

„GAIA is the Earth Goddess, mother of all that lives and grows on earth“

From the Greek mythology

We were five
- learn about us from our acts



**Agentura GAIA
2002 ANNUAL REPORT**

Dear readers,

last year the ecological agency Agentura GAIA celebrated five years of its existence. At the time of its foundation we registered an organisation with an outstanding programme. Remarkable for it's reflection of nature by combining various activities and its view upon the world from a horizontal perspective.

In nature no event stands on it's own, all is interrelated and everything has its right time to be done. In human society it is the vertical way of thinking, a consistent focus on one problem that dominates. Let me give an example for better understanding: planting trees is an understandable and friendly act. However, without education it can lose it's purpose, for it can happen (and it occurs) that somebody plants a tree but someone else cuts it down because he wants a parking place.

People lost knowledge about the basic needs of life like pure air, water and health food. How long can we survive without air, water and food? On the other hand, how long can we survive without a car, computer or mobil? It is essential to talk about the importance of basic life needs that are created by GAIA, our Earth, as for they are being shadowed by present material requests and wants.

However, people cannot be forced by force for freedom and love are essential social needs. Though, it is good to realize that every each one of us carries personal responsibility for life priorities. In Agentura GAIA we have developed community activity in which we involve people in decision making about what the local and global world will look like.

Within the framework of the educational programme Thought–Word–Action is the strategy of the ecological agency Agentura GAIA complemented by the implementation of useful ideas into real life.

Looking forward to further progress of the ecological agency Agentura GAIA and cooperation with you

Marie Haisová

„Agentura GAIA struggles for the improvement of environmental and social relationship“

Agentura GAIA was set up in March 1997 and was registered as a civic association.

From the status:

- Agentura GAIA is independent by nature and seeks new ways of communication among people in the areas of environment, education, work with children and enlightenment*. Special emphasis is laid on a holistic approach to life. The agency's activity is based on democratic principles. It is based on the activity of its members.
- The basic aim of Agentura GAIA is the protection of nature and the landscape, which is its main mission. Further, it contributes to the prevention and solution of negative impacts of human activity on the environment with stress on communication improvement among people.
- Within the framework of these aims Agentura GAIA organises projects relative to the environment that serve the citizens.
- Both within and beside its projects Agentura GAIA provides principally educational, advisory, informational and legislative services as well as help, practical and aimed at public enlightenment*.
- Agentura GAIA establishes into and maintains relations and cooperation with individuals and associations of similar orientation both in this country and abroad.
- Agentura GAIA designs and carries out projects and programmes with such orientation, initiates cooperation between state and non-governmental entities.

Agentura GAIA seeks for new ways of communication among people in the areas of environment, education and enlightenment. Within the bounds of this mission it is dedicated to the following main frameworks:

“Green means life”: The goal is to return trees to gray streets of our towns and municipalities.

“Women and the environment”: Putting emphasis on feminine approach to life, attitudes to life and protection of environment

“Money or life”: looking for the solutions of the worldwide environmental and ecological crisis through changing everyday behaviour.

Agentura GAIA celebrated its 5th anniversary

In 2002 Agentura GAIA celebrated its 5th anniversary. The annual meeting of Agentura GAIA's members, including a discussion with Benjamin Kuras, a British-Czech writer and a member of the agency's honorary board, took place on the 1st March. On this occasion we also announced the results of the Zpravodaj GAIA reader's contest "Plant your own tree" referred to a best project, idea or proposition for planting a Turkish hazel in the Czech Republic. A large amount of seeds of this tree was donated to Agentura GAIA from its member Libuše Martinčková. The first place in the contest was achieved by a group of three its members Marie Barnová, Olga Sýkorová and Jitka Vlčková who proposed to plant an alley of Turkish hazel on a 150 m stripe of a private land in Srbsko near Beroun.

