

Hey ABC newsletter readers!

Spring is just at our doorstep and the desire to get out in the fresh air is tangible. What better than a newsletter to go with the "fika" in the sun! Since Christmas ABC's projects and activities, as well as the board, has kept on working and there are consequently a few things to convey. At the upcoming pages you can read about the women in KIMAT, the children and activities in Ett Grönare Lund, the exiting development in Yuwalaya, or why not a short presentation of the new board as well as past and up-coming activities.

Until the end of April, ABC has a membership campaign for which we attempt increase the number of people wanting to be a part of change. The aim has been set to 300 members. So, do you or anyone you know want to become a member? Look further down in the newsletter for information on how you can do it.

Have a great spring and see you around!

Lina Elly Gustafsson, Secretary



Join us at Facebook!



• ABC - Active aid • Volontärresor Indien

The Board

ABC had annual meeting in late November and now the new board consisting of eight board members have been working both hard, energetic and impressive. These board members are also presented in this newsletter. The new board is working hard to get the organization back on track after the store closed in September last year. Above all, we have developed various responsibilities and working groups that now seem to be well implemented in the organization. The purpose of the various working groups is to work on activities, economy, development and dissemination of information in a more effective way, by bringing new forces into the organization. However, at least one board member has to be included in each group since continual feedback should be made to the Board at its meetings.

In the past month, the Board was also concluded in a study circle by Sensus, where we learned more about Board work, roles and responsibilities. The next few months we hope that spring activities and events will get started, since this is our only source of income, along with the applications of grants and scholarships. One of our greatest ambitions is to evaluate our various projects and partners, where the aim is to connect our various project managers and coordinators closer to the core of the organization. Another great big sense of this purpose, is for us to promote our organization and network with the surrounding world in new ways, through discussions in the new study circle "Bridge-building between Development and Enterprise". Now, the ABC Board wish you all a really sunny spring!

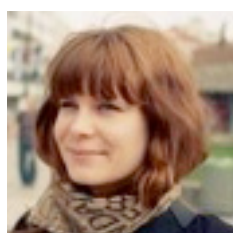
Viktoria Hansson, Chairperson

This is the boardmembers of ABC!



Viktoria Hansson
Chairperson

I hope and believe that I, together with the new board, can coordinate and develop a continued good cooperation with our projects and with the advocacy and fundraising activities we do locally in Sweden. I always strive to get more people to become aware of their social, economic and environmental conditions and especially to get people to become involved in their own development process. As ABC's Chairperson, and a working member of the Development Group, I will work to provide a comprehensive view of ABC's activities, projects and information.



Julia Linder
Vice Chairperson

Since I first became engaged in ABC as project leader for our local environmental and development project Ett Grönare Lund, I have had the opportunity to experience that ABC's working principle of help to self-help is something that imbues the whole organization. Within ABC's Board, I will as Vice Chairperson have the privilege to hold the overall responsibility for our human resources, assist Chairperson, Viktoria Hansson, and act as the link to Sensus, the adult education association, whom we have one of our key cooperation with as well as work within the Activity Group.



Sofie Selin
Treasurer

I have always had a keen interest for development issues and I have always felt a desire to work with something that matters in a way that will improve people's living standards. I am very happy and proud for being elected onto ABC's Board, and I feel very excited for the tasks that I will face as Treasurer and as responsible for ABC's Economy Group. I can promise you that I will do my very best, and as Treasurer, I will have a close eye on the economy.



Lina Elly Gustafsson
Secretary

With ABC and its various projects, I am allowed the privilege to be a part of counteracting the injustices and inequalities that impedes the growth of sustainable and fair relations throughout the world. By being a part of ABC's Board, and the Information Group, I hope to contribute to the organization's continuous productive efforts to achieve help to self-help and sustainable human and environmental development. As ABC's Secretary, I will take minutes at all Board meetings, manage our membership administration, work with our newsletter, and much more.



