

2013 Annual report Czech Union for Nature Conservation Veronica



veronica
EKOLOGICKÝ INSTITUT

ZO ČSOP Veronica (Local Chapter of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation) Annual Report for the Year 2013

The organization started its activity with the Veronica magazine, established in 1986 as a regional magazine aimed at connecting culture and nature conservation and disseminating environmental education in a cultivated way. The activities of the Eco-Counselling Centre and Veronica Ecological Centre after October 1989 became the base for Ecological Institute Veronica (EIV) in 1999, as a professional workplace of ZO ČSOP Veronica (Local Chapter of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation).

EIV is an expert and educational institution offering the interpretation of expert environmental subjects. Its activity is based in Brno and Hostětín and gives attention to both urban and country environment. We have worked with a wide range of subjects, with our local details as well as with many international issues, from Hostětín to Europe, from practical care of nature to works of art. Our mission is to support environment-friendly attitudes towards nature, landscape, and their natural and cultural values.

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Our Achievements in 2013

We've established Friends Club of Veronica and acquired first tens of regular donors.

We've published third reworked edition of study: *"What did project in Hostětín offer up - 20 years journey to energetic independence"* and we started new Hostětín web.

Veronica journal become even more independent - much bigger share of costs comes from subscriptions and readers gifts and part of voluntary work is also much bigger.

In certified exemplary garden close to Centre Veronica Hostětín was caught grass snake (*Natrix natrix*) female, 131 cm in length, that is the longest grass snake found in Czech Republic to this days.

We've organized consumer campaign "Selection skills - Umění vybírat", focused on ecological shopping of young. We have created a new web page for this campaign: www.umenivybirat.cz, same named video clip, original exhibition and printed book *"Umění vybírat - Jak se ekologicky a odpovědně orientovat při každodenních nákupech"* ("Selection skills - How to be ecologically responsible in everyday shopping").

Ecological on-line map www.ekomapa.org, that shows ecological services, natural attractions and other places related to nature protection has now more than 2 500 entries.

Thanks to our support , there are already five Community-Supported Agriculture groups in Brno.

E-newsletter RozVerky is subscribed by more than 7 000 people.



I. Nature and Landscape Conservation

Nature and landscape conservation is a term of wide comprehension that not only includes terrain work, but also environment-friendly landscape management with an effort to minimize the impact of consumption on ecosystems. EIV pursues nature conservation on both conceptual and practical levels. Being one of the local chapters of the Czech Union for Nature Conservation, we are also concerned with the activities of its central organs.

www.veronica.cz/ochranaprirody/ www.veronica.cz/prirodnizahrady/

Protection of Specially Protected Animals

Research and protection of Aesculapian snake (Zamenis longissimus)

We continued in collaboration with The National Park Podyjí and focused on completion of missing data about occurrence of these snakes in Thaya river valley. Protection of walls and breeding grounds in the most important Czech area - wine yard Šobes - was successful. In cooperation with The National Park Thayatal we organized a field trip to this locality for Austrians. Despite bad weather, our trip was really successful and we've found not only Aesculapian snake but also the other three species – Dice snake, Grass snake and Smooth snake.

In case of protection of Aesculapian snake, we were collaborating also with a management of PLA Bílé Karpaty. In site Vlárský průsmyk we built up another breeding ground for these snakes. We mowed and removed biomass in locality Lom pod Okrouhlou. Regular monitoring of fauna and searching for new localities was done.

Research and Protection of Bats and Horseshoe Bats

We took care about four wintering sites (Machosluj, Stříbrnice, Maršovská vodní, Valerie) and repeated summation of bats in this localities. In 2013 we handled and took care about 65 bats of three species, and other three bats we figured out by phone consultation. We resolved a total of 15 cases. Together with the management of PLA Moravský kras and other partners we organized 17th International Bat Night, situated nearby Sloupsko-Šošůvská cave. The event attracted record high 464 people, of which 35 % where children and teenagers.

Protection of White Stork

In last 20 years we built up (or were participating) 30 artificial nesting underlays for white storks in South Moravian region. We also regularly monitor another six artificial underlays, built by someone else. In 2013, 15 storks nest and fledged 18 chicks. At the end of the year, we produced one more nest in Modřice in cooperation with Modřice city. As a consultants, we collaborated in nest installation in Plenkovice, which was installed at their own expense. We'll see in next few years, if storks adopt these nesting underlays.