FIVE years of the ecological agency Agentura GAIA - OVERVIEW

- 1997:**
- planting trees in Lublaňská and Wenzigova streets in Prague 2
 - restoration of the manor park in Prague 9- Hostavice - stage 1
 - salvation of tree alleys in Pilská, Kyjská and Novozamecká streets in Prague 14
 - an international meeting of representatives of the ecological and social movement "Money or life" at the ecological centre Toulcův dvůr
 - two presentations of ecological programmes at the Ecolife fair, which promotes healthy lifestyle
 - "ombudsman" solutions of civic initiations and complaints of negative environmental interventions:
 - down cutting* of trees in Americká street in Prague 2
 - preservation of the cultural heritage of villa Grébovka in Havlíčkovy sady
- 1998:**
- a happening "Streets open to life" held on the occasion of *The Earth Day* celebration (*Den Země*)
 - setting up regular club meetings taking place every first Thursday of the month including lectures and discussions
 - the edition of an anthology "Money or life"
 - "ombudsman" solutions of civic initiations and complaints of negative environmental interventions:
 - down cutting* of trees in Americká, Nad Petruskou and Mánesova streets in Prague 2
 - preservation of the cultural heritage of villa Grébovka in Havlíčkovy sady
 - building of the administrative and residential centre Zvonařka
 - interruption of the mining works in the quarry near Verušice
 - two presentations of ecological programmes at the Ecolife fair, which promotes healthy lifestyle
- 1999:**
- restoration of the manor park in Prague 9- Hostavice - second stage
 - a happening "Witchcraft for the Earth" including a cultural performance in Hostavice
 - a happening "Streets open to life" joined with the maintenance of newly planted trees in Královské Vinohrady, organised in cooperation with the Diagnostic Institute of Prague 2

- “Dialog for the 21st century” dialog between Agentura GAIA and the firm Shell ČR on the responsibility for the state of the world
- an educational programme for schools “An ecological road to a common Europe”
- a happening “Log rolling” held to draw attention to the state of the environment in our capital
- a public collection “Sponsor a tree”
- establishing system of local exchange of goods and services - LETS
- a presentation at an international conference about ecological kindergartens in St. Marienthal, Germany
- community cooperation in the adaptation of the inner yard Radhošťská in Prague 3
- “ombudsman” solutions of civic initiations and complaints of negative environmental interventions:
 - down cutting of trees in Americká street in Prague 2
 - preservation of the cultural heritage of villa Grébovka in Havlíčkovy sady
 - building of the administrative and residential centre Zvonařka
 - interruption of the mining works in the quarry near Verušice
 - building of an administrative centre at Karlovo náměstí
 - building of a car painting workshop instead of a children’s playground in Na Plzeňce street in Prague 5
 - building of a building material storehouse in Prosecká vyhlídka
- two presentations of ecological programmes at the Ecolife fair, which promotes healthy lifestyle
- negotiation of UNEP about pesticides in Geneva
- participation in a strategic meeting of European non-governmental organizations about genetically modified organisms (GMO) in Bryansk
- the conference “Diverse Women for Diversity” in Seattle
- a round table held on the occasion of the book exposition in Olomouc
- a joint discussion of Marie Haisová and prof. Machovec at the Humanistic Alliance
- lectures at the Town Library of Vsetín
- lectures on topic of DNA in American Cultural Centre
- lectures for the Open Society Fund and for CVUT (*Czech Technical University*)

- 2000:**
- reconstruction of the manor park in Prague 9- Hostavice- third stage
 - opening of an educational dendrology pathway in the area of the manor park
 - a happening “Witchcraft for the Earth” held to celebrate the finishing of the third stage of planting trees in Kubelíkova street in Prague 3
 - an educational programme for schools “An ecological road to common Europe”
 - a children’s conference “We and the 21st century Europe”
 - an international conference “Life is not for sale – women, children and nature as an alternative to the politics of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank”
 - community planning “Do you know your vital space” for the purpose of the adaptation of the inner block site Radhošťská in Prague 3
 - a project of setting up a ecological kindergarten “We in the 21st century” in Klatovy
 - a public collection “Sponsor a tree”
 - system of local exchange of goods and services - LETS

- two presentations of ecological programmes at the Ecolife fair, which promotes healthy lifestyle
 - participation in the conference “Praha Natura Megapolis” about the strategic plan of the City of Prague
 - a presentation at the international meeting of the Ashoka Association in London
- 2001:**
- a cultural and educational project “Time means life” supported by the European Committee on the topic of gender equality, self-confidence, responsibility and time management
 - creation of the educational programme “Thought, Word, Action”
 - continuation of the projects “Do you know your vital space?” and “We in the 21st century”
 - building of a children playground at the location Green Way in Prague - Kunratice
 - a public collection “Sponsor a tree”
 - system of local exchange of goods and services - LETS
 - two presentations of ecological programmes at the Ecolife fair which promotes healthy lifestyle
 - the photo documentation and project study of the natural park in old Střešovice
 - the edition of an anthology “Life is not for sale” and of the Czech version of the video “Future is already here”
 - participation in a conference in Brussels dedicated to equal opportunities
 - participation in the international meeting of the Ashoka Association in Turkey
 - presentation of the project “Time means life” in Spain

2002

A Local Democracy Award “About people with people” within the project “Do you know your vital space?”

