



Activity report 2018

Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)

March 2018 - March 2019

About HEAL



>80 organisations in 28 countries

- Doctors associations
- Patient groups
- Nurses associations
- Public health institutes
- Research institutes
- Not-for-profit health insurers
- Women's groups
- Youth groups
- Environmental groups



HEAL governance



Annual General Assembly

HEAL's strategic priorities, work programme and budget are adopted by our Annual General Assembly, and carried out by the HEAL secretariat under the guidance of the Executive Committee.



Peter van den Hazel HEAL President International Network for Children's Health, Environment, and Safety



Marie-Christine Dewolf HEAL Vice-President Hygiène Publique en Hainaut



Lynn Ladbrook HEAL Treasurer Breast Cancer UK



Isabel Proaño Gómez European Federation of Allergy & Airways Diseases Patients' Association

Executive Committee

Together with our members, the Executive Committee oversees the implementation of the annual work programme and the priorities of HEAL's activities. The Executive Committee is elected for a four-year mandate.



Valérie Xhonneux Fédération Inter-Environnement Wallonie



Ruth Echeverría Fundación <u>Alborada</u>



Jessica Carreño Louro International Association of Mutual Benefit Societies AIM

HEAL secretariat





Genon K. Jensen Executive Director



Anne Stauffer Director for Strategy and Campaigns



Sara Azcona Zabala Finance and Office Manager



Sophie Perroud Policy Coordinator



Elke Zander Communications and Media Coordinator



Natacha Cingotti Senior Policy Officer, Health and Chemicals



Vlatka Matkovic Puljic Senior Health and Energy Officer, Balkans region



Sandra Jen EDC-Free Europe Coordinator



Julia Gogolewska Senior Policy Officer, Energy and Health



Vijoleta Gordeljevic Health and Climate Change Coordinator/Focal Point for Healthy Buildings and



Ivonne Leenen Communications and Digital Media Officer



Nienke Broekstra Healthy Buildings and Energy Poverty Policy Officer



Yannick Vicaire Chemicals and Health Policy Campaigner



Oliver Wendenkampf Project Coordinator Health and Transport



Weronika Michalak Health and Energy Programme Manager in Poland



Srdjan Kukolj Health and Energy Advisor for the Balkan region



Funda Gacal Consultant on Energy and Health, Turkey



Aishwarya Sudhir Air Quality and Health Programme Lead - India (Bengaluru)



Miriam Perez Finance and Office Assistant



Amy Luck Communications Assistant

Communications



September 2018: updated logo and new website - env-health.org



Communications in numbers



Materials in 14 language versions from across the European region.

Twitter and Facebook channels: HEAL's main pages, and special pages for HEAL's work in Germany, Poland, Turkey and the Balkans.

Reach: over 3 million people saw HEAL's messages on Twitter; 1300+ new followers gained on Twitter (new total of 9500); 740 followers on Facebook (new total 3280); and 32 new followers on LinkedIn (total 289). Total number of tweets including Poland, Germany and the Balkans: 1,775.

Example: Our climate and health infographic was one of the best performing posts on social media of 2018. Just one post on Facebook and Twitter was seen by 13.385 people.

Websites: main HEAL main website with a new RSS feed, HEAL in Poland, Germany and EDC-Free Europe websites.

Media: 40 press releases, 14 articles for the specialised press on new science and policy developments. With 884 features in EU and national print, TV, radio, media coverage was 50% higher than in 2017.

Newsletters: HEAL main newsletter and specialised newsletters for HEAL Poland, HEAL Balkans and HEAL Turkey.

HEALTH & DISEASES





Ensuring EU financing for environmental action post 2020 boosts health



HEAL engaged in intense advocacy to continue the close link between the LIFE programme on financing EU environmental action and the Environment Action Program (EAP) for the next LIFE financing period 2021-2027.

Close work and communications with decision-makers in the EU institutions and engagement of HEAL members ahead of crucial exchanges in the EP's ENVI committee and in the Environment Council, to build support for environmental health priorities.

HEAL's success: we welcomed the outcome of the EP plenary vote on the LIFE proposal on 11 December 2018. HEAL's <u>one tweet</u> was seen by 9.161 people.

HEAL's advocacy, our engaging of member and activities on social media clearly paid off. While the final budget for LIFE still has to be confirmed, it is clear that our demands on the inclusion of health, chemicals and on a next environment action programme are all included.

