

Annual Report of Clean Air Action Group (Hungary) about the year 2005

Clean Air Action Group is a National Environment Protection Federation uniting 134 member organizations. It carries out environmental protection activities, independent of party politics, to promote a solidaric and democratic development which preserves the advantageous endowments and traditions of Hungary.

Awareness raising and assertion of interests: We performed environment and nature protection awareness raising and disseminated relevant information to the general public and also at national, municipal and professional events. We provided support to local residents and non-government organizations, endorsed various environmental initiatives and advocated public participation in decision-making. We maintained continuous relations with the media in order to ensure the efficient propagation of environmental information.

Assumption of state responsibilities and enforcement of environmental considerations in decision-making: We commented on a range of specialized policy programmes, draft statutory regulations and concepts. We initiated local and national actions and regulations to further the cause of environment protection. We elaborated position statements and recommendations for various programmes and statutes, in particular for the state budget and tax laws, as well as for the National Development Plan, to promote the implementation of environment protection principles.

Preparation of publications and working papers: By drawing on the experience and findings of Clean Air Action Group's Board of Experts, international and Hungarian organizations and scientific workshops, we prepared studies to lay sound foundations for our environment protection positions and proposals.

Our member organizations

Responsible leaders: András Lukács and Petra Lendvai

It is our core task to cooperate with our member organizations, to provide them with information on a continuous basis and to ensure mutual assistance between our organizations. Our member organizations

- are given preference when they turn to our Environmental Advisory Office,
- receive free of charge our magazine "Lélegzet",
- also in electronic form they receive our latest news and our newsletter "Lélegzetnyi", launched in 2006 (upon request, the latter will be sent in printed form as well),
- upon request they will also obtain free of charge any other publications of ours,
- can participate free of charge in all events organized by Clean Air Action Group,
- with the assistance of the staff members of Clean Air Action Group, can gain more information and knowledge about the preservation and improvement of the environment and human health,
- thanks to our broad membership and extensive network of connections and contacts, can establish relationship with other people who hold similar views and who work to find solution to similar problems,
- can use our library free of charge.

During the year 2005, it was our priority activity to closely cooperate with, and assist the work of, our member organizations affected by the issue of road No. 10 and motorway M0.

International relations

Project leaders: András Lukács, Erzsébet Beliczay and Judit Madarassy

Our aim is to ensure that from the international practice (and in particular from the European Union's practice) Hungary takes over the more consistent environmental regulations which offer mutual advantages, while preserving the country's natural and cultural endowments by moderating the market's deforming effects. We work to promote that the subsidies granted from EU Funds and Hungary's National Development Plan comply with the requirements of sustainable development.

Clean Air Action Group is member of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB, the largest European environmental NGO, www.eeb.org), the European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E, www.t-e.eu), Climate Action Network Europe (CAN Europe, www.climnet.org), the World Car-Free Network (www.worldcarfree.net), the International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN, www.ipen.org), Pesticides Action Network Europe (PAN Europe, www.pan-europe.info) and the European Environmental Citizens Organization for Standardization (ECOS, www.ecostandard.org). We also maintain close relations with numerous other international organizations, in particular with the Central and Eastern European Bankwatch Network (www.bankwatch.org) and the Institute for Transport and Development Policy (ITDP, www.itdp.org) – in 2005 András Lukács, President of Clean Air Action Group, was elected Vice-President of ITDP's European Section.

In addition, we keep connection with several national NGOs, among others with the Danish Ecological Council, the Polish Institute of Sustainable Development, the Austrian Traffic Club, the German Traffic Club and with Green Budget Germany.

Internationally, we also maintain relations with governmental and other official agencies: with the European Commission (especially with the Directorate-General for the Environment and the Directorate-General for Energy and Transport), the European Parliament, the European Environmental Agency and with others.

Our associate, Judit Madarassy assists our work in Brussels by facilitating our relations with the institutions and non-governmental organizations of the European Union.

More details about our international activities can be found below in the sections dealing with our specific fields of activity.

Environmental Advisory Office

The primary mission of our Environmental Advisory Office is advising, and through that remedying the environmental problems of citizens, as well as assisting, and easing the burden of, environmental protection agencies and authorities. We often provide information to official agencies and to the press, and we cooperate with other non-government organizations on a regular basis.

Head of Office: Péter Lenkei

The Advisory Office receives requests from citizens on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and provides answers to the majority of such requests within 72 hours.

In 2005, our Advisory Office was contacted in nearly 2600 cases. More than half of all requests arrived in e-mails and a large portion of them over the phone. In a few cases the queries and complaints were made personally or by sending a letter to the Office.

Those contacting the Advisory Office most often asked for our assistance in connection with damage caused to the environment of towns and villages, air quality protection and problems caused by transport. A large part of the conflicts arise because authorities decide in favour of certain companies or economic interest groups, and to the detriment of the built and natural environment and human health, or because they are not interested in solving the environmental conflicts.

It is an important task of ours to cooperate with environmental authorities and local governments, since by assisting one another's work we can attain better results and we can represent more efficiently the interests of environment protection.

Clean Air Action Group is member of the Network of Environmental Advisory Offices (KÖTHÁLÓ). During the year, our advisors took part in 6 trainings.

Media relations

We make efforts to secure the support of the media, which is one of the most efficient tools of awareness raising. We are readily available for the press at any time to give interviews, supply information and communicate our position. We regularly send press releases to the Hungarian News Agency (MTI) and to numerous press organs.

Project leaders: András Lukács and Judit Varga

On the basis of our press releases and in connection with other environmental events, Clean Air Action Group's Office was contacted nearly every day by journalists of the printed and electronic press: in 2005 we appeared in the national and local media on some 500 occasions. Our position statements, which we sent to the Hungarian News Agency and to journalists on our media list, can be read on our homepage.

We have a permanent weekly programme on Civil Radio (on Wednesdays, between 4.30 p.m. and 5 p.m.; conversations were conducted by *Ágnes Hajtman*).

The monthly "Lélegzet"

Editor-in-chief: Judit Varga

www.lelegzet.hu

The environmental monthly titled „Lélegzet” („Breath”) has been published since 1991 by Clean Air Action Group. The magazine is well-known and appreciated among Hungarian environmental protection specialists, and its articles are regularly cited and taken over by papers and journals of other profiles as well.

In 2005, the 36-page monthly covered a wide range of different subjects within environmental protection. Special emphasis is put on the themes related to Clean Air Action Group's main fields of activity. The year 2004 saw the renewal of our magazine. Its illustrations and photographs, which remained under the editorship of Ferenc Susánszky, now are of higher standard. "Lélegzet" preserved its scientific profile, but at the same time it has opened towards members of the general public who are eager to do something for the environment. In 2005, the magazine was published on 11 occasions, each time in 3500 copies.

Nationwide distribution was carried out by Lapker Co. at the beginning of the year, while subscriber and complimentary copies are sent by post to the recipients. "Lélegzet" is available in numerous Hungarian educational institutions and libraries. Regular readers of the magazine include journalists, environmental protection professionals, regional and urban development specialists, ministry officials, politicians, members of civil movements and in general a large number of environmentally-conscious citizens. Interested readers may also find the magazine's articles on the Internet, or may get a copy at events where Clean Air Action Group appears (e.g. conferences, festivals and fairs).

Public relations, relations with non-government organizations, celebration of Noted Days

We put a lot of work into improving the cooperation between non-government organizations and ensuring better interest enforcement by civil groups. We organized environment protection lectures and programmes, operated information stands at various events of Noted Days and represented environmental protection principles and criteria at various meetings and vis-à-vis government and non-government organizations. We provided support for our member organizations and other environmental NGOs through information supply, office services and organization of joint programmes.

Project leader: Ágnes Hajtman

- We participated in the College of Nationwide Organizations of the National Civil Fund.
- We built relations with environmental and other NGOs in Transylvania, Romania. We travelled twice to Kolozsvár for that purpose.
- We took part in the 15th National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs in Zalaegerszeg.
- We actively participated in the programmes of the Earth Day (22nd April) and the Flower Exhibition (21st –25th April, Buda Division of the St. Stephen University).

