# GRID

### Arendal
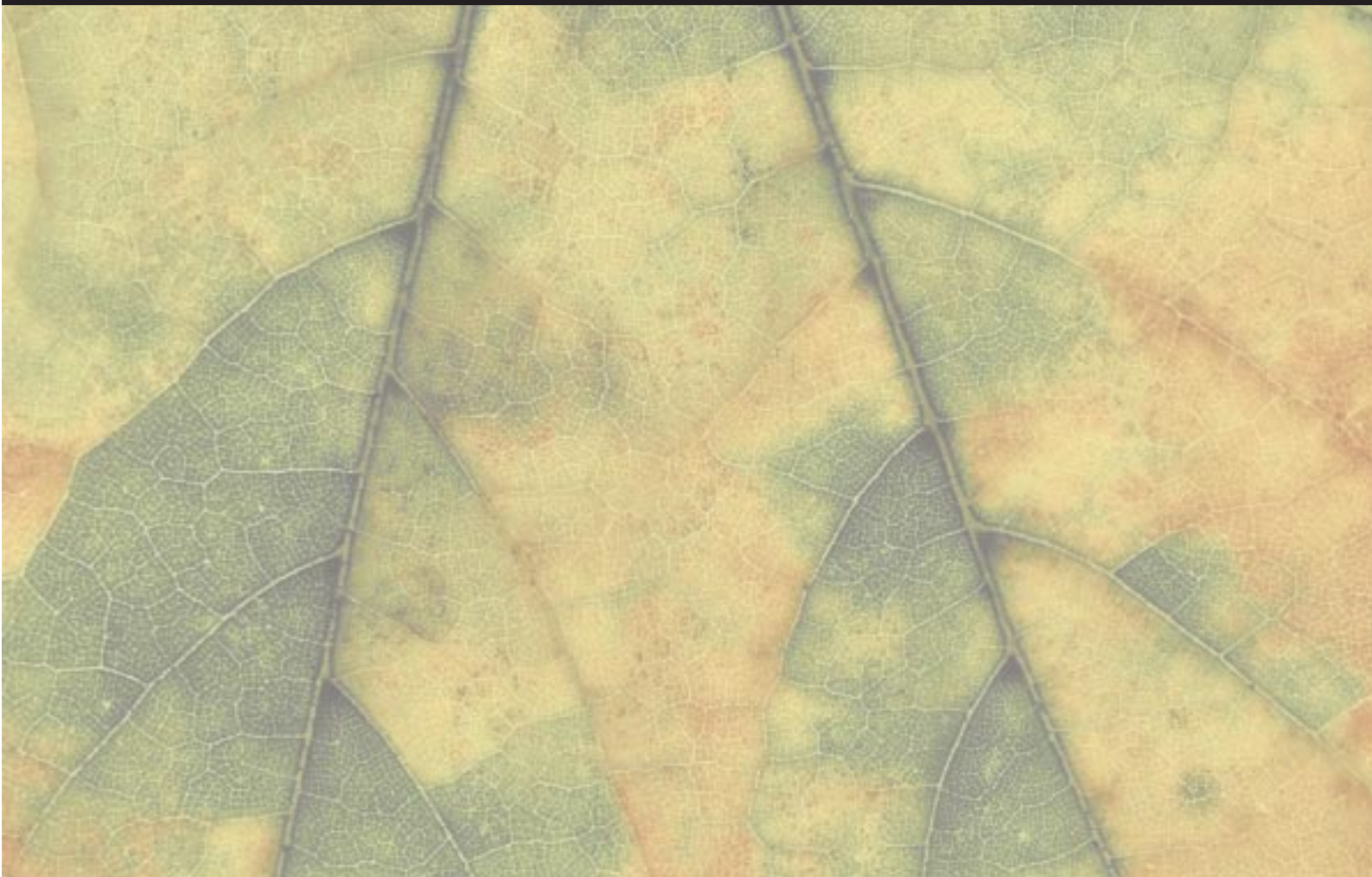
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
COMMUNICATIONS
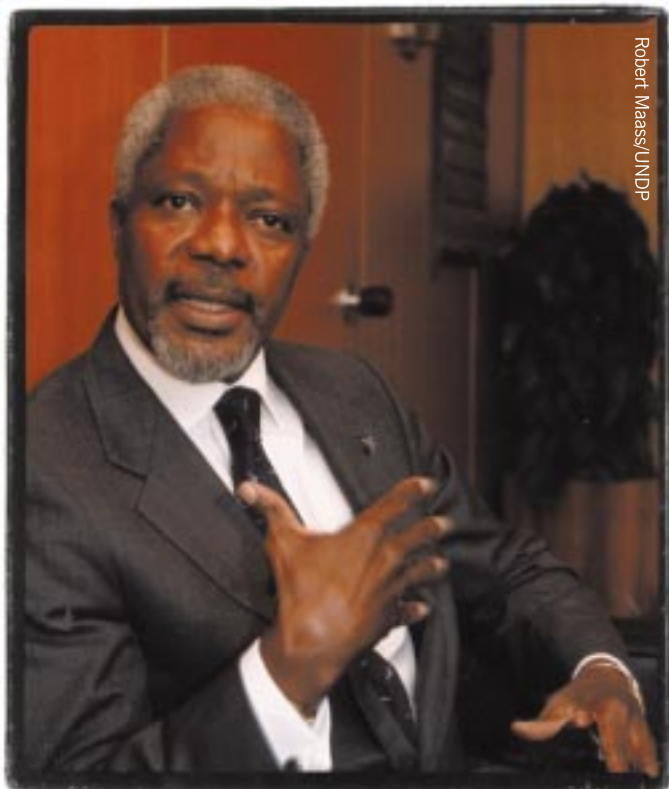CAPACITY BUILDING

# GRID-Arendal Annual Report 1999

www.grida.no

# Greeting from **UN Secretary-General**

GRID-Arendal has provided UNEP and the entire UN family with reliable and up-to-date information that has been extremely useful in shaping environmental policy and in raising awareness about environmental challenges. I would like to congratulate all those whose dedication and expertise have played a role in creating and maintaining the Global Resource Information Database. I would also like to thank the Government of Norway for its visionary thinking and support. The foundation shows how a non-profit organization, with strong Government backing, can make an effective contribution to the UN system. Such partnerships will be crucial if we are to ensure the health of our planet into the next millennium.
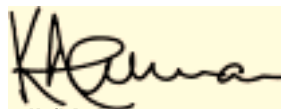
When the Government of Norway established GRID-Arendal in 1989, it inaugurated a new and innovative model for supporting the vital work of the United Nations Environment Programme. For the first time, the international community had at its disposal a foundation fully dedicated to strenghtening UNEP and the UN system in the field of environmental information.

**UNITED NATIONS**     **NATIONS UNIES**

Kofi A. Annan
Secretary-General
UN

# Annual **Highlights**

Ten years ago, a novel and innovative idea was tested when GRID-Arendal was established. It was the first time a foundation was dedicated to strengthening the United Nations in the field of environmental information. Our main challenge was to help make credible, science-based information easily understandable to decision-makers and the general public.

In all these years we have been continuously asking ourselves and the users of our products and services how well we are translating our founders' ideas into reality.

In 1999 we received several indications that we are progressing in the right direction. In June GRID-Arendal won the Princes' Award for our multimedia CD-ROM on state-of-the-environment reporting.

During our ten-year anniversary in August we were recognised by Mr. Kofi Annan, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for our contributions in shaping environmental policy and in raising awareness about environmental challenges. Furthermore, the high-level attendance at that occasion by both national and international leaders, including Dr. Klaus Töpfer, head of UNEP, and Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, head of WHO, boosted our hopes that we are making noticeable progress towards meeting our long-term goals.

Much more work will be needed before we can say that we have reached our goals. We need to accelerate our support to the United Nations system in providing our users with the best possible products and services. We will continue to work with international organisations, national governments, cities, businesses, research centres, grass-roots and local community institutions, and the general public, in providing the reassurance that their decisions are based on the most dependable and up-to-date environmental information.

Our achievements have been made possible by co-operation with a growing network of partners, donors and users, and, of course, with UNEP. Above all, GRID-Arendal's achievements have been made possible by our talented and dedicated staff.

**Leif E. Christoffersen**
Chairman of the Board

**Svein Tveitdal**
Managing Director

# Report of GRID-Arendal's
# **Board of Directors**



The Board of Directors of GRID-Arendal focused considerable attention on the formulation of an operational strategy for the period up to year 2005, on strengthening the management capacities of the foundation, and on establishing a policy for sponsorships which would safeguard the institutional integrity as a non-profit foundation. The strategy sets forth how GRID-Arendal can provide environmental information, communications, and capacity building services for information management and assessment related to the UN system, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme.

While most of  GRID-Arendal's activities are operated from its headquarters in Arendal, it has also been conducting some activities from office locations in Uppsala, Sweden, from Geneva, Switzerland and from Ottawa, Canada. The Board is fully satisfied that the foundation has a solid management capacity and a sound organizational structure.

The working conditions in the foundation are good. The sick leave in 1999 was 3% of the total working days. There were no injuries to staff in 1999, and there were no significant damages to the equipment of the foundation.

There are regular staff meetings between staff and management where issues concerning the working conditions are discussed. The GRID-Arendal staff participated in a job satisfaction survey in 1998 and 1999. The results from these surveys show that the overall job satisfaction index rose from 67% to 71% during this period. The Board has received confirmation that the staff of GRID-Arendal considers the working conditions to be good.

