

Brussels, 5th of June 2019

Euro Coop Celebrates World Environment Day by Renewing Unwavering Commitment to Environmental Sustainability



Consumer co-operatives operate on an established set of values and principles, among which there is **Principle VII - Concern for Community**. In reality, care for the community means care for the environment in which we all live, work and breathe. On this World Environment Day, the European consumer co-operative movement wants to present its national members' unwavering commitment to protect our one home, the Earth, to the best of their possibilities and demonstrate with facts that environmental sustainability is the **only real way forward** when it comes to responding to the urgent environmental threats we are all facing.

Commenting on this landmark occasion, the Mathias Fiedler – Euro Coop President shared his view: *“Our members work hard every day to make sure that our planet starts enjoying a better health, with particular reference to curb the emergency of air pollution. Future generations will hold us accountable for that and it is our responsibility not to disappoint them.”*

Precisely, from words to facts, please find here below a rich yet not exhaustive list of best practices of what Euro Coop members do every day to specifically act on air pollution in the areas of transport, energy efficiency, organic & green products and general sustainability programmes:



Transportation

✘ S Group Finland Compensates Emissions from Its Business Flights

The compensation was targeted at an **Ethiopian forest planting project** verified by a third party and certified in accordance with the Gold Standard;

✘ Coop Denmark Shifts from Fossil to Solar Energy

Coop Denmark is in the process of **replacing oil and gas power supply** by adding solar energy in the mix with the view of emancipating from fossil energy sources used in-store within the next two years;

✦ Eroski Launches “Lead & Green” Platform for Sustainable Logistics

Eroski is leading a coalition of companies active on sustainable logistics with the objective to make logistics more efficient and environmentally sustainable with a planned **reduction of 20% in CO2 emissions within 5 years**;

✦ UK's The Co-operative Unveils Electric Bike Delivery Service

UK retailer The Co-operative has announced the introduction of a **new delivery service** via electric cargo bikes;

✦ Eroski Boosts the Business of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in the Midst of the Electric Boom

With the revolution of the electric car, electric companies, oil companies, car parks and city councils have begun to advance their positions. And retailers are active operators in this field. Eroski has been in the gas station business for years. With prices below those that any user can find in other service stations, the Basque chain is betting on this business where, in addition, they are considering different options to implement **electric vehicle charging stations** in line with what the sector demands.



Energy Efficiency

✦ Coop Denmark Gets the Country's Largest Certification for Energy Efficiency

Coop Denmark is well on track to achieve its **energy reduction targets** by 2020. In doing so, they will save the electricity consumption of 25,000 households. As a testimony of the commitment to implementing strict energy saving measures, Coop Denmark's chains Irma, Fakta, Kvickly, SuperBrugsen, Dagli'Brugsen and LokalBrugsen have all achieved the international energy **certification ISO 50001**;



✦ HISPACOOP Publishes Study on Energy Efficiency

The publication investigates **in-house energy consumption**, in order to analyse consumers' patterns and habits. Main conclusions include the fact that consumers are generally aware of the tools which allow for a greater in-house energy efficiency but adopt them seldomly and only when this does not imply a significant change in daily habits;

✦ Coop Denmark Sends All Organic Waste to Biogas Production Instead of Incinerating

The whole Coop Denmark network is now involved in the **organic waste collection**, thereby saving 10,000 tons of CO2 annually and heating 5,700 households;

✦ S Group Finland to Finalize Finland's Largest Solar Power Project

The S-Group will become one of Finland's **largest producers and consumers** of solar power. At the end of 2019, solar panels will be found on the roofs of around 40 S Group locations. A total of around 37,000 solar panels will be installed on the roofs of Prisma Stores, S-markets and ABC service stations across Finland.



Organic & Green Products

✦ Coop Sweden Most Sustainable Food Chain, Änglamark Most Sustainable Brand in Sweden

According to the leading Sustainable Brand Index, Änglamark is ranked as Sweden's **most sustainable brand** in food and drink products, while Coop is awarded for the second consecutive year as **the most sustainable food chain**. Coop's sustainability work is part of the company's DNA. Änglamark is no novelty on the store shelves as it is one of the pioneers in ecology and eco-labelling since its launch in 1991. Earlier this year, Änglamark was named Sweden's **greenest brand** for the eighth consecutive year in the ranking of Sweden's greenest brands;



✦ Coop Sweden Focuses on Urban Cultivation in the Store

Coop Sweden has started a collaboration with the Swedish foodtech start-up Grönska, which will grow fresh herbs and leaf plants directly **in Coop food stores**. Together with Coop, they are now exploring the future of sustainable food production and opportunities to **grow in-store** without unnecessary transport;

✦ Coop Netherlands to Introduce PlanetProof Label to Sustainable Dairy Products;

✦ S Group's S-Market and Sokos Hotels Awarded as Finland's Most Sustainable Chains

According to the leading Sustainable Brand Index, S-Market is ranked as Finland's **most sustainable grocery store chain** and Sokos Hotels the **most sustainable hotel chain**.



Lead on Sustainability Across the Board

✦ S-Group Finland Releases the Released Full-Fledged Circular Economy Strategy: "The Best Place To Live In"; Coop Italy's "Coop Knowledge" ("Sapere Coop")

Coop Italy runs since more than **40 years now** the programme "Coop Knowledge" ("Sapere Coop"), which develops educational materials for schools, employees and consumer-members aimed at **raising awareness** among the broader citizenship about healthy and environmentally sustainable lifestyles;



✦ Coop Italy's Programme "Coop: Together Towards A Sustainable Future"

The initiative aims at carefully choosing and continually rewarding environmentally-sound suppliers.



Energy Co-operatives Active on Renewables

✦ Greenpeace Energy Co-operative (Germany)

Member of the Zentralverband deutscher Konsumgenossenschaften (ZdK) in Germany, this **utility co-operative** was set up in 1999 by Greenpeace Germany but it is independent from the activist group that bears its name. Counting now 24,000 members and 130,000 customers, it produces **100% of its electricity** from wind and water power;

✦ Enercoop Spain

Member of HISPACOOOP, the energy produced by this co-operative is **100% clean**. Founded **back in 1925** under the name of "Cooperativa Eléctrica San Francisco de Asís", it has always put at the centre of its mission the benefit of members and society, as a whole.

✦ MidCounties Co-operative's "Coop Energy"

The **only co-operative supplier** in the British market, Coop Energy provides its customers with **100% renewable electricity** on all tariffs as standard and at no extra cost.



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