# Nordic Volunteer Activities 2019

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Contracting Jonne Sippola / Greenpeace

## 2019

was a year of extremes. Worldwide we witnessed the accelerating effects of climate change from the melting Arctic to the out of control fires that raged across nearly every continent.

We also saw a monumental rise in citizen engagement, from the youth-led climate strikes, to local campaigning, to Civil Disobedience and mass demonstrations. People power shaped the agenda and showed both what is possible and what must be done to preserve our planet and our future.

Throughout 2019, a diverse network of more than 900 Greenpeace volunteers across the Nordic countries gave their time and energy to take action and drive change.

This report spells out in detail the facts, figures, and impacts that Greenpeace Nordic volunteers have had both in campaigns and in the society we live in. Every campaign at Greenpeace starts with a vision for a better world, and it is the volunteers who bring that vision to life. Without volunteers, Greenpeace would not be the widely recognised and strong organisation that it is today.

Looking back on the year, it's empowering to see all the great volunteer work that's been done in Greenpeace Nordic, and we look ahead to 2020 in solidarity and with hope.

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### **Credits**

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## **Activities** Split in type of activity

### Split in campaign



Online campaigning





# August March April

### Split in month of activity

Presence at event Greenspeaking

## **Nordic Volunteers** Summary of Nordic activity

In 2019, a total of 960 volunteers engaged with Greenpeace Nordic - according to numbers from the online plattform Greenwire.

For each quarter of the year an average of 465 volunteers were active. Many of the volunteers are involved in 1 of the 16 self organised local groups of Greenpeace Nordic. A map showing the locations of the local groups active in 2019 can be found on page 7.

During the year, **Greenpeace Nordic volun**teers arranged or contributed to 268 activities, in addition to internal meetings and trainings. The activities ranged from Greenspeaking presentations and workshops; arranging demonstrations and marches - or supporting already occurring demonstrations; public campaigning on the streets and at events; talking to politicians; cleaning beaches and arranging trash pick-ups; doing trainings for the public about Civil Disobedience and doing Nonviolent Direct Actions.

Greenpeace Nordic volunteers participated in skill specified group trainings in Greenspeaking, kayaking, boating, climbing and Civil Disobedience and Nonviolent Direct Actions.

Greenpeace Nordic volunteers have been a vital part of the campaigns in all four countries. Highlights and more specific information on each country can be found on pages 10-25.





## Who are the Greenpeace Nordic volunteers? Based on the Volunteer Survey

## Born between **1940-2000**

I volunteer because I want to make a difference and change the state of the world.

The activity I am most motivated to do is **Nonviolent Direct Actions**. G

In April 2019, a survey was conducted for all volunteers. The survey aimed to provide insights into the current volunteer demographics, satisfaction levels and motivations.

The birth years of Nordic volunteers range from 1940 to 2000. 41% were aged between 18 - 30 years and 32% between 31 - 40 years. Between the ages of 40 to 80 years, there was a fairly even spread.

58% of answered that they had been volunteering for over 1 year and 42% for under 1 year.

88% answered that their main motivation for volunteering was 'To make a difference and change the state of the world.'. 84% of volunteers chose 7 or higher (on a scale of 1-10) for recommending a friend to volunteer with Greenpeace. 80% rated their experience as a volunteer as 'Good' or 'Excellent'.

45% of the volunteers said that there could be more engagement opportunities at Greenpeace. The activity that the volunteers were most motivated to do was NVDAs (Nonviolent Direct Actions) with 57%.

77% of volunteers 'Strongly Agreed' or 'Agreed' that GPN works to promote a diverse, open and inclusive volunteering programme.

## Local groups Active in 2019

Norway

Bergen Stavanger Oslo

Denmark

Aarhus Aalborg Odense København

Sweden

Karlstad Stockholm Göteborg/Borås

#### Finland

Helsinki Turku Tampere Lahti Oulu Jyväskylä

#### Local Groups

In 2019, Greenpeace Nordic had 16 local groups of volunteers arranging activities and carrying out campaign messages in their individual cities.

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In addition, there are many volunteers who were not involved in a local group, yet were still active.

### **Locations** Where activities happened in 2019

**Norway** 53 activities 6 different locations

**Denmark** 78 activities 12 different locations

**Sweden** 49 activities 5 different locations

**Finland** 88 activities 9 different locations

#### Activities

Greenpeace Nordic held public activities that volunteers made happen, or helped make happen in 32 different locations in 2019.

In addition, many internal trainings, meetings and events were arranged and Nordic volunteers also participated in activities outside of the Nordic countries. "I am a volunteer at Greenpeace because they have some kind of magic around them which makes things seem possible. Doing things with them is like living the better world into being."

