



the oikos year 2013

Be informed

Get involved

Make a difference

INTRODUCTION

Dear friends of oikos,

Thanks to your efforts and energy, the year 2013 has been a year of progress for us and now it is time to look back and appraise what we have achieved. Our annual report covers the activities of the whole oikos community, a group of more than 1000 aspiring change makers who are involved in over 40 chapters worldwide together with the international team in St Gallen.

Over the last year we:

- organised close to 200 projects and events all over the world which offered sustainable perspectives on economics and management;
- convened the FutureLab on the topic of transforming education during which 100 participants from 18 different countries and 25 different oikos chapters developed new initiatives;
- analysed and deliberated the topic of sustainable finance during the Spring Meeting in Maastricht, Netherlands, attended by 33 nationalities and experts from around the globe;
- launched the new oikos website which allows us to map and communicate our activities across all chapters;
- supported 40 young scholars to develop their research during three Young Scholars Academies on Development, Economics, and Entrepreneurship;
- deepened our use of the oikos Impact Canvas, a project development tool to increase the impact of our projects, and trained 20 workshop leaders to use this tool with 80 international participants during the World Student Environmental Summit;

- engaged 60 students from the world's top universities who discussed intellectual property rights during the Model WTO, the simulation of ministerial negotiations of the World Trade Organization;
- started and developed oikos Fashion, an international knowledge sharing platform of oikos chapters which organized 10 open online webinars concerning sustainability in the garments and textiles industry;
- supported the research of three PhD Fellows working on microinsurance, commodification of water and human rights obligations of corporations;
- covered several international conferences including the World Economic Forum with our Student Reporter program and started further collaborations with renowned media players such as the Huffington Post;
- discussed future challenges of the European energy sector at a regional oikos meeting in Warsaw;
- launched the oikos Alumni Debates to provide a platform for exchange among our alumni and partners, and hosted more than 15 alumni gatherings in London, Paris, Prague, Warsaw and Zurich.

Thank you all for making this happen!

Lenka Parkanova

President, oikos International

OIKOS IMPRESSIONS



“Without the active political lobbying and support of oikos, there neither would be a professorship in sustainability management nor an Institute for Economy and the Environment. So oikos can and did move things quite a bit in St. Gallen.”

Thomas Dyllick, Professor, University of St. Gallen;
oikos Trustee; Switzerland



“In helping to design and facilitate the three-day event, I was amazed to see the commitment of such inspiring and self-driven young people to making the world a better place.”

Mark Wade, Sustainability Expert;
Facilitator, oikos President’s Meeting 2013; United Kingdom



“My time with oikos has helped me a lot to take that step to found my own sustainability-related business. It did so in three ways: I learned a lot how to network and how to lobby for sustainability issues. Also, I got to know enthusiastic people, which I am still in close contact with. Finally, it was amazing to experience the feeling to make a difference in a sustainability context and to work with an engaged community. Therefore: thank you very much oikos!”

Gibran Watfe, Founder, rethink finance;
Alumnus, oikos Maastricht; Germany

“The organizers set a positive, energetic and friendly atmosphere. The faculty were passionate, experienced and highly relevant.”

Jessica Aschari-Lincoln, Doctoral candidate, University of St. Gallen;
Participant, oikos Young Scholars Entrepreneurship Academy 2013;
Switzerland



“As an oikos advisor, I try to involve oikos members in NGO activities and municipal projects. I believe it is a great learning experience that will help them to stay involved and continue working on sustainable local projects after their graduation.”

Juraj Melichár, Friends of the Earth Europe;
Advisor, oikos Bratislava; Slovakia



“Even a bleak, rainy week in Copenhagen is a treat when you work with fun, intelligent people who share the same interests as you do. Feeling the impact when 250 students sign-up for the extra-curricular course you helped organize, when the organization grows from 13 to 50 members, and when you get to help social entrepreneurs launch their business plan – it is the best kind of schoolwork procrastination!”

Christina Ek, Consultant, Statoil;
President 2012-2013, oikos Copenhagen; Denmark



OIKOS IMPRESSIONS



“Through oikos, I get to interact with like-minded individuals who believe in developing a better world for generations to come. As an individual, these dialogues inspire me to take action; as an entrepreneur, these dialogues help me create a special positioning for my products; as a human being, these dialogues help me differentiate right from wrong.”

Kavya Agrawal, Entrepreneur, Kaagazi;
Executive Board Member 2013, oikos International; India



“I am very pleased to have the opportunity of making my own contribution in promoting sustainability in education in Georgia. We have finished a 12 months long project about Examination of Higher Education and just started the second project about the role of youth organizations and their involvement in university life.”

