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Friends of the EU Amis de l'UE

The Costs of a Taxpayer-Funded Green Lobby Les coûts d'une financés par Green Lobby contribuables

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Executive Summary Sommaire

Environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have enormous influence in the organisations non gouvernementales de l'environnement (ONG) ont une influence énorme dans le European Union. Union européenne. However, some of the most vocal green groups are actually funded directly by Toutefois, certains des groupes les plus verts vocal sont en fait financés directement par

the EU to lobby it. l'UE pour le lobby.

The EU funds many NGOs operating in Brussels whose main purpose is to influence EU policy- L'UE finance de nombreuses ONG actives à Bruxelles, dont le but principal est d'influencer la politique de l'UE-

making and implementation. décisions et la mise en œuvre. This report analyses one programme of funding, in which DG Ce rapport analyse un programme de financement, dans laquelle la DG Environment (the division of the European Commission responsible for environmental affairs) Environnement (la division de la Commission européenne chargé des affaires environnementales) distributed over €66 million to environmental NGOs between 1998-2009. distribué plus de € 66 millions pour les ONG de l'environnement entre 1998-2009.

Specifically, we examine funds allocated to the Green 10 – a coalition of ten NGOs pushing for Plus précisément, nous examinons les fonds alloués à la Green 10 - une coalition de dix ONG pression pour

an “environmental” agenda in EU policy-making. un «environnement» dans l'ordre du jour politique de l'UE.

□ Nine out of the Green 10 receive funds from the Commission. □ Neuf des Green 10 reçoivent des fonds de la Commission.

□ Eight members receive one-third or more of their income from the Commission, and □ Huit membres reçoivent un tiers ou plus de leur revenu de la Commission, et five of those rely on the Commission for more than half their funding. cinq d'entre eux comptent sur la Commission pour plus de la moitié de leur financement.

□ Under EU rules, an NGO can receive up to 70% of its income from the EU, and thus is □ En vertu des règles de l'UE, une ONG peut recevoir jusqu'à 70% de ses revenus de l'UE, et est donc obliged to find only 30% of its income from alternative sources. obligés de trouver seulement 30% de son revenu provenant d'autres sources.

From 1998 to 2009, there was a substantial increase in funds given by the Commission to De 1998 à 2009, il y avait une augmentation substantielle des fonds donnés par la Commission à environmental groups: from €2,337,924 (1998) to €8,749,940 (2009) – an average increase of des groupes environnementaux: à partir de € 2,337,924 (1998) à € 8,749,940 (2009) - une augmentation moyenne de

13% every year. 13% chaque année.

The EU's funding of Green 10 members has also increased during this time period. Le financement de l'Union européenne de Green 10 membres a également augmenté durant cette période.

- Birdlife Europe funding increased by 900% □ Birdlife Europe financement a augmenté de 900%
- Friends of the Earth Europe funding increased by 325% □ les amis de l'Europe de financement de la Terre a augmenté de 325%
- WWF European Policy Office funding increased by 270%. □ WWF European Policy Office de financement a augmenté de 270%.

The majority of Green 10 members now receive considerably more money from the Commission than in previous years. As a result, many have struggled to reduce their dependency on EU funds – in fact, three members depend more on EU funds today than in 2005.

La majorité des Green 10 membres reçoivent maintenant plus d'argent considérable de la Commission que les années précédentes. Par conséquent, beaucoup ont du mal à réduire leur dépendance à l'égard des fonds de l'UE - en fait, trois membres dépendent plus des fonds de l'UE aujourd'hui que dans 2005.

1 1

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Figure 1 – Green 10: Annual Funds from DG Environment & Lobbying Figure 1 - Green 10: Fonds annuel de la DG Environnement et le lobbying

Expenditure Dépenses

1 1

€ 0.00 € 0,00

€ 500,000.00 € 500,000.00

€ 1,000,000.00 € 1,000,000.00

€ 1,500,000.00 € 1,500,000.00

€ 2,000,000.00 € 2,000,000.00

€ 2,500,000.00 € 2,500,000.00

€ 3,000,000.00 € 3,000,000.00

€ 3,500,000.00 € 3,500,000.00

€ 4,000,000.00 € 4,000,000.00

WWF EPO WWF EPO

EEB BEE

FoEE FoEE

Greenpeace Greenpeace

EU L'UE

BirdLife EU BirdLife UE

T&E T & E

HEAL HEAL

Bankwatch Bankwatch

IFN IFN

CAN-E CAN-E

Other funding Autre financement

DG ENVI Grant DG ENVI Grant

EU Lobbying Lobbying de l'UE

These NGOs then engage in a self-serving cycle in which they use the EU's money to lobby the Commission. Ces ONG s'engagent alors dans un cycle d'auto-service dont ils utilisent l'argent des UE de faire pression sur la

Commission pour *yet more* funds and influence. De l'UE pour *davantage de* fonds et de l'influence *encore*.

- One example is the lobbying by the Green 10 to “green” the Cohesion Fund, □ Un exemple est le lobbying par le vert de 10 à "verdir" le Fonds de cohésion, representing €350 billion – one-third of the EU's 2007-2013 budget. représentant € 350 000 000 000 - soit un tiers de l'UE pour la période 2007-2013 le budget. The Cohesion La cohésion Fund distributes about €50 billion to projects in the EU every year, and the Green 10 Fonds

distribue environ € 50 milliards à des projets dans l'UE chaque année, et le Green 10 members would benefit from any "greening" of the budget. membres de bénéficier de toute «l'écologisation» du budget.

□ Demands made by the Green 10 included a seat for an environmental NGO on every □ Les demandes faites par le Green 10 inclus un siège pour une ONG environnementale sur tous les single committee involved in project decisions, the reimbursement of expenses (which comité unique impliqués dans les décisions du projet, le remboursement des frais (qui are notoriously generous within the EU), as well as training and capacity building. sont notoirement généreux à l'intérieur de l'UE), ainsi que le renforcement des capacités et de formation.

□ Despite the Green 10's attempts to push their way into the budget process through □ Malgré les 10's Green tente de se frayer un chemin dans le processus budgétaire par le biais various coalitions and campaigns, it failed to achieve these specific demands. diverses coalitions et les campagnes, il a échoué à atteindre ces demandes spécifiques. But it is Mais il est already lobbying in anticipation of the 2014-2020 budget. déjà lobbying en prévision du budget 2014-2020.

This cycle of convenience is enabled by the Commission itself. Ce cycle de complaisance est activée par la Commission elle-même.

□ The Commission claims that EU funding of environmental NGOs is necessary to balance □ La Commission fait valoir que le financement de l'UE des ONG environnementales est nécessaire à l'équilibre

the interests of business, trade unions and consumer groups. les intérêts des entreprises, des syndicats et des groupes de consommateurs.

□ Yet its generous hand-outs to a handful of large, powerful environmental NGOs – while □ Pourtant, ses largesses à une poignée de grandes et puissantes ONG environnementales - tout en ignoring smaller, locally-focused organisations – appear to contradict this claim. ignorant petits, axé sur des organisations locales - semblent contredire cette affirmation. It is Il est doubtful that these large, centralised organisations are truly representative of the douteux que ces grandes organisations centralisées sont vraiment représentatives de la varied beliefs and opinions of Member State citizens. croyances diverses et les opinions des citoyens des États membres.

□ The three largest recipients of Commission funding to green groups receive about 70 □ Les trois plus grands bénéficiaires de financement de la Commission à des groupes verts reçoivent environ 70

times more than the three smallest. fois plus que les trois plus petits.

□ The Commission effectively has delegated public relations work to "independent" □ La Commission a effectivement délégué travail de relations publiques pour «indépendant» NGOs in order to push its own agenda and surreptitiously influence the public debate ONG afin de pousser son propre agenda et subrepticement influencer le débat public on topics such as climate change. sur des sujets comme le changement climatique.

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□ Both Commission representatives and recipient NGOs admit that NGOs that are funded Les deux représentants de la Commission et les ONG bénéficiaires □ admettre que les ONG qui sont financées

with EU money benefit from more access to EU policy-makers than independently- avec profit l'argent de l'UE de plus l'accès aux décideurs de l'UE de façon indépendante funded NGOs. ONG financées.

This evidence suggests that sponsoring the narrow interests of NGOs such as the Green 10 has Ces données laissent supposer que le parrainage des intérêts étroits des ONG telles que le Green 10 a undermined the democratic process and civil society representation in Brussels. sapé le processus démocratique et la représentation de la société civile à Bruxelles. EU funding has financement de

l'UE a

enabled activist organisations to utilise the power of the state to increase their own budgets permis à des organisations militant pour utiliser la puissance de l'État à augmenter leurs propres budgets and their influence over policy. et leur influence sur la politique.