*March 10, 2000*

**Leif E. Christoffersen**
Chairman of the Board

**Hans Alders**

**Daniel van R. Claasen**

**Øystein Dahle**

**Kari Elisabeth Fagernæs**

Christoffersen    Alders    Claasen    Dahle    Fagernæs    Petersen    P.-Landtman    Rogne    Wramner

Consistent with its overall institutional objective we are pleased to report that the foundation does not conduct activities that damage the environment. It uses environmentally friendly materials whenever possible.

GRID-Arendal conducts activities which traditionally involve extensive international travel. In 1999 special focus was directed on the use of less energy-intensive transportation and on options for reducing travel requirements. As an example, the foundation has installed two video-conferencing studios to help reduce staff travel.

The Board can report that the foundation has a sound financial structure. The project portfolio has been solid throughout 1999 and the cash flow has been good.

The financial result for the year was NoK 1 779 998, compared with NoK 927 274 during the previous year.

It is the Board's view that the annual accounts give a fair view of the foundation's position as of end 1999. As a non-profit foundation its main financial goal is to have an equity level about half of the fixed operational cost. With the financial result achieved this year we note that the above goal has been reached and is now 53%.

The Board has concluded that the result for the year of NoK 1 779 998  will be added to the retained earnings. These earnings will be used solely to support the mission statement and long-term goals of the foundation. The Board concludes that the foundation has a sound basis for continuing operations and for planning further strategy-relevant operational activities over several years into the future.

Hanne Katrine Petersen          Anu Pärnänen-Landtman          Odd Rogne          Per Wramner

# GRID-Arendal

As a specific follow-up to the recommendations of the 1987 World Commission on Environment and Development, the Government of Norway and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) established an environmental information centre in Arendal, Norway. Set up as a foundation under Norwegian legislation, the centre was linked to the world-wide UNEP programme termed Global Resource Information Database and was therefore called a GRID centre. GRID-Arendal was opened by the Norwegian Prime Minister on August 22, 1989.

This new institutional model of a non-profit foundation, supporting international activities within the programme framework of a UN agency, was also considered interesting for potential wider replication.

The Norwegian Ministry of Environment (MoE) appoints the Board of Directors with one member representing UNEP. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNEP and the Government of Norway and the prevailing UNEP Programme of Work define the operational policy context within which UNEP expects GRID-Arendal's support. The MoU provides the basis for the core funding provided annually from MoE to GRID-Arendal.

Norway

**Arendal** in summer                    **Arendal** in winter

## Location

GRID-Arendal is located in the Longum Park Technology Centre in Arendal, a city on the southern coast of Norway. Longum Park houses 22 institutions and firms mainly relating to information technology, with a total of 200 employees.

# Mission Statement
## GRID-Arendal

$$\boxed{G}\boxed{R}\boxed{I}\boxed{D}$$
A r e n d a l

"**GRID-Arendal** provides **environmental information, communications** and
**capacity building** services for **information management** and **assessment.**
Established to **strenghten** the **United Nations** through its **Environment Programme (UNEP),**
**our focus** is to **make credible, science-based knowledge understandable**
to the **public** and to **decision-making** for **sustainable development**."

# Mission Statements
## UNEP, DEIA

UNEP

**UNEP** | United Nations Environment Programme

"to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing and enabling nations and people to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations".

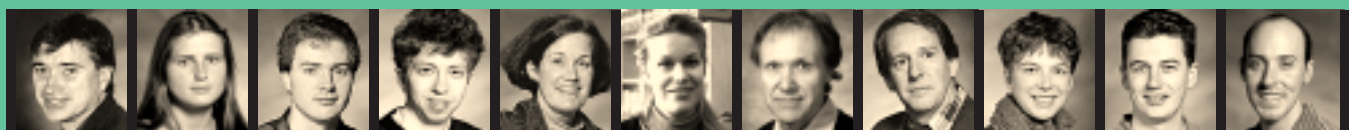**DEIA** | Division for Environmental Information and Assessment and Early Warning

"to keep under review the state of the global environment, assess global and regional environmental trends, and provide early warning information on environmental threats".

# GRID-Arendal **Staff**

| Bjørke | Bournay | Czaran | Denisov | Folgen | Grenasberg | Hägerhäll | Halvorsen | Heberlein | Henry | Hislop |

| Holt | Husby | Høgeli | Karlsen | Kullerud | Langaas | Lien | Lucas | Mugwe | Pedersen | Peter |

| Rekacewicz | Rucevska | Schipper | Sevaldsen | Simonett | Skaalvik | Sørensen | Sævre | Thorsen | Tveitdal | Wasstøl |

**Åke Bjørke** B.Sc. BLL
IIS

**Emmanuelle Bournay** M.Sc.
GVC

**Lorant Czaran** M.Sc.
UIC

**Nickolai Denisov** Ph.D.
Head ERI

**Karen Folgen** B.A.
Secretary to the Managing Director

**Mona Grenasberg** M.Sc.
CEROI Project Support

**Bertil Hägerhall** M.Sc.
Uppsala Office

**Øystein Halvorsen** M.Sc.
UIC

**Claudia Heberlein** M.Sc.
DA

**David Henry** B.A.
Ottawa Office

**Lawrence Hislop** M.A.
Head IIS

**Harald Holt** M.B.A./M.Sc.
Director UIC

**Even Husby** M.Sc.
GVC

**Ingrid Høgeli**
FA

**Torrey B. Karlsen** M.Sc.
UIC

**Lars Kullerud** M.Sc.
Head GVC

**Sindre Langaas** Ph.D.
Stockholm Office

**Wenche Lien**
FA

**Brian Lucas** M.Sc.
IIS

**John Mugwe** M.S.S
UIC

**Vigdis Pedersen**
FA

**Beat Peter** M.Sc.
UIC

**Philippe Rekacewicz** Ph.D.
GVC

**Ieva Rucevska** M.Sc.
ERI

**Emma Lisa Schipper** B.Sc.
DA

**Petter Sevaldsen**
GVC

**Otto Simonett** Ph.D.
Geneva Office

**Janet Fernandez Skaalvik** M.A.
ERI

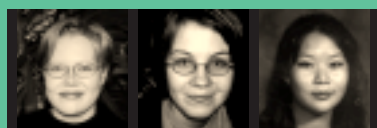**Morten Sørensen** M.Sc.
Head DA

**Rune Sævre** M.Sc.
DA

**Thore-André Thorsen** B.Ah.
Head FA

**Svein Tveitdal** M.Sc.
Managing Director

**Morten Wasstøl** M.Sc.
DA

# **Guest** Trainees

| Korpilaakso | Lappalainen | Woo |

**Marika Korpilaakso**
Student of Environment Management

**Kaarina Lappalainen**
Student of Environment Management

**Angie Woo** B.Sc.
Environment Information Networking
Internship

# A Vision for All

## Whether you are
## aware of it or not,

if you are a **mayor**, a **minister** of the environment, an **indigenous** person from the Arctic, a **citizen** in one of the world's mega-cities, a chief executive **officer** of a business, or a **head** of state,

## you need to have an
## environmental vision.

**This vision** must be built on a keen **understanding** of environmental issues and the **impact** these issues have on your personal objectives and values.

For the **past ten years**, GRID-Arendal has supported the **United Nations Environment Programme** in helping to **provide people with the foundation for these visions.** We have been working with international government organisations, national governments, cities, businesses, research centres, grassroot groups and individuals to help **build** these visions, and to provide the **reassurance** that their decisions are based on the **most up-to-date** and **dependable environmental information.**

**Our work has been both frustrating and inspiring.** The complexity and difficulty in implementing our mission has been compensated by its importance and challenge. **Our impatience is stimulated by positive results** as seen on the next pages.

**ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION**
**COMMUNICATIONS**
**CAPACITY BUILDING**

# Environmental
## Information

To make **sound decisions** requires **accurate** information and confidence that the information source is **reliable.** GRID-Arendal **strives** to make available **credible** and **science-based** environmental information products.

# Communications

To **communicate**, collaborate, and make environmental decisions, you need **access** to information. UNEPnet is a robust **telecommunications** network providing Internet services, video conferencing, voice- and faximile services.

# Capacity
## Building

To **help** peoples and governments **strengthen** their capacities in environmental information **management** and **reporting**, GRID-Arendal designs, creates and implements situation-specific **training** methodology and tools.

miljønytt |1



SoE Turku |2



SoE Arendal |3

## Daily Norwegian environment news

A new web site called 'Miljønytt' was created to supply daily coverage of environmental news in Norway. The web site is updated every weekday and readership is averaging 2 500 people per week. The Norwegian State Railways sponsored the web site.

## Cities Environment Reports on the Internet (CEROI)

With training and instructional support provided by GRID-Arendal's CEROI programme, the Finnish City of Turku and the Norwegian City of Arendal officially launched their city state of the environment reports.

1|www.ext.grida.no/miljonytt
2|www.ceroi.net/reports/turku
3|www.ceroi.net/reports/arendal
4|www.grida.no/baltic
5|www.ee/baltic21

## Enhanced UNEPnet Services in Arendal

To enhance UNEPnet's services in Arendal, UIC has installed a Multi-Conference Unit allowing eight parties to participate in the same conference. This serves UNEP-HQ when speaking to UNEP regional offices and UN-HQ. GRID-Arendal benefits from this system in its communication with its outposted offices in Sweden and Geneva, and other partners worldwide. The system contributes significantly to a reduction in travel costs and improves co-operation. By using the latest ISDN technology over satellite links, the conference studios at UNEP-HQ can automatically dial any ISDN video conference connection in the world through the Arendal Mercure station.