Levan Pangani, Student, Tbilisi State University;
President, oikos Tbilisi; Georgia



“An excellent opportunity to meet the community of scholars who are working on and care about social entrepreneurship.”

Bogdan Prokopovych, University of Rhode Island;
Participant, oikos Young Scholars Entrepreneurship Academy 2013;
United States

“As a new oikos member, I was touched by the passion the participants and speakers have shown: for them the transformation of education was more than an annual conference topic, their inputs were personal and represented their beliefs and vision for the future.”

Kitty Huang, Student, University of St. Gallen;
Member, oikos St. Gallen, Participant, oikos FutureLab 2013; China



“oikos enriched my student life: to work in this let’s-just-do-it-environment and to feel the motivation coming from bold visions was a great experience. I wanted this spirit to live on after graduation, and that's how I decided to found an oikos Alumni group in Zurich.”

Regula Kramer, Research Associate, Kanton Zug;
Alumna, oikos St. Gallen; Switzerland

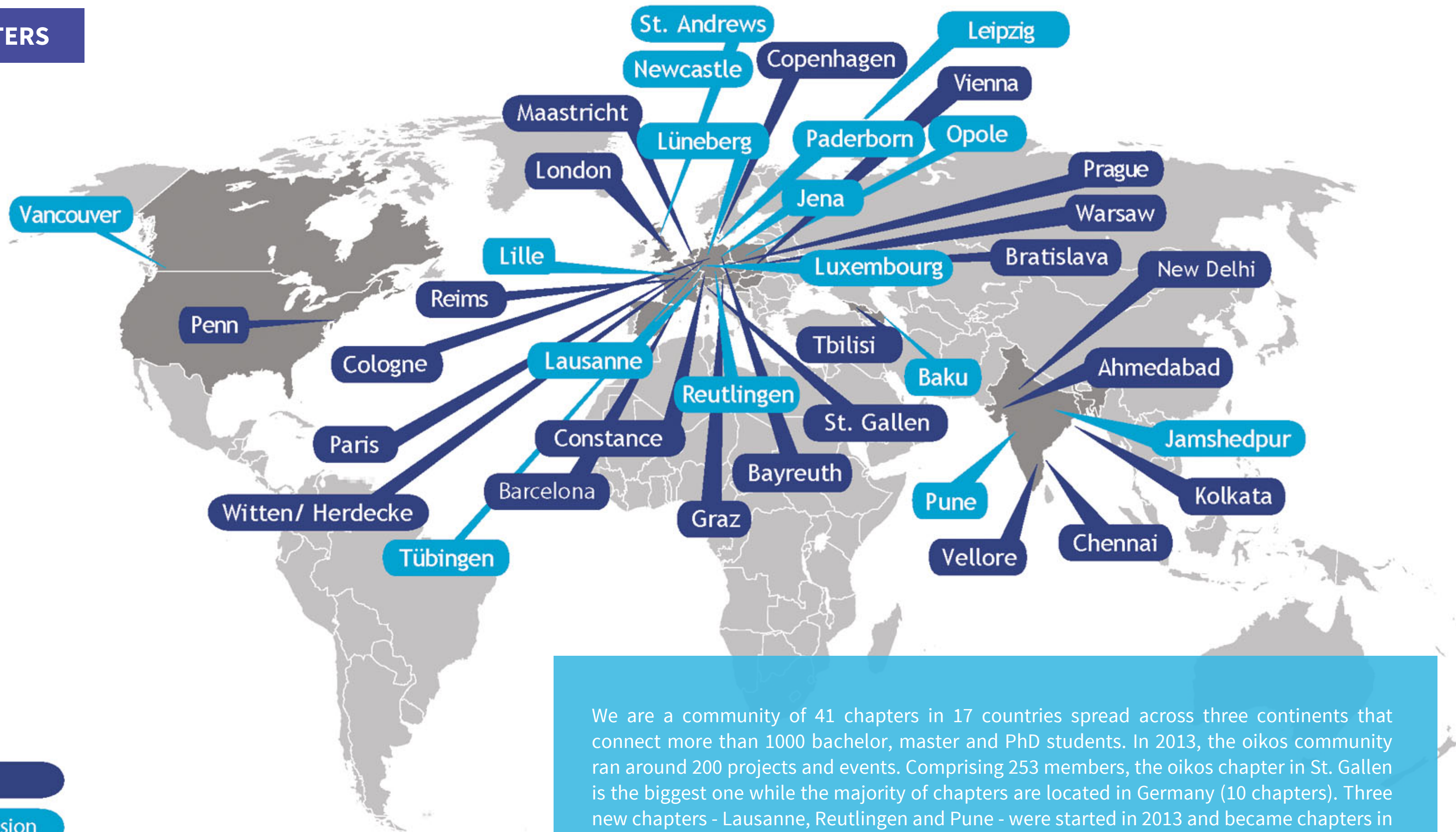


“What an amazing assembly of experience and creative vision in the emerging space of the future of management education.”

