

## 2020

was a year for the history books. Our world changed dramatically and expressions like social distancing, pandemic and home schooling became household phrases.

But as the world changed so did the ways Greenpeace Nordic's volunteers and activists continued to demand and create change.

Public demonstrations turned into Twitter storms, Greenspeaker presentations in schools turned into webinars and in-person skill shares turned into Zoom calls. And even though the global pandemic did its outermost to limit the possibilities to take action, Nordic volunteers and activists came together, in a Covid-19 safe way, and delivered grand and inspiring NVDAs and activities across the Nordic region.

In 2020 the Nordic volunteers engaged in no less than 183 activities and actions, which is a remarkable achievement considering the challenging circumstances. This report is a tribute to the Nordic volunteer network and spells out the facts, figures and impacts of their dedicated work during the year.

We allow ourselves to look back on 2020 as a year of overcoming challenges and with positivity and determination to continue our fight for a green and just future in 2021.

> With solidarity - The Nordic Volunteer Unit



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## Credits

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**16** local groups

# 183 activities

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







Demonstration	Tra
NVDA	
Greenspeaking	Stre
Hosting public event	Office/Car
Supporting the movement	
Online activism	





ess meat more greens	
Other	
Forests	
Plastic	

#### 40 January February March April April April Dure Cotober Doctober December

## Split in month of activity

## **Nordic Volunteers**

**Summary of Nordic activity** 

In 2020, a total of 737 volunteers engaged with Greenpeace Nordic (GPN) according to numbers from the GP online plattform Greenwire. For each quarter of the year an average of 308 volunteers were active. However this is a low estimate as some volunteers aren't actively using Greenwire.

Many of the volunteers are involved in one of the 16 self organised local groups. A map showing the locations of the local groups active in 2020 can be found on page 7.

During the year, **Greenpeace Nordic** volunteers arranged or contributed to no less than 183 public activities, in addition to internal meetings and trainings. Due to the pandemic many activities were moved to an online setting. The 183 activities ranged from Greenspeaking presentations; Direct Actions; forest mapping; arranging online and offline protests; public and Social Media campaigning; influencing politicians and engaging the public in campaigns and projects.

Greenpeace Nordic volunteers participated in skill specific trainings such as Greenspeaking, kayaking, boating, climbing and Civil Disobedience and Nonviolent Direct Actions-trainings.

Greenpeace Nordic volunteers have been a vital part of the campaigns in all four countries. Highlights and more specific information on each country's volunteer engagements can be found on pages 12-27.



## **The Volunteer Survey**



In November 2020, a survey was conducted for the volunteers in GPN. The survey aimed to provide insights into the current volunteer demographics, satisfaction levels and motivations. In total there were 103 responses.

Over two thirds (71%) of the GPN volunteers are citizens from one of the Nordic countries. There are also many volunteers from the European countries Germany, Spain, France, UK, The Netherlands, Hungary and Italy. In total there were 15 nationalities represented in the survey.

The average age for Nordic volunteers is 36 years - ranging from 18 - 77 years. The majority (57%) of volunteers are aged between 25 - 40 years. Outside of this range, there is a fairly even spread.

The GPN volunteers are highly educated, with over 73% having completed a bachelor degree. Of that number 38% at masters level and an additional 8% at doctoral level.

66% of answered that they had been volunteering for over 1 year and 33% for under 1 year. 23% have been volunteering for 5 years or more. 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".

The majority (60%) of volunteers give over 2 hours of their time each week, with many giving 5-10 hours. Half of the respondents said that there could be more engagement opportunities at Greenpeace and so are eager to do more.

The activities that the volunteers were most motivated to do were Local campaigns/ protests, NVDAs and taking part in Greenpeace events (such as festivals, photo ops and Days of Action).

88% of volunteers agree that GPN works to promote a diverse, open and inclusive volunteering programme.

## Local groups Active in 2020

#### Denmark

København Odense Aalborg Aarhus

### Finland

Helsinki Jyväskylä Lahti Oulu Tampere Turku

#### Norway

Bergen Oslo Stavanger Trondheim

#### **Sweden** Göteborg/Borås Stockholm

## **Local Groups**

In 2020, Greenpeace Nordic had 16 local groups of volunteers arranging activities in their individual cities.

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In addition, there are many volunteers engaged with GPN who were not involved in a specific local group.