UNEPnet video conference



SoE Norway |1

## The Norwegian State of the Environment Report

GRID-Arendal participated actively in the Norwegian Pollution Control Authority's production group for MISTIN II (State of the Environment Norway on the Internet), and in the preparation of an international version of the report.

|1|www.mistin.dep.no

Baltic Sea Region **GIS, Maps and Statistical Database** | 4

Baltic **Agenda 21** | 5

## Baltic Sea region maps

The 'evergreen' among GRID-Arendal's on-line environmental information sites, the Baltic Sea Region GIS, Maps and Statistical Database, continued to excel as the most popular site in 1999. The web site features spatial information on the transboundary Baltic Sea region. It includes GIS data, maps in various graphic formats, statistical tables and documents. In 1999 all the maps were converted and made available in the Adobe Portable Document Format (pdf), which immediately became the most popular format. In co-operation with the Uppsala University and the Royal Institute of Technology, both in Sweden, a prototype interactive web GIS application was developed based on the GIS data.

## Monitoring Baltic Agenda 21 goals for sustainable development

GRID-Arendal is working with the Baltic 21 secretariat to set up a system for providing data for a core set of indicators to monitor the Baltic Agenda 21 goals for sustainable development in the Baltic Sea region. The indicator set was approved by the Baltic 21 Senior Official Group at a meeting in Berlin in March, and will be presented to environment and sector ministers in June 2000.

Arendal **UNEPnet** dish

## The GRID-Arendal Gateway

GRID-Arendal's importance as a gateway for all types of telecommunications traffic out of UNEP-HQ has increased. Through the link from Nairobi to Arendal, Internet traffic is reliably delivered into the World Wide Web for services such as e-mail, WEB-browsing and file transfer. The Arendal gateway provides UNEP with world-class services, as well as substantially reduced telecommunications costs.

## Northwest Russia and Belarus

The implementation of the first phase of a multi-year project on **"Environment and Sustainable Development Information Management and Reporting for the Northwestern Regions of Russia and Belarus"** started. As part of this, discussions were held between GRID-Arendal and representatives of the Russian State Committee on the Environment. Workshops will be an important part of this process.
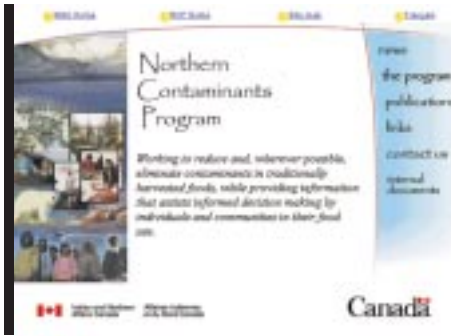
Northern Contaminants Programme |1       AMAP Arctic Pollution Issues |2       ADD |3

## Support to the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP)

GRID-Arendal created a web site for The Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) which is managed by the Canadian Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Their program is working to reduce and, wherever possible, eliminate contaminants in traditionally harvested foods, while providing information that assists decision making by individuals and communities in their food use.

## Support to the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP)

Maps and graphics (117 in all) were added to AMAP's "Arctic Pollution Issues: A State of the Arctic Environment Report" online.

## ADD

The International Arctic Environment Data Directory (ADD) which is an international network of Arctic information sources has its secretariat located at GRID-Arendal. ADD has been asked to create a Internet/Information strategy for the Arctic Council.

Wayne Bilenduke/Tony Stone Images

## Arctic Telecommunication Workshop

An Arctic Telecommunication Workshop was held at GRID-Arendal with six Indigenous Peoples Leaders (from RAIPON, ICC, AIA, IPS) together with ESA and SAIT. The workshop presented a satellite-based telecommunication system suitable for use in remote Northern areas.

Integrated Marine Arctic Expedition

## Indigenous People

The programme for support to RAIPON, the organisation of indigenous peoples of the Russian Arctic, received its first funding from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The first Advisory Board meeting was held and several meetings with co-ordination partners, potential donors were carried out. Project start-up activities have been initiated. The first RAIPON magazine was issued under this programme in December.

**GRID-Arendal as UNEP's Key Centre on Polar Environmental Assessment and Early Warning issues with particular focus on the Arctic.**

10|11

[1] www.inac.gc.ca/ncp
[2] www.grida.no/amap/assess/soaer-cn.htm
[3] www.grida.no/add

## Russian Arctic Analysis of Gaps in the Network of Protected Areas

In collaboration with the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) in the UK, GRID-Arendal conducted an analysis of gaps in the protected areas in the Russian Arctic. This project was in support of the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna's Circumpolar Protected Areas Network (CAFF-CPAN).
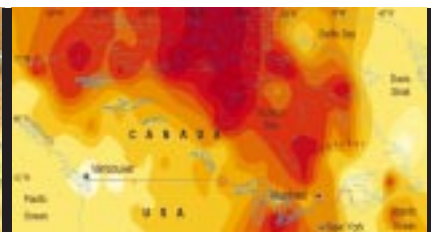
## Vital Arctic Graphics

GRID-Arendal produced a series of 40 vital Arctic graphics in co-operation with the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP).
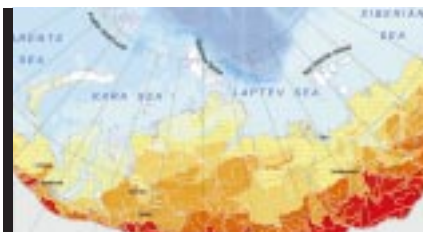
**CAFF Gap Analysis** Map     **AMAP API Report** Map     **AMAP Vital** Graphic

## Testing of LLMS

During GRID-Arendal's 10th Anniversary, UNEPnet tested the LLMS (Little-Leo Messaging System) for potential use in the remote regions of Arctic Russia. The LLMS offers a low-cost, world-wide electronic mail service using advanced communication technology. The system is supported by the European Space Agency, and targets customers in regions with little conventional means of communicating.

This illustrates the simplicity of the LLMS system: an antenna, a PC and a terminal.

## Environment and Health

GRID-Arendal, WHO, the Arctic Council (AMAP) and Arctic Indigenous peoples (Saami council) have developed a programme on Arctic Indigenous Peoples, Environment and Health. This is a response to the MoU between UNEP and WHO signed in Arendal and a request from the Arctic Leaders summit in Moscow in September. UNEP and WHO will fund the initiation of this programme.
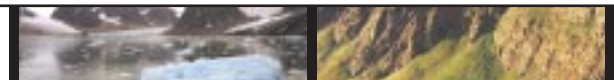
## Biodiversity in Arctic Russia (GEF proposal)

GRID-Arendal has worked together with CAFF and the Russian Federation State Commitee on Environment Protection to develop a GEF project called Integrated Ecosystem Approach to Conserve Biodiversity and Minimize Habitat Fragmentation in the Russian Arctic. The full project will focus on conserving and ensuring sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity.
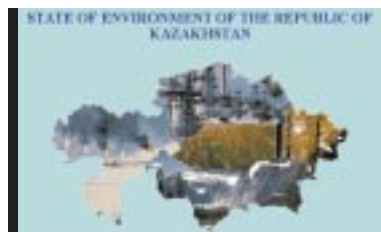
SoE Kazakhstan |1

SoE Turkmenistan |2

SoE Uzbekistan |3

## State of the Environment Reports updated in 13 East European Countries

GRID-Arendal provided support to updating national SoE reports for 13 East European countries, and to the production of a CD-ROM. The products on this CD are the result of co-operation between the EU Phare, EEA, UNEP, and national environmental authorities of the Phare countries. The CD was distributed to national focal points, donors and partners.

### Ukraine State of the Environment Report released

A CD with an updated SoE Report for Ukraine was published with the UN/ECE's Environmental Performance Review of Ukraine.

**Phare Site** CD-ROM
**SoE Ukraine** CD-ROM

## New State of the Environment Reports released in Central Asia

Following training workshops and institutional support, SoE reports for Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan were released on the Internet.

1| www.grida.no/prog/cee/enrin/htmls/kazahst/soe
2| www.grida.no/prog/cee/enrin/htmls/turkmen/soe
3| ww.grida.no/prog/cee/enrin/htmls/uzbek/report
4| www.grida.no/prog/cee/enrin/htmls/georgia/caucasus
5| server.krsu.edu.kg

## Almaty satellite station

The Almaty satellite station, which was installed in 1996 as part of the UNEPnet network, was visited for maintenance and repair purposes. The station is now fully operational. The host institution is the Ministry of Environment in Kazakhstan. The station offers a direct link to other UNEPnet sites and UNEP HQ. It is operated and maintained by the NEAP/SD Centre of the Environment Ministry in Almaty.

Newtec, Belgium

## EuroGRID-meeting

GRID-Arendal facilitated the establishment of a number of GRID centres in the region (Warsaw, Budapest, Tbilisi, Moscow). In September 1999, the 2nd EuroGRID meeting was held in Budapest to boost networking and co-operation among the GRID centres in Europe.

## ENRIN

A number of UNEP's environmental information and assessment activities in Central and Eastern Europe and the NIS were implemented by GRID-Arendal. All the 27 countries of the region are participating in the ENRIN (Environment and Natural Resources Information Network) programme to strengthen the capacities in environmental information management at the national, regional and city level.

euro GRID

UNEP

THE EUROPEAN GRID CENTRES

BTF Map


BTF Field visit


Georgian maps|4


SoE Aral Sea|5

## Support to UNEP's Balkans Task Force (BTF)

The Joint UNEP/UNCHS Balkans Task Force (BTF) was established in May, during the Kosovo conflict. The objective of the BTF was to address issues related to the war and damages to the environment. The Balkans Task Force mobilised an international, independent scientific team to work within Kosovo and at targeted industrial sites in Serbia. Findings of the BTF were presented in a report which raised considerable international attention.