- Clara Andrée, 29, Uppsala, Sweden

"I feel Greenpeace is one of the few organisations that are so open for everyone. Effort and energy can be channeled into action and change quickly. If you have a possibility to change society around you for the better, you should do so. And if you should, then I believe you have to. This is why I joined Greenpeace."

- Fredrik Wille Mjølnerød, 25, Oslo, Norway

"I think that Greenpeace is the coolest environmental organisation around and they fight for the causes that I also find enormously important. They are also not scared to move from words to action in a creative, effective and peaceful way. When I read about Greenpeace and their values, I knew in my heart that Greenpeace was where I belonged and that, together with them, I could get important messages out to the world."

- Natacha Mia Kristensen, 29, Aalborg, Denmark

"Volunteering for Greenpeace is the best way for me to defend the environment. At Greenpeace, I value courage, internationality, non-violence and selflessness. My greatest moment was when I saw 10,000 participants of the climate march on the steps of the Cathedral in Helsinki. Together we are strong."

- Veli-Matti Korhonen, 56, Espoo, Finland



## Denmark

The volunteer year in Denmark was the year of climate action. The volunteers supported the climate strikes, made sure climate was on the top of the agenda in the Danish elections, created noise about the climate impact of the gigantic Danish meat industry, spread the word about the urgency of oceans protection and made sure the dark side of Black Friday didn't go by unnoticed.

#### **Climate strikes**

All of the Danish local groups supported the climate strikes in Denmark during 2019. At the two global strikes in the first quarter, all four groups supported with speeches, banners or campaign stands. At the climate strike on the 24th of May, a Greenspeaker from the Aarhus group spoke. The Aarhus group also organised a climate debate with representatives from four of the political parties and a Greenpeace volunteer. In the third guarter, several København volunteers joined a climate coalition formed by all the grassroots organisations. Greenpeace volunteers assisted in the organisation of the second September climate strike, an event 'Break for Climate', aimed at engaging adults in the climate strikes. At both of the September strikes, the 20th and the 27th, Greenpeace volunteers were present with signs and banners.

#### **A Climate Election**

The volunteers played an integral part in the climate election campaign in Denmark, The local groups in København, Odense and Aalborg took to the streets with stickers picturing the Prime Minister and a message calling for an end to 'hot air'. Greenpeace Denmark designed four election posters with the aged faces of current political leaders apologising for not taking climate action earlier. These were known as the 'sorry' signs. The posters were launched and hung up simultaneously in København, Odense, Aarhus and Aalborg by volunteers. The posters had a huge impact and gained lots of media attention.

In København, Aarhus and Odense volunteers joined thousands of others in the election focused climate marches on the 25th of May. The København and Aalborg groups organised open banner workshops before these marches. TV2, a national tv station, attended the København banner workshop and did some great interviews with several volunteers.

At the København climate march, several volunteers constructed giant wooden frames for the 'sorry' banners, which were positioned right in front of the parliament and in view of the national television cameras, which filmed the entire event. Volunteers did a banner drop from a bridge, held a banner in kayaks and assisted with the huge 'sorry' signs. After the election, and during negotiations for the new government, København volunteers joined other green forces outside parliament to remind the politicians of their duty to make an ambitious climate law.

Members of the København group have also been present at many of the Klimapåmindelse (climate reminder) events held each week in front of the Danish parliament throughout the year.

#### Less Meat, More Greens

The Danish volunteers have also been the core of the Danish Less Meat, More Greens campaign. In the first half of the year, the København local group organised a street campaigning event in Albertslund to pressure the local council to introduce a Less Meat, More Greens policy. They also did a street stand and a presentation at the GRO festival for climate and food. Four volunteers went along with staff to Folkemødet on Bornholm to do a pop up launch of investigations into the impact of industrial pig farming on local communities in Denmark. Both the København and Aalborg groups made great social media contributions to World Meat Free Week. Aalborg produced output for each day of the week long campaign.

In June, volunteers from the Aarhus group were at the city hall to congratulate the Aarhus city council on voting to implement more climate friendly food in Aarhus city council kitchens. The decision was a result of a year long campaign in collaboration with the Danish Vegetarian Society. The volunteers offered the members of council a yummy plant-based snack and took some photos to inspire the rest of Denmark to follow suit.

### Activities Split in type of activity



### Split in campaign



In Autumn, the København local group was heavily involved in a Less Meat, More Greens demo in front of the Agricultural lobby's head office, which took place during the week of global climate strikes. This Greenpeace led demo was co-hosted by 10 other grassroots organisations, some of which were new collaborations for Greenpeace Denmark. A København volunteer also represented Greenpeace at an Animal Rights conference in Helsingør, attended by animal welfare, animal rights and environmental groups.

