

# hivos international



## HIVOS PROMOTES ENVIRONMENTALLY AWARE USE OF ENERGY

Since Al Gore's 'An inconvenient truth', everyone knows what scientists have been telling us for years. The extremes in the weather and the natural disasters affecting millions of people every year are due in part to excessive CO2 emissions. These emissions, in turn, are caused by thoughtless use of energy – especially in western countries. To turn the tide, Hivos has set up a climate fund.

The two billion people in the world who now have no access to modern forms of energy such as electricity want to have it as soon as possible. They need it for development. Hivos supports this wish, but would like to see the power generated in a way that is friendlier to the environment than the ways commonly used in the western world. The new Hivos Climate Fund therefore invests in small-scale hydroelectric power stations, biogas plants, economical wood-burning stoves and solar panels in developing

countries. Through this fund, business and industry, private individuals and governments in the west can invest in energy conservation and sustainable energy in developing countries – for example, in the form of projects run by Hivos partners TaTEDO in Tanzania and Fundación Solar in Guatemala. They can help people to build a clean future while compensating for their own excessive pollution and preventing further growth in total CO2 emissions. The campaign logo for the new climate fund is a green hand: symbolic of the worldwide importance of green energy to climate, health and socio-economic development.

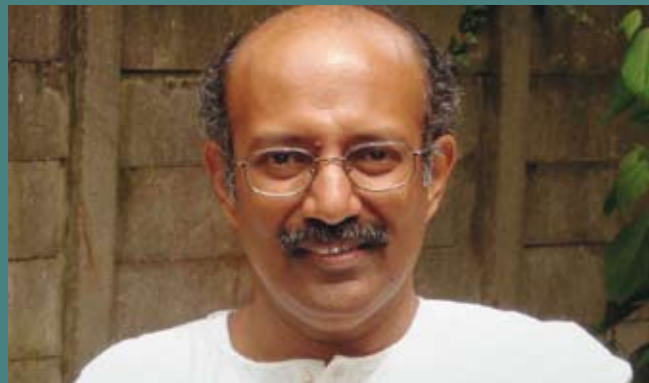
For more information, visit [www.tatedo.org](http://www.tatedo.org) or [www.fundacionsolar.org.gt](http://www.fundacionsolar.org.gt) or send an e-mail to [info@hivos.nl](mailto:info@hivos.nl)



## VIVEKANANDAN: VISION FOR FISHERMEN

'One of the most inspiring people Hivos works with.' This was how Vivek Vivekanandan was introduced when he paid a visit to the Dutch Hivos office at the beginning of July. The director of Hivos partner South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies (SIFFS) visited Hivos after his speech at the international conference on 'People and the Sea' organised by MARE, the Dutch Centre for Maritime Research.

'Our central government sometimes takes decisions that affect fishermen without consulting them. For instance, when granting a protected status to maritime areas, it does not pay enough attention to how this will affect the people who live and work there, nor to the alternatives that they can put forward themselves to protect these areas.' This message, propounded by Vivekanandan at the 'People and the Sea' conference, is closely linked to his long-term vision. He has been working with SIFFS for 25 years to organise fishermen in India, to professionalise their trade and to make them less dependent on government authorities and middlemen. Thanks to its vision, professionalism and enormous reach – 30,000 fishermen are already receiving technological and economic support, and their number is steadily rising – SIFFS is an organisation taken seriously by the government, both as a critic and as a partner. SIFFS thanks



its popularity among fishermen to the fact that they notice that their position is improving thanks to the organisation. At the Hivos office Vivekanandan talked about how his federation won much trust on the part of fishermen and government authorities because it so efficiently and effectively enlisted its network and contacts after the tsunami. Hivos supported SIFFS in this because, although Hivos is not an emergency relief organisation, in special cases it does put partners in a position to provide emergency aid.

For more information, click on [www.siffs.org](http://www.siffs.org) or send an e-mail to [sed@hivos.nl](mailto:sed@hivos.nl)

## HIVOS TO RELEASE DVDs ABOUT ITS PARTNERS



**This year, Hivos has introduced a new way to inform and enthuse people about its work. For each Hivos policy sector, a DVD will be released showing pictures made by the partners of their own activities.**

The most recent DVD focuses on Hivos' global programme for lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transsexuals (LGBT). 'Confrontational material – for example, pictures of the violent repression of gay pride marches in former East Bloc countries – is much more effective than the traditional folders and policy chitchat', according to Teyo van der Schoot, one of the programme managers of the Hivos policy sector for Democratisation, Rights, AIDS and Gender, to which the LGBT programme belongs. The DVDs are meant for partners, existing and potential donors and other supporters. They can also be useful at conferences, lectures and seminars.

