



Forum Synergies

Linking sustainable practices throughout Europe

www.forum-synergies.eu

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NEWSLETTER

News

FS starts into a new work program!

In 2011 Forum Synergies starts into a new period of activities. Building upon our experiences we have developed some new elements and activities – you will find more information within this newsletter and on our website www.forum-synergies.eu/ (workprogramme 2011-2013)!

The state of the ARC

Based on the Communication on future Common Agriculture and Rural Policy members of the ARC are now organising their national actions and campaigns. But ARC also continues to offer expertise and proposals for the legislative preparations of the Commission. This includes participating in hearings and meeting members of Parliament and Commission officials. You can find an overview at the ARC website!

www.arc2020.eu/front/category/news/ .

ARC also continues to stimulate the exchange between civil society organizations and to raise awareness about key events around CAP reform.

ARC plans a conference in mid July (probably 13. or 14. July) checking whether the institutions have understood what we were asking for. "*Consultation of European Civil Society - One year on. Was our voice heard*" will be the title of the conference. We expect that key decision-makers from the Commission, the Parliament and the Council of ministers will be present.



For more information please have a look at the ARC website www.arc2020.eu/ or subscribe to the ARC newsletter! www.arc2020.eu/front/category/news/

Transatlantic ties

Upon invitation of the National Farmers Union (NFU) and the Heinrich Boell Foundation of North America Hannes Lorenzen took part at the annual gathering of NFU in San Antonio. He also had meetings at the US Congress, Senate and Ministry of Agriculture on the new US Farm Bill, which is shaping the new Agriculture Policy in the United States. You may download the report "**EU CAP Reform and New US Farm Bill - Window of Opportunities or Ocean of Differences?**" from our website! www.forum-synergies.eu/

The new FS calendar of events ist now available

Please visit our website www.forum-synergies.eu/

Forum Synergies LifeShop in St.Michel l'Observatoire



An innovative element of the new work program of FS are so-called LifeShops. They shall allow our members and friends to discover sustainable lifestyles where our members live and work. Taking part in such lifeshops you may get inspired by others. A lifeshop is a one week time out of your daily routines. But upon arrangement with your host, you may agree upon shorter or longer periods.

A first lifeshop will take place at St Michel l'Observatoire in August this year.

For more information please contact Philippe Barret phi.barret@geyser.asso.fr or Simone Matouch info@forum-synergies.eu

Farmers Ecology Workshop

Ecologie Paysanne Europe (Farmer's Ecology) will have its 2nd international workshop in Verdon Natural Park, in the south of France, from May 26 to 28. During the visits, the local initiatives should highlight how ecological knowledge can contribute to sustainable development on a territory, on a farm or in the management of a resource. And we also plan fruitful exchanges with the French, Spanish and Romanian participants on the work they are doing in their own region.



The full programme - in French – is available on <http://ecologie-paysanne.org/ep/co/Evenements.html>

PREPARE annual gathering



The PREPARE annual gathering will take place from 29 June – 1 July in Serbia. The Gathering 2011 is a linked series of events in Serbia, which aim to bring together representatives of civil society as well as public sector organisations, primarily from Central and South-Eastern Europe but also from EU member states

The Detailed programme and registration forms are available on the PREPARE website www.preparenetwork.org.

News from Forum Synergies projects

Rural Actors for Health

The new thematic activity aims at establishing a network of rural actors for sustainable health. We want to work on options for implementation in the frame of sustainable rural development.

In a first step we are interested to learn about initiatives who deal with health and herbal medicine.

In case you are interested in the topic or work in the field please contact:

Simone Matouch info@forum-synergies.eu



Sustainable Forestry

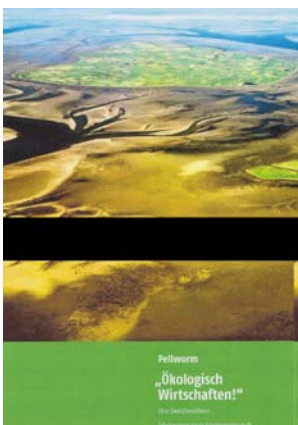
Forum Synergy's work on forests could contribute to let good initiatives around Europe be known and support the debate. The objective is to promote exchanges between successful experiences of sustainable forestry in order to support them, raise awareness on possible alternatives, and propose a different paradigm for forests.

In case you are interested in the topic or work in the field please contact:

Emanuelle Neyroumande neyroumande@gmail.com

News from Forum Synergies members and partners

Ökologisch Wirtschaften, Pellworm, DE



"Ökologisch Wirtschaften" the sustainable local development organisation on the island of Pellworm in North Friesland, Germany has published a book on their 20 years history. It compiles interviews with pioneers, supporters, members, critics and politicians who played key roles in the development of the island. It is interesting to learn from visions, ups and downs of the life of an island community, success stories and failures. It is published in German by the organisation.



You may order it at: vorstand@oeko-verein-pellworm.de. 96 pages with many pictures € 7,50

About Forum Synergies

Forum Synergies is a European non-profit organisation. Since 1994 our network of engaged citizens and associations has gathered rich and varied experience in sustainable practices, mainly in rural areas. Trying out the best ways to save resources and energy in our local communities, combining the intelligent use of modern technologies with traditional know how, and sharing our successes and weaknesses throughout Europe, have given us faith in getting involved in political decision-making on our future.

Forum Synergies is kindly supported by



Fondation de France

<http://www.fdf.org>



Fondation pour le Progrès de l'Homme

<http://www.fph.ch>

Contact: info@forum-synergies.eu