPARE have gradually been supplemented by practical energy projects. Energy efficiency in most of our project countries is dramatically low, and we see repeatedly that even simple and cheap measures for improvement of energy situation not are realized. Naturvernforbundet aims to increase knowledge and reduce barriers for application of low cost measures on energy saving and renewables.

In 2008 we did practical projects on windows restoration in almost all countries in the region, in addition to a wide range of small scale and low cost energy measures. We have had 4 pilot countries for the practical energy projects, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Georgia.

Tajikistan has been pilot country already for some years, with projects like insulation of educational buildings and energy efficient greenhouses and energy planning in villages. In 2008 we also had main implementation of FK Norway project on exchange of experts on efficient stoves between Nepal and Tajikistan. In 2008 our Tajik partner Little Earth made a great leap forwards regarding policy work and influence on organisations and authorities on national level regarding climate and energy efficiency. Our partner in Kyrgyzstan took up experience from Tajikistan, and started in 2008 energy planning projects in 2008. These have been received very positively by local population, and the work continues in 2009.

Kazakhstan has been a very active country on windows restoration, and in 2008 our partner Ecoobraz run a process in order to obtain “gold standard” and certified emissions reductions from this kind of projects. This is still in process.

Georgia was included as a new pilot energy country in 2008. Main intention here was also to work on energy planning processes in villages. As the war broke out our plans changed a bit, as SPARE school no. 7 in Gory was destroyed by a bomb that hit nearby, and most windows blown out. In cooperation with our local partner Ecovzgljad it was started a process to repair the windows, and as a result the minor wing of the school could be used again. In addition one village and the Tbilisi Zoo was chosen as demonstration sites for energy efficiency measures, and plans are developed for





energy measures at settlements for internally displaced people.

#### Achieved results:

The region face a severe lack of up to date knowledge on central problems linked with environment, energy and climate, in all levels of the society. The project has in 2008 reached more than 3000 schools, 175 000 pupils and 3000 teachers with relevant information on the topic. We believe SPARE gives a contribution to improve environmental education in the countries. In addition to the pedagogical component, SPARE participants have implemented concrete energy saving measures at school and at home, and have informed their local societies about the importance of efficient energy consumption.

The educational activity has gradually led into practical energy projects. Parents and local society has started to ask for concrete solutions on their everyday problems, so in this way we see that SPARE actually reaches out to the local society.

The pilot projects give concrete contributions to solve the energy situation at local level, and inspire local society to apply similar technology. An example is the windows restoration activity, where simple means can give energy saving effect for 5-10 years. Naturvernforbundet believe that the pilot projects contribute to reduce barriers for introduction of more energy efficient low cost technology and practices in the region.

The partners work with both education and practical projects on environment, energy and climate has increased the competence of our partners-organisations, which increasingly are capable of lifting these issues on the local, regional and national agenda. The project helps to stimulate activity in local societies, and we believe these components are important parts of a long term transfer to more democracy and public participation in general.





# SPARE AND ENERGY POLICY IN UKRAINE



**Project title:** Support and capacity building for environmental NGOs in Ukraine

**Country:** Ukraine

**Web:** [www.spareworld.org](http://www.spareworld.org)

**Financed by:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NOK 1.100.000 in 2008)

**Partner organizations:**

*National Ecological Centre Ukraine*

WEB-site: [www.necu.org.ua](http://www.necu.org.ua)

Contact person: Olexi Pasyuk, ([opasyuk@bankwatch.org](mailto:opasyuk@bankwatch.org))

*Environmental NGO Eremurus*

WEB-site: [www.eremurus.org](http://www.eremurus.org)

Contact person: Leonid Firsov ([firsov2@yahoo.com](mailto:firsov2@yahoo.com))

**Project responsible from Norges Naturvernforbund:**

Dag Arne Høystad, e-mail: [dah@naturvern.no](mailto:dah@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

To strengthen environmental NGOs and civil society participation in development of sustainable energy solutions in Ukraine.

**Implemented activities:**

SPARE was introduced in Ukraine in 2003. SPARE in Ukraine is coordinated by Eremurus, an environmental NGO focusing especially on environmental education. Today near 1600 educational institutions (schools and others) from all regions of the country participate actively in the SPARE program, which comprises 7.6 percent of all schools in the country. Given the well developed materials and wide dissemination, the main goal for SPARE now is creating a sustainable basis for further dissemination and integration of SPARE in educational system.

