

Arnika Annual Report



2023



Arnika in 2023: fighting plastics, legislation and global cooperation

In 2023, more and more people have begun to realise that the effects not just of climate change but of the wider environmental crisis are beginning to hit us, and that the vulnerable in all corners of the planet are the first to pay the price. This has motivated us to better articulate and communicate our goals.



The ever-increasing production of plastics, for example, could cause a crisis as serious as climate change. That is why we have argued in international forums for the best possible preparation of a global convention that would regulate the production of plastics and ensure that only recyclable plastics with no toxic substances are produced.

At Arnika, we have always been careful to present scientifically verified data and to make compelling arguments about the dangers of toxic substances in plastics, for example. This year, for example, we were able to publish a study highlighting the burden on workers in recycling factories in Thailand of a new, dangerous substance called dechlorane plus, which has replaced the polybrominated diphenyl ethers previously used. We were also able to get the substance immediately added to the list of substances banned by the Stockholm Convention. We then published another study in a prestigious journal which showed that dangerous persistent substances (brominated dioxins) also find their way into children's toys and consumer goods through recycling.

Almost traditionally, we have raised the issue of dams on rivers in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the real price of metal mining in Armenia. In Georgia and Ukraine, we have set up citizen air pollution monitoring networks. Pollution in Kazakhstan was monitored using satellite imagery. We have long-term collaborators in Indonesia and Thailand with whom we are working on major studies and projects. In Moldova, we are training the first generation of conservationists.

At home, we've launched a call for a plastic-free future that anyone can sign. Because we want to be able to choose a life without unnecessary plastics. We have improved communication with representatives of the Ministry of the Environment, where regular debates on environmental protection laws take place. Among other things, we worked together on the basic theses of the amendment to the Law on Nature and Landscape Protection, guaranteeing better protection of trees. We are in the same boat as the Ministry of the Environment, and in support of the European Nature Recovery Act, we are grateful that the joint proposal of the European Parliament, the Council of Europe, and the European Commission has been made possible thanks to Czech MEPs.

*Karolína Brabcová,
executive board member*



Arnika in numbers

The most harmful substances in **2023** were emitted by **2** coal-fired power plants in the Czech Republic - Počerady and Chvaletice.

Representatives of more than **120** countries agreed on a global ban on the toxic substance dechlorane plus.

6 Czech politicians had a blood test for PFAS in their body.

Perfluorinated and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) are up to **10,000**.

We co-authored a peer-reviewed scientific paper that compiled data from **26** countries and showed widespread toxic contamination of plastic toys.

We completed a **5-year** project during which we planted **2000** new trees with partner organizations in the Poodří region.

The **9.ročník** annual Waste Oscar took place.

In the Arnika Eco-advice centre, we registered **246** incoming and settled inquiries. Of these, **101** were related to Prague issues, **75** were related to tree issues, **55** were related to waste and its incineration, and the rest were peripheral topics.

At the You Build Here, We Live Here happening, **150** citizens represented associations supporting the preservation of the public's voice in building procedures.

Experts from **5** Czech regions came to the seminar "V Poodří to žije".

In Armenia, we obtained **27** environmental samples (soil and sediment) and **41** biological samples collected from women of reproductive age (urine and hair).

In Georgia, we trained **14** volunteers and produced **31** AirGE citizen air monitoring stations.

In Moldova, we trained **193** rangers.

Our form for writing to MPs and Senators about the amendment to the Building Act has been used by over **1,000** people.

About **50** cyclists took part in this year's Tour de Alley family bike ride.

In the Alley of the Year poll, people nominated **93** alleys and tree plantations from all **14** regions in the Czech Republic.

We organized **6** participatory walks and **3** study tours.

We have published **5** publications.

WHAT WE STRIVED FOR LAST YEAR

Against hazardous chemicals and the overproduction of plastic

We spoke out against the overproduction of plastics and for better regulation of toxic substances in plastics at conferences in **Paris in May** and in **Nairobi in November**. We want the world to reach an ambitious document on global control and reduction of plastic production, such as the Paris Agreement, which was negotiated at the Paris Climate Conference in 2015, and whose conclusions have led countries around the world to try to prevent the climate crisis.

In a prestigious scientific journal, we published a study titled **Global Survey of Dioxin- and Thyroid Hormone-like Activities in Consumer Products and Toys**. We **pointed out** that plastic toys often contain toxic dioxins and that the most toxic toy identified in the survey could be bought in the Czech Republic.

In May, we attended the **Stockholm, Basel, and Rotterdam Conventions in Geneva**. On the first day, we translated the demands of NGOs around the world for better regulation of perfluorinated and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) in waste to UN delegates and

delegates. In addition, at a meeting with our Thai colleagues, we presented **a study on the contamination of the blood of Thai workers** who dismantle electrical waste with poisonous dechloran plus. Representatives of more than one hundred and twenty countries at this





conference then decided to add the substance to the list of banned substances.

The Stockholm Convention introduced two new substances for use in plastics, one of which was dechlorane plus. As a result, this substance cannot be added to new plastic products, and plastics containing it cannot be recycled.

We contributed to the proposal for a ban on PFAS substances in consumer goods **pub-**

lished by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) in February. **Packaging, jackets, or gloves** containing PFAS, as well as our international **BanPFAS Manifesto**, which has already been signed by 131 NGOs from all over the world. In November, we also started **testing Czech politicians** to show that literally anyone can have PFAS in their blood. Danuše Nerudová and Jan Farský (STAN), Markéta Gregorová (Pirates), and the Minister of the Environment Petr Hladík (KDU-ČSL) took part in the tests.



With a funeral procession to the Neratovice Spolana, we started collecting signatures for the appeal “A future without plastics”. In it, we ask for the choice to live without unnecessary plastic. We want to stop its overproduction and the pollution that plastics cause during production, use, and, most importantly, as waste. We are asking for the choice to live without unnecessary plastic. Everyone can add their signature to the appeal www.budoucnostbezplastu.cz.

Let's save the trees

We have been involved in the preparation of texts for the new **Nature and Landscape Protection Act**, which should ensure better protection of trees in cities and the countryside. We have drawn attention to the fact that **trees along roadsides continue to disappear** and that in ten counties trees are being cut down faster than they are planted. Trees are of increasing importance along roadsides in times of climate crisis, and the statistics of the

Police Presidium of the Czech Republic show that **the problem in most accidents is the wrong way of driving**, not the trees.

We informed the public about the developments around the important European standard of the Nature Recovery Act (NRL). We promoted the importance of trees for a healthy landscape at events for the general public (Day with Arnika, Arbor Day, Poodří Run). We also organised study trips to **Central Moravia, Poland, and Bosnia**.