GRID-Arendal actively assisted BTF in field visits to Yugoslavia, the compilation of the final report, the production of maps and graphics, and the launching of the final report in Oslo.

## City State of the Environment Reports

With training and instructional support provided by GRID-Arendal's CEROI programme, the Czech City of Prague and the Georgian City of Tbilisi released electronic SoE Reports.

## Georgia maps

A set of 15 environmental maps of Georgia was produced and added to the Georgian homepage on the ENRIN web site.

## Aral Sea Basin State of the Environment Report draft released

The first draft of the Aral Sea Basin SoE report was produced with GRID-Arendal guidance.

## UNISPACE III

UNEPnet was presented, in collaboration with ESA, at UNISPACE III, a special session of the UN Committee of the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. Their demonstrations, display of the network and video conference events were visited by 3 000 UN delegates and the public|1.

|1|space-generation.org/about

**ENRIN STATUS**

completed | planned

| | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Central Eastern Europe | Poland | | | |
| | Czech Republic | | | |
| | Slovakia | | | |
| | Hungary | | | |
| | Slovenia | | | |
| South Eastern Europe | Romania | | | |
| | Bulgaria | | | |
| | Croatia | | | |
| | Bosnia-Herzeg. | | | |
| | Yugoslavia | | | |
| | FYR Macedonia | | | |
| | Albania | | | |
| Baltic States | Estonia | | | |
| | Latvia | | | |
| | Lithuania | | | |

| | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eastern Europe | Belarus | | | |
| | Russia | | | |
| | Ukraine | | | |
| | Moldova | | | |
| Transcaucasus | Armenia | | | |
| | Azerbaijan | | | |
| | Georgia | | | |
| Central Asia | Kazakhstan | | | |
| | Kyrgyzstan | | | |
| | Tajikistan | | | |
| | Turkmenistan | | | |
| | Uzbekistan | | | |

1 Participation · 2 SoE, training
3 GRID node, capacity in place

ENRIN activities in 1999 focused on the Balkans, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Through the ENRIN programme 25 (of 27) countries in the region now have electronic State-of-the Environment reports accessible through the Internet. GRID-Arendal's 1998 'State of the Environment Reports Sampler' - the Aarhus CD-ROM - won the prestigious Princes' Award in 1999.

# Global Activities



**SoE Gateway**|1

## Global Gateway to State of the Environment Reports launched

The State of the Environment Reports Gateway is a collection of links to on-line environmental reports from countries and regions of the world. The Gateway is designed as a "switchboard" that should guide users through the variety of Internet resources in an easy straightforward way.



1|www.grida.no/soe
2|www.grida.no/geo2000
3|www.grida.no/db/maps/collection/climate5
4|www.grida.no/db/maps/collection/basel
5|www.earthprint.com
6|www.sustainablecommunities.co.za
7|www.ceroi.net

## Vital Climate Graphics

GRID-Arendal produced a series of graphics for the 5th Conference of the Parties (COP-5) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) held in Bonn, Germany 25/10 - 6/11 1999. The graphics were created in co-operation with IPCC, UNFCCC and CICERO.

## Hazardous waste graphics

GRID-Arendal produced graphics for the 5th Conference of Parties to the Basel Convention and made them available through the GRID-Arendal web site.

## Support to UNEP's GEO process

In addition to producing 182 maps and graphics for the GEO-2000 report, GRID-Arendal created a web site of the report and the corresponding technical manuals. These are available at the GRID-Arendal site and at five mirror sites in Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Switzerland, and the USA.
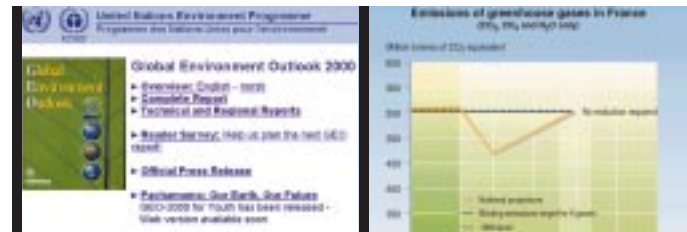


**Geo2000**|2

**Vital Climate** Graphic|3

## UIC Global developments

The objective of UNEPnet/Mercure is to maintain a good availability for all the links in the network. In order to achieve this, all stations world-wide are visited on an annual basis. During these visits, the equipment is maintained, and relevant staff is trained in technical and operational issues. During the last half of 1999, the UIC team visited Beijing, Bangkok, Hanoi, Kathmandu and Maputo. Actions were taken to solve technical problems in Maputo and Havana. The sites received support from the UIC team to develop their homepages and environmental services.
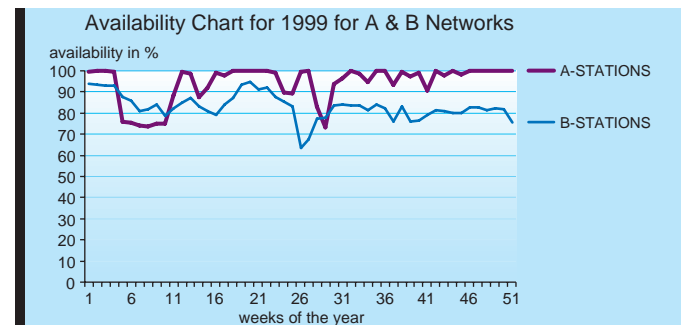


## Support to the Program on Environment Information Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa - EIS-SSA

An upgraded web site was launched for The Program on Environment Information Systems (EIS) in Sub-Saharan Africa. The new site features updated information about the program, and includes an interactive map linking to country specific information. GRID-Arendal also participated in the EIS-SSA 14TH Meeting of the International Advisory Committee, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso - 7-12 March 1999.



**EIS-SSA**|1

## Global International Waters Assessment (GIWA)

GRID-Arendal has developed a draft strategy for the data management, information and communications component of GIWA. A first contract comprising the development of meta-data catalogue of already completed or ongoing assessment in all regions has been signed, and GRID-Arendal will participate in the GIWA Task Team which will develop the GIWA assessment methodology. The aim of the UNEP-led, GEF-funded Assessment is to produce a comprehensive and integrated global assessment of international waters.

## UNEP Bookshop released on the Internet

During the GRID-Arendal 10 year anniversary, Jesper Simonsen, the State Secretary of the Ministry of Environment of Norway, and Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of UNEP, launched a new on-line book shop for UNEP, which allows customers to order copies of all UNEP publications directly over the Internet.



**Hazardous Waste** Graphic [4]    Launching of **EarthPrint** [5]



**SoE Pretoria** [6]

## Cities Environment Report on the Internet (CEROI) launches reports in South Africa and a new web site

A new CEROI web server was added and a web site launched where participating cities can upload and view their completed SoE reports [7]. The following CEROI cities launched their reports in South Africa: Cape Town, Durban, Pretoria, and Johannesburg. CEROI is a programme within the framework of Local Agenda 21 to facilitate access to environmental information for sound decision-making and general awareness-raising in cities.

**UNEPnet** [1]

## UNEPnet Services

During 1999 UIC assisted UNEPnet nodes and UNEP regional and outposted offices in developing integrated environmental information services. This resulted in a standard set of services developed and implemented at UNEPnet sites, for example: unified, harmonised and operational UNEPnet node homepages, technical support, workshops, training and consultancies.

[1] www.centre.unep.net

## The Establishment of an Indicator-based Electronic State of the Environment Report for China - Phase II

During 1999 GRID-Arendal continued co-operation with the Chinese National Environmental Protection Agency, with financial support from NORAD. During Phase II of the project GRID-Arendal support includes training and design of a system for the efficient production and update of SoE-China [2]. Workshops are an important part of this process.

[1] www.grida.no/eis-ssa
[2] www.svr1-pek.unep.net/soechina/soechina98
[3] www.publikit.net

## Cities Environment Reports on the Internet (CEROI) Programme ready for implementation

Finalising a three-year pilot phase, GRID-Arendal now offers cities worldwide a concept for easily disseminating urban environmental information. Cities participating in the CEROI programme receive tools for publishing State of the Environment reports on the Internet.
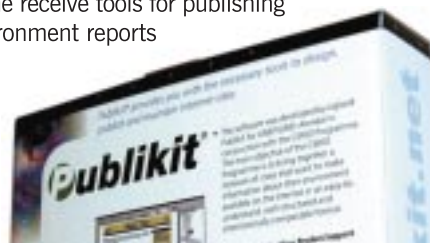
**Publikit** [3]

# The "**Green Oscar**" 1999 for the
## Best Audiovisuals on Europe's Environment
## awarded to **GRID-Arendal**

The Princes´ Award

For the Best Audiovisuals on Europe´s Environment

**Princes' Award**|1

**SoE Sampler**

**SoE Cookbook**

**Award Ceremony**|2

## GRID-Arendal received the **award**

for the multimedia product "State of the Environment Reports Sampler CD-ROM and Cookbook". This product includes national SoE reports from 16 countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States, and a "cookbook" providing methodological guidance for developing electronic environmental status reports on the Internet.

## The **award** was handed over

to GRID-Arendal by the EU Commissioner for the environment, Ms. Ritt Bjerregaard, in Copenhagen June 3 1999.

## The "**Green Oscar**"

The Princes' Award is initiated by the European Environment Agency in Copenhagen and named after its patrons, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Felipe of Spain. The objective of the award is to emphasise the importance of public participation in solving Europe's environmental problems and public involvement in the move towards sustainable development across the continent. All European countries are each year invited to participate.

