**International civil society organization: Greenpeace**

In 1971, motivated by their vision of a green and peaceful world, a small team of activists set sail from Vancouver, Canada, in an old fishing boat. These activists, the founders of Greenpeace, believed a few individuals could make a difference. Their mission was to "bear witness" to US underground nuclear testing at Amchitka, a tiny island off the West Coast of Alaska, which is one of the world's most earthquake-prone regions. Amchitka was the last refuge for 3000 endangered sea otters, and home to bald eagles, peregrine falcons and other wildlife. Even though their old boat, the Phyllis Cormack, (later renamed Greenpeace) was intercepted before it got to Amchitka, the journey sparked a flurry of public interest. The US still detonated the bomb, but the voice of reason had been heard. Nuclear testing on Amchitka ended that same year, and the island was later declared a bird sanctuary.

Unlike the Sierra Club or Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace was not founded at a single moment by a single articulated vision. Greenpeace evolved from an ad hoc citizen's group, the 'Don't Make a Wave Committee'. Eventually, several statements of purpose merged in to a simple idea.

1972 - After the first campaign, journalists Hunter and Ben Metcalf thought that 'Greenpeace' made for a better name than 'Don't Make a Wave Committee', so in May 1972 the organisation changed its name to 'The Greenpeace Foundation'. Today, Greenpeace is an international organisation that prioritises global environmental campaigns.

**CORE VALUES**

* We 'bear witness' to environmental destruction in a peaceful, non-violent manner;
* We use non-violent confrontation to raise the level and quality of public debate;
* In exposing threats to the environment and finding solutions we have no permanent allies or adversaries;
* We ensure our financial independence from political or commercial interests;
* We seek solutions for, and promote open, informed debate about society's environmental choices.

Based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, Greenpeace has 2.8 million supporters worldwide, and national as well as regional offices in 41 countries.

VIEW ON NUCLEAR POWER - From the dawn of the nuclear age, it has been recognized that nuclear power and nuclear weapons are inextricably linked. The spread of nuclear technology and ultimately nuclear weapons undermines our national security and the security of the planet. Add to that the very real risks of nuclear meltdown. If a meltdown were to occur the accident could kill and injure tens of thousands of people, leaving large regions uninhabitable. After the events of September 11th, the risk of a nuclear reactor meltdown must encompass not only the potential for an accident but also the very real possibility of sabotage. And if all that weren't enough, more than 50 years after splitting the first atom, science has yet to devise a method for adequately handling long lived radioactive wastes.

**SUCCESSES**

May 2010: Over 25 years of Greenpeace efforts to expose and oppose nuclear waste shipments from France to Russia end in victory when Russia puts an end to the practice. The illegality of the shipments was confirmed when French officials admitted that the stated intention to reprocess and return the fuel was false. Attention to the shipments was sparked in 1984 when Greenpeace revealed that the shipping vessel Mont Louis, which sank in the North Sea, was carrying Uranium Hexaflouride.

May 2010: Plans for a third runway at Heathrow airport are axed by the UK government. Greenpeace opposed the plan because it ran contrary to efforts to reduce carbon emissions in the UK, and co-purchased, with 91,000 supporters, a plot of land that would have made the runway impossible to build.

October 2009: Apple clears the last hurdle to removing toxic PVC plastic in its new Macbook and iMac, capping the "Green my Apple" campaign with a win and making Apple products safer, easier to recycle and causing less pollution at the end of their life

August 2003:The Deni, indigenous peoples of the Amazon, celebrate the end of an 18-year campaign to mark their land as protected from logging. 13 Greenpeace volunteers, including a member of the cyberactivist community, used GPS technology and a helicopter for a month to create an "eco-corridor" around 3.6 million hectares of land.

2000: Turkey's plans to build its first nuclear reactors at Akkuyu as part of a larger project to construct 10 reactors by the year 2020, is finally cancelled in July after eight years of campaigning by Greenpeace and others. The only remaining market for all major western nuclear companies is China.

1995: Greenpeace actions to stop French nuclear testing receive wide international attention. Over seven million people sign petitions calling for a stop to testing. France, UK, US, Russia and China commit to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

1994: Greenpeace actions exposing toxic waste trade from Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to non-OECD countries culminate in government negotiation of the Basel Convention banning this practice.

1983: The Parties to the London Dumping Convention call for a moratorium on radioactive waste dumping at sea. As a result of Greenpeace's repeated actions against ocean dumping, this is the first year since the end of the second world war where officially no radioactive wastes are dumped at sea.

1982: EC bans import of seal pup skins in response to public criticism triggered by Greenpeace actions in Canada.

1972: After the first Greenpeace action in 1971, the US abandons nuclear testing grounds at Amchitka Island, Alaska.