*For more information on the release of the DVDs and how to order them: send an e-mail to [ber@hivos.nl](mailto:ber@hivos.nl)*

## SUPPORT FOR MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

**In Peru, men who have sex with men (MSM) are stigmatised and discriminated. In addition, people with HIV/AIDS or who have a higher risk of contracting the virus have less access to health care. Local organisation Via Libre works to fight this. Hivos recently received a three-year EU grant to support an HIV prevention project of Via Libre focusing on MSM.**

The more than 660,000 euros in funding will go to a project for MSM in the poorest areas of Lima, Callao and Ica. Hivos will contribute 220,000 euros of its own. The object: to give around 4,000 men access to preventive care and treatment for HIV/AIDS, and so to improve their quality of life. The project will use a public information campaign to create a more tolerant attitude towards MSM in communities, among health care workers and among MSM themselves. Men who exhibit non-heterosexual behaviour are often not accepted in Peruvian society, and MSM have frequently internalised this rejection by

their surroundings. Because of this, they are not open about their sexual behaviour and they are afraid to talk about their problems – often related to that behaviour – with a doctor. Those who are poor and have to rely on the assistance and support of relatives for HIV/AIDS treatment are often afraid to ask for financial help. Those who do have the money are likely to encounter discrimination in the Peruvian health care system.

*More information can be found at [www.vialibre.org.pe](http://www.vialibre.org.pe), or send an e-mail to [drag@hivos.nl](mailto:drag@hivos.nl)*

## UNIQUE WEB PORTAL FOR KYRGYZSTAN YOUTH

**With an average age of 23, the population of the Central Asian Republic of Kyrgyzstan counts many young people. In June, a hip interactive website, [www.kloop.kg](http://www.kloop.kg), was set up to inform them about social, political and economic developments in their country. Young journalists and representatives of civil society can also add contents to the site.**

The web portal, unique in Kyrgyzstan, was launched at the end of June and is rapidly gaining popularity. Kloop will soon be extended with new features, in order to reach young people by means of discussion forums, text message services, e-mail services, blogs, collection of news and computer games related to current events. The site will also organise real life meetings for members of the Kloop community. Hivos supports this digital media project because it will increase media diversity in Kyrgyzstan, and allow the voice of the people to be heard in the form of journalistic contributions by its target group. Kloop will train students to work as online journalists.

The project also aims to encourage activists and organisations – both in urban and more remote areas – to use this medium for the quick and efficient exchange of information and dissemination of ideas. Internet offers an excellent platform on which to publicise impartial information to young people and to strengthen debate in society. Another advantage of the project is that the two young and enthusiastic initiators have a fresh view of the NGO sector, and they aim to operate a financially independent website.

*For more information, go to [www.kloop.kg](http://www.kloop.kg) or send an e-mail to [cim@hivos.nl](mailto:cim@hivos.nl)*

## NEW POSSIBILITIES HIVOS VIRTUAL OFFICE

Informing organisations of the conditions for Hivos financing and allowing them to check their compliance with those conditions through a self-assessment test: when Hivos put its Virtual Office online a few years ago, these were the main objectives. The Virtual Office has recently been expanded, and existing partners can now visit the website to consult their contract with Hivos, for example. They will be given their own password and log-in code for this purpose.

This unique service allows partners to find answers to their questions such as: have our financial and substantive reports been received, have they been approved, what reports does Hivos still expect, what amounts are due to us and when will they be remitted? The site has information on the standards and time-frame Hivos sets for itself in processing reports and applications. It also sets forth the conditions which partners must meet to be eligible for funding.

*Visit the Virtual Office at [www.hivos.org](http://www.hivos.org). Hivos partners who have not received a password and log-in code by 15 August can request them from [webmaster@hivos.nl](mailto:webmaster@hivos.nl).*

## HIVOS STRENGTHENS FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF ITS PARTNERS

When it comes to drawing up good financial reports, Hivos partners in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan have a limited capacity. To improve this, Hivos invited a number of these partners to attend two workshops at the end of May. The workshops were devoted to assistance and support on how to formulate thorough reports of good quality.

During the workshops, the usefulness of financial reporting for themselves and for others was discussed with a total of 25 partner organisations. Hivos stressed the purpose of financial reports and how they are used by Hivos: for example, to render an accounting to contributors and donors, such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The participants in the workshops discussed Hivos' General Terms and Conditions and other matters such as the obstacles they encounter in financial reporting. They were given tips to improve their financial management and fund-raising. Hivos hopes to organise more meetings of this type to help partners further hone their financial management.