1|www.princeaward.dk
2|www.grida.no/inf/news/news99/news55.htm

# 10th Anniversary
## August 23 1999 Highlights[1]

## Gro Harlem Brundtland | Director-General | World Health Organization

"When I inaugurated GRID-Arendal 10 years ago as Prime Minister of Norway, my words were: 'Knowledge about the state of environment is a key element in the formation of sound environmental policies. Reliable information about changes in the global environment becomes increasingly important as a basis for action, both nationally and internationally.' I still stand firmly behind these words today, but now as Director-General of the World Health Organisation."

## Klaus Töpfer | Executive Director | United Nations Environment Programme

"The GRID system, of which GRID-Arendal is an important component, supports environmental information assessments by building capacities and linkages to track changes in the environment and determine their significance for environmental early warning."



**Signing of Agreement between WHO and UNEP**

**Launch of SoE-Arendal**

**Seminar Panel**

## Four **agreements** signed
involving UNEP, WHO, the Norwegian Ministry of Environment, the World Resources Institute, and GRID-Arendal.

## **Launch** of new web sites
Launch of the UNEP/GRID-Arendal On-line Book Shop www.earth-print.com by State Secretary Jesper Werdelin Simonsen.
Launch of SoE-Arendal, Norway by UNEP's Executive Director Klaus Töpfer and Health & Environment of Turku, Finland by Gro Harlem Brundtland.

## **Seminar** on environment-related health issues focusing on the **Arctic**

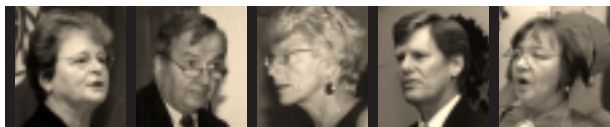### Tove Strand | Director-General | Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation
"In NORAD we have increased our work on pollution in the last five years, as part of our increased activity in environmental affairs."

### Jonathan Lash | President | World Resources Institute
"Environmental factors are still a major cause of illness and death in many parts of the world."



**Brundtland**  **Töpfer**  **Strand**  **Lash**  **Nystad**

## **Seminar** on emerging issues related to the health and environment of the **Arctic Indigenous Peoples**

### Ragnhild Nystad | Vice President | The Saami Parliament of Norway
"Pollution in the Arctic will mainly infect indigenous peoples, because they, more than others, are closely related to nature by their traditional livelihood and their way of life."

# GRID-Arendal **in Retrospect**
## Highlights **1989 - 1999**

## 1989

GRID-Arendal is inaugurated and established as a foundation under the Norwegian Ministry of Environment, as part of the United Nations Environment Programme's Global Resource Information Database (GRID).
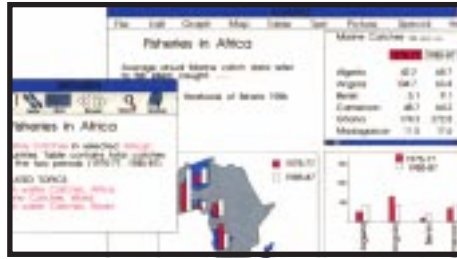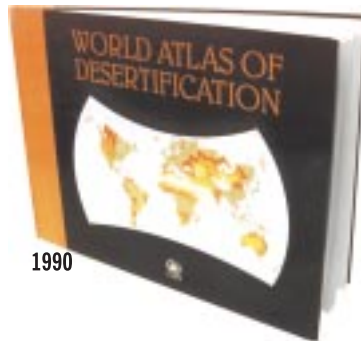
## 1990

The Soil Degradation Atlas is produced jointly with GRID-Nairobi.

## 1991

"GRID-INFO, prototype information system with up-to-date environmental data and information on diskette, developed by GRID-Arendal in 1990, is produced and distributed.

## 1992

The first SoE-Norway, as a PC-based information system, using the concept of "GRID-INFO", is produced by GRID-Arendal for UNCED in Rio de Jainero.
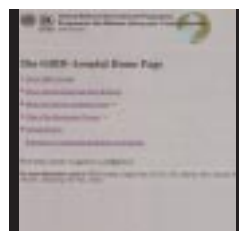
## 1993

GRID-Arendal expands its Arctic network, produces maps and develops databases for international Arctic initiatives (AMAP, IDDEA - later ADD, CAFF, IN-SROP).



1989



1991



1990



1993
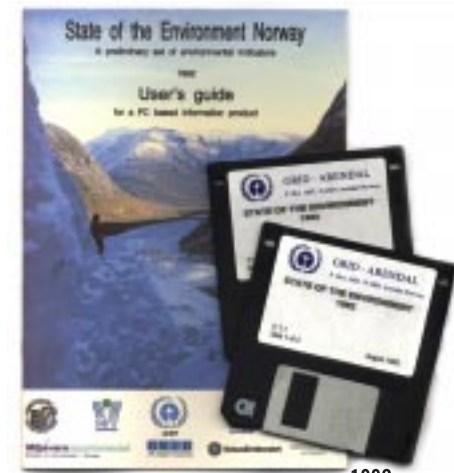


1992

## The GRID-Arendal
## **Home Page**



1995

# 1994

GRID-Arendal becomes responsible for the implementation of UNEP's ENRIN programme in Central and Eastern Europe.

# 1995

GRID-Arendal's web site on the Internet, disseminates environmental information, and features the first indicator-based multi-media SoE-Norway and an environmental GIS Database and Atlas of the Baltic Region.
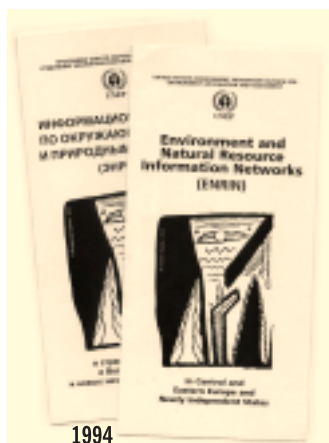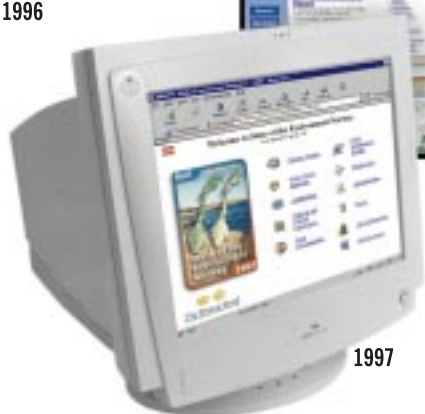
# 1996

GRID-Arendal, in co-operation with UNEP HQ, becomes technically responsible for the development and implementation of the UNEPnet/Mercure telecommunications system.

# 1997

GRID-Arendal intensifies its activities relating to SoE reporting and indicators.

# 1998

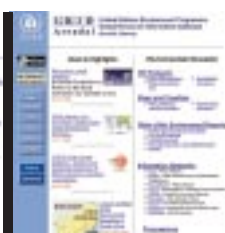GRID-Arendal's web site expands, hosting new external and internal web sites.

# 1999

GRID-Arendal wins the prestigious "Princes' Award" for the CD-ROM "State of Environment Reports Sampler with 16 national reports from CEE/NIS countries", featuring a "Cookbook" with step-by-step guidelines for producing an environmental status report.

1994

1996

1995

1997

1998

1999

1996

1999

2000

# ten years:
**1989 / 1999**

**LOCATION**
- Arendal, Norway

**PERSONNEL**
- 4 employees in 1989/90, 30 in 1999
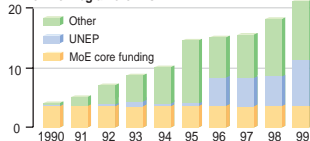- Satellite offices in Geneva and Stockholm

**TURNOVER**
- 5-fold growth of the annual budget

**OUTPUTS**
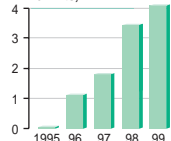- Access to environmental information –
  for greener decisions

### TURNOVER

**million norwegian crowns**



Legend: Other, UNEP, MoE core funding

1990 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99

### OUTPUTS

**million hits, www**



1995 96 97 98 99

## Building capacities

**WORKSHOPS**
- 32 environmental information workshops
- 1,000 participants
- 60 countries

**TRAINING**
- 15 training courses in environmental information manage-
  ment, GIS, the Internet, state of the environment reporting
  and cartographical design
- 300 trainees
- 45 countries

**IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS**
- 3 GRID centres and 16 Mercure/UNEPnet nodes established
- 28 national and several local, regional and global state of
  the environment reports facilitated
- 40% of the total turnover leveraged with multinational
  and bilateral donors

## Products

- GRID-Arendal web site, approaching 4,000,000 hits a year

- GIS, maps, and graphics for regional (Arctic, Baltic,
  Nordic, Europe) and global assessments

- Collections of environmental reports, data and information
  on CD-ROMs (European Princes' Award 1999)

- Support to environmental web sites of international
  projects and organisations

- Tools for environmental information management and
  reporting (templates, indicators, guidelines)

- Over 190 publications and 1,000 presentations by
  GRID-Arendal staff

## any difference?

# 10

## years

1989 / **1999**

## any
## difference?

**GRID**ARENDAL
TENYEARS**1999**

# Selected **Publications**

## Highlights

Making Access to Environmental Information from Central and Eastern Europe Easy. **The Phare Site SoE CD-ROM.** Comprising national SoE reports from 13 Phare countries. UNEP/GRID-Arendal, EU Phare, European Environment Agency, and the national environmental authorities of the Phare countries. March 1999.

**Reporting and Transmission of Information under the Basel Convention for the year 1997** (Statistics on generation and transboundary movements of hazardous wastes and other wastes). Denisov, N., Rekacewicz, P., data compilation and graphic production for the Basel Convention Secretariat. Basel Convention Series/SBC No:99/011. Geneva, November 1999.