- We were organizers of several events of the European Mobility Week (16th – 22nd September) in Budapest (Opening Day, Day of Living Streets, Budapest Car-Free Day).
- We disseminated and propagated environmental knowledge and information at the following summer youth festivals:
 - Wanted - ZED Festival – Mezőtúr
 - VOLT Festival – Sopron
 - Sziget (Island) Festival – Budapest
- We participated in the “Green Whirling” Environment and Nature Protection Programme Series organized by GATE (Gödöllő University of Agricultural Sciences) Green Club in the St. Stephen University.

In the past 17 years, we have been holding regular open meetings for our member organizations and experts to discuss current environmental problems and to exchange experience. The meetings are held on the second Friday of every month, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Podmaniczky Hall of the Budapest City Protection Society (Budapest VI., Eötvös u. 10.).

Eco-social reform of the state budget

In line with the initiatives and recommendations of the European Union and the OECD, we advocate the establishment of a regulated eco-social market economy where the costs of activities using natural resources wastefully and posing danger to the environment are fully charged to those performing such activities. We urge that the financial resources saved this way should be spent on reducing the tax burden imposed on wages, on promoting innovation and creativity, on developing human resources and on improving the environment.

Project leaders: András Lukács, Lázár Pavics and Zoltán Szabó

- Just like every year since 1992, we prepared our proposals for the following year’s state budget and tax laws. We elaborated separate positions for some specific subjects and forwarded those position papers to Members of the Hungarian Parliament and to the Ministries.
- Together with Danish, Austrian and Eastern Central European organizations, we took part in the editing of the Green Budget News electronic newsletter of Green Budget Germany (FÖS, www.foes.de). Up to now, 14 issues have been published.
- In February 2005, in Luxembourg we participated in the EEB Conference and Campaign Meeting in relation to environmentally harmful subsidies.
- In March 2005, we forwarded our proposals to the Hungarian Tax Reform Committee: <http://www.levego.hu/kiadvany/allamhaz/adoreformbiz.pdf>
- In March 2005, we wrote a letter to Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány, Minister of Finance Tibor Draskovics and to the Hungarian Parliament’s Budget Committee, in which we called the attention to that any new preferences to be granted to the use of cars may further deteriorate Hungary’s competitiveness and the country’s environment (http://www.levego.hu/kiadvany/allamhaz/szgek-gyurcsany_05.pdf).
- In April 2005, in Zalaegerszeg we delivered a lecture and conducted a section meeting at the National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs.
- In June 2005 in Salzburg, at the Congress of the European Society of Transport Science we delivered a lecture about our study on „Transport Subsidies”.
- In June 2005 in Budapest, in the Hungarian Road Society’s Macadam Club we held a lecture on transport subsidies.
- In July 2005, in Budapest we delivered a lecture in the public forum about the National Development Policy Concept.
- In September 2005, we wrote a letter to Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány about why we think that the plan of reducing fuel taxes is a mistaken concept (http://www.levego.hu/kiadvany/allamhaz/benzinado_gy0913.pdf).
- In September 2005, we elaborated a proposal for the amendment of tax laws for the year 2006, and we forwarded it to the Hungarian Parliament’s Environment Protection Committee.

- In October 2005, in Paris we participated and spoke at the second OECD Seminar on environmentally harmful subsidies (http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/allamhaz/oecd_szeminarium.pdf).
- In October 2005, in Berlin we delivered a lecture at the conference titled „Environmental Tax Reform in the New Member States” (<http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/allamhaz/berlin.pdf>).
- In November 2005, we sent a letter to the Hungarian Parliament's Economic Committee and Environment Protection Committee, in which we pointed out that the railway bill and the state budget bill contradict each other (http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/kozl_alt/vasut_torvjav05.pdf).
- In November 2005, we wrote a letter to Minister of Finance János Veres and requested that the increased rigour of customs controls should be maintained at the Hungarian-Ukrainian border (<http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/allamhaz/ukranmagyar0511.pdf>). We received a favourable response from the Ministry of Finance (<http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/allamhaz/miniszterval0601.pdf>).
- In December 2005, we delivered a lecture on this subject in the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- In December 2005, we wrote a letter to Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsány, in which we pointed out that the modification of the Motorway Act would cause serious damage to Hungary (http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/kozl_alt/gyorsforgmod0512gyur.pdf).
- As the Hungarian partner of the MethodEx European research programme aiming at the quantification of environmental externalities, supported by the European Union's 6th R&D Framework Programme, we participated in the elaboration of a methodology in the sphere of agriculture, waste management and industry.
- We covered the theme in each issue of our monthly “Lélegzet”.
- We published once again our brochure „Green Budget Reform” (http://www.levago.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/levagofuzetek_okoado.pdf).
- In addition, we delivered numerous other lectures on the subject both in Hungary and abroad.

Commitments of the Hungarian Government

Project leader: András Lukács

<http://www.levago.hu/kormanylap.htm>

Upon the initiative of Clean Air Action Group, in February 2002 in Szarvas, the 12th National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs accepted the document titled „Expectations of Environment and Nature Protection NGOs from the Government of the Republic of Hungary between 2002 and 2006 to Ensure Protection of the Environment and Sustainable Development”. In March 2002, Clean Air Action Group sent this document to both candidates for Prime Minister who had a good chance of being elected. Péter Medgyessy invited the representatives of several national and regional environmental organizations for a meeting, where he signed and handed over his environment and nature protection commitments. As a result of the Hungarian parliamentary elections of 2002 he was elected Prime Minister, and these commitments also appeared on the home page of the Ministry of Environment and Water as "The Hungarian Government's environment and nature protection commitments". Since that time, Hungarian environment and nature protection NGOs have been monitoring continuously the implementation of these commitments. In April 2005, once again upon the initiative of Clean Air Action Group, the 15th National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs held in Zalaegerszeg accepted a new document titled „Expectations of Non-Government Organizations from the Government of the Republic of Hungary between 2006 and 2010 to Ensure Sustainable Development”, recommending that before the Hungarian parliamentary elections of 2006 the candidates for Prime Minister and the candidates for Members of the Hungarian Parliament should make commitments accordingly. The National Meeting entrusted András Lukács with the related work of organization and coordination. The National Meeting elected Zoltán Szabó as one of the civil delegates of the National Environment Protection Council. Zoltán Szabó actively participated in the work of commenting on

government materials submitted to the Council and in the elaboration of position statements (main themes: national action programmes, development plans, institutional system, energy, wastes, regional development).

Transport

Our activities were aimed at reducing the detrimental environmental impacts of transport, establishing a more equitable system of bearing burdens in transport, securing that more support is granted to public transport and railway transportation, as well as to bicycle and pedestrian traffic, and that traffic calming measures are introduced to enhance the quality of urban life.