Katrin Muff, Dean, Business School Lausanne;
Speaker, oikos FutureLab 2013; Switzerland



LOCAL CHAPTERS



Full Chapters

Chapters in accession

As of December 2013

We are a community of 41 chapters in 17 countries spread across three continents that connect more than 1000 bachelor, master and PhD students. In 2013, the oikos community ran around 200 projects and events. Comprising 253 members, the oikos chapter in St. Gallen is the biggest one while the majority of chapters are located in Germany (10 chapters). Three new chapters - Lausanne, Reutlingen and Pune - were started in 2013 and became chapters in accession. Six chapters - Leipzig, Penn (University of Pennsylvania), Paderborn, Tübingen, Vellore and Vienna - were granted the status of a full chapter.



MARCH: Spring Meeting, Netherlands

APRIL: oikos Model WTO, Switzerland

JUNE: First oikos Fashion webinar

AUGUST: Launch of new website

AUGUST: Young Scholars Entrepreneurship Academy, Switzerland

SEPTEMBER: oikos UNDP Young Scholars Development Academy, Turkey

SEPTEMBER: Young Scholars Economics Academy, Switzerland

SEPTEMBER: CEE Regional Meeting, Poland

SEPTEMBER: First oikos Alumni Debate, Switzerland

NOVEMBER: Presidents' Meeting, Switzerland

NOVEMBER: oikos FutureLab: Transforming Education, Switzerland

TIMELINE 2013

oikos PhD Fellowships 2013

The oikos PhD Fellowship Programme was started in 2006 to support outstanding international PhD students writing their thesis on sustainability in economics or management and provide them with an opportunity to engage in oikos programmes. oikos PhD Fellows receive a 3-year grant to complete their PhD courses, conduct their research, finalize their doctoral thesis and take the lead for specific oikos initiatives. Since its launch, the programme has offered fellowships to 10 PhD students. In 2013 we had three fellows onboard.

Jordi Vives Gabriel



Jordi joined our fellowship programme in early 2012. His research entitled "Human Rights Obligations of Corporations: a Political Perspective" is focused on the responsibilities businesses face with regards to human rights. He approaches the topic from the normative perspective of business ethics theories. Jordi works under Prof. Dr. Florian Wettstein's supervision at the Institute for Business Ethics, University of St. Gallen. In oikos he leads the oikos Cases Programme. He presented his preliminary study in 2013 and published his first peer-reviewed paper in the Journal of Business Ethics. The article applies concepts from the field of organizational justice to the arena of business and human rights for the purpose of operationalizing the UN's Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework and attempts to draw a sharp distinction between duties of states versus responsibilities of business.

Shailee Pradhan



Shailee joined us as a fellow in early 2011. She is writing her PhD dissertation entitled "Essays on Behavioral Economics and Risk Management: Experimental Evidence from Microinsurance" under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Martin Eling at the Institute of Insurance Economics, University of St. Gallen, on micro-insurance in the Philippines. Her research areas are behavioral economics and development economics. Shailee organized the oikos Young Scholars Economics Academy. In 2013 she defended her research proposal and completed the data collection on microinsurance in the Philippines. Moreover, she published her first peer-reviewed journal article on "The Determinants of Microinsurance Demand" (forthcoming in Geneva Papers on Risk and Insurance) and presented her paper at the "Applied Behavioral Economics and Decision Theory" workshop in Bucharest.

Tim Lehmann



Tim came onboard as an oikos PhD fellow in early 2011. He studies the commercialization of water as a public service in Nairobi, Kenya. In his role as an oikos PhD Fellow, he founded and continues to grow our Student Reporter programme. In 2013, he defended his research proposal and started his field research in Kenya. His paper titled "Accounting for Every Drop: A Cultural Perspective on the Commodification of Water" was accepted for the European Group for Organizational Studies Colloquium 2014. He has just returned from being a visiting scholar at Strathmore Business School in Nairobi.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos Cases Programme

Launched in 2003, the oikos Cases Programme supports the development and use of cases on sustainability in courses on management, entrepreneurship, and finance. It comprises the annual oikos Case Writing Competition and the oikos Case Collection. The competition invites scholars from around the world to submit cases in one of the three following tracks: corporate sustainability (started in 2003), social entrepreneurship (started in 2009) and sustainable finance (started in 2013). The oikos online Case Collection currently consists of over 70 peer-reviewed cases on sustainability in management and entrepreneurship.