## **Locations** Where activities happened in 2020

#### Denmark

39 activities in 8 different locations and 9 online

### Finland

51 activities in 11 different locations and 21 online

#### Norway

32 activities in 5 different locations and 22 online

#### Sweden

61 activities in 4 different locations and 22 online

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## Activities

Greenpeace Nordic held 183 public activities that volunteers made happen, or helped make happen in 28 different locations in 2020, as well as online.

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## Online activities and platforms

In 2020 the pandemic forced the Greenpeace Volunteers to explore and utilize online platforms for self organizing, arranging events, and recruiting new volunteers. The local groups made more use of their social media platforms to engage the public and the volunteers explored new ways of arranging activities like debates, webinars, activism and trainings.

56 external or public activities were held online in 2020 in addition to internal trainings, meetings and introduction sessions for new volunteers.

## Local groups on social media

All GPN local groups have social media channels to engage and educate the public. The groups had at the end of 2020 a combined follower base of 10749.





## **Local Group Followers**

To follow the local groups on social media, scan the QR code with a QR code reader



Or go to the webpage https://linktr.ee/GPNvol to see all the links.



## **Nonviolent Direct Actions**

Greenpeace works on many levels to engage the public and influence politicians, governments and businesses. When other measures are not enough, Nonviolent Direct Action & Communication is used to put the spotlight on environmental crimes that can not go unnoticed. Skilled activists and volunteers are crucial for GPN to be able to do Direct Actions, below are some of the bigger activities GPN did in 2020:

6th February activists from Greenpeace Finland and Extinction Rebellion demonstrated to get Fortum to phase out coal outside the Fortum headquarters in Espoo, Finland.

23th of April Greenpeace Finland activists laid out a big black "End Coal Now" banner outside the Fortum headquarters during their AGM.

29th of May Greenpeace Finland activists chalked greetings from the Finnish public to Fortum on and around the entrance of their headquarters and delivered them a book filled with messages.

5th June Greenpeace Sweden activists re-named the Swedish Department of Finance to the "Department of Climate, Environment and Transition" to urge ministers to spend Covid-19 crisis packages on a sustainable future.

12th June activists protested the Norwegian Parliament's decision to hand out billions in covid crisis packages to the oil industry.

19th August four Greenpeace Denmark activists swam from the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior to the Dan Bravo oil rig in the Danish North Sea, occupying the rig for 36 hours.



11th September activists from Greenpeace Nordic on board the Rainbow Warrior blocked an oil tanker from going to Preems oil refinery in Lysekil.

14th September, after the Rainbow Warrior ended its 72 hour blockade, six activists went to the oil harbour and blocked the oil tanker from delivering oil to the refinery.

21st September Greenpeace Denmark activists visualized a forest fire in the harbour of Aarhus to protest Denmark's huge import of soy where most of the soy is brought into the country.

24th September Greenpeace Finland activists paid a visit to Fortum HQ and borrowed their corporate flag, and made it take a tour around the world. The activity highlighted the hypocrisy of Fortum, a state owned company that is happy to wave their flag in front of their HQ, but not in the places where they are fueling the climate crisis.

2nd October, as the Norwegian Parliament was opened, activists from Greenpeace Norway did a banner drop close by, demanding that the politicians use the upcoming state budget to cut emissions and prioritise spending on a fair transition away from the country's dependence on fossil fuels.

November 13 Local Groups arranged Black Friday sticker protests, changing the messages of many stores and advertisements urging people to buy nothing and save the planet.

In addition to the Nordic activities, four Nordic activists also joined Greenpeace UK's action against BP's London Headquarters in February.



The volunteer year in Denmark was mainly focused around the Less Meat More Greens campaign against the Danish pig factories, the Protect our Oceans campaign, protesting the madness of Black Friday and stopping the Danish oil production in the North Sea.

#### Less meat more greens

Greenpeace Denmark's main campaign in 2020 was against the country's unsustainable pig factories and the huge quantities of the imported soya they rely on. The volunteers were active in this campaign throughout the whole year, both contributing to the main campaign activities as well as creating their own.

In early March, Aarhus volunteers assisted at a

national anti pig factories event in Aarhus where a national coalition against factory pig farms was created. In May, when the national agricultural law was being renegotiated, several volunteers were involved in a corona safe demonstration at the Danish parliament with an enormous banner reading "Give Denmark Back the Land". A similar protest was also held when the law taking control away from local councils in order to allow further expansions of pig factories was withheld. In June, the Odense and Copenhagen groups produced strong social media content during the international Meat Free Week.

