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**NGOs**

**WORKING FOR ENVIRONMENT**

**e-booklet**



## FRIENDS OF THE EARTH



Friends of the Earth was founded in 1969 in San Francisco. It's an international network of organizations with a meeting of representatives from four countries, namely the U.S., Sweden, the UK, and France. Moreover, the organization is highly decentralized. It is made up of autonomous organizations, with a shared analysis of the root causes of today's most pressing environmental problems. Roughly half of the 75 member organizations call themselves "Friends of the Earth" in their own languages. Friends of the Earth also has a secretariat (based in Amsterdam, Netherlands) that provides support for the network and its agreed major campaigns.

### Activities

- Climate justice and energy
- Economic justice and resisting neoliberalism
- Food sovereignty
- Forests and biodiversity
- Gender justice and dismantling patriarchy
- Pathways to system change
- Pathways to system change



## GREENPEACE



Greenpeace is an independent global campaigning network, founded in Canada in 1971 by Irving Stowe and Dorothy Stowe. Greenpeace states its goal is to "ensure the ability of the Earth to nurture life in all its diversity and focuses its campaigning on worldwide issues such as climate change, deforestation, overfishing, commercial whaling, genetic engineering, and anti-nuclear issues. It uses direct action, advocacy, research, and ecotage to achieve its goals.

The network comprises 26 independent national/regional organisations in over 55 countries across Europe, the Americas, Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific, as well as a coordinating body, Greenpeace International, based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Greenpeace in **Slovakia** was founded in 1993 after the division of Czechoslovakia and thus the joint office. From the beginning, he mainly devoted himself to atomic energy. During its existence, however, the Greenpeace office gradually grew, and in 2001 it became part of the regional office of Greenpeace Central and Eastern Europe (Greenpeace CEE). However, our focus was not only nuclear energy. For nearly 30 years, Greenpeace has focused on toxic substances, gold and uranium mining, whale protection, dangerous toys, GMOs, bee protection and agriculture, or coal mining and burning. Like other offices, ours has focused intensively on climate protection over the years.

### **The greatest achievements of Greenpeace Slovakia**

- The joining of Slovakia to the IWC – International Whaling Commission, which guaranteed another important voice for the protection of whales and against breaking the moratorium on their hunting
- 2000 - Ban on the sale of PVC toys - Greenpeace pushed for a ban on the sale of PVC toys for children under the age of three in Slovakia.
- 2008 - Help with the campaign to change the legislation regarding gold mining, which allowed municipalities and cities to give a binding opinion on the intentions of gold mining in their cadastre
- 2010 – Changes to the laws governing uranium exploration and mining, which led to the halting of uranium mining projects in Slovakia. The changes also took place with

the support of more than 100,000 people who signed the largest offline environmental petition in Slovakia to date.

- 2010 – Stopping of the plan for a new coal-fired power plant in Trebišov
- After years of campaigning, in 2011 the NRSR passed the Environmental Act of the Decade: Old Environmental Burdens, a major step to begin removing thousands of remnants of pre-1989 pollution.
- A successful campaign to stop the route of the Bratislava Schwechat pipeline directly through Žitný ostrov
- 2019 – Slovakia will stop supporting lignite mining in 2023 and plans to shut down coal-fired power plants as well.



# SLOVAKIA

## WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE



WWF-Slovakia (WWF-SK) has been formally established in Bratislava in March 2019. The new founded organization focused on the support of effective care for the protection of areas, forests, river basins, and long-term sustainable use of natural resources. Much of the actions cover transboundary issues, including protection and management of protected areas and its related biodiversity.

### **Forests**

WWF in Slovakia is dedicated to saving the rarest old forests and primeval forests, participated in the declaration of the Pralesy Slovenska nature reserve, promotes sustainable forest management, the fight against illegal logging, but also the verification and support of innovative methods of forest management in order to support the resilience of forests in our region against climate change.

### **Water**

In Slovakia, more than 58% of water bodies are not in good condition, by adopting the Water Directive, we, like other EU member countries, undertook to change the alarming situation and restore good condition to underground and surface waters by 2027. If we want to fulfill the commitment, a change in approach to the waters is essential.

WWF Slovakia also contributes to this change. We recall water management documents and participate through working groups in the creation of strategic materials that change our approach to rivers, we implement revitalization projects and projects for the removal of barriers on rivers that have lost their function and are now only an obstacle for migrating animals.