We also continued our work for the landscape in Poodří. We helped to **plant the "Alej Svobody"** installed **eight panels** promoting the protection of the Poodří stork and inviting trips to the Poodrie HKO. We also organised **a seminar "V Poodří to žije"**, which was attended by experts from five Czech regions and guests from Slovakia and Poland. We managed the thirteenth year of the popular Alley of the Year survey and another **family bike ride, the Tour de Alley**. We also published three publications on the care of tree habitats: **Remarkable Trees in the Poodří, Comparison of Approaches to the Protection and Care of Habitat Trees**, and **What's Good with the Neighbours**.

The right to a healthy environment

We organized an extensive campaign on the amendment to the Building Act. It reached the House of Commons in a version that would have meant the absolute exclusion of the public, or associations, from permitting procedures, except for those buildings where an EIA had been carried out. Arnika and the Green Circle, therefore, initiated an **open letter**, which was joined by more than 150 associations and organisations from all over the Czech Republic. We informed the media about the development





of the situation and organised a happening, **You build here, we live here**, in front of the Ministry of Local Development, where all associations were symbolically represented. Over a thousand people have used our form to write to MPs and **Senators**.

Thanks to this pressure, the MPs eventually approved an amendment that not only did not

restrict public participation in the proceedings compared to the status quo but even expanded it. Thanks to us, **associations** can now, from 1 July 2024 – when most of the sections of the new Construction Act and the Act on the Uniform Environmental Opinion come into force - participate in the process of building permits at least in cases where there is a felling of trees or exceptions from specially

protected species (which from 2018 until now was only possible if the felling was not for the purpose of building permits). Unfortunately, the MPs did not support a public access law that would have allowed associations to participate in all proceedings where any component of nature and landscape protection could be affected - as it was in place until 2018.

Waste prevention and better recycling instead of consumption and incineration

As part of the **Don't Burn, Recycle** campaign, which has been running in Arnica since 2011, we have been drawing attention to the lack of waste recycling and the many negatives of incineration, often mistakenly perceived as the only solution to the waste crisis. We **analysed the black mixed waste container in Strakonice** to show what reserves we still have in sorting. It turned out that even in regions where people sort conscientiously, up to two-thirds of the usable waste in the bins ends up in the incinerator.

We have published an extensive study, **Waste Incinerators and the Environment**, which provides a detailed analysis of the environmental

impacts of waste incineration based on the latest expert data and findings from a variety of perspectives, from emissions to toxic substances to impacts on waste management.

We also monitored plans to build new waste incinerators in the Czech Republic. Unfortunately, they were increasing at an unprecedented rate, and in cooperation with local people and associations, we submitted our

expert comments on twelve of them. We also took part in six public discussions and public hearings on these projects, where we communicated our concerns and crises to investors, state institutions, and the Ministry of the Environment. We also held three webinars on the issue of waste incineration, **from the perspective of climate change**, but also from the perspective of **controlling toxic substances** that are produced during waste incineration, and

one on the problematic issue of **chemical recycling**, which is sometimes falsely presented as a “clean” alternative to waste incineration.

We have also continued to promote measures to prevent waste and improve separation, increase recycling capacity, and reuse materials in ways that are environmentally sustainable and produce the least hazardous substances. In this sense, we have commented, for example,



on the newly updated regional waste management plans or on new national legislation in the pipeline. We also awarded municipalities with Waste Oscars in **the ninth year** of this competition for the lowest production of mixed municipal waste. We trained municipal representatives in various measures that ultimately led to lower waste production and better sorting.

In 2023, we focused our activities more on the textile industry and its negative impacts on the environment and human health. We did a small survey on how young people aged between 15 and 25 feel about secondhand shops. We organised four swaps (or clothing exchanges) and two textile workshops and short lectures on re-use days. There were also three other lectures: two at high schools in Prague and one at the ReFashanda 2023 sustainable style festival in Ostrava, where we also had a creative stand. We also tried to attract school children with this theme, as part of the Earth Day celebrations in Jablunkov. In cooperation with the town of Jablunkov, we organised one of the swaps for the locals. And we also published educational and informational materials on these topics. We have published a **Swap Cookbook**, or a simple guide on how to organize a swap, and also a brochure called **Quickly Made, Quickly Disposed**, which briefly summarizes the situation with textile waste not only in the Czech Republic but also worldwide, how

the amount of textile waste is related to its massive production (so-called “fast fashion”) and gives tips on how each of us can reduce our textile waste production while finding our own style and feeling better in our clothes.

Prague – a city for life

We actively **opposed the construction** of an indoor, year-round air-conditioned ski slope on the edge of the planned Soutok Nature Park on the outskirts of Prague. Our petition was signed

by over 6,000 people, on the basis of which the Institute of Planning and Development expressed its negative opinion on the project.

We have also assisted locals in other important development cases. We contributed to the **preservation of gardens** in Vysočany that were threatened with closure. We supported protests against the construction of a **five-storey apartment building** in Malvazinky. We continuously monitor the preparation of construction on the most important Prague brownfields and the preparation of the **Prague Metropolitan Plan**.





For the third time, we organized the three-day festival **For a Sustainable and Neighbourly Prague** and other widely attended public awareness events. We also organized six participatory walks for different target groups, **planted trees again at the “Sahara” in Ďáblice**, and **held an intergenerational dialogue on climate activism** and other debates, workshops, and seminars on urban development.

In cooperation with the Green Circle, we addressed fundamental changes in building legislation. We advocated for the preservation of at **least partial public participation in con-**

struction. We commented on the new MMR decree on buildings - especially in the context of reducing the number of mandatory parking spaces for cars, bicycle parking, and improving green infrastructure in public spaces; we managed to get some of the demands into the decree. We also completed an **applied research project on participatory housing** in cooperation with four universities and research institutes - the outputs are publications for municipalities, officials, and those interested in participatory forms of housing; the project outputs are currently being tested in pilot locations.

Dam breaching and river landscape options

Arnika was one of the long-standing opponents of the DOL project, but when the government finally **scratched in 2023**, we did not rest on our laurels. We organised an online conference on the **possibilities of using the river landscape** in advance. We immediately warned that the vacant land reserve could become a target for private developers. That's why we have published **a guide to sustainable development in the DOL's Sustainable Development Reserve**, collaborated on a web application, and orga-

nized a **series of seminars for local government staff** on how to maintain and develop a high-quality riverscape.

We also opened a discussion on the topic of demolition of castles in our country. This was done through the **Czech premiere of the film Dambusters: The Start of the Riverlution**. Together with our partner organisation BUND, we also organised a **two-day excursion to explore the Elbe River and the surrounding region**. Throughout the year, we also **supported the passage of the European Union's Nature Recovery Act**. And we are glad that the common form of its draft was also created **thanks to Czech MEPs**.

Foreign projects of Arnika

Armenia

In 2023, the project “Engaging Civil Society in Promoting Chemical Safety in Armenia” became a shield against the invisible dangers that the Armenian landscape was exposed to. At the heart of this initiative was the effort to expose and document industrial pollution that threatened the health and stability of communities.