In 2007 Norges Naturvernforbund has started to support the Ecological Centre of Ukraine (NECU), an umbrella for a number of Ukrainian NGOs (more information at <http://www.necu.org.ua>). This new support has enabled NCEU to increase their activities in their Energy program (starting from autumn 2007). During the



initial period of work, the main goal was to study the current situation in the energy sector of Ukraine. An essential part of NECU's Energy program is communication with different state agencies, following news in all branches of energy sector and monitoring the environmental impact. Inputs on sustainable energy policy are given to the Parliament and Ministry of Energy.

The environmental organizations work for a renewed energy policy for Ukraine with higher priority on energy efficiency and renewable energy. Representatives from the Ukrainian parliament and relevant state agencies participated in January 2008 in a study trip to Norway. Topics of interest from the Norwegian experience are to be followed-up.

Our activities in Ukraine are closely coordinated with related Norwegian projects in Ukraine. SPARE together with Reinertsen (energy efficiency in buildings) and TEKNA (Cleaner production) and the city of Kherson / Kherson region has formed a pilot region for energy efficiency and cleaner production.

#### Achieved results:

Over the time in Ukraine, very good results have indicated that our work here is fruitful and has a good response. The most important results are:

- Strengthening of the environmental NGOs capacity on sustainable energy solutions.
- Environmental NGOs give constructive contributions to Ukraine's energy sector development through reports, meetings, public hearings etc.
- Promotion of best practice through practical examples, workshops and studytrip for parliamentarians to Norway.
- Contribution to constructive cooperation with the local government in the pilot region Kherson on energy efficiency and cleaner production.
- Information activities, including cooperation with the national agency on energy saving, for promoting of small scale practical project on replacement of old lamps with energy efficient lamps, insulation and improvement of heating system.
- Dissemination of a new educational kit for energy saving and climate change made in cooperation with UNDP.
- National SPARE competition on best school work on "Energy To All."
- Ukrainian trainings for teachers and leaders from non-school educational departments have been conducted.
- Regular radio program "We can stop climate change" (aired in prime time on national radio channel UR-1 in educational program «Schkolyada»).





# NATIONAL SPARE PROJECT IN BELARUS



**Project title:** Educational project SPARE in belarus

**Country:** Belarus

**Financed by:** Norwegian Ministry of foreign affairs (NOK 1.126.000)

**Partner organization:**

*International Sakharov Environmental University (ISEU)  
The Belarus Ministry of Education, The Belarus Ministry of Environment/Aarhus centre, Republican ecological centre for children and youth, NGO Birdlife Belarus, NGO Ecoproject Belarus, and Radiotechnological colledge.*

**Person responsible for the project from Naturvernforbundet:**

Yngvild Lorentzen, E-mail [yl@naturvern.no](mailto:yl@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

The main aim is to increase awareness of sustainable energy, climate change and environmental issues in Belarus. This is to be achieved by adaptation and nationwide dissemination of the educational project SPARE, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education. Activities like education of teachers, information dissemination, and demonstration of energy saving measures at schools are also a part of the project.

**Activities implemented:**

The project activities in 2008 have been oriented towards organisation and registration of the project. Unfortunately the project has suffered from delays and difficulties with official registration, and main implementation of the planned activities, like adaptation of SPARE materials to Belarus conditions, testing of materials, initiation of energy saving activities at schools, trainings of teachers etc, were postponed to spring 2009. However, all activities were planned and on track.

**Achieved results:**

In 2008 development of the project has taken a great step forward, however with delays, and most project activities are implemented spring 2009. It is a result in itself that we have been able to establish a partnership project with involvement of different sectors of the Belarus society. The project increases competence within education on environment, and energy and climate issues, within the different project participants, and helps to raise awareness around energy and climate also in the society.





# NGO INVOLVEMENT IN BELARUS



## Project name:

NGO capacity building in Belarusian sustainable energy development and climate issues.

**Country:** Belarus

**Financed by:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NOK 608,000 in 2008)

## Partner organisations:

Center of Environmental Solutions (CES, former FRI)  
Green Alliance Belarus (GA)

## Project responsible in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Kay Asbjørn Knutsen Schjørlien, e-mail: [kaks@naturvern.no](mailto:kaks@naturvern.no)

## Project objective:

Strengthen Belarusian civil society and increase capacity and involvement of Belarusian NGOs in promotion of sustainable energy policy, with focus on climate and energy efficiency, and against development of nuclear energy.