In early September, Greenpeace volunteers joined Folkets Klimamarch's event for creating a human-chain around the lakes in Copenhagen. In





addition to this, they built a large model of a soy transport ship with "Indeholder Brændt Regnskov" ("Contains Burned Rainforest") written on it, and launched it into the water.

Greenpeace

Shortly after, volunteers across Denmark participated in a stickering campaign in placing stickers which read "Can Contain Traces of Burnt Rainforests" on conventional pork products in supermarkets. The campaign received a lot of attention, in particular from the head of the agricultural lobby association, which sparked great debate about the impact of soya imports on rainforest deforestation. Two volunteers also starred in a soya campaign video.

Later in September, volunteers from Odense, Aarhus, Copenhagen and Aalborg converged on the Dome in Aarhus to hold a series of public engagement events regarding the soy, less meat and the forest campaign. A virtual reality pod was set up where visitors could have a multi sensory experience that the event went up in smoke when volunteers assisted in projecting burning fire footage onto a building storing soy in the Aarhus harbour. Volunteers stood with flares and a giant blow up pig to create an impactful scene with smoke and fire.

Danish volunteers contributed to the successes of "the Climate Challenge" in both May and October by mentoring participants who signed up to an online facebook group and challenged themselves to 22 days of plant based eating.



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## Protect the Oceans

The Protect the Oceans campaign, aiming to get the Danish government to work for a strong Oceans Treaty in the UN, was also a large part of the volunteer year with several smaller activities in the spring and the Sea of Hope-exhibition in the fall. Read more about the Sea of Hope in the deep dive interview with volunteers Anja and Jennifer on page 15.

In February, the Danish volunteers participated in the global Disappearing Penguins day of action by dressing as penguins and marching through Strøget - the main shopping street in Copenhagen. The Copenhagen group also had a strong volunteer initiated oceans campaign ready to roll out in March, which unfortunately was cancelled when the corona virus hit Europe. To meet the challenges of Corona, the Copenhagen group ran an online film screening of the film "Blue".

## **Danish North Sea**

During the summer, volunteers supported the North Sea campaign with a banner protest in front of parliament. Two Danish activists also joined the Rainbow Warrior to occupy a Total platform in the North Sea for over 36 hours. Several months later, Total withdrew their bid for an oil exploration license in the 8th licensing round. The campaign was also supported by a Greenspeaker, who along with campaigners, produced a video calling for people to sign the citizens' initiative to stop North Sea oil exploration.



#### **Black Friday/Make Smthng Week**

In November, volunteers started getting creative and shared DIY- and upcycling ideas on social media for the Make Smthng Week in the run-up to Black Friday. Later that same week, volunteers from Copenhagen, Odense and Aalborg went out to put stickers on storefronts, protesting the absurdity of Black Friday and protesting the system of overconsumption. In Copenhagen, volunteers additionally used stencils and spray-chalk to discourage people from buying unnecessary products to save the planet. The Copenhagen group also had a film screening of The Story of Stuff with the same theme in the spring.

#### Other

There were also some activities not related to the campaigns mentioned above. In January volunteers demonstrated outside the Australian embassy with flares and sirens for the Global Day of Action about Australian bushfires and against the dirty coal industry that is fueling these fires. During the opening of Parliament in October volunteers participated in a protest outside parliament demanding climate action. During the year two danish volunteers were on board the Greenpeace ships as Assistant Cooks. In addition, the skill based teams had activities and trainings that you can read more about on pages 28-31.



## Sea of Hope

Interview with Greenpeace Copenhagen volunteers Anja Frank and Jennifer Nordwall

The Sea of Hope in Copenhagen was initiated by the Copenhagen volunteer group; after the Sea of Hope in Stockholm, the volunteers asked if the exhibition could be brought to Copenhagen. From initiation to the completion of this exhibition, the volunteers played a central role in the success of the exhibition putting hundreds of hours of work into translating text, beach clean ups, painting and sewing banners, sourcing materials, setting up the exhibition, manning the exhibition, doing social media, taking down the exhibition as well as many other tasks.

When asked about why this campaign is important to her, Anja answers "Fishing is one of the large industries that feed the world, but overfishing is a large problem. And now we see that overfishing is a big problem even on the high seas and in the deep oceans. At this point we can still prevent the extreme damage from overfishing in these areas and stop them from becoming like many of our coastal areas where we know how bad it could become if we don't act on this issue".