In 2013 our jury of leading faculty selected the following winners:

Corporate Sustainability: “Florida Ice & Farm: Sustainability Champion from an Emerging Economy” by John Ickis, Ximena Garcia, and Andrea Prado; INCAE Business School; Costa Rica

Social Entrepreneurship: “Madécasse: Competing with a 4x Fairtrade Business Model” by Scott Marshall, Darrell Brown, Bex Sakarias and Min Cai, Portland State University; United States

We also published four editions of the oikos Cases Quarterly to showcase cases in the field of energy (Issue 9, Winter 2013), the beverage industry (Issue 10, Spring 2013), tourism (Issue 11, Summer 2013), and food (Issue 12, Fall 2013).





INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos Fashion

Comprising local project managers from Switzerland, Austria, France, India and Germany, oikos fashion organizes open online webinars on sustainability in the garments and textiles sectors. With the help of industry experts they develop a network of students and professionals who not only have passion for the topic but also have up-to-date practical knowledge about the current issues in sustainability & fashion.

In 2013, 10 experts from the fields of public affairs, business and design provided a continuous learning and networking opportunity for 60 international business students during 5 webinars. The closing webinar session included an online project fair where participants could present their own projects. For 2014, the project team plans to map how participants used the knowledge gained from the webinars in their academic work (i.e. thesis projects, blogs) and their professional lives (i.e. internships, career choices, start-up ideas).

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

Student Reporter

“Teaching business journalism by mobilizing newsrooms of young writers to explore topics in the global economy.”

Student Reporter is a journalism incubator for students to report on global business and economics stories, trends and phenomena shaping our society today.

In 2013, Student Reporter created the first media footprint of young people at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

At the World Resources Forum in Davos, a science-focused resource management conference, they wrote about environmental scientists’ challenge to communicate their work.

At an investor meeting in Zurich the team covered current trends of traditional investors moving into impact investing. At another philanthropy conference in Lugano, Switzerland, student reporters were writing about the new culture of nonprofit investments in Europe.

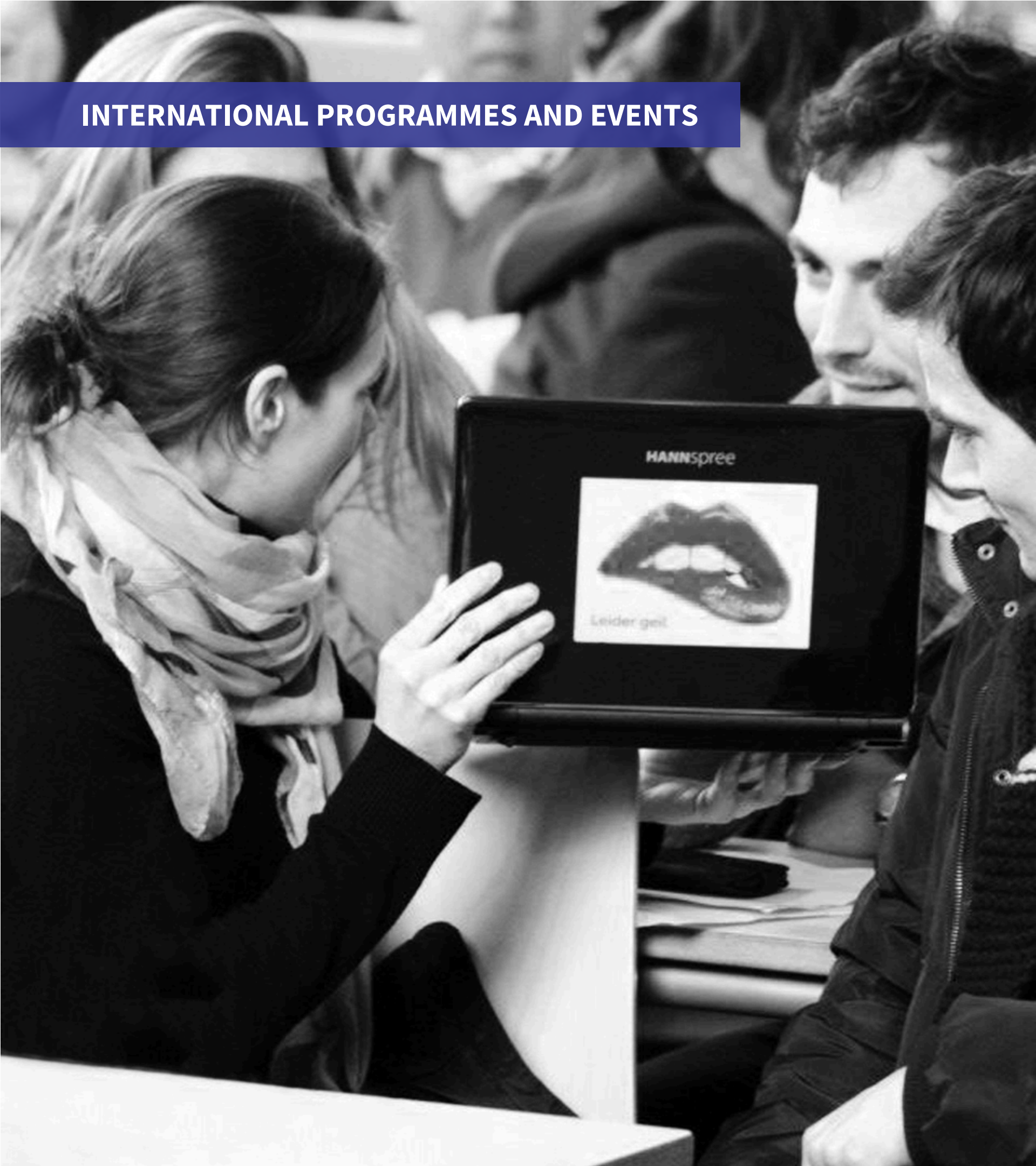
Beyond Switzerland, one reporter team covered the first Social Innovations conference in Moscow, Russia. At the International Business Forum in Istanbul, Turkey, another team reported on the role of business for inclusive development. Also, a team of reporters attended the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2013 in Dalian, China, and, among many issues, reported on global business leaders’ vision to tackle climate change.