In the context of uncovering hidden threats, our efforts have expanded. In addition to the physical environment, we have explored the biological component of the problem. Our collaborators travelled to four critical regions of Armenia - Kotayk, Aragatsotn, Lori and Ararat - to uncover hidden traces of pollution. As part of the research, we collected 27 environmental samples (soil, sediment) and 41 biological samples taken from women of reproductive

age (hair and urine). They helped us to reveal a complex network of impacts of industrial activities on the ecosystem and human health. Each sample was a testament to the invisible but real threats to which communities were exposed.

The result of two years of work with environmental pollution expert Klára Matoušková and environmental pollution assessment expert



Václav Mach is an extensive study entitled “**The price of gold: how gold mining affects heavy metal pollution in Armenia**”. This report is based on detailed studies conducted in four areas affected by mining between 2022 and 2023. More than 130 samples were analysed, with comparisons made with national and international standards and literature.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we are working to protect a large number of unregulated watercourses that are home to many endemic species of plants and animals. We are, therefore, supporting a campaign to designate five new protected natural areas that will ensure the permanent protection of several rivers and adjacent areas. In 2023, together with local experts, we launched biological surveys of the sites, the results of which will help us negotiate the protection of the areas.

In October, we invited **seven Bosnian activists to the Czech Republic** to show them inspiring examples of good protected area management and sustainable local development, where the Czech Republic has many very good examples of local conservation and NGO involvement in this effort. We have also prepared two case studies on sustainable local development. We describe one example from Bosnia and Herzegovina and one from the Czech Republic. In



each of the locations, we organized a roundtable discussion with the local people about the beauty and potential of their territory. Together with the photographer Majda Slámová, we have prepared an exhibition of large-scale photographs of Bosnian rivers **Rivers are the jewels of nature**.

We have also provided ongoing legal support to civic initiatives that seek to protect rivers in their territory. We worked intensively on five cases. In total, we filed 13 requests for information,

1 lawsuit, 3 constitutional complaints, 1 criminal complaint, and 14 other legal remedies. Among the biggest successes are the final victory in the case of the planned construction of fifteen small hydroelectric power plants on the Neretvica River (Konjic municipality) and the precedent-setting ruling of the Constitutional Court of BiH in the Kasindolska case, which imposed an interim measure based on our complaint. This is the first time this has ever happened in a dispute concerning nature protection.

Georgia

According to the World Health Organisation, the Georgian capital, Tbilisi, is one of the top three most polluted cities in Europe, with nearly 4,000 people dying from dirty air every year. That's why we started working with My City Kills Me, a local initiative that is the only one dedicated to air pollution. Based on satellite data from the European Space Agency, we created **the first detailed analysis of the problem**, identifying the most affected cities and the sources of pollution. We also judged the

state monitoring system and, in cooperation with the Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, proposed a strategy for its improvement to the Ministry of Environment of Georgia.

We developed **a prototype of the AirGE citizen air monitoring station**, trained a group of 14 volunteers, manufactured 31 stations and gradually installed them in Tbilisi, Rustavi, Kaspi, and Chiatura. The volunteers received training and a manual for the installation and operation of the station. The data on the pollution levels collected

by these stations is published on the web. This is the first citizen science project in Georgia.

Through a Facebook campaign, we gathered 208 volunteers from different places in Georgia. We published a printed manual for them and organised training on legal procedures for air polluters. As a citizens' advisory service, we helped to solve 28 cases—for example, the closure of an illegal concrete plant in the village of Dzhighaura near Tbilisi National Park.

We have prepared and submitted 3 proposals to the legislative process to amend laws. Parliament passed one of them (stricter emission limits for car emissions) by the end of the year. The other two are still pending - the regulation of fireworks and the limitation of dust from construction activities.

Our work was complicated by the political situation in Georgia: first, the hostile attitude of the Ministry of the Environment, which tried to stop the project, and then the Georgian government's attempts to enforce a law on foreign agents based on the Russian model. Our local partners actively participated in civil protests against the politicians' attempts to bind civil society and independent media. So far, they have managed to defend their positions, but the situation in Georgia remains tense.



Indonesia

The year 2023 was the third year of implementation of the Transparent Pollution Control in India project, supported by the EU and co-financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the Transition Programme. The project ends in August 2024. We submitted samples collected in December 2022 for analysis and based on the results, we have started to prepare the Toxic hot spot in Java II report for publication. We have completed a large-scale study of the **Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and Civil Society** on the design and development of publicly accessible databases that collect information on the number of pollutants released into the environment from specific facilities around the world and in Indonesia. We organized a webinar, Increasing Pollution Transparency in Indonesia and the Region, which focused on various aspects of Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) systems and their implementation and use in developing and developed countries. The webinar presented case studies and “lessons learned” in pollution control in Asian countries, particularly Indonesia, Thailand, and Vietnam. The second part of the webinar focused on the implementation of PRTRs in Europe and Japan.

We also organized a webinar on Environmental Pollution Modelling for Indonesian organisations

and associations working in the field of pollution. Facilitated by knowledge and experience in modelling air pollution, as well as soil and sediments, around pollution sources, industrial plants, etc. Van Minh Duong, who works at the BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences in Vienna, spoke on the topic of air pollution modelling and Marek Šír from the Institute of Chemistry and Environmental Protection at the University of Chemical Technology in Prague spoke on the topic of soil and sediment pollution modelling. We also prepared for our

partner organization **NEXUS3** and other organizations and associations active in the field of environmental protection **instructional videos** on pollution monitoring, soil and sediment sampling, and monitoring of environmental burdens around industrial plants.

Kazakhstan

The people of Kazakhstan have long suffered from pollution from oil extraction in the Caspian Sea, massive coal mining, and outdated smelters and other industrial enterprises.



However, relevant data still was missing. State authorities do not keep reliable records of pollution and do not or refuse to provide relevant information. Arnika therefore **worked with other NGOs to publish a new study** based on satellite images from the European Space Agency (ESA). It reveals the causes of air pollution in Kazakhstan: outdated heavy industry, steel mills, mining, and coal burning. We have deepened our functional cooperation with the EcoMuseum, a non-governmental educational centre based in Karaganda, Kazakhstan.

Moldova

In Moldova, we contributed to strengthening the right to a healthy environment for rural communities on both sides of the Dniester. This is done through people's involvement in decision-making, conservation action, and advocacy for changes to legal norms and their implementation. In particular, we focused on communities around the four natural areas whose character is shaped by the Tipova, Balabanesti, and Iagorlic rivers (Transnistria) and communities in the Lower Dniester National Park (both banks).

We have succeeded in creating the basis of a network of volunteer nature guardians, which supplements the insufficient capacity of the State Environmental Inspectorate. We have published a **manual** for guards on both sides



of the Dniester and trained one hundred and ninety-three guards through **nine workshops**. We have achieved certification of fifty volunteer guards by the State Environmental Inspectorate on the right bank. The rangers monitor the state of nature and prevent harmful interventions. We have published an **annual report** on their activities, challenges, and needs.

We supported the involvement of local communities in nature conservation and the co-

operation of authorities with the public. We worked intensively in the villages in the newly declared Lower Dniester National Park.