On 12 March, a partial final agreement was reached between the EU institutions, which was confirmed by the Council on 20 March and by the European Parliament on 17 April.



Green 10 presidency



HEAL was the **chair of Green 10** for the second half of 2018, a critical moment of Brexit and preparing for the new European Parliament and Commission.

7th EU Environmental Action Programme in December 2018, where HEAL's Executive Director stressed the need for an 8th EAP and a non-toxic environment strategy.



HEAL provided input and leadership for the **Green 10 elections manifesto, available in 11 languages,** for use by national coalitions of G10 member organisations.

HEAL is also proud to have spearheaded the adoption of Gender Guidelines by the G10, an agreement that is a practical guide to improving gender balance at conferences and events, and which includes a set of rules for events either organised by G10 or where G10 are invited to speak.

EP election campaign: benefits of EU environmental health action for citizens



Ahead of the EU elections in May 2019, HEAL shared 10 specific demands for the new EU Commission and European Parliament, which build on the Green 10 manifesto, and our policy areas. In addition, HEAL also developed a strategy and dedicated campaign for launching the above messages in 9 languages.

A healthy planet for healthy people: Preventing environmental pollution can save lives and reduce the toll of diseases. EU laws can reduce environmental pollution. Vote for a healthy planet for healthy people

Protection of the most vulnerable: A polluted environment is most dangerous for children, older people, those already sick and people living in poverty. Vote to end environmental health inequalities and protect the most vulnerable

Climate action for health: Climate change is the biggest health threat of the 21st century, but action to tackle it can provide immediate and significant health benefits. Vote to boost health through climate action







EP election campaign: benefits of EU environmental health action for citizens



EDC-Free future: Everyday exposure to hormone disrupting chemicals contributes to modern health epidemics like breast and prostate cancer, obesity and diabetes as well as infertility and learning disorders. Vote to keep hormone disrupters out of our daily lives, workplaces and consumer products and help build an EDC-Free future

Clean up the air we breathe: Air pollution is the number one environmental threat to health in Europe, leading to 400,000 early deaths each year. Vote to clean up the air we breathe in our cities and buildings

Stop pesticides to promote health: Pesticides in our food, water and air can increase the risk of cancer and infertility, harm children's healthy development and disrupt our hormonal systems. Vote to keep poisonous pesticides out of our food and to protect our health









EP election campaign: benefits of EU environmental health action for citizens



Healthy, renewable and efficient energy: Burning coal for energy production is the most polluting form of power generation and we pay for it with our health and our healthcare budgets. Vote for healthy energy, and to end the addiction to coal

Toxic-free future: 75% of chemicals produced in the EU are hazardous to health. Vote for a toxic free future and an end to our daily exposure to a cocktail of chemicals

Healthy mobility: Fossil fuelled cars, buses and trucks are noisy, pollute the air and threaten our health. Vote for healthy mobility

A safe and toxic-free circular economy: In the EU, new plastic toys are produced under stricter standards than recycled one













Health advocacy prompts EU strategy for tackling hormone-disrupting chemicals



For most of 2018, HEAL worked to increase political pressure to the EU Commission to publish a strategy on endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs).

- May 2018: HEAL EDC event in European Parliament.
- July 2018: EU public consultation on EDC roadmap framework. In our response to the public consultation, HEAL <u>urged the EU Commission</u> to ensure that meaningful reduction of citizens' exposure was at the core of its actions. Intense social media work (15.281 impressions on Twitter), encouraging others to participate and our PR resulted in 7 media hits (Chemical Watch, Politico and Agence Europe).
- November 2018: **Commission's Communication on endocrine disrupting chemicals**, that we welcomed in a <u>press release</u>. At the same time we criticised the lack of specific measures and timelines on how people and the environment can be better protected from these harmful chemicals.
- Social and traditional media work:
 - 119 tweets on EDCs
 - 63 media hits on HEAL EDC communications (out of 259 total media hits on chemicals)



HEAL event on EDCs with MEP Pavel Poc



- Organised with <u>Member of European Parliament Pavel Po</u>c in the European Parliament on 24 May with about 60 people attending.
- Several MEPs, national governments' representatives (Denmark, France) and scientists (the Endocrine Society) echoed HEAL's call on the European Commission to come forward with an updated European strategy for endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) as soon as possible.
- Two of the speakers came from the European Commission (Secretariat General and DG Santé).
- <u>Livestreamed</u> on Facebook page of MEP Pavel Poc and HEAL, allowing 628 outside viewers to watch the debate live outside the European Parliament (also shared 22 times).