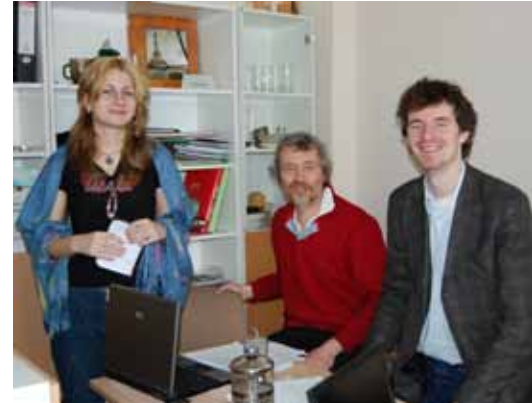
## Implemented activities:

### Nuclear energy:

In 2008 the major activity was preparation of a report with assessment of real economical costs of a possible nuclear facility in Belarus, including construction, waste storage and decommissioning, the two latter being costs that are not included in the official planning document. Information for the report has been prepared by a number of national and international experts from Belarus, Russia, Lithuania, Germany and Norway. An international meeting was held in June 2008, with NGO representatives from the Baltic states, Scandinavia, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus, discussing possible cooperation in work against new nuclear power plants in the region.

### Climate:

The GA conducted a national NGO meeting on climate in order to start a process for formation of a unified NGO policy towards Belarusian authorities. The GA working group on Climate Change held a successful two-day seminar in October 2008 for national environmental NGOs on climate change and preparations to the COP14. The participants came from different regions of Belarus, with experts from Norway and Russia. The leader of Norges Naturvernforbund Lars Haltbrekken also participated and talked about climate change, lobby work and capacity building in Norway. After



the meeting the CC group in GA agreed upon a statement and elaborated eight GA main positions on climate change and Belarusian role. In preparation to COP 14 it was held meetings with the head of the Ministry of Environment special committee on climate change Mr. Vladimir Tarasenko, the official delegation to COP14 and the Deputy Minister of Environment. GA announced its position on climate change and proposed cooperation on the common points. At the meetings an agreement to put joint efforts on solving the problem with Belarusian amendment to Kyoto protocol was made; to have joint media coverage of COP14 news and events; and to have a common press-conference after coming back from Poznan.

GA worked together with UNDP CC Project office helping in preparations to the side event in Poznan. GA introduced an official letter to Ministry of Environment with amendment to the authorization decree of this committee with a proposal of public participation according to UNFCCC and Aarhus conventions. The letter has been accepted but the decree is still in the process of reconsideration and results will be available in 2009.

GA has undertaken two public and media projects – GreenFinger and Energy Patrol.

#### **Energy efficiency/renewable:**

A report on alternative Sustainable Energy Development in Belarus has been further elaborated, updated and presented to national stakeholders in November 2008. Belarus-VISION 2050 covers topics of energy efficiency, renewables and different scenarios for energy sector. The new version of the vision was presented in Minsk in November 2008, and news about the new vision was covered by Belarus radio and TV.

Training in solar energy, straw-bale building and energy efficiency was carried out successfully in the autumn of 2008. Because of problems with registration of the project with the Belarus authorities, a mobile exhibition and teacher training have been postponed to 2009.

#### **NGO capacity building:**

In 2008 activities in area of capacity building for GA have been implemented, mainly aimed on education for GA members. GA also obtained an official status in Belarus, as well as GA member and our main partner FRI –was registered as Centre for Environmental Solutions.

#### **Achieved results:**

##### **Nuclear energy:**

Preparation of the real cost report has already contributed strengthening of cooperation between Belarusian and foreign energy campaigners, new contacts and active exchange of information has been established. The reported activities have been implemented with some delay, due to problems with finding relevant experts.

The nuclear campaign has met several barriers. The issue of construc-





tion of a new NPP is a difficult issue when it comes to cooperation with authorities, which has slowed down the work. People involved have met huge opposition to the work that they have been doing. Some have even in public been called "enemy of the state". Also GA anti-nuclear position have been influencing on registration processes of other projects of GA, where it was discovered that this position was the direct cause of denial of project registration.

### **Climate:**

The main achievement in 2008 was the building of a stronger NGO community regarding climate issues. This was seen in for example successful work towards the authorities in preparations the COP 14 meeting in Poznan. GA climate coordinator was invited several times to work with official Belarusian delegates to the meeting. In Poznan he was working closely with the delegates as an advisor, giving inputs and analyzing documents.

### **Energy:**

The environmental organisations have further improved their work to show alternative development directions. An information centre came into operation with website, based on previous website that was improved. The site has got an available site on practical energy/training, with physical examples of straw-bale building, wind power and solar energy use. Over 1600 people contacted the centre for information, by telephone, email or visit the MD-IAE's office in Minsk. In addition 20,000 users visited the website and straw-bale and renewable energy installations have been shown in Belarus media, some of which with national outreach. In the beginning of February 2009, the installations were also covered by a Polish news report.

