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Final Project Newsletter

CEECEC (Civil Society Engagement with Ecological Economics) is a European Commission FP7 funded project co-ordinated by the Universitat Autònoma Barcelona (ICTA-UAB) that aims to enable Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to engage in and lead collaborative research with ecological economists. Here's a summary of what we've been up to.

End of Project News - November 2010

This final newsletter presents a round-up of our accomplishments, as CEECEC (April 2008-Sept 2010) has now run its course! Thank you for following us over the past 2+ years, and watch out for EJOLT (Environmental Justice Organisations, Liabilities and Trade), another FP7 funded project to be coordinated by ICTA UAB in the next 3-4 years.

1. E-Book, Ecological Economics from the Bottom-Up Now Online

The ecological economics **handbook**, a compilation of case study chapters written by civil society organisations (CSOs) on conflicts in areas such as mining, forestry, transport infrastructures, tourism, waste management, corporate accountability, ecological debt, and protected areas management, hyperlinked to a glossary of ecological economics concepts and methods, is now available **online**.

Access to this resource is free and readers are kindly requested to leave comments/feedback at the bottom of webpage. The **glossary** of ecological economics terms and tools on its own is also accessible here, and you will find **French** versions of the **handbook and glossary** as well.

2. Online Ecological Economics Course Complete

The online course developed around CSO **case studies** ran from April-July, 2010 with 25 students, largely from NGO backgrounds taking part. To read about the course and sample some of the lectures go to www.ceecec.net/online-course/.

3. New Reports on Activist / Ecological Economics Collaboration

CSOs and researchers alike will be interested in the "**Reports**" section of the website, where they will find "**From Activism to Policy Research: Key Issues and Topics for Future Collaborative Sustainability Research**", which is based on the work of CEECEC network partners, but contains topics from non-CEECEC CSOs that we met along the way in **Kenya** and **Slovenia**. Meanwhile, "**Ecological Economics and CSOs: A Blueprint for Collaboration**" showcases the processes and methods used in CEECEC for collaborative case study writing. Finally, "**CSOs and Ecological Economics: Mapping and Assessing CSO Engagement with the Field**" presents an overview of ecological economics (EE) research used by CSOs, focusing on the usefulness of EE concepts, problems in their application, outcomes, and implications for research and CSO capacity building efforts.

4. CEECEC at CREPE, Open University, London, September 30

The **CRÉPE** project, also funded under the EC's FP7 Science in Society programme, brings together CSOs and academics to investigate agri-environmental issues in order to empower and resource CSOs to participate in co-operative research. On September 30th, 2010, CREPE held a workshop at the Open University in London, UK, where the CEECEC project (among others) was presented. The aims of the workshop were to:

- compare participants' experiences of doing research – with (or as) CSOs -relevant to sustainable development.
- evaluate strengths and weaknesses of those experiences, as a for lessons for future efforts.
- clarify how cooperation benefits research and the wider society.
- analyse how research helps to open up issues of sustainable development to civil society perspectives.

A report on the event will soon be posted on the CREPE website, so watch for it....

5. CSO/Research Collaboration Bearing Fruit: ISEE in Bremen-Oldenburg

Members of the CEECEC network gathered in Oldenburg, Germany on August 23, 2010 for the project's final dissemination event, at the [ISEE \(International Society for Ecological Economics\) Biennial Conference](#). To read a short article on the event, visit the News and Events page [here](#).

6. Endemit launch of SEE Report in Serbian

On September 28th, 2010 Ecological Society Endemit launched its report "*Environmental Conflicts and Issues in South-Eastern Europe: Possible Collaboration between CSOs and Ecological Economists*" in Serbian. This extensive report, originally published in [English](#) was written with the input of many NGOs active in the Western Balkan region, and was presented to environmental NGOs and environmental journalists. A separate event is also planned with the Agency for Environmental Protection, the Institute for Nature Conservation of Serbia, the Managers of Serbian National Parks, and the Serbian Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning.

7. More on Waste Crisis in Italy

Updates on the waste crisis in Naples that features in [A Sud's case study](#) is available [here](#) on Naples, and [here](#) on protests against a landfill in Vesuvio National Park.

8. Struggle against Water Privatization in Italy

[A Sud](#) is part of a civil society action that in July saw the presentation of 1 million signatures calling for a referendum on water privatization policies being promoted by the Italian government. To read the full article in English, go [here](#).

All the best!
The CEECEC Team

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