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Introduction Introduction

In the past 50 years, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have increasingly sought to Au cours des 50 dernières années, les organisations non gouvernementales (ONG) ont de plus en plus cherché à

influence political decision-making at local, national and international levels. influence la décision politique, nationale et internationale au niveau local. Many such NGOs Beaucoup de ces ONG seek to promote a narrow agenda on specific issues, such as “the environment”, often to the cherchent à promouvoir un agenda étroit sur des questions spécifiques, telles que «l'environnement», souvent au

exclusion of other issues. l'exclusion d'autres questions.

As political decision-making has shifted to supranational bodies such as the European Union Comme prise de décision politique a évolué à des instances supranationales comme l'Union européenne

(EU) (UE)

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and the United Nations, so there has been a shift towards supranational activism by et l'Organisation des Nations Unies, il ya donc eu une évolution vers l'activisme supranational par

NGOs and the emergence of a class of “international NGOs.” One estimate suggests that eighty Les ONG et l'émergence d'une classe de "ONG internationales." Une estimation suggère que quatre-vingts

percent of national legislation in force today in EU Member States originated in Brussels. pour cent de la législation nationale en vigueur aujourd'hui dans les États membres originaires à Bruxelles.

3 3

Unsurprisingly, NGOs of all kinds seek to influence policymaking in Brussels. Sans surprise, les ONG de toutes sortes cherchent à influencer sur les politiques à Bruxelles. Following the Suite à la establishment in 1974 of the European Environmental Bureau – the first truly European création en 1974 du Bureau européen de l'environnement - la première véritablement européenne environmental network – many international environmental organisations have established réseau environnemental - de nombreuses organisations environnementales internationales ont mis en place European branches. succursales européennes.

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Many of these NGOs pride themselves on keeping the EU in check, scrutinising and - when Bon nombre de ces ONG elles-mêmes la fierté sur le maintien de l'UE en échec, scrutant et - si necessary - publicly shaming it. nécessaires - publiquement honte. However, some of the most vocal European NGOs are in fact Cependant, quelques-unes des voix les ONG européennes sont en fait plus

not as far removed from the EU machinery as the public might perceive. pas aussi éloigné de la machine de l'UE que le public pourrait percevoir. Some are even funded Certains sont même financés

directly by the EU. directement par l'UE.

The EU has long funded NGOs and civil society groups, with the justification that “there needs L'UE a financé des ONG et à long groupes de la société civile, avec la justification que «il faut to be an open and wide-ranging dialogue with all stakeholders.” d'être un vaste et un dialogue ouvert avec toutes les parties prenantes. "

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But a more cynical reality Mais un cynique réalité plus underlies these platitudes. sous-tend ces platitudes. The EU funds many NGOs operating in Brussels whose main L'UE finance de nombreuses ONG actives à Bruxelles dont le principal purpose is to influence EU policy-making and implementation. but est d'influencer la politique européenne de décisions et la mise en œuvre. Put simply, the EU uses public En d'autres termes, l'UE utilise public

funds to pay NGOs to lobby it. fonds pour payer les ONG pour le lobby.

This report focuses on one source of such funds, the “DG Environment Programme for Ce rapport se concentre sur une seule source de ces fonds, le «Programme pour la DG Environnement operating grants to European environmental NGOs.” (Referred to hereafter as “The subventions de fonctionnement aux ONG environnementales européennes. "(ci-après comme« La Programme.”) The Programme is run by the Directorate-General for the Environment (one of Programme »). Le programme est géré par la Direction générale de l'environnement (l'un des more than two dozen DGs that make up the European Commission, each headed by an plus de deux douzaines de DG qui composent la Commission européenne, chacune dirigée par un appointee from a Member State). personne nommée par un État membre).

6 6

Under the auspices of The Programme, a total of more than Sous les auspices du Programme, un total de plus de

€66 million was distributed to environmental NGOs over 12 years. € 66000000 a été distribué aux ONG environnementales de plus de 12 ans. The first phase of The La première phase de la Programme ran from 1998-2001, was renewed for 2002-2006, and is now being continued as Programme a duré de 1998-2001, a été renouvelé pour la période 2002-2006, et se poursuit maintenant en tant que

part of the new LIFE+ programme. partie du nouveau programme LIFE +.

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Specifically, we analyse funds granted to the Green 10 – a coalition of ten NGOs pushing an Plus précisément, nous analysons les fonds accordés à la Green 10 - une coalition de dix ONG pousser un

“environmental” agenda in EU policymaking. "Environnement" dans l'ordre du jour l'élaboration des politiques de l'UE. Nine of the Green 10 have received EU funds Neuf des 10 Green ont reçu des fonds de l'UE

under The Programme [See Table 2]. au titre du programme [Voir le tableau 2]. The Green 10 is thus a good case study for examining how Le Green 10 est donc une bonne étude de cas pour examiner comment

EU funding for NGOs influences EU policy. financement de l'UE pour les ONG influences politiques de l'UE.

Two issues arise from this analysis of The Programme. Deux questions découlent de cette analyse du programme. One is independence: to the extent that Le premier est l'indépendance: dans la mesure où

members of the Green 10 rely on EU funding – in five cases, for over 50% of their budgets – membres du Green 10 comptent sur le financement de l'UE - dans cinq cas, depuis plus de 50% de leurs budgets -

their independence from government is jeopardised. leur indépendance du gouvernement est mise en péril.

The second issue is whether funding the Green 10 truly satisfies the goal of increasing La deuxième question est de savoir si le financement du Green 10 satisfait vraiment le but d'augmenter “democratic participation” within EU institutions. «Participation démocratique» au sein des institutions de l'UE. The evidence considered in this report Les données analysées dans ce rapport suggests that The Programme actually undermines democratic accountability. suggère que le programme de miner leur responsabilité démocratique. The EU L'UE interferences with and corrupts civil society by funding specific NGOs to the exclusion of other

interfère avec et corrompt la société civile par le financement de certaines ONG, à l'exclusion des autres

members of civil society. membres de la société civile. Meanwhile, these EU-funded NGOs seek to utilise the power of the Pendant ce temps, ces ONG financées par l'UE cherchent à utiliser la puissance de l'

state to augment their budgets and promote narrow interests – often to the detriment of the Etat d'augmenter leurs budgets et à promouvoir des intérêts étroits - souvent au détriment de la wider public. public plus large. Rather than being a solution to the EU's democratic deficit, EU funding of NGOs is Plutôt que d'être une solution au déficit démocratique de l'UE, le financement communautaire des ONG est part of the problem. une partie du problème.

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The Green 10 Le 10 Green

The Green 10 is a coalition of “ten of the largest European environmental Le Green 10 est une coalition de «dix des plus grands européens de l'environnement organisations/networks”, who “work with the EU law-making institutions - the European organisations / réseaux ", qui" travaillent avec l'UE le droit de décision des institutions - l'Union européenne

Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers - to ensure that the Commission, le Parlement européen et du Conseil des ministres - de s'assurer que les environment is placed at the heart of policymaking.” environnement soit placé au coeur du processus décisionnel. "

8 8

The coalition's operations listed on their website date back to 2006, but there is evidence that a Les opérations de la coalition figurant sur leur site web Date de retour à 2006, mais il est prouvé qu'un smaller coalition – by the name of the Green 8 - was operating as early as 2002. petite coalition - par le nom du groupe des Verts 8 - a été exploitation dès 2002.

9 9

According to Selon

the European Environmental Bureau - one of the members of the Green 10 - all of the coalition le Bureau européen de l'environnement - l'un des membres du Green 10 - tous de la coalition members have an office in Brussels. membres ont un bureau à Bruxelles.

10 10

The coalition makes a vague claim that it represents over 20 million people, and “tries to La coalition fait une demande vague qu'elle représente plus de 20 millions de personnes, et «cherche à observe as democratic a process of decision-making as possible, taking into account the views observer comme un processus démocratique de prise de décision que possible, en tenant compte des vues

of member organisations, their staff, boards and members.” des organisations membres, de leur personnel, les conseils et les membres. "

11 11

But behind this façade of independence, grassroots support and democratic representation, Mais derrière cette façade de l'indépendance, le soutien communautaire et de la représentation démocratique,

the balance sheets of the Green 10 members tell a very different story. les bilans des 10 membres de Green raconter une histoire très différente.