### **Animals**

WWF Slovakia focuses on the protection of animals, mapping and protecting their needs, promoting measures to mitigate conflicts between large animals and humans and mutual coexistence. We are dedicated to mapping the migration corridors through which animals move in the country and whose preservation and protection is essential for their survival in nature.

We are creating a platform for the exchange of examples of good practice in the protection of farm herds and the cross-border exchange of experience with living together with animals. We are looking for solutions in the fight against environmental crime focused on poaching and violations of animal protection, including illegal trade in CITES species.

### **Climate**

WWF Slovakia is part of the Climate Coalition - a platform of environmental organizations that promotes climate and environmentally responsible solutions. WWF Slovakia is also a partner of an international project that verifies innovative methods of forest management in the region of Central and Eastern Europe, which will lead to their preservation in the region and to an increase in their resistance to climate change.

### **Food and sustainability**

By improving production efficiency and boosting underperforming farmland, we can protect forests and grasslands and reduce the impact of human activity on rivers – helping to restore wildlife populations and protect the livelihoods of millions of people. Better produced food can keep nature healthy in other ways – for example, by leaving healthy soil and ensuring its natural regeneration.





## FRIENDS OF THE EARTH



Friends of the Earth - SPZ has been operating since 1996 as a non-profit civil association protecting the environment and nature in Slovakia and in the European context.

They focus on 2 topics:

- minimization of environmental pollution by waste and toxic substances
- supporting sustainable solutions to other ecological problems and their economic and social connections.

They work to stop activities harmful to people and nature, but mainly create and implement positive sustainable solutions for the benefit of future generations and other forms of life.

### **Activities**

- helping to introduce and improve sorted collection for recycling of biowaste
- stopped 3 plans to build hazardous waste landfills
- organized more than 400 educational events, donated around 500,000 informational materials free of charge for the public, municipalities, state authorities, and schools.
- introduce the sale of milk in more environmentally friendly returnable glass containers.
- helped to build bio-waste composting plants.
- activities in more than 200 schools





## CEEV ŽIVICA



CEEV Živica is a voluntary, educational, non-profit, non-political and environmental civic association. The main goal of CEEV Živica is environmental, ethical and global education, education and enlightenment for all age groups. The mission of CEEV Živica is to help teachers, future educators as well as those interested from the general public in teaching in the field of environmental, ethical and global education. The aim of CEEV Živica is also the protection of the environment, human rights and animal rights, as well as spreading the ideas of fair global trade, healthy nutrition, healthy lifestyle and spiritual development of man.

### Aims of association

- changing the value system as a necessary basis for the transformation of society
- increasing the environmental awareness of children, youth and adults
- increasing civic engagement
- leading man to co-responsibility for the current and future state of nature
- inspiration for voluntary modesty and a non-consumptive lifestyle
- development of creativity, sensitivity and people's willingness to solve environmental problems
- spiritual development of a person and self-knowledge

It brings inspiring journeys in education; they encourage responsible consumption and conscious modesty. It shows the possibilities of positive changes in society using original and functional solutions in practice. For this, he uses experiential education, the goal of which is a deep inner experience supporting people in discovering their own potential and a sensitive perception of their surroundings. It teaches people to take responsibility for themselves and the world in which they live. He works with teachers, pupils and students, but also with the general public. It forms and networks leaders who bring innovation and positive change to society. A great inspiration for them is nature itself, its diversity and the complexity of relationships in it.



## CROATIA

### GREEN ACTION



Green Action is a leading non-governmental organisation for environmental protection in Croatia. Its activist approach in solving environmental problems enables its staff and volunteers to effectively deal with challenging and often, serious issues.

Green Action was founded in 1990 and its headquarters are in Zagreb, Croatia. A small team of professionals supports the work of numerous volunteers and activists, who cover a wide range of topics in their work. Green Action is active on local, national and global levels and promotes the protection of nature and the environment, while advocating for sustainable development in Croatian and other communities. It also focuses on activities that foster public participation in decision-making processes with the aim of improving the quality of life in Croatia. Green Action is well known for its attractive and imaginative public advocacy actions and campaigns.

They campaign on today's most urgent environmental and social issues, challenge the current model of economic and corporate globalisation, and promote solutions that will help to create environmentally sustainable and socially just societies.

Through the work, they contribute to the improvement of environmental protection systems at the local, national and global levels by encouraging change through campaigns, non-violent direct actions, projects, public participation in decision-making, etc. The goal of the activities is to protect the environment and nature and encourage development towards a low-carbon society, guided by the principles of social justice and systemic change. They pay the greatest attention to activities aimed at encouraging public participation in environmental decision-making and improving the quality of life in Croatia.