### **Capacity building:**

The main achievement of GA was to obtain official recognition by the Belarusian authorities. After a long process of consultations with legal advisor most members of GA applied for recognition by the authorities as for a special form of partnership envisaged in the Belarusian legislation. No NGOs has previously used this opening in the legislation, but besides a few complications with the tax authorities, the registration went smoothly and in September GA received official recognition by the authorities. The registration has attracted attention from both NGOs and lawyers who wants to study the GA registration process further.

Our main partner within GA in 2008, Foundation for Realisation of Ideas – was in December finally registered with new name as Centre for Environmental Solutions (CES). CES is one of the founders of the Green Alliance (GA).

The unfavourable environment for NGOs created by the government - e.g. making it almost impossible to rent an office – is considered a major hindrance for the development of NGOs, and we were not able to solve this problem in 2008.



# SPARE AND MUNICIPAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN MACEDONIA



**Project name:**

Sustainable development for Shuto Orizari and Jegunovse

**Country:** Macedonia

**Web site:** [www.spareworld.org](http://www.spareworld.org)

**Financed by:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NOK 371.500 in 2007-08) Match funding from Global Environmental Facility (GEF)

**Partner organizations:**

*Proactiva*

WEB-site: [www.proaktiva.org.mk](http://www.proaktiva.org.mk)

Contact person: Ilija Sazdovski ([info@proaktiva.org.mk](mailto:info@proaktiva.org.mk))

**Project responsible in Naturvernforbundet:**

Dag A. Høystad, E-mail: [dah@naturvern.no](mailto:dah@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

The goal of the project is to contribute to positive development in the multi-ethnic municipalities of Shuto Orizari and Jegunovse. This includes environmental education, mobilization of communities and practical energy improvement of educational buildings.

**Implemented activities:**

The educational materials for SPARE educational program on Energy and Climate is updated and translated to Romani, in addition to Macedonian and Albanian. Teacher training is developed, the educational program is tested and implementation in schools started.

Practical workshops for improved energy performance of buildings are held in all municipalities. Students and parents from Albanian, Macedonian and Romani groups are trained and worked together on improvement of school buildings.

Energy is saved and CO2 emission reduced through energy efficiency measures in Municipal buildings.





### Achieved results:

#### - Environmental education – SPARE

The educational program SPARE is adapted and translated to Macedonian, Albanian and Romani. Local teachers are trained and have tested the educational activities in the schools. Based on the tests educational materials are adjusted, tested and methodical recommendation developed. A national conference on energy & climate is conducted in order to start a broader dissemination of the educational activities.

#### - Energy efficiency in educational buildings

Practical measures have improved the comfort, reduced energy cost and emission of climate change gases. The work was made by trainers from ProAktiva with participation of 52 volunteers/parents of school children. The main measure was improvement of windows. 134 m<sup>2</sup> of cracked glass was changed, frames were adjusted and weatherization strips attached. At a hostel for disabled children got 12 new windows and roof insulation.

#### - Light at schools

Modern energy efficient CFL bulbs were introduced in 8 schools. Some rooms have got new light fittings with movement sensors in order to reduce the energy consumption

#### - Improved street light

The street light is improved at three places, selected for its importance for children's comfort and safety. Substantial energy savings have been made thanks to efficient light sources and timers.

#### - Solar heat for kindergarten

A new environmental and cost efficient heating system is made for the kindergarten "Snezna", including 8 m<sup>2</sup> solar collectors with heat storage tank. The solar heating system covers most of the hot water need.

- The activities with demonstration of cost efficient energy efficiency measures, has resulted in better understanding and higher interest in energy efficiency in municipal buildings. Jegunovse municipality continues the activities and has established a revolving fund with 250.000 MKD for further efficiency investments.



# SPARE IN BULGARIA



**Project title:** Seed money project for development of SPARE in Bulgaria

**Country:** Bulgaria

**Financed by:** Innovation Norway (16.000 Euro )

**Partner organization:**

Za Zemiata

Contact person: Todor Slavov

E-mail: [ecolog@gmail.com](mailto:ecolog@gmail.com)

**Person responsible for the project from Naturvernforbundet:**

Yngvild Lorentzen, E-mail [yl@naturvern.no](mailto:yl@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

The main aim of the project has been to assess the need and possibilities for development and implementation of the educational project SPARE, establish a foundation for cooperation between the partners and prepare main application.