Natural Gardens

Veronica continued in project aimed to sustainable gardening, transfer of experiences, illustration of good practise, teaching and certification of natural gardens. We were inspired by project "Natur im Garten" by which the government of Lower Austria and implementers of the project made from Lower Austria region of natural gardens. From Austrian colleagues we obtained a license for the issuance of plaques Natural Garden. Nowadays almost 200 gardens in Czech Republic have the plaques. Veronica certified more than 100 of them. By this plaque, owners of gardens demonstrate their stand and support the dissemination of natural gardening ideas. Veronica organizes a special counselling about gardens and proper care with respect to the environment, during whole year. In 2013 we realized cross-border Czech-Slovak project about natural gardens with Slovak partner (CEA) from Trenčín. The main point was education and certification of gardens in Zlínský region and transfer of this model to Slovakia. In Zlínský region we certified 25 gardens of which 3 were school gardens, 1 town garden, professional horticultures and demonstration garden in our Centre Veronica Hostětín. Five new certifiers from which 2 were Slovak were trained within that project. On our website (eco-map - ecological online map) is clear map of natural gardens.

At the opening of exemplary natural garden of Centre Veronica Hostětín we organized Garden party with commented excursions through our garden, natural-gardening trail for children, creating of elements that increase biodiversity in garden and weed and herb spread tasting. More than 250 visitors were present.



Brno Tree of the Year

Together with regional association Czech Union for Nature Conversation (ČSOP) Brno was declared a 14th year competition Brno Tree of the Year. Citizens choose favourite tree the European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) in Medlánky park. The awarding ceremony was held in good collaboration with Medlánky district. Ceremony was also a memory of our deceased colleague Olga Krejčířová who coordinated Brno Tree of the Year for a last few years.

Fir Sale and Planting

Traditional Christmas fir saplings were planted in Training Forest Enterprise in Masaryk Forest Křtiny (TFE). In 2013 we've planted in two phases, because in original term (beginning of April) there was still 25 cm snow. The first event was therefore only for resistant individuals. The others had a chance to plant their trees two weeks later. We managed to plant 240 firs. About the same amount of seedlings was sold before Christmas in our Eco-Counselling Centre Veronica. Veronica is in this way participating on returning of silver fir to our forests.

Invasive Plants

Within a project "Protection of Biodiversity in Ecosystems of Regions Rajecká dolina and Luhačovské Zálesí" we produced new educational program for pupils of primary and secondary schools. We've had lectures focused on invasive species and taught 432 pupils and students in ten schools of Luhačovské Zálesí microregion. We described terms like invasion or invasive species and by using physical games explained causes, process and consequences of invasion. Students have seen a lot of these plants live.

Theatre about Nature Protection

We participated on "Ekofilm" (Environmental film festival) in October 2013. Theatre group VERDIS played for totally aghast audience a play written by Mojmír Vlašín: "*Beetles - the fairy tale with a bad ending*". The play is about scientific conference organized by different groups of insects, who couldn't agree if is the human harmful or useful and if they should kill him or other way round - support him. They found a Šumava National Park as an example where one see the human activity as totally devastating, while for instance bark beetles think that planting of picea trees (their food) is really useful work. Finally, all characters end their lives by horrifying death in pheromone trap.

II. Climate Protection and Effective Use of Energy

The starting point of our programme is to protect global climate by reducing CO₂ emissions. We support alternatives which eliminate burning of fossil fuels and contribute towards effective use of energy. We provide education and disseminate information, but we are also active on the practical level. Passive buildings and ecological architecture are special for us. We focus on regional level work, elaborate the concept of energy self-sufficient territory. Our experience from model ecological projects in Hostětín has been used in the cities. We publish and comment on the translations of the latest documents at www.veronica.cz/klima/. Veronica has become a member of Czech Climatic Coalition (www.zmenaklimatu.cz).

www.veronica.cz/energie/ www.veronica.cz/klima/

Earth Hour

For the fourth time we coordinated Czech part of world event announced by WWF as a support of climate protection - Earth Hour. It's a symbolic act, which is a signal for public officials that it should be given more attention to environment protection, especially protection of climate. This time we were closely collaborating with Climate Coalition. Involved municipalities and companies promised to protect environment not just this one hour but during all year. Individuals declared their own commitment. At Saturday 23rd of March at Earth Hour participated more than 150 municipalities, where live one quarter of population of Czech Republic. The event was supported by more than 130 companies. There was also a lot of accompanying activities for public. For one hour switched off also a great monuments like a temple of st. Barbora in Kutná Hora or blast furnace in Vítkovice and for the very first time were involved all significant dominants of Prague, including Hradčany. All the informations and commitments are at the web page www.hodinazeme.cz.

Education in Climate Protection

We've organized two seminars "Under the Lid - Air Protection and Climate Change on South Moravia" with focus on nature protection and improvement of the air quality in the South Moravian region. Participants could attend lectures and discuss with experts afterwards. First conclusions from fifth evaluating report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change were already accessible for public and present on seminar. Consequences of climate change in Czech Republic, specifically in South Moravia and impending problem of drought were discussed. At the next part there were mentioned projects that helped to improve air quality in South Moravia. Seminars were organized in cooperation with Regional Association of Czech Union for Nature Conservation (RS ČSOP) in Brno and were held at 12th and 13th of November in Hodonín and Brno. More than 60 people were attending - mainly officers and mayors of South Moravian municipalities.