Genon Jensen emphasises that the ubiquitous presence of EDCs is a societal challenge

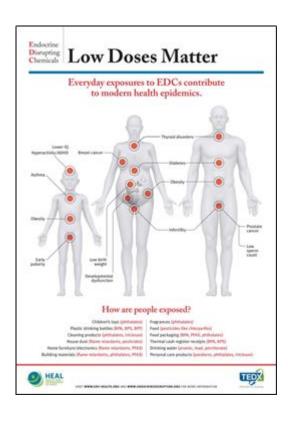


Post event interviews with MEP Pavel Poc and Barbara Demeneix



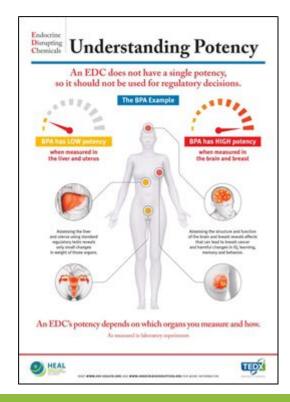
'Science to policy' approach

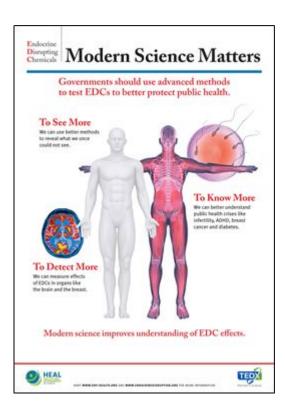




Available in <u>English</u>, <u>Dutch</u>, <u>Spanish</u>, <u>Portuguese</u>, <u>French</u>

Included in webinars, advocacy, online outreach & text books (e.g. new book by Shanna Swan) by NGOs and scientists





EDC-Free Europe



- Updated campaign statement, urging EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker to bring out a fully-fledged strategy on hormone disruptors before the summer of 2018.
- August 2018: launch of new website and campaign logo a platform for sharing science, reports, petitions and other resources. Special language landing pages have been created to bring together all resources in any one of 7 languages of the campaign: <u>Spanish</u>, <u>Danish</u>, <u>German</u>, <u>Dutch</u>, <u>French</u> and Swedish.
- Approximately 583 tweets were posted throughout the year, which attracted 230 new followers and **920,4K impressions**.

















The road to a non-toxic circular economy



June 2018: **Vision how Europe can lead the way for a non-toxic environment** *English, Dutch* and *French, and accompanied by 12 infographics*

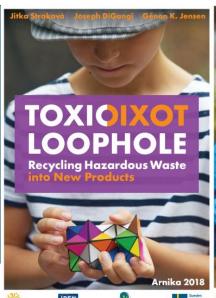
October 2018: **Testing For Toxics - How chemicals in EU carpets are harming health and hindering circular economy** *English, French, German* and *Dutch*

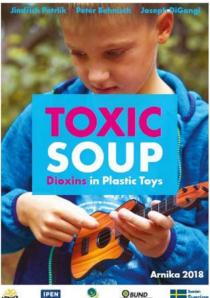
October 2018: <u>Toxic Loophole – Recycling Hazardous Waste Into New Products</u>

<u>English</u>, <u>Dutch</u>, <u>French</u> and <u>German</u>. PR available for <u>EU's institutional audiences</u>, <u>France</u>, <u>Belgium</u> and the <u>Netherlands</u>

November 2018: **Toxic Soup: Dioxins in Plastic Toys**







Pesticides and sustainable agriculture



The brain harming pesticide chlorpyrifos, which was given a one year extension in January 2019, is now on the public radar of the European Commission, Member States thanks in part to our evidence base, multi language education materials which has resulted in strong popular mobilisation through a joint SumofUs petition, even before the discussions in the secretive ScoPAFF pesticides committee take place to renew it. Chlorpyrifos is a concrete example of an endocrine disrupting pesticide, linking to our EDC criteria work.