We organized dozens of activities in seventeen locations, including tree planting, riverbank or public park cleanups, **community events**, and **thematic excursions**. We installed **artificial nests for waterbirds** and built a **washroom** for visitors to the Lagorlic Reserve. We also provided **fencing for a landfill** in the

vicinity of the Tipova Reserve and improved **two drinking water sources**. Through small grants, we supported civic initiatives in five villages.

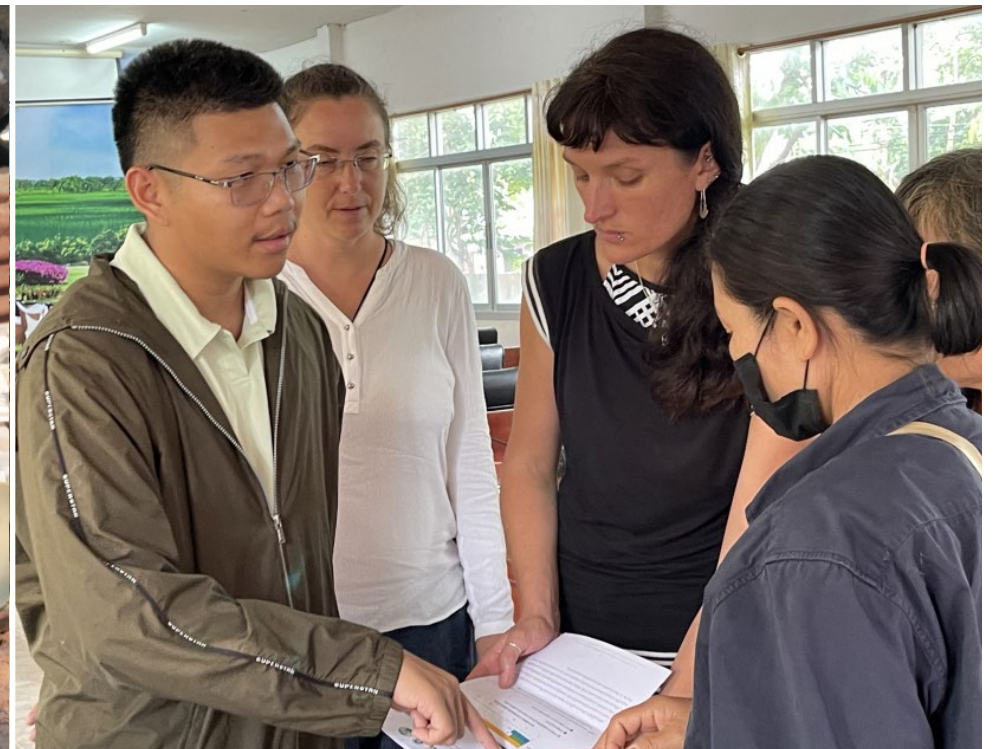
We ran an **information campaign** on water conservation in the landscape - we published a **brochure in Moldovan** and reached over 4,000 people. We also produced **two documentaries** on the nature of the Iagorlic Reserve.

We also focused on public participation in the creation of strategic development plans of municipalities in the newly declared Lower Dniester National Park in order to support their sustainable development. We have established **working groups** in seven municipalities and roundtables for dialogue between the authorities and the public and coordinated their meetings. On the basis of these meetings, we submitted modifications or additions to the

current development strategies to the four municipal councils for discussion.

Thailand

Together with our long-term partner, the NGO **EARTH** Thailand and the **IPEN** international network, we released a report in May on **the discovery of a health-threatening flame retardant known as dechloran plus** in the blood of Thai workers involved in e-waste disposal.



In the subsequent negotiations in Geneva, we were instrumental in getting dechloran plus added to the list of substances banned by the Stockholm Convention. This means that it will no longer be added to new plastic products, but also that plastics containing this dangerous substance cannot be recycled.

Ukraine

We have been active in Ukraine since 2017, as part of the long-term **Clean Air for Ukraine programme**. From the beginning, we have focused on air quality issues in industrial regions. Together with Ukrainian colleagues, we developed our own monitoring stations and created the **Ecocity** citizen air quality monitoring network. Around two hundred stations are in operation across Ukraine.

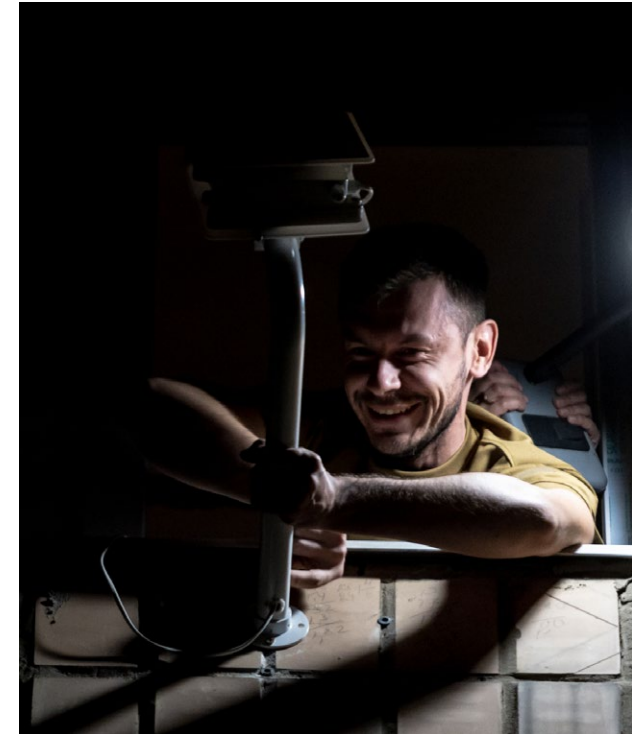
We work in Zaporozhye, Dnipropetrovsk, and Kharkiv regions - regions with high industrial pollution and also heavily affected by the war. The military conflict with Russia is causing enormous humanitarian, economic, and environmental damage. We have therefore also had to adapt our activities to the current situation. The monitoring network is also partly used for civil defence purposes. The stations are an important source of information (e.g. in case of shelling, accidents, fires) and are equipped with radiation sensors. We have de-

veloped a notification system and a mobile application that will send an alert to your phone in case of deterioration of air quality.

In addition to air quality, our experts also focus on war damage to the environment and the preparation of the post-war reconstruction process. We have prepared a comprehensive publication **on the environmental impact of the war**, but we have also followed in detail the monitoring of changes in air quality and publish regular weekly analyses for the regions in the region.

In collaboration with World from Space, we have produced **a study based on analyses of satellite imagery from the European Space Agency**, which has come to a surprising conclusion. While war destroys lives and devastates the environment, long-term air quality has paradoxically improved. The study concluded that the continuous operation of outdated coal-fired power stations, smelters, and chemical plants before the Russian invasion caused more pollution than the explosions and fires during the war.