Jennfier says: "The oceans are some of the most important things we have on our planet, yet it is often treated like this endless space where there is just an abundance of fish - and we still seem to believe that if we throw something in the ocean it will just disappear. That is not the case - we need the oceans."

## "At this point we can still prevent the extreme damage from overfishing..." - Anja Frank

During the campaign, one of the moments Anja remembers most is making the cardboard waves that were going to surround a giant whale in the exhibition. "I really enjoyed the arts and crafts part of the preparation, like making the waves. We realized that hand painting the white details of the waves on all of them would take a very long time, and decided to make a stencil instead. In the end I think we spent a whole day just cutting the stencils."

Jennifer adds that she thought it was great that this project could be done in cooperation with the Swedish office. "So many things are just made for one time use, but us being able to get this exhibition from the Swedish office, and that we could cooperate with them in getting it to work in Copenhagen was really great".



In 2020 the Finnish volunteers were engaged in many campaigns and activities. The campaign that got the most focus was the climate change campaign, together with the work to make Fortum divest from Coal. In addition, a lot of work was put into Forests, especially the Evo National park.

#### Climate

The climate work started off in February with a demonstration at the Climate meeting of the governmental parties in Helsinki organised by Greenpeace and attended by activists from several different environmental NGO's and the Climate Movement. During the demonstration politicians were cheered coming to the meeting to show support to the Climate plans of the government and to keep them on the right path. Before the demonstration Greenpeace produced a video with a message from the Captain of the Finnish football team and leaders of several important organisations (including Unions, Business organisations and the bank of Finland). In the video they all signed a football shirt of the Captain of the Finnish football team which was then handed over to Sanna Marin, "the Captain of the Finnish Climate team" (the prime minister of Finland) at the demonstration.

In the beginning of March the Climate campaign had a very inspiring volunteer training weekend with 45 participants.

In August local group members from Tampere held an information stand at the Social Democrats party conference.



In September the party conference of Keskusta (the Centerparty) was organised in Oulu and Greenpeace volunteers were present and handed out candy boxes with a message to the participants. Local group members from Helsinki, Jyväskylä and Oulu joined in.

Government's budget negotiations took place 14th and 15th September in Helsinki and the local volunteers were outside both days with an exhibition on alternative and more sustainable ways to spend the money.

## Fortum

In addition to the general climate work, the volunteers also engaged specifically to get the Finnish stateowned energy company Fortum to quit coal. This was kicked off for 2020 when Greenpeace volunteers joined forces with Extinction Rebellion for a demonstration and an NVDA at the Fortum headquarters in February when Fortum announced their profits from 2019.

In April the Fortum campaign organised a big online demonstration with over 1000 participants in conjunction with an NVDA at the Fortum headquarters during the Fortum AGM. The campaign also organised several other activities online during the spring.

In May another NVDA at the Fortum headquarters was organized. Greenpeace volunteers brought messages, sent by the public, to Fortum by writing some of them with chalk around the entrance of the headquarters. They also delivered a book with all the messages to Fortum.

In October the Fortum campaign organised a flag tour around the world with a Fortum flag borrowed from the Fortum headquarters. The flag was pictured at places Fortum operates at, but which Fortum is not that keen for people to see. The flag also toured around Finland and the local group volunteers took it to Fortum locations in Oulu, Espoo and Naantali.

#### **Forests**

The local group in Lahti played an active role the whole year long in the campaign of making Evo forest area a new national park. The local group documented and reported logging plans, had several meetings with the city of Hämeenlinna who owns a part of the forest and sought publicity for the case in the local and national media. On 17th of November their hard work paid off when the ministry of Environment announced their plan to move forward with Evo National Park. Read more about this work in the interview with Hanna and Tommi on page 19.

In November two online training series were launched: "Forest Activist Toolkit" together with the forest group of Nature League and "Tools for local campaigning" together with The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation. Before the first session of the Forest Activist Toolkit the forest group of Nature League organised a weekend long forest inventory training in Espoo where also Greenpeace volunteers took part.



#### Other campaigns

In January volunteers participated in a photo opportunity at the Australian Honorary Consulate during the Global Day of Action for the Australian wildfires.

In February the Helsinki group took part in the Global Day of Action for Penguins with a beautiful ice sculpture in the middle of Helsinki.

From March until June the volunteer and digital units combined their forces and organised popular weekly online Wednesday coffee sessions around varying topics and with experts and tens of participants joining in every time.

