

oikos Project Leadership Programme

Participants and Project Descriptions



28-30 March 2008

18-20 July 2008

4/5 October 2008

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Participants and Projects

1. India Symposium: “Growing in India, growing with Indians”

Anna Hofman, oikos Bayreuth

The oikos symposium “Growing in India – growing with Indians: Opportunities and challenges of a sustainable economic relationship between Germany and India”, is designed to initiate a German Indian dialogue. It wants to give Germans an insight into the Indian culture and point of view and vice versa. It’s aim is the creation of a platform for present and future Indian and German leaders, i.e. university students and present decision makers, on which they can develop and exchange ideas for more exchange and sustainable economic interactions between Europe, especially Germany, and India. The symposium will highlight opportunities and challenges of more sustainability on the (present and probable future) terms of economy in India and Germany.

The symposium will take place in Bayreuth in June/July 2009. For further information on the project please contact Anna at hofm.anna@t-online.de

2. Sustainability Reporting at the University of Bayreuth

Anna Ritschel, oikos Bayreuth

Through the realization of this project oikos Bayreuth will introduce high quality sustainability reporting at the University of Bayreuth, by evaluating the University using the guidelines of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). The reporting aims at making students, faculty and the university administration more aware of sustainability and at inspiring improvements. At the same time the project gives oikos members the chance to actively familiarize themselves with a demanding sustainability topic of practical relevance.

The project is designed as a long term project aimed at making sustainability reporting a routine at the University. A significant first result will be the report to be published this year. For further information on the project please contact Anna at anna@ritschel.net

3. Sustainable University

Vladimir Milcik, oikos Bratislava

Sustainable University is a project based on the idea that such a big entity, like our university with more than 13,000 students, should be environmental-friendly and act sustainably. Our main goal is to launch the sorting of waste in campus (school buildings, dormitory, canteen). Benefits reflect in more dimensions. It will contribute to the better environment, students may fall into good habits and furthermore it will disburden school from some disposal fees. This project will be led by oikos students however its success will depend also on helpfulness of university management and attitude of students.

For further information on the project please contact Vladimir at vmilcik@gmail.com

4. What would it take to make IKEA sustainable within 20 years?

Matthias Hermjakob, oikos Friedrichshafen

IKEA offered a case question to the oikos PLP in order to generate fresh ideas for their sustainability strategizing. A team of oikos Friedrichshafen members will work on a consistent sustainable corporation vision for IKEA. The leading question is “What would it take to make IKEA sustainable within 20 years?”

For further information on the project please contact Matthias at m.hermjakob@zeppelin-university.net

5. Autumn Meeting 2008

Anna Julia Roch and Marlene Tummler, oikos Graz

Corporate Social Responsibility and Business Ethics are the topics of the oikos International Autumn Meeting in Graz from September 25th to 28th 2008. During a conference “SUCCEED TODAY – SUCCEED TOMORROW” we will develop a guide to implement Corporate Social Responsibility and Ethics within Enterprises.

Entrepreneurs and representatives from universities and business institutions will provide speeches on topics such as corporate governance, staff motivation, job security, regional exchange, regional competitiveness and balanced nutrition within the companies. This knowledge transfer will help participants to contribute their own ideas in workshops. The outcomes of the workshops will be summarized in a guide, which should help any enterprise to implement CSR and sustainability in its own operations to increase economic success.

For further information on the project please contact Marlene or Anna Julia at marlene.trummler@edu.uni-graz.at or annajulia.roch@gmail.com.

6. Sustainability Guide for Hamburg

Wolfgang Machur, oikos Hamburg

With the *Sustainability Guide for Hamburg* oikos Hamburg wants to increase awareness on the issue of sustainability within the Hamburg student community and among citizens. The guide will offer helpful information and practical advice on how to integrate the idea of sustainability into daily life and encourages the user to live in a more sustainable way. It also supports companies, institutions and organisations which act sustainable or offer sustainable products by promoting them to a wide audience.