Immediately after the breach of the Kachovka reservoir in the Zaporozhye region of Ukraine, in cooperation with Dekonta, we took samples from the bottom of the dam. We **analysed** the



sediments to determine the potential threat and the level of risk to the local population. Laboratory tests showed, among other toxic substances, the presence of the banned, dangerous pesticide DDT directly on the public beach in Zápotoží. In this way, we are currently helping to protect civilians from the effects of the fighting, and later this data will contribute to the restoration of the country and a better environment.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP, GRANTS, GRANTS AND FINANCIAL DONATIONS

Advantage Solutions, Audit daně – Ing. Jana Moučková, **Bezajťáka.cz**, Broad Reach Fund, **České centrum fundraisingu**, ČSOB, **Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt**, Diamond Club, EDN s.r.o., **Evropská komise – program EU Aid a program EU LIFE**, European Environmental Bureau, **Fondy EHP a Norska**, Fórum dárců, z.s., **Global Greengrants Fund**, **Google**, Grüne Liga Osterzgebirge e.V., **Heinrich Böll Stiftung Sarajevo**, Hlavní město Praha, **Město Studénka**, Ministerstvo zahraničních věcí – Program transformační spolupráce, **Ministerstvo životního prostředí**, Moravskoslezský kraj, **Muzeum Novojičínka**, Nadace VIA, **obec Jistebník**, obec Bravantice, **Park Lane International School**, programy Active Citizens Fund a Stronger Roots - Nadace Open Society Fund, **Sigrid Rausing Trust**, SIDA (Švédsko), **Skautský institut**, TAČR - Technologická agentura ČR, **Výbor dobré vůle – Nadace Olgy Havlové**, program EURENI Spolkového ministerstva pro životní prostředí, **International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN)**



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Bálek - Zahradnické centrum, Boio, **Bujnoch Ranch**, Groown, **Národní muzeum**, Botanická zahrada Přírodovědecké fakulty Masarykovy univerzity Brno, **Botanická zahrada Přírodovědecké fakulty Univerzity Karlovy Vary**, Botanická zahrada Teplice, **Botanická zahrada v Bečově nad Teplou**, Agentura Dobrý den, s.r.o., **CANON CZ s.r.o.**, Catus, **Cukrárna u Hezounů**, Milan Škoda-FOTO, **Ha Balon**, Koudelkova včelí farma, **Li-Go**, Marmelády s duší Pošumaví, **Muzeum Karla Zemana z.ú.**, Muzeum Těšínska, **Mechová farma**, Muzeum rekordů a kuriozit v Pelhřimově, **Nakladatelství Kazda**, Nakladatelství Meander, **Národní hřebčín Kladruby nad Labem**, Ostravské Muzeum, **Ovocnářská farma Karel Ostroměř**, Perfectly Delicious, **Pivovar Dejč**, Restaurace - pizzeria SPORT, **Sonnentor s.r.o.**, Smolenka s.r.o., **Včelařství Vrbínčák**, Včelí farma Skalička, **Výstaviště Černá louka v Ostravě**, Výstaviště Flora Olomouc, **rodinný pivovar Zichovec**, Nakladatelství MH, Crème de la Crème s.r.o., **Safari park Dvůr Králové nad Labem**, 4EVER, s.r.o., **Zámečnictví Pavel Mariaš**, SaK Studénka, **Zámecké koupele Klimkovice**, Štramberské uši, **Lemniskata**, Bezpečně na silnicích o.p.s. - Tým silniční bezpečnosti, **Ostravské muzeum**, Řeznictví Patrik, **Archeopark Chotěbuz**, Dostihová stáj Jistebník, **ZO ČSOP BERKUT**, Zahradnické a chovatelské potřeby Balaga, **Zahradnictví Bálek**, **Knihcentrum**

MANY THANKS ALSO GO TO INSTITUTIONS, ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS SUCH AS:

ALHem (Srbsko), AOPK ČR – regionální pracoviště Správy Chráněné krajinné oblasti Poodří, **AWWHE (Arménie)**, Aarhus centrum Sarajevo (Bosna a Hercegovina), **Architekti bez hranic**, AutoMat, **Beskyd Arbo**, BioDetection Systems, **Bout – Bez obalu u Terky**, BUND – Friends of the Earth Germany, **Buy Responsibly Foundation (Polsko)**, Candy Cane, **Centar Dr. Stjepan Bolokay (Bosna a Hercegovina)**, Centre for Community Mobilization and Support – CCMS (Arménie), **Centrum Elpida**, Centrum za životní prostředí (Bosna a Hercegovina), **ChemTrust**, Coalition for Protection of Rivers in Bosnia and Herzegovina, **Cosmetica Natura**, Cyklotoulky, **DEAS spol. s r.o.**, Daniel Vondrouš, **Dominik Petr**, Dominik Sosnovec, **Dydžej LOOP**, Dáša Mačugová, **Dům přírody Poodří**, Ekogotuša (Bosna a Hercegovina), **ECOS**, EDC-free coalition, **EcoMuseum Karaganda (Kazachstán)**, Ecological Alert and Recovery Thailand – EARTH (Thajsko), **Ecological Society Biotica (Moldavsko)**, Ecolur (Arménie), **Econea s.r.o.**, Emriter v.o.s, **Eurofins (Belgie)**, European ECO Forum, **FreeArduino (Ukrajina)**, Fundacja Ekorozwóju (Polsko), **Fórum rozvojové spolupráce**, Global 2000 (Rakousko), **Green Pole (Gruzie)**, GreenHome (Černá Hora), **Greenpeace**, Heidrun Fammler z Baltic Environmental Forum, **Hnutí DUHA**, Ing. Jaroslav Mzyk, **Inreko spol. s r.o.(Zelená domácnost)**, **Irena Buřivalová**, Jakub Fulnek, **Jakub Nakládal**, Jan Smolík, **Jan Vocel**, Jan Škop, **Jana Vitnerová**, Jezevky, **Jindra Kvapilová**, Jiří Dlouhý ze Společnosti pro trvale udržitelný život (STUŽ), **Klimatická koalice**, Klub Za starou Prahu, **Klára Matoušková**, Krásné Kobylisy, **LMC s.r.o.**, MAS Regionu Poodří z.s., **MUDr. Lucie Mrázová**, Marie Holečková, **Martin Marek**, Martin Moravec, **Mary C & Synth Library**, Mgr. Jakub Reschke, **Mgr. Jaroslava Francíková**, Mgr. Klára Fiedlerová, **Mgr. Tomáš Fajkus**, Miroslav Brabec – BNS, **Monika Pavlovičová a Momo Animate**, MUDr. Milerski PL, **Nadace Partnerství**, Neobaleno, **Nexus3 (Indonésie)**, Nikol Krejčová, **Ondřej Tošner**, Paměť města, **Pavel Arnošt**, Pavel Čmelík, **Peter Behnisch**, Petr Zewlakk Vrabec, **Petra Kolínská**, Pop-stu, **Pronájem lodí - jachty Chorvatsko**, Přírodovědecká fakulta Ostravské univerzity, **ROC YOUR PLANET FOUNDATION** **keep up the good work**, Re-set: Platforma pro sociálně-ekologickou transformaci, **Samir Shanaáh**, Sbor dobrovolných hasičů v Kopytově, **Semia Gharbi z Association de l'Education Environnementale pour les Futures Générations (AEEFG)**, Simon Gill, **Sociologický ústav AV ČR**, Společnost pro zahradní a krajinářskou tvorbu, **Státní veterinární ústav v Praze – oddělení chemie vedené Ing. Janem Rosmusem**, TRASK SOLUTIONS a.s., **Techsoup**, Tegengif (Nizozemí), **Terezie Unzeitigová**, The Prague Concert Co., **Tudatos Vásárlók Egyesülete - Hungarian Association of Conscious Consumers**, Tým silniční bezpečnosti, **Valerie Talacko**, Vít Vebr, **VKI (Rakousko)**, World from Space, **Zelenyi Svit (Ukrajina)**, Zelená domácnost, **Zelený dům Chrudim**, Zelený kruh – asociace ekologických nevládních organizací ČR, **ZeroWaste Europe**, dTest, **pracovní skupina chemické látky pod vedením Tatiány Santos z European Environmental Bureau**, Ústav analýzy potravin a výživy VŠCHT v Praze pod vedením prof. Ing. Jany Pulkrabové, **Ústav pro životní prostředí Přírodovědecké fakulty UK pod vedením prof. Tomáše Cajthamla**, ČSOP Studénka, **Česká společnost na ochranu netopýrů**, Štěpán Sukdol, **Život 90...**