Project leaders: András Lukács and Mária Schnier

- In this field, one of our most important activities was the issue of the M0 motorway and road No. 10. We took steps against the so-called first section of the new road No. 10, which would cost taxpayers HUF 13 billion, but it would not bypass anything and it would not relieve the traffic load of any settlement – rather, it would only aggravate traffic and environmental problems. Its only obvious purpose is to serve the Auchan shopping mall which had located there... At the same time we elaborated specific proposals to alleviate the region's traffic problems and to improve its environment (<http://www.levego.hu/media/10-es/10ut.htm>).
- In cooperation with the NGOs of the affected region, we took steps against the construction of the M0 motorway's northern bridge and its continuation on the Buda side of the Danube, pointing out that it would dump a huge additional traffic load upon Northern Buda and the towns and villages of the Pilis Region. We elaborated a position statement with a view to solving the problem, in which, among others, we recommended that financial resources should rather be spent on the development of the Esztergom railway line and the connected public transport network (http://www.levego.hu/kiadvany/kozl_bp/m0_eszakbuda_allasfogl0603.pdf).
- We supported the NGOs of Árpádföld and Csömör in their fight to ensure that the M0 motorway's eastern section is constructed along a more reasonable track line (along the track line of the so-called Gödöllő connection).
- A significant part of our reform proposals submitted to the Ministry of Finance were focused on the transport sector. The Ministry incorporated some of our proposals into the tax laws (see: <http://www.levegzet.hu/archivum/2005/12/3372.hpp>).
- „Intelligence instead of concrete!” – this was the slogan of the international campaign launched by the largest German environmental protection organization, BUND, uniting 300 thousand members. In February 2005, in Budapest a joint conference was organized about this subject by Clean Air Action Group, the National Society of Hungarian Conservationists and BUND. Participants of the conference stressed that taxpayers' funds should not be spent on motorway constructions but rather on the development of human resources (education, healthcare, etc.).
- In 2005, our largest event was the 5th International Conference Towards Carfree Cities, which we organized in Budapest jointly with the World Carfree Network, the Hungarian Traffic Club and Hungarian Young Greens. Renowned foreign lecturers and many foreign non-governmental organizations participated in the conference. We published a book titled “The Secret of Successful Cities” about the lectures delivered in the conference.
- In several forums, we proposed the introduction of road charges for heavy trucks. The Ministry of Environment and Water and the Ministry of Finance accepted our proposal with some modifications and even made this fact public in the press. The Deputy State Secretary of the Ministry of Economy and Transport wrote a letter to inform us that in 2006 it may become possible to introduce the road charge. Although this did not materialize, we have been informed that in 2007 the road charge may be introduced.
- We won substantial funds (HUF 46 million) from Oak Foundation (www.oakfnd.org) for the purpose of implementing a two-year nationwide campaign focusing on freight transportation. Our primary aim is to achieve that the operators of heavy trucks pay all the costs they cause, and that the state spends a large part of the revenues so generated on enhancing railway freight transportation. The campaign's preparatory work was completed in the last months of 2005 so

that at the beginning of 2006 the actual implementation can be launched (see:

www.levego.hu/kamionstop).

- We have registered as clients with the National Chief Inspectorate of Environment and Water in connection with the environmental impact assessments of all planned expressways.
- On a continuous basis, we contributed to the National Development Plan's preparatory work in relation to transport; we regularly commented on pertinent materials and participated in the activities of various work committees. In each case we urged that the transport-related parts of the above-mentioned documents should comply with the criteria of sustainable development.
- Concerning transport issues, each week on the average several reports originating from Clean Air Action Group appeared in the written and electronic press.
- In several forums we urged that Budapest Public Transport Company's situation should be improved. Among other steps, we wrote a letter to the Budapest Municipality to protest against planned cuts in the frequency of public transport services (http://www.levego.hu/kiadvanyok_allasfoglalasok/?catID=10&docID=0489&mode=frames).
- We also demanded the soonest possible establishment of the Budapest Transport Association, a common organization of the 3 public transport companies operating in Budapest and its surroundings. (The first step toward its establishment was implemented in the summer.) By using funds that we won in a competition, jointly with the "Pro Regio" Regional Development Agency we prepared the map and related materials of the Budapest Transport Association.
- Together with our member organizations affected by the issue, we took steps to ensure that the western terminus of Budapest's Metro 4 be designed in a more reasonable and environmentally-friendly manner (http://www.levego.hu/kiadvany/kozl_bp/ormezoi_alairas.pdf).
- We were one of the main organizers of the European Mobility Week's programmes in Budapest.
- We participated in the initiatives related to the modification of Budapest's car parking regulation (http://www.levego.hu/kiadvanyok_allasfoglalasok/?catID=10&docID=0489&mode=frames).
- We commented on the bicycle road construction plans of Budapest, and took part in various interest enforcement activities to promote bicycle roads.

Protection of the built environment and green areas in the Budapest Agglomeration

We participated in conciliatory discussions, elaborated opinions and organized civil and professional forums in order to ensure that the conflicts emerging in the towns and villages of the Budapest Agglomeration are handled in an environmentally-oriented manner.

Project leader: Mária Schnier

- Budapest Municipality and some district municipalities (Districts I, II, XI, XIII, XIV and XV), as well as local governments of the Budapest Agglomeration (Budakalász, Budakeszi, Üröm) regularly sent their settlement development plans and the modifications thereof to Clean Air Action Group requesting that we provide our comments on the documents. We participated in the commenting procedure of the development plans, and in the licensing processes, of certain major projects upon the initiative of citizens. The Budapest Metropolitan Chief Architect's Office made Clean Air Action Group involved in the conciliatory discussions of the re-zoning requests of Budapest's districts. In 2005, we commented on 77 development plans and submitted our remarks to the Middle-Danube-Valley Environment Protection Inspectorate in connection with four major environmental impact assessments. From among the great number of issues we are going to mention only the most important ones below. (Upon request we can send the entire list.)
- We commented on each work phase of the elaboration of the District Development Plan covering the entire area of Budapest's District XII. Since then, we have kept in contact with the District Environmental Protection and Chief Architect's Office concerning the protection of green areas.
- We came across the reconstruction plans for the neighbourhood of the Metro and bus terminus (KÖKI) in District XIX in the frame zone reclassification conciliatory procedure con-

ducted by the Budapest Metropolitan Chief Architect's Office. In cooperation with local inhabitants, we managed to prevent the re-zoning in August; however, it was after all approved by the Budapest Metropolitan General Assembly at the end of December. Thus, even though the shopping mall will be constructed here, but as a result of our further continued intervention, the actual size of the facility will probably be smaller than originally planned.

- As matters stand now, it seems that we managed to prevent the re-zoning of a 17-hectare area next to the garden-town of Budapest's Kispest District (the re-zoning would have allowed an even higher building-up rate).
- We focus on the criteria of a proportionate, liveable and well-functioning city structure, when, by using our professional arguments, we take steps against area intensification intentions forced by some investors. We submitted our comments to the Middle-Danube-Valley Environment Protection, Nature Protection and Water Management Inspectorate concerning the preliminary environmental assessment of the ill-famed 700-flat „Zugló Green Town”, i.e. the condominiums to be constructed on the site located at Miskolci út 157-159 in Budapest's District XIV.
- In the field of the protection of green areas, we also consider it important to protect the green areas of housing estates which had been built earlier. The best opportunity to carry out this task is once again offered by the conciliatory procedure of the settlement development plans, by cooperating with local governments and designers at a professional level. In 2005, we successfully ensured the protection of the green areas of an earlier built housing estate in the District Development Plan covering the area bordered by Bogdánfy Street – Budafoki Road – Irinyi Road in Budapest's District XI.
- In cooperation with the Hungarian Traffic Club, we put a lot of effort into making more humane the plans covering the former Lágymányos Industrial Estate, as well as the Lágymányos Bay and its neighbourhood; and we also worked to promote the establishment of fixed-line public transport on the area concerned.
- We took steps against the construction of the Auchan shopping mall in Solymár, which, in our view, was contrary to law.
- We advocated the preservation of the architectural values of Budapest's Jewish Quarter (Save the Jewish Quarter of Budapest: <http://www.levago.hu/english/stjqb.pdf>), and we supported the endeavours of the young squatters (<http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/telepules/foglalthaz.pdf>).
- With respect to the irregularities concerning Malom Center in Kecskemét, together with several NGOs we wrote a letter to the Hungarian Parliament, requesting an investigation into the matter and the amendment of relevant legal regulations (http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/hirek/malom_nyiltlevel.pdf).
- We took measures with a view to preserving the sports fields which still exist in Budapest (<http://www.levago.hu/kiadvany/zoldterulet/sportpalyak05V.pdf>).
- We commented on the draft version of the government decree on the uniform licensing procedure for the use of the environment and environmental impact assessments.

Regional development

We made efforts to contribute to curbing urban sprawl, preserving the healthy proportion of rural and urban population, and finding the right answers to global climate change. Our activities were primarily aimed at establishing an appropriate fiscal and legal environment, influencing decision-makers and raising public awareness.

Project leader: Erzsébet Beliczay

- We continued our work of providing information for decision-makers with a view to amending the Act on Local Governments and the rules of procedure connected to regional planning.
- To moderate the impacts of global climate change, we urged that urban climatology assessments should be incorporated into the applicable regulations.