**Activities implemented:**

During the ZM project the following activities were undertaken:

Travels and meetings between the partners, including a field trip to southern part of Bulgaria, where three schools and local administration was met in the municipality of Strumiani, in order to discuss around potential for educational and practical energy projects. Adaptation/translation of SPARE book to Bulgarian, consultancies with teachers on educational project. This part of the project was undertaken by Za Zemiata. During the editing of the translation the comments and the recommendations by teachers were taken into account, their relevance based on the long-term experience of the project team. Norges Naturvernforbund and Za Zemiata has in cooperation developed a IP application that was submitted to Innovasjon Norge. During the work with the ZM project and the IP application, it became clear that the Bulgarian society has a long way to go when it comes to knowledge and attention around energy and climate change, and the application was developed with a more holistic approach in mind, where the educational project was one of three main parts. The two other parts was on capacity building/policy work of Za Zemiata/NGO society within energy and climate, and practical energy activities directed at general public.

**Achieved results:**

The assessments done show that there is a great need in the Bulgarian society for improved education and public information on how to use energy in a more sustainable way. It has been very valuable for both Norges Naturvernforbund and Za Zemiata to get each other better to know, and both sides intend to develop this contact. The initial investigations and testing around the educational project showed good results, and an IP application was prepared and submitted with Norges Naturvernforbund as main project promoter.





# SAFE WATER FOR TOGO



**Project title:** Water pasteurization by solar energy

**Country:** Togo

**Financed by:** NORAD (NOK 295,000 in 2008)

**Partner organizations:**

Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement (JVE)

Web: [www.ong-jve.org](http://www.ong-jve.org)

**Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:**

John Lineikro, e-mail: [jl@naturvern.no](mailto:jl@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

To provide safe drinking water to local populations through solar-powered pasteurization, thus building the capacity of schools and village women to better play their role in the development of their society.

**Implemented activities:**

JVE organized an International Climate and Renewable Energy Week, which gave the opportunity to bring together authorities, women groups, youth organizations, NGOs, trade unions, faith-based groups and hundreds of interested people to raise the awareness of the big contribution that renewable energy can bring to economic and social development in Africa.

All the women groups produced a number of solar cookers, ready for distribution and sale. Parabolic cookers were distributed to 10 rural health centres in the project area.

The National Hygiene Institute in Togo tested the pasteurization effect of the solar cookers.

Participants from all the 25 local branches of JVE in Togo attended a training on application of the SODIS technique for water pasteurization (using solar radiation of water in plastic bottles). The technique has a lot of advantages (cheap, effective, simple, flexible) and JVE is planning to promote it in a dozen of areas in 2009.

A training was organized in the area where JVE is based, to show the inhabitants what the organization is doing elsewhere. About 50 young boys and girls as well as several women registered for the training. The training included an introduction to climate change, renewable energy and solar energy. The participants were taught the



whole fabrication process of solar cookers. About 150 cookers were produced.

The positive results obtained in the project area in Vo district has been a major stimulus for planning an extension of the project to other areas of Togo. In 2008 an agreement was thus made with two local branches of JVE in the north, and initial training was given both to local staff and women groups. In order to increase efficiency and sustainability of the existing women groups, a special effort was made to enable them to obtain their official registration papers.

A film has been produced to identify five ‘active and lively heroes and their teams’ working for a better planet in various ways. JVE was selected to feature in the film, with focus on the solar water pasteurization project. The film is now published and being marketed worldwide by Live Earth.

#### **Achieved results:**

The first planning period of the project, 2006-2008, is now completed. Below we have presented the main achievements during these three years.

A strong awareness has been built especially among women in public skills, community development management, gender advocacy as well as production of cookers. As a consequence, many women progressively have seen their power in the community increased and have started playing – in some villages – a key role in local development as well as doing ‘men’s job’. Men have become more willing to let their wives participate in group work and visits outside their village.

The project succeeded to bring water safety issues at the forefront of issues being discussed at both family and community level. Scientific tests have shown that the solar cookers are eliminating nearly all the dangerous bacteria in the exposed water. This means that the health risks due to drinking contaminated water is reduced. Information is also provided to health authorities and development agents as to the poor quality of water available in some areas. With this documentation a great step has been made and this will definitely help shape future strategies. Already discussions have been made with health authorities and new awareness campaigns are undergoing, thanks to the effectiveness of the cookers.

Wherever the project activities have been introduced the response has been very good, being it from communities, village chiefs, ministers or visitors from other countries. Testimonies show that progressively women start integrating the use of the cookers into their daily habits. Particularly breast feeding women in remote areas are very interested to use the solar cookers to pasteurize water at least for the new babies.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been exposed to climate and energy information through JVE’s many public activities, which have been transmitted broadly in national and international media.