Student Reporter also covered the topic of social entrepreneurship in partnership with The Huffington Post. Last but not least, in partnership with a Copenhagen Business School run business magazine one team explored the US Carnegie Report triggered European movement of the humanities in management education.

In mid-2014, Student Reporter will become a spin-off from oikos and incorporate as an independent media organization.



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS



oikos Spring Meeting 14-17th March, Maastricht, The Netherlands

The Spring Meeting is the annual meeting of representatives of all oikos chapters with the objective of gathering the international community to exchange experience, share ideas and discuss local projects. Workshops on project management, chapter strategy, fundraising etc. empower participants for their oikos activities.

The Spring Meeting in 2013 was devoted to Sustainable Investment and held in Maastricht between 14th and 17th of March. The meeting brought together 33 nationalities and offered a platform for oikos members to inspire, discover and develop joint perspectives on the future of sustainable finance and investment. Participants had the opportunity to explore and reflect on various elements of sustainable finance, ranging from micro-finance, green real estate, speculation and commodities to the European Sustainable Investment Forum policies, and to kick start new cross-chapter projects, exchange ideas and share knowledge during the Project Fair.

"The Spring Meeting is a unique event, and it is an honour to organise it. When I embarked on the 2013 Spring Meeting project, I did not expect to develop so many new skills or to meet and work with so many interesting people. Team work was an essential component of this journey. I learned to trust my team members and value each one of them." Anita Negri, Head of the Organising Team, oikos Spring Meeting 2013; President 2014-2016, oikos International



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos Model WTO **13-19th April, St Gallen, Switzerland**

The Model WTO is a 5-day simulation of the World Trade Organization negotiations organized by oikos St. Gallen. Each year students from around the world gather to simulate the ministerial negotiations at the WTO on the nexus between trade and sustainability. The aim of the project is to raise future decision-makers' awareness of global challenges and the complexity of reaching consensus on trade agreements.

In 2013, for the 16th edition of the project, 60 students from the world's top universities supported by many WTO representatives, ambassadors, counselors and trade experts, convened in Switzerland to simulate a new round of WTO negotiations. This time, their centre of attention was intellectual property rights and their implications for business and development. The simulation also covered the issue of trademark disputes and criteria for geographical indications.

In a realistic context provided by the rules of the World Trade Organization, students were requested to define a new and more effective framework for sustainable trade. They worked hard to close cultural gaps, reach their national targets and to finally find room for agreements towards more sustainability in trade.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos Academies

oikos Academies are 5-day seminars for young scholars in the fields of sustainability and management or economics. They each serve a group of up to 15 young scholars with a chance to discuss and advance their thesis along with building international research relations.

oikos Young Scholars Entrepreneurship Academy 25-30th August, Filzbach and Zurich, Switzerland

The topic of the fourth oikos Young Scholars Entrepreneurship Academy was “Creating Hybrid Ventures: Legitimacy and Sustainability Challenges in Social Entrepreneurship.”

Exceptional PhD candidates, postdoctoral students and young faculty were at the center of the program. The academy aimed at advancing academic research, building networks and preparing the ground for research relevant for theory and practice. The event included paper development workshops, professional development roundtables and research talks. Feedbacks on the research of each individual participant were given by fellow students and three international faculty. Participants also had the opportunity to apply their insights and skills in a HUB Challenge Lab in collaboration with The Hub Zurich and Ashoka Switzerland.

