

# ENEP BULLETIN

European Network of Environmental Professionals



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

In October ENEP held its second General Assembly of the year in the city of 'the Duke's forest', Den Bosch, where the Dutch member VVM hosted us in the fringes of their 25th anniversary celebrations. The day preceding our meeting, we were treated to a highly interesting side event, a conference dedicated to the issue of how cities should cope with climate change.

The General Assembly itself was also a good meeting during which we, first of all, could welcome no less than three new member associations to our Network: the Belgian OVED, the French AFIE, and the Spanish COAMB. The first two were able to participate; we look forward to meeting COAMB at the next Assembly.

While discussing the outcomes of the 'Membership Survey', in the progress report of your President, and at other moments during the Assembly, an important recurring theme was our mission to strengthen our financial health for the longer term.

ENEP has been in a somewhat paradoxical situation for a number of years: years in which our financial reserves steadily grew as a result of annual budgetary surpluses, but during which we could not fundamentally increase ENEP's activity level as this would require substantially more funds. At our Assemblies we regularly discuss many sorts of activities that we would like ENEP to undertake, fitting within ENEP's Vision Statement: e.g. strengthening our internal communication; providing more services such as aiding student exchange, mediating job offers, or supporting international co-operation; enhancing the



status of environmental professionals; lending more energy, visibility and clout to our policy efforts in Brussels; and supporting knowledge exchange among specialists. However, all of these require professional resources that go far beyond the 2 x 0.2 fte we now have available to assist the limited number of hard-working volunteers in our Federation. There seems no way around the obvious truth that ENEP – a widely dispersed, international network of volunteers - simply will not organize itself into an action-oriented, target-focused, effective organization without the help of a strong professional apparatus.

And so we decided some time ago to focus our efforts on finding more stable income sources than just our membership fees to break what one could justifiably call this gridlock. To that end, we agreed to invest and use part of our unused reserves. We recently looked at ways to acquire advertisement income via our website and Platform. We kept an eye out for funding options that the European Commission might provide. We developed the idea of instituting a system of professional accreditation for environmental professionals – originally with the purpose to generate a new

income source. We had contacts with a few international corporations about providing paid services to them.

Over the course of the General Assembly, these efforts and the outcomes thus far were discussed. And it was decided to ask the Executive Committee to develop a new 'business plan' to put these and potential other efforts and the required finances in perspective for the next few years.

Regarding the future of one of our important tools, the ENEP Platform, there was a little more debate than usual. The Executive Committee had, in light of the above financial priority, been reluctant to follow a proposal to add extra funding to the Platform into the 2012 budget, and decided it would be better to evaluate this tool and define its best way forward after the range of years we have witnessed its gradual development. And to make progress an external consultant had already been put to work, so that it would be completed without too much delay, i.e. before the end of the year. The two members closely involved in the Platform disagreed and thus voted against next year's budget – for the first time in ENEP's history.

We were very fortunate that one of these two members brought forward an

excellent candidate to become the new General Secretary in the Executive Committee: Elisa Vignaga. As no other candidates were brought forward, Elisa was elected to succeed our long-time General Secretary Mario Grosso who received well-deserved praise for his long period of voluntary ENEP work.

Among the many other topics discussed were the place and date of the next General Assembly, in Basel on 26 -27 April 2012, and preceding that, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2012 for a secretariats meeting in Brussels. It is very important for all members' secretariats to get to know ENEP and its systems and staff better, to exchange useful ideas regarding operational issues, and to discuss how to better promote ENEP within each member association, and therefore we strongly encourage each member to have someone from its office attend this meeting!

On behalf of a renewed, enthusiastic Executive Committee let me wish you a good year end – we hope you enjoy increased frequency of the News Flashes, and we will get back to you in preparation for the Secretariats' meeting!

*Jan Karel Mak, President*

## **SIDISA 2012: SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

*CARIPLO Foundation Conference Center, Milan,  
26-29 June 2012*

*International Symposium of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering - 9th Edition*

*Italian-Brazilian Symposium of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering - 11th Edition*



The Symposium is endorsed by ENEP and there will be a discounted fee for ENEP members.

ANDIS organises the next National Conference in Milan, in cooperation with the Environmental Section of the Department of Hydraulic, Environmental, Road Infrastructure and Survey Engineering of the Politecnico di Milano. The Conference will begin with a plenary session during which authoritative and internationally known scientists will introduce environmental pollution control key issues. In the following three days parallel sessions will be held on specific themes. Some specialized international sessions will host

prominent international speakers from outstanding Research Institutions and Universities presenting innovative and topical issues dealing with sustainable environmental technologies for pollution prevention.

As usual, the ANDIS National Conference also involves the Associaao Brasileira de Engenharia Sanitaria e Ambiental (ABES) through the concurrent organisation of the Italian-Brazilian symposium of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (SIBESA).

[www.sidisa2012.it](http://www.sidisa2012.it)

## 6th World Water Forum

*12-17 March 2012, Marseilles, France*

The world's largest meeting around water.

Every three years since 1997, the World Water Forum mobilizes creativity, innovation, competence and know-how in favour of water.

The five World Water Forums organised since 1997 have placed water on the international political agenda. They have undoubtedly contributed to a global awareness of the water issues.