Figure 2 – Green 10 Members: Figure 2 - Green 10 membres:

12 12

□ □

Birdlife International Birdlife International

□ □

Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) Bankwatch Network Europe centrale et orientale (PECO)
Bankwatch Network

□ □

Climate Action Network Europe (CAN-E) Réseau Action Climat Europe (CAN-E)

□ □

European Environment Bureau (EEB) Bureau européen de l'environnement (BEE)

□ □

Transport and Environment (T&E) Transport et Environnement (T & E)

□ □

Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) Santé et Environnement Alliance (HEAL)

□ □

Friends of the Earth Europe (FoEE) Les Amis de la Terre Europe (FoEE)

□ □

Greenpeace Greenpeace

□ □

International Friends of Nature (IFN) Internationale des Amis de la Nature (IAN)

□ □

WWF European Policy Office (WWF-EPO) Office européen des politiques WWF (WWF-EPO)

The Green 10's Funding Le Green 10 de financement

Eight of the Green 10 NGOs derive a substantial portion of their income from taxpayers. Huit des 10 ONG Green tirent une partie importante de leurs revenus des contribuables. A Une majority rely heavily on EU and member state government funds. la majorité comptent beaucoup sur l'état des fonds et membre du gouvernement de l'UE. In fact, eight members of the En fait, huit membres de la

Green 10 derive one-third or more of their income from the European Commission (henceforth Green 10 proviennent d'un tiers ou plus de leur revenu de la Commission européenne (ci-après the Commission) and five of those derive more than 50% of their funding from the la Commission) et cinq de ces tirent plus de 50% de leur financement de la Commission. Commission.

The WWF European Policy Office derives a smaller amount – 15% of its income – from the Le WWF European Policy Office tire une plus petite quantité - 15% de ses revenus - de la Commission, less than almost all other Green 10 members. Commission, à moins de presque tous les autres Green 10 membres. The Greenpeace European Unit is L'Unité européenne de Greenpeace est

the sole exception. la seule exception. It is funded by Greenpeace international, and states that it "does not seek Il est financé par Greenpeace international, et déclare qu'il «ne cherche pas or accept donations from governments (including the EU institutions), corporations or political ou accepter des dons de gouvernements (y compris les institutions de l'UE), des sociétés ou des politiques parties." parties. "

13 13

For the remaining eight members of the Green 10, one of the biggest donors remains the Pour les huit autres membres du Green 10, un des plus grands bailleurs de fonds reste l'

Commission. Commission. Many of these donations originate from the Directorate-General (DG) for the Bon nombre de ces dons proviennent de la Direction générale (DG) pour la Environment, the department within the Commission that concentrates on environmental Environnement, le ministère au sein de la Commission qui se concentre sur l'environnement issues (see Table 2). questions (voir tableau 2).

In 2009, DG Environment contributed €422,700 or about 64% of CEE Bankwatch Network's En 2009, la DG Environnement a contribué € 422 700 ou environ 64% de CEE Bankwatch Network income. revenu.

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In 2008, DG Environment also provided the European Environmental Bureau with nearly En 2008, la DG Environnement a également fourni l'European Environmental Bureau avec près de €900,000, 52% of their income that year. € 900 00052% de leurs revenus cette année. Similarly, in 2008 Friends of the Earth Europe received €790,020 from DG Environment - or De même, en 2008 les Amis de la Terre Europe a reçu €790 020 de la DG Environnement - ou about 52% of their annual income that year. environ 52% de leur revenu annuel de cette année.

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Table 1: The Green 10 and the EU's Lobbying Registers Tableau 1: Les 10's Green et registres de l'UE le lobbying

Registered lobbyist? lobbyiste enregistré?

European Européenne

green NGOs: ONG verte:

**Transparency Transparence
and disclosure et la divulgation**

EC core de base CE

funding? financement?

European Européenne

Commission Commission

European Européenne

Parliament Parlement

EU lobbyists' lobbyistes de l'UE

registers registres

BirdLife Europe BirdLife Europe

Division Division

••

••

••

Partly updated in Partiellement mis à jour en
2008 2008

CEE Bankwatch CEE Bankwatch

Network Réseau

••

X X

X X

Not registered Non enregistré

Climate Action Climate Action

Network Europe Réseau Europe

(CAN-E) (CAN-E)

••

••

••

Last updated in 2007 Dernière mise à jour en 2007

European Européenne

Environmental L'environnement

Bureau (EEB) Bureau (EEB)

••
••
••

Last updated in 2008 Dernière mise à jour en 2008

European Européenne

Federation for Fédération

Transport and Transports et

Environment Environnement

(T&E) (T & E)

••
••
••

Updated (2009) Mise à jour (2009)

Friends of the Les Amis de la

Earth Europe Terre Europe

(FoEE) (Amis de la Terre)

••
••
••

Last updated in 2008 Dernière mise à jour en 2008

Greenpeace Greenpeace

European Unit Unité européenne

X X

••
••

Last updated in Dernière mise à jour

2007-8 2007-8

Health & Forme &

Environment Environnement

Alliance (HEAL) Alliance (HEAL)

••
••

X X

Last updated in 2008 Dernière mise à jour en 2008

International International

Friends of Amis de

Nature (IFN) Nature (IAN)

••
••

X X

X X

Not registered Non enregistré

WWF European Européen du WWF

Policy Office Bureau de la politique

(WWF-EPO) (WWF-EPO)

••
••
••

Updated (2009) Mise à jour (2009)

7 7

Table 2: The Green 10: Sources of Funding and Lobbying Expenditures Tableau 2: Les 10 Green: Sources de financement et des dépenses de lobbying

DG ENVI Grant DG ENVI Grant
Expenditure on Dépenses pour la
Lobbying the Le lobbying auprès du
European Union L'Union européenne
[17 17](#)

Organisation Year Organisation Année
Income Revenu
(implied) (Implicite)

[16 16](#)

€ €

€ €

% of % Des

total total

income revenu

€ €

% of % Des

total total

income revenu

BirdLife BirdLife

European Européenne

Division Division

2007 1,137,905 2007 1,137,905

379,605 33% 379 605 33%

360,000 360,000

32% 32%

CEE Europe centrale et orientale

Bankwatch Bankwatch

Network Réseau

2009 660,985 2009 660,985

422,700 64% 422 700 64%

n/a n / a

n/a n / a

Climate Action Climate Action

Network Réseau

Europe L'Europe

(CAN-E) (CAN-E)

2007 374,610 2007 374,610

207,047 55% 207 047 55%

n/a n / a

n/a n / a

European Européenne

Environmental L'environnement

Bureau (EEB) Bureau (EEB)

2008 1,713,861 2008 1,713,861

898,920 52% 898 920 52%

700,000 – 700000 -

750,000 750,000

41 - 44% 41 à 44%

European Européenne

Federation for Fédération

Transport and Transports et
 Environment Environnement
 (T&E) (T & E)
 2009 774,251 2009 774,251
261,000 34% 261 000 34%
 400,000 – 400000 -
 450,000 450,000
 52 - 58% 52 à 58%
 Friends of the Les Amis de la
 Earth Europe Terre Europe
 (FoEE) (Amis de la Terre)
 2008 1,508,535 2008 1,508,535
790,020 52% 790 020 52%
 696,000 696,000
 46% 46%
 Greenpeace Greenpeace
 European Unit Unité européenne
 2008 1,196,553 2008 1,196,553
0 0
0% 0%
 750,000 750,000
 63% 63%
 Health & Forme &
 Environment Environnement
 Alliance (HEAL) Alliance (HEAL)
 2007 2007
 -08 -08
 669,119 669,119
383,338 57% 383 338 57%
 150,000- 150000 -
 200,000 200,000
 22-30% 22-30%
 International International
 Friends of Amis de
 Nature (IFN) Nature (IAN)
 2009 542,296 2009 542,296
255,747 47% 255 747 47%
n/a n / a
n/a n / a
 WWF WWF
 European Européenne
 Policy Office Bureau de la politique
 (WWF-EPO) (WWF-EPO)
 2009 4,281,229 2009 4,281,229
661,878 15% 661 878 15%
 450,000- 450000 -
 500,000 500,000
 11-12% 11-12%
 8 8

EU increases augmentations de l'UE
environment environnement
budget budget
"GREEN 10" NGOs "Green 10" des ONG
lobby the EU for a le hall de l'UE pour une
"greener" budget «Vertes» du budget
European Européenne
Commission funds fonds de la Commission
NGOs such as Green Des ONG comme Green
10 for conservation 10 pour la conservation
projects as well as projets ainsi que
operating costs les coûts d'exploitation

EU Funding for Lobbying Le financement de l'UE pour le lobbying

One of the campaigning tactics listed on the Green 10 website is to "lobby for new L'une des tactiques inscrites à la campagne Green 10 site est de "faire pression pour de nouvelles environmental proposals." Most of the coalition members are registered on both the propositions de l'environnement. "La plupart des membres de la coalition sont inscrits sur les Commission and the European Parliament lobbyist registries. Commission et le Parlement européen des registres des lobbyistes.