All educational materials are published on our web site www.veronica.cz/klima

We've been developing a topic about importance, production and use of biochar - charred residues of dry biomass. It's important not only because of improving soil quality but also as a way how to store carbon into a soil and therefore defuse climate changes. Public was involved to production and use of biochar by several workshops in Brno and Hostětín we organized. In Hostětín biochar was a topic of conference "Sustainable Energy and Landscape" arranged in February 2013. You can find more information on webpage: www.veronica.cz/uhel

Internship in the World's Leading Organization Centre for Alternative Technology - CAT

During an autumn (September to October) 4 of our workers participated on external internship in Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) close to Machynlleth in Wales. They became familiar with new version of concept Zero Carbon Britain. Exchange of experiences of how to teach about climate changes and renewable resources designated for public and all school levels including master degree was a part of the stay. Our workers attend also several short courses about ecological building - compacted soil, building from straw bales, biochar production. Two our colleagues attended one week master course called "Energy and the Environment". We were working also on development of our collaboration and prepared the visit of British expert in Czech Republic.

Cooperation in Climate Coalition

Climate Coalition (Klik) is a platform of Czech non-profit organizations, that are aimed especially in protection of environment, cooperation for development and humanitarian assistance.

As a members we participate on joint project formulation. We contributed to provision of scientific forum, which is from September 2013 commenting step by step published fifth evaluation report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Building and Energy

In Veronica Centre we use unique experiences with 6 years lasting operation of house built in passive standard. We provide counselling, excursions and open days or accommodation in passive house. We monitor house behaviour (temperature, CO₂ concentration in office and lecture hall) and consumption of house (heat, electricity, water consumption, amount of used rain water). On our web www.hostetin.veronica.cz/zive we have launched online application that allows you to follow up power heating plants and energy consumption in passive house. We use data also to plan savings and improvements.

During the year we prepared several workshops for public aimed mainly in natural building. Two workshops, that were focused on construction of a clay plaster or using of rain water, were made in May and June in Brno. In Hostětín participants built shelter consisting of wooden construction completed with straw bales plastered by clay. They've tried practically all named elements of natural building.

We've published completely new book "Co s okny - upravená okna lepší než nová" (What with windows - repaired old window better than new one).



III. Green Household, Green Public Procurement, Green Company

Veronica Ecological Institute provides counselling services and shows practical examples in the realm of consumption reduction, change of consumers' behaviour, environment-friendly households, companies and authorities. We provide the public with scientific knowledge and let people think independently about environmental context of consumers' behaviour. We ourselves follow the environment-friendly guidelines in the House of Nature Conservation in Brno and in Centre for sustainable rural development Hostětín.

www.veronica.cz/nakupovani/ and www.veronica.cz/zeleneuradovani/

Green Household

During the year we realized big consumers campaign "Selection skills - Umění vybírat" aimed on ecological shopping for youth. New web pages were made (www.umenivybirat.cz), same-called video clip, original exhibition with ecological shopping topics and printed book "*Selection skills - How to be ecologically responsible in everyday shopping*". We organized 15 seminars about ecological household for parents and their children, 10 seminars for seniors and 6 seminars about eco-map and about environment-friendly households. We added 10 specific shopping sites in Brno to eco-map (for instance places where it's possible to buy eco cosmetics, recycled paper or fair trade café).



Green Public Procurement, Green Company

We promote green public procurement in a partnership with the Network of Eco-Counselling Centres (STEP). We prepared two methodological sheets and two textbooks aimed to education for public administration - "*Examples and Case Studies*" and "*From Theory to Practise II: energy, cleaning, interiors, transport, office supplies*". We were participating on deployment of environmentally friendly operations in governmental organizations of Opava city. As a lecturer we've taught about green public procurement six times.

We were cooperating on second year of competition "*Environmental pride of our region or what's unique?*" with South Moravian region. We helped with formulation of task and evaluating of applications.

For travel Agency Zabloudil we've prepared one week educational course about environmentally friendly operations in accommodation, i.e. hotels, pensions, camps.

IV. Regional Development

Life is happening in a region or at a place. Sustainability and a happy life lie in the knowledge of the place in the sense of both "local heritage" (natural determinateness, local tradition, history, cultural uniqueness of the place) and "real functioning" (social aspects of environment-friendlier behaviour, possibilities of local businesses, real potential of municipalities and its use, legislative, local community involvement). EIV disseminates environmental aspects of regional development with the respect for its contents and as well as related procedural matters.

www.hostetin.veronica.cz/studie/

Community Supported Agriculture

In 2013 we continued with extension of community supported agriculture (KPZ) that we started last year. There were established new groups - one is "company group", one within Masaryk University and two for public. Principle of KPZ is a partnership between a farmer and consumers, who share yield and risk of farming. Farmer produces food for certain people who ensure finance stability by payment in advance.