- We advocated the establishment of an infrastructure, suited to improve Hungary's competitive position, which is in line with local endowments and the Hungarian society's financing capability, and we urged the better maintenance of the country's existing technical assets.
- In the Mecsek Hills, we participated in the summer conference of the "For a Green Valley" non-government organization, as well as in the public forums concerning the planned STRABAG cement factory.
- In Gödöllő, we delivered three lectures on the external costs of specific types of land use, on regional development and on climate protection in the conference organized by GATE (Gödöllő University of Agricultural Sciences) Green Club.
- We commented on the draft version of the National Territorial Development Concept.

Climate protection

Clean Air Action Group's activities were focused on emission reduction, energy saving and energy efficiency enhancement, as well as on strengthening the energy-saving attitude of citizens and businesses. We called the attention of the general public and representatives of various special fields to possible answers to this problem and to methods of attenuating its harmful impacts.

Project leaders: Erzsébet Beliczay and Zoltán Szabó

- We attended meetings of the Energy Interest Representation Council and participated in events of the National VAHAVA (Change–Impact–Answer) Climate Protection Programme.
- In professional events and in articles published in our monthly "Lélegzet", we advocated climate and environment protection criteria.
- In the Wuppertal Institute's study on climate protection, Zoltán Szabó worked as Eastern Europe's volunteer expert (upon the request of WWF Europe).
- We participated in the climate protection campaign of Climate Action Network Europe (CAN-Europe), which enables us to receive information from Brussels practically without any delay.
- We delivered lectures on three occasions in Hungarian conferences on energy issues, and in Pécs in the international conference on climate change.
- The National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs elected Zoltán Szabó as the civil delegate of the Inter-Departmental Committee of Kyoto Mechanisms. In the Committee, he actively advocated the criteria of environment protection – primarily in relation to emission rights trading, joint implementation and the National Allocation Plan.

National Development Plan

Project leaders: Erzsébet Beliczay, András Lukács, Zoltán Szabó

- Based on the social and environmental criteria of sustainability, we commented on the programmes now under preparation for the period 2007–2020.
- Many of our observations were incorporated into the National Development Policy Concept (http://www.levego.hu/kiadvany/nft/nfh_halm.pdf).
- The National Meeting and the Conciliatory Forum of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs delegated several Clean Air Action Group associates into various work committees of the National Development Plan:

Erzsébet Beliczay – Environment Protection and Infrastructure Operative Programme (KIOP, 2003-2006)

Ágnes Hajtman – EQUAL (equality of chances)

András Lukács – transport (NFT 2)

Zoltán Szabó – economy (NFT 2)

Chemical safety, chemicals policy, REACH

Project leaders: Gergely Simon and János Pál

- Even in the finishing phase, we very actively participated in forming the European Union's new regulation on chemicals (REACH). We conducted our campaign together with the National So-

ciety of Hungarian Conservationists, and closely cooperated with Fauna Society, Greenpeace, the National Association of Hungarian Large Families and WWF.

- We participated in the Hungarian inter-departmental work committee dealing with the issue.
- In March, we assisted the Hungarian Parliament's Environment Protection Committee in the preparatory work of organizing the REACH discussion. Jointly with our partner organizations (National Society of Hungarian Conservationists, Greenpeace, WWF), we organized a press conference combined with an exhibition in the Office Building of Members of the Hungarian Parliament about REACH, and after the press conference we delivered a lecture to the Green Sections of the Hungarian Socialist Party (MSZP) and the League of Young Democrats (FI-DESZ).
- We conducted a section meeting at the National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs.
- In October, we took part in the industrial round-table discussions organized by the National Society of Hungarian Conservationists about this issue in the Richter Pharmaceutical Factory.
- We compiled amendment proposals for the Hungarian Members of the European Parliament. We lobbied with Members of the European Parliament, and we informed the press about the results of the voting.
- As part of a joint project with the National Society of Hungarian Conservationists, we participated in nationwide action weeks aiming at raising public awareness; for this purpose, publications, posters and picture postcards had been prepared: we held events in 7 cities throughout Hungary.
- We delivered lectures in the three-day training of "Ökotárs" Foundation on chemicals and contaminations.
- We took an active part in the European Environmental Bureau's task force dealing with chemicals and in the meetings of the task force.
- We contributed to the chemicals-related work of the European Public Health Alliance – European Environmental Network (EPHA).
- In October 2005 in Brussels, we participated in the EEB conference titled „REACH-countdown”.
- In Brussels, we took part in the joint seminar of EPHA and EEB dealing with the subject of mercury.

Air quality protection

Our work focused on promoting the introduction of stricter air quality regulations and on facilitating the enforcement of statutes and regulations. Our awareness-raising press campaign about the high concentration of carcinogenic fine particles (PM10) met with especially widespread public interest all over Hungary.

Project leader: Gergely Simon

- Together with other non-governmental organizations, we organized a press conference in Budapest about particle pollution: <http://www.levego.hu/pm10.htm>.
- We issued press releases and wrote articles on the subject. We lobbied at the Budapest Municipality, at the Ministry of Environment and Water and elsewhere for a better regulation.
- We actively participated in the European Environmental Bureau's task force dealing with air quality.

Pesticides, biocides

Project leaders: Gergely Simon and János Pál

- We took steps against using a pesticide (Unitox) containing the „probable human carcinogen” dichlorvos as its active ingredient for mosquito control in urban areas; we formulated recommendations on the issue:
http://www.levego.hu/kiadvanyok_allasfoglalasok/?catID=9&docID=0357

- We conducted a campaign aimed at the general public and decision-makers about insect-repellents and insecticides; we lobbied for imposing restrictions on the insecticides which cause the most harm to human health and the environment:
http://www.levego.hu/kiadvanyok_allasfoglalasok/?catID=10&docID=0379
- In the international pesticide campaign we represent green interests and within that the specific Hungarian interests.
- We wrote and published articles about the proper ways of using pesticides around the home.
- We published a brochure for civil organizations and interested private persons about pesticides.
- We launched a nationwide campaign with a view to ensuring that, similarly to most EU member states, a national programme is started Hungary to cut back on the use of pesticides.
- In 2005, Clean Air Action Group provided the civil delegate into the Pesticide Authorization Conciliatory Council, where we made several proposals concerning the commercial distribution classification of pesticides.
- In November 2005 in Krakow, we delivered a lecture in the annual general meeting of PAN Europe.
- In Hamburg and Brussels, we participated in the meetings of the „Pesticide use reduction” work group of PAN Europe.

Agrarian environment protection

Project leaders: János Pál and Zoltán Szabó

- As the Hungarian partner of the MethodEx European research programme supported by the European Union’s 6th R&D Framework Programme, we prepare case studies with a view to quantifying environmental externalities. We completed the first versions of the following case studies in the sphere of agriculture:
 - Presentation of the environmental and healthcare costs of intensive and extensive pig-farms
 - Presentation of the environmental and healthcare costs of intensive and extensive cattle-farms (meat and milk production)
 - Presentation of the environmental and healthcare costs of intensive and extensive plant cultivation
 - Impacts of the agricultural use of soils

Standardization

Responsible leader: Erzsébet Beliczay

As from December 2005, Clean Air Action Group is member of the European Environmental Citizens Organization for Standardization (ECOS). The Brussels-based international umbrella organization's activities aim at promoting a standardization which takes into consideration the criteria of environmental protection. At present, this process is advancing rather sluggishly even in the European Union because of the counter-interested pressure groups and the general lack of information. This field of activity in itself would give enough tasks for an entire work group in Hungary as well. In the beginning, we expect enhanced awareness and a better flow of information as the main benefits from our membership in the organization. At first we are going to use our limited capacities for matters related to building and construction (energy saving, harmful chemicals, etc.).