The Commission defines lobbying as "activities carried out with the objective of influencing the La Commission définit le lobbying comme «les activités menées dans le but d'influencer la policy formulation and decision-making processes of the European institutions", while the la formulation des politiques et des processus décisionnels des institutions européennes ", tandis que le European Parliament (henceforth the Parliament) defines lobbyists as "persons who wish to Parlement européen (ci-après du Parlement) définit les lobbyistes comme des «personnes qui souhaitent

enter Parliament's premises frequently with a view to supplying information to Members entre les locaux du Parlement fréquemment en vue de fournir des informations aux membres within the framework of their parliamentary mandate in their own interests or those of third dans le cadre de leur mandat parlementaire dans leurs propres intérêts ou ceux de tiers parties." parties. "

[18 18](#)

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Registration and provision of details about lobbying and funding are all purely voluntary on the Inscription et mise à disposition de détails sur le lobbying et le financement sont toutes purement volontaire de la

part of NGOs and other groups that lobby European institutions. part des ONG et d'autres groupes de pression européen des institutions qui. The Commission's registry La Commission de registre was launched in June 2008 and in early March 2010, numbered nearly 2,600 registrations a été lancé en Juin 2008 et au début Mars 2010, comptait près de 2600 inscriptions (1,357 "in-house" lobbyists and trade associations and 781 NGOs and think-tanks). (1357 "in-house» des lobbyistes et les associations professionnelles et 781 ONG et les think-tanks).

[19 19](#)

Transparency campaigners have criticised the registry, saying that an estimated 20,000 militants de la transparence ont critiqué le registre, en disant que quelque 20.000 lobbyists operate in Brussels. lobbyistes fonctionnent à Bruxelles.

[20 20](#)

CEE Bankwatch Network and International Friends of Nature do not appear on either of the CEE Bankwatch Network et l'Internationale des Amis de la Nature ne figurent pas sur la lobbying registries operated by the Commission or the Parliament; the Health & Environment

lobbying registres gérés par la Commission ou le Parlement, la santé et l'environnement Alliance does not appear on the Parliament's registry. Alliance ne semble pas sur le registre du Parlement.

[21 21](#)

This is in spite of the Green 10 having Ceci en dépit du Green 10 ayant advocated a “common system of registration for lobbyists and the organisations that pay préconisé un système commun "de l'enregistrement des lobbyistes et les organisations qui paient them”, and stating that “organisations of the Green 10 would be ready to participate in such a eux », et affirmant que « les organisations de la Green 10 seraient prêts à participer à un tel register.” registre. "

[22 22](#)

Propaganda by Proxy Propagande par procuration

It appears that the primary function of EU funding for the Green 10 is to support self-justifying Il semble que la fonction première de financement de l'UE pour le Green 10 est d'appuyer l'auto-justifiant

propaganda, rather than to promote the wider public good. la propagande, plutôt que de promouvoir la plus large du bien public. When interviewed by external Interrogé par l'extérieur

auditors, both Commission bureaucrats and NGO recipients of EU funds admitted that “there is vérificateurs, les deux fonctionnaires de la Commission et les bénéficiaires des ONG de fonds de l'UE a admis qu 'il est

a consensus that the objective of the programme is to support the activity of NGOs working in un consensus que l'objectif du programme est de soutenir l'activité des ONG travaillant dans areas of EU environmental policy which are relevant to the Commission's work programme, domaines de la politique environnementale qui sont pertinents pour le travail de la Commission du programme,

and not to support their activity *per se* .” et de ne pas soutenir leur activité *en soi*. "

[23 23](#)

The Commission in particular readily promotes the fact that it funds NGOs to advance its policy La Commission encourage en particulier le fait facilement qu'il finance les ONG pour faire avancer sa politique

agenda and to influence the public debate on topics such as climate change: “In particular in ordre du jour et d'influencer le débat public sur des sujets comme le changement climatique: «En particulier dans

the area of climate change, NGOs have been reported to be useful in reaching out and le domaine du changement climatique, les ONG ont été rapportés comme étant utiles à tendre la main et supporting EU positions through their networks.” soutenir les positions de l'UE à travers leurs réseaux. "

[24 24](#)

It also funds NGOs to extol the virtues of Il finance également les ONG à vanter les vertus de EU regulation among the general public, “raising awareness and promoting EU environment réglementation de l'UE auprès du grand public, «la sensibilisation et la promotion de l'environnement de l'UE

policy beyond EU borders.” politique au-delà des frontières de l'UE. "

al al

[25 25](#)

This is propaganda by proxy. C'est de la propagande par procuration.

The Commission would seemingly have a duty to communicate directly with European citizens La Commission aurait apparemment un devoir de communiquer directement avec les citoyens européens

and taxpayers, yet it delegates PR work to NGOs, as they “have the advantage of being close to et les contribuables, mais il délègue le travail de relations publiques aux ONG, car ils "ont l'avantage d'être proche de

the ground and having high credibility with the public and therefore a high potential of le et ayant une grande crédibilité au sol avec le public et donc un potentiel élevé de achieving effective awareness and outreach.” la réalisation efficace de sensibilisation et de vulgarisation. "

[26 26](#)

The EU lists regulation of pesticides as one example of an EU-funded activity “where NGOs, like L'UE des listes de réglementation des pesticides comme un exemple d'une activité financée par l'UE "où les ONG, comme other stakeholders, lobby strongly at all levels eg by letters and meeting requests.” d'autres parties prenantes, exercer de fortes pressions à tous les niveaux, par exemple par des lettres et des demandes de réunion. "

[27 27](#)

Indeed, En effet,

this issue was widely publicised in 2009. cette question a été largement médiatisé en 2009. It transpired that the European office of Pesticide Il est apparu que le bureau européen de pesticides Action Network (PAN-E), one of the leading NGOs working to cut and/or eliminate pesticide Action Network (PAN-E), l'une des principales ONG travaillant à réduire et / ou d'éliminer les pesticides

use, received €88,430 (59% of its annual income) from the European Union in 2009. l'utilisation, a reçu € 88 430 (59% de son revenu annuel) de l'Union européenne en 2009. Pesticide Pesticides Action Network UK, the parent company which is responsible with PAN Germany for Réseau d'action du Royaume-Uni, la société mère qui est responsable avec l'Allemagne pour les PAN “managing [PAN-E's] finances, representation on its board, and hosting its office and "La gestion PAN-E] finances [, la représentation à son conseil, et l'hébergement de son bureau et coordinator,” received £141,152 (around €160,000) coordinateur », a reçu £ 141 152 (environ € 160.000)

[28 28](#)

from the EC. de la CE.

[29 29](#)

PAN-E is responsible for PAN-E est responsable de

“getting 66 legislative amendments to draft EU legislation on the use of pesticides” "Obtenir 66 amendements législatifs à élaborer une législation de l'UE sur l'utilisation des pesticides"

[30 30](#)

and et

works closely with European representatives. travaille en étroite collaboration avec des représentants européens.

[31 31](#)

However, PAN-E has not registered on either Toutefois, PAN-E ne s'est pas inscrit sur les deux the Commission or Parliament lobbyist registries. la Commission ou des registres des lobbyistes au Parlement.

Following the Money À la suite de l'argent

The EU's remit in the area of environmental regulation has grown continuously for a quarter- Le mandat de l'UE dans le domaine de la réglementation environnementale n'a cessé depuis un quart de century. siècle. It was recently estimated that approximately 80 per cent of national environmental Il a récemment été estimé qu'environ 80 pour cent de l'environnement national legislation in EU Member States originates in EU decisions. la législation dans les États membres provient de décisions de l'UE.

[32 32](#)

10 10

réseau européen de l'environnement, le Bureau européen de l'environnement, a été established in 1974 and other international environmental organisations soon followed suit créé en 1974 et d'autres organisations environnementales internationales ont rapidement emboîté le and established European branches. et établi des succursales européennes.

A few of the Green 10's lobbying achievements are listed on its members' websites: Quelques-uns de 10 réalisations de lobbying vert de la liste sont des membres «les sites de ses:

□ “NGOs successfully lobbied the European Convention to retain existing Treaty □ «Les ONG ont fait pression avec succès la Convention européenne de maintenir en vigueur du traité commitments to sustainable development, environmental protection and the engagements envers le développement durable, protection de l'environnement et le integration of environmental concerns into each EU policy area.” l'intégration des préoccupations environnementales dans chaque domaine d'action de l'UE. "

□ “NGOs produced a joint 'manifesto' outlining key recommendations for action by MEPs □ «Les ONG produit» décrivant en commun »manifeste une des recommandations clés pour l'action par les députés

in the European Parliament 2004-2009.” 2004-2009 dans le Parlement européen. "

[33 33](#)

What environmental NGOs such as the Green 10 may lack in financial resources compared to Quelles sont les ONG environnementales telles que le Green 10 peuvent manquer de ressources financières par rapport à

corporate lobbyists, they make up in *perceived* independence and legitimacy. lobbyistes d'entreprise, ils font en toute indépendance et la légitimité *perçue*. Reports Rapports evaluating the EU's decision-making process suggest that environmental and human and l'évaluation des processus de prise de décision de l'UE suggèrent que l'environnement et de l'homme et

animal rights groups are among the most influential lobbyists in Brussels. droits des animaux sont parmi les lobbyistes les plus influents à Bruxelles.