We've organized several seminars during the year, processed case studies and mainly - published a "*Manual for establishing groups of community supported agriculture*". Manual was made in collaboration with other groups promoting this type of food supply.

Brno Organic Market

Twenty-second year of Brno Organic Market was special in comparison with last years. Except propagation of ecological agriculture and organic farmers, we introduced to the citizens of Brno, unique and growing alternative food network, which is connected with farmers in neighbourhood. We recommended how and where to buy daily a local and environmentally friendly planted food in Brno. Organic market was held in courtyard of House of the Lords of Kunštát at October the 5th and more than 800 visitors were present.

Hostětín Way

We started with project "Hostětín Way - Through Regional Development to Sustainable Organization and Region" financed by program Swiss Contribution to the Czech Republic. We are looking how to increase consumption of surplus from local growers and farmers to the kitchen of Centre Veronica Hostětín. We are buying desserts and cakes from local housewives and we are trying to develop cooperation with citizens of Hostětín and microregion Bojkovsko.

We continue in methodological support to three girls from Hostětín (high school pupils), who collect memories of witness, Hostětín seniors. At Easter time we've organized another meeting of natives where we reminisced on tradition maintained during the year.

We've made a "package" of attractive accompanying programs for visitor to enjoy their stay in region. These programmes are built on skills of local people - e.g. processing of wool, stapling, collecting of herbs and fruit and their use, walking around with ornithologist, botanist, historically-etnografical walk to a countryside, excursion to reptiles in Bílé Karpaty region, observing a night sky with a stargazer.

Tradition of Bílé Karpaty

We participate on activities of the civic association Tradition of Bílé Karpaty, a society supporting traditional agricultural and hand production and especially development of traditional fruit planting. We've prepared a cross-border project "Tradition of Bílé Karpaty - regional brand for joint development", we are participating on negotiations with representatives of Zlínský region and on supporting local production by using these products in Regional Office.

We also provide a space of our offices and teaching hall in Centre Veronica Hostětín.

Apple Festival

More than two and a half thousand of visitors could see and taste traditional products with brand Tradice Bílých Karpat, especially Hostětín apple must, on 12th Apple Festival in Hostětín. People could see also exhibition of some traditional crafts. Products with Tradice Bílých Karpat brand arise thanks to work of local farmers, growers, craftsmen or companies and refers to local landscape, traditions and skills. The event was pursued also to educate adults and children who had a lot of interesting activities available. Visitors could listen folklore ensembles and several

bands, taste Hostětín apple must, apple desserts and pies, bio-stew, cabbage soup and veggie speciality. Apple Festival tasked more than 100 volunteers and was organized in collaboration with civic association Tradice Bílých Karpat and Hostětín village.

International Cooperation

Within project supported from Grundtvig programme we continued in sharing of experiences about “Sustainable life style” with partners from non-profit organizations from Hungary, Portuguese and Poland. We arranged closing week meeting of project and introduced a number of examples about sustainable life in Hostětín and in all region.

V. Veronica Magazine

The Veronica magazine for nature and landscape conservation is an environment ally oriented nationwide periodical. It keeps track of long-time trends as well as current nature and landscape conservation issues. It strives to stimulate feelings and poetic perception of nature and landscape by involving literary and artistic elements.

www.casopis.veronica.cz

In 2013 it was already 27th year of publishing our magazine. During the year were published two double issues and two single issues. Main topics of individual issues were: 1 – ecological viticulture and wine making, 2-3 National Park Podyjí, 4 – large carnivores, 5 – 6 landscape after mining. An author of covers was Jan Dungel.

In cooperation with The Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection we prepared thematic attachment in Veronica magazine, focused on natural protected areas.

Newly, the magazine is published without professional editor, but nevertheless with big assistance of external consultants and editors from editorial board. New webpage (www.casopis.veronica.cz) contains an archive with all history of magazine. All issues are now for subscribers available on web.

Electronic Newsletter Rozverky

During the year electronic newsletter Rozverky was sent annually every three weeks to more than 7 000 e-mail addresses. Informations about actual campaigns, project and public events with ecological and social dimension as well as invitations to Veronica and other non-profit organizations events are disseminated by this way. Eco-counselling centre is sending solutions of actual and interesting questions. People can subscribe easily on web page: www.veronica.cz/rozverky



VI. Centre for Sustainable Rural Development Hostětín

The mission of Centre Veronica Hostětín is to show, with the use of practical examples, realized projects and the results of their monitoring, that our relationship to nature, local resources and traditions as well as their considerate management can protect the environment and global climate, economically stabilize the countryside and help to tackle unemployment even in relatively remote areas.

hostetin.veronica.cz

Model Projects in Hostětín

We continue in developing and monitoring ecological project in the village – the reed-bed sewage treatment plant, biomass heating plant, organic apple juicing plant, solar collectors, passive house educational centre, exhibition garden and other. The aim is to provide independent particular data, measurements and knowledge from practise to lay and professional public. Thanks to program Swiss Contribution to the Czech Republic we improved monitoring of solar collectors and biomass heating plant outputs and consumption of passive house, which is nowadays online. In cooperation with Hostětín municipality we improved the reed-bed sewage treatment plant running. We planted sample wetland plants to increase awareness of public. To strengthen collaboration with village, we helped to arrange facilitate meeting of citizens about community planning.