In October and December, Danish volunteers participated in two strong actions to draw attention to the Danish pig meat industry. The first action involved 17 activists for all Nordic countries, most of whom were Danish. Half of the activists climbed onto the roof of a piggery housing 5000 pigs and lay a banner reading 'Stop Svineriet' (Stop the Pigsty/Mess). The other half climbed a silo and hung a banner reading 'Give Denmark Back the Land'.

The second action took place in December at the construction of, what will be, Denmark's largest piggery. Activists lay a 66 metre long banner with the message, "Stop Pig Factories" alongside the construction site.

The København volunteers also helped to push the Less Meat, More Greens message during the C40 Mayors Summit in København by cycling around with huge banners attached to bike frames talking to tourists and officials visiting the Summit. This resulted in a great SoMe video that was released by Greenpeace International. The København volunteers also participated in a C40 climate march and ran a great street stand promoting the Less Meat, More Greens message.

#### **Protect our Oceans**

The Danish volunteers have also contributed to the global Protect our Oceans campaign. In February, the local group in Aalborg collaborated with NGO Dyrenes Alliance to co-organise a screening of 'Blue', a film about the state of our oceans, that was attended by 60 people. The Odense group also organised a screening of 'Blue' with 80 people attending and half of the attendees staying for a debate after the film. The group had also arranged a Greenspeaker to talk about Greenpeace's oceans work.





When the Arctic Sunrise visited København on the 18th of April, volunteers helped out at the open boat event; hosting tours, face painting and more. The event attracted more than a thousand people who visited the ship to hear about Greenpeaces work and the Protect our Oceans campaign.

A Danish volunteer was aboard the Greenpeace ship Arctic Sunrise on the Arctic leg of the Pole to Pole Expedition, volunteering as an assistant cook.

#### **Black Friday**

On the evening before Black Friday, all four local groups hit the streets with stickers reading 'Stop Overconsumption - Save the Planet' and 'Do Something: Buy Nothing'. The volunteers put these stickers onto chain stores advertising Black Friday sales. The activity was positively received by passersby in all cities and the activists got great footage that was made into a SoMe video reaching 8.7K viewers. The stickers were designed by a volunteer.

The next day, volunteers participated in Fridays for Future arranged climate marches in Aarhus and København. In both locations, the volunteers walked with beautiful black banners with strong white text reading, 'Stop Overconsumption. Save the Planet' and the GiveUpGifts.org branding. In København, volunteers had also painted four bike frames banners with texts such as 'Buy 0. Save 100%'.

#### Other campaigns

The local groups in Aarhus and Odense organised local rubbish pick-up events as part of the Danish Nature Conservation initiated national clean-up day on the 7th of April.

The København local group also helped execute two demonstrations in the fourth quarter one in front of Oil & Gas Summit and the other, a solidarity demo at the Norwegian embassy for the People vs. Arctic Oil court case.

In addition to the above activities, the volunteers have participated in skill specific trainings and regular internal meetings. More about skill specific trainings can be found on page 26 to 29.





## Finland

The 2019 volunteer year in Finland was focused mainly on climate action. Especially the first months of the year, culminating in the parliamentary elections in April, were filled with activities both from Greenpeace as well as from the coalition campaign of 9 NGO's pushing for climate to be the main topic during the elections and the government negotiations. And the hard work really paid off with the first ever climate elections in Finland in April and a government programme in June with ambitious climate goals.

#### **Climate Elections**

In 2019, Finnish volunteers contributed actively and strongly in making climate the primary topic of the parliamentary elections and in the following government and budget negotiations.

Before the elections, Greenpeace took part in a coalition climate campaign of 9 NGO's pushing for climate elections in Finland. The Greenpeace volunteers showed ownership of the climate campaign and took part in the training weekend of the coalition campaign in February. The Greenpeace volunteers participated actively by writing opinion pieces, organising climate events and actions, crafting memes and writing about climate on social media. Turku, Jyväskylä and Oulu group also hosted panel discussions about climate and forests with parliamentary election candidates. Volunteers did street campaigning and held climate election stands to talk to both voters and election candidates. Volunteers from Helsinki, Turku and Tampere also organised calling evenings to call all the candidates in their areas.