[34 34](#)

They also benefit Ils bénéficient également from the EU architecture, in which the Commission is encouraged to consult civil society de l'architecture de l'UE, dans laquelle la Commission est encouragée à consulter la société civile groups before making decisions. groupes avant la prise de décisions.

[35 35](#)

The Green 10 argues that democratic decision-making is at risk “when business is given undue Le Green 10 fait valoir que prise de décision démocratique est en danger "quand les affaires sont donné trop

weight and privileged access to decision-makers” poids et un accès privilégié aux décideurs "

[36 36](#)

-- yet they themselves appear to avail of - Encore eux-mêmes semblent bénéficier de similar access and influence within the EU. accès similaire et influence au sein de l'UE. In a presentation on the Green 10, the European Dans un exposé sur le Green 10, la Commission européenne

Environmental Bureau boasts of “Regular meetings with Commissioner for Environment” and Bureau de l'environnement se vante de "réunions régulières avec le commissaire à l'environnement» et

“Regular meetings with the Council.” "Des réunions régulières avec le Conseil."

[37 37](#)

A Parliament working paper also observed these close Un document de travail du Parlement a également observé ces proches

ties - including financial relationships - between the EEB and the Commission. liens - y compris les relations financières - entre le BEE et la Commission.

[38 38](#)

In fact, it En fait, il appears as though the Commission actually helped the EEB establish its Brussels office in semble que la Commission a effectivement aidé le BEE établir son siège à Bruxelles en 1974. 1974.

[39 39](#)

An independent audit into DG Environment funding of NGOs found that there was “a Un audit indépendant à la DG Environnement de financement des ONG constaté qu’il y avait «un marked difference” in contact between DG Environment and recipient NGOs in contrast with différence marquée en contact "entre la DG Environnement et les ONG bénéficiaires en contraste avec non-recipient NGOs, “with the latter more scarcely represented.” -Bénéficiaire ONG non, "avec ce dernier plus rarement représentés."

[40 40](#)

Money to Lobby for Yet More Money L'argent au Lobby plus d'argent Pourtant, Environmental NGOs not only use EU funds to lobby for policies, they also lobby to increase Les ONG environnementales non seulement utiliser les fonds de l'UE à faire pression pour des politiques, ils font également pression pour augmenter their own influence within the EU and, of course, for the EU to increase their funding. leur influence au sein de l'UE et, bien sûr, pour l'UE à accroître leur financement. Currently, grants distributed by the EU are allowed to make up as much as 70% of a recipient Actuellement, les subventions distribuées par l'UE sont autorisés à représenter jusqu'à 70% d'un destinataire NGO's budget. ONG budget.

[41 41](#)

Beneficiaries are obliged only to find other sources of funding to constitute Les bénéficiaires sont tenus de ne trouver d'autres sources de financement pour constituer the remaining 30% -- a substantial decrease from the 50% previously required. les 30% restants - une baisse substantielle de 50% précédemment requis. This change Ce changement occurred following NGO recommendations that the co-funding requirement should be survenus à la suite des recommandations des ONG que l'exigence de financement de la coopération devrait être reduced. réduite.

[42 42](#)

Unsurprisingly, this relaxing of the rules was “acknowledged by beneficiaries as one Sans surprise, ce assouplissement des règles a été "reconnu par les bénéficiaires comme l'un of the most significant accomplishments of their intervention in the development of the des réalisations importantes la plupart de leurs interventions dans le développement de la current Programme.” Programme en cours. "

[43 43](#)

Following a constant barrage of complaints by environmental NGOs, “the case for an increase Suite à un barrage constant de plaintes déposées par des ONG environnementales, «le cas d'une augmentation in funds was made by the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament, resulting in dans des fonds a été faite par la Commission au Conseil et au Parlement européen, ce qui the current Programme's increased budget.” Programme a augmenté le budget actuel du. "

[44 44](#)

An independent review of DG Environment's Un examen indépendant de la DG Environnement funding programme judged that the increase both in activities carried out by environmental programme de financement a jugé que l'augmentation à la fois dans les activités menées par l'environnement

NGOs and the number of NGOs applying for funding called for “an increase (at least doubling) ONG et le nombre de demandes de financement des ONG a appelé à "une augmentation (au moins un doublement)

in the funds.” dans les fonds. "

[45 45](#)

As a result, the total funds allocated by DG Environment to NGOs have increased steadily from En conséquence, le total des fonds alloués par la DG Environnement à des ONG ont augmenté régulièrement, passant de

1998 onwards, with total annual grants going from €2.3 million in 1998 to €8.7 million in 2009

Partir de 1998, avec un total de subventions annuelles allant de € 2,300,000 en 1998 à 8,7 M € en 2009

[see Table 3]. [Voir le tableau 3].

[46 46](#)

Still, this was not satisfactory for recipient NGOs: an independent review into Pourtant, ce n'était pas satisfaisant pour les ONG bénéficiaire: une révision indépendante

the Programme found that “NGOs overwhelmingly feel that the gap between their ability to le Programme a estimé que «les ONG se sentent très grande majorité que l'écart entre leur capacité à

get involved and influence policy and the ability of professional/business interests to do so is de s'impliquer et d'influencer les politiques et la capacité de l'annonce des intérêts professionnels de le faire est

still present and growing.” toujours présent et en croissance. "

[47 47](#)

11 11

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Table 3: Annual DG Environment Funding to Environmental NGOs Tableau 3: Financement annuel de la DG Environnement à des ONG de l'environnement

[48 48](#)

Year Année

Amount Montant

Year on year increase Augmentation chaque année

1998 € 2,337,924 1998 € 2337924

1999 € 2,500,584 1999 € 2500584

7% 7%

2000 € 2,562,561 2000 € 2562561

3% 3%

2001 € 3,100,010 2001 € 3100010

21% 21%

2002 € 3,904,071 2002 € 3904071

26% 26%

2003 € 4,981,499 2003 € 4981499

28% 28%

2004 € 6,049,624 2004 € 6049624

21% 21%

2005 € 7,402,966 2005 € 7402966

22% 22%

2006 € 7,899,677 2006 € 7899677

7% 7%

2007 € 8,199,998 2007 € 8199998

4% 4%

2008 € 8,495,809 2008 € 8495809

4% 4%

2009 € 8,749,940 3% 2009 € 8749940 3%

Total € 66,184,663 Average 13% Total € 66184663 moyenne 13%

EU Cohesion Policy: €350 billion and decision-making power La politique de cohésion de

l'UE: € 350 000 000 000 et de prise de pouvoir de décision up for grabs à gagner

Top-level political negotiations for the EU's 2007-2013 budget began in 2004 – three years
niveau des négociations politiques pour le budget européen 2007-2013 a commencé en 2004 - trois
ans

before it was due to take effect. avant qu'il ne soit prise d'effet.

[49 49](#)

The negotiations ended with a compromise solution in 2006. Les négociations se sont terminées
avec une solution de compromis en 2006.

Stakeholders and politicians are now looking to the 2014-2020 budget, and negotiations on Les
intervenants et les politiciens cherchent maintenant à le budget 2014-2020, et les négociations sur
certain parts of the budget – most notably the Common Agricultural Policy – are due to certaines
parties du budget - et plus particulièrement la politique agricole commune - sont dus à
commence later this year. commencer plus tard cette année.

[50 50](#)

In the years leading up to the 2007-2013 EU budget, the Green 10 campaigned tirelessly to Dans les
années qui ont précédé le budget de l'UE 2007-2013, le Green 10 milité sans relâche pour
“green” budgets and to increase funds allocated to environmental preservation and «Verte» des
budgets et à accroître les fonds alloués à la préservation de l'environnement et
sustainable development. développement durable. Many of these proposals are self-serving in the
extreme. Bon nombre de ces propositions sont égoïstes à l'extrême. Had their Si leur
campaigns been successful for the 2007-13 budget, the Green 10 would have secured a great
campagnes réussi pour le budget 2007-13, le Green 10 aurait obtenu un grand
deal more funds and influence. beaucoup plus de fonds et d'influence.