August 2018: **Chlorpyrifos factsheet** (with member Generations Futures, PAN Europe, and partners Ecologistas en Accion and PAN Germany) *English*, *Spanish* and *French*



EU: No more toxic chlorpyrifos in our food. #BanChlorpyrifos

Ongoing **joint petition** with SumOfUs, PAN Europe, Generations Futures, Ecologistas en Accion and Pan Germany (available in <u>4 languages</u>).

Current number of signatures: 213,5K



CLIMATE & ENERGY





Health engagement for climate action - Doctors



- Lancet Countdown 2018 report: joint launch with Standing Committee of European Doctors (CPME) (press release, a press briefing, a special briefing for EU policy-makers developed by the Lancet Countdown, endorsed by CMPE) and a specific recommendation of coal phase out on health grounds.
- Live tweeting during the press briefing and quote cards seen by 59.143 individuals, 6 articles in the media.
- The Lancet report was also presented by the Vice-President of the Polish Medical Association at a special event during COP24.
- June 2018: joint internal capacity building event with member
 ISDE Italy on *Doctors in Action for Climate Change and coal phase out*, with Italian, UK and German members.



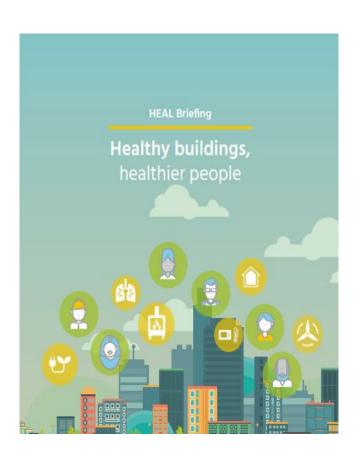




Health engagement for climate action



- buildings



Healthy Buildings, Healthy People briefing
 May 2018

Available in 8 languages (<u>EN</u>, <u>DE</u>, <u>TR</u>, <u>NL</u>, <u>FR</u>, <u>ES</u>, <u>BG</u> and <u>PL</u>). <u>Press release</u>, 14 visuals for Facebook and Twitter

- HEAL video focusing on healthier homes and schools, with health experts Prof. Stephen Holgate, Dr. Sani Diamantopoulou and two HEAL members, Alborada Foundation and EFA calling for healthier buildings in Europe (November 2018).
- 4 articles in media coverage and 38 tweets with 66.720 impressions. A HEAL <u>Op-Ed in EurActiv</u> outlining the many benefits to health, climate and social equality of renovating the European building stock was published in October 2018.

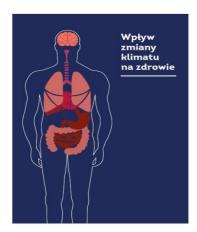
Health engagement for climate action



- Poland

- Milestone: Polish health sector speaking out on climate change and mitigation
- Summer 2018 report on "Health impacts of climate change", together with the Polish Climate Coalition, which is the first report to detail the health threats from climate change in Poland, and mitigation opportunities.
- HEAL's half day conference "Climate change and health which role for the health **sector in Poland?"** on 8 December for COP24, with leading representatives of the Polish health and medical sector





Report: The impact of climate change on health Executive Summary - English version -

A report by the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) and the Polish Climate Coalition

Health engagement for climate action



- Germany

- Stronger relations with health professionals and medical students in Germany.
- HEAL partner Christian Doering, a paediatrician, is outspoken on coal power generation, air pollution and health. Featuring prominently in a new report by the Europe Beyond Coal campaign (November), that HEAL shared on social media, reaching 17.514 people.
- HEAL video advocating for a coal phase out, together with doctors and new partners from among the medical students. The video, available in <u>German</u> and <u>English</u>, has been watched by over 26,000 people and was launched at a crucial phase in the deliberations for a coal phase out date in Germany in November 2018.





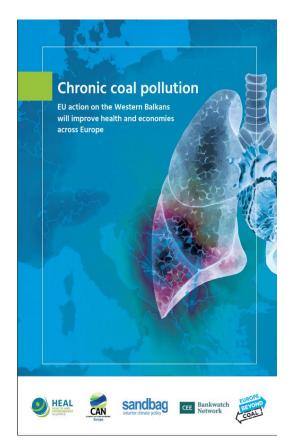
Providing health expertise for the newly found **German Alliance on Climate Change and Health**, which we had helped set up. We teamed up with the Alliance to collect over 200 signatories for a letter by health professionals that demand a swift coal phase out, and also to share the latest evidence on the benefits of climate mitigation from the Lancet Countdown.