In addition, experienced Greenpeace activists supported the wider climate movement by hosting open Civil Disobedience trainings for over 220 participants, including supporters and donors, in Helsinki, Lahti, Turku and Tampere. The trainings were held by 11 Greenpeace volunteer trainers and made it possible for hundreds of people to participate in a coalition led action in Helsinki on the 6th of March. Large number of volunteers, activists and staff from Greenpeace Nordic, including representatives from all six local groups of Finland, with support from Greenpeace UK and Greenpeace CEE, joined forces with Finnish climate protestors and filled the steps of the parliament. The demonstration consisted of one banner hanging on the pillars of the parliament, four large banners in the crowd, songs, dance and loud calls for action.

In the beginning of April, volunteers from Helsinki, Tampere, Turku and Lahti took part in a climate march in Helsinki with 20,000 others. Volunteers led the Greenpeace block with huge banners and over 150 participants - some recruited on the spot. A group of Greenpeace climbers did a banner drop along the march route. Oulu and Jyväskylä groups also organised local climate marches and in Turku a group arranged a bus to the main climate march. The march was the last campaign push before the elections on the 14th of April, which became the greenest elections in Finland's history.

After the elections, volunteers from Helsinki, Lahti, Tampere and Turku did a huge push to influence the Finnish Government Negotiations in May. They had a daily presence outside the negotiations for eight days – reminding the politicians of their election promises. During these eight days, they had a climate studio and daily confrontation with the politicians reminding them of their climate promises. They had a whole day with focus on forests, where the volunteers got to talk to the prime minister for several minutes; a LED banner showing supporters climate messages and a demonstration against the Arctic railway together with Sami activists.

Many Greenpeace volunteers also participated in the coalition climate campaign activities during the negotiations. The coalition organised several themed activities - for example a theatrical photo opp with a huge scale and a volunteer dressed up as Antti Rinne, the premier to be, weighting the earth on one end of the scale against a basket full of toilet paper on the other end and a bike demonstration around the building the negotiations were held in when they talked about transport and traffic. During the third week of the negotiations, the campaign culminated in a human chain around the building housing the negotiations with volunteers and representatives from tens of civil society organisations demanding climate action.

The pressure from the volunteers was kept up by the Helsinki group being present outside the

## **Activities** Split in type of activity



### Split in campaign



budget negotiations in September, reminding the new government of their climate promises.

#### **Climate campaign**

In addition to the high pressure for climate elections, the Finnish volunteers pushed for climate actions in other arenas as well.

During the summer, the Oulu and Helsinki groups were busy holding infostands. The Oulu group was present at Climate Arena in Ii and at Kaikkien kesäfestari, a free summer festival in Oulu aimed especially at youth, families and disabled people. The Helsinki group held a stand at a climate event held by Kallio Church as well as other places.

At the end of October, the Finnish state owned energy company Fortum announced their plans to buy a majority of the shares in the German energy giant Uniper. As Uniper owns several coal power plants and has threatened the Netherlands with a lawsuit because the country is planning to ban coal, activists decided to pay Fortum a visit during their press conference about the Uniper deal. The photo opp in front of their door brought the downside of the deal quite a lot of attention and gave the campaigner a chance to talk to the vice president of Fortum for almost an hour.

In October, there was a spotlight on a campaign set up by individuals from the climate movement to get 50.000 signatures for a national petition for a Flight tax in Finland. During the last month of the campaign, more than 45,000 signatures were gathered in an amazing effort by the volunteers. Greenpeace local groups in Tampere and Jyväskylä took part by organising street signature collection events.

#### **Climate strikes**

The Finnish volunteers participated and supported the climate strikes all around the country and the local groups helped out in different ways in Lahti, Helsinki, Turku, Jyväskylä, Oulu and Tampere.

Volunteers and local groups also took part, supported and organised global climate strike demonstrations in the Spring and Autumn. In September, Greenpeace took on a leading role together with Earth Strike Fin-





land in organising a big climate strike event in Helsinki with 16,000 participants and in supporting more than 25 local climate strike events in the country. Local groups in Turku, Tampere, Jyväskylä and Oulu also supported local climate strike events in their towns. In November, the Turku local group helped out with a second climate strike in Turku.

#### End to Clear Cuts (Avohakkuut historiaan)

In the Spring, the volunteers in Lahti independently arranged a forest campaign training weekend with 15 participants to learn about forests and clear cuts.

The Avohakkuut historiaan (End to Clear Cuts) national petition by a coalition of five NGO's (Greenpeace Finland being one of them) was handed over to the parliament on the 22nd of October with a small demonstration and event at the parliament. Greenpeace local groups were present with representatives from Helsinki, Lahti, Turku and Tampere. During the first parliamentary discussion around the petition on the 14th of November there was another photo opp. The volunteers were at the steps of the parliament with a lumberjack and a flying squirrel (from Nature League, one of the partner organisations) and engaged in discussions with people going in.