In 2002 continued the model community project aimed to adapt the inner yard between Radhošťská, Lucemburská, Baranova and Křišťanova streets in Prague 3 according to the needs of local residents. The task of the architect Eva Vízková was to develop an architectural study of the inner yard adaptation based on the most frequent comments of its residents. Agentura GAIA introduced to local people several design alternatives from which they could choose. In December 2002 was in the meeting room of the Green House in Lublaňská st.18, Prague 2 organised exhibition where people could review the study for final opposition proceeding. In October 2002 the project won the first prize in the contest “About people with people – a local democracy award”. The Centre for Community Work and the East West Studies Institute in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Environment award this prize once a year to town halls for their cooperation with citizens during decision-making processes related to regional planning.

The Children playground Green Road

31st May 2002 took place a festive opening of the first part of the natural children playground for the smallest children in Prague*–Kunratice, attended by the major of Prague*–Kunratice Alena Kabelová, the representative of Agentura GAIA and by the children from the Kunratice kindergarten. The children playground is located near the pond Ohrada and suitably integrates

into a recently restored park stretch adjoining so called *Green Way* which connects the edge of the Kunratice forest with the manor park, pheasantry and the recreational areas surrounding ponds Šeberák and Olšaňák. The architectural study by Ing. Kateřina Tuzarová divides the children playground into two parts. In the first step were build the resting place, playground for under-fives, a pergola, a baby-bouncer, a wooden grate-board, a children shelter hut, a sandpit and a construction with a slide. The second planned step covers a moulded terrain with a man-made climbing wall for older children and teenagers, a small ropeway, a wooden bridge, a water fountain and a stone path.

Archa 21 (*Ark 21*)

Agentura GAIA and the International Society for Education and Enlightenment IGU initiated a project “Ark 21 – an European network of ecological kindergartens”. Its aim is to map the current state of ecology-oriented kindergartens. Through the medium of the magazine Informatorium (# 3-8) the Czech kindergartens received a questionnaire that surveyed the environment in which children spend their time. The questions concerned both the interior and exterior locations, pedagogical and ecological approaches in education. The same research is taking place in Germany, Poland and other central European countries. From each country will be chosen after its completion three ecological kindergartens to become a model example. Information collected during the survey will serve for writing up an informational brochure that will help to exchange experience between kindergartens.

We in the 21st century

The aim of the project is to create model ecological kindergarten Karafiátová in Klatovy in cooperation with local citizens and to integrate* it into the network of ecological kindergartens. In 2002 was reconstructed garden. Under the supervision of Václav Weinfurther and in compliance with his proposition were removed all concrete and asphalt surfaces and replaced by grass ones and iron window ladders were replaced by natural materials. In the project participated also parents, children and teachers. We contributed by installing informational panels on the corridors, donated computer and created kindergarten website www.sweb.cz/mskarafiat.

Time means life

The educational and cultural project supported by the European Committee on the topic of gender equality, self-confidence, responsibility and time-management was ended in 2002 by series of lectures and workshops on team cooperation in the Masaryk public library in Vsetín.

LETS – lets help each other

Also in its fourth year, the project LETS (a local economy network) continued to develop mutual community help by the way of exchange of services and goods. Last year the group LETS welcomed six new members. The membership is based on offering to LETS network a some kind of service and in return to get from others another required service. In 2002 most mutual exchanges involved garden help in exchange for fruits and nuts. LETS members

significantly helped Mrs. Barnová to repair her weekend house which was severely damaged by summer floods. In exchange they received delicious desserts. Men with technical skills participated in adaptation works of the kindergarten building owned by LETS member Stanislava Valešková. Their contribution was evaluated by 10 000 points*. Members of Agentura GAIA held on this newly adapted premises successful Christmas party.

WE PARTICIPATED IN

- The conference of European women for the sustainable future in Čelákovice.
- A presentation at the exposition *World of books*.
- The meeting of Central European members of the Ashoka Association at the Nidzice castle in Poland.
- The UN Earth Summit on environment in Johannesburg.
- The aid and educational programme for non-profit organizations “The road to stability” organized by the Foundation VIA.
- A training session CpKP about fundraising from European structural funds.
- A meeting of library representatives of Vsetín district where Marie Haisová explained how to handle criticism.
- The spring and fall fair of healthful lifestyle *Ecolife*.
- The lecture for Eisenhower Fellows.
- With the organization *Dvojka sobě (Prague 2 to itself)* we co-organized the seminar about the possibilities of revitalization of city districts.
- We lectured films of the *Foundation People in Need (Člověk v tísní)* at the festival *Jeden svět (One World)* at high schools.

