



# ANNUAL REPORT 2012

## GREEN EUROPEAN FOUNDATION

(GEF) asbl



**GREEN EUROPEAN  
FOUNDATION**

# CONTENTS

- 3 INTRODUCTION
- 4 - 7 CORE AREAS OF WORK
  - Study and debate
  - Education and training
  - Networking Green Europe
- 7 PEOPLE OF GEF 2012
- 8 - 9 GEF WORK ACROSS EUROPE IN 5 YEARS
- 10 - 14 GEF PROJECT DETAILS
  - Study and debate
  - Education and training
  - Networking Green Europe
- 14 - 15 STRUCTURES AND FINANCES OF GEF

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**GREEN EUROPEAN  
FOUNDATION**

## INTRODUCTION

2012 may well be looked back on as the year when a European political demos began to emerge. Elections in France, Greece and the Netherlands took on a 'European' dimension, with the results impacting the direction of EU policy. Local and regional elections in Catalonia and Belgium were seen as signs of growing regionalist sentiment across the continent, posing a challenge to the cohesion of Member States.

Developments at national and regional level were complemented by on-going developments at European level. The European Parliament flexed its post-Lisbon Treaty muscles by rejecting the unpopular ACTA treaty, and prepared to play a role for the first time as co-legislator on agricultural policy, fisheries policy and the EU budget. Meanwhile the coming into force of the European Citizens' Initiative offered a chance for European Citizens to work across borders on issues as diverse as road safety, water quality and animal rights.

Of course, the on-going backdrop to this was the Eurozone crisis. European leaders were willing to act only when the very future of the Euro, and the EU itself, appeared at risk. Though the crisis receded towards the end of the year, no one finished 2012 with greater confidence in the leadership provided by EU governments.

For GEF, the challenge was to remain relevant in the midst of this rapidly changing environment. This meant keeping a focus on the long term, but also tailoring our work to fit developments as they occurred. An example of this was our 'Future of Europe' project, with our series of discussions becoming forums to debate the latest developments at EU level.

2012 was the first year since GEF's establishment when its funding from the European Parliament did not substantially increase. This offered a chance for GEF to consolidate, but it did not see GEF tame its ambitions. 2012 saw the launch

of GEF's Green European Journal, which is fast becoming an essential part of online debate for the Green movement.

This past year also saw a record number of GEF events. In total, GEF organised 47 events in 17 countries, on topics as diverse as LGBT rights, the Green New Deal and the rise of the populist-right. GEF also extended its range of publications and expanded its social media presence.

The European Parliament elections in June 2014 are now within sight. They will offer an opportunity for European citizens to cast their judgment on the decisions made by their leaders, and perhaps opt for a more positive vision for Europe. GEF will continue to work across Europe over the next 18 months to ensure Europe's citizens have the ability, ideas and motivation to truly engage with the European project at a time of such crucial importance to its future.



Heidi Hautala,  
GEF Co-President



Pierre Jonckheer,  
GEF Co-President

## CORE AREAS OF WORK



*Meeting of the network of correspondents for the Green European Journal December 2012*

### Study and debate

Five years after GEF was established, promoting critical debate and reflection on Europe remains at the core of the foundation's activities. The need to create a European level public space, where European citizens can exchange ideas and experiences, was exposed as ever more crucial in 2012. The primary example of this was the on-going Eurozone crisis, which reached its peak over the summer months. Terms such as solidarity, federalism and fiscal union meant different things to different Europeans, with national contexts and differing histories providing a range of interpretation and meaning.

For GEF, its ambition to contribute to dialogue at European level was heavily influenced by this highly crucial debate about the future of Europe. Using a range of mediums, including websites, events and publications, GEF sought to increase the exchange of ideas between national contexts and to help the European Green movement develop its response to this existential threat to the Union.

Key among these efforts was the 'Future of Europe' seminar series and the launch of the Green European Journal, more of which you can

read about in the presentation of GEF's 2012 projects. A crucial feature of both of these projects was that GEF worked closely with our national member foundations across Europe. Debate on the future of Europe, or indeed any issue of European concern, has often been accused of taking place within a 'Brussels Bubble', and so by working with partner organisation rooted within national contexts, we ensured our work connected with the debates as they existed in Member States.

