



# “GREENING FROM A SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE” INVITATION TO THE 2nd NGO-WORKSHOP

“GREENING EUROPEAN CITIES” VITORIA-GASTEIZ, SPAIN  
7.-9. SEPTEMBER 2012

## FROM HAMBURG TO VITORIA-GASTEIZ TO ...

In September 2011 “Gaialde” participated to a workshop in Hamburg (the EU’s Green Capital 2011) where the NGO network “GEC – Greening European Cities” was initiated. Participants from all over Europe agreed that it was high time for a better exchange of experience and collaboration among civil society organizations, aiming at sustainable and environmentally friendly development of cities. Inspired by this fruitful meeting, “Gaialde” decided to be the host for the 2nd GEC workshop – on the occasion of Vitoria-Gasteiz’ Green Capital status 2012. We then hope to meet again in Nantes/France, the EU’s Green Capital 2013...

## WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT AT THE WORKSHOP?

The workshop will allow you to learn about existing relevant initiatives and projects from around Europe and exchange practical experience in all aspects of NGO work in cities. We will take a closer look into specific issues, such as the social perspective of sustainable cities, gender aspects, urban biodiversity, and other areas, depending on participants’ interest. Ultimately, we want to continue and intensify our cooperation across Europe, in order to gain more power, experience and resources, including by developing joint projects. Please see the attached agenda for more information.

Through presentations and excursions we will give participants the possibility to get to know a number of projects and NGO activities in Vitoria, the current European Green Capital.

## WHO IS INVITED AND WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM YOU?

We are inviting representatives from non-governmental, non-profit organizations that are active at city level or that are dealing with issues of sustainable development in urban areas, from all over Europe, including outside the EU. Also we would be happy about the attendance of interested representatives of relevant national or international NGO networks.

At the meeting we hope you will be ready to tell others about your activities and your experience, and to contribute to our discussions how we can expand and intensify our European network.

## WHO IS “GAIALDE”?

Gaialde is a nonprofit association based in Vitoria-Gasteiz, the EU’s Green Capital 2012.

Gaialde Mission is to help promote the culture of sustainable development.

Gaialde Values are:

- Spirit of solidarity, open, collaborative and practical
- Independence and Transparency
- Continuous improvement.
- Respect for Nature
- Consistency, responsibility and tolerance

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR THE WORKSHOP

**COSTS:** There is no participation fee.

Unfortunately we will probably not be able to cover travel costs – but please contact us if you need support, maybe we can find a solution together. The following aspects (marked in the agenda with a “free” symbol) are costs covered by the organization. These are:

**ACCOMODATION:** We have already booked the hotel. If you want we can recommend you another one (but costs will be by your own).

**VENUE:** The conference will be held in CIINPI (\*). C/ FLORIDA 4, BAJO. 01005 VITORIA- GASTEIZ. (\*) International Center of Innovation in Gender Equality

**REGISTRATION:** Please register for the conference till 30th JUNE 2012 by sending us the attached registration form (by e-mail to [gaialde@gaialde.org](mailto:gaialde@gaialde.org)). We will get back to you with a confirmation and further information.

Please note that the conference will be held in English.

Please feel free to get in touch with us if you have questions, suggestions, concerns.

Kind regards,

LUIS URTARAN  
President of Gaialde

