Linking-Learning-Innovating for a more sustainable Wageningen UR



Green Office Year Report 2016

This report presents the results of Green Office activities and projects in year 2016. Its format is based on the Green Office Year Plan 2016. The information is presented in a condensed manner with references to external documents with additional information published on the Green Office Website.

Introduction

Year 2016 was for Green Office a year of exploring new areas. This year we extended our outreach (traditionally WUR students) to a new group: WUR staff. We experimented with new forms: lunch lectures and a sustainability challenge. We have also systematised our approach to promote Green Office activities. Finally, in 2016 Green Office has launched its new website!

In September 2016 four new portfolio coordinators have joined the Green Office team. With the new team Green Office's culture has changed towards more internal collaboration. At the same time, new coordinators needed time to learn their portfolios, which resulted is slower progress in few projects.

Some of the Green Office projects in 2016 were a continuation of earlier projects. Three project: Roadmap Sustainable Catering, Roadmap Sustainable IT and Green Gifts had a predominantly research character, to prepare for future projects. Two projects were cancelled- one due to personal circumstances, other due to lack of time. Summarized results of the projects per portfolio are presented below. At the end of report best moments of 2016 are presented in form of a photo-collage.

Operations

Warm Sweater Week

During the 4th edition of Warm Sweater Week the temperature was lowered in Forum (2 degrees the entire week) and Zodiac (2 degrees during two days). Throughout the entire week <u>several activities</u> took place to raise attention to energy savings by lowering the temperature. The information about <u>energy savings</u> during Warm Sweater Week is available on the Green Office website. Unfortunately it was not possible to involve more buildings during the Warm Sweater Week as the "Directeuren Bedrijfsvoering Overleg" has decided against it.

Roadmap for Better Catering

The report of this project will be soon available on the Green Office website.

Dispose-less

The project has been initiated at Green Action café in May. During this meeting Green Office identified a group of interested volunteers. The group is now developing an Action Plan that will be implemented in 2017.

Snack for planet

The conversation with the supplier of vending machines has not resulted in significant changes regarding the status quo. The project will continue in 2017.

Green Gifts

In the 5th period of academic year 2015/2016 a group of students carried out research on sustainability of gadgets and relationship gifts at WUR (as part of Academic Consultancy training). The work of the students resulted in a report. This document is a basis for discussion with parties at WUR about sustainable choices regarding relationship gifts. Achievements so far include: inclusion of biological wine and sustainable vouchers to the standard offer at Actio building. Further, a recyclable cup KeepCup , will be soon included in the standard offer of WUR's on-line shop..

Roadmap for Sustainable IT

This project consisted of an awareness raising campaign and sustainability assessment of current IT practices presented in a report (soon available on the Green Office website). <u>Use IT Smartly campaign</u> was launched in April. Throughout the entire month, information about ways to decrease environmental impact of IT was published on Intranet and narrowcasting in University buildings. We also distributed a printed <u>guidebook</u> on this topic. The report presents our findings regarding three main areas: sustainable procurement, sustainable use and sustainable end of use. The recommendations for in the report will be used to initiate new projects in 2017.

Student Cooking Corner

Project continues. Green Office purchased hard plastic cups, plates and cutlery to limit plastic waste at Student Cooking Corner. We have also provided a <u>booking calendar</u> at our website to speed up reservation process.

Meatless Monday

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In the 4th period we promoted Meatless Monday at four WUR canteens. During Seriously Sustainable we organized <u>a public</u> debate on this theme in Impulse.

Spending: € 164.04

Education

Green Teachers

The second edition of the Green Teachers Award was a two way continuation of the first edition. Firstly, a new group of teachers is nominated in 2016 for the Award. The winners will be announced in February 2017.

Secondly, Green Office initiated an Open Mind-lab in collaboration with Studium Generale. In this project, a group of students is preparing series of lectures on Education for Sustainability. The lectures will take place in February and March 2017.

Entrepreneurship for Sustainability

The 2nd edition of the course Entrepreneurship for Sustainability Course took place from March until June 2016. 20 people participated in this course. Micha Gracianna Devi won the first price awarded by the jury of experts with her proposition of 'Konsultan', an app supporting vegetable production support in Indonesia. The company received a StartLife microcredit of 1000 euro to boost the first steps in realising this business.

University Journal of Sustainability Studies

This project was cancelled.

Sustainability @ Work

Green Office made a baseline survey to discover what different student organizations do regarding sustainability. The survey revealed that most student organizations do not consider sustainability as an important topic. However, we identified few organizations who are potentially interested in collaboration on that topic.

Green Match

Green Office facilitated 3 new Green Match assignments this year. We have also promoted the initiative by personal emails to study coordinators, Intranet news and articles in Resourcee.

Spending: € 25.90

Outreach

Green Resolutions

This year Green Man visited 5 university buildings (Actio, Gaia/ Lumen, Radix, Atlas and Leeuwenborch) to collect Green Resolutions from students and staff. Over one week more than 50 personal resolutions were collected.

Buurten bij de Burenweek

During Buurten bij de Burenweek Green Office facilitated two guided tours to The Field. The visit to the academic garden was combined with a presentation about the ideas and workfield of of Fossil Free Wageningen. The tour was attended by 20 people in total.

One World Week

Green Office organized 3 events: (1) cup to lamp upcycling workshop attended by 6 people; (2) kick-off of UseITSmartly campaign (with a public of around 60 people) and (3) hand-made sale in combination with clothes swap (approximately 90 participants)

Earth Hour

Candlelight dinner planned for Earth Hour was cancelled

Seriously Sustainable (Sustainability Day)

This year 's Seriously Sustainable Week hosted more than 19 activities. New elements included the Sustainability Challenge and Sustainability Hour. More than 25 organizations joined in by organizing various activities.

AID campaign and Sustainability Survivor kit

During Summer AID Green Office was present at the Bike Sale and the Info Market where we distributed a Sustainability Survivor kit- a flyer for sustainably-minded students with information on where to shop, eat, relax and network. We also collaborated with Erna Maters on a lecture for the Sustainability College Tour.

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Spending: € 125.58

Other

Re-Cycle

Bike Sales during summer and winter AID were successful with over 50 bikes sold. In order to make the origin of the bikes more clear to the buyers, we have created a flyer with infographic illustrating most important facts about the project.

Meet and Mingles

Green Office was involved in the organization of two Meet and Mingles.

Volunteer lunches

Green Office organized three activities for volunteers.

Get together(s)

Green Office team has gathered twice for a retreat, had two dinners together and joined one team building event.

Green Network

Green Active Network: Green Office participated in Re-Greening weekend, facilitated participation of Green Organizations in Seriously Sustainable Week and initiated the process of creating a position for a network coordinator.

Green Office movement/Studenten voor Morgen: Green Office joined five Green Office movement activities (Skype working session on Education, SustainaBul award giving ceremony, Green Office summit and two Studenten voor Morgen ALVs).

Spending: € 654.54

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