The debate over the future of Europe was, of course, not the only issue to be the subject for study and debate in 2012. GEF continued its focus on a range of topics such as the rise of the populist-right, the Green New Deal and expanded its work into new areas such as the concept of the commons and LGBTQ rights. All of these topics and more, many of which were addressed through the Green European Journal, were fertile grounds for debate.

In 2013, we look forward to continuing to work with our national and European partner organisations to expand the number of topics that we cover in our work, and hope that the projects detailed further on in this report inspire you to become closely engaged with GEF's work.



### GEF's 2012 FOR ME...

*Nuala Ahern, Chair of the  
Green Foundation Ireland*

**"Future of Europe"  
seminar; Dublin,  
November 2012**

The seminar was a great event in addressing the crisis from a Green perspective. But because the conclusions were so clear and compelling it is important for the European-wide debate also. It also addressed the issue not only from the

point of view of Ireland, which had gone from boom to bust in the financial crisis, but also from that of Great Britain, the most eurosceptic state in the EU. Speakers from Ireland, the UK and Germany were able to bring together these differing perspectives, adding real value to the discussion.

The seminar agreed that the public space in Europe is fractured and divisive as a result of the crisis and that it is crucial that this changes. No progress on the democratic level can happen without a public space. The Green European Journal and GEF exist to create a Green public space in Europe – much needed!

## Education and Training

The primary purpose for providing education and training opportunities is to give European citizens the necessary tools to engage with the European process. As the European Union becomes increasingly relevant to its citizens' daily life, and as the European Parliament becomes an ever more influential body, such skills are needed more than ever.

A secondary benefit from education and training projects is that they are excellent forums to bring together Green actors from across Europe. They are opportunities to share experiences, discuss the different national contexts that exist and find common ground for a range of issues. Through such information sharing, we aim to underpin a more coherent Green movement that has the skills and the knowledge to engage with the European project.

In 2012, GEF's most exciting opportunities for education and training were its range of transnational seminars and its cooperation in a number of summer universities across Europe.



*Participants in our EU training seminar June 2012*

The training seminars included the continuation of GEF's 'EU Toolkit for the Green activist', which provided Green activists with an intensive three-day course on how the EU operates and how they can influence it. An equally popular seminar held in February focused on the Eurozone crisis and the potential Green solutions to it.

## CORE AREAS OF WORK

In 2012 GEF cooperated in a number of summer universities across Europe, which were excellent opportunities for people interested in political ecology to meet and discuss issues as varied as climate change, democracy and the green economy.

For 2013, GEF has an even more ambitious agenda for education and training. As well as continuing the cooperation with summer universities, GEF will also be organising training seminars on social rights, energy policy and how the EU operates.



*Participants at our EU training seminar held in Brussels June 2012*



### GEF's 2012 FOR ME...

*Verónica Juzgado, participant at the Green Summer University, Vitoria, Spain*

**Green Summer University; Vitoria, Spain, August 2012.**

At the Green University we talked about Spain, but not only. I enjoyed the participation of visiting people from other European countries who made it easier to understand the dynamics across the continent.

This European vision taught me that all the effort that we make in our country feeds into what happens in other European countries. We share information and knowledge, but we also create networks and share proposals, projects and hopes for the Europe we want.

This experience empowers us because it gives to us the tools to keep working. It gives you the energy to remain an active citizen and to take part in social and political events and debates.

Participating in the Green University reinforced in me the feeling of sharing a European common project and I received much satisfaction from being part of the Green movement.

## Networking Green Europe

Providing networking opportunities continues to be a core part of GEF's work, and now takes place through a variety of means such as online, through conferences and by organising exchanges between Greens. After five years of operation, GEF's capacity to do this has grown at steady rate. GEF has by now worked with hundreds of speakers and experts, and its number of European and national partner organisations continues to expand. As a result, GEF is now in a position to help connect a range of different actors working on similar projects across Europe.

In 2012 saw a range of different topics used as opportunities to network Greens across Europe. These included campaigning against nuclear power and promoting the Green New Deal in the Baltics. GEF was also present at the European Green Party Council meetings in Copenhagen and Athens, which were opportunities for GEF to promote its work among a Green audience and meet its project partners from across Europe.

Online networking continued to play a growing role in GEF's work. Through GEF's websites and social media platforms, GEF provides support and networking for Green activists across Europe and beyond. We hope you find all of these resources useful in your everyday work!

