

ANNUAL REPORT

2007



2007

International Projects



NORGES
NATURVERNFORBUND
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH NORWAY

INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS



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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to a presentation of Norges Naturvernforbund international project activity in 2007. Our activity covered in 2007 projects on environment, education, energy and climate in 16 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 an upgrading all over the world, and that improved basic knowledge about energy and environment is crucial for long term solution of global climate change. We are therefore directing our international project activity towards these areas, and clearly see the need as well as positive response and interest for this on local level in our project countries.

2007 was a new step forward in development of the international project activity of Norges Naturvernforbund. One important achievement was that we in our cooperation with Russian environmental NGOs, managed to produce a concept for how to decommission old and dangerous nuclear reactors. The concept was presented to relevant Russian stakeholders on several occasions.

We have also continued development of the educational project SPARE. SPARE (School Project on Application of Resources and Energy) is the major international project of Norges Naturvernforbund, and was implemented in 16 countries in 2007, with more than 3 000 schools and 130 000 pupils as active participants. 10 countries provided works for the international competition of SPARE in 2007.

Starting from educational projects, our activity has gradually been supplemented by practical energy projects. 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. Norges

Naturvernforbund aims to increase knowledge and reduce barriers for application of low cost measures on energy saving and renewables. In 2007 we did practical projects in almost all our project countries, covering windows restoration, improved cooking stoves, insulation of educational buildings, solar heating, solar water pasteurization and energy efficient greenhouses.

Our project activity in Africa has developed in 2007, when we for the first time got project support from the Norwegian Oil for Development programme. Within this project we have established cooperation with the Nigerian NGO Environmental Rights Action, which is striving to make the authorities and oil industry take responsibility for the environmental situation that has occurred as a result of oil extraction in Nigeria.

Norges Naturvernforbund regards civil society important for improving environmental situation. We therefore support environmental NGOs in countries where nature protection activities are lacking accept from society, decision makers and authorities. Norges Naturvernforbund requires that the projects contribute to organization development as well as development of participation and activity in local communities. We believe this constitute an important step in a long term process of development towards democratization in any country facing lack of democratic governance structures.

Our main donors in 2007 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 projects, that we believe is work that contributes to environmental protection as well as development in the project countries.

STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL NGOS IN RUSSIA



Project name:

Competence building of NGOs in North West Russia

Country: Russia

Web: www.naturvern.no/internasjonalt

Financed by: Norwegian Ministry of the Environment
(NOK 450 000 in 2007)

Partner organizations:

GAIA

Web: www.kec.org.ru

Yuri Ivanov

E-mail: yura.ivanov@kec.org.ru

Zelenyj Mir/ Green World

Web: www.greenworld.org.ru

Oleg Bodrov

E-mail: bodrov@greenworld.org.ru

All-Russian Society for Nature Conservation in Karelia

Web: www.voop.karelia.ru/

Ludmila Morozova

E-mail: zellist@sampo.ru

Association of Greens Karelia

Web: www.greens.krc.karelia.ru/

Dmitry Rybakov

E-mail: greens@karelia.ru

Ariston

Andrey Koslovich

E-mail: ariston@onego.ru

Project responsible in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Kjersti Album, e-mail: kja@naturvern.no

Project objective:

To enable environmental NGOs in Northwest Russia to become a force of influence in important decisions regarding the environment. We do not seek to establish our own presence 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. Membership recruitment and democracy development in organisations are important subjects.

In addition, we have some common project activities, where the organisations cooperate on issues such as oil and gas development and manuals on how to work with different topics.

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.

In 2007 we implemented a seminar on «Possibilities for wild nature conservation in oil-gas transporting under alteration of environmental regulation. Environmental impact - public control», with about 70 participants.

Association of Greens has been collecting information and is in cooperation with different partners on making a public Environmental Impact Assessment on the pipeline for gas from Murmansk to Karelia. Lobby work is constantly ongoing, as is current collection and assessment of information.

In 2007 important changes in the scene of environmental NGOs have happened. The quite big umbrella organisation Socio-Ecological Union's Russian chapter has only existed on paper, and has in 2007 started a process of revitalisation. Several of our partner NGOs are members of Russian SEU, and have participated in the annual meeting in 2007, where these changes have been made.

GAIA and Zelenyj Mir continued the public watch movement and work towards municipalities and their preparedness towards oil spills. A Round table of NGOs with participation of specialists from ECOSPAS, the leading organization in the liquidation of oil spills, took place in the beginning of November 2007. Our groups from Umba, Kandalaksha and Apatity made presentations about their activities.