In September the local groups in Helsinki, Turku and Tampere took part in the World Clean up day.

In November the local group in Helsinki answered the call for solidarity actions at the Norwegian embassies during the People vs Arctic Oil court case in the Supreme Court in Norway. Later on in November the local groups in Helsinki, Turku, Tampere and Jyväskylä took part in the Make Smthng Week by making videos and taking part in the Nordic Black Friday stickering actions.

During the autumn the volunteers were also active in the citizens initiative campaign to stop burning peat by a coalition led by the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation. Besides spreading the messages and getting signatures online for the initiative the local groups in Tampere and Turku made videos that went viral on the social media of Greenpeace Finland, the video from Turku became the most liked video of that week on GP Finlands Instagram.



## **Evo forest**

Interview with Greenpeace Lahti volunteers Tommi Karjalainen and Hanna Rosti

One of the biggest projects the volunteers in Finland worked with in 2020 was protecting the Evo forest. The forest that now is a recreational area is threatened by clear cuts, and to ensure the protection of the forest the volunteers of Greenpeace Lahti local group have been mapping the old forests in immediate threat of logging and documenting this.

In addition the volunteers have been part of an information campaign to make more people engaged and aware of the problem, and together with the Helsinki office started a campaign to make the area a National Park. Two of the volunteers engaged in this are Tommi Karjalainen and Hanna Rosti.

Tommi says: "The Evo area is close to where both I and my parents live, and I have spent time in the Evo forests since I was a child. Therefore the forests have always been important to me."

In the project Tommi has been one of the volunteers mapping the area. "One of the times we went out to the Evo area, we were met by a sad view. An area with old, valuable forest we had seen earlier had been cut down."

Hanna explains: "The finnish state owned company Metsähallitus clear cut an area of 11 hectares. This was terrible, but also helped us explain why it is so important to get better protection of the area, and strengthened our negotiation position."

When doing an interview in the spring, Hanna got to know that the Helsinki University was also very interested in keeping the Evo forest protected. "I heard someone beside me talking about the Evo forest area, and they turned out to be a part of the Helsinki University. The University is now one of our closest allies in campaigning for Evo to become a national park."

## "I have spent time in the Evo forests since I was a child. Therefore the forests have always been important to me" - Tommi Karjalainen

When asked about what the best part of this project has been, Tommi tells us that "The great thing about this case has been noticing how a small dedicated group can make a really significant difference even though the resistance has been difficult at times".

The Evo forest area is not yet a National Park, but the decision has been made to create a National Park in the area. Now the question is which areas in Evo will be protected. Hanna is now in the governmental working committee on behalf of the environmental NGOs to ensure the Evo forest gets the protection it deserves.



2020 was a challenging but productive year for the volunteer community in Norway. With the coronavirus changing plans and ways of working, the volunteers went to mainly online meetings and activities, and only small groups and socially distanced events where possible. The main campaigns the volunteers worked on were People VS Oil, and especially the Climate Lawsuit against Arctic Oil.

## **People VS Oil**

During 2020 the volunteers did a lot of work related to Norwegian Oil. The year started off with a demonstration against new Oil Licences handed out by the Ministry of Oil in January. The volunteers together with staff gathered to demonstrate and remind the government that there is a climate crisis, and we can no longer continue to search for new oil. In March, after covid-19 led to lock down in many countries including Norway, governments arranged for financial Crisis packages. Volunteers and staff gathered for weekly demonstrations outside the weekly ministers meeting at the Royal Castle in Oslo - demanding that the crisis packages be used for building a green future and not for more fossil subsidies. When a large crisis package in June was given to the Oil industry a demonstration outside the Parliament took place. The Parliament,named "Stortinget" in Norwegian was rebranded "Oljetinget" by the activists doing a banner drop at the fence of the Parliament and protesting with hand held signs and oil barrels.

In May the volunteers joined a Twitter Storm, asking the Norwegian prime minister to quit the country's







unhealthy relationship with Oil. The day after, at the annual general meeting of Equinor, the Stavanger volunteers attended to continue to demand an end date for the Noregian oil production.

When fall came, the Norwegian volunteers started focusing on the upcoming Climate Lawsuit, which was heard in Supreme Court in November. In October Greenspeakers held an introduction Webinar about the climate lawsuit - and why Greenpeace are opposing Arctic Oil. In November, the day before court, light demonstrations were arranged all over Norway, as well as several places globally. The volunteers in Trondheim, Bergen, Stavanger and Oslo organized, or helped to organize, demonstrations together with other local NGOs. The light demonstration was also the first event of the newly started Local Group in Trondheim, that you can read more about on page 23.