## PEOPLE OF GEF 2012

### Members 2012:

Juan Behrend (European Green Party - EGP), Anne de Boer (Bureau de Helling), Reinhard Bütikofer (Green Group in the European Parliament), Jacqueline Cremers (EGP), Ingrid Facchinelli (Alexander Langer Stiftung), Monica Frassoni (EGP), Ralf Fücks (Heinrich Böll Stiftung), Per Gahrton (Cogito), Heidi Hautala (Visili), Dirk Holemans (Oikos), Pierre Jonckheer (Green Group in the European Parliament), Miriam Kennet (Green Economics Institute), Alexey Kozlov (EGP), Benoit Lechat (Etopia), Isabella Loevin (Green Group in the European Parliament), Mike Mathias (Grenng Steftung), Susanne Puchberger (Grüne Bildungswerkstatt), Susanne Rieger (Nous Horizons), Michèle Rivasi (Green Group in the European Parliament), Tommy Simpson (Green Foundation Ireland), Claude Turmes (Green Group in the European Parliament), Monika Vana (EGP)

### Associate Members 2012:

Eva Goes (Green Forum Sweden), Kostas Loukeris (Greek Green Institute), Alejandro Sánchez Perez (Fundacio Equo), Erzsebet Schmuck (Ecopolis Foundation)

### Board 2012:

Heidi Hautala (President)  
 Pierre Jonckheer (President)  
 Juan Behrend  
 Anne de Boer  
 Monica Frassoni  
 Ralf Fücks  
 Daniela Graf (until April 2012)  
 Susanne Rieger (from April 2012)

### Staff 2012:

Claude Weinber (Secretary General)  
 Leonore Gewessler (Director)  
 Marina Barbalata (Project Manager)  
 Andrew Murphy (Project Assistant)  
 Benoit Lechat, Editor-in-Chief Green European Journal  
 Niranjan Wijewickrema, Zofia Hawranek (Office Administrators)  
 Anna Kavalenka, Cordula Rüth, Daan Hovens, Yan Dupas, Jonas Hirschnitz, Blanca de Riquer Gattel (Interns 2012)



#### GEF's 2012 FOR ME...

*Jacqueline Cremers,  
 Secretary General of the  
 European Green Party*

#### European Green Party Council meetings

At the European Green Party Council meetings GEF has become a constant and valued partner, organising at each event topical workshops that allowed the participants of the Council to discuss in more depth a subject that has relevance for party members and representatives in the European Green Parties. For example on

the crisis, on transition movements and on the European Citizens' Initiative.

At the Council GEF always has an info-stand where they promote the work of GEF, like research and trainings. It allows people to get acquainted with these publications and have the opportunity to exchange information with GEF staff and board members. This contributes to a better knowledge of what GEF is and does and the work that is done on the European level by the Greens.

We highly appreciate the work that GEF does in contributing to making our Councils successful and hope to continue the fruitful cooperation with GEF in the upcoming Council meetings!

## GEF WORK ACROSS EUROPE IN 5 YEARS

Established in 2008, GEF can now look back on five years of operation. Through the changed political environment GEF's work has evolved accordingly, but the foundation's primary goal of encouraging European level debate remains unchanged. Below, we highlight some of the major developments in Europe and for GEF over this period.

2008

03/08 – First meeting of GEF's General Assembly. The GA comprises representatives of national Green foundations, the European Green Party and of the Green Group in the European Parliament and meets every 6 months. It elects the Board of Directors and agrees the foundation's budget.

09/08 – Collapse of Lehman Brothers and the onset of the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression. Developing ideas to get Europe's economy back on a stable, sustainable and equitable path has been a top priority for GEF and the European Green movement.

10/08 – First training seminar organised by GEF. Since then, GEF has organised training seminars on motivating political activism and membership, social rights, the Eurozone crisis and several seminars on understanding the EU. They remain one of GEF's most popular activities.

2009

06/09 – Gains for the Greens in European Parliament elections results in increased funding for GEF. This will allow GEF to expand its ambitions over the lifetime of this Parliament, with plans drawn up to launch an online Journal and expand our presence in events outside of Brussels.

08/09 – First GEF cooperation in a Summer Academy in Hungary. Since then, GEF has cooperated in a number of Summer Academies and Universities across Europe. They serve as opportunities for Greens from different parts of Europe to meet and discuss common issues.