THURSDAYS WITH GAIA

Every first Thursday of the month seminars, lectures and discussions with hosts take place in the Agentura GAIA’s boardroom for the association’s members. Our last year programme included:

- A meeting with a British-Czech writer Benjamin Kuras, a member of Agentura GAIA’s Honorary Board.
- A lecture by Anna Hogenová about the Goddess of nature Gaia and the Greek mythology.
- A meeting and debate with the publisher Fedor Gál about the joys and woes of Czech publishers.
- A slide presentation “Loveliness of Bohemia and Moravia countrysides” with a commentary by Emanuel Otavský.
- A narrative and video projection by Stanislav Motl, a reporter of the TV programme *Na vlastní oči (Eyewitness)* about mysteries, marginal experiences and unearthly phenomenas he had encountered both in the Czech Republic and abroad.
- A lecture by psychologist Alžběta Šorfová about manipulation with people on all levels, its different forms and levels.
- A lecture by Milena Makovičková about Bach flower therapy.
- A lecture by the member of Agentura GAIA Jan Kristka about human sexuality.

INTERNET

Updated information about Agentura GAIA activities and projects is published on the website <http://www.ecn.cz/gaia>

ZPRAVODAJ GAIA (JOURNAL)

Zpravodaj GAIA is issued quarterly and distributed to Agentura GAIA members, contributors and sponsors.

AGENTURA GAIA IN PERIODICALS – OVERVIEW:

Zbytečné miliony do české vědy (Useless millions for Czech science)
18 Dec 2002, *Lidove noviny* (Marie Haisová)

Rovnost začíná v MŠ (Equality begins in the Kindergarten)
4 Dec 2002, *Informatorium 3 - 8* (Marie Haisová)

Světové peníze kontrolují muži (Global wealth is controlled by men)
14 Sep 2002, *MF DNES Stredni Cechy* (Marie Haisová)

Nesmíme žít na úkor budoucnosti (We cannot live off future)
1 Aug 2002, *Moravskoslezsky denik* (Marie Haisová)

Pusťme ženy do hry, dají společnosti novou vizi (Let women into the game, they'll give society a new vision)
1 Aug 2002, *MF DNES* (Marie Haisová)

Neefektivní Kavan (Inefficient Kavan)
17 Jul 2002, *Lidove Noviny* (Marie Haisová)

Pohlédni jinak na život vezdejší (Look upon our lives in a different way)
22 Jun 2002, *MF DNES* (Marie Haisová)

Jaké pohlaví má abstraktní lidstvo (Of what sex is the abstract mankind)
8 Jun 2002, *MF DNES* (Marie Haisová)

Mateřská školka Karafiát: S podobnými projekty mají zkušenost (Kindergarten Karafiat: They have experience with similar projects)
9 Apr 2002, *Klatovsky denik* (Radmila Nagovská)

Čím jsme chudší, tím mají peníze pro nás větší hodnotu (The poorer we are the more value we place on money)
28 Mar 2002, *SONDY* (Benjamin Kuras, Marie Haisová)

Tvůrce vesmíru odjakživa fandí zotročeným, utlačovaným a poníženým (The creator of space has been always preferring the enslaved, abused and humiliated)
7 Mar 2002, *Pravo* (Benjamin Kuras, Marie Haisová)

AGENTURA GAIA MEMBERSHIP IN CZECH AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS:

Ashoka Association

Asociace pro rovné příležitosti (*Association for Equal Opportunities*)

Balatonská skupina (BG)

Diverse Women for Diversity (DWD)

Mezinárodní společnost pro ekologickou výchovu (IGU)

Schumacher College

SOS Praha

Společnost pro soudobou dokumentaci (*Society for Contemporary Documentation*)

Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)

Women For a Common Europe (WFCE)

Zelený kruh (*The Green Circle*)

WHO ARE WE?

In 2002 worked and volunteered in Agentura GAIA :

Marie Haisová – director

Adéla Purschová – office administration, fundraising

Marie Veselá – bookkeeping

Veronika Vašková – public relations

Jaromír Manhart – civil service

Kryštof Blažek – civil service

Petr Hais – webmaster

Hana Chalušová, Alice Mullerová, Eva Vízková – “Do you know your vital space?”