During 2007 Green World established cooperation with the municipality in order to protect birds in case of oil spill, as part of the process to create the new municipal reserve "Poljana Bianki".



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: www.decomatom.org

Financed by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(NOK 1 250 000 in 2007)

Partner organizations:

GAIA

Web: www.kec.org.ru

Yuri Ivanov

E-mail: yura.ivanov@kec.org.ru

Zelenyj Mir/ Green World

Web: www.greenworld.org.ru

Oleg Bodrov

E-mail: bodrov@greenworld.org.ru

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

Lydia Popova

Community ATGAJA

Web: www.atgaja.lt

Saulius Piksrys

E-mail: saulius@atgaja.lt

Project responsible in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Kjersti Album, E-mail: 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 Igalina, 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 building contacts and improving dialogue.

In 2006 we published a report on Russia's decommissioning fund, showing that in fact money is not accumulated. In 2007 we made a concept of a decommission plan, as a tool for dialogue on the subject. The concept will be important for our work in 2008.

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.

In 2007 we have written our concept of a decommission plan, in Russian with English translation. During the work with the concept it has been presented at the II International Nuclear Forum 2 - 5 oktober 2007 in St. Petersburg, and received comments from several stakeholders.

Apart from the decommission concept our main task in 2007 has been a study trip to the decommissioned nuclear power plant Greifswald in Germany. As a result of the trip, we improved our relations with trade unions, NPP representatives and local administration, and they learned about technical and social aspects of decommissioning.

We have had more success in our contacts with Rosatom during 2007. The positive attitude from central people in the management of Rosatom towards the study tour to Greifswald and a financial contribution of 300.000 roubles was a good example of a new attitude and a willingness to cooperate with our NGO network.



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

Financed by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NOK 3 000 000 in 2007)

Partner organizations:

Tajikistan: Little Earth; tajikistan@spareworld.org

Kyrgyzstan: BIOM, kyrgyzstan@spareworld.org

Kazakhstan: EcoObraz, kazakhstan@spareworld.org

Uzbekistan: ADEK, uzbekistan@spareworld.org

Turkmenistan: DEK, turkmenistan@spareworld.org

Azerbaijan: Azerbaijan Youth Union, azerbajan@spareworld.org

Georgia: Ekokhedva, georgia@spareworld.org

Armenia: Tapan, armenia@spareworld.org

Moldova: Gutta, moldova@spareworld.org

Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Yngvild Lorentzen, e-mail: y1@naturvern.no

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, and all nine countries participated actively in 2007. The second annual SPARE competition for pupils and teachers was successfully implemented, with participation on international level from six of the nine countries in this project region. All countries have implemented seminars and trainings for teachers, as well as various activities for pupils. SPARE has in 2007 been working on development of educational materials directed at primary schools. An international workshop for SPARE coordinators was held in Kishinev, Moldova in April 2007.



- 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 the energy situation are not realized. Norges Naturvernforbund aims to increase knowledge and reduce barriers for application of low cost measures on energy saving and renewables. In 2007 we did practical projects on windows restoration in almost all countries in the region, which was funded by additional means collected in Norway. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan has served as pilot countries for energy projects. In Tajikistan we have implemented projects on insulation of educational buildings and energy efficient greenhouses, and developed in 2007 a direction of working on a more comprehensive level with energy planning in three pilot villages. We also started a FK Norway project on exchange of experts on efficient stoves between Nepal and Tajikistan. In Kyrgyzstan we finished a project on solar water heating, that started in 2005, and that among other activities has included seminars for villagers in 20 Kyrgyz villages on how to construct your own solar water heater.

Achieved results:

The region faces a severe lack of up to date knowledge on important problems linked to environment, energy and climate, in all levels of the society. SPARE has in 2007 reached more than 1650 schools, 130 000 pupils and 2900 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 to 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 practical energy 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. Our pilot projects have shown that 6000 kg CO₂ can be saved during 5 years by sealing windows in an ordinary school corridor. Norges Naturvernforbund believes that the pilot projects contribute to reduce barriers for introduction of more energy efficient low cost technology and practices in the region. The work with education and practical projects on environment, energy and climate has increased the competence of our partner organizations, 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

Financed by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(NOK 1 000 000 in 2007)

Partner organizations:

NGO Eremurus

Web: www.eremurus.org

National Ecological Center of Ukraine (NECU)

Web: www.necu.org.ua

Project responsible from Norges Naturvernforbund:

Dag Arne Høystad, e-mail: 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»).