Environmental conflicts brought to law

Lawsuits at various courts

- Our action commenced in the public administration lawsuit initiated for the protection of the most important drinking water base of the Budapest Agglomeration, as well as the natural values and the settlements of the Szentendrei Island, the Buda Hills and the Pilis Hills was dismissed by the Budapest Metropolitan Court, and thereafter also by the Supreme Court. According to the reasons given for the decisions, at the time of commencing the licensing procedure,

in 1994 (!), the current Environmental Protection Act, the government decree on environmental impact assessments and certain water management regulations were not yet in force. From this we concluded that under the rules of law currently in force the construction is not permissible. We filed a petition to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg against the decision of the Supreme Court of Hungary. In 2005, five environmental organizations – Clean Air Action Group, the Society of Environmentalists of Solymár, the "SOS for Békásmegyer" Society, the "Better M-nUII" Environment Protection Association of Citizens of Üröm and Pilisborosjenő, as well as Védegylet (Protect the Future) – jointly instituted a new (this time civil) action, requesting the court to prohibit the motorway builders from endangering the above-mentioned values.

- In December 2005, the Budapest Metropolitan Court with its final judgment annulled the environmental permit of the first section of road No. 10, and directed the competent authority to conduct a new procedure. The action was instituted by Clean Air Action Group with the consent of the environmental NGOs of the affected region, i.e. the Society for Piliscsaba, the Environmentalists and Friends of Nature Association of Pilisvörösvár, the Society of Environmentalists of Solymár, the "SOS for Békásmegyer" Society and the "Better M-nUII" Environment Protection Association of Citizens of Üröm and Pilisborosjenő. Clean Air Action Group had already earlier stressed that the construction of the road section in question would pointlessly cost taxpayers HUF 13 billion, for the road would not solve any traffic or environmental problems – it would only serve a large shopping mall.
- Clean Air Action Group, ETKE (Interest Protection Society of Communities and Representatives of Condominiums in Budapest's Erzsébetváros District) and LAKSZ (Alliance of Residential Community Organizations) brought an action against Gábor Demszky, Mayor of Budapest, requesting the court to obligate Gábor Demszky to publish a qualifying statement and to pay damages on account of his statements made in connection with the Hungarian capital's 4th Metro line.
- Auchan, the French shopping mall company, brought a suit against the President of Clean Air Action Group for his article titled „The Miracles of Auchan”, published in the Hungarian national daily "Népszabadság" (see: <http://www.nol.hu/cikk/362065/>).

Appeals

- We appealed against the environmental permit of the Auchan shopping mall of Solymár. Our appeal was dismissed by the competent environmental protection authority under very strange circumstances.
- We lodged an appeal with the public administration office because the Municipality of Solymár rejected our registration as clients into the procedure of putting into use the Auchan shopping mall.
- We lodged an appeal with the Budapest Metropolitan Public Administration Office against the building permit granted for the reconstruction works planned in phase III for the "Sugár" shopping mall in Örs vezér Square in Budapest's District XIV.
- We lodged an appeal with the National Chief Inspectorate of Environment Protection, Nature Protection and Water Management against the environmental permit granted in the first instance for the FACTORY OUTLET commercial centre and industrial park intended to be established on the area bordered by Galvani Road – Szerémi Road – Kondorosi Road in Budapest's District XI.

Aarhus Committee

On 1st January 2004, the Hungarian Motorway Act entered into force with the aim of accelerating the construction of expressways and simplifying the licensing procedure. At the same time, the new law considerably restricted the possibilities of public participation and legal remedies; therefore, Clean Air Action Group appealed to the UN ECE Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and to the Constitutional Court of Hungary. For that reason, Hungary was reproached by the states parties to the convention in their meeting held in 2005 in Kazakhstan (<http://www.lelegzet.hu/archivum/2005/07/3293.hpp>).

Studies and other publications

Studies

- *Beliczay, Erzsébet*: Challenges of Global and Local Climate Protection in Urban Environments
- *Lukács, András – Pavics, Lázár*: Transport Subsidies – Transport-Related State Revenues and Expenditures: http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/kozl_tam.pdf
- *Lukács, András – Pavics, Lázár*: Proposals for the Amendment of Tax Laws
- *Pavics, Lázár*: Energy Subsidies
- *Szabó, Zoltán*: The External Costs of Traditional Electricity Generation in Hungary

Other publications

- *Dragos, Tibor – Simon, Gergely*: It Remains in the Family. Clean Air Action Group, National Society of Hungarian Conservationists: http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/kepek/csalad_k.jpg
- *Dragos, Tibor – Simon, Gergely*: Dangerous Marriage. Clean Air Action Group, National Society of Hungarian Conservationists, WWF: <http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/hazassag.htm>
- *Madarassy, Judit*: The Secret of Successful Cities (Selection from the lectures of the 5th International Conference "Towards Carfree Cities). Clean Air Action Group, Hungarian Traffic Club
- *Pál, János*: It Is Not Enough to Let Fresh Air In! – Indoor Air Pollution. Clean Air Action Group, "Lélegzet" Foundation: <http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/legszenyeztes2.htm>
- *Pál, János – Simon, Gergely*: Pesticides – Spraying (Clean Air Booklets). Clean Air Action Group: <http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/novenyvedoszerek.htm>
- *Pál, János – Simon, Gergely*: Chemicals in our Dinner (Clean Air Booklets). Clean Air Action Group: <http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/levego5.htm>
- *Schnier, Mária*: Trees Living Among Us. Clean Air Action Group: <http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/fakszines.pdf>
- *Simon, Gergely (ed.)*: Chemicals, REACH and the New Member States. Clean Air Action Group, National Society of Hungarian Conservationists, WWF: http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/reach_eu5.htm
- *Simon, Gergely*: Deadly Particles in the Air of Budapest. Clean Air Action Group, "Lélegzet" Foundation: <http://www.levego.hu/konyvtar/olvaso/gyilkospm10.htm>
- *Simon, Gergely*: REACH – In Figures. www.levego.hu/kiadvany/vegianyag/koltseg_factsheet5.pdf

Electronic newsletter

Chemicals newsletter published monthly as from August 2005 (Editors: János Pál and Gergely Simon).

Clean Air Action Group's organizational structure in 2005

GENERAL ASSEMBLY: 134 member organizations				
Board of Experts: 110 persons	BOARD: President 3 Vice Presidents 1 Presidium Member			Board of Supervision: 3 persons
<i>Supporting members</i>	Programme leaders: 7 persons (5 full-time employees, 1 person working on the basis of an assignment contract, and 1 contractor)	Editorial staff of the monthly "Lélegzet": 2 persons	Environmental Advisory Office: 3 persons	Finance group: 2 persons
<i>Volunteers</i>	Civil relations: 1 person			Office management: 2 persons

**Simplified Annual Report of
Clean Air Action Group for the year 2005**

Balance sheet date: 31st December 2005

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

data in thousand HUF

Denomination	Previous year	Year under review
A. Fixed assets	3 236	2 900
I. Intangible assets	131	30
II. Tangible assets	3 105	2 870
III. Investments		
B. Current assets	14 978	63 108
I. Stocks	0	0
II. Receivables	6 301	6 470
III. Securities	0	0
IV. Liquid assets	8 677	56 638
C. Prepaid expenses and accrued income	380	5 186
Total assets	18 594	71 194

LIABILITIES

data in thousand HUF

Denomination	Previous year	Year under review
D. Equity	1 024	20 062
I. Initial capital / Subscribed capital	0	0
II. Changes in capital / Earnings	30 914	1 024
III. Earmarked reserve	0	0
IV. Valuation reserve	0	0
V. Earnings from public benefit activities in the year under review	-31 148	19 038
VI. Profits on business activities in the year under review	1 258	0
E. Provisions		
F. Liabilities	3 186	3 529
I. Subordinated liabilities	0	0
II. Long-term liabilities	0	0
III. Short-term liabilities	3 186	3 529
G. Accrued expenses and deferred income	14 384	47 603
Total liabilities	18 594	71 194