#### Women's Day march

The 8th March the volunteers of Oslo and Stavanger participated in the local Women's Day Marches with the message "Klimakamp er kvinnekamp", connecting womens rights with climate justice.

#### **Black Friday**

In relation to the global marketing campaign "Black friday" the volunteer groups in Bergen, Oslo and Stavanger arranged sticker demonstrations challenging the push for people to buy more. The volunteers went out on the streets and put up stickers reminding shoppers about the consequences that



consumption has for the environment. That we can buy a lot of things in the world, but we can not buy a new planet.

#### Other campaigns

In addition to the larger pushes, the volunteers also joined several smaller pushes. In January volunteers joined two photo ups - one in solidarity with australian people in relation to the ongoing bush fires, and one outside Fortums offices in Oslo to support the Finnish campaign and criticize their investments in coal. Three volunteers also joined as mentors in the "Climate Challenge" with aim to get more people to eat more green and less meat. On World Clean up day 5th September the volunteers in Oslo, Bergen and Stavanger arranged or joined beach clean ups In addition to activities, the local groups have been active on social media and started to grow their followers on Facebook and Instagram.



## Starting up Trondheim Local Group

Interview with Greenpeace Trondheim volunteers Ragnhild Simonsen and Heidi Dørum

During the 2020 autumn a new Local Group started up in Trondheim in Norway. In their first months as a Local Group the volunteers have not only started a group from scratch, but also arranged a candle light demonstration and a Black Friday sticker protest. Ragnhild and Heidi are two of the people in the group who were a part of starting the group and active in their first activities.

Heidi says: "I think the covid-situation made the wish to be a part of a network of people that are also engaged especially important. When the Local Group started up it made it very much more interesting to be a volunteer".

During the start up they were three engaged volunteers that did not know each other yet all located in Trondheim, and they first got together after the Volunteer Coordinator Aaron got them in touch with each other.

"One of our first steps after deciding to make a Local Group was making a Facebook page where we put out information about the new group being started and that it was possible to join, and then all of us could invite people we thought would be interested" explains Ragnhild. Both Ragnhild and Heidi were large contributors to making the first activity of the Local Group happen - a demonstration to show support for the Climate Lawsuit. "We were all quite new when it came to arranging protests, so when we started with the arranging we pretty much just met, made a list of all the things that had to be done and split the tasks among ourselves. It was quite nice, everyone in the group took on responsibility and tasks" says Ragnhild.

## "When the Local Group started up it made it very much more interesting to be a volunteer" - Heidi Dørum

"When I joined the local group one of the tasks that was left for the demonstration was holding a speech at the demonstration - so I decided to take on that part. It was nice, I really like writing so it fitted me quite well." Heidi says.

Both Heidi and Ragnhild are looking forward to the continuation with the local group. "I am really looking forward to mobilizing new members for the group, to get our Social Media platforms active and work with Social Media - and of course to arrange more demonstrations, as long as the covid situation allows it" says Heidi.



During 2020 the volunteers in Sweden kept busy with getting Sweden to join the push for a strong Oceans Treaty, to stop the expansion of Preems oil refinery, to support Greenpeace Norway in their work with suing the Norwegian state and at the end of year by calling out the mass consumption madness of Black Friday.

## **Oceans Treaty**

The beginning of the year for the volunteers in Sweden was mainly focused around making sure the Foreign Minister Ann Linde pushed for a strong Oceans Treaty in UN negotiations. This was done with both creativity and persistence. Starting in January the Stockholm volunteers picked up the work they did in 2019 with weekly visits outside the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Stockholm. Every Wednesday for seven weeks they continued to demand that the Foreign Minister should push for a strong global Oceans Treaty. You can read more about the demonstrations on page 27.

One of the main contributions to support the campaign came from the volunteers in Gothenburg by making an explanatory stop motion film about why a strong Oceans Treaty is so important. Their film "En liten film om det stora blå" got quite the attention as it was shared by Greenpeace International and seen by more than 100 000 people in total.