#### Other campaigns

In August and September, the Finnish volunteers helped create attention around the forest fires in the Amazon. Greenpeace organised two photo opps with volunteers at the unofficial meetings of foreign and agricultural ministers in Helsinki and helped behind the scenes with preparations and logistics of a volunteer initiated demonstration for Amazon on the 30th of August. One Finnish volunteer joined the Arctic Sunrise as deckhand during the Protect our Oceans-ship tour and in November, there was a small photo opp outside the Norwegian Embassy to show support for the ongoing Climate Lawsuit in Norway.

In addition to these campaign related activities, the Finnish volunteers participated in meetings and trainings, and have taken part in skill related activities. To read more about skill-specific activities, see page 26-29.



## Norway

The volunteers in Norway have helped create attention around environment and climate throughout the year. The focus has been on oil and climate, where the volunteers has been important in showing the people and Government of Norway that drilling for new oil can not be done in the climate crisis we are in. The volunteers were also vital in the Protect our Oceans campaign and with putting a spotlight on over consumption.

#### The People Vs Oil

During 2019, the Climate lawsuit where Greenpeace Norway and Natur og Ungdom are suing the Norwegian state for handing out new oil licences in the Arctic, went to the court of appeal. The Norwegian volunteers were a part of making the court case seen before and during the court case, as well as raising the awareness around oil drilling by Equinor in the Australian Bight and the problems around oil drilling in general.

At Equinor's AGM in May, the Norwegian volunteers held several activities to amplify the Bight campaign. The weekend before the AGM, the volunteers in Stavanger and Oslo, joined by several other protesters, paddled out with signs and banners in a paddle-out-demonstration against drilling in the Australian Bight. The volunteers also had stands at a festival against oil drilling in Lofoten, at a concert with Australian Ziggy Alberts, and outside the Equinor AGM in Stavanger to show support and collect sign ups for the campaign. At the AGM Greenpeace submitted a proposal to stop the drilling in the Bight, that was voted for by 5% of the non-state shareholders.

In April, Norwegian and Nordic activists boarded the West Hercules Oil Rig near Hammerfest in Northern Norway. The rig was heading to drill in the Arctic, on one of the oil licences that the Climate Lawsuit claims to be illegal. Greenpeace activists in boats, kayaks and on ropes helped stop the rig and the climbers boarded the rig and stayed for 15 hours, delaying the rig and creating a lot of media attention about Arctic oil drilling. The volunteers of Oslo, Bergen and Stavanger joined the global CultureJammers push and went out on the streets in the night to 31st July putting up posters with the message 'Climate crisis - sponsored by Equinor'. This was done at the same time in 25 cities all over the world with similar messages targeting oil companies with responsibilities for the climate crisis.

In November, the second round of the Climate Lawsuit was kicked off with a Day of Action, both nationally and globally. The volunteers in Oslo, Bergen and Stavanger were there to make sure the event was a success. In Oslo, a team of volunteers helped to set up the event including the giant megafone for the Climate Roar. In Bergen, one Greenspeaker gave a speech to the crowd on behalf of Greenpeace explaining Greenpeaces involvement in this internationally-watched lawsuit.

Oslo volunteers continued to help with coordinating the events that took place alongside the court case at the harbourside venue, SALT. This included a film screening of 'Expedition Barents', seminars, presentations and a concert on the last evening.

#### **Protect our Oceans**

The Norwegian volunteers also supported the campaign to Protect our Oceans with activities throughout the year, demanding that Norwegian politicians help protect 30% of the Oceans by 2030 and helping to spotlight the plastic pollution problem.

In April, the Greenpeace ship Arctic Sunrise visited Bergen and volunteers together with staff hosted an Open Boat on the 15th and 16th of April, inviting the public to visit the ship. Volunteers held guided tours on board the ship for the 300 people who visited. The Bergen volunteers also invited the public to learn more about plastic pollution at the Bergen library; in collaboration with the library.

On the 4th of May, at the annual beach clean up day in Norway, the Stavanger and Oslo volunteer groups helped clean the beaches at Ormøya, Malmøya and Ormsund in Oslo

### **Activities** Split in type of activity



### Split in campaign



and Sølyst Nordsiden in Stavanger.

On the 8th of June, the Stavanger volunteers created a human wave to show support for the ongoing Protect the Oceans campaign at the Global Day of Action. 21 people joined to make a human wave that you can see in the picture to the right.

In October, Oslo hosted the Our Ocean conference and Greenpeace activists and volunteers were there to help highlight the lack of ocean action and ambition; particularly from Norway, the host of the conference. There were lots of activities including projections onto landmarks, speaking events, banner drops and a Twitter storm!