...and hundreds of individual donors and volunteers. Without you, the list of our accomplishments would be much shorter!

CONTACTS

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and mailing address:

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www.arnika.org, arnika@arnika.org

Arnika - Centre for Citizen Support

ID: 709 472 61

cepo@arnika.org

Arnika - Toxic Substances and Waste Programme

ID: 709 478 05

Programme leader Jindřich Petrlík,

toxic@arnika.org

Arnika's supreme body is the General Assembly, which meets once a year. In the period between the membership meetings, the Executive Board manages the activities of Arnika. The members of the Executive Board act on behalf of Arnika according to the statutes of the association, even independently.

Executive Board: Martin Skalský, Jindřich Petrlík, Václav Orcígr, Lucie Kerbachová, Karolína Brabcová.

In 2023, Arnika was a member of the following organisations:

Asociace nevládních organizací Zelený kruh, České fórum pro rozvojovou spolupráci (FoRS), European ECO Forum, European Environmental Bureau (EEB), European Rivers Network (ERN), Global Alliance for Incineration Alternatives (GAIA), Health Care Without Harm (HCWH), International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN), International Rivers, Mezinárodní koalice pro ochranu Labe (MKOL), Koalice pro řeky, Klimatická koalice (KLIK), Koalice za snadné dárcovství, Síť ekologických poraden (STEP), Síť středisek ekologické výchovy Pavučina.

We subscribe to the Code of Ethics for Environmental Organizations and the Rules of Transparency for NGOs.

Help us and support our work. We always stand on the side of nature, regardless of individual or corporate profit.

Account for donations and contributions: 290 011 7959/2010



OVERVIEW OF THE ORGANISATION'S MANAGEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

as of 31.12.2023 (in whole thousands CZK)

ASSETS

	Arnika, z.s.		Arnika Toxic Substances and Waste Programme		Arnika Centre for Citizen Support	
	Status as of the first accounting days period	Status as of the last accounting days period	Status as of the first accounting- days period	Status as of the last accounting days period	Status as of the last accounting days period	Status as of the first accounting- days period
A. TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.I. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.II. TOTAL TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	0	0	105	254	415	415
A.II.4. Land	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.II.4. Tangible movable assets and their files	0	0	105	254	415	415
A.IV. Total fixed asset allowances	0	0	-105	-254	-415	-415
A.IV.7. Rights to separate tangible movable items and sets of tangible movable items	0	0	-105	-254	-415	-415
B. TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,826	2,699	5,041	5,693	5,411	7,213
B.I. TOTAL RESOURCES	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.II. TOTAL RECEIVABLES	176	108	1,701	2,744	15	41
B.II.1. Subscribers	0	9	787	1,947	0	7
B.II.4. Operating advances granted	141	61	0	0	4	1
B.II.5. Other receivables	0	0	0	0	0	33
B.II.6. Receivables from employees	0	0	0	1	0	0
B.II.9. Other direct taxes	35	38	0	0	0	0
B.II.12. Claims on subsidies and other settlements with the state budget	0	0	914	796	0	0
B.II.17. Other receivables	0	0	0	0	11	0
B.II.18. Doubtful accounts active	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.II.19. Allowance for receivables	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.III. Total current financial assets	2,541	2,387	3,293	2,946	5,237	3,057
B.III.1. Cash in hand	5	15	103	68	235	82
B.III.3. Funds in accounts	2,536	2,372	3,190	2,878	5,002	2,975
B.III.7. Acquired short-term financial assets	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.III.8. Money on the way	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.IV. Total other assets	109	204	47	3	159	4,115
B.IV.1. Accrued expenses	2	10	9	3	0	18
B.IV.2. Deferred income	107	194	37	0	159	4,097
TOTAL ASSETS	2,826	2,699	5,041	5,693	5,411	7,213

BALANCE SHEET

as of 31.12.2023 (in whole thousands CZK)

LIABILITIES

	Arnika, z.s.		Arnika Toxic Substances and Waste Programme		Arnika Centre for Citizen Support	
	Status as of the first accounting days period	Status as of the last accounting days period	Status as of the first accounting-days period	Status as of the last accounting days period	Status as of the last accounting days period	Status as of the first accounting-days period
A. TOTAL OWN RESOURCES	2,664	2,509	634	764	3,069	2,880
A.I. Total assets	2,664	2,509	112	242	3,009	2,820
A.I.1. Equity	100	100	112	112	270	270
A.I.2. Funds	2,564	2,409	0	130	2,739	2,550
A.II. Profit and loss account	0	0	522	522	60	60
A.II.1. Outturn under approval procedure	0	0	0	0	0	0
A.II.2. Outturn under approval procedure	-565	0	295	0	0	0
A.II.3. Undistributed profit, unreimbursed loss of previous years	565	0	227	522	60	60
B. TOTAL FOREIGN RESOURCES	162	190	4,407	4,929	2,342	4,333
B.I. Total reserves	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.II. Total non-current liabilities	0	0	15	2	0	0
B.II.6. Doubtful accounts passive	0	0	15	2	0	0
B.II.7. Other non-current liabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.III. Total current liabilities	108	175	2,560	2,992	916	585
B.III.1. Suppliers	15	44	302	206	430	9
B.III.3. Advances received	0	0	0	0	0	0
B.III.4. Other liabilities	1	6	0	0	10	47
B.III.5. Staff	68	90	297	288	308	361
B.III.7. Liabilities to social security and public health insurance institutions	24	35	138	107	140	
B.III.9. Other direct taxes	0	0	19	23	17	27
B.III.12. Liabilities in relation to the state budget	0	0	1,045	2,124	0	0
B.III.13. Liabilities in relation to local government authorities	0	0	759	209	0	0
B.III.17. Other commitments	0	0	0	0	44	1
B.IV. Total other liabilities	54	15	1,832	1,936	1,426	3,748
B.IV.1. Deferred expenditure	54	15	0	0	391	402
B.IV.2. Accrued income	0	0	1,832	1,936	1,035	3,346
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,826	2,699	5,041	5,693	5,411	7,213

