



Gaia, Student Organization

Name and e-mail address of the person who is applying	David Fjolnir Armannsson. dfa2@hi.is
Name of the Organization/Group	Gaia, Student Organization
Address	Saemundargata 10 101 Reykjavik
Contact Email/Phone/Fax	+354 660 29 28 email: gaia@hi.is
Website/Blog/FB page	https://nemendafelog.hi.is/gaia/about-us/ www.facebook.com/GaiaIceland
Type of the organization NGO/ Student's Group/ Youth platform/ initiative group / other (which?)	Student Organization for the Environmental- & Natural Resources Studies at the University of Iceland.
Major field of activity/ Main goals	Organize various events for students regarding environmental issues, promote environmental discourse within the University and help the University of Iceland implementing its environmental policy.

Project Title: Green Days at the University of Iceland.

Description of the project including the project's goal * (no more than 200 words)

The Green Days Program seeks to promote environmental awareness and discourse within the University of Iceland. Every spring semester Gaia organizes 4-5 days long program that includes events such as lectures, movie screenings, panel discussions, workshops, exhibitions, outdoor activity, live music and many more.

In addition Gaia presents each year the Green Days awards. The awards are given to an individual, group, department or a field within the University of Iceland that has with its publication and/or research promoted environmental awareness in the University and in Icelandic society.

The main goal with the Green Days Program is to get all students and of course all people in Iceland to increase their environmental awareness by seeking knowlegde and "know how" to practice more environmentally friendly behaviour.

The Green Days have been held every year since 2008 and the program has matured and is getting more advanced with every year.

Each year the Green days are given a specific theme to work with and focus on in the year 2013 the theme was chosen to be sustainability in design and arts.

Please list the project's objectives that were designed to reach the goal. Then describe the project's activities and achievements, including any changes that were made in your local community or nationally (with any existing indicators)?

The Green days 2013 objectives was to educate and inform students and other participants in the program how we can use design, art and innovation to create a sustainable and environmentally friendly future for us and generations to come.

The lectures, workshops, movie screenings and other activities focused on spreading the knowledge and the "know how" about sustainable innovation and design and what solutions are available for us to use and to become more environmentally friendly in our behaviour.

One of the largest events this year was a Remote-lecture trough a conference system with the American arcitechtt William McDonough. He discussed his Cradle-to-Cradle ideology and how Iceland could implement those ideas to become more environmentally sustainable in the near future.

Please describe how young people were involved. For example, in your description include whether the project was inspired by young people or others; was the project's planning and implementation youth-led? What did young people do? How were young people recruited? Was the project an element in ongoing youth participation activities? Please include any relevant indicators.

The Green Days Program is fully organised and runned by the students in the mastersprogram of Environmental & Natural Resources Studies at the University of Iceland. The Board of Gaia, student association, was in charge of the organisation and planning the Green Days schedule and sought collaboration with other organisations that are led by young people.

For instance this years Green Days Program was in collaborations with young people from SEEDS-Iceland and Reykjavik Downtown Hostel, which is a part of the Hosteling International branch.

The Green days program was an initiative from students in the ENR Studies in 2008 and every year since then the Green days has been a part of Gaia's objectives to promote environmental awareness.

Describe the project funding. In your answer include how much was needed, where it came from and how it was acquired? Who was responsible for raising the funds and for giving it out? Did the funder require a project report? If so please send it.

Every year the board of Gaia applies for funds to cover the cost of the Green days Program. The amount needed varies between years based on how big the schedule is each year. The University of Iceland is one of the largest funders of the Green Days program, but other funders include companies and organistaions that participate in the program each year. In the year 2013 the total cost of the Green days Program was 222.500 Icelandic Krona's. The total funding received was 100.000 kr, - from the University of Iceland and 50.000 kr, - from Sorpa, a waste management company owned by the municipalities in the capital area of Iceland. The remaining 72.500 kr, - were paid by Gaia's private fund.

Many countries have a national agenda for environment and/or health. What (if any) were the project's connections to national or international environment processes (e.g. strategies, programs, etc)? Please explain either if yes or if no.

For this year's Green Days Program there was little connection to international processes. Gaia gave the Green Days award to professor Guðni Elísson at the University of Iceland. Through his writings he has criticized how the political discourse in Iceland neglects big environmental issues such as climate change.

In addition to that, two documentaries were screened during the Green Days that address environmental issues such as climate change and human impact on the earth's ecosystem. Those documentaries were Chasing Ice and Home.

What (if any) were the project's connections to national or international health processes (e.g. strategies, programs, etc)? Please explain either if yes or if no.

The Green Days Program has from the beginning focused on environmental issues local to Iceland as well as global. Therefore there has not been a direct connection to health processes national or international. Having said that Gaia will not rule out the possibility to put it's focus on environmental issues that connect directly to human health such as air and water quality, ocean pollution and agriculture quality in the coming years.

Please describe if the project is complete or ongoing. Describe what follow up is planned, how the outcomes will be or have been publicized and what plans (if any) there are for the project's outcomes to lead into more activities?

The Green Days program is a yearly program that has a specific theme each year. It is therefore an ongoing project and hopefully the program can evolve to an even broader and bigger program with more connections to other organisations both national and international.

Gaia's vision is to make the Green Days at the University a well-known program that can reach the ears of all people no matter whether they are located in Iceland or abroad.

- *** A project should have one overarching goal which will be achieved through a range of objectives**