#### Climate

On several occasions, the volunteers helped create attention regarding climate change, and the lack of action from politicians. On the International Women's Day, Greenpeace volunteers lead environmentalists under the banner, 'Klimakamp er Kvinnekamp'/'Fighting for climate is fighting for women'. Also on Labour Day, the 1st of May, the volunteers joined with the banner, 'Fair transition - 100,000 climate jobs' demanding a transition away from fossil fuels and for Norway to be a leader in sustainable economy.

Several volunteers also helped out during the Gardermoen Climate Camp to oppose expansion of the Gardermoen Airport near Oslo and to create attention around the need to decrease flying due to climate emissions.

The volunteers have also supported the climate strikes on several occasions, by joining them and supporting as security guards. On the 30th of August, the Norwegian strikes were supported by the Climate Roar - where the climate movement, Greenpeace included, held a protest with thousands of people roaring collectively to wake the politicians from their climate inaction.

#### **Over-consumption**

In Bergen, the volunteers hosted Green living, a week with focus on sustainable living in different cafés in Bergen. There were lectures, talks and a day out in nature. The





week focused on how to live greener, veganism and zero-waste living.

On Black Friday, the volunteer groups in Oslo and Bergen highlighted mass overconsumption with stickering 'Buy Nothing & Save 100%' in the main shopping streets of these cities. The whole project was developed and carried out by the volunteers, and the social media posts from the events created some of the highest engagement figures Greenpeace Norway had in 2019. The same day, the Stavanger group held a Clothes Swap. After the swap, any remaining clothes were donated to a local college that supports refugees.

#### Other campaigns

In January, the Oslo volunteers joined the animal rights organisation NOAH in a protest against the Government's decision to "cull" the wolf population, effectively cutting Norway's wolf population in half. The volunteers also gathered in front of the Canadian Embassy in Oslo and in Stavanger to stand in solidarity with Wet'suwet'en that have created Unist'ot'en Camp protecting their rights at Gidimt'en Access Point on native territory opposing the construction of Tar Sands and Fracking Gas pipeline in their territories.

The Stavanger volunteers also joined other local NGOs in Stavanger to do a trash pick up around a lake in the city on the 10th of February. They also had stands in Stavanger on several occasions to gain more focus around environmental cases in general.

The Oslo volunteers also had stands at different environmental festivals during the summer to recruit volunteers and bring attention to the Greenpeace campaigns.

Several Norwegian volunteers have also helped out with campaign support and administrative tasks at the Norwegian office.

In addition to the above activities, the volunteers have participated in skill specific trainings and activities like Greenspeaking and climbing, and had internal meetings. More about the skill-specific trainings can be found on page 26 to 29.



## Sweden

The spring was spent campaigning for the AP pension funds to stop investing in climate destruction, and to make companies stop the destruction of valuable Swedish forests. The fall was spent making sure the foreign minister protects our oceans, being a voice for the climate and putting pressure on the government.

As an active part of the climate movement in Sweden, the Greenpeace volunteers have been backing the climate strikes and answering the call out for help & support on these occasions. The volunteers have also extensively supported other grassroot-groups like Extinction Rebellion, Grand Panthers, Skydda Skogen, Fossil Free Sweden, Natur og Ungdom, Fossilgasfällan and others.

#### Finance campaign

In the first two months of 2019, the Swedish volunteers supported the two year long campaign to push the Swedish pension funds to stop investing in climate destructive companies. The local groups in Göteborg/Borås and Stockholm were actively street campaigning and collecting signatures for the petition and the Göteborg/ Borås-group also handed over the signatures to one of the four pension funds in Göteborg in April. The Swedish pension funds have since gotten sharp criticism by the Government who are now looking into a greener direction.

#### Forest campaigns

During March and April, Swedish volunteers helped carry out the Vår Skog-campaign. The campaign was run by Greenpeace, together with 22 other NGOs, and asked state owned Sveaskog to protect the vulnerable forest they own from being cut down. In Karlstad, Stockholm and Göteborg/Borås volunteers helped with getting attention and gathering petitions for the campaign.

In April, staff and volunteers were present at paper manufacturer Essity's AGM to ask them to stop wiping away the vulnerable boreal forest – a follow up on one of the large campaigns in 2018. The pressure has led to the survival of several old forests, as well as, changes in the company's planting policies.