*For more information: [sed@hivos.nl](mailto:sed@hivos.nl)*

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## GLOBAL COLLABORATION IN VISUAL ARTS

ARTS  
COLLA  
BORAT  
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At the beginning of November, three Dutch funds – the DOEN Foundation, the Mondriaan Foundation and Hivos – will launch Arts Collaboratory. This unique collaborative venture provides support to initiatives of visual artists in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Such initiatives are necessary because of a lack of facilities for visual artists in their own country. Any facilities that do exist are difficult to access or are of poor quality. Arts Collaboratory helps art organisations in developing countries to fill this gap – by giving them funds and advice, but also by helping them to become more widely known internationally. The Mondriaan Foundation, for example, puts them in contact with the Dutch art world. Arts Collaboratory also stimulates cultural entrepreneurship and the exchange of knowledge – for example, by means of regional meetings and

a website. Central themes of the programme are strengthening cultural management, stimulating encounters between artistic visions and languages and interaction between art and society. Interested organisations will find an application form to take part in Arts Collaboratory on the website.

*For more information, go to [www.artscollaboratory.org](http://www.artscollaboratory.org)*

# AFRICAN PARTNERS INCREASE THEIR OWN MEDIA ATTENTION

In Africa, it is primarily government authorities and businesses that manage to attract media attention. NGOs often have a harder time doing so. Hivos and its South African partner SANGONeT have set up a three-year training and coaching programme to change this. The programme aims both to improve access to existing media and to create new media – for example, by utilising the possibilities of internet.

Tanzania, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique and South Africa. These are the six countries addressed by the programme 'Citizen journalism in Africa'. Two Hivos partners were selected from each country. To be chosen, an organisation needed to have an extensive network and journalistic skills or expertise in the area of ICT. Each of these NGO pairs will pass on the knowledge and experience they have gained to fifteen other organisations in their country, most of them Hivos partners. How they do this is up to them. They will receive help from professional trainers, and can also make use of an *e-learning platform* managed by SANGONeT: a special website full of useful links, discussion forums and course material. In addition



to the technical resources, Hivos and SANGONeT are offering classes in journalistic methods and ethics. The programme was launched at a gathering held near the South African city of Pretoria from 3 to 6 July. Hivos will spend 400,000 euros on this project from its own funds, plus 1 million in the form of an EU grant.

For more information, visit [www.sangonet.org.za](http://www.sangonet.org.za) or send an e-mail to [cim@hivos.nl](mailto:cim@hivos.nl)

## COMING TO GRIPS WITH CHILD LABOUR IN ALBANIA

**Hundreds of Albanian children make shoes and clothing. They do this for companies that export these products to EU countries. This exploitation is largely due to European purchasers demanding low prices. The campaign 'Stop Child Labour - School, the best place to work' calls upon these companies to take their social responsibility.**

The conclusion that there is child labour in the Albanian shoe and clothing sector is one of the most important outcomes of a study by the Dutch trade union FNV Mondiaal. FNV has joined hands with Hivos, the Dutch teachers' trade union Nederlandse Algemene Onderwijsbond and the India Committee of the Netherlands in the 'Stop Child Labour' campaign. On 15 June the campaign published a global action plan to stop child labour in

industrial chains. If the situation in countries such as Albania is to improve, it will require international pressure – not least of all, on European companies. It is because of their imperative price demands that employers in less well-to-do countries often do not pay their employees enough wages to live on, and they even use child labour for production. Because of this, parents find themselves forced to allow their children to work long hours. They would prefer not to, because they realise that this is an obstacle to the development and school performance of their children. In the words of 38-year-old Aurora, who works for Doniana, a company in Albania: 'My three daughters do not like this hard work, and I feel guilty when I ask them to help. But without it we could not make ends meet.'

For more information, go to [www.stopchildlabour.eu](http://www.stopchildlabour.eu)



Hivos is a development organisation which stands for emancipation, democratisation and poverty alleviation in developing countries. For this purpose financial and political support is given to more than 800 local private organisations in 30 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and South-East Europe. The six policy spearheads of Hivos are financial services and enterprise developments; socially and ecologically sustainable production; human rights and democratisation; HIV/Aids; arts and culture; gender, women and development; ICT, media and knowledge sharing. Part of the work has been decentralised to four regional offices in Zimbabwe, India, Indonesia and Costa Rica. They take care of an important part of the contacts with partner organisations.

Alliance 2015  
TOWARDS THE QUALIFIERS OF PROSPERITY

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