In 2005, the Green 9 group En 2005, le groupe Green 9

[51 51](#)

was campaigning for the “budget [to] be 'greened' and resources faisait campagne pour le budget
«[d '] être« vertes »et des ressources

specifically targeted towards the achievement of the EU's environmental objectives.”

spécifiquement destiné à la réalisation des objectifs de l'UE en matière d'environnement de la. "

[52 52](#)

They Ils

went as far as suggesting that “NGOs should be able to play a role in the strategic est allé jusqu'à
suggérer que "les ONG doivent être en mesure de jouer un rôle stratégique dans le
programming guidelines for Rural Development and Regional Funds, as well as the 'on the
orientations de programmation pour le développement rural et des fonds régionaux, ainsi que la
«sur le

ground' operation of these programmes, in order to ensure policy coherence and integration.”

'Opération sur le terrain de ces programmes, afin d'assurer la cohérence des politiques et
l'intégration. "

[53 53](#)

In 2007, several members of the Green 10 participated in a consultation on the reform and En 2007,
plusieurs membres du Green 10 ont participé à une consultation sur la réforme et
future of the EU Cohesion Policy. avenir de la politique de cohésion de l'UE. The Cohesion Policy,
an official part of EU policy since the La politique de cohésion, une partie officielle de la politique
de l'UE depuis le

1986 Single European Act, encourages redistribution among EU regions under “the principle 1986
Acte unique européen, encourage la redistribution entre les régions de l'UE sous la rubrique «le
principe

that we all benefit from narrowing the gaps of income and wealth between our regions.” que nous
bénéfitions tous de réduire les écarts de revenu et de richesse entre nos régions. "

[54 54](#)

Green 10 member submissions for this consultation were based on one of the members' earlier Les 10 membres de Green pour cette consultation sont fondées sur l'une des premières membres publications, entitled "10 Golden Rules for NGO Partnership." publications, intitulée «Les 10 règles d'or pour les ONG de partenariat.»

[55 55](#)

Their aim was to "ensure Leur but était de «veiller à ce effective stakeholder participation in steering and monitoring committees established under la participation effective des parties prenantes dans le pilotage et les comités de suivi établi en vertu de EU Funding policies." The WWF-EPO's submission recommended that the EU should further UE Les politiques de financement. "WWF-EPO La communication a recommandé que l'UE devrait en outre incorporate "sustainability" into the Cohesion Policy. incorporer la «durabilité» dans la politique de cohésion.

[56 56](#)

12 12

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But the stakes were far higher than environmental protection. Mais les enjeux étaient beaucoup plus élevés que la protection de l'environnement. As the WWF-EPO recognised, Comme le WWF-EPO reconnue,

"Cohesion Policy after 2013 will most probably account for one of the largest share of the EU "La politique de cohésion après 2013 sera très probablement compte pour l'une des plus grande part de l'UE

budget. budget. It will be the most important funding line to spend European taxpayers' money inside Ce sera la plus importante de financement en ligne pour passer l'argent des contribuables européens à l'intérieur

Europe and therefore has an exemplary status." Europe et a donc un statut exemplaire. "

[57 57](#)

In fact, the Cohesion Policy is worth €347 En fait, la politique de cohésion est une valeur de € 347 billion in today's prices (€308 billion when negotiated in 2004), over one-third of the 2007- dollars en prix d'aujourd'hui (€ 308 000 000 000 quand négocié en 2004), plus d'un tiers de la période 2007 -

2013 EU budget. 2013 budget de l'UE.

[58 58](#)

In their submissions, the WWF-EPO and Birdlife International recommended greater funding Dans leurs mémoires, le WWF-EPO et Birdlife International a recommandé un financement accru for environmental NGOs, as well as the ability for NGOs to participate in decisions regarding pour les ONG environnementales, ainsi que la capacité des ONG à participer aux décisions concernant the use of EU cohesion funds. l'utilisation des fonds de cohésion de l'UE. Of course, such measures would ultimately strengthen their Bien sûr, de telles mesures seraient en fin de compte renforcer leur

position in - and funding from - the EU. position - et le financement des - de l'UE.

[59 59](#)

Their recommendations included: Ses recommandations étaient:

"Give all partners equal status and voting rights." «Donner à tous les partenaires de l'égalité de statut et de droits de vote."

"Involve all partners in the development of project selection criteria and in the «Impliquer tous les partenaires dans l'élaboration de critères de sélection des projets et dans le processus d'évaluation des projets et la sélection. "

"Offer all committee members training and capacity building to ensure high- "offre tous les membres du comité de formation et de renforcement des capacités pour assurer une haute qualité participation." une participation de qualité. "

□ *“Cover direct costs of travel, overnight accommodation and copying for NGO □ les "coûts directs couverture du Voyage, l'hébergement et la copie pour les ONG committee members." membres du comité. "*

□ *“Offer at least one place for an environmental NGO partner in all committees (not □ «offre au moins une place pour une ONG partenaire de l'environnement dans tous les comités (pas only for the OP environment).” seulement pour l'environnement OP). "*

[60 60](#)

The Green 10 as a whole pushed for an increase in several EU budgets, knowing they would Le Green 10 dans son ensemble fait pression pour une augmentation des budgets de l'UE de plusieurs, sachant qu'ils seraient

benefit from them directly. en bénéficiant directement. They wanted Life+, the EU Environment budget managed by DG Ils voulaient Life +, de l'environnement budget de l'UE gérés par la DG Environment, to be “significantly enhanced to fund EU environmental protection measures.”

Environnement, pour être "considérablement améliorée pour financer des mesures de protection de l'environnement de l'UE."

The Green 10 wanted a 2007-2013 budget of €9.5 billion for Life+, a budget of €21 billion for Le Green 10 voulait un budget 2007-2013 de € 9,5 milliards pour Life +, un budget de € 21 milliards pour

Natura 2000 (“the centrepiece of EU nature & biodiversity policy” Natura 2000 («la pièce maîtresse de la nature de l'UE et la politique de la biodiversité”

[61 61](#)

) and a minimum budget of) Et un budget minimum de

€88.75 billion for rural development. € 8875000000 pour le développement rural.

[62 62](#)

Several of the Green 10 members receive Life+ funds. Plusieurs des 10 membres de Green recevoir des fonds Life +.

[63 63](#)

Five members of the Green 10 joined forces with Eastern-European environmental networks Cinq membres du Green 10 ont uni leurs forces avec l'Est-réseaux européens de l'environnement

CEEWEB and Milieukontakt Oost-Europa to create the “Coalition for Sustainable EU Funding.”

CEEWEB et Milieukontakt Oost-Europa pour créer la "Coalition pour le développement durable Financement de l'UE."

64 64

Their aims and demands were the same as those of other Green 10 members – to influence the

Leurs objectifs et les exigences sont les mêmes que ceux des autres membres de Green 10 -

d'influencer le

reform of EU funds to “make sure that they are spent efficiently...” while increasing NGO grants

réforme des fonds de l'UE à "faire en sorte qu'ils sont dépensés de manière efficace ...», tout en

augmentant les subventions des ONG

and power. et la puissance.

65 65

In 2006, the Green 10 members declared themselves to be “deeply disappointed with the En 2006, les 10 membres de Green se sont déclarés «profondément déçu par la

political agreement” after European governments disregarded their demands to “green” the accord politique "après que les gouvernements européens pris en considération leurs revendications pour« écologiser »la

Cohesion Fund. Fonds de cohésion.

[66 66](#)

Although they failed to exert their will over the 2007-2013 budget, they have Bien qu'ils n'ont pas à exercer leur volonté sur le budget 2007-2013, ils ont

continued to lobby in view of the next budget cycle, 2014-2020. continué de faire pression en vue de la prochain cycle budgétaire, 2014-2020.

The Green 10 as a whole and some of its individual members participated in the public Le Green 10 dans son ensemble et certains de ses membres individuels ont participé dans le secteur public consultation on the future of the EU budget ("Financial Perspectives 2014-20"). consultation sur l'avenir du budget de l'UE ("Perspectives financières 2014-20»).

[67 67](#)

In June 2008, En Juin 2008,

CEE Bankwatch Network submitted the Green 10's original agenda to the public consultation, CEE Bankwatch Network a présenté le Green 10 de l'ordre du jour initial de la consultation publique, with demands for NGO seats on all committees, reimbursement of expenses, training and à des demandes de sièges des ONG à tous les comités, le remboursement des frais, la formation et capacity building, amongst other things. le renforcement des capacités, entre autres.

[68 68](#)

The EEB's submission was a short declaration to reiterate their support of proposals advanced BEE L'argument de l'été une brève déclaration pour réitérer leur appui des propositions avancées by the Green 10, but also those of the EU Civil Society Contact Group (a coalition of civil society par le Green 10, mais aussi celles de l'UE Civil Society Contact Group (une coalition de la société civile

NGOs which include the Green 10). ONG qui comprennent le Green 10).