Eva Collinsová – “Let's help each other – LETS”

Miloš Macháček – “The Children playground Green Way”

Anne Dostálová, Ondřej Matyáš, Marek Tarnovský - Copier Centrum Domino

Susanne Zechts – illustrations, graphics and printing

Amy Nitka – translations, fundraising

Agentura GAIA Honorary Board:

Dragan Antunovič, *priest, Austria*, Joan Dine, *International Women's club*, Hazel Henderson, *futureologist, USA*, Dagmar Jáňová, *Radio station Český rozhlas editor*, Jadwiga Lopata, *Ashoka-Eceat, Poland*, Benjamin Kuras, *British-Czech writer*, Abraham Mabelis, *Alterra, Holland*, Reinhold Pape, *Acid Rain, Sweden*, Martin Patříčný, *sculptor*, Hana Pernicová, *Foundation VIA*, Ingrid Sehrbrock, *Deutsechr Gewerkschaftbund, Germany*, Petr Smutný, *Czech Republic Parliament senator*, Josef Štulc, *director of Statni ustav pamatkove pece (The State Heritage Institute)*, Alexander Tomský, *director of Academia publishing house*.

Agentura GAIA Executive Board:

Marie Haisová (chairman), Marta Hrabáková, Jaroslav Knápek, Pavel Rozsypal (auditor)

AGENTURA GAIA WANTS TO NAMELY THANK FOR THE SUPPORT IN THE YEAR 2002 TO :

Foundations and institutions:

Ashoka Association	international meeting
Acid Rain Sweden	95 730,00
European Committee, Brussels	275 464,00
IGU, Germany	29 590,00
Prague City Municipality	333 782,50
Royal Netherlands Embassy in Prague	60 000,00

Individual donors:

2 000 CZK: Lenka Běláková,

1 700 CZK: Joan Dine,

1 200 CZK: Jiří Růžička,

1 000 CZK: Dana Hakrová, Zlatica Kašková, Jaroslav Knápek,

887,80 CZK: Dragan Antunovič,

860 CZK: Marie Haisová,

560 CZK: Benjamin Kuras,

500 CZK: Jan Čepěk, Pavel Rozsypal, Karolína Rozsypalová,

350 CZK: Dagmar Jáňová,

300 CZK: Martin Náprstek, Alice Oppová,

250 CZK: Milena a Jiří Miholovi, Emanuel Otavský,

200 CZK: Marie Barnová, Natalia Fofanová, Eva Hauserová, Jan Haverkamp, Anita Horáková, Marta Hrabáková, Marie Kovárnová, Jan Kristek, Jaroslav Lípa, Jana Nováková, Milan Opočenský, Hana Pětivoká, Blažena Polahárová, Adéla Purschová, Martin Rybář, Anna Růžičková, Petra Sádková, Dagmar Schneidrová, Jan Sihelník, Hana Smejtková, Klára Sutlovičová, Helena Svatošová,, Olga Sýkorová, Věra Vačkářová, Veronika Vašková, Magdalena Wawerková, Marie Zůbková,

150 CZK: Pavel Zeman,

100 CZK: Eva Collinsová, Rudolf Fišer, Kateřina Hlavatá, Marie Kasíková, Ludmila Suchá, Jiří Suchomel, Zdeněk Vachtl, Jitka Vlčková,

50 CZK: Alžběta Marinová, Jarmila Soukupová.

2002 ANNUAL REPORT:

Profit and Loss Account (CZK)

Income		Expenses	
		Bank fees	16 757,20
		Contributions given	2 500,00
		Children playground costs	235 549,70
		Advertisement/Promotion	70 088,00
		Copy/Print expenses	19 986,60
Interests	11 726,20	Pays/Wages	348 843,20
Sales (goods)	3 877,00	Material costs	13 631,00
Member dues	20 440,00	Maintenance/Repairs	682,00
Contributions	20 540,00	Travelling expenses	19 231,70
Grants	977 589,40	Representation expenses	3 678,00
		Rental	38 208,00
Total	1 034 172,60	Communication expenses	55 448,40
		Training expenses (seminars)	3 350,00
		Building/Site adaptation	25 500,00
		Other services/Consultations	327 574,70
		Publishing expenses (Zpravodaj GAIA)	7 560,00
		Total	1 188 591,50
Loss:	151 418,90		

Balance sheet (CZK)

Assets	658 997,00	Liabilities	658 997,00
Fixed assets	77 604,80	Economic outcome	546 717,00
- intangible property	3 360,00	Short-term payables (liabilities)	112 280,00
- valuation to intangible property-	3 360,00		
- tangible property	108 988,80		
- valuation to tangible property-	31 384,00		
Short-term assets	581 392,30		
- receivables (debts)	39 889,00		
- financial assets	541 233,30		
- deferred assets (active)	270,00		

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