

Activity Plan 2023

22 November 2022

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Resource Mobilization

A key objective for SEYN in 2023 is to expand the number and scope of resource mobilization efforts by targeting donor-based grant funding and exploring avenues for fee-based or private-sector contributions to programming activities. Below is a summary of ongoing efforts.

Projects in the pipeline / Submitted proposals

LANTERN: Learning & Action iN The Energy tRansition

Summary

The project aims to create opportunities for learners, especially young people and those in vulnerable conditions in Portugal and Greece, to participate directly in the energy transition by providing the knowledge and the (hard & soft) skills to develop projects and catalyze the integration of renewable energy (RE) applications in existing or new initiatives, while building the leading partner capacity in managing European projects.

The core activity is the Youth Energy Academy - a 7-month hybrid program focusing on 7 Modules covering energy & climate challenges, RE solutions and community-led approaches, social business and financing for small-scale projects.

This will be interlinked with 2 in-person practical workshops, monthly Masterclasses on YEA topics opened to all, a Training-of-Trainers coupled with a “YEA Playbook + Trainers Manual” and the co-creation of a Guide for Youth Action in the Energy Transition.

The project will result in 35 participants with knowledge of the main energy challenge and solutions, capable of designing community RE projects, at least 15 of which with practical knowledge of RE and how to build their own systems. The project will also build the capacity of participants to replicate YEA activities and will deliver a revised & translated version of YEA Activation Kit. The Guide for Youth Action and the Masterclasses demonstrate new green skills and vocational pathways.

Funder: European Commission Erasmus + small scale partnerships

Implementation Dates: 01/02/2023 - 1/02/2024

Implementation Partner: “Southern Lights” (Greece)

Current Status (Nov. 2022): Waiting for approval in January

YEA assessment and future outlook

Summary

This project aims to take stock of the outcomes and impacts of the Youth Energy Academy programme in Asia. After four years of YEAs and related activities, the need has arisen to better understand what the impacts are, and no less importantly, to map future opportunities. A secondary objective will be to make use of the collected data as communications materials. The main activities will be: a Virtual Alumni "Unconference" open to all YEA alumni (a bottom-up event, where contents and sessions are proposed and delivered by alumni or their guests); Survey and data analysis to all 97+ alumni to understand how the programme has impacted their lives professionally and personally and to what extent it impacted their community/their close networks; conduct video interviews with a selected group of alumni to further understand those impacts, as well as other elements such as career paths, main challenges and the impact of macro / contextual factors and produce short videos for communication purposes.

Funder: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS-RECAP)

Implementation Dates: 01/02/2023 - 01/04/2024

Current Status (Nov.2022): Waiting for approval

Youth Energy Academy (YEA) Asia, 2023

Summary

In the fifth year of the YEA programme in Asia, SEYN and its regional partners are planning something slightly different. The approach is to be decided and may depend on the ["YEA assessment and future outlook project"](#) and could presumably be:

- A "YEA+" where 3 or 4 alumni teams are selected for an in-depth acceleration type of workshop on their projects with mentoring with key partners such as the Yunus Thailand and other relevant experts from the region;
- A Training of Trainers (ToT) of previous alumni to replicate YEA-type of activities across the region

Funder: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change Asia and the Pacific (KAS-RECAP)

Implementation Dates: TBD - Q4 2023 (late October/early November)

Current Status (Nov. 2022): Proposal to be developed

People Powered Solar Kits: tools to empower and educate

Summary

Children and youth in education, living in remote and socioeconomically marginalized areas, need a simple and accessible way of being introduced to the basic concepts of renewable energy (RE) applications and their potential use, so they can develop their capacity to deploy these technologies to address everyday energy needs & challenges. By providing a friendly way of introducing RE technologies, this project aims to create a link between everyday energy challenges and the role of small-scale RE in addressing them, whilst increasing the number of youth with relevant skills including technical and vocational skills relevant for employment.

The proposed solution of the People Powered Solar kit represents a simple method of introducing learners to the basic concepts of RE applications allowing them to learn first-hand their potential uses to address energy needs and develop their capacity to design, build and maintain their own energy systems. It seeks to:

- Raise awareness of the applicability of these technologies in the appropriate scale.
- Increase the capacity to develop and implement RE projects in local communities.
- Foster energy efficiency behaviours by making energy tangible and increasing people's connection with it.
- Built capacities and skillsets towards employment in then green transition sector.