SPARE IN RUSSIA



Project name: SPARE

Country: Russia.

Web: www.spareworld.org

Financed by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(NOK 500 000 in 2007)

Partner organizations:

National coordinator: Friends of the Baltic, St. Petersburg;
www.balticfriends.ru

St. Petersburg/Leningrad Oblast: Friends of the Baltic

Murmansk: Gaia, Murmansk; 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

Ural region: Ural Ecological Union, Ekaterinburg

Siberia region: Baikal Environmental wave, Irkutsk;

www.baikalwave.eu.org/

Far East region: Centre for environmental education, Vladivostok

Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Dag A. Høystad, e-mail: dah@naturvern.no

Project objective:

To improve environmental education, build up new regional climate efforts, as well as strengthen environmental NGO's capacity and influence in the field of energy efficiency and climate change.

Implemented activities:

Educational part/SPARE

SPARE 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 2007.



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 2007.

Multi-stakeholder workshops on climate

The educational activities of SPARE have gradually been supplemented by practical energy projects in the participating schools, and energy policy activities of the coordinating environmental NGOs. We see repeatedly that even simple and cheap measures for improvement of the energy situation are not realized. Norges Naturvernforbund aims to increase knowledge and reduce barriers for application of low cost measures on energy saving and renewables. As a part of the strategy to achieve this, in 2007 our partners in all regions received support for multi stakeholder workshops on measures to reduce emission of greenhouse gases in the educational sector. Participants were educational authorities, energy utilities, science, business and NGOs.

Achieved results:

The Russian environmental movement, especially in the regions, is still dependent of international support in order to run different projects. They face a severe lack of attention on key problems linked to environment, energy and climate, in all levels of the society. The SPARE project has in 2007 reached more than 60 schools with relevant information on the topic. We believe SPARE gives a contribution to improve environmental education in Russia, as in other countries where it is implemented. 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 multi-stakeholder workshops have contributed to raise the attention to the global responsibility for climate change, and to identify important and cost efficient measures to reduce emission of greenhouse gases.

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



SPARE AND EFFICIENT ENERGY SOLUTIONS IN MACEDONIA



Project name:

Sustainable development for Jegunovse community

Country: Macedonia

Financed by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
(NOK 331 500 in 2006-07)

UNDP/GEF Macedonia (NOK 159 250)

Partner organizations:

ProAktiva, Skopje, www.proaktiva.org.mk

Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Dag A. Høystad, e-mail: dah@naturvern.no

Project objective:

Contribute to sustainable development in Jegunovse municipality, by involving the Albanian and Macedonian civil society in environmental education and improving the heating and lighting at schools and kindergartens.

Implemented activities:

Educational part/SPARE

SPARE project materials were in 2007 translated to Macedonian and Albanian and adapted to the local situation. The educational material and methodology has been tested and improved by local teachers. The program is by this ready for implementation.

Energy Efficiency Measures

ProAktiva has conducted four practical seminars for the population on how to improve the energy efficiency in buildings by simple measures. As part of the seminars, and with additional effort from ProAktiva staff and volunteers, the following measures have been implemented:

- Windows have been repaired and sealed in 7 schools/kindergartens by 2100 m silicone strips and 150 m² new window glass.
- Two solar water heating systems have been installed in a boarding school and a kindergarten.



- 420 energy saving bulbs have been installed in schools and kindergartens.

- Street light is improved by installation of 150 efficient bulbs and 10 automatic switches installed.

Achieved results:

Educational materials and program on environment and energy are made available in Macedonian and Albanian language. 30 teachers have been trained. Educational conditions are improved by better light in the classrooms, improved heat comfort and access to hot water.

The village is safer with improved street light

About 50 volunteers from both the Albanian and the Macedonian populations have worked together in order to improve the situation for the children. Simple low cost energy efficiency measures have been promoted and shown in practice.

The measures have resulted in an annual saving of 70.000 kWh and reduced emissions with 64 tons of CO2. The energy cost for the Jegunovse municipality has been reduced with 30000 NOK, while at the same time improving the comfort for the children.



SOLAR ENERGY IN CROATIA



Project name: Building of “do-it-yourself” systems and training for self-employment in solar systems for water heating

Country: Croatia

Financed by: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (NOK 340 000 in 2006-2007)

Partner organizations:

NGO Zelena Akcija, Zagreb, Croatia

Web: www.zelena-akcija.hr

Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Kjersi Album, e-mail: kja@naturvern.no

Project objective:

To enhance the use of renewable energy in war affected areas in Croatia, both for environmental, social and economical reasons.