**The Kosovo Conflict.** Consequences for the Environment & Human Settlements. UNEP; UNCHS (Habitat) Balkans Task Force final report on the Impacts of the Kosovo Conflict on the Environment. Contribution from GRID-Arendal: Rekacewicz, P.; Simonett, O. October 1999. 104 pp. ISBN 92-807-1801-1.

**GRID-Arendal's 10th Anniversary Ceremony and Seminar: "Environment-related health issues focusing on the Arctic".** Folgen, K., (Editor). 23rd August 1999. UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 65 pp.

## Scientific and Conference Papers

Assessing DOLA/FireWatch AVHRR fire scar maps of the Kimberley, Western Australia, 1997-98, using airborne transect data. Langaas, S., Ryan, P.G., Russell-Smith, J. Presented at the Northern Australia GIS and RS Conference, 28-30 June 1999, Darwin.

Baltic 21 Indicators - Report on data availability, identified data sources and a proposed system for data provision for the Baltic 21 core indicators. Prepared for the Baltic 21 Senior Officials Group (SOG) eleventh Meeting in St. Petersburg, 7-8 October 1999. UNEP/GRID-Arendal and Baltic 21 Secretariat. 149 pp.

## Project Reports

Large-scale environmental GIS applications in the Baltic Sea region: User requirements for land cover information derived from medium resolution satellite data. Langaas,S. (Ed). Technical Report, BALANS project. 1999. 47 pp.

The Capacity and Participation of Russian Indigenous Peoples in the Sustainable Development of the Arctic. Folgen, K. (Editor). From the workshop in Karasjok 21-22 January 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 69 pp.

EuroGRID Newsletter #1 - 1999. Folgen, K. (Editor). April 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 15 pp.

Efficient System of Reporting to International Environmental Conventions from Norway. First Phase. Sævre, R., May 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. Norwegian 65 pp; Resumé in English 7 pp.

The International Arctic Environment Data Directory, Council Meeting No. 6, Ottawa, Report. Folgen, K., (Editor). June 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 34 pp.

EuroGRID-Newsletter # 2 - 1999. Folgen, K.(Editor). August 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 25 pp.

The Second European GRID Centres Meeting, Euro-GRID '99, Report. Folgen, K., Witt, R. (Editors) September 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 49 pp.

UNEP-CGIAR Cooperation, Use of GIS in Agricultural Research, Final Report, Heberlein, C., September 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 18 pp.

Annual Progress Report, 1999. ENRIN - Environmental and Natural Resources Information Network in Countries with Economies in Transition of Central and Eastern Europe. Simonett, O. December 1999, UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 8 pp.

## Contribution to other publications

An Accuracy Assessment Method for Geographical Line Data Sets based on Buffering. Tveite, H.; Langaas, S. International Journal of Geographical Information Science, Vol. 13, No. 1, 1999. pp. 27-47.

Vital Graphics on the Arctic; Prepared by UNEP/GRID-Arendal and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP). The figures are taken from the AMAP Assessment Report: Arctic Pollution Issues, Oslo, Norway 1998. Rekacewicz, P. August 1999. 21 pp.

Global Environmental Outlook 2000. (GEO 2000) UNEP publication based on information provided by more than 30 regional and international collaborating centres. Polar Chapter: Henry, D., Graphics: Rekacewicz, P. September 1999. 398 pp. ISBN 1-85383-588-9.

State-of-the-Environment Reporting: Institutional and Legal Arrangements in Europe. European Environment Agency Technical Report no. 26. Anderson, L.; Wyatt, B.K.; Denisov, N.; Kristensen, P.; Bosch, P.; EEA expert group on guidelines and reporting. European Environment Agency, 1999. 38 pp.

A Checklist for State of the Environment Reporting. Technical report No 26. Kristensen, P.; Anderson, L.; Denisov N.; Bosch, P. European Environment Agency, 1999. 24 pp.

## GRID-Arendal Internal Papers

Managing Nutrient Fluxes and Pollution in the Baltic: an interdisciplinary simulation study. Turner, R.K., Georgiou, S., Gren, I-M., Wulff, F., Barrett, S., Söderqvist, T., Bateman, I.J., Folke, C., Langaas, S., Zylicz, T., Mäler, K-G., Markowska, A. Ecological Economics no.30, 1999. pp. 333 - 352.

Ukraine National Report on the State of Environment 98, UNEP/GRID-Arendal and Ministry for Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety of Ukraine. CD-ROM: 1999.

Prospectus, EIS-Africa, a network for the co-operative management of environmental information. UNEP/GRID-Arendal, layout and design. 1999. 14 pp.

Overview on Land-based Sources and Activities Affecting the Marine Environment in the ROPME Sea Area. UNEP Regional Seas Reports and Studies No. 168. UNEP/GPA Co-ordination Office, ROWA, Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment Kuwait. UNEP/GRID-Arendal, 1999. 127 pp. ISBN 92-807-1828-2.

UNEPnet Business Plan, ver. 3.0. Holt, H., UIC & others. November 1998. 96 pp.

UNEPnet Technical Development Plan, ver. 0.5. Holt, H., UIC & others. January 1999. 55 pp.

Half yearly progress report. Holt, H., UIC; February, 1999. 5 pp.

GRID-Arendal Annual Report 1998. March 1999. UNEP/GRID-Arendal. 24 pp.

Cost benefit of video conference solution for the UNEP Geneva office. Holt, H., March, 1999. 6pp.

GRID-Arendal Quarterly Report 1. GRID-Arendal Internal Papers 7. April 1999. 26 pp.

GRID-Arendal Quarterly Report 2. GRID-Arendal Internal Papers 8. August 1999. 26 pp.

Maps and Graphics Sampler. Rekacewicz, P., September 1999. 17 pp.

GRID-Arendal Quarterly Report 3. GRID-Arendal Internal Papers 9. October 1999. 28 pp.

Report on GRID-Arendal's Press Strategy and Outputs in connection with GRID-Arendal's 10th anniversary, 23 August 1999. GRID-Arendal Internal Papers 10, Haltbrekken, L., October 1999. 6 pp.

## Brochures

SERIS (State of the Environment Reporting Information System). An online reference system about state of the environment (SoE) reporting in Europe. UNEP/GRID-Arendal, EEA and NERI. Brochure produced for EEA. 1999.

CEROI (Cities Environment Reports on the Internet). A Network of Cities putting Environmental Information to work. From the Global Environment to the Local Agenda 21. UNEP/GRID-Arendal, Ugland Totalkart and ICLEI. 1999.

GRID-Arendal 10 Years 1989 - 1999. A footprint of GRID-Arendal Activities. Norwegian and English version. UNEP/GRID-Arendal. August 1999.
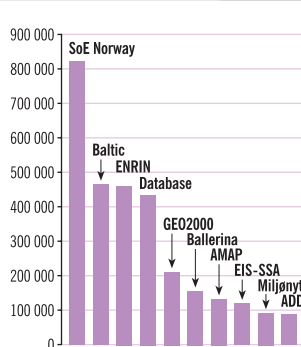
UNEPnet brochure produced for the UNISPACE III conference and exhibition.
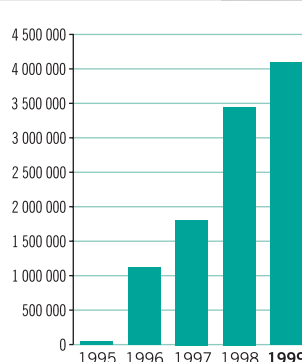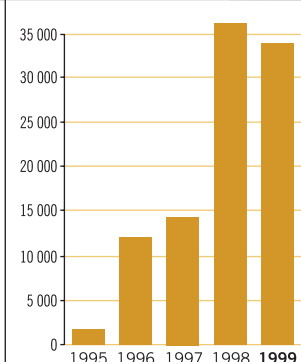
# Internet statistics



**Domain accesses**
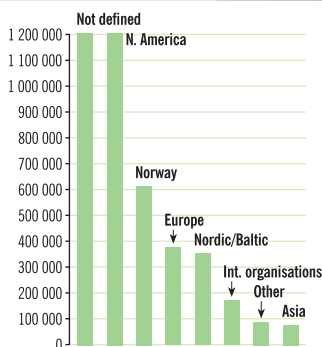
**Pages most accessed**

**Overall hits**

**On-line distribution of maps and datasets**

# Workshops, Seminars and Conferences
## (co)arranged by GRID-Arendal

### Karasjok | January 20-22
The Capacity and Participation of Russian Indigenous Peoples in the Sustainable Development of the Arctic. Workshop arranged in co-operation between the Saami Parliament of Norway and GRID-Arendal.

### GRID-Arendal | February 11-12
Internal Workshop for Unit Leaders in connection with GRID-Arendal's Work Programme for 1999. Hermod Torbjørnson, Aker Corporate Consulting, was the facilitator.

### GRID-Arendal | March 4
Board Seminar on Board development, institutional responsibility and legal context. Board involvement in fundraising and programme development. 2nd half of the seminar focused on GRID-Arendal's strategy, results and further outlook.

### Ouagadougou | March 7-12
Program on Environment Information Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa 14th Meeting of the International Advisory Committee. The conference was structured around three components: Committee-only sessions - discussion of advisory committee activities and program; a 3-day seminar of the EIS network - participants presentations; and a 1-day workshop on institutionalising a process for the preparation of a report on the State of the Environment for West Africa.