Lina Åkesson
Public Relations Coordinator

I got in contact with ABC in spring of 2010 when I was doing research about volunteering abroad. I wanted to get to know more about active aid, volunteering and knowledge exchange. I am now the project leader of KIMAT and I am looking forward to develop the project. As the new Public Relations Coordinator of ABC's board, and as responsible for the Information Group, I will work with ABC's webpage, social media, distribute newsletters and actively work with marketing ABC and our activities.



Hanas Mohammed
Activity Coordinator

What drew me most to ABC is the idea that runs throughout the entire organization that vulnerable people should be given the opportunity to influence their own future and development. Within ABC, I will act as Activity Coordinator and my goal is to spread information about important topics such as human rights, gender and the environment through the activities we will arrange within ABC. Together with the Activity Group, I intend to do this by planning fun activities for both members and the public at large.



Jacob Folbrycht
Development Coordinator

I am passionate about social issues and development, and with ABC, I can work to make this world a fairer place. My role as the Development Coordinator, and responsible for the Development Group, will give me output for my creativity and wish to create sustainable solutions. As Development Coordinator, my hope is to engage people in giving away nothing more than their sheer efforts to accomplish tremendous changes in less fortunate people's lives. Together, anything is possible.



Kristofer Karlsson
Suppleant

I have always had a desire to understand the world, which has resulted in a willingness to get involved in different actions and causes. Poverty, inequality, but especially unjust opportunities to change these situations have always made me upset, whether it is between countries, regions or individuals. I hope my experiences will help the organization during my mandate within ABC's Board. My primary role in Board will be to focus on the broader and long-term issues, and also to oversee the organization's development strategies within the Development Group, as well as assist the Treasurer and the Economy Assistant.

Yuwalaya

– Youth Resource Center, Kathmandu



There has been a lot of activity lately in ABC's project in Nepal!

To start, the project has a new name, the beautiful *Yuwalaya*, which means House of Youth in Nepalese. Besides this, a pre-study to Kathmandu has also been realized.

Me, Ebba and Becca travelled to Nepal in December to see our dear friends in our partner organization, Youth Action Nepal, again. We spent three hectic weeks together, filled with fruitful meetings and workshops.

The result of these three weeks is an even stronger collaboration with Youth Action Nepal, as well as a stronger vision for the project, which is to start a Youth Resource Center for the youth of Kathmandu. A place they can go to no matter where they are in life and no matter what kind of problems or interests they have. The idea is based on the thought of gathe-

ring all resources for youth in one place, so that they don't have to go around to different organizations and institutions to come in contact with what they need.

We had the honor of presenting our vision, which was finalized during our pre-study, to other NGO's and to the Nepalese Ministry of Youth and Sports – which felt really exciting! Our ideas were well received in Nepal, and both the Swedish and the Nepalese team are now really excited to continue the work with this project!

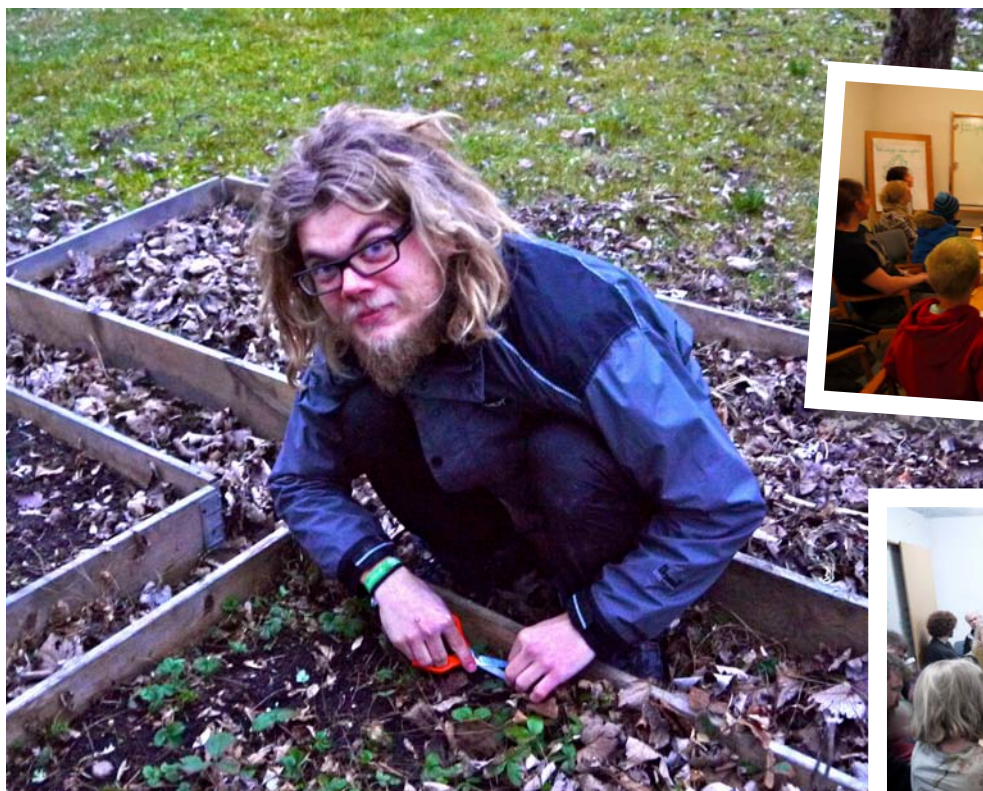
This spring the Swedish project group are planning to do fundraisers in Sweden to collect money for the project, as well as writing applications for more funds that can help us make our vision reality.