Health engagement for climate action - <a> the Balkans

HEAL HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE

- February 2019: "Chronic Coal Pollution EU action on the Western Balkans will improve health and economies across Europe"
- Sixteen outdated coal power plants in the Western Balkans are a public health and economic liability for the whole of Europe.
- Led by HEAL, in collaboration with NGOs Sandbag, Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe, CEE Bankwatch Network and Europe Beyond Coal (available in <u>EN</u>, <u>RO</u>, <u>SB</u>).
- Immediate media and political impact, with Commissioner Johannes Hahn mentioning HEAL and numbers from the report at the Ministerial meeting on clean energy transition in the Western Balkans, a couple of days after the launch, the Government of Montenegro mentioning HEAL and the report at a Western Balkans Ministerial on Clean Energy Transition and about 170 media mentions including Politico, Ends Europe, Reuters, CNBC, Euronews, , BalkanGreenEnergyNews, DailyMail, WDR, Al Jazeera, N1 Regional.



Health engagement for climate action - Bulgarian EU presidency

- May 2018, HEAL launched Unmask My City Sofia, a coalition of 9 Bulgarian health organisations calling for clean air in Sofia and the rest of Bulgaria. The coalition is led by HEAL member Air4Health Bulgaria.
- Press conference with Sofia Mayor Yordanka Fandakova, Dr. Alexander Simidchiev, pulmonologist at University Hospital Lozenetz, and HEAL's Vlatka Puljic Matkovic.
- Expert forum "Health for clean air for Sofia" with 100 participants from among health groups, journalists and concerned individuals. From the beginning, this health initiative had the support of the Sofia Mayor and administration.
- November 2018: letter of Bulgarian health professionals in which the call for not granting any derogations for coal power plants. <u>The letter</u> was signed by 7 main Bulgarian and EU health organisations and sent to competent authorities and we shared it widely with Brussels and NGO circles on <u>social media</u>.

Health engagement for climate action - United Turkey





December 2018: **HEAL briefing on lignite coal and health**, with recommendations from the health sector (available in <u>TK</u>, <u>EN</u>, <u>DE</u>), <u>with a press release</u>, visuals and quotes.

HEAL Turkey has been as active as ever, with presentations at events, providing health expertise for environmental assessments for coal plants, numerous press releases, and 50 articles in media, amongst which an interview with Funda Gacal in the Lancet covering Turkey's air pollution problem.

Other publications:

- <u>"Opinion briefing</u>" on the planned Alpu power plant in Eskisehir
- Expert Report on the Agan Coal Plant

Publications





May 2018: **Healthy Buildings** *EN, DE, TR, NL, FR, ES, BG and PL*

November 2018:

Last Gasp

November 2018:

Lancet Countdown - EU Policy Briefing

December 2018: **Lignite Briefing** *EN*, *TK*, *DE*

December 2018: **Climate Change Infographic EN**, PL, DE

February 2019: Chronic Coal EN, SB, RO

AIR QUALITY



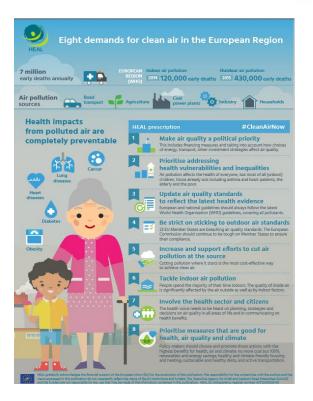


Advocacy on EU air quality standards



Fitness check of the ambient air quality directive

- Developed a template for responding to a public consultation on a possible review of the ambient air quality directive.
- Integral part of stakeholder meetings on the fitness check.
- Infographic "Eight demands for clean air in Europe" (EN and DE), building on a HEAL position paper



September 2018: Joint position paper with EEB, T&E, ClientEarth and AirClim"<u>The first</u> ten years of the EU Ambient Air Quality Directive - an essential tool for protecting our health".

WHO work and communications



HEAL presence at first Global WHO Air Quality conference

HEAL helped launch the announcement of and actively participated in the first Global WHO conference on air pollution and health, which took place in October 2018. HEAL's Executive Director Genon K. Jensen, and Director for Strategy and Campaigns, Anne Stauffer, participated in the conference, together with seven HEAL member organisations and partners.