**Simplified Annual Report of
Clean Air Action Group for the year 2005**

Balance sheet date: 31st December 2005

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

data in thousand HUF

Denomination	Previous year	Year under review
A. Total revenues from public benefit activities	32 784	91 951
1. Subsidies received for public benefit operation	3 230	4 505
a) from founder	0	0
b) from the state budget	0	0
c) from local governments	0	0
d) other	3 230	4 505
2. Subsidies won through competitions	21 657	69 187
3. Revenues from public benefit activities	1 734	10 330
4. Revenues from membership fees	3 998	345
5. Other revenues	2 165	7 584
B. Revenues from business activities	5 677	0
C. Total revenues (A+B)	38 461	91 951
D. Expenditures on public benefit activities	63 932	72 913
Material-type expenditures	27 397	35 894
Payments to personnel	27 148	28 312
Depreciation	1 543	3 101
Other expenditures	7 733	5 601
Expenditures on financial transactions	111	5
Extraordinary expenditures	0	0
E. Expenditures on business activities	4 419	0
Material-type expenditures	4 419	0
Payments to personnel	0	0
Depreciation	0	0
Other expenditures	0	0
Expenditures on financial transactions	0	0
Extraordinary expenditures	0	0
F. Total expenditures (D+E)	68 351	72 913
G. Profit on business activities before taxation (B-E)	1 258	0
H. Tax payable	0	0
I. Profit on business activities in the year under review (G-H)	1 258	0
J. Earnings from public benefit activities in the year under review (A-D)	-31 148	19 038

data in thousand HUF

Information data	Previous year	Year under review
A. Payments to personnel	27 148	28 312
1. Payroll	17 645	18 655
out of that: - fees for commissioned work	4 829	1 800
- honorariums		
2. Other payments to personnel	3 647	3 176
3. Social security and other charges on wages	5 856	6 481
B. Subsidies granted by the organization	6 479	3 658
Polish partner participating in the PHARE programme (INE)	4 185	

**Simplified Annual Report of
Clean Air Action Group for the year 2005**

Balance sheet date: 31st December 2005

Budapest University of Technology and Economic Sciences	2 000	
Society for a Ragweed-Free Hungary	280	
AISEC	14	
European Environmental Bureau		3 658

Annual Report of Clean Air Action Group for the year 2005

Itemization of revenues and subsidies received in 2005

data in thousand HUF

Source of revenue	Target	Amount
State budget	Itemization in the table describing support from the state budget	37 357
Local governments	Itemization in the table describing support from the state budget	1 250
Regional Development Council of Central Hungary	Map-format preparatory study for the Budapest Transport Association	1 700
PHARE Networking	Carfree cities conference	1 617
PHARE-Access 2003 Micro	REACH - the new EU chemicals policy	9 877
OAK Foundation	Freight: From roads to rail	38 085
Visegrád Fund	International Conference on Carfree Cities	1 993
Pesticide Action Network Germany	Calling the attention of the general public to pesticide residues	626
Soros Foundation	Long-term sustainability of the organization	4 590
"Ökotárs" Foundation	"Two by Two Is More Than Four" poster exhibition	308
Grants from legal entities		4 400
Grants from private persons		105
1% of personal income tax	In accordance with Act CXXVI of 1996	1 164
Membership fees		348
Studies, publications		8 060
Conference participation fee		1 412
Expert work, counselling		852
Intermediated services		474
Refund by the Labour Centre		4 452
Refund of travel costs		1 164
Bank interests		284
Other revenues		47
Total revenues		120 165

Presentation of the relation between received subsidies and the profit and loss statement

data in thousand HUF

Revenues and subsidies received in 2005	120 165
Use in the year under review of subsidies and deferred/accrued items transferred in the previous year	14 384
Subsidies transferred in the year under review but to be used in the following years	-47 393
Subsidies due time-proportionately for the year under review (but to be transferred in the following year)	4 795
Total	91 951

**Annual Report of
Clean Air Action Group
for the year 2005**

Itemization of costs and expenditures in 2005

data in thousand HUF

Costs and expenditures	Amount
Materials used up within a year	873
Prints and office supplies	611
Overhead costs	128
Telephone	1 444
Internet use	978
Rental charges	5 660
Maintenance costs	250
Advertisements and publicity	1 574
Education and training costs	671
Travel expenses and allowances	2 930
Post	1 203
Experts' fees	5 466
Accounting services	1 463
Printing services	4 256
Books and journals	1 131
Graphics	755
Participation in conferences	147
Costs related to organized events and conferences	805
Other used services (photocopying, translation, data recording, etc.)	4 501
Membership fees	485
Fees and dues to authorities	35
Insurance premiums	15
Banking costs	515
Wages	18 655
Other payments to personnel	3 176
Social security and other charges on wages	6 481
Depreciation	3 101
Interest on overdue payments	125
Travel expenses refunded by other organizations	1 293
Re-transferred subsidies	3 658
Taxes accounted with the state budget	523
Other expenditures	6
Total costs and expenditures	72 913

**Annual Report of
Clean Air Action Group for the year 2005**

Statement of the use of support from the state budget, and of the subsidies received from central budgetary institutions, separate state funds, local governments, associations of local governments, as well as from various agencies and organizations of these entities

data in thousand HUF

Entity granting the subsidy	Amount of the subsidy		Target	Used amount	
	Brought forward from 2004	In the year under review		In the year under review	Brought forward from 2006
State budget					
Environment Protection Fund	1 000		Continuous work of editing the monthly "Lélegzet"	1 000	
Environment Protection Fund	1 000		Better public transport	1 000	
Environment Protection Fund	1 930		Eco-social state budget reform	1 930	
Environment Protection Fund	1 700		Updating the Internet site of the monthly "Lélegzet"	1 700	
Environment Protection Fund		2 700	Operation of the Environmental Advisory Office	2 700	
Environment Protection Fund		3 000	The chemicals are already among us	3 000	
Environment Protection Fund		3 000	Life-long learning in the spirit of sustainability	3 000	
Environment Protection Fund		2 500	Cooperation for a liveable residential environment	2 500	
Environment Protection Fund		2 800	60:40 sustainable settlement development in towns and in the country	2 800	
Environment Protection Fund		3 658	Facilitating the application of the EU environmental policy in Hungary	3 658	
Environment Protection Fund		5 000	With green budget reform for a cleaner environment	5 000	
Environment Protection Fund		750	Campaign against the illegal burning of plastics	249	501
Environment Protection Fund		1 350	Chemicalized world	491	859
Environment Protection Fund		1 170	1.2.1. Environmental Advisory Office	432	738

**Annual Report of
Clean Air Action Group for the year 2005**

Entity granting the subsidy	Amount of the subsidy		Target	Used amount		
	Brought forward from 2004	In the year under review		In the year under review	Brought forward from 2006	Carried forward to 2006
Environment Protection Fund		720	Mobility Week 2005, Living Streets - Green Roads	720		
Environment Protection Fund		190	Earth Day 2005	98	167	92
Environment Protection Fund			Transport and air pollution			
National Civil Fund	1 995		"Let's breathe together" - television spot	1 995		
National Civil Fund	2 300		Settlement climate protection	2 300		
National Civil Fund	4 000		Renewal of the monthly "Lélegzet"	4 000		
National Civil Fund		400	Updating the homepage of the monthly "Lélegzet"...	400		
National Civil Fund		500	"On Common Roads" - Cooperation with organizations in Transylvania, Romania	500		
National Civil Fund		1 200	"Shaking Hands and Being Satisfied with Less?" - facilitating civil cooperation	1 200	204	
National Civil Fund		4 173	Subsidy for operation	4 173	775	
National Civil Fund		1 000	Green budget - Cooperation with organizations in Transylvania, Romania	1 000	170	
National Civil Fund		1 050	Campaign for the enforcement in Budapest of EU directive 1999/30/EC relating to air pollution	906		144
National Civil Fund		1 446	Joining forces for liveable settlement environments in Budapest and its Agglomeration	1 446		
National Civil Fund		250	Subsidy application for committee participation	146		104
Ministry of National Cultural Heritage		500	Publication of the monthly "Lélegzet"	500		
Ministry of Youth, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities			Consumer protection		267	
State budget in total	13 925	37 357		48 845	1 583	2 437
Local governments						