10/09 – First Green New Deal publication. Since then, GEF has published 9 GND studies for the Greens/EFA Group on topics such as transport, working hours, bio-economy and financing a green economic transformation. The Green New Deal is the Green's signature proposal to transform our economy and society, and these publications attempt to 'flesh out' this idea and to encourage debate.

12/09 – The Lisbon Treaty comes into force. Its most important provision is an increased role as co-legislator for the European Parliament. Since coming into force, MEPs have used this provision on a growing number of occasions to put their mark on EU legislation.

2010

05/10 – First ‘rescue package’ for Greece. This marked the transformation of the economic crisis into a sovereign debt crisis, which increasingly threatened the very future of the EU. The crisis raised questions about democracy in the EU, whether the EU should be more federal, and what is meant by ‘solidarity’. Though the crisis had serious repercussions for daily life in the EU, it also offered fertile ground for debate for GEF.

10/10 – GEF’s first EU training seminar, which brought together green activists from all over the continent to inform them of how the EU operates and how they can influence its decisions. The “Manual for Europe” – our most popular publication to date – is developed as material for this seminar later on.



FI

2011

03/11 – Japanese tsunami triggers a crisis at the Fukushima nuclear plant. Europe’s drive towards nuclear is halted, and the public demand a new debate on the topic. GEF’s work commemorating the 25th anniversary of Chernobyl is timely, and it continues a focus on this topic.

05/11 – Launch of the Green New Deal website. The GND website offers examples of publications and events related to the Green New Deal, as well as ‘best practice’ examples from across Europe.



09/11 – GEF publishes its first book, “Populism in Europe”. The book examines from a number of different European perspectives the rise of right-wing populism, which is evident across Europe.

10/11 – In the context of Roma persecution across Europe, GEF published the study ‘Roma and Traveller Rights’ mapping the various problems Roma communities are facing. The book showcased initiatives that have achieved better outcomes for the inclusion of Roma and Travellers.

BG

2012

02/12 – Launch of the Green European Journal, which is an online platform with articles to encourage debate between Greens across Europe. Topics addressed in its first year include inequality, austerity, democracy and the future of Europe.

04/12 – The European Citizens’ Initiative comes into force. Introduced by the Lisbon Treaty, it allows 1 million European citizens to request the EU to consider legislating for an issue. GEF worked a lot on this issue, organising discussions on it and printing several publications such as our very popular ECI Pocket Guide.

07/12 – MEPs, in one of their more high-profile decisions, vote to reject the controversial anti-piracy ACTA Treaty. The vote followed massive lobbying against the Treaty by EU citizens, and increased awareness of the powers the European Parliament has post-Lisbon.

10/12 – First Future of Europe event held in Madrid, with further events in Salzburg, Dublin, Helsinki, Brussels, Zagreb. The events were occasions for exchanges of ideas between Greens on the future of the EU, and this project will continue in 2013 and beyond.

# GEF PROJECTS

## STUDY AND DEBATE

### Green European Journal

GEF's European-level online journal saw the publication of the first 4 quarterly editions on topics such as the future of the EU, austerity, growth/degrowth and inequality in 2012. The GEJ also published more regular articles on a wider range of topics and organised a series of related events. You can read the journal at [www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu](http://www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu).

### Future of Europe

GEF worked with local partner organisations to host a series of discussions across Europe on the future of the EU, with questions concerning democracy, solidarity and tackling the euro-zone crisis featuring throughout. Events took place in Madrid, Zagreb, Dublin, Helsinki, Vienna and Brussels. In parallel, GEF ran a web dossier on the topic, which highlighted the state of the debate on Europe in various countries and pointed to the central debates in the context of the crisis. This is a project that will be a central part of GEF's work in 2013.

### Populism in Europe

Following the publication of the book "Populism in Europe", GEF continued its focus on the rise of the populist-right in many countries across Europe. Projects included a focus on the phenomena as it exists in central and eastern Europe, with an expert seminar and report on the issue and a conference organised in Malta. "Rechtspopulismus in Europa", the German version of GEF's book, was published and launched in several events in cooperation with Austria's Grüne Bildungswerkstatt and Germany's Heinrich Böll Stiftung.