# OILWATCH IN NIGERIA



**Project name:** Promoting public participation and environmental concern when developing the oil sector in the South – capacity building for the Oilwatch network

**Country:** Nigeria

**Financed by:** Norad (NOK 1,330,000 in 2008)

**Partner organizations:**

*Environmental Rights Action, [www.eraction.org](http://www.eraction.org),  
Oilwatch, [www.oilwatch.org](http://www.oilwatch.org)*

**Project responsible in Norges Naturvernforbund:**

John Lineikro, e-mail: [jl@naturvern.no](mailto:jl@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

The overall goal is to strengthen local community based organisations, environmental NGOs and the civil society in general, so that they can advocate good and acceptable environmental management devoid of double standards in the areas of oil and gas activities. The project aims to ensure that environmental standards are followed in oil development processes, in Nigeria as well as in other countries.

**Implemented activities:**

ERA published reports from 29 locations in the Niger Delta (in the south of Nigeria) that had experienced environmental damages arising from oil and gas extractive activities, dumping of toxic chemicals and deforestation activities, based on observations of ERA's field monitors and testimonies of community people. The reports were disseminated to policy makers, oil companies and the general public.

Ten journalists were taken to a community in the Niger Delta where the oil company Shell continues to flare gas, and six policy makers were taken to another community where there had been series of oil spill impacts.

An international signature campaign was implemented, addressed to the president of Nigeria for gas flaring to be stopped by the deadline of 31 December 2008.



ERA organised training meetings in eight communities in the Niger Delta, where over 250 participants were informed about Nigerian Acts meant to protect the environment and secure transparency and accountability regarding the oil and gas revenues of the government, referred to as the NEITI and EIA Acts. The participants also learned how they can make use of these laws to their own advantage. Four other sessions were also organised by ERA, focusing on the functions of the same Acts, with a total of 134 participants, representing NGOs, media, community-based organisations, policy makers, community leaders, the academia and the private sector.

11 communities were visited to sensitize people on the importance and benefits in building coalitions within the community and with other communities. Many communities were assisted to create new units of the Host Communities Network of Nigeria. A community exchange visit was also organised for eight communities, for them to see what was going on elsewhere and interact with each other, with a view to forging a durable relationship.

ERA organized a national consultation on the Nigerian environment with the Federal Ministry of Environment as co-organizer. This is the first time an NGO has organized an activity of such a magnitude in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Environment. Participants were over 50 environmental experts from different parts of Nigeria and beyond, and representatives of over 100 NGOs, academia, labour organisations, ministries and departments of government, journalists, community people, student bodies and policy makers.

Members of Oilwatch Africa met with emerging oil and gas communities in Africa, activists, groups and friends of Oilwatch Africa, reflecting on the impact of oil on their lives and their environment, and the use of the EITI and EIA Acts in their work.

#### **Achieved results:**

Many communities in the Niger Delta have learned how they can make use of the NEITI and EIA processes to secure community ownership, transparency and accountability in the oil and gas sector. NGO and CBO representatives, policy makers, journalists, academics, and ERA staff have also strengthened their competencies on these processes. Some actors have already started applying the gained knowledge in their communities. Policy makers have seen that they have to begin to do things differently in the area of application of the NEITI and EIA laws, and journalists have started applying the gained knowledge in their reporting.

Community relations were substantially strengthened within the frame of the Host Communities Network of Nigeria, consisting of communities affected by oil and gas activities. During 2008 a big number of new members joined the network, now covering 62





communities.

ERA's monitoring reports of pollution incidents in the Niger Delta have given greater insights on the current situation. The reports have raised increased pressure on polluters, resulting in a growing interest to adhere to environmental standards more than ever before and forced quicker responses from the oil industry.

Journalists and policy makers were through a field trip to the Niger Delta, given an opportunity of seeing for themselves what is going on rather than always being told. A frank and unhindered interaction was created between community people and journalists and between community people and policy makers. Policy makers subscribed to carrying out environmental education in their local government areas while those from the State ministries pledged to ensure that any complaint that comes to them in respect of environmental problems from communities will receive urgent attention. Journalists have started applying the gained knowledge in their reporting.

The pressure and public outcry on gas flaring has put both the government and the corporations at a dilemma on how and when to stop gas flaring in the country. The Federal Senate's proposed Gas Flaring Prohibition and Punishment Bill is containing almost 75% of ERA's position on gas flaring issues in Nigeria.