**Annual Report of
Clean Air Action Group for the year 2005**

Entity granting the subsidy	Amount of the subsidy		Target	Used amount		
	Brought forward from 2004	In the year under review		In the year under review	Brought forward from 2006	Carried forward to 2006
Budapest Municipality	400		A publication for schools to assist environmental protection awareness raising - Trees Living Among Us	400		
Budapest Municipality (Environment Protection Fund)		1 000	5th International Conference for Car-Free Cities	1 000		
Budapest Municipality		200	Regulation of urban transport in the EU	117		83
Municipality of Budapest's Lipótváros District		50	Car-Free Day	50		
Local governments in total	400	1 250		1 567	0	83
Total	14 325	38 607		50 413	1 583	2 520

**Annual Report of Clean Air Action Group
for the year 2005**

Statement of the use of assets in 2005

data in thousand HUF

Denomination	Previous year	Year under review
I. Initial capital / Subscribed capital	0	0
II. Changes in capital / Earnings	30 914	1 024
III. Earmarked reserve	0	0
IV. Valuation reserve	0	0
V. Earnings from public benefit activities in the year under review	-31 148	19 038
VI. Profit on business activities in the year under review	1 258	0
Equity	1 024	20 062

data in thousand HUF

Denomination	Previous year	Year under review
Intangible assets	131	30
Tangible assets	3 105	2 870
Fixed assets	3 236	2 900

Statement of earmarked grants in 2005

data in thousand HUF

Denomination	Amount
Amount of re-transferred subsidies	3 658

Statement of benefits granted to leading officers in 2005

data in thousand HUF

Denomination	Wage, fees for commissioned work	Other benefits	Total
President, Vice-Presidents	5 040	208	5 248
Total	5 040	208	5 248

The Annual Report was approved unanimously by the General Assembly of the Clean Air Action Group on April 21, 2006

**Work Plan
of Clean Air Action Group (Hungary)
for the Year 2006**

I. General

1. We will work continuously for the implementation of the goals accepted unanimously by the 15th National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs held in March 2005 in Zalaegerszeg. These goals were formulated in the position statement „Expectations of Non-Governmental Organizations from the Government of the Republic of Hungary between 2006 and 2010 to Ensure Sustainable Development” (see: <http://www.levego.hu/kormany/elvarasok2010.pdf>).
2. We will enhance our educational activities towards the general public, the media and the decision-makers. Within this field it is a priority task to ensure that our monthly electronic newsletter "Lélegzetnyi" ("Breathful") and our quarterly magazine "Lélegzet" („Breath”) assist readers in finding orientation in current environmental issues. Main target groups of the magazine are the media, students of higher education institutions, politicians, middle-level managers of the business sphere, experts specialized in environmental issues and non-governmental organizations.
3. We will continue to hold regular monthly meetings for our member organizations and members of Clean Air Action Group’s Board of Experts.
4. On Tuesdays between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. we will offer the opportunity for representatives of our member organizations and the Board of Experts to meet and exchange experience in our Office. If arranged in advance, such meetings may also be held at other times.
5. We will regularly publish Clean Air Action Group’s Circular for member organizations and members of the Board of Experts.
6. We will significantly increase the number of our members.
7. In the themes related to our scope of activities, we will take part in legislation procedures.
8. We will keep regular contacts with relevant EU institutions.
9. We will maintain continuous relations with officials of the competent ministries and other authorities.
10. We will pay special attention to questions of public health and environmental sanitation, as well as to the environmental quality of Hungarian towns and villages.
11. We will address environmental problems related to sports.
12. We will maintain and operate our Environmental Advisory Office.
13. In order to encourage the exchange of opinions and information, we will organize professional and other events.
14. Directly and through our member organizations, we will keep monitoring the environment protection programmes of local governments, as well as the planning and implementation thereof.
15. At least once a year we will convene the plenary meeting of Clean Air Action Group’s Board of Experts.
16. We will provide professional assistance for the implementation of environmental educational and school programmes.
17. In our Circular, we will give an account of each of our official visits abroad.
18. We will lay great emphasis on organizational development questions.
19. We will renew our homepage, and we will continue to post there our materials of public interest.

II. State budget and taxation system

1. We will continue our professional and educational work in order to make the Hungarian state budget and taxation system more environment-friendly.
2. We will elaborate our alternative state budget proposals for the year 2007.
3. We will continue our work aiming at the preparation of a register, as accurate as possible, listing state subsidies granted to activities causing serious environment pollution and damage to human health. We will participate in the related professional and educational work.
4. We will prepare a new educational brochure on green budget reform.
5. We will continuously monitor the use of funds under the scope of authority of the Ministry of Environment and Water, and we will make recommendations if necessary.
6. We will closely cooperate with Hungarian and foreign organizations and individuals who work for the implementation of the green budget reform.
7. We will continue to participate actively in the campaign of the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) for an environmental fiscal reform.
8. Within the framework of MethodEx, a priority research programme of the EU, we will take part in the assessment of environmental externalities. (This pioneering research programme attempts to elaborate a

methodology in the sectors of industry, agriculture and waste management for the determination of the value of environmental damage, because at present the economic decision-making system is not yet capable of handling such environmental externalities.)

9. We will take part in the editing and distribution of the Green Budget News electronic newsletter published by Green Budget Germany (FÖS).

III. Transport

1. We will organize a campaign aiming to improve and make more environmentally-friendly the transport of Budapest.
2. We will urge a lasting solution to the funding problems of public transport, and we will elaborate proposals to that end.
3. We will urge that the Budapest Transport Association should be established as soon as possible in a true and fully-fledged manner.
4. We will take steps to ensure that the construction of the planned 4th metro line in Budapest is implemented in compliance with the requirements of environmental protection regulations and the conditions stipulated in the project's environmental permit.
5. We will keep on campaigning to promote the soonest possible introduction of Budapest Municipality's new decree on car parking.
6. We will continue our drive to improve railway transport.
7. We will continue our campaign titled "Rails will endure more!" with a view to diverting an increasing part of freight transportation from roads to railways, and we will advocate the wider use of combined freight transportation.
8. When invited, we will participate in forums organized by the Hungarian State Railways Co., and we will speak up for the environmentally-friendly modes of transport.
9. We will continue our educational activities to make the external costs of transport known, and we will urge that these should gradually be built into the prices, with special regard to heavy trucks.
10. We will monitor the activities of the Hungarian Parliament, the Government, local governments and regional development councils in the field of transport; we will express our views and will work out recommendations in questions involving environment protection.
11. We will promote stronger public participation in decisions related to transport. Within that, we will participate in interest reconciliation discussions held with the Ministry of Economy and Transport, and we will urge that the work of the Budapest Transport Forum should be restarted.
12. We will pay greater attention to the protection of green areas, with special regard to flora damage caused by motorized road vehicles and to land occupation by transport.
13. We will continue our activities to facilitate urban traffic calming, and within that especially to promote the introduction of 30 km/h speed limit zones, as well as to improve in general the conditions for pedestrian traffic. We will perform educational work aiming to cut back on the use of cars.
14. We will enhance our cooperation with cycling organizations to ensure better conditions for bicycle traffic.
15. Cooperating internationally, we will make efforts to attain that the development of railways is given preference instead of constructing new motorways in Hungary, and that the funds earmarked for huge road construction projects are rather spent on the efficient operation, maintenance and renovation of the existing transport networks.
16. Also by attracting public attention and through awareness raising, we will strive to restrict the fragmenting and landscape destroying effects of road construction projects, with special regard to road No. 10 and motorway M0. We will monitor plans related to motorway constructions by taking into consideration the environment and health protection viewpoints of the affected population and area. We will initiate and support legal proceedings, if necessary.
17. We will monitor the regional development policies of the Government and local governments, with special attention to the development of transport. We will evaluate the results on a continuous basis, and will forward our comments and suggestions to those concerned.
18. We will advocate the elaboration of transport and environment protection Technical Directives for the planning of shopping malls, petrol stations, underground garages and other establishments attracting a lot of traffic.
19. In both Budapest and other cities, we will actively participate in the organization and arrangement of events of the European Mobility Week and the European Carfree Day.
20. We will urge immediate revision of the concept on the development of regional airports and full abolition of all state support for such purposes.