### Green New Deal website [www.greennewdeal.eu](http://www.greennewdeal.eu)

The website unites GEF's, Green MEP's, national foundations' and EGP's material on the Green

New Deal with a general introduction on the topic. Extensive research has been done on texts dealing with the Green New Deal from various policy perspectives and in different language families. The English, French, German and Polish versions were launched in 2011, and in 2012 Spanish was added to this list. Discover our extensive collection of inspiring best practice examples online!

### A Green New Deal for the Czech Republic: "Czech Republic is looking for the future"

This multi-annual research project will result in a comprehensive publication on a Green transition for the Czech Republic in 2013. The project is realised in cooperation with the Czech think tank Glopolis.

### Luxembourg and the Region 2030 – A cross-border implementation of the Green New Deal

The project began in 2011 with the Luxembourg Green foundation Greng Steftung dealing with the common problems of Luxembourg and the greater region, and how Green ideas could address them. In 2012 two roundtables were organised, on economic development and social affairs. This second roundtable presented a study on social transfers in times of crisis on the example of Luxembourg as a country which is highly interconnected with a high percentage of cross-border workers.

### Debating an Active Europe

Two seminars and debates organised with the support of the Catalan Green foundation Nous Horitzons debating Spain's role in Europe. The events brought together other GEF projects such as the Green New Deal and the Future of Europe, and aimed to discuss how Spain and Europe can emerge stronger from the crisis.



*Speakers at our 'Future of Europe' seminar in Salzburg, November 2012*

### GND and the Social Dimension: Poland

A report published with the support of the Polish Zielony Instytut which examined, from the Polish perspective, how to advance the social aspects of the Green New Deal. The study highlighted best practice from other countries, and brought together a range of experts from academia, NGO and the media.

### The Commons and Green Politics

A major conference on the concept of the Commons which is back in the debate following the financial and economic crisis. Can these different forms of governance be a way forward in combatting the crisis and its social effects, and what is the real potential of the Commons?

These questions were teased out in workshops, whose conclusions were detailed in a print edition of the conference's proceedings. The project was carried out with the support of Belgian Green foundations Oikos and Etopia.

### LGBTQ Rights in the Balkans

With the support of the Federation of Young European Greens and in cooperation with many other partners, GEF engaged in a series of seminars in the Balkans (Zagreb, Belgrade and Tuzla) on LGBTQ rights. The seminars brought together activists from inside and outside the Balkans to discuss how such rights can be advanced, how to develop a stronger network for the LGBTQ community and what role EU accession has to play in this debate.

### Renewables and participation

A research project followed by an online publication pleading for citizens' participation in renewable energy projects across Europe. Ireland was taken as a case study for the publication, by exploring the renewable energy potential of the country and pointing to examples and methods of citizens' participation in decision making for energy projects. The project was realised with support of the Green Foundation in Ireland.

### Green New Deal Conferences in Spain

With the support of the Spanish foundation Equo, GEF organised a series of conferences across Spain on how the Green New Deal can be part of a solution to Spain's economic problems. To further disseminate the Green New Deal concept in Spain, GEF launched a Spanish version of its Green New Deal website.

### Publication series on the Green New Deal

GEF worked for the Green Group in the European Parliament to publish and promote a number of their reports. These include translations and reprints of the study 'Funding the Green New Deal' into German and French, and the publication of a study on the bio-economy. The reports were promoted at Green events, among our partner organisations, and online.

### "Another road for Europe" - Greening the Italian economy

For the third year running, GEF with the support of the Italian network Sbilanciamoci organised a major conference on how to Green the Italian and European economies. The conference brought together a diverse range of actors, including NGOs, industry representatives, political parties and trade unions. The conference discussed the civil society manifesto "Another Road for Europe", as well as green economy solutions to the euro-zone crisis.

# GEF PROJECTS

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

### EU seminar for Green activists

GEF continued its successful 'EU toolkit for a Green activist' seminar, with a third event in the series. Over three days, participants from across Europe took part in an intensive course on how the EU operates, what its key priorities are for the year, and how they as green activists can influence it. The training will be continued in 2013 and is a regular feature of GEF's annual calendar.

### Handbook on Campaigning

<http://campaignhandook.gef.eu>

The digital handbook on campaigning combines campaigning theory and best Green practice. Throughout 2012 we updated the best practice section regularly and promoted the handbook to Green parties and movements in Europe. The Handbook focused on a number of key topics, such as the European Citizens' Initiative.