Funder: Social Shifters

Implementation Dates:

Phase 1 End Date Nov 17, 2022

Competition End Date Feb 02, 2023

Current Status (Nov. 2022): Waiting for approval

Funding opportunities under review and/or development

EUTeens4Green

Summary

This projects aims to empower young people to become active actors in the sustainable transition and to alleviate socio-economic disparities in territories that are most in need (i.e. EU regions most dependent on fossil fuels or carbon-intensive industries). The action targets the just transition regions those people that are "less exposed" to the benefits of the green transition (i.e. target groups with limited awareness of the impact of the transition to a climate-neutral economy on their professional and private life and who at the same time have limited resources or opportunities to express their needs to be able to participate in the definition of actions for a sustainable transition). The proposal of a Just Energy Transition Academy will focus on just

transitions regions in Portugal, will take place in “Alentejo Litoral” and will be submitted in partnership with a young person and previous participant in a workshop from Alentejo (Odemira) who is active in RE and can leverage knowledge and contacts in the region.

Funder: European Commission, managed by the consortium composed of Startup Europe Regions Network (SERN), Youth and Environment Europe (YEE), and CEE Bankwatch Network

Dates: Deadline on 9 January 2023; Results communicated on 10 February 2023

Current Status (Nov. 2022): Proposal writing

Energy Globe Award

Summary

Supposedly this is the most renowned environmental prize worldwide. It is presented in the categories of Life: Earth, Fire, Water, Air, the future-oriented category Youth and a yearly special category (sustainable start-ups in 2023). SEYN will submit an application in the category “Youth” which will include the Youth Energy Academy in Asia as a programme (editions 2019-2022). Undertaking the [“YEA Assessment and Future Outlook”](#) would be a contribution for higher quality application as it would allow understanding and communicating the impacts of the project so far.

Funder: Consortium of partners (companies, United Nations, Austrian ministries and so on)

Dates: Deadline February 14, 2023

Current Status (Nov. 2022): In preparation

Women in Energy Leadership, Innovation and Resilience

Summary

This grant aims to enhance and leverage the role of women in energy innovation in the Philippines. The goals of the programme fit with SEYN’s approach of integrating productive uses of energy in RE projects and increasing and strengthening the participation of women in mentoring, training and education programmes. The goal of this project is to build on the work it has been done through YEA, where most Filipino participants have shown great potential and openness for collaborating further, creating opportunities for SEYN to focus on building capacity within the country.

Funder: USAID - United States Agency for International Development, Energy Secure Philippines Activity

Deadline: Deadline for proposal submission 9 December

Current Status (Nov. 2022): Under assessment and the application will be dismissed unless the request for applications (RFA) period is extended

Company engagement projects

“Energy Getaways”

Summary

The idea was originally tested in the contest Inova Algarve 2022 where together with Nuts4Berries (company owned by our member João Cavaco) we reached the finals, coming second in the category “Tourism and Renewable Energies”. Designed and presented as leisure experiences, these are weekend events that combine nature-like activities (forest walks, mindfulness, yoga), energy workshops on building solar systems and informal talks on the citizens' role in energy transition. Depending on the company's interests these can also include team development activities like Design Sprints.

Current Status (Nov. 2022): Ideation

Negotiation of in-kind contributions

In 2023, SEYN intends to build a company database and initiate contacts to explore and request in-kind donations of resources and services that can support programming activities. These may include requests for construction materials, hardware, software, and others. A few examples include the following:

- Leroy Merlin
- Bricomarché
- Vitto
- Black & Decker, others
- Solar panel companies
- Portable battery companies

Services:

- Miro
- Zoom
- Slack
- Mentimeter
- Slido

Branding, Marketing, and Communications

In 2023, SEYN hopes to upgrade the organization's brand image, as well as its marketing and communications strategy. Following efforts in 2021 to establish (and revive the SEYN brand identity from its 2015 predecessor), activities in 2022 have aimed to refine organizational

development areas such as strengthening our value proposition, materials and resources, strategic partnerships, and resource mobilization efforts. Below is a summary of some of the ongoing efforts that are expected to carry out into 2023.