HEAL declared our commitments to working for clean air for health and with WHO in the final conference session. Our social media sharing was impressive, with tweets seen by over 66,000 individuals.







New engagement: healthy transport



- Strong HEAL presence at the European Parliament special committee on Dieselgate.
- Delivery of closing remarks at our member <u>EPHA event on the hidden health costs of diesel</u>.
- Specific engagement in Germany with a new project and dedicated staff, to build a network of health and medical organisations and local decision-makers as well as key health organisations, leading the working group on transport of the German Alliance on Climate Change and Health.
- Focus on Germany: <u>new website</u>, as well as a postcard and poster on healthy mobility, a <u>briefing</u> on the link between transport and health, presenting the evidence on how air pollution and noise from transport harm health and what kind of transport system is needed at local level to boost health, and a webinar series.
- Opinion piece in <u>Euractiv</u>, criticizing the German government's activities following the diesel scandal and calling for the prioritization of healthy mobility.
- Newly established HEAL Germany Twitter channel reaching over 62,750 individuals between September 2018 and March 2019.



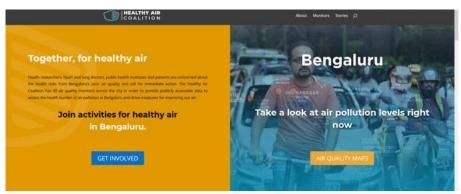
HEAL goes global: Unmask my City India

HEAL HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE

Air pollution is a major health risk in India, being the home to 14 out of 15 of the most polluted cities in the world. But compared to the capital Delhi and cities in Northern India, the air pollution crisis in Bengaluru in Southern India has not been in the spotlight. Cases of child asthma, upper respiratory infections, chronic pulmonary disease, as well as heart attacks in young people are increasing - which is HEAL has decided to work with the health sector on seizing the major opportunities for local measures to clean up the air.

5 April 2019: Healthy Air Coalition - a unique coalition of health researchers, heart and lung doctors, public health institutes and patients who are concerned about the health risks from Bengaluru's poor air quality.

The coalition is committed to carrying out fixed and mobile air monitoring initiatives; information-sharing and communication; capacity building of fellow health professionals on air & health; and expertise input into the design and framing of measures for air pollution reduction. healthyaircoalition.org



Financial management, evaluation, reporting









HEAL is independent of any political party or commercial interest. HEAL receives funding from the European Union, governments and private foundations as well as through membership contributions. We do not accept funding from sources with commercial interests.

HEAL's financial year runs from 15 March 2018 to 14 March 2019. The audit was carried out by an independent auditor's company.



Financial management, evaluation, reporting



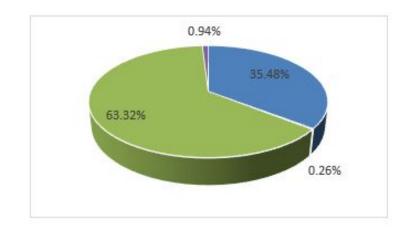
Income

	E.C. grant (Operating grant)	€ 379,699.00
	E.C. grants (Action grants)	€ 2,795.49
-	Other sents (severements	

 Other grants (governments, private foundations) € 677,683.27

Membership fees € 10,100.00

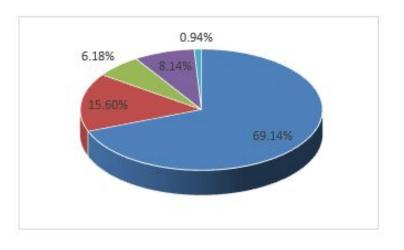
Total Income € 1,070,277.76



Expenditure

•	Personnel costs	€ 739,960.09
	Activity costs including subcontractors	€ 166,963.68
	Travel and subsistence costs	€ 66,181.98
•	Administration, IT & office costs	€ 87,072.01
•	Provisions for social regulations	€ 10,100.00

Total Expenditure € 1,070,277.76





HEAL would like to thank its donors for their great support throughout this financial year:

European Commission (DG Environment - LIFE+ Programme)
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European Climate Foundation (ECF)
Global Greengrants Fund
Oak Foundation
Wellcome Trust Foundation
Global Climate and Health Alliance (GCHA)
Dutch Ministry of Environment
Changing Markets Foundation
Tema Foundation
Global Strategic Communications Council (GSCC)
Umweltbundesamt (UBA)

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