21. We will promote the substantial reduction of the salting of road surfaces and the application of other methods to prevent slippery road conditions in the winter.
22. We will extend and intensify our international relations, especially with the European Federation for Transport and Environment and its member organizations, as well as with other environmental groups dealing with transport issues.

IV. Regional development; housing and construction

1. We will advocate reforming Hungarian regional planning and building procedures with a view to ensuring a better enforcement of public interests and sustainable development.
2. We will promote the elaboration of a system of economic incentives and regulations contributing to sustainable regional development. We will endorse and propagate the activities of local governments which have put into practice the principles of sustainability. We will assist them in their efforts to raise the funds necessary for that work.
3. We will continue to comment on development plans and other development projects of local governments. We will keep registering our intention to take part in the procedures of commenting on the impact assessments of major investment projects.
4. We will pursue our programme related to the renewal of deteriorated parts of towns and villages, and the revitalization of cities. We will facilitate cooperation between local governments, businesses and local residents. We will support setting up the central funds necessary for the revitalization.
5. We will promote the protection of trees and green areas in and around settlements. We will encourage the creation of new green areas. We will urge the soonest possible approval of the new statute on the protection of trees; in cooperation with the Environmental Management and Law Association (EMLA), we have already elaborated the draft version of the new statute.
6. We will make efforts to enforce environmental considerations in housing policies. We will support the promotion of energy-saving building renovations, as well as the elaboration of a medium-term (6 to 10 years) programme in order to make district heating competitive.
7. We will continue our awareness-raising activities concerning the improvement of urban micro-climates. We will initiate that urban climate assessments be made compulsory in order to ensure better environmental conditions for urbanized areas.
8. We will assist local NGOs and groups of residents in their efforts for a better environment and for aesthetic public places.
9. We will make efforts to enhance the standard of landscape protection and visual culture.
10. We will contribute to improving the sustaining capability of rural areas and to strengthening the second pillar of the agrarian sector.
11. We will take steps to protect drinking water bases, particularly in the area of the Budapest Agglomeration.
12. Vis-à-vis competent ministries, we will use expert arguments to substantiate the importance of protecting Hungary's arable lands and mineral resources. With a view to putting an end to the wasteful management of such resources, we urge that the rate of mining taxes should be increased substantially and the secondary utilization of construction materials obtained from demolition should be supported.
13. For the Hungarian municipal elections, we will prepare our proposals "Recommendations for Budapest".

V. Climate protection and energy policy

1. We will monitor key climate policy developments in the European Union, with special regard to greenhouse gas emission rights trading and energy liberalization.
2. We will continue our professional and educational activities, with a focus on energy saving and the enhancement of energy efficiency. Our main objective is to ensure that energy efficiency improvement be jointly motivated by energy prices and various forms of subsidies.
3. We will endorse the implementation of competitive and environmentally sound heating systems.
4. We will advocate stronger public participation in decisions concerning energy policy. Within that, we will keep playing an active role in the Energy Interest Representation Council.
5. We will encourage the wider use of cogeneration (CHP), the establishment of decentralized energy supply systems and the utilization of renewable energy sources in a manner which contributes to expanding employment and which fits in well with the natural endowments of Hungary.
6. We will monitor major energy policy developments in the European Union, with particular attention to greenhouse gas emission rights trading and energy liberalization.

VI. Air quality protection

1. We will take steps in order to cut down industrial air pollution sources, including power plants and waste incineration works.
2. In our year-round nation-wide campaign we will highlight the problem of transport-related air pollution.
3. We will monitor the European Union's legislation process related to air quality (CAFE), and we will make Hungarian NGOs and decision-makers acquainted with it.
4. We will further develop the www.tiszta.levego.hu homepage.
5. We will advocate solving the problems related to allergenic substances, with special focus on prevention.

VII. Chemical safety – chemicals policy

1. In cooperation with Hungarian (e.g. the National Society of Hungarian Conservationists) and international (e.g. EEB) non-government organizations, we will actively participate in the international campaign related to the European Union's new draft directive on chemicals (REACH) with the aim of ensuring that it is made as stringent from an environmental aspect as possible.
2. We will cooperate with PAN Germany concerning the problem of pesticide residues in foods.
3. We will participate in the Hungarian inter-departmental work committee dealing with the issue.
4. In cooperation with other organizations, we will conduct surveys to assess Hungarian citizens' awareness of dangerous chemical substances.
5. In cooperation with other organizations, we will conduct surveys to assess the pesticide use practice of farmers.
6. We will work to raise public awareness of the need to employ environmentally sound technologies instead of using building materials that pose hazard to both the environment and human health.
7. We will continue with the analysis of the environmental and health impacts of the Hungarian pesticide use and authorization practice.
8. We will participate in the work of the Hungarian Pesticide Authorization Conciliatory Council.
9. We will release a publication about the impacts and correct use of pesticides.
10. We will organize trainings about the sustainable use of pesticides, with special attention to environmental and healthcare considerations.
11. Each month we will publish our chemicals newsletter to supply information to Hungarian citizens.
12. In cooperation with the National Society of Hungarian Conservationists, we will create and maintain a new homepage dealing with the hazards of chemicals (www.vegyszerakcio.hu).
13. We will prepare a consumer protection publication on the dangers posed by everyday chemicals and the possibilities of avoiding such hazards.

VIII. National Development Plan

1. We will actively participate in the preparatory work of the Second National Development Plan, and we will comment on the documents pertaining to the Plan (National Strategic Reference Framework, Operative Programmes, etc.).
2. We will continue with our awareness-raising activities so that Hungary can meet as efficiently as possible the Lisbon Objectives (competitiveness and job creation) and the Göteborg Objectives (sustainable development): we recommend that in the period between 2007 and 2013 the largest possible portion of the projects should serve education, research and development, as well as the revalorization of Hungary's existing values (biodiversity, arable lands, cultural heritage, social cohesion and mobility).
3. We will prepare a study on the current status in Hungary of joint investment projects of the public and private sectors (PPP, Public Private Partnership – shared implementation of community tasks).

IX. Civil cooperation

1. We will improve our cooperation with other Hungarian environment and nature protection organizations, and with other NGOs.
2. We will enhance our cooperation with foreign environment and nature protection NGOs, especially with movements working in the European Union.
3. We will provide support and assistance to our member organizations in their fund-raising efforts and their participation in grant competitions.
4. We will take part in the work of the National Civil Fund.
5. We will play an active role in the 16th National Meeting of Hungarian Environment and Nature Protection NGOs. We will take part in the programmes and the organization of several Noted Day events, with particular focus on the European Mobility Week.
6. We will operate educational stands and deliver lectures at summer youth festivals.

Clean Air Action Group's planned budget for 2006

Revenues

Item	thousand HUF
Remaining on 1st January 2006	47 603
National Civil Fund	16 000
Ministry of Environment and Water (KÖVI)	8 000
Local governments	1 500
Other Hungarian subsidies and grants	11 000
Foreign subsidies	12 000
Membership fees	2 500
Interests earned	300
Revenues from public benefit activities	11 000
Total revenues	109 903

Expenditures

Item	thousand HUF
1. Payments to personnel	30 900
1.1 Payroll	20 200
1.2 Social security and other charges on wages	6 700
1.3 Entertainment costs	2 000
1.4 Other payments to personnel (meal contribution, etc.)	2 000
2. Materials costs	1 800
2.1 Prints and office supplies	1 400
2.2 Materials costs and public utility charges	400
3. Material-type services used	55 260
3.1 Telephone and Internet costs	2 800
3.2 Repair and maintenance	500
3.3 Advertisements and publicity	29 000
3.4 Books and journals	1 200
3.5 Post	1 200
3.6 Rental charges	6 260
3.7 Travel expenses and allowances	3 000
3.8 Printing services	5 000
3.9 Events and conferences	1 400
3.10 Experts' fees	3 900
3.11 Training and education	1 000
4. Costs of other services used	1 050
4.1 Banking costs	660
4.2 Dues to authorities	390
5. Investment	2 470
6. Reserve	18 423
Total expenditures	109 903