### Barcelona | March 20-21
CEROI Workshop organised by GRID-Arendal, Ugland Totalkart (UTK) and ICLEI. This was the first workshop for the CEROI pilot cities focusing on the CEROI template and the UTK "Publikit" software tool. The participating pilot cities were: Cajamarca, Peru; Jinja, Uganda; Bursa, Turkey; Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, Pretoria, South Africa; Geneva, Switzerland; Kiev, Ukraine; Moscow, Russia; Tbilisi, Georgia; Arendal and Kristiansand, Norway.

### Pretoria | April 12-21
The second Web Training Session for South African National and City SoE Reports in connection with the CEROI project took place at the University of Pretoria. The training comprised of seven days of intensive training and tutorials for four South African cities in the use of the GRID-Arendal "Fennario" template and UTK's Publikit software. The main goal of this training session was to help the cities transform their State of the Environment reports into fully functional Internet web sites.



Barcelona March 20-21

### Ottawa | June 7-10
ADD Council meeting no. 6. GRID-Arendal's Ottawa office co-arranged this conference with the Canadian Polar Commission. Daily joint sessions were held with the Joint Committee for Antarctic Data Management and ADD.

### GRID-Arendal | June 22
One-day seminar on GRID-Arendal's strategic planning for the next 3 years. Participating: Board Chairman Leif Christoffersen, Svein Tveitdal and all GRID-Arendal Unit Leaders.

### Vienna | July 19-30
UNISPACE III. A special session of the UN Committee of the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS). This exposition was open to all state members and organizations of the United Nations. UNEPnet was presented in collaboration with ESA and UIC.

### GRID-Arendal | August 23
GRID-Arendal's 10th Anniversary Ceremony and Seminar: "Environment-related health issues focusing on the Arctic".

### GRID-Arendal | August 24
Open House with demos, video and exhibitions for Longum Park employees and interested Arendal institutions and citizens on the occasion of GRID-Arendal's 10th anniversary.

### GRID-Arendal | August 24
Arctic Telecommunication Workshop with six Indigenous Peoples Leaders (from RAIPON, ICC, AIA, IPS) together with ESA and SAIT. The workshop presented a satellite-based telecommunication system suitable for use in remote Northern areas.



Vienna July 19-30



Ouagadougou March 7-12          Pretoria April 12-21

### Budapest | September 7-9
The second European GRID-Centres Meeting hosted by GRID-Budapest in co-operation with the EuroGRID secretariat at GRID-Arendal.

### Kristiansand | October 28
GRID-Arendal Board of Directors' interactive strategy seminar with GRID-Arendal management and unit leaders.

### GRID-Arendal | December 16
GRID-Arendal hosted a workshop for the Norwegian National Association of Local Authorities to discuss the Local Authorities Agenda 21 Reports on the Internet (LAROI). The first "Environmental lighthouse certificate" in the county of Aust-Agder was awarded during the LA-21 meeting/workshop.

# **Financial** Statement

## **Balance** as of 31.12.99

| | Notes | 31.12.1999 (NoK) | 31.12.1998 (NoK) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **FIXED ASSETS** | | | |
| MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT | (2) | 286 045 | 350 427 |
| SHARES, GEODATASENTERET A/S | | 100 000 | 100 000 |
| PENSION FUNDS | (4) | 322 623 | 153 335 |
| **TOTAL FIXED ASSETS** | | **708 668** | **603 762** |
| | | | |
| **CURRENT ASSETS** | | | |
| ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE TRADE | (5) | 2 504 048 | 826 208 |
| OTHER RECEIVABLES | | 336 747 | 166 045 |
| WORK IN PROGRESS | (6) | 2 814 258 | 2 902 476 |
| INVESTMENTS IN SHARES (GREEN FUNDS) | (7) | 1 498 010 | 735 805 |
| BONDS | (7) | 999 174 | 0 |
| PETTY CASH AND BANK ACCOUNTS | (8) | 7 923 033 | 9 707 721 |
| **TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS** | | **16 075 270** | **14 338 255** |
| | | | |
| **TOTAL ASSETS** | | **16 783 938** | **14 942 016** |
| | | | |
| **EQUITY** | | | |
| PAID IN CAPITAL | | | |
| FOUNDATION CAPITAL | | 500 000 | 500 000 |
| TOTAL PAID IN CAPITAL | | 500 000 | 500 000 |
| RETAINED EARNINGS | | 7 158 494 | 5 378 496 |
| TOTAL RETAINED EARNINGS | | 7 158 494 | 5 378 496 |
| **TOTAL EQUITY** | | **7 658 494** | **5 878 496** |
| | | | |
| **SHORT TERM LIABILITIES** | | | |
| ACCOUNTS PAYABLE TRADE | | 453 825 | 777 988 |
| EMPLOYEE TAXES WITHHOLD, PAYABLE | | | |
| SOCIAL SECURITY ETC. | | 840 988 | 687 158 |
| ACCRUED SALARIES AND VACATION FEES | | 917 555 | 740 301 |
| OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES | | 90 000 | 94 118 |
| ADVANCE | (9) | 6 823 077 | 6 763 955 |
| **TOTAL SHORT TERM LIABILITIES** | | **9 125 444** | **9 063 520** |
| | | | |
| **TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES** | | **16 783 938** | **14 942 016** |

## **Profit and Loss Account**

| | Notes | 1999 (NoK) | 1998 (NoK) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **OPERATING REVENUES** | | | |
| OPERATING REVENUES | | 24 443 696 | 20 065 048 |
| **TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES** | | **24 443 696** | **20 065 048** |
| | | | |
| **OPERATING EXPENSES** | | | |
| PROJECT COSTS | | 8 361 601 | 6 369 098 |
| PERSONNEL COSTS | (3) | 9 841 991 | 8 055 025 |
| DEPRECIATION | (2) | 182 708 | 220 913 |
| OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES | | 5 069 280 | 4 522 594 |
| **TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES** | | **23 455 579** | **19 167 630** |
| | | | |
| **OPERATING RESULT** | | **988 117** | **897 418** |
| | | | |
| **FINANCIAL INCOME AND EXPENSES** | | | |
| FINANCIAL INCOME | | 831 771 | 307 781 |
| FINANCIAL EXPENSES | | -39 890 | 277 925 |
| **NET FINANCIAL ITEMS** | (7) | **791 881** | **29 856** |
| | | | |
| **RESULT FOR THE YEAR** | | **1 779 998** | **927 274** |

# Notes

(1) **BASIC PRINCIPLES - ASSESSMENT AND CLASSIFICATION - OTHER ISSUES**

The financial statements, which have been presented in compliance with the Norwegian Companies Act, the Norwegian Accounting Act and Norwegian generally accepted accounting principles in effect as of 31 December 1999, consist of the profit and loss account, balance sheet, cash flow statement and notes to the accounts. In order to simplify the understanding of the balance sheet and the profit & loss account, they have been compressed. The necessary specification has been provided in notes to the accounts, thus making the notes an integrated part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared based on the fundamental principles governing historical cost accounting, comparability, continued operations, congruence and caution. Transactions are recorded at their value at the time of the transaction. Income is recognised at the time goods are delivered or services sold. Costs are expensed in the same period as the income to which they relate. Costs that cannot be directly related to income are expensed as incurred.

When applying the basic accounting principles and presentation of transactions and other issues, a "substance over form" view is taken. Contingent losses which are probable and quantifiable are taken to cost.

**ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES FOR MATERIALS ITEMS**

**Revenue recognition**
Revenue is normally recognised at the time goods are delivered or services sold.

**Cost recognition/matching**
Costs expensed in the same period as the income to which they relate is recognised. Costs that cannot be directly related to income are expensed as incurred.

**Fixed assets**
Fixed assets are entered in the accounts at original cost, with deductions for accumulated depreciation and write-down.
Assets are capitalised when the economic useful life is more than 3 years, and the cost is greater than NoK 15 000. Operating lease costs are expensed as a regular leasing cost, and are classified as an operating cost.

**Depreciation**
Based on the acquisition cost, straight line depreciation is applied over the economic lifespan of the fixed assets.

**Accounts Receivables**
Trade receivables are accounted for at face value with deductions for expected loss.

**Pension liability and pension costs**

The company has a pension plan that entitles its members to defined future benefits, called defined benefit plans.

Net pension cost is classified as an operating cost, and is presented in the line item payroll and related cost.

(2) **MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT**

| | |
|---|---|
| Book Value 01.01.99 | NoK 350 427 |
| Added this year | NoK 118 326 |
| Depreciations this year | NoK 182 708 |
| **Book Value 31.12.99** | **NoK 286 045** |

(3) **SALARY COSTS**

| | 1999 (NoK) | 1998 (NoK) |
|---|---|---|
| Salary and holiday pay | 8 054 483,- | 6 254 458,- |
| Employers contribution | 1 050 549,- | 799 525,- |
| Other personnel costs | 736 959,- | 1 001 042,- |
| **Total** | **9 841 991,-** | **8 055 025,-** |

Average number of employees in 1999 was 27

| | |
|---|---|
| Salary to Managing Director in 1999 | NoK 530.000,- |
| Fee to Chaiman of the Board in 1999 | NoK 37 000,- |
| Fee to other Board members in 1999 | NoK 100.000,- |

Fees to the auditor for the auditing and other consulting services NoK 34 800,-

(4) **PENSION FUNDS**

The premium for the year, NoK 385 873,- is charged to personnel costs. The yield from the pension premium fund of NOK 169 288,- is included under financial income.

| | |
|---|---|
| Value 01.01.99 | NoK 153 355 |
| Yield | NoK 169 288 |
| **Value 31.12.99** | **NoK 322 643** |

(5) **ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE TRADE**

Accounts receivables are included in the accounts at face values. Unpaid accounts of NoK 158 880,- are debited during year to the profit and loss account.