The direct collaboration between ERA and the Ministry of Environment in 2008 has given as a result that draft environmental bills prepared by ERA and the ministry are to be harmonized to make for easier passage through the National Assembly. ERA is discussing with the Environment Committee of the Nigerian National Assembly towards the making and/ or reviewing of laws related to the environment.

The Oilwatch Africa network was strengthened, as communities and groups from the Horn of Africa, East Africa and South Africa joined the network.



# SUSTAINABLE ENERGY IN MOZAMBIQUE



**Project name:**

Local sustainable energy centre in Maringue

**Country:** Mozambique

**Financed by:** Norad (NOK 195,000 in 2008)

**Partner organization:**

ADEL Sofala

WEB-site: [www.adelsofala.org.mz](http://www.adelsofala.org.mz)

Contact person for this project: Rodolfo Assane

E-mail: [adelsofala@tdm.co.mz](mailto:adelsofala@tdm.co.mz)

**Project responsible in Norges Naturvernforbund:**

John Linekro, E-mail: [jl@naturvern.no](mailto:jl@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

By establishing local energy and development centres the project will demonstrate how local communities can obtain increased access to energy services through awareness building, involvement of the population and development of local sustainable energy solutions.

**Implemented activities:**

As 2008 was the first year of the project, the main focus has been to establish the project. Therefore, the project staff was recruited, existing office premises were refurbished, the project committee was elected by the local community, a shop with a limited offer of energy products was established and put into operation, and a local community energy fund was created, with an elected commission and application criteria established. In addition, the project staff was able to implement a range of concrete activities, like building firewood saving stoves in different areas with community members' direct participation, selling improved charcoal stoves and solar panels through the energy shop, and running seminars on basic environmental concepts, training sessions on kitchen management, and workshops on procedures to create and operate saving groups in the community.





### **Achieved results:**

During the year new practices about sustainable energy technology were known by many people in the project area, making them to see more opportunities to improve their quality of life.

Concrete project activities have motivated and brought people together, and communities have requested the project to assist them, on the basis of what they have seen in other communities. Exchange visits have shown to be efficient to make more people see what a community can accomplish when they are organized, and to make them believe in the benefits of products and services like solar panels, improved stoves, and saving groups.

80 families have been able to purchase a small solar panel set, paid in instalments over a few months. They have realized that the costs of the solar panels can be paid back over some few months only with the money saved for lamp oil and radio batteries. In addition a considerable health gain is achieved when the indoor air is not polluted by the lamp fume.

The introduction of improved stoves has shown many people that they need less time to find firewood, giving them more time to take care of their families and other tasks. They have seen that the stoves produce less smoke and they have learnt that this is lowering the risk of contracting blindness, breathing problems, and pregnancy complications. Some have seen that the production of stoves can be a business opportunity for them.

During project implementation a good relationship has been established with local communities, schools, traditional leaders, and the district administration. Especially during the discussions around the establishment of local Natural Resources Committees both the community representatives and ADEL staff learnt to know each others and it gave both parties a unique opportunity to really talk about the future of their communities. In every committee where there was no woman to represent the community, this was discussed with key actors in the community.



# CLIMATE SEEN FROM SOUTH



**Project name:** Climate seen from South

**Country:** Norway

**Financed by:** Norad/Rorg (Total amount 1.000.000, Naturvernforbundet's part was 165.000 in 2008)

**Partner organisations:**

The Norwegian Rainforest Foundation, WWF Norway, Future in Our Hands, Development Foundation/SPIRE.

Web: [www.naturvern.no](http://www.naturvern.no)

**Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:**

Yngvild Lorentzen, e-mail: [yl@naturvern.no](mailto:yl@naturvern.no)

**Project objective:**

Through close contact and cooperation with organisations in South increase the level of critical information on climate change consequences in South in Norwegian public debate.

**Implemented activities:**

Six organisations have participated in the project, which has been implemented as a joint campaign. A number of common activities have been implemented, and in addition all the organisations have implemented separate activities.

The main activities that were implemented jointly by the organisations were:

- A seminar on the climate negotiations in Poznan, and seminars were arranged in Oslo in November.
- It was organized an international climate panel that commented on Norwegian climate policy. The panel has been published in a report, and a skype meeting with Norwegian minister for Environment and Development Erik Solheim was arranged.

Norges Naturvernforbund has in addition put focus on climate justice in cooperation with Norwegian trade unions. Meetings have been carried out with LO, Fagforbundet and Utdanningsforbundet. As the main result of this Norges Naturvernforbund is producing a brochure on climate justice together with the trade union UNIO, to be distributed among the representatives of this organisation.