"This is by far the best forum I have been part of. Well organized and executed."

Raja Singaram, PhD Candidate, University of Twente; Participant, oikos Young Scholars Entrepreneurship Academy; The Netherlands





INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos UNDP Young Scholars Development Academy 2-6th September, Istanbul, Turkey

The oikos UNDP Young Scholars Development Academy 2013 provided a platform for young scholars working on poverty and sustainable development from an organisational or management perspective to present and discuss their on-going research projects with fellow students and senior faculty. The 2013 theme “Organising and Governing Inclusive Business” focused on new ideas and solutions on organisational and governance structures that promote private sector activities which include the poor in multiple ways and create opportunities for sustainable development. Of particular interest were hybrid business models or structures at the intersection of businesses, governments and other stakeholders that create inclusive markets across sector boundaries.

oikos Young Scholars Economics Academy 15-19th September, Filzbach, Switzerland

The oikos Young Scholars Economics Academy 2013 focused on identifying and advancing rigorous policy-oriented research on global financial inclusion. The purpose was to discuss and develop research topics related to how households save, borrow, make payments, and manage risk, particularly in the case of limited financial access. During the Academy, the participants were working on papers that identify innovative products and services to enhance how individuals manage their financial portfolios and transactions. The students covered the topic of market-based solutions, such as microfinance and microinsurance that are being developed as a more sustainable means of promoting economic security. It was highlighted that financial inclusion of low and moderate-income households is an important element of economic development.

“I really enjoyed participating in the Academy on both professional and personal fronts. The Academy distinguishes itself from other conferences in two ways. First, the Academy limited the number of participants, creating an intimate environment. Second, the Academy allotted each presenter with nearly 30 minutes for feedback, so you walked away with meaningful and actionable feedback. The Academy was truly a unique experience, and one that I would hope to have again in the future.”

Sophia Kan, PhD Candidate, University of Göttingen; Participant, oikos Young Scholars Economics Academy; Germany

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos CEE Regional Meeting 2013 **12-15th September, Warsaw, Poland**

The oikos CEE Meeting is a regional meeting organized in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) to foster collaboration across chapters in the region and develop projects that bring together common interests and leverage synergies.

The oikos CEE Meeting 2013 was held in Warsaw in September 2013 and focused on the topic “Sustainable Energy for Europe”. oikos Warsaw gathered an international community to discuss future challenges of the European energy sector in view of EU climate policy and CO2 emissions reduction targets set for the year 2020. The opening debate titled “European Energy Mix Today” highlighted the current state of the European energy sector: the continent’s import dependency and strong reliance on conventional energy sources. The next day was dedicated to visiting a nuclear reactor and a passionate discussion on the future of nuclear energy. During the third day of the conference, the session of “Sustainable Energy” was devoted to the challenges of climate and energy policy. The discussion panel was followed by workshops prepared by oikos members: oikos Paderborn presented a case study devoted to the changes in energy policy in Germany (“Energiewende”), oikos Vienna invited students to critically assess Austria’s best and worst cases of renewable energy production, whereas during the workshop “Energy Sector: Hot & Controversial” oikos Prague invited the participants to explore the Czech energy sector. The closing debate, “European Energy Mix Tomorrow”, underlined the critical importance of renewable resources for a sustainable energy future.





INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos Presidents Meeting 8-10th November, St Gallen, Switzerland

The oikos Presidents Meeting 2013 gathered 37 oikos leaders from all over the world to fortify the oikos network and support them in their chapter activities. Mark Wade, an expert in change management and sustainability, joined the event as the facilitator. The local chapter presidents explored the topic of leadership in oikos in different workshop sessions and interactive formats such as role-plays, quizzes and group discussions to think about our role as leaders. Hands-on sessions on communication, alumni relations, and fundraising complemented the program. Chapters also shared their projects and had time to exchange feedback and ideas. The concluding workshop was devoted to the presidents' personal leadership profile, their aims, ambitions in oikos and concrete future actions.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND EVENTS

oikos FutureLab: Transforming education 11-12th November, St Gallen, Switzerland

The oikos FutureLab is the biggest event in the annual oikos calendar which gathers representatives from the entire oikos community: student members, alumni, advisors, faculty and partners. It provides a 2-day platform for international participants to develop joint perspectives on the future of sustainability in management and economics. It also offers a “laboratory” to design initiatives and fuel the organization’s journey towards higher impact.