We present model projects in Hostětín also to followers of geocaching – modern international game, located between sport and hiking, which use GPS navigation.

We published third, reworked and actualized edition of study “What did Hostětín projects offer up - 20 years journey to energetic independence”. Book summarizes knowledge, data and experiences from unique complex from realized projects and successive conversion of Hostětín to ecological village. www.hostetin.veronica.cz/studie

Education

We've prepared a number of educational events for 6 700 visitors. We've been leading 22 excursions about Hostětín model projects. We've organized 8 one-day seminars, 14 multiday educational events (for instance 11th year of conference Rural Landscape, 4th year of conference Sustainable Energy and Landscape, 7th year of Summer School - Nature Conservation, 12th year of Apple Festival, multiday seminar and so on), 5 camps for parents with children and other target groups. Councillors of municipalities, officers, specialist from companies and non-profit organizations, teachers and broad public visited ecological centre Hostětín.

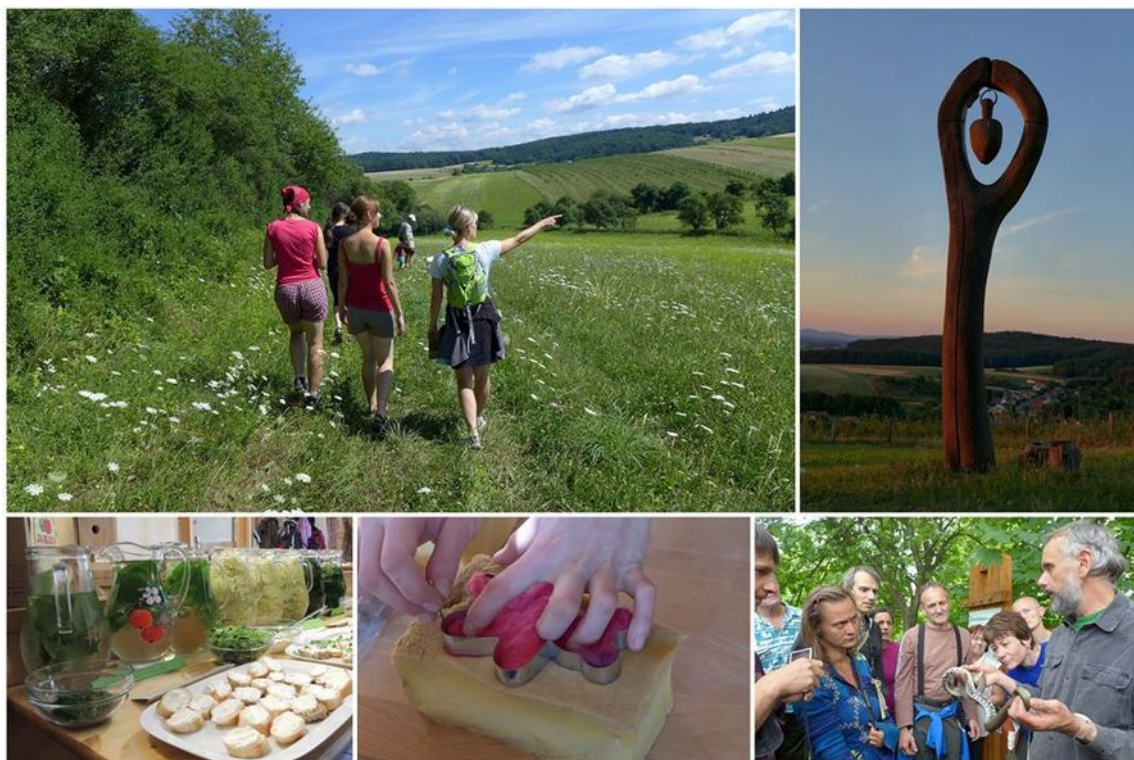
We've provided 49 educational programs to schools (Groovy Climate, Sustainable Development, Renewable Energy, I'm drinking apple must and you?, Crafts of Our Ancestors, Live Garden, Granny's Herbs) which were often accompanied by excursions where pupils played games about Hostětín projects. We've prepared 3 ecological camps for pupils from primary and secondary schools and 2 open air art camps for pupils from elementary art school.