#### **Protect our Oceans**

The Swedish volunteers have done amazing work with the Protect our Oceans campaign during 2019. In the spring, volunteers from Göteborg/Borås and Stockholm helped host an Open Ship event in Göteborg, where the public was invited onto The Greenpeace ship Arctic Sunrise to hear about work and the Protect The Oceans campaign. The volunteers in Göteborg also had a trash pick up event. Volunteers in Karlstad held a movie screening of "An inconvenient sequel" to create attention about the state of the oceans. One Swedish volunteer also joined the Arctic Sunrise as deckhand during the Protect our Oceans ship tour.

In July, volunteers from all local groups were present hosting activities at the Hallifornia coastal festival in Varberg. By offering festival visitors a virtual reality look into the depths of the oceans, doing face painting and climbing activities for kids, a beach clean-up, a paddle out demonstration, hosting a seminar and collecting petitions, the 14 volunteers present spread the word of the need to protect 30% of the global oceans by 2030.

From October to mid-December, the Stockholm local group had a weekly presence outside the foreign ministry, to put pressure on the foreign minister Ann Linde to sign up to the Biodiversity beyond the national jurisdictions treaty (BBNJ) and to protect 30% of the oceans by 2030. The volunteers painted banners, handed out leaflets and engaged with politicians.

At the end of October, the Nordic Council held a meeting in Stockholm and the volunteers decided to take the opportunity and pay them a visit. Since the meeting coincided with Halloween, the volunteers used the horror theme and connected it to how the ocean and its inhabitants will look if we don't urgently get a binding treaty. Dressing up in ghost nets, as walking dead and

## Activities Split in type of activity



### Split in campaign



wounded fish, penguins and polar bears holding handmade signs with strong and clever messages, they hit the streets outside of the parliament building. They got the attention both from politicians attending the meeting, as well as passersby, who were curious about the spooky procession demanding healthy oceans and political action.

In addition to the work in Sweden, the Swedish volunteers were also active with a Twitter action during the Our Oceans conference in Norway. The hashtag used by the conference participants was hijacked by the Greenpeace volunteers using it in posts and comments where they urged Norway to walk the talk and take the actions needed to protect our oceans.

#### **Climate emergency**

During 2019, the Swedish volunteers have been central in two Nonviolent Direct Actions to remind the Swedish politicians about the climate emergency. In May, the docks of the parliament Riksdagen were spray-painted with banksy-inspired letters of chalk saying, 'No need to panic'. The message only became clearer as the waters by the docks wiped the letters away.

At the opening of the parliament on the 10th of September, activists were present outside Riksdagen to remind Prime Minister Stefan Löfven, that he himself has said that "the times of failure and excuses are far in the past". This was done by activists in bee costumes playing the message on giant speakers, as well as climbers dropping a 96 meter long banner from a bridge which was very visible to the people inside parliament at the opening.

The volunteers have also been working to create attention about climate change on different occasions. The Stockholm group was present at the event "Klimatriksdagen at Debaser" in Stockholm in the lead up to the EU elections and at Klimatfestivalen in August. They also created attention about the climate impact of meat eating during Meat Free Week in June.







#### Amazon

In April and July, the volunteers helped gain attention about the climate emergency and forest destruction in the Amazon. On the 24th of April, two demonstrations were arranged as a part of the global initiative 'Eyes on the Amazon'. One in Gothenburg and one outside the Brazilian embassy in Stockholm. The embassy was again visited by the volunteers and many others demonstrating on the Brazilian National Day on the 7th of September.

#### Other activities

In addition to the above activities, the volunteers have participated in skill-specific trainings and activities like Greenspeaking and climbing, and had internal meetings. There has also been several Swedish volunteers helping out with campaign support and administrative tasks at the Stockholm office. More about the skill-specific trainings can be found on page 26 to 29.

## Kayaking

The purpose of the kayak team is to support Greenpeace campaigns with a stable base of well trained paddlers who can go into direct actions in marine environments under diverse conditions on short notice.

During 2019, Greenpeace had kayak teams in Norway, Denmark and Finland. In Norway, the kayak team had one training with eight participants. In Finland, the kayak team had one training with four participants. In Denmark, the kayak team had one training with eight participants and supported Germany with trainers for their first kayak training in the Autumn of 2019.

In addition to the trainings, the kayakers participated in several demonstrations. They joined one NVDA in northern Norway in April, one photo opp in Finland and a climate event in Denmark.





## Climbing

The Greenpeace Nordic Climbing team consists of four national climbing groups. The teams' purpose is to support Greenpeace campaigns with a base of well trained and skilled climbers, ready to reach the unreachable.

During 2019, there were two Nordic climbing trainings. In January, there was a Basic Climbing Training, where 14 new climbers received training. There were participants and trainers from Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden.

In April, there was a Ship Boarding Training with nine participants from all four countries, where the participants trained in boarding ships at sea, together with the boat team who practiced coming alongside the ships.