Rebranding: Launch of new logo and website

Summary

SEYN's relaunch in 2021 has been a process of learning, team cohesion and building as well as identity reshaping. A few things became clear along the way that: 1) this needed to be accompanied by a full rebranding exercise that took into account SEYN's vision and mission, clear target(s) definition, whilst modernizing the organization's image; 2) we needed competent design and communications professionals who really understood and identify with SEYN; 3) and could deliver high-quality outputs at a cost the association could afford. Luckily we found "Olho do Cão", a collective of creatives based in Évora, who have been going the extra mile for us, even hosting our first 1-day DiY workshop in Portugal. The website (currently a basic wix site) will soon be turned into a more functional wordpress site, hosted by a sustainable server. SEYN's management team aims to organize an event (virtual or in-person) to launch this new moment.

Dates: First quarter of 2023

Status: In development

Partner: [Olho do Cão](#)

Communications Intern

Summary

Through a partnership signed with the company Pagoda projects, SEYN will hopefully begin receiving (remote) interns to support the managing team with communications work in a first phase and later on with other core tasks such as fundraising and grant writing.

Dates: TBC

Status: Open call for expressions of interest

Partner: Pagoda projects

Other

Establishing SEYN as a NGO

Setting up SEYN as a non-governmental organization (NGO) has been a goal since the formal establishment of the association in 2021. There are two alternatives for SEYN, applying to become an **ONGA (Organização não Governamental de Ambiente)** or an ONGD (**Organização não Governamental de Desenvolvimento**), see [here](#).

The process for both needs to be investigated, but SEYN's accountant said that ONGD is easier to obtain. It is regulated by [law 66/98](#) and the request is done through [Instituto Camões](#) (Foreign Affairs Ministry).

This statute that basically recognizes or is equivalent to having a “public interest” statute (estatuto de entidade de interesse público) would offer a number of benefits to SEYN.

On one hand, it opens the door to specific types of public financing in Portugal, on the other hand, offers many tax benefits, for example, “consignação IRS” (where any citizens can donate 0,5% of it's tax benefit to the organization, “Lei do Mecenato Social” (where companies get tax benefits for donating to NGOs) as well as IRC and VAT exemptions.

Given that organizations can only request the “public interest” statute after 3 years of effective operation, SEYN can start application for the NGO status after mid 2023 and when this is approved started working for the.

Dates: Mid/late 2023

Children's Book: Crowdfunding campaign and launch

Summary: our most recent and perhaps most beautiful project ever, our first children's book was written by [Jonathan Brenes](#) and Illustrated by Juliana Diógenes and will soon see the light of day. We are doing a Special Limited Edition (for which we are undertaking all planning, reviewing, layout, admin and printing) in two bilingual versions: English-Spanish and English-Portuguese. The Special limited Edition is expected to be available for purchase in Portugal and Costa Rica for Christmas 2022, and allow us to collect feedback and communications material from users for the book's official launch edition. In order to cover the costs for the launch and to concurrently increase SEYN's visibility to a larger audience, we intend to conduct a crowdfunding campaign in 2023 featuring video and photographic inputs from those who get a hold of said edition. Proceeds from book sales are aimed to be donated to SEYN programming fund, with a commitment of donating a portion to an organization or initiative working in the intersection of indigenous peoples' rights, climate action and, ideally, sustainable energy transitions, in light of the primary character inspiring the project, namely an indigenous group in Central America (a region with an ongoing and complex history in terms of

energy access, human rights, violence, and proper consultations including for large scale energy projects).

Official Book Launch: Earth Day - April 22, 2023

Contributors: “Olho do Cão”, Juliana Diógenes, Ricardo Lemos



**A story by | Uma história de
Sustainable Energy Youth Network**

EN: Dlô & the Firefly - Story Book + Coloring book

Most of us have a child in our family or circle of friends. The world that these small humans are inheriting is haunted by the dark and terrifying impacts of climate change, which threaten their livelihoods, safety, and wellbeing. We still have a few years left to safeguard those impacts within limits that they can adapt to. But as their shoe size and questions grow bigger, how can we have a conversation with the future humans of Planet Earth about one of the key sources of greenhouse gas emissions: energy generation and consumption? How can children invite their older counterparts to reflect on this? This book is an attempt to bridge a generational intergenerational dialogue about this critical topic for our species.

Would you tell us about your experience when you share Dlô's story with a small human in your life?



Global online distribution and in stores in Portugal, Costa Rica and beyond. The revenues will be used to support SEYN's educational projects and donated to indigenous communities in Costa Rica.

Distribuição global online e em lojas em Portugal, Costa Rica e mas além. As receitas serão usadas para apoiar os projetos educacionais da SEYN e doadas para comunidades indígenas na Costa Rica.