**Achieved results:**

Through the campaign Norwegian Authorities, decision makers and public were confronted directly with dramatic climate consequences in poor areas of the world, both through mass media, seminars, web information, materials and direct inputs to politicians.





# CLIMATE INFORMATION

**Project name:** Climate information project

**Country:** Norway

**Financed by:** Norad (NOK 100 000 in 2008)

**Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:**

Yngvild Lorentzen, e-mail: [yl@naturvern.no](mailto:yl@naturvern.no)

Web: [www.naturvern.no](http://www.naturvern.no), [www.klimakutt.no](http://www.klimakutt.no)

**Project objective:**

To increase popular awareness about climate change and its consequences on poverty and development, and by this stimulate Norwegian cuts in greenhouse gas emissions.

**Implemented activities:**

Development of information on climate negotiations for Naturvernforbundet's web site.

4 seminars were arranged - a student seminar on climate in cooperation with Nature and Your on the university of Oslo, and three local seminars in the cities Tromsø, Bodø and Arendal.

Norges Naturvernforbund og Natur og Ungdom arrangerte sammen en klimakonferanse for studenter, «Student og klima 08», som en del av vårt klimaarbeid. Det var over 200 studenter og andre på konferansen.

For the seminars it was developed two power point presentations by our partners in Togo and Nigeria. The presentations were held by the representative from Norges Naturvernforbund.

**Achieved results:**

The project was the second year of a four year agreement with Norad on climate information. The project has been important for increasing the information on international climate issues, and the project has been important for linking the climate information of Naturvernforbundet closer to development issues. Naturvernforbundet has also increased our focus around global climate justice in our information work as a result of the project.



## **In memory of Lydia Popova and Grigori Dmitriev**

*In 2008 Norges Naturvernforbund lost two highly appreciated Russian colleagues, Lydia Popova and Grigori Dmitriev, and we miss them greatly as colleagues and friends.*

*Lydia Popova was our colleague for more than 10 years, doing invaluable work on a number of subjects connected with nuclear safety issues and other energy related issues. Lydia was active in many directions, all the time working hard for a better environment, in Russia and globally. Lydia's calm and friendly nature was followed by hard facts and convincing arguments, and made her a strong participant in public debates.*

*Grigori Dmitriev worked at Kola Science Centre as an expert on renewable energy. He was truly a concerned scientist that worked restlessly to promote renewable energy. He was the main person behind the establishment of VetroEnergo, a company where also Naturvernforbundet contributed to erect the first wind turbine in Murmansk. With his professional knowledge, insight in the power sector and positive approach, he always gave good support and inspiration for our work. Grigori had an anecdote for any situation. His interesting comment and funny stories made him able to communicate with everybody.*



## INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Norges Naturvernforbund cooperates with environmental NGOs and support civil society development in a number of countries in East and South. The objectives are to strengthen our local partners' capacity and influence in their struggle for a better environment. Environmental Education, Sustainable Energy Solutions and Climate Change are key issues for the cooperation.

At the present Norges Naturvernforbund initiate, implement and maintain projects regarding capacity building, energy saving, renewable energy, climate and education in 20 countries in former Soviet Union and Africa.

Norges Naturvernforbund has by its International Project Department been engaged in international development projects since the early 90`s. NNV has developed wide competence on issues related to energy saving, renewable energy, climate and education with a focus on the local level.

An important motivation for our activities is the global climate challenge. But regardless of climate change or not – making energy consumption more sustainable is of vital importance for many aspects of people's everyday life. Saving or using energy in a more rational way will:

- Contribute to a long term environmental friendly energy supply and consumption.
- Reduce local and indoor pollution.
- Reduce pressure on vulnerable nature resources.
- Reduce acute shortages of fuel.
- Improve comfort (increase temperature, give access to hot water).
- Reduce time consumption for collection of firewood.
- Improve the general knowledge and understanding among the recipients about environment, energy and climate in a local and global context.

Many of our countries of cooperation are characterized by lack of democratic and socio-economical development. Poverty, bad infrastructure and low access to basic needs are part of the everyday life. As an indicator you will find Tajikistan as number 122 on the Human Development Index, Togo as number 147 and Nigeria as number 159. This makes the aspects of social development, democracy and civil society development important components of our current project activities.

The main objective of NNV's international project activities is to ensure capacity building of local partners regarding organisation development, competence building on energy, environment and development issues, and policy campaigning on local and national level. The main target group of our projects is therefore environmental NGOs and the civil society.

We regard capacity building of local NGOs, and through them of local communities, as an important component of development towards democratisation. As development goes on in many countries today, it is clear that the forces promoting environmental and human concerns are too weak, and need to be strengthened.

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