For the future, oikos Hamburg wishes to implement the guide as a standard reference for a sustainable lifestyle in Hamburg – the guide shall be updated on a regular basis.

For further information on the project please contact Wolfgang at wolfgang.machur@gmx.de.

7. Spring Meeting 2009: pictures of the European future

Jonathan Høst, oikos Oslo

The future of the European economy and hence its people is closely linked to three major contemporary debates

- Knowledge poor Europe – loosing the global battle of ideas
- Emissions – A corporate responsibility?

- Poverty – the challenge for Europe – A case for public-private partnerships?

The vision of the oikos Spring meeting 2009 should be to elaborate each of these debates and hence creating a synthesis in the form of a sketch of how Europe will look like in 2050.

For further information on the project please contact Jonathan at jonathanhoest@gmail.com.

8. Establishing coconut fiber as sustainable resource in Mexico

Britta Jankay, oikos Wageningen

Coconut husk can be used as a cheap and high performance building and packaging material. Application of this resource will increase the income and standard of living to coconut farmers, and provide labor for the entire coconut fiber board process as well as local building markets, and packaging markets.

Coconut husk is an abundant resource in Mexico that has not been used to its full capacity, it is mostly considered as waste. This waste can be turned into a cheap and high performance building and packaging material. According to research, coconut fiber boards are compared to the mechanical and physical properties of MDF (medium-density fiberboards) and particle boards; it has demonstrated to have excellent performance in its strength and stiffness. Coconut fibers have a high amount of lignin, which at high temperatures and pressure, act as a binder which forms resin this allows the elimination of chemical binders. This allows healthier working environment for factory workers. Coconut fiber boards are contributing to reducing deforestation. The production process has no environmental impact in terms of waste problems, products left over can be used for fuel or other applications. My project colleague, and myself with the help of experts and future colleagues will be responsible to carry out the project. Once setting up an adequate business plan and financing; with a time frame of one year; subsequently developing a sustainable coconut fiber board production in Mexico.

For further information on the project please contact Britta at britta.jankay@gmail.com.

9. Change your thoughts, change your world

Katarzyna Negacz, oikos Warsaw

The project is a 2-day set of lectures and workshops on corporate sustainability for students of economics and management, strongly involving corporations and their specific challenging cases. It aims at students with different level of knowledge and experience in sustainability.

An opening lecture for sustainability beginners will show what corporate sustainability is. Then, three workshops for beginners, intermediate and advanced persons would train in its tools. Workshops will be prepared by companies based on their own challenges regarding sustainability in their operations. Participants will cooperate in teams and with companies representatives to work out a solution and present them to the company.

As a result, at least 50 beginners, 20 intermediates, 20 advancers and 3 companies will be trained in corporate sustainability. They will learn about oikos and our local chapter goals.

For further information on the project please contact Katarzyna at katneg@wp.pl.

10. Winter School 2008

Jermain Kaminski, oikos Witten/Herdecke

There may be a lot of people in the oikos network who really have interesting ideas and concepts of projects, but unfortunately their imaginations remain in their head and do not find to reality. The oikos Winter-school 2008 aims to convert imaginations into concrete real projects. During the whole Winterschool process, the participants will reflect their idea and discuss the attempt in a critical and open forum of opinions and views. The programme comprises lectures, discussions and working groups on sustainability challenges, while it places strong emphasis on insights into the marketing dialogue and concrete technological development. A group-dynamic training at the beginning of the project will setup a good cli-

mate of communication between the participants and encourage the participants to develop their projects in a peer network. In the end, the finally shaped projects will be presented and further ongoing developed with you own mentor.

The oikos network will benefit from the Winterschool directly, because it will create and promote new agents of change. The Winter School will take place from 16th to 22nd November of 2008.

For further information on the project please contact Jermain at Jermain.Kaminski@uni-wh.de.

Responsible for the Project Leadership Programme

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Project Partners

Project partners of the oikos Project Leadership Programme are AVINA FOUNDATION, IKEA and Georg Fischer AG.

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