[69 69](#)

While it recognises that public budgeting has long been Tout en reconnaissant que le budget public a longtemps été

"considered the exclusive role of the executive and the legislative", the EU Civil Society Contact "A examiné le rôle exclusif de l'exécutif et le législatif", le contact de la société civile de l'UE Group nevertheless recommends that "public interest organizations can and should make Groupe recommande néanmoins que les organismes publics d'intérêt "peut et doit faire positive contributions to the budget process." contribution positive au processus budgétaire. "

[70 70](#)

13 13

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The EEB's ongoing efforts to influence budget reform are confirmed by their 2008 work efforts continus BEE L'influence de la réforme budgétaire sont confirmées par leur travail de 2008 programme, which among the "activities foreseen" lists: programme, qui parmi les "activités prévues" listes:

Prepare for debate on financial perspectives 2014-20 and work to ensure major increase Préparer pour le débat sur les perspectives financières 2014-20 et le travail pour assurer une progression importante

in expenditure for biodiversity under next financial perspectives. des dépenses pour la biodiversité en vertu de prochaines perspectives financières.

[71 71](#)

FOEE also has a continued interest in influencing the allocation of EU funds and explicitly FOEE a également un intérêt soutenu pour influencer la répartition des fonds de l'UE et explicitement states its intent to redirect Cohesion Policy investments from economic growth to green living: déclare son intention de réorienter les investissements de la politique de cohésion de la croissance économique à la vie en vert:

Cohesion Policy after 2013 will most probably account for the largest share of the EU La politique de cohésion après 2013 sera très probablement compte de la plus grande part de l'UE budget and will therefore have an essential role to play in promoting this crucial budget et ont donc un rôle essentiel à jouer dans la promotion de cette période cruciale transformation to a sustainable way of life. transformation d'un mode de vie durable. . . . We also strongly believe there is a case for Nous sommes également convaincus qu'il s'agit d'un cas pour broadening the concept of cohesion from purely economic criteria to social and l'élargissement du

concept de cohésion à partir des critères purement économiques et sociaux environmental living and working conditions. vivant de l'environnement et les conditions de travail.

[72 72](#)

CEE Bankwatch Network and FOEE have actually set up a campaign called “Billions for CEE Bankwatch Network et FOEE ont effectivement mis en place une campagne intitulée «Des milliards pour les

Sustainability” with the goal of “greening” the Structural and Cohesion Funds. Développement durable »dans le but de« verdir »la cohésion et des Fonds structurels.

[73 73](#)

Like the Green Comme le vert

10, they are pushing to include NGOs in executive functions such as public budgeting. 10, ils font pression pour inclure les ONG dans les fonctions exécutives telles que la budgétisation publique.

Conflict of Interest Les conflits d'intérêts

This report does not address whether environmental NGOs should be represented alongside Ce rapport ne traite pas de savoir si les ONG environnementales devraient être représentés aux côtés de other NGOs and private interests on committees. D'autres ONG et les intérêts privés au sein des comités. The issues are more nuanced: is it legitimate Les questions sont plus nuancées: est-il légitime

for NGOs to be involved with government decision-making bodies, when they are financially pour les ONG d'être impliqué dans les instances de décision du gouvernement, quand ils sont financièrement

supported for the purposes of lobbying by those bodies? prise en charge pour l'application de pressions exercées par ces organismes? Similarly, should NGOs who have a De même, si les ONG qui ont un

direct financial interest in the EU's budget decisions sit on the committees which are executing intérêt financier direct dans le budget de décisions de l'UE l'siéger dans les comités qui exécutent these decisions? ces décisions? Moreover, is this in the best interest of European citizens and taxpayers? En outre, est-ce dans le meilleur intérêt des citoyens et des contribuables européens?

Committees decide where and how funds are used according to the wishes of individual Comités de décider où et comment les fonds sont utilisés conformément aux souhaits de la personne Member States, while the European Union in theory ensures that money is not “wasted”. États membres, tandis que l'Union européenne, en théorie, garantit que l'argent n'est pas «perdu». In Dans practice, an independent auditing body and a public body usually sit on each committee - but pratique, un organisme d'audit indépendant et un organisme public siègent habituellement sur chaque comité -, mais

this no guarantee of transparency. cette garantie ne de transparence.

[74 74](#)

There are recurring suspicions of corruption and funds Il ya des soupçons récurrents de corruption et de fonds

being misspent, especially in the case of the construction industry. être dépensé à mauvais escient, en particulier dans le cas de l'industrie de la construction.

[75 75](#)

But further endorsement Mais l'approbation d'autres

of the narrow interests represented by green groups, for example, is not a remedy to these des intérêts étroits représentée par les groupes écologistes, par exemple, n'est pas un remède à ces problems. problèmes.

Furthermore, the agenda supported by environmental NGOs is not innocuous or without En outre, l'ordre du jour pris en charge par des ONG environnementales n'est pas anodin ou sans

controversy. controversé. The aim of the Cohesion Fund, as stated by EU, is to transfer resources “to L'objectif du Fonds de cohésion, comme indiqué par l'UE, consiste à transférer des ressources "pour

modernise backward regions so that they can catch up with the rest of the Union.” moderniser les

régions en retard de sorte qu'ils puissent rattraper le reste de l'Union. "

[76 76](#)

By their Par leur

own admission, many green group proposals would “change people's lifestyles and ways of propre
aveu, de nombreuses propositions du groupe vert allait «changer de mode de vie des personnes et
des moyens de
doing business.” faire des affaires. "

[77 77](#)

The effect of the proposals outlined above would be to increase by stealth the funding of the L'effet
des propositions décrites ci-dessus serait d'augmenter la dérobée le financement de la
Green 10 and other NGOs not only through grants, but also through travel reimbursements Green
10 et d'autres ONG non seulement grâce à des subventions, mais aussi par des remboursements
Voyage

(notoriously generous within EU institutions (Notoirement généreux au sein des institutions de l'UE
[78 78](#)

) and “training and capacity building.”) Et «le renforcement des capacités et de formation."

Involvement in decision-making and on-the-ground operations would increase the influence
Participation à la prise de décisions et-les-opérations au sol sur augmenterait l'influence
that these groups wield over the EU, and along with it, their ability to secure further funds and que
ces groupes exercent sur l'UE, et avec elle, leur capacité à obtenir des fonds supplémentaires et
influence in future. influence à l'avenir.

There is a risk that some activist organisations with a narrow agenda, including some green Il ya un
risque que certaines organisations militant par un agenda étroit, y compris un peu de vert
groups, might end up exploiting the democratic process for their own benefit. groupes, pourrait finir
par l'exploitation du processus démocratique dans leur propre intérêt. If the EU had Si l'UE avait
given in to the Green 10 demand that an environmental NGO sit on every committee, cédé à la
Green 10 demande que l'ONG environnementale s'assoie sur tous les comités,
environmental NGOs would have had free reign to influence all project appraisals and ONG
environnementales aurait eu libre cours à toutes les évaluations d'influence du projet et
selections under the Cohesion Fund, the allocation of more than €50 billion every year between
sélections dans le cadre du Fonds de cohésion, l'allocation de plus de 50 milliards € chaque année
entre

2007 and 2013. 2007 et 2013.

[79 79](#)

14 14

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Addiction to EU Money La dépendance à l'argent de l'UE

According to a 2005 independent review into DG Environment's funding of NGOs (the Selon un
examen indépendant de 2005 dans l'environnement de financement de la DG des ONG (le
Programme), most recipients showed great reliance on its funding. Programme), la plupart des
bénéficiaires ont montré une grande confiance sur son financement. The report states that “it is Le
rapport indique qu '«il est
likely that a high share of the grant in an NGO's total funding implies a high dependency on
probable qu'une part importante de la subvention dans le total des fonds sur les ONG une implique
une forte dépendance
the programme.” le programme. "

[80 80](#)

This certainly applies to a majority of the Green 10 members. Cela vaut certainement pour la
majorité des 10 membres de Green.

As stated earlier, recipient NGOs are required to find other funding sources to comprise only
Comme indiqué précédemment, les ONG bénéficiaires sont tenues de trouver des sources de

financement autres ne représentent que

30% of their budget, while the EU can donate up to 70%. 30% de leur budget, tandis que l'UE peut donner jusqu'à 70%.

[81 81](#)

This low co-funding requirement “is Ce co-financement de la basse condition »est not universally supported within the Commission” pas universellement soutenue à la Commission ”

[82 82](#)

and has raised genuine fears about long- et a soulevé des craintes réelles au sujet de long term sustainability of projects and independence of NGOs. viabilité à long terme des projets et l'indépendance des ONG. It appears as if NGOs may also have Il semble que les ONG peuvent également avoir

been disincentivised from raising funds elsewhere, as they have found that their generous and disincentivised été de collecter des fonds ailleurs, comme ils ont constaté que leurs généreux et unrestricted EU grants are then usually reduced. subventions sans restrictions de l'UE sont alors généralement réduite.