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS

prepared in accordance with Decree No. 504/2002 Coll.

as of 31.12.2023 (in whole thousands CZK)

Line	Item	Arnika, z.s.	Arnika Toxic Substances and Waste Programme	Arnika Centre for Citizen Support
A.	COST	X	X	X
A.I.	TOTAL PURCHASES AND SERVICES CONSUMED	2,252	6,651	6,362
A.I.1	Consumption of materials, energy and other non-stored supplies	95	340	325
A.I.2	Goods sold	36	0	10
A.I.3	Repair and maintenance	0	0	0
A.I.4	Travel expenses	110	860	779
A.I.5	Representation expenses	10	5	11
A.I.6	Other services	2,001	5,446	5,237
A.II.	TOTAL STAFF COSTS	1,028	5,278	5,505
A.II.1	Wages and salaries	905	4,575	4,606
A.II.2	Other personnel expenses	10	139	135
A.II.3	Statutory social insurance	113	564	643
A.II.4	Statutory social expenses	0	0	1
A.II.5	Other social expenses	0	0	120
A.III.	TOTAL TAXES AND FEES	0	0	9
A.III.1	Road tax	0	0	9
A.IV.	TOTAL OTHER COSTS	0	0	9
A.IV.1	Contractual penalties and default interest	0	0	9
A.V.	DEPRECIATION OF FIXED ASSETS	0	0	5
A.V.1	Depreciation of intangible and tangible fixed assets	0	0	5
A.VI.	TOTAL GIFTS GRANTED	0	3	0
A.VII.	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS PAID	4	53	21
A.VII.1	Membership fees paid	4	53	21
A.VIII.	TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES	12	96	107
A.VIII.1	Foreign exchange losses	1	9	9
A.VIII.3	Other financial expenses	11	87	98

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS

prepared in accordance with Decree No. 504/2002 Coll.

as of 31.12.2023 (in whole thousands CZK)

Line	Item	Arnika, z.s.	Arnika Toxic Substances and Waste Programme	Arnika Centre for Citizen Support
B.	REVENUES	1,236	13,937	11,880
B.I.	TOTAL OPERATIONAL SUBSIDIES	0	1,054	7,133
B.II.	TOTAL GIFTS AND SETTLEMENTS	60	1,899	973
B.II.1	Received gifts and donations	60	1,899	973
B.III.	TOTAL SALES	30	347	107
B.III.1	Revenues from own products	0	3	107
B.III.2	Revenues from services	0	343	0
B.III.3	Sales of goods	30	1	0
B.IV.	TOTAL OTHER INCOME	10	13	0
B.IV.1	Contractual penalties and default interest	0	13	0
B.V.	TOTAL OTHER INCOME	98	124	113
B.V.1	Interest	0	0	0
B.V.2	Foreign exchange gains	0	0	0
B.V.3	Other financial income	98	124	113
	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	0	1,054	7,133
C.	RESULT FOR THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD	-4	0	0
D.	PROFIT OR LOSS AFTER TAX	0	0	0

OVERVIEW OF GRANT FUNDS

Arnika Centre for Citizen Support

Donor	Project	Amount
European Commission	Participation of the civil society in mitigation of the climate change in Karaganda Oblast of Kazakhstan	738,236 CZK
European Commission	Záchrana páchníka hnědého v CHKO Poodří	3,740,095 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Pražská škola adaptace	10,000 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Fotosoutěž pro 1.st. ZŠ hl. m. Prahy - Vítání jara	136,727 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Komunikační laboratoř zelených měst II.	235,856 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Praha adaptovaná? – potřeby rodin s dětmi	180,000 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Územní plánování v kontextu klimatické změny pro pražské seniory	128,324 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Za Prahu udržitelnou a sousedskou II.	286,111 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Za Prahu udržitelnou a sousedskou III	10,000 CZK
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Občanský monitoring ovduší GE	810,103 CZK
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Obce bez přehrad: Posílení občanské společnosti v Bosně a Hercegovině	807,920 CZK
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Strážci moldavské přírody: Prosazování práv komunit na obou březích Dněstru	601,050 CZK
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Účast občanské společnosti na zmírňování změny klimatu v Karagandské oblasti Kazachstánu	367,000 CZK
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Smog alarm Ukrajina	1,373,573 CZK
Moravian-Silesian Region	Tour de Aleje	148,200 CZK
Moravian-Silesian Region	grant na závěrečný seminář LIFE Poodří	25,000 CZK
TAČR	Možnosti a limity sociálně a environmentálně udržitelného participativního bydlení v ČR	400,676 CZK

Arnika Toxic Substances and Waste Programme

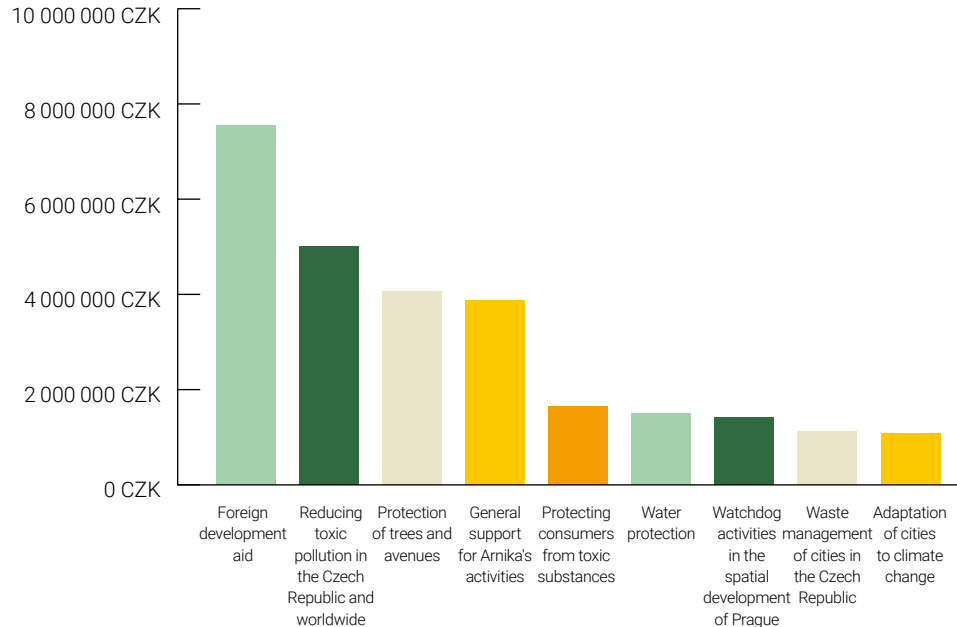
Donor	Project	Amount
Baltic Environmental Forum	LIFE Chemical Ambassadors for Europe (LIFE21/GIE/DE101074245 LIFEChemBee)	807,566 CZK
European Commission	Public Participation through Citizen Science and EIA System Enhancement	557,597 CZK
European Commission	Transparent Pollution Control In Indonesia	1,311,858 CZK
German Environment Agency	Enabling REACH consumer information rights on chemicals in articles by IT tools (LIFE16 GIE/DE/000738 LIFE askREACH)	-662 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Čistá recyklace pro lepší klima	246,325 CZK
Capital City of Prague	Nevyhazuj, přetvářej!	41,457 CZK
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Zapojení občanské společnosti do prosazování chemické bezpečnosti v Arménii	694,800 CZK
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Transparentní kontrola znečištění v Indonésii	294,250 CZK
Ministry of the Environment	Změny v přístupu k nebezpečným látkám v domácnostech v Moravskoslezském a Ústeckém kraji	221,000 CZK
Ministry of the Environment	Nevyhazuj, vyměňuj	240,500 CZK
Tudatos Vásárlók Közhasznú Egyesülete (TVE)	ToxFree LIFE for All (LIFE22-GIE-HU 101114078)	235,114 CZK