The oikos FutureLab 2013 was focused on “Transforming Education” and on opportunities to drive change at faculties for economics and management. The conference was attended by 100 participants coming from 18 different countries, 25 different oikos chapters as well as partner organizations. They all together tapped into the potential of oikos as a learning organization that fosters sustainability leadership skills among its members and audiences. Various speakers and facilitators shared their experiences from the field of educational innovation. The founder of Accenture Development Partnerships, Gib Bulloch, made an analogy between oikos and an orchestra: our performance is created by all of us. Rasmus Johnson, an assistant professor at Copenhagen Business School, suggested to place more emphasis on developing skills among students to identify and ask the right questions. Max Oliva continued this thought by calling for entrepreneurial learning approaches. Similar ideas were shared by Traian Bruma, a supporter of self-directed learning and the founder of an innovative university in Romania, as well as Martin Cadée, an educational innovator who co-founded an international school for young entrepreneurial talents that want to make a positive difference in the world.

“The conference was a perfect platform for effective discussion on sustainability because it offered the chance for people all around the world to share their stories of obstacles and merits and eventually turn these into a realistic, realizable project plan.” Jan Doerr, University of Luxembourg, President, oikos Luxembourg, Participant, oikos FutureLab 2013; Germany



TOPICS IN THE OIKOS COMMUNITY

Throughout the network, oikos chapters tackle some of the most important sustainability issues in management and economics. Some examples are listed below.

Finance

oikos Prague organized a series of six seminars called “Alternative Finance” dedicated to various topics such as money, its past and current functions as well as monetary policies, ethical banking, business financing and microfinance.

oikos Paris promoted microfinancing among students of several universities in the area and raised little loans for microentrepreneurs who are part of the Babyloan platform.

oikos Tübingen brought together bankers, money experts and a philosopher to think about the current banking system. The panel was called "Good Money! Good Money?“. 170 participants reflected on the role finance and banking play in a sustainable economy. Another one day event run by this chapter was dedicated to controversies in microfinance, its positive success in Bangladesh versus its challenges as reflected in multiple suicides committed by farmers who had taken out microfinance loans in India. After the event, the university has taken over the topic and now runs a five-day seminar on microfinance.

oikos Bratislava presented the British documentary “97% Owned” which summarises research on our economic and financial system. The screening was followed by a discussion about alternative currencies and their role in Slovakia.

oikos Vienna organised a Sustainable Investment Day together with the Raiffeisen Climate Initiative and invited experts to give speeches and workshops on sustainability in finance, mainly on financial instruments and services, the banking sector and sustainable funds. The findings of the workshops were presented and discussed with the audience and published in the media. Due to the high interest, the event will be organised in 2014 as well.

Entrepreneurship

oikos Warsaw ran a research project called “CSR from Students’ Perspective” and mapped students’ knowledge and attitudes towards corporate social responsibility at different universities in Poland. The results of the research showed that there is a strong correlation between the level of knowledge about CSR and students’ attitudes. With the research results oikos Warsaw plans to convince universities to include corporate social responsibility into the curricula and improve the way the topic is taught in Poland.

oikos Copenhagen finished spring 2013 with the oikos Develop Prize Finals during which the best three social entrepreneurship ideas that were identified through the project were presented in front of a jury. The winner was a start-up called DAZIN, which came up with a sustainable and healthy cooking for families without access to normal cooking stoves or electricity.

oikos Paderborn organised a conference “Green stuff, heroes and shekels: Successful business with sustainability” where almost 70 students, professors and company representatives came together to tackle the topic from both, a theoretical and practical perspective. The day started with “theoretical flashlights” provided by professors from Paderborn concerning economic and ethical viewpoints on sustainability. In the afternoon, the focus switched to the practical side of sustainable business during four workshops hosted by representatives of sustainable start-ups and organizations. oikos Paderborn also runs the oikos@business series which includes company visits followed by discussion on how they define and implement sustainability in their work.

About fifty members of oikos consulting which is run by the St. Gallen chapter, offered a broad spectrum of consulting services and thus played a role of a competent partner in solving commercial issues for sustainable start-ups and small enterprises. A similar consulting initiative is run by oikos Maastricht.

oikos Pune developed the “i-GREEN” project which provides a win-win solution for the challenge posed by the huge amount of disposed flowers offered in temples. i-GREEN takes the flowers which would end up in nearby rivers and cause pollution as an input and turns them into nutritious vermicompost. The compost is then used instead of chemical fertilisers to pamper the growth of plants.

TOPICS IN THE OIKOS COMMUNITY

Consumption

oikos Maastricht and St. Gallen developed EcoMaps of their cities which help every local inhabitant as well as visitors find sustainable grocery stores, restaurants, bars, cafés, clothing shops, second-hand stores or recycling stations. This initiative was taken up by other oikos chapters, such as Konstanz, Lausanne and Bayreuth who started preparing eco-maps of their cities as well.