We've created new interactive excursion for high school students “If we would have thousands of Hostětín villages...” which motivates students to look for alternative solutions of municipal infrastructure directly in their villages.

Except standard events we've organized special educational workshops and field practical courses for universities, companies and other institutions.

Our centre was used also by 13, not only local families, for various celebrations, christening or feasts. Two events were organized by village or local associations.

We are members of nationwide network of centres Pavučina, Lísky – civic association for environmental education and training in Zlínský region and project Ekopobyť (Eco-Stay) which is associating residential centres for environmental education. As a members of Líska we attend educational campaigns Birds, they live with us; Trees; Fair Trade and campaign Natural Gardens where we are regional supervisors.



We coordinate program Eco schools (www.ekoskola.cz) in Zlínský region. Eco schools is international program which leads to systematic improvement of waste, water and energetic management and the environment at school mainly through pupils own activities. Program promote collaboration of pupils, teachers, school managers and local community. In 2013 we became a coordinators of project Eco schools in Zlínský region. This project is provided by association Tereza and it's aim is to expand Eco schools project to kindergartens. We participate on creating of methodical materials for teachers and in leading of the project in kindergartens.

We've closed project "Words move, examples pull – model project of sustainable development as a source of education and motivation", which was financed through program Swiss Contribution to the Czech Republic. Via this project we've prepared number of new educational programs, amplified cooperation with other organizations in region, academic sector and with media. To improve propagation of programs EVVO and awareness in environmental topic we actualized web pages and created new modern design with clear structure.

Sustainable Tourism

Bespoke by some international institutions, we've organized meeting called Strategy to Sustainable Tourism in Karpaty. During the meeting with representatives of government (Ministry of the Environment of Czech Republic, Ministry of Regional Development, Administration of PLA Bílé Karpaty), municipalities (regional office, representatives of municipalities, regional group MAS Bojkovsko, Hornolidečsko and Ploština), tourist information centres, Tourist Authority South Moravia, Czech Tourism Agency, non-profit organizations and other, we discussed about emerging Strategy of Development of Sustainable Tourism in Karpaty. We started debate about importance of regional brands for friendly tourism.

VII. Eco-Counselling Centre

Our aim is a preventive protection of the environment. We offer advice, analyses and long-term consultations. Barrier-free counselling centre in the House of Nature Conservation in Brno is open for the public on weekdays and its services are available also on the phone, via email or www interface. A large library and a study room with wi-fi connection are available to the visitors of the counselling centre. Eco counselling is also provided at our Hostětín workplace. The eco-counselling centre meets the standards of The Czech Eco-Counselling Network (STEP) and has a share in the management of this unifying organization.

www.veronica.cz/poradna/

Eco-Counselling Centre Veronica is for long time one of the main counselling centres in The Czech Eco-Counselling Network (STEP). We also significantly participate on activities of the network.

In 2013 we've answered 1061 questions. The most of them were focused on waste management and agriculture. The second place had natural gardening, energetics and nature conservation in general.

Inquiry Profile

Topic	Inquiries	Percentage
Waste, recycling	191	18 %
Agriculture, fruit growing	176	17 %
Gardens, natural included	115	11 %
Energetics, building, climate	99	9 %
Animals	96	9 %
Household, eco-consumer, marketing	71	7 %
Nature conservation, land trust	54	5 %
Greenery, tree felling	52	5 %
Water, laundry, cleaning	46	4 %
Others	161	15 %
Total	1061	100 %

Till the end of October 2013 counselling service was enabled by project Environmental counselling as a tool of individual and further education – actively, professionally and locally established. The project was co-financed from European Social Fund and state budget of Czech Republic. From November to December, counselling centre was financed mainly from individual donors, and therefore it's service had to be limited.

Eco-map

Counselling Centre develop, actualize and use unique information tool – online eco-map available on address: www.ekomapa.org. In more than 40 categories within topics: ecological consumerism, waste management, nature, buildings, institutions and the others. There are more than 2 500 interesting and important entries from all Czech Republic. Users can insert new places themselves.

Well and Spring Counselling Centre

During all the year 2013 special well counselling was running regularly every Monday. The most common interest was in nitrogen amount in tap water. Visitors were interested also in springs with manganese water. Repeatedly, interviewer were asking on surface springs water quality, which is known is getting worse in several last years. Well and Spring Counselling Centre was also consulting graduation, bachelor and master thesis focused on spring water quality and geographical distribution of springs and their mapping.

375 springs in total is recorded in eco-map (www.ekomapa.cz), pictures and water analysis is periodically actualized.

Online Shop and B&M Shop

In e-shop we processed orders from more than 300 customers. We also inform customers about new goods regularly. B&M shop offer a lot of new books, products of sheltered workshops and fair trade products. In Zelený Sysel (Green Ground Squirrel) antiquarian, which is made as a public collection, we sold more than 330 books.