(6) **WORK IN PROGRESS**

Work in progress carried out and costs incurred, not invoiced at the year end related to 26 projects, and costs incurred amounted to a total of NoK 2 814 258,-

(7) **SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS**

| Unit trust | No. of units | Purchase cost | Market value |
|---|---|---|---|
| Vesta Grønt Norden | 1 694,87 | NoK 600 000 | NoK 858 683,67 |
| VESTA MILJØINVEST | 2 071,55 | NoK 300 000 | NoK 344 892,94 |
| Omega Etisk Sparefond | 4 879,73 | NoK 598 010 | NoK 606 598,65 |

The Unit trust funds are valued at their purchase cost, last year's write down of NoK 262 204,- is reversed under financial income.

| Bond | Market value |
|---|---|
| Buskerud Energi | NoK 999 174 |

(8) **PETTY CASH AND BANK ACCOUNTS**

NoK 322 507,- of the total cash at bank is restricted to meet the liability arising from payroll taxes withheld.

(9) **ADVANCE**

Advance invoices at the year end, related to 20 projects and amounted to a total of NoK 6 823 076,-.

## Cash Flow Statement

| | 1999 (NoK) | 1998 (NoK) |
|---|---|---|
| **CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES** | | |
| RESULT OF THE YEAR | 1 779 998 | 927 274 |
| DEPRECIATION | 182 708 | 220 913 |
| CHANGES IN INVENTORY, ACC RECEIVABLES AND ACC PAYABLE | -1 854 663 | 4 295 518 |
| EFFECTS OF CHANGES IN EXCHANGE RATES | 0 | 0 |
| AMOUNTS CLASSIFIED AS INVESTING/ FINANCING ACTIVITIES | -262 204 | 262 204 |
| CHANGES IN OTHER BALANCE SHEET ITEMS | -13 026 | -133 554 |
| **NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES** | **-167 187** | **5 572 355** |
| | | |
| **CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES** | | |
| PURCHASE OF TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS | -118 326 | -276 537 |
| PURCHASE OF OTHER INVESTMENTS | -1 499 174 | 0 |
| **NET CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES** | **-1 617 500** | **-276 537** |
| | | |
| **CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES** | | |
| NET CHANGES IN BANK DRAFT | -1 784 687 | 5 295 818 |
| **NET CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES** | **-1 784 687** | **5 295 818** |
| | | |
| NET CHANGES IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | | |
| **CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS 01.01.99** | **9 707 721** | **4 411 903** |
| **CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS 31.12.99** | **7 923 033** | **9 707 721** |

## Funding Sources in 1999 (not subject to audit)



NoK

UNEP
8 741 868

International organisations
5 200 939

Core funds MoE Norway
4 000 000

Norwegian public sector including NORAD
2 961 000

Other Bilateral aid agencies/public sector
2 575 000

Norwegian private sector
518 620

MoE Norway
446 269

36%  21%  16%  12%  11%  2%  2%

Total (NoK) 24 433 696

**KPMG AS**
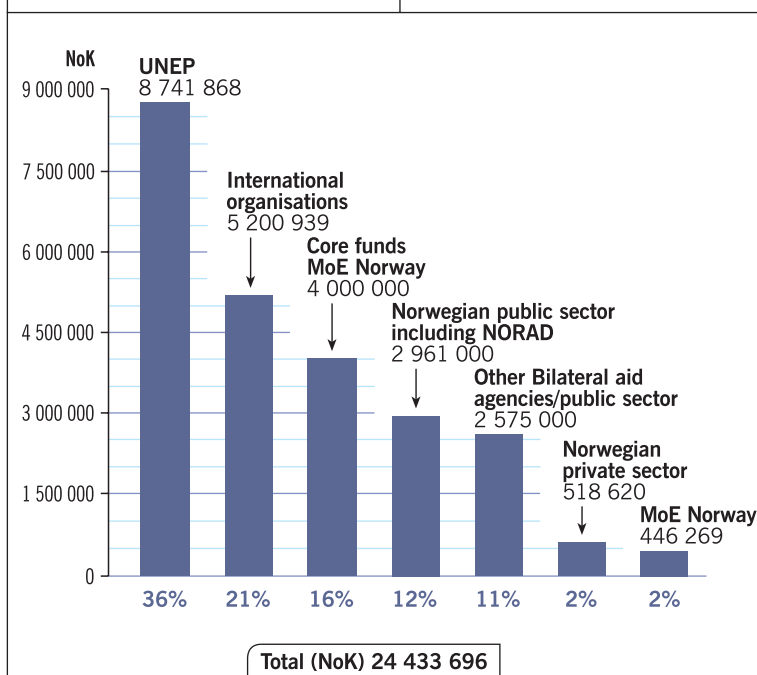
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| P.O. Box 103 | luellsklev 4 | Telephone +47 37 00 52 10 |
| N-4801 Arendal | N-4841 Arendal | Telefax +47 37 00 52 25 |
| | | Enterprise NO 935 174 627 |

To the Foundation GRID - Arendal

## AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR 1999

### Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

We have audited the annual financial statements of the Foundation GRID - Arendal on pages 23-24 as of 31 December 1999, showing a profit of NOK 1.779.998. We have also audited the information in the Board of Directors' report on pages 4-5 concerning the financial statements, going concern assumption and the proposal for the allocation of the profit. The financial statements comprise the balance sheet, the statements of income, cash flows and accompanying notes. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundations Board of Directors and Managing Director. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and on the other information according to the requirements of the Norwegian Act on Auditing and Auditors.

### Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Norwegian Act on Auditing and Auditors and good auditing practice in Norway. Good auditing practice require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. To the extent required by law and good auditing practice an audit also comprises a review of the management of the Foundations financial affairs and its accounting and internal control systems. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion,

- the financial statements are prepared in accordance with the law, regulations and the Foundations objective, and present the financial position of the Foundations as of December 31, 1999, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with good accounting practice in Norway
- the Foundations management has fulfilled its duty to produce a proper and clearly set out registration and documentation of accounting information in accordance with the law and good accounting practice
- the information in the Board of Directors' report concerning the financial statements, the going concern assumption and the proposal for the allocation of the profit are consistent with the financial statements and comply with the law and regulations.

Arendal, 10 mars 2000
KPMG AS

Terje H. Holst
*State Authorised Public Accountant*

Note: This translation from Norwegian has been prepared for information purposes only

# GRID-Arendal **Outlook** 2000



At the brink of the new millennium GRID-Arendal has launched a new strategic plan for the period 2000-2005. We are going to concentrate our continued support to UNEP within three core competencies;

## ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
## COMMUNICATIONS
## CAPACITY BUILDING

Working within these core areas we have a geographic focus on the Polar and Baltic regions and Central and Eastern Europe. We are also supporting UNEP's global activities, in particular GEO, ENRIN, GIWA and

UNEPnet, and we are launching a new global programme for State-of-the Environment Reporting for cities on the Internet - CEROI.

Highlights of the work programme for 2000 which represents the first milestone in our new 2005 strategic plan include:

New GRID-Arendal web site with innovative use of multimedia and improved content.

UNEPnet with improved voice, fax and video-conferencing capabilities.

New innovative capacity building tools for environmental reporting.

Support to State-of-the-Environment reporting in Russian Oblasts in the Baltic Region.

Arctic multimedia input to UNEP's Global Environmental Outlook (GEO) report series.

Awareness package demonstrating the impacts of use of environmental information in Central and Eastern Europe.

CEROI expanded and integrated with other local networks like ICLEI and GUO.

New user satisfaction feedback system for all major products.

Increased contribution to budget from private sector sponsorship, web-shop sales and financial income.

Development of a new set of indicators to measure our performance versus mission and goals.

**Svein Tveitdal**
Managing Director
GRID-Arendal

# Message from **UNEP Headquarters**



Ten years is indeed a proud anniversary for any organisation. In this brief period, GRID-Arendal has established for itself a distinct personality. It has set a definite path for its future development. Since its inception, GRID-Arendal has strongly supported UNEP's assessment activities, particularly in Eastern Europe. Its co-operation with UNEP's regional environmental information and assessment network activities has had multiple benefits. It has resulted in the development of significant national capacities for countries to prepare their national environmental assessments. It has also made these assessments and related information accessible to the world for the first time. This is a major contribution to the global assessment process.

We in UNEP were very pleased when this service was publicly recognised by the grant of the 1999 Princes' Award to GRID-Arendal. This prize was awarded for the development and release of a compact disc on the environment in Central and Eastern Europe. The GRID network, of which GRID-Arendal is an important component, supports these assessments and early warning by building capacity and linkages to track changes in the environment and determine their significance for environmental early warning.

The key role for UNEP is to greatly enhance its capacity to undertake this function in all parts of the world. UNEP cannot do this alone. In providing a strong leadership role in global assessment and monitoring it has always looked for partners within the UN system, with other international governmental organisations, NGOs and with governments. The success of our assessment products depends on such co-operation.

During 1999 UNEP, the government of Norway and GRID-Arendal took the significant step of assigning to GRID-Arendal the role of the UNEP key centre for polar information and assessment with a focus on the Arctic. This signifies trust on UNEP's part that GRID-Arendal can fulfil this role on its behalf. It is also an important step for GRID-Arendal in that it will need to keep under review the state of the Arctic environment and advise UNEP and others if significant issues or environmental threats may be emerging. GRID-Arendal will therefore need to enhance its network of Arctic information, monitoring and research institutions.

**Daniel van R. Claasen**
Officer-in-Charge
UNEP-DEIA

# The UNEP/GRID **Network**