### Spanish Green Summer University

Organised in cooperation with the Spanish Green foundation Equo in the Basque city of Vitoria, this three-day summer university was an opportunity for Greens across Spain and Europe to meet, debate and discuss key issues such as the green economy. With Vitoria selected as Europe's Green Capital for 2012, it was an ideal location to showcase Green ideas.

### CEE Green Summer Academy

The CEE Green Summer Academy took place over five days in Bodaj, Hungary. Organised in cooperation with the Hungarian Green foundation Ökopolitikai Műhely Alapítvány, around 500 participants took part in a range of activities and debates. Topics addressed included sustainable economics, the state of democracy in Hungary and in Europe and populism. The event represented an 'upscaling' of similar efforts in previous years.

### Seminar on the Eurozone crisis

The Eurozone crisis dominated the European debate over the past years. To give Green activists the information they needed GEF organised a two-day course on the financial and public debt crisis. The seminar covered the causes of the crisis, the flaws in the response from European leaders and highlighted Green solutions.

### Carnsore Summer School, Ireland

Organised with the support of the Green Foundation Ireland, this three-day summer school took place in Carnsore Point Ireland, considered ground zero for the development of the environmental movement in Ireland. The summer school focused on topics such as how to combat populist climate change scepticism and the future of the EU. Over a hundred participants took part in what was the second such summer school.

### Common Future of Europe – Future of the Commons in Europe

Over 160 people took part in this five-day summer university programme of debate and information sharing in Vis, Croatia. Organised in cooperation with the Heinrich Boell Stiftung Zagreb office, the location of Croatia, which is soon to enter the EU, was an ideal backdrop for this event. This event brought two debates together: focusing on the future of the EU, it connected this debate to the concept of the Commons as a new interpretative and implementation paradigm, and how it can be developed in Croatia and across the EU.

### EU Policy Priorities 2012

A series of policy dossiers outlining the legislative steps the EU would take in areas such as energy, fisheries, transport and environment in 2012. The reports were written in an accessible way, to give readers an easy understanding of what the EU was doing and why it mattered.



*We asked participants at the EGP Council in Athens last November for their views on what topics GEF should cover in 2013*

### From protest to participation

Germany's Baden Württemberg and Spain's Catalonia are considered 'industrial engines' of Europe's economy, and both have had or have Greens in government who were handling major citizens' participation issues, such as Stuttgart's "Stuttgart 21" train station dispute or Barcelona's referendum on a new solution for Avenida Diagonal. Working with the regional Heinrich Boell Stiftung and the Catalan Green foundation Nous Horitzons, this project brought together representatives of Green and social movements from each region to discuss how Greens in government could advance shared goals such as sustainability and participative democracy.

### Rio+20 workshop

Following the conclusion of the Rio+20 Earth Summit, GEF organised with the support of Spanish Green foundation Equo a seminar to reflect on the outcomes of the summit. Involving speakers from across Europe, such as European and regional MPs, the seminar discussed why the summit failed to achieve its objectives and how the international environmental movement should progress after this setback.

### E-learning pilot project in Turkey

To strengthen environmental and green awareness in Turkey, this project provided an online training course for a targeted audience to learn about political ecology. Over 40 participants took part in this course, which lasted several months and covered topics such as the history of political ecology, the European Green movement and different European environmental policies.

## GEF PROJECTS

### NETWORKING GREEN EUROPE

#### Anti-nuclear, pro-renewables capacity building

Working with the Heinrich Boell Stiftung Warsaw office and the Polish Zielony Instytut, GEF organised a range of activities to network the anti-nuclear/pro-renewables movement in central and eastern Europe. This included a number of seminars in Poland on the topic of nuclear energy and concluded with a bus tour through the region, ending in Brussels, where participants met actors involved in opposing nuclear energy and promoting renewables as an alternative.

#### Green New Deal in the Baltic

A publication in Russian about the regional aspects of the GND with contributions from Denmark, Poland, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Lithuania and Belarus. The booklet gathers best practice examples on the GND particularly in the field of energy. A conference gathering authors of the publication was organised in Vilnius, in November 2012. The project was organised with support of the Russian Green organisation GROZA.