VIII. Education and Support

Internships for Students from Masaryk University

In collaboration with Department of Environmental Studies at Masaryk University and thanks to project “International network for Policy Development in Sustainable Development” were prepared traineeships for master students of Environmental studies field. Students were actively involved into the operations of the organization and participated in various activities of non-profit organizations and it's everyday running. Internship contained theory and practice and was held in Brno and Hostětín. Students had an opportunity to participate and work on topics of nature protection, climate protection, ecological counselling, project management or administration and editorial activities of Veronica magazine. Other students did an internship specialized on fruit planting.



Students-interns at the Brno Organic Market

IX. Finance Report

The exchange rate of ČNB as of 31st of December 2013, 1 EUR = 27.425 CZK.

COSTS	thousands CZK	thousands EUR
Material costs	1344	49.0
Other services	2002	73.0
Printing	741	27.0
Wage costs, including social and health insurance	4708	171.7
Other costs	88	3.2
Depreciations	925	33.7
Taxes and charges	5	0.2
Income tax	26	0.9
Membership fees	19	0.7
TOTAL COSTS	9858	359.5
PRE-TAX OPERATING RESULTS	481	17.5
AFTER-TAX OPERATING RESULTS	481	17.5
TURNOVER	10339	377.0

REVENUES	thousands CZK	thousands EUR
Foundation grants, incorporate and natural persons donations		
Partnership Foundation	1532	55.9
Veronica Foundation	121	4.4
Hostětín village	117	4.3
Other voluntary contributions and donations	42	1.5
Contributions total	1812	66.1
Subsidies		
Subsidies from state budget	2793	101.8
Subsidies from Brno city	50	1.8
Subsidies total	2843	103.7
Member contributions	11	0.4
Services		
Revenues from sale of Veronica magazine and other printed materials	979	35.7
Revenues from services in Veronica Centre Hostětín (food, accommodation, lease, trips)	1556	56.7
Services for Eco-Counselling Network (STEP)	180	6.6
Other services	1968	71.8
Services total	4683	170.8
Revenues from financial property total	30	1.1
Grant-acquired property depreciation	856	31.2
Other revenues	13	0.5
Veronica printed matters activation	-1	0.0
Internal services activation	92	3.4
REVENUES TOTAL	10 339	377.0
TURNOVER	10 339	377.0

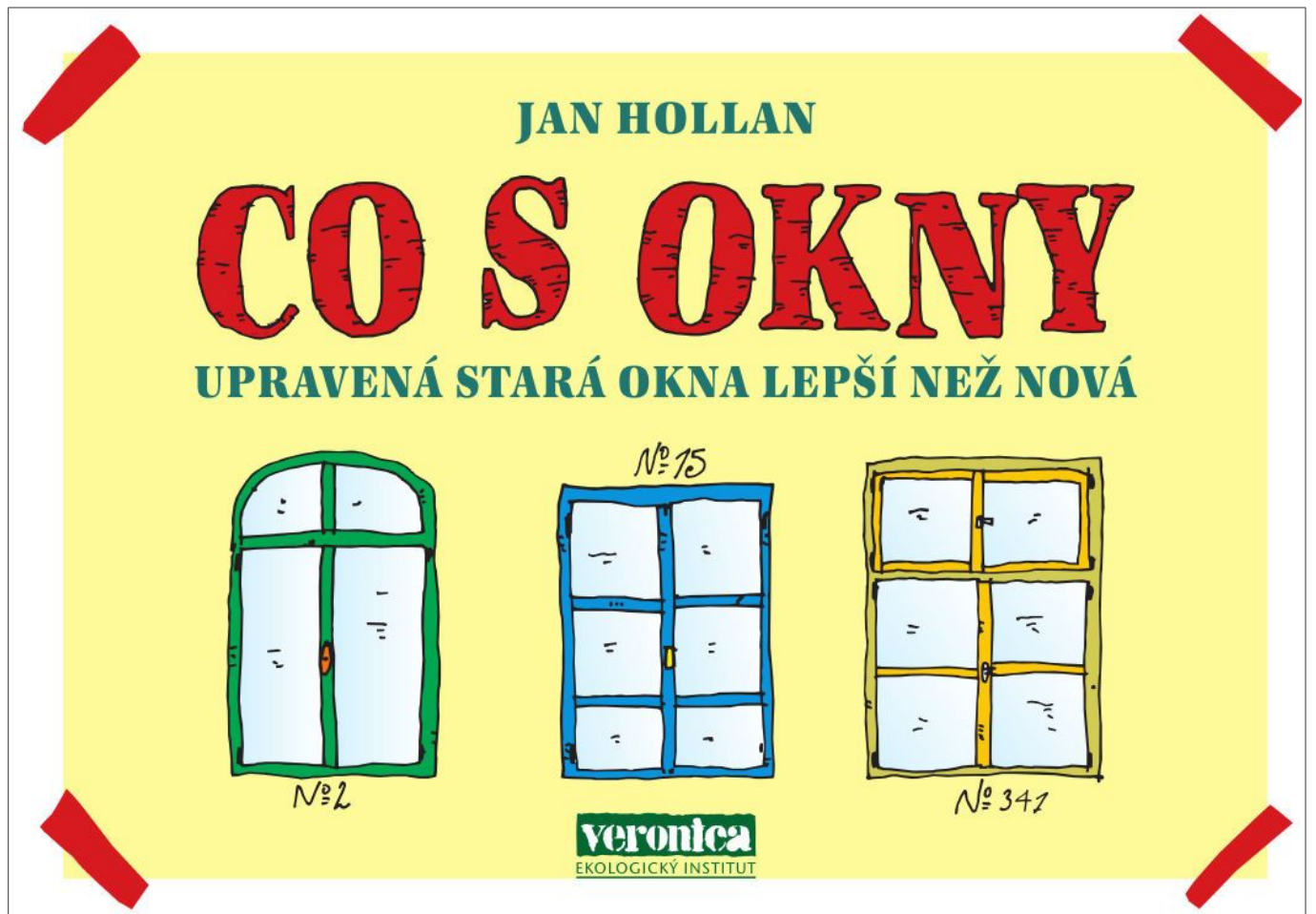
Acquired grants that have not been fully used will be available in the coming years.