The project aims were to:

- raise awareness among stakeholders in war affected areas about the potential of renewable energy utilisation for job creation.
- teach representatives from local communities how to build solar collectors, with the purpose of self-employment and local energy supply.
- show that solar energy is functioning well by installing solar heating systems on public buildings in two selected communities.
- coordinate joint action among NGOs and local governments with the objective to promote new small solar businesses in war affected areas.

Implemented activities:

In the beginning of the project period we established cooperation with relevant stakeholders in 10 local communities in war affected areas, and selected communities for the project implementation.

During the project we organized three educational workshops organized with a total of more than 50 participants. There was one workshop in the workshop facility of the main office of Zelena Akcija in Zagreb, and two educational workshops with the installation of solar heating systems in war affected areas. Two functioning solar heating systems were thus installed on high schools in Karlovac and Hrvatska Kostajnica.



Joint effort contributed to the introduction of a new support scheme from the national “Eco fund”, which is now covering up to 80% of system costs installed by local governments in war affected areas.

Due to the great interest for similar activities, Zelena Akcija also developed two joint projects for implementation of similar activities with NGOs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.

Achieved results:

More than 50 persons learned how to build a “do it yourself” solar heating system, and two such systems were installed in high schools in war affected communities. The project group visited the solar heating system also after the workshops, to ensure that they were functioning well.

In addition to increased skills in making solar heating systems, the project led to increased awareness and skills among local stakeholders about possibilities for national support, and contributed to the introduction of a new support scheme in the national “Eco fund”.

Project media coverage contributed to increased awareness among the general public.



SAFE WATER FOR TOGO



Project title: Water pasteurization by solar energy

Country: Togo

Financed by: NORAD (NOK 195 000 in 2007)

Partner organizations:

Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement (JVE)

Web: www.ong-jve.org

Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Yngvild Lorentzen, e-mail: y1@naturvern.no

Project objective:

The main aim of this project is to develop, test and implement methods for solar-powered pasteurization of drinking water, thus building the capacity of schools and village female population helping them to improve their role in the development of their society.

Solar pasteurization will give health benefits by keeping common water-borne microbes below the level where it causes diseases. Drinking safe water in schools will thus reduce the chance for getting infected. If safe water could be provided at home as well, the problem would be nearly solved.

Implemented activities:

JVE has established close cooperation with schools and villages in the Vo district, a prefecture located in the Maritime Region of Togo. In 2007, 15 villages have been involved. JVE has been continuously working with improvement of the technical design of the solar cooker. However, finding easy available and appropriate materials for building of solar cookers has proved difficult in Togo. Materials had to be imported from outside Togo and have caused some delays. As for schools and hospitals supply, JVE has cooperated with the ESACO international, which has developed simpler cookers and heaters for schools and hospitals. 10 different types of cookers are bought for testing and distribution in 2008.

JVE has conducted training for women groups in 15 villages, of which 10 villages follow up with the work actively. JVE has visited the villages regularly through the year. More than 430 solar devices have been built and distributed.



The project participants have received solar devices for free. JVE has in addition to the practical work on water pasteurization worked on campaigns for behavioral changes in the villages and regional and national media activities.

An international solar cooking workshop was held in Lome with participation for five neighbouring countries. Smaller groups in these countries has also stated to experiment with different technologies for solar pasteurization and solar cooking.

Achieved results:

The main findings were that the project makes a significant difference in terms of health, social development and nature protection. Simple measures provided by the project have indicated a real impact on the families, on knowledge of women which has been substantially improved, and that interest among local authorities is present.

In all the villages with the trainings, the awareness on water quality and preventive measures has been raised. Local health stations report on fewer incidents of illnesses linked to unsafe water. Women's knowledge on the critical issues as climate change, energy efficiency, and the role of women in preserving the environment as well as their social status has been improved. JVE has straightened their international network, which is essential for exchanging experience with other organizations with the same direction. The use of pasteurizers/cookers has less impact on the local nature, since consumption of firewood for boiling and cooking is substantially reduced.



OILWATCH IN NIGERIA



Project title:

Ensuring environmental concerns when developing oil sector in the South – a feasibility study in capacity building measures of the Oilwatch network

Country: Nigeria

Financed by: NORAD (NOK 676 000 in 2007)

Partner organizations:

Oilwatch network

Web: www.oilwatch.org

Environmental Rights Action (ERA)

Contact person for this project: Nnimmo Bassey

Web: www.eraaction.org

Project responsible from Norges Naturvernforbund:

Yngvild Lorentzen, e-mail: yl@naturvern.no

Project objective:

The goal is to strengthen local environmental NGOs and the civil society in general, so that they can advocate good environmental management as a precondition for development of the oil industry. The project aims to ensure that environmental standards are followed in the oil development processes, in both Nigeria and other countries as well.