#### Sea of Hope

At the beginning of March, and as part of the Oceans Treaty push, volunteers from around Sweden joined in the making of the art exhibition "A Sea



of Hope". The exhibition, mainly built with trash gathered from the Swedish coastal line, was to a large part put together & hand made by volunteers. As the exhibition was being set up inside Stockholm Central Station's main hall, Covid-19 hit the Nordic countries for real, and it was no longer possible to have volunteers interacting with people as planned. Despite this the exhibition reached the main target – Foreign Minister Ann Linde, who did not only visit the exhibition, but also ended up posting about it on Social Media – and ensuring that Sweden would back the 30 by 30 initiative Greenpeace was also pushing for.

#### Preem

The main national focus campaign of Greenpeace Sweden in 2020 was ensuring the Preem Oil Refinery in Lysekil was not allowed to expand. This campaign was kicked off early summer when Greenpeace called out Preem for their greenwashing campaigns, with the so-called Preemwashing push. The Swedish volunteer community was a large part of amplifying this call out by hosting webinars, participating in demonstrations at Preem gas stations, taking online action and more - to expose and make it clear to all what the dirty truth behind Preem's greenwashing.

Over the summer and together with others in the Stoppa Preemraff network, Greenpeace took part in preparing for the Weeks of Action where the GP volunteers arranged and participated in different activities. One of the arranged demonstrations was a local flotilla in the waters outside of the refinery with sailboats and kayaks, sending a message to Stefan Löfven to choose People over Oil and say no to the expansion. Greenpeace volunteers also joined in arranging a relay with different participants running in laps all the way from Lysekil to Riksdagen in Stockholm to again deliver a clear message to the government: Choose the Paris agreement over Preemraff.

At the end of the Stoppa Preemraff Weeks of Action Greenpeace volunteers and activists participated in two NVDAs blocking Preem's crude oil harbor in Lysekil. Activists on board the ship Rainbow Warrior III blocked the crude oil tanker Grena Knutsen from delivering oil to the refinery for 72 hours. A second wave of activists then entered the crude oil harbor and continued to block the oil tanker from delivering oil by occupying the marine loading arms.

The whole Preemraff campaign eventually came to end in October when Preem announced they had withdrawn their application to expand the refinery.

#### Make Smthng / Black Friday / Unsubscribe

Volunteers in Sweden joined in the Nordic & Global resistance to bash the brands and marketing methods during the peak week of mass consumption hysteria aka Black Friday by taking both online & offline action. It started off in the streets of Gothenburg & Stockholm the night before Black Friday when our local volunteers split into small, corona friendly teams and went out to put up stickers against the aggressive marketing campaigns.



As a direct follow up, the Stockholm group made the most out of the Make Smthng Week and delivered 9 days straight of daily output on DIY life-hack type tips as alternative, creative & fun ways to Make Something instead of buying something.

#### Outlaw

In addition to national campaign pushes, the Swedish volunteer network also helped in amplifying the voice of Greenpeace Norway in the climate lawsuit. In the weeks leading up to the Climate Lawsuit in November Greenspeakers ran webinars about the lawsuit and Norway's oil race to the Arctic. The day before the court case started the local groups performed protests outside the Norwegian Embassy in Stockholm and consulate in Gothenburg, and in addition to this the Gothenburg local group made a stop motion movie explaining the basics of the court case.

## Other campaigns

In January volunteers and staff had a demonstration outside the Australian Embassy connecting the large bushfires to the climate emergency. In June Swedish volunteers and activists together with the Swedish campaign team re-named the finance department to "Department of Climate, Environment and Transition", demanding that the department should start taking a central responsibility in the transition to a society living within our planetary boundaries. In September the local groups joined World Clean Up Day by organizing trash cleanups. In Stockholm they went out in streets & parks and in Gothenburg they did a classic beach clean up with a twist, adding an offline/online trash bingo inviting the public to join in the game.



## **Oceans Treaty**

Interview with Greenpeace Stockholm volunteers Kalle Keijonen and Lotta Hellström

As part of the Protect The Oceans campaign the volunteers in Sweden spent much of 2019 working for a strong Oceans Treaty, and among the projects were weekly visits to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to talk to Foreign Minister Ann Linde and convince her that she needs to support the goal of having 30% of our oceans protected by 2030 and a strong global oceans treaty within the UN.

This volunteer led work continued in 2020, and every week from mid January until the Covid pandemic hit Sweden, the local Stockholm Volunteer Group made sure to be present outside the ministry. Two of the volunteers who were a part of this work were Kalle and Lotta.

