



SOL – Menschen für Solidarität, Ökologie und Lebensstil

People for Solidarity, Ecology and Lifestyle

Motives and projects
2004

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Our lifestyle should not harm future generations and people in other parts of the world

SOL projects for fair and sustainable lifestyles

SOL promotes lifestyles which are enjoyable and at the same time compatible with the needs of future generations and people in other parts of the world. Such lifestyles imply intensive engagement for ecological and fair production, trade and consumption around the world. Therefore SOL works on projects and campaigns in these fields.

Sustainable lifestyle as a fair alternative



SOL project „Appeal for a delightful, solid and ecological lifestyle“ (started 1999)

This "lifestyle appeal" motivates people to adopt a sustainable lifestyle. So far, more than 2300 persons have signed, including a number of multipliers (scientists, artists, clergymen...). Networking among the signers is encouraged. A similar appeal was launched in Germany in 2003.

www.nachhaltig.at/aufruf/

To live at the expense of others – what is the actual scale of these costs?



The project "futuro" calculates "sustainable prices" for products (started 2001)

The futuro project determines and communicates sustainable prices to provide an orientation guide for consumers. These prices include the following sustainability criteria: "fair wages", "social standards", "CO₂ emissions", "usage of agricultural land", "toxicity" and "usage of material". The sustainable price of a product consists of the objective characteristics of the product (e.g. wage unfairness or CO₂ emissions during the production) and the democratically evaluated impact of each sustainability criterium. In 2003 the calculation methods were finished and applied and demonstrated on first products: apple- and orange-juice. In 2004 and the following years more products will be evaluated, and special workshops will involve more people in this process.

www.futuro-preise.at/preise/

Sustainability as a strategy (game)

SOL project "Invention of Sustainability Games" (started 2003)

In 2003 game ideas were collected and regional game workshops were organised. Constructive feedback on published ideas is now collected. One or more games are intended to be produced professionally in the near future.

www.futuro-preise.at/spiel/

Lifestyle-25

Platform of NGOs focused on Sustainable Lifestyles (started 2004)

This project promotes the creation of a network of NGOs from Austria, the new member states of the EU and other CEE countries to exchange experience and start cooperations in the field of "Sustainable Lifestyles".

Symposia

Sustainability symposia (started 1999)

Every year, SOL organises a symposium on different aspects of sustainability, e.g. trade [2002], housing [2003], youth [2004]. www.nachhaltig.at/symposium/

Magazine "SOL"

Sustainability quarterly (started 1979)

The initial project of our group, meanwhile grown to a circulation of 4.000 copies four times a year. The magazine includes "Sustainable Austria", focusing on a special topic each time.

SOL builds networks

SOL members are engaged in ten regional groups all over Austria (and a youth group) which meet regularly. They cooperate with many organisations that work on special fields of sustainability (e.g. Umweltdachverband – Umbrella organization for Ecology; Fair Trade Forum; Network for Critical Consumers; ATTAC; Clean Clothes Campaign; Agrarian Confederation; Austrian Social Forum; Exchange Circles). The "**Forschungsgesellschaft für Solidarität, Ökologie und Lebensstil**" (Research Society for Ecology, Solidarity and Lifestyle – FG-SOL) supports SOL in scientific matters, e.g. the project „futuro“ and „Sustainable Austria“.