Implemented activities:

Norges Naturvernforbund organized a field study trip to Nigeria, where project responsible and a journalist from Norges Naturvernforbund's journal Miljøjournalen took part. We have been collecting and processing the information for making common feasibility report on possibilities, challenges and needs.

Assessment of measures suggested by ERA in Nigeria, include:

- ERA/Oilwatch field study trips for decision makers.
- ERA Oilwatch field study trips and pilot trainings for journalists.
- Establishing cooperation processes with and trainings about



EIAs for local communities, including preparation of leaflet on EIAs.

A national Nigerian NGO stakeholders meeting was organized, as well as a regional NGO stakeholders /Oilwatch Africa members meeting.

Designing preliminary awareness campaign strategy for Nigeria/Oilwatch was implemented only partly. ERA has mainly been working on development of campaign strategy on gas flaring.

Initial capacity building of Oilwatch included developing of the informational web-sites (www.oilwatch.org, African part of the site), office rent and technical support as well as improving work capacity of Oilwatch, and all of the measures have been successfully implemented.

Achieved results:

Norges Naturvernforbund and ERA/Oilwatch have established a very good basis for further cooperation. Both sides intend to continue with a long-term cooperation. ERA and Oilwatch are identified as very suitable project partners. Norges Naturvernforbund and ERA/Oilwatch communicate very well and have a common understanding of priorities.

Project trip to Nigeria was successfully conducted. Through joint efforts ERA and Norges Naturvernforbund have made a Feasibility study, which shows that the need for support is high and potential for further cooperation is excellent.

Main measures and activities have been evaluated as effective, useful and worthwhile further development.

We also regard as an important result, that through the implemented Nigerian NGO stakeholder meeting, a network 'Green Alliance of Nigeria' has been established, which already has and will continue to strengthen the Nigerian environmental civil society.



CLIMATE SEEN FROM SOUTH



Project name: Climate seen from South

Country: Norway

Financed by: Norad/Rorg (Total amount NOK 1 320 000, Norges Naturvernforbund's share was 247 880 in 2007)

Partner organisations:

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

Web: www.naturvern.no

Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Yngvild Lorentzen, e-mail: y1@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. Two main seminars were arranged, one with focus on consequences of climate change in South, the other on South views on measures against climate change. Within the project Norges Naturvernforbund produced a report on technology transfer North-South. A seminar in Togo on climate was also conducted, which gave useful input to climate information and argumentation of Norges Naturvernforbund.

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. One goal has been to prevent that the flexible mechanisms of the climate convention become an easy way to avoid necessary greenhouse gas reductions in Norway, and we have succeeded in increasing the public focus on this issue. Through the work with the technology transfer report Norges Naturvernforbund has increased its understanding of how this can be done better in order to reach as many as possible, and be of benefit directly for the poorest. This is a basis that Norges Naturvernforbund now use to promote this further.



CLIMATE INFORMATION



Project name: Climate information project

Country: Norway

Financed by: Norad (NOK 124 000 in 2007)

Project coordinator in Norges Naturvernforbund:

Yngvild Lorentzen, e-mail: yl@naturvern.no

Web: www.naturvern.no, www.klimakutt.no

Project objective:

To stimulate Norwegian cuts in greenhouse gas emissions through increased popular awareness about climate change and its consequences on poverty and development in south.

Implemented activities:

- Development of several Power Point presentations where a wide range of presentations is held on basis on these, both internally in the organization and for external audience.
- Development of information for Norges Naturvernforbund's web site.
- Participation on Friends of the Earth International meeting in South Africa, where climate and development issues was at stake.
- Important task for NNV representative was to collect inputs from the organizations in South, and discuss and develop common arguments.
- An internal educational seminar on international climate issues and development was conducted for the national board of Norges Naturvernforbund.
- A half day seminar on CDM in Africa was implemented with representation from around 20 Norwegian organizations.
- Travel to Bali for Norges Naturvernforbund's president, with preparations and extensive information work before, during and after the meeting.

Achieved results:

The project was the first 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 Norges Naturvernforbund closer to development issues. Naturvernforbundet has also increased our focus around global climate justice in our information work as a result of the project.





INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Norges Naturvernforbund cooperate 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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