



Facts

two farm animal breeds become extinct worldwide every week.

In the 1900s, in Germany alone, 1,500 apple sorts existed; today only three varieties cover the European apple market.

Agro-biodiversity and world food security are threatened.

“ I want to make everyone aware of how their bread, fruits and other food is produced:

by using pesticides and other chemicals or in a sustainable manner? I think that safe and organic agriculture is probably the most important factor influencing our health and lives. It is the natural heritage of mankind! Agro-biodiversity is part of our culture, nature and tradition and must be protected at the regional level. If we lose it, what legacy will I be able to leave my own four children? With our WECF project "Green Bridges" between Ukraine, Germany and Poland we exchange knowledge to save agro-biodiversity. To raise awareness we take these issues to the international political level. Organic farming is a local enterprise, which bears fruits globally. When I started this work 7 years ago, only 20 farmers were interested in organic agriculture. Nowadays, the phone never stops ringing.”

Ela Priwiezienew | Poland
WECF Member
Spoleczny Instytut Ekologiczny



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Levels of hazardous chemicals are increasing in new born babies' bodies.

97,000 chemicals sold in the EU market are used without sufficient tests on health risks.

Consumers are denied full information about chemicals which allow them to make an informed choice.

“ To achieve a world with safe chemicals we have to work locally to have a global effect.

Here in Greece, as maybe elsewhere, people unfortunately believe that chemicals can protect them from 'germs' and keep them healthy: bleach for example is a bestseller in Greece! But we know that exposure to toxic chemicals can cause cancer, infertility and damage to children's brain development. We show people that they have the power as consumers to refuse to buy hazardous chemicals, and in turn to convince producers to change their policies. One of our Youth Conference's themes was "Future without Toxics" in cooperation with WECF. We also lobby for more regulation to make sure products are toxic-free. Thanks to the international work of WECF we have been able to exchange knowledge and cooperate with other countries."

Carla Baer Manolopoulou | Greece
WECF member - Clean up Greece



WECF

“ My organisation works for sustainable rural development in Armenia. Many people in our

rural areas suffer from energy poverty. In daily life this often means they can only afford to light or heat one room. To survive, people burn whatever they can: plastic, kerosene etc. without considering health risks. In our project village Hayanist, schoolchildren suffer from coughs and other respiratory diseases like asthma because of the smoky stoves in the classrooms. For me, this is unacceptable! We started to carry out a solar energy project to improve

Elena Manvelyan | Armenia
WECF Member - Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment



Facts

The poor are most vulnerable to negative effects from climate change.

At least 21,000 people still die of indoor air-pollution in the EECCA region¹ because of the detrimental energy situation.

Polls show women are more often concerned about the sustainability of energy. They oppose nuclear energy and are eager to switch to renewables.

Healthy Environment for All

“ I was affected personally by the issue of safe water and sanitation when my community

was flooded with thousands of litres of sewage water from the city's sewage system. As a result of the contamination people became ill and some even died. Here in Ukraine the water and sanitation situation is below human dignity. For example, people in rural areas mostly have to use outdoor pit latrines. Often they are built next to the drinking water wells, which causes water-borne diseases. We want to demonstrate that good health is linked to safe sanitation and clean water.

Svetlana Slesarenok | Ukraine
WECF Member
Black Sea Women's Club (BSWC)



Facts

120 million people in the EECCA region¹ and at least 20 million in the EU are without access to safe sanitation.

14,000 children in the EECCA region¹ die yearly from waterborne diseases.

Better (waste) water management would prevent 30 million cases of water related diseases/year.