The Forum must be perceived first of all as a tri-annual process initiated as soon as a host country and a host city have been selected by a series of preparatory processes which combine thematic, regional and political activities. These

processes mobilise thousands of water stakeholders over the 5 continents and culminate in the Forum week. However this week is not an end: it represents simply an important milestone in a continuous process combining dialogue, action and monitoring of the results.

With a unifying and open-minded image, the World Water Forum strives to open its activities to the entire water stakeholders of the political arena and of the civil society. The World Water Council, the host city and the host country promote interactions and partnerships at all geographic scales and between all actors, with a special focus on developing countries.

<http://www.worldwaterforum6.org/en/>

## ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

The Environmental Photographer of the Year is an international showcase for the very best in environmental photography and video, honouring amateurs and professionals of all ages. Organised by CIWEM since 2007, the Environmental Photographer of the Year is completely free to enter and is one of the fastest growing photographic competitions in the world.



The 2011 competition results have now been announced and are being exhibited in London from Tuesday 6th December 2011 to Saturday 17th December 2011.

<http://www.ciwem.org/competition-and-awards/environmental-photographer.aspx>

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

Date	Event	Location	Weblink
6-17 December 2012	Environmental Photographer of the Year Exhibition	London, UK	<a href="http://www.ciwem.org/competition-and-awards/environmental-photographer/epoty-exhibitions--events.aspx">http://www.ciwem.org/competition-and-awards/environmental-photographer/epoty-exhibitions--events.aspx</a>
10 February 2012	ENEP Secretariats Meeting	Brussels, Belgium	
12-17 March 2012	6 <sup>th</sup> World Water Forum	Marseilles, France	<a href="http://www.worldwaterforum6.org/en/">http://www.worldwaterforum6.org/en/</a>
21 March 2012	IEEM Spring 2012 Conference – Planning and Biodiversity	Birmingham, UK	<a href="http://www.ieem.net/conferences.asp">www.ieem.net/conferences.asp</a>
26-27 April 2012	ENEP Spring 2012 General Assembly	Basel, Switzerland	
8 May 2012	ENEP EMS Forum	Brussels, Belgium	
13 June 2012	IEEM Summer 2012 Conference – Soils and Biodiversity	London, UK	<a href="http://www.ieem.net/conferences.asp">www.ieem.net/conferences.asp</a>
26-29 June 2012	SIDISA 2012: International Symposium on Sanitary and Environmental Engineering	Milan, Italy	<a href="http://www.sidisa2012.it">www.sidisa2012.it</a>
6-7 September 2012	ENEP Autumn 2012 General Assembly	Helsinki, Finland	
7-8 November 2012	IEEM Autumn 2012 Conference – Renewable Energy	Bristol, UK	<a href="http://www.ieem.net/conferences.asp">www.ieem.net/conferences.asp</a>

## MEMBER IN FOCUS – AFIE



The *Association française des Ingénieurs Ecologues*, or “AFIE”, (Association of the French Ecological Engineers/Consultants) was founded in France as an association as specified in the French law of 1<sup>st</sup> July 1901 and the decree of 16<sup>th</sup> August 1901.

AFIE is the principal French association supporting professionals in the fields of applied ecology and biodiversity conservation. It currently has approaching 200 members drawn from environmental consultancies, government agencies, industry, teaching/research organisations, local authorities and voluntary environmental organisations. Most of our members are from France; however we have a steadily growing number of French-spoken country members.

The objects of AFIE are:

- To establish, uphold and advance the standards of education, qualification, competence and conduct of those who practice ecology as a profession and for the benefit of the public in France.
- To advance the practice and understanding of ecological principles and environmental management for the benefit of all professional sectors.
- To further the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and maintenance of ecological processes and life support systems essential to all human beings and the other forms of life on Earth.

AFIE provides its members with news, job offers, special reports, invitations to conferences or other events which are all related to applied ecology and its practice as a professional. Further information is available at [www.afie.net](http://www.afie.net).

## ABOUT ENEP

ENEP is the European Network of Environmental Professionals, which seeks to promote and coordinate the professional status, level and content of environmental work and of those working in this field.

Its objectives are:

- to be the representative organisation for all Environmental Professionals across Europe;
- to promote and co-ordinate environmental work and environmental professionals while recognizing the separate identities of its member organisations;
- to promote adherence to environmental professional standards as one of the essential prerequisites for achieving sustainability;
- to influence and implement the environmental policy, science and education agenda throughout Europe.



It will do so by being respected for its adherence to sound science rather than political lobbying but will be proactive where supported by scientific or technical evidence. Where possible it will also use its influence within the global context, beyond the European boundaries.

For full statutes and how to become a member association of ENEP, please consult the website: [www.environmentalprofessionals.org](http://www.environmentalprofessionals.org)

The European Network of Environmental Professionals (ENEP) is the trading name of the European Federation of Associations of Environmental Professionals (EFAEP).

#### **ENEP MEMBERS**

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AFIE, France	CIWEM, UK	SocEnv, UK
AFITE, France	COAMB, Spain	VBU, Germany
AIAT, Italy	CSPZP, Czech Republic	VDI, Germany
AIN, Italy	FAEP, Finland	VMD, Belgium
AISA, Italy	IEEM, UK	VNU, Germany
APEA, Portugal	IEMA, UK	VVM, the Netherlands
ASEP, Switzerland	IES, UK	
ATEGRUS, Spain	OVED, Belgium	

#### **CONTACT US**

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