Summary of Assets and Liabilities

ASSETS	CZK Thousands as of 31st December 2012	CZK Thousands as of 31st December 2013
Intangible fixed assets	28	28
Fixed assets		
Buildings	24 729	24 792
Small fixed assets	2 832	2 947
Machines, devices, transport means, furniture, office equipment	881	881
Perennial crops	0	0
Land	0	0
Works of art	1	1
Fixed assets total	28 506	28 621
Financial investments	103	103
Adjustment to acquired assets		
Building depreciation	- 5 437	- 6 288
Small fixed assets depreciation	- 2 832	- 2 947
Machines, devices, transport means, furniture, office equipment depreciation	- 537	- 610
Adjustment to acquired assets total	- 8 806	- 9 845
Adjustment to intangible fixed assets	- 28	- 28
Inventory total	383	437
Receivables		
Consumers	79	142
Receivables of uninvoiced government grants	3 926	1 354
Additional receivables	2 943	2 473
Other receivables	34	93
Provided operation reserves	31	31
Unbilled receivables	35	35
Receivables total	7 048	4 128
Financial investments		
Treasure	51	130
Bank accounts	1 625	3 412
Valuables	0	0
Financial investments total	1 676	3 542
Other assets total	37	32
ASSETS TOTAL	28 947	27 018

LIABILITIES	CZK Thousands as of 31st December 2012	CZK Thousands as of 31st December 2013
Equity		
Own capital	3 591	3 628
Funds	20 993	20 162
Equity total	24 584	23 790
Profit / loss	-1 852	-1 372
Reserves	0	0
Short-term payables		
Suppliers	301	92

Other payables	28	6
Payables to employees	222	245
Payables to social security and health insurance	107	121
Other assessed taxes	16	19
Value added tax	19	44
Income tax	0	26
Estimated payables	0	11
Short-term financial support other	410	650
Short-term payables total	1 103	1 214
Long-term payables other	0	0
Other payables	513	0
Other liabilities	4 599	3 386
LIABILITIES TOTAL	28 947	27 018



Envelope of title "Co s okny" (What with windows - repaired old window better than new one)

X. Employees in 2013

Radka Batelková, Eliška Balharová, Renata Bolečková, Lucie Čáslavová (parental leave), Kateřina Fojtů, Yvonna Gaillyová, Marie Holíková, Kateřina Plesková Koželouhová (parental leave), Olga Krejčířová (†2013), Marie Křiváková, Jan Labohý (till 4/2013), Petr Ledvina, Jana Maděrová, Hana Machů, Kateřina Pařízková, Petra Poklembová, Hana Sekerková, Anna Spáčilová, Alena Šuráňová (parental leave), Jana Tesařová (parental leave), Vendula Tomková (parental leave), Karla Vincencová, Mojmír Vlašín, Aneta Zádrapová, Dana Zajoncová (till 2/2013), Mariana Zbořilová

Long-term external colleagues: Jan Hollan, Radim Machů, Helena Vlašínová.

XI. Advisory board of the Ecological Institute Veronica

doc. Ing. Antonín Buček, CSc., statutory representative ZO ČSOP Veronica

doc. Ing. Helena Králová, CSc.

RNDr. Miroslav Kundrata

doc. Ing. Jan Lacina, CSc.

RNDr. Naděžda Johanisová, Ph. D.

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**Become a members of Veronica Friends Club and support our work financially!
Thank you.**

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