[83 83](#)

This is even more worrying as NGOs have continuously received more and more substantial Cela est d'autant plus inquiétante que les ONG ont continué à recevoir de plus en plus importante funds from the Commission. fonds de la Commission. The majority of Green 10 members now receive considerably La majorité des Green 10 membres reçoivent maintenant considérablement more funding from DG Environment than in previous years (see Table 4). plus de financement de la DG Environnement que les années précédentes (voir tableau 4). In fact, from 1998 to En fait, de 1998 à

2009, Birdlife Europe's funding has increased by 900%, FoEE's funding by 325% and WWF-EPO , Birdlife Europe de financement 2009 a augmenté de 900%, de financement FoEE de 325% et le WWF-EPO by 270%. de 270%.

The report into DG Environment funding found that “in all cases year on year ratios appear to Le rapport à la DG Environnement de financement a constaté que "dans tous les cas l'année sur les ratios ans semblent

fluctuate, thus no systematic evidence of a fall in beneficiaries' dependence on the Programme fluctuer, donc aucune preuve systématique d'une baisse de la «dépendance à l'égard des bénéficiaires sur le programme

during the 2002-04 period could be established.” au cours de la période 2002-04 n'a pu être établie.

[84 84](#)

Some groups such as CEE Bankwatch Network and HEAL still rely on EU funds for about 60% of Certains groupes tels que CEE Bankwatch Network et HEAL encore compter sur des fonds de l'UE pour environ 60% des

their budgets. leurs budgets. The former received EU money for eight years and the latter for six years– L'UE a reçu l'ancien de l'argent pendant huit ans et le dernier pour six ans,

periods which certainly should have been long enough to develop alternative funding sources.

The report further found that “NGO interviews overwhelmingly (14 out of 16) indicated that, once beneficiaries achieved a certain level of involvement in EU policy making, they would not be able to maintain it without the continued support of the Programme.”

[85 85](#)

In 2008, the

Commission confirmed that many organisations were “consistently funded throughout the period” and that it is “relatively difficult” for new applicants to secure funding.

[86 86](#)

15 15

Table 4: Increase in DG Environment Funding to the Green 10

[87](#) [87](#)

1998 1998

2005 2005

2009 2009

Funding Financement

from DG

ENVT

€ €

% of % Des

total total

budget budget

Funding Financement

from DG

ENVT

€ €

% of % Des

total total

budget budget

Funding Financement

from DG

ENVT

€ €

% of % Des

total total

budget budget

BirdLife Europe

45,120

--

390,582

49% 49%

407,880

36% 36%

CEE Bankwatch

Network Réseau

--

--

250,375

43% 43%

422,700

64% 64%

Climate Action

Network Europe

(CAN-E)

141,462

--

245,272

52% 52%

259,762

34% 34%

European Européenne

Environmental L'environnement

Bureau (EEB)

494,688

--

933,119

55% 55%

925,888

50% 50%

European Federation

for Transport and

Environment (T&E)

104,304

--

206,250

41% 41%

261,000

34% 34%

Friends of the Earth Amis de la Terre

Europe (FoEE)

250,544

--

398,637

43% 43%

813,721

53% 53%

Greenpeace European

Unit Unité

--

--

--

--

--

--

--

Health & Environment Santé & Environnement

Alliance (HEAL)

--

--

367,402

80% 80%

379,699

61% 61%

International Friends

of Nature (IFN)

133,076

--

150,812

30% 30%

255,747

47% 47%

WWF European Policy

Office (WWF-EPO)

245,292

--
768,731
23% 23%
661,878
15% 15%
16 16

Page 18 Page 18

Impartiality at Stake

The Commission pledges to respect the independence of the NGOs it funds, notably by “allowing the applicants to formulate their work programmes according to the priorities as identified by them” in order “to ensure diversity and independence among the funded organisations.”

[88](#) [88](#)

However, an independent report based on interviews with Commission bureaucrats and environmental NGO representatives admits that financial dependence at the national and regional level could compromise independence:

If NGOs had to rely (whether substantially or exclusively) on national/regional government funding, this would inevitably tend to compromise their independence, because the disbursements of funding at this level is – more often than not – dependent on political connections and a willingness to serve relatively narrow political agendas. agendas politiques.

[89](#) [89](#)

Unsurprisingly both the Commission and recipient NGOs deny that their independence has been compromised by funding.

[90](#) [90](#)

But the report offers no insights as to why the “political connections” and “narrow political agendas” which threaten NGO independence at the national and regional levels are not a threat at the EU level.

DG Environment funds for NGOs are disbursed for unspecified aims, while other EU funds can be allocated for specific activities. But either way, NGOs are expected to fulfil certain duties such as participating in “consultations”:

During the period covered by this evaluation, NGOs (including those targeted by the Programme) received an increasing number of invitations to attend such meetings. Demand has been such that, in most cases, NGOs have found it difficult to keep up.

[91](#) [91](#)

There is a danger that these groups become “incorporated”, censoring themselves as they become part of the system they originally intended to monitor. Though the Commission formally respects NGO autonomy, it is clearly in a position to influence their agenda and priorities. priorités.

A Solution to the EU's Democratic Deficiencies?

The Commission views its funding of NGOs as part of an ongoing effort to “democratise” the EU and “connect Europe with its citizens.”

[92](#) [92](#)

However, a look past the rhetoric of the unelected Commission shows the serious problems arising from any attempt to democratise an institution by undemocratic means.

While this report has focused only on green NGOs and more narrowly the Green 10, it raises important questions about the independence of these NGOs and their role in the EU decision-making process. processus. To the extent that most influential NGOs in Brussels rely upon EU funding,

NGOs may actually exaggerate the EU's “democratic deficit”.

In an independent study which questioned representatives from DG Environment, the majority could not agree that recipient NGOs were representative of the population.

[93 93](#)

The study found

that the Programme's geographical outreach has expanded mainly “through the membership of mainstream established NGOs in Western Europe.”

[94 94](#)

The Commission privileged the most

recognisable names within the green lobby, so “a small number of NGOs receive the bulk of the funding.”

[95 95](#)

Meanwhile, participation of NGOs from new Member States and candidate countries remains limited.

[96 96](#)

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Targeting networks may be a “most cost-effective way of dealing with civil society” for the Commission but it is doubtful that these large, centralised organisations are truly representative of the varied beliefs and opinions of Member State citizens. Even if the Green 10 does represent over 20 million people, as it claims to, this is a minority of the EU's 500 million inhabitants. habitants.

Kicking the Habit: Recommendations and Conclusions

The EU argues that environmental NGOs provide a “necessary balance in relation to the interests of other actors... including industry/business, trade unions and consumer groups.”

[97 97](#)

But the assumption that NGOs and business are in constant opposition is simplistic: the interests of some business and some NGOs are often aligned, as recent coalitions at national and international levels have shown.

[98 98](#)

Big businesses often collude with environmental groups

to push through regulations that benefit them at the cost of smaller business competitors.

Even when the result is an improvement in the environment, often it comes at an unnecessarily high cost because of the diminution in competition, reduction in innovation and higher prices for consumers.

Even where there is genuine opposition between business interests and environmental NGOs, it is far from evident that giving environmental NGOs additional influence and funding is the best way to address the problem of political decision-making being biased by other narrow interests. intérêts. Why should the environmental NGOs have *more* influence than business, trade unions or consumer groups? Why should they be subsidised?

The point is that European decision-making should not be about the narrow interests of business, consumer or environmental NGOs. It should be about providing public goods to the 500 million inhabitants of the EU. As this report makes clear, EU funding of environmental NGOs is very far from being a pure public good. In many cases, it may even be a public bad. EU meddling in the funding of NGOs has ruinous effects. Not only does it undermine the financial independence of those NGOs, it also threatens their political independence and ability to determine their own priorities. Despite their best intentions, recipient NGOs could find themselves becoming front groups for the bureaucratic apparatus or consultative groups in an advisory capacity. By funding a few, select organisations, EU funding of NGOs also crowds out other environmental or civil society groups.

Worse, EU funding works to give the impression of democracy and active civil society participation. participation. In reality, it jeopardises the reputation of the whole civil society

movement active
in Brussels. à Bruxelles. So far, it appears that the EU has expanded the democratic deficit by
selecting and
paying groups to play the part. The funding of environmental NGOs by the EU must stop
forthwith.
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[Nb - previously 80% but later reduced to 70% when programme was extended under Life+ post 2007.]

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The Life+ database shows how Green 10 members have been bidding for projects.

For example, the “European Flower Week-Campaign on the EU Ecolabel” in 2003 saw the EEB

and other partners

“campaigns in schools and shops during a 'European Flower week' ” with the aim to “encourage consumers to buy environmentally friendly products.”

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In particular, Preamble (6): “Environmental NGOs participate in experts groups, in preparatory and implementation

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