## Greening Nordic Cities

This event, organised with the support of the Finnish Green cultural and educational centre Visio, brought together elected Green officials and activists from across the Nordic region to share ideas and best practices from a local level. Common issues discussed included combatting populism, the Green New Deal and how to effectively campaign drawing on GEF's campaign handbook.

## Events at European Green Party Council meetings

GEF organised a range of workshops and seminars at the two EGP Council meetings in 2012 in Copenhagen and Athens. These gatherings were opportune occasions to communicate GEF's work and bring together Green activists to discuss our core areas of work.

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# STRUCTURES AND FINANCES OF GEF

## General Assembly:

GEF has two main decision-making bodies: the Board of Directors and the General Assembly. Members of the General Assembly represent the three main stakeholders of the Green European Foundation: national Green foundations from all over Europe, the European Green Party and the Green Group in the European Parliament.

At least 50% of the members of the General Assembly are representatives of the national political foundations. Every second year the General Assembly elects a Board of Directors from its members.

## Legal Framework:

GEF is registered as a not for profit organisation under Luxembourgian law and operates an office in Brussels, Belgium. GEF is closely related to both the Green Group in the European Parliament and the European Green Party. Though both of these groups are represented in our General

Assembly, GEF operates as an independent body. As a political foundation at the European level, GEF is forbidden to take part in any electoral campaign.

## Financial Framework:

GEF's funding is based on a modification of the European Council and Parliament Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 related to the statutes and the financing of the European political parties, that since 2008 includes a provision to finance the operation of political foundations at European level.

GEF is co-funded by the European Parliament on an annual basis since September 2008, which means that 85% of its total yearly budget comes from an annual grant from the European Parliament; this funding is mainly linked to the size of the Green Group in the Parliament. 15% of the budget must come from own resources, mainly brought in by the members and partners of GEF supporting the activities implemented with their support.

Eligible expenditure	Euro
<b>A.1: Personnel costs</b>	<b>249,605.81</b>
1. Salaries	142,742.47
2. Contributions	67,622.31
3. Professional training	1,565.00
4. Staff mission expenses	17,537.99
5. Other personnel costs	20,138.04
<b>A.2: Infrastructure and operating costs</b>	<b>82,668.58</b>
1. Rent, charges and maintenance costs	58,698.01
2. Costs relating to the installation, operation and maintenance of equipment	3,711.26
3. Depreciation of movable and immovable property	1,212.70
4. Stationery and office supplies	4,134.96
5. Postal and telecommunications charges	12,804.93
6. Printing, translation and reproduction costs	1,737.00
7. Other infrastructure costs	369.72
<b>A.3: Administrative expenditure</b>	<b>101,700.43</b>
1. Documentation costs (newspapers, press agencies, databases)	662.36
2. Costs of studies and research	93,205.47
3. Legal costs	80.34
4. Accounting and audit costs	7,181.80
5. Miscellaneous administrative costs	570.46
<b>A.4: Meetings and representation costs</b>	<b>30,612.72</b>
1. Costs of meetings of the political foundation	25,099.64
2. Participation in seminars and conferences	3,938.73
3. Representation costs	994.55
4. Cost of invitations	464.50
5. Other meeting-related costs	115.30
<b>A.5: Information and publication costs</b>	<b>492,484.01</b>
1. Publication costs	129,106.62
2. Creation and operation of Internet sites	20,521.02
3. Publicity costs	8,272.82
4. Communications equipment (gadgets)	0.00
5. Seminars and exhibitions	334,583.55
<b>A.6: Expenditure relating to contributions in kind</b>	<b>63,314.98</b>
A.7: Allocation to "Provision to cover eligible expenditure to be incurred in the first quarter of N+1" <sup>1</sup>	
<b>A. TOTAL ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,020,386.53</b>
<b>B.1: Non-eligible expenditure</b>	<b>99.59</b>
1. Financial charges	99.59
<b>B. TOTAL NON-ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>99.59</b>
<b>C. TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,020,486.12</b>
REVENUE	
* European Parliament grant	864,932.47
Other own resources (to cover eligible expenditure)	92,018.67
Contributions in kind	63,314.98
Revenue to cover non-eligible expenses	220
<b>REVENUE (to cover eligible expenditure)</b>	<b>1,020,486.12</b>

\*Pending European Parliament approval, May 2013

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