They share information, experience and expertise in the field of environmental protection with other associations, individuals, communities, schools, etc. in Croatia and beyond.

ZA's work is based on the work of volunteers, activists, supported by a professional team.

Zelena akcija/FoE Croatia is a member of:

- The largest network of environmental associations in the world, [Friends of the Earth International](#)
- Justice & Environment,

- Zero Waste Europe,
- Break Free From Plastic CEE Bankwatch,
- The European Environmental Bureau (EEB),
- Climate Action Network Europe,
- GAIA (Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives),
- IPEN (International Pollutants Elimination Network),
- South East Europe Network on Natural Resources,
- Energy and Transport (SEENET) and the Green Forum.



## ZEO NOBILIS



ZEO Nobilis is a non-governmental and not-for-profit organization, working on environmental issues and institutional development of NGOs in Međimurska County, Northern Croatia. Nobilis is one of the most active environmental NGOs in Croatia, founded in 1994 as a grassroots NGO, at present time has 20 educated members, and over 65 volunteers. Main activities are directed to environmental education and awareness rising for various target and age groups, sustainable development and eco-tourism in the region, and publishing. Project strategies are mostly directed to develop long-term cooperation with the County office and local Municipalities. Some of the most important regional projects were initiated from Nobilis, as well as development of “Regional environmental action plan” for Međimurje County. Educational projects and publishing are widely recognized all over Croatia. The association is aimed at starting and organizing actions for the protection of all forms of life, natural life conditions (water, air, soil) and urban environmental, as well as spreading and creating ecological conscience ness, and bringing about an ecological public.

Vision - Community members’ mindful approach to nature and the environment.

Mission - ZEO Nobilis encourages and promotes community actors’ responsible attitude to nature, the environment, cultural heritage and sustainable development.

### GOALS:

- technical assistance pertaining to the protection of nature and environment,
- informing of the citizens about the issues related to the protection of nature and the environment,
- protection of the environment and the natural resources,
- promotion of sustainable development,
- encouragement of public participation in the process of decision making related to the protection of the environment,
- strengthening of the public’s role in the exercising of their constitutional rights to a healthy environment; Educational programs for children / youth / adults,
- publications for children and publications for adults.

### MAIN FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES ARE:

- Environmental education and awareness raising for various target and age groups;
- networking with other environment protects. NGOs and local authorities in the County;
- nature-protection and water-management in Danube River Basin;
- developing cooperation between sectors in environmental protection and sustainable development process;

- publishing (magazine, books, web, etc.);
- protection of the environment and the natural resources;
- encouragement of public participation in the process of decision making related to the protection of the environment;
- informing of the citizens about the issues related to the protection of nature and the environment;
- strengthening of the public's role in the exercising of their constitutional rights to a healthy environment;
- promotion of sustainable development
- strengthening of the influence of the organized civilized society in the field of protection of the environment.





# ZELENI OSIJEK



Fair and ecologically sustainable society, which ensures high quality of living and harmony between people and nature.

## Mission

Association for nature and environment protection Green Osijek is independent, non-government, and non-profit organization established in 1995 in Osijek, Croatia. Its goal is to educate and activate citizens in the field of nature preservation, improvement of quality of living through advocacy, promotion and implementation of the ecologically acceptable technologies and sustainable development.

Members of the association began their work with environment cleaning actions, tree planting, biking tours, etc. After few years Green Osijek grew in actions and more significant and long term projects started. Green Osijek is one of the most active environmental associations in Eastern Croatia.

Green Osijek has 88 members, 15 of which are volunteers and 6 are permanently employed.

## Area of operation

- Nature and environment conservation
- Advocacy and encouraging public for participation in decision making process
- Promotion of sustainable development through lectures, public presentations, exhibitions, round tables, conferences, printed and video materials
- Raising of the awareness and education about nature and environment protection
- Promotion of renewable energy resources and energy efficiency
- Encouraging of the eco tourism and rural tourism as model of sustainable natural resources management
- Networking with organisations and institutions with similar area of work in Croatia and World Wide

## Acknowledgments and awards

- 2013. Charter of the Republic of Croatia - for an extraordinary contribution in the multi-annual promotion and protection of nature and the environment in the middle of the Danube region
- 2013. Green city award – for the best ecological film in Croatia (Central Danube region)
- 2010. Green Charter of Osijek - baranja county - for special contribution to environmental and nature protection in Osijek - baranja county

School in nature



Towards recycling societies



Educational workshops in Eco centre Zlatna Greda



# TURKEY

## ENVIRONMENT FOUNDATION OF TURKEY (EFT)



Environment Foundation of Turkey (EFT) is a non-governmental, non-profit and volunteer organization which was founded on 1 February 1978. The main aim is to work in order to provide everybody a cleaner, more organized, healthier and favourable environment to live in. They try to achieve our aim through doing research on environmental protection and development and organizing scientific meetings. Since foundation in 1978, they have been working continuously. They believe a development style that does not ignore environmental values is, as well, a development style that would support peace and happiness.