Additionally, there were two Nordic Climbing Community calls, 26 national trainings and four climbing events for the public to try.

In addition to the trainings, climbers from Greenpeace Nordic have participated in six NVDAs in Nordic and also participated in several abroad. The Finnish climbing team also hung a banner during the Climate March in Finland in the Spring.



## **Boating**

The purpose of the boat team is to support Greenpeace Nordic and global campaigning with a stable base of well-trained boat drivers and crew with a broad variety of skills who can go into direct water based actions under diverse conditions on short notice.

During 2019, the boat team had 19 active members. The team had 6 trainings. One focused on equipment and maintenance, one an advanced training with the climbing team - focused on coming alongside ships during ship boarding and the other four were practice weekends with beginners and/or advanced boaters present. During 2019, 8 beginners joined the team and over the course of the year received training on how to be a Greenpeace boater.

The boaters participated in three NVDAs with Greenpeace Nordic in 2019.

## Greenspeaking

Greenspeakers are Greenpeace volunteers who hold lectures and workshops to engage the public in the campaigns; explaining how Greenpeace work and promoting how to change the world. The Greenspeakers program offers a super opportunity for schools, organisations and other groups to learn more about a particular topic - as well as a great opportunity for Greenpeace to spread the important messages of the campaigns.

In 2019, several trainings were held to build and strengthen the Greenspeaker teams. In May, a training for new trainers was held in Sweden with eight participants from Norway, Denmark and Finland, where two Swedish volunteers assisted the trainers. The training was held to enable people from each country to become trainers for new Greenspeakers in their country. After the training for trainers, Greenspeaking trainings were held in København, with ten participants and in Oslo, with ten participants. National Greenspeaking teams have now been established in both countries with great success.

The Danish Greenspeakers are a team of twelve enthusiastic Greenspeakers. During the year, they gave ten full length Greenpeace presentations to a total of 760 people. In addition, volunteers from the group have spoken at two climate strikes, reaching thousands of people.

The Norwegian Greenspeakers team consists of nine people. During the year, they have given four presentations, and reached a total of 195 people.

There are also active Greenspeakers in Finland and Sweden. In Finland, Greenspeakers from Helsinki and Turku held four presentations in 2019. In Sweden, Greenspeakers held one presentation in Lund and one presentation in Linköping.



## **NVDAs** Nonviolent Direct Actions

Greenpeace works on many levels to influence politicians, governments and businesses to create a greener world. When other measures are not enough, Nonviolent Direct Actions are used to put the spotlight on environmental crimes that can not go unnoticed. The use of skilled activists and volunteers make Greenpeace able to apply a unique level of pressure to help win campaigns.

In 2019, Greenpeace Nordic held six Nonviolent Direct Actions:

- In March, activists demanded a climate election in Finland with a huge demonstration outside of the Finnish Parliament and an enormous banner hanging from the parliament pillars.
- In April, Greenpeace climbers, boaters and kayakers worked together to board the West Hercules Oil rig heading to drill in the Arctic.
- In May, activists wrote the message 'No Need To Panic' on the Swedish parliament's docks with the use of boaters and climbers.
- In September, activists hung a 96 metre long banner outside the opening of the Swedish parliament reminding the politicians of their promises to act on climate in the coming year.
- In October, activists visited the largest pig factory in Denmark, and laid a banner across the roof that read, 'Stop Svineriet' and 'Give Denmark Back the Land'.
- In October, activists and climbers told world leaders to Protect our Oceans outside the Our Oceans conference in Oslo.

In addition to the actions within Nordic, 25 Nordic volunteers supported 9 actions arranged by Greenpeace in Germany, Poland, United Kingdom, Greece and at sea with the Greenpeace ships Arctic Sunrise and Rainbow Warrior.



## **#GPNvol Pictures of the year**

Are you posting pictures of volunteer activities from Greenpeace Nordic on social medias? Hashtag your pictures with #GPNvol. Here are some of the pictures hashtagged with #GPNvol in 2019.



@HHagbom, Twitter



@RiinaKivilahti, Twitter



@AnskuHostila, Twitter



@BoweyLauren, Twitter



@Greenpeace\_dk, Instagram





@Greenpeacedk, Twitter

EKOJA NYI

@Sandra\_Lamborn, Twitter



@BoweyLauren, Twitter

@HHagbom, Twitter

QUIN



@BoweyLauren, Twitter



@Greenpeace\_odense, Instagram

GRØ



@greenpeacestavanger, Instagram



@Smalmgre, Twitter



@Greenpeacenorge, Instagram



@thatgreenstudent, Instagram



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