When this campaign started, Kalle was a new Greenpeace volunteer. "This project was right away very interesting to me. I think the problems our oceans are facing need something big like the Global Oceans Treaty to be solved. Still, through this project little me in Stockholm could contribute and make a difference to solve this huge problem. During the visits we were able to get direct contact with the Foreign Ministry, and talked directly to the minister twice. This kind of engagement is exactly why I joined Greenpeace and was really great to be a part of" Kalle explains. Kalle was both a part of organizing the weekly demonstrations, and participated most of the Wednesday morning. "We went to the Foreign Ministry in the morning hours, and were there as the people who work there were arriving themselves. For me it was very practical that it was so early in the morning, that way I could join in before my studies started for the day".

## "Through this project little me in Stockholm could contribute and make a difference to solve this huge problem" - Kalle Keijonen

Lotta took part in some of the weekly activities but even more so in the background arrangements of the project. Together with campaigner Dima Litvinov she sent emails to all the MPs in the parliament to inform and engage them in the Ocean Treaty work.

"It was very engaging to be a part of this project because the politicians were actually quite responsive. When working with campaigns it can be challenging to know if we will be able to influence the politicians opinions at all - or if they just don't care, but working towards Ann Linde in this project makes me believe that we actually are able to make a difference."



## **Boating**

The Greenpeace Nordic boat team consists of members based across the Nordic region. They bring with them their various boating backgrounds and skills to train and skillshare together in order to support Greenpeace campaigns as a boat driver, navigator or crew.

During 2020, the boat team had 20 active members. At the beginning of the year the team had one offline Tech training with a strong focus on how to maintain and troubleshoot the boats, engines and equipment. Unfortunately all other offline trainings had to be cancelled due to Covid-19. Instead of meeting offline, the team got together for three online trainings throughout the year. These trainings were focused on repeating and improving the theoretical knowledge base regarding communication and navigation.

Despite Covid there were four water based NVDA's and protests within the Nordic region in which the Nordic boat team members participated.

## Climbing

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

During 2020, there was one Nordic climbing training - a Basic Climbing Training in October. Under very strict Covid-19 guidelines including isolation and testing in advance, the training was able to train 10 new climbers. There were participants and trainers from Denmark, Norway, Finland and Sweden.

There were also national climbing practices throughout the year, though fewer than normal due to Covid-19 restrictions. Denmark had one climbing practice, Norway had one, Finland had two and Sweden had three practices during the year. Normally the team strives to practice every month in each country.

In addition to the training, climbers from Greenpeace Nordic have participated in four actions and photo opportunities in Nordic during 2020.







## Greenspeakers

Greenspeakers are Greenpeace volunteers who hold lectures and workshops to engage the public in the Greenpeace campaigns; explaining how GP 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 campaign messages & engage people to take action. In 2020 the Greenspeakers, who under normal circumstances travel to different places to hold lectures, moved most of their work to online platforms and webinars.

In 2020, several trainings were held to build and strengthen the Greenspeaker teams. In February a Greenspeaking training with 12 participants - new and already active ones, was held in Aarhus in Denmark. In May an online training was held for the Swedish volunteers with 6 participants to prepare for the Preem campaign Greenspeaking. In September the Norwegian Greenspeaker team had a training with 8 participants with focus on supporting the ongoing "Outlaw" lawsuit.

The Danish Greenspeakers are a team of 12 enthusiastic Greenspeakers. During the year, they gave seven Greenpeace presentations to a total of 1020 people. In addition to this thousands of people saw a video of one of the Greenspeakers.

The Norwegian Greenspeakers team now consists of 15 people including 8 new speakers that were trained towards the end of 2020. During the year, they have given four presentations, and reached a total of 145 people.

In Sweden the Greenspeaking team consists of 6 people. Sweden took the lead run in learning how to hold good Webinars during Covid - and held nine webinars throughout the year. In total 2543 people participated in the Webinars.



## 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 2020, Greenpeace had active kayaktivists in all four countries. In Norway, the kayak team had one training weekend with five participants in June. In Denmark, the kayak team had 11 practice days throughout the year.

In addition to training, the kayakers participated in several demonstrations. In Denmark they joined a solidarity demonstration for Australia during the bush fires in January and a floating soy-ship demonstration in September. In Sweden two Greenpeace kayakers helped organize and participated in the Preem campaign Flotilla outside Lysekil in September. In Finland kayaktivists joined a Photo opportunity for the forest campaign.





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