# RESOURCE, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE ASSOCIATION

(REC)



REC is an independent, non-profit think tank based in Ankara, Turkey.

REC actively works on thematic areas such as waste management; biodiversity; climate change and clean energy; environmental educational tools; environmental financing; environmental management; law development, enforcement and compliance; local governance; participatory governance and water management.

REC Turkey works closely with all major stakeholders, including the government, NGOs, businesses and the financial sector. Thanks to its non-advocacy and non-partisan character, it has a neutral working relationship with all sectors and stakeholders. REC Turkey believes in the importance of the governance approach and multi-stakeholder participation in environmental decision-making processes.

REC Turkey scope of work covers wide range of services and studies that includes:

- Resource and Waste Management/Circular Economy
- Climate Change/Low Carbon Development
- Biodiversity/Nature Protection
- Education for Sustainable Development





  
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**TEMA**  
**TÜRKİYE EROZYONLA MÜCADELE, AĞAÇLANDIRMA VE**  
**DOĞAL VARLIKLARI KORUMA VAKFI**



TEMA was founded in 1992 and became the largest environmental NGO in Turkey with over 300.000 supporters and 555 voluntary representatives.

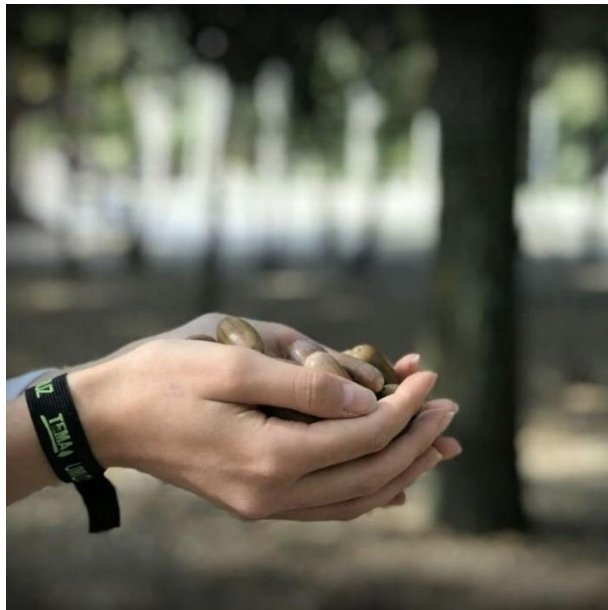
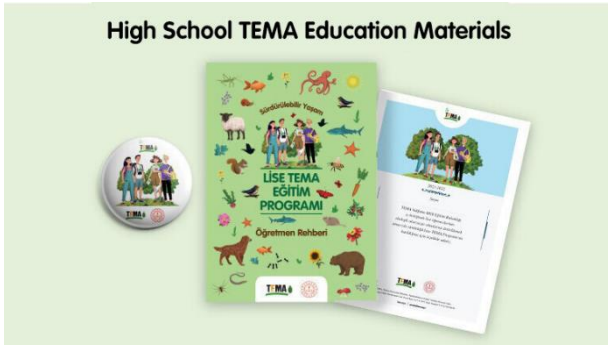
TEMA's mission is to raise public awareness of environmental problems specifically soil erosion, desertification, deforestation, habitat destruction, biodiversity loss and climate change. To achieve this goal, TEMA carries out education programs and implements demonstration projects. In addition, TEMA advocates legislation that protects the environment and natural habitats.

Approach:

- Promote public participation and social responsibility for the protection of nature through volunteer programs and education
- Work together with rural communities to create environmentally friendly income resources such as beekeeping, production of fodder crops, improvement of livestock breeding and pasture rehabilitation
- Act with partners (local, national, international, public and private organizations and communities)
- Work together with the Turkish government to establish lasting solutions

Working Areas

- Forestry
- Advocacy and Environmental Politics
- Education
- Organization and volunteering
- Rural development
- Climate
- Biodiversity



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