OVERVIEW OF ARNICA'S FUNDING SOURCES

Share of financial resources for each of Arnika's areas of activity

Foreign development aid	7,561,851 CZK	28%
Reducing toxic pollution in the Czech Republic and worldwide	5,043,201 CZK	19%
Protection of trees and avenues	4,104,884 CZK	15%
General support for Arnika's activities	3,815,543 CZK	14%
Protecting consumers from toxic substances	1,591,386 CZK	6%
Water protection	1,480,113 CZK	5%
Watchdog activities in the spatial development of Prague	1,400,970 CZK	5%
Waste management of cities in the Czech Republic	1,075,116 CZK	4%
Adaptation of cities to climate change	1,066,554 CZK	4%

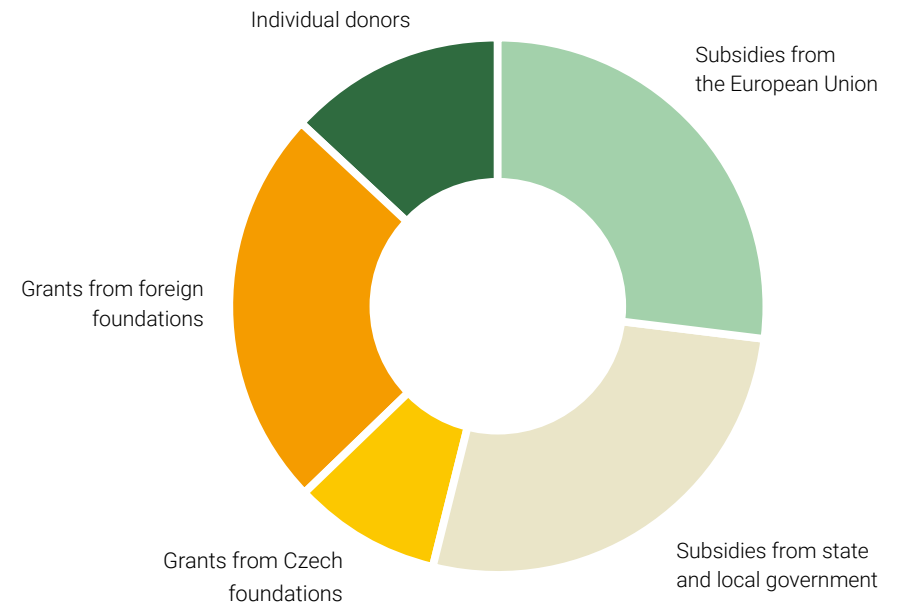
TOTAL 27,139,618 CZK



Sources of funding for Arnika's activities in 2023

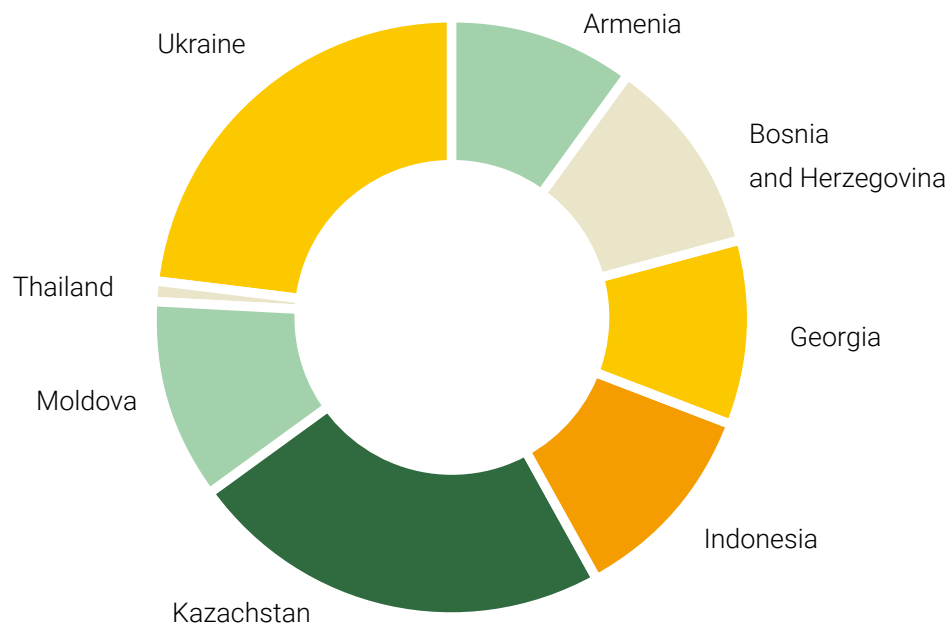
Subsidies from the European Union	7,389,803 CZK	27%
Subsidies from state and local government	7,258,871 CZK	27%
Grants from Czech foundations	2,464,422 CZK	9%
Grants from foreign foundations	6,545,645 CZK	24%
Individual donors	3,480,877 CZK	13%

TOTAL 27,139,618 CZK



Foreign development aid - funds donated by Arnika to foreign partners

Armenia	779,000 CZK
Bosnia and Herzegovina	830,910 CZK
Georgia	754,998 CZK
Indonesia	902,880 CZK
Kazachstan	1,810,193 CZK
Moldova	895,250 CZK
Thailand	43,042 CZK
Ukraine	1,812,491 CZK
TOTAL	7,828,764 CZK



ARNIKA
Annual Report
2023

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