When it comes to consumer behaviour and lifestyle, the most frequent topics within oikos chapters were food and fashion. The fashion and garment industry was explored from various angles. oikos Vienna developed the Fashion Blog “fesches.mascherl” which reports on various facets of sustainable fashion. The blog turned out to be one of three major eco fashion blogs in Austria. Besides several clothes swapping parties held by oikos Prague, Reutlingen and Opole, oikos Konstanz organised the Future Fashion Day, a one-day event comprised of lectures, workshops and an exhibition about modern eco-fashion followed by a fashion show. Sustainable fashion shows were also organised under the title “Undress” by oikos St. Gallen as well as by oikos Reims.

oikos Reims was also selling, twice in a month organic, seasonal and local food baskets to students. Each time, different kinds of baskets were offered in order to suit different tastes, seasons and budgets. They also contained recipes for students how to cook specific vegetables that were added to the baskets.

oikos St. Gallen together with the university canteen started offering a Lifestyle Menu which aims at decreasing meat consumption at the University of St. Gallen. At the end of the year, the overall share of this menu as a percentage of all sold meals was 12,2% on average.

oikos Copenhagen attracted students at the Copenhagen Business School to the Christmas Fair with organic, local and fair trade products. During the event, “The Dark Side of Chocolate”, a documentary about the exploitation of children at cocoa plantations in the Ivory Coast was shown.

oikos Luxembourg held a sustainable breakfast on campus and organised excursions to farms in order to inform students as well as staff about sustainable regional food production.

oikos Lille organised an excursion for 15 students to “La Femme O’Sart”, a supermarket which offers only local products and focuses on direct contact with the farmers. The products are mostly cheaper than those in classical supermarkets.

Economics

Various oikos chapters in Germany and Austria were engaged in critical reflections and initiatives to explore alternatives to mainstream economics.

Besides getting involved in the next international De-growth conference preparations, oikos Leipzig organised three action weeks on the topic of “Share Economy” from May 24th to June 17th in order to explore whether the concept can only be seen as a temporary trend or whether it has the potential to lead to a more sustainable society in the long-run. oikos Vienna took up the topic of sharing economy as well and on December 5 held an interactive workshop, during which participants experienced and discussed what it means to share various goods and services along with the consequences of such actions.

Together with the regional group of the Post-Growth Network, oikos Lüneburg organised a series of lectures around the topic of “Post-Growth” at the Leuphana University. Participants explored various topics, such as consequences and limitations of economic growth and also took into account challenges of the current financial system. They had an opportunity to critically reflect on the concept of a green economy as well as corporate responsibility and discussed alternative solutions to the challenges posed by the current system.

In May, oikos Cologne hosted Elmar Altvater, professor of Political Science at the Otto-Suhr-Institute of the Free University of Berlin, for a speech and discussion. The event focused on the conflict between unlimited economic growth and the constraints posed by limited resources, and what this may mean for capitalistic systems.

ABOUT OIKOS

What began more than 26 years ago as a student initiative to instigate positive change at the University of St. Gallen, today manifests an international footprint with a widespread presence across 3 continents. As an international student-driven organization for promoting sustainability in economics and management, we empower future leaders to drive change towards sustainability worldwide. Our efforts and initiatives aim to embed environmental and social perspectives at faculties of economics and management and thereby transform education.

OIKOS MANAGEMENT TEAM AND BOARDS

Management Team 2013

Lenka Parkanova, President, oikos International
Adriana Troxler, Programme Manager
Tim Lehmann, PhD Fellow
Shailee Pradhan, PhD Fellow
Jordi Vives Gabriel, PhD Fellow

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JOIN US

Become a member!

The oikos members are at the heart of what we do. Comprising more than 1000 bachelor, masters, and PhD students in more than 40 chapters in Europe, Asia and America, they provide a constant flow of ideas and the energy to turn them into action.

If there is a chapter in your home city, directly contact the respective oikos members. If there is no local chapter then ... **start a local chapter!**

More information about the process can be found on the website:

<http://oikos-international.org/about/people/members/start-a-chapter/>

Connect with the Alumni!

If you are an oikos alumnus or alumna and would like to reconnect, please contact Adriana Troxler at adriana.troxler@oikos-international.org.

More information can be found on the website:

<http://oikos-international.org/about/people/alumni/>

Join the Faculty!

If you are interested in joining our Faculty, we be delighted to hear from you at faculty@oikos-international.org. The current oikos Faculty is listed on the website:

<http://oikos-international.org/about/people/faculty/>.



DONORS

Our activities in 2013 would not have been possible without our donors. Thank you for your tremendous support in terms of funding, ideas, knowledge, guidance and outreach.

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State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation

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Swiss National Science Foundation

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UBS

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