Right now we are also looking for new volunteers who would like to join the Swedish project group – if you are interested in any way, just let us know! I'm sure that this spring will be really thrilling for Yuwalaya!

Ellen Fransson

Yuwalaya – Youth Resource Center, Kathmandu





Ett Grönare Lund – The Gardening Season's Soon Here!

ETT GRÖNARE LUND



Plenty has happened within ABC's environmental, democratic and integration project Ett Grönare Lund! A stable foundation has been provided thanks to the three year long project grant from Allmänna Arvsfonden's special youth intervention Vi deltar! Since January, a relatively new group of volunteers together with the project leader and economy assistant begun the first official project year with good spirit and enthusiasm!

The original co-operations with Sensus Studieförbund, Lunds Kommuns Fastighets AB (LKF) and Lund University's environmental association Hållbart Universitet have continued and developed in numerous ways.

New forms of collaboration have also begun to take form like joining efforts with aid organization Svalorna Indien

Bangladesh whom will train numerous volunteers within the project to become communicators for their national campaign about ecological footprints. The aim with this is to reach out to a broader group of teenagers in Linero by visiting High Schools in the area to conduct workshops about ecological footprints.

During Lund's up-coming sustainability festival Planet Lund, which will take place between the 12th-26th of May, the project will arrange a workshop about Fair Trade for children and youth in Linero together with Fairtrade City Lund. The project will also arrange GREEN TALKS Workshops in central Lund. Keep your eyes open!

Join our Facebook group Ett Grönare Lund (A Greener Lund) to take part of updates about coming activities/events.

Julia Linder, Project leader

EVS volunteers – A year long journey ends

Last year two new EVS volunteers started their journey within ABC. Both Tom and Vanessa have done an excellent job and with a focus on fair trade and sustainable development they have been engaged in numerous projects and activities devoted to the task. During their year in Lund they have – among many things – started the ABC project Fairtrade Guerrillas, become Fairtrade ambassadors, worked in ABC Fair Shop, arranged activities and been apart of markets and events. We cannot thank them enough for their energy and commitment!

ABC now wishes them good luck upon their future adventures!



KIMAT

During the fall and winter months, the group has knitted items such as leg warmers and mittens, which were successfully sold at the GOOD JUL Christmas market held in December. In February ABC's Chairperson, Victoria Hansson, among other, visited the women at one of the KIMAT workshops. She got a chance to convey greetings, as well as leave and pick up goods. News for KIMAT is that they will attempt to make more jewelry, such as feather earrings and bracelets with pendants. It will be very interesting to see how they will interpret the samples that was left with them!

With the closing of ABC Fair Shop, KIMAT currently faces challenges with finding new sales opportunities for the pro-

ducts. Besides participating in markets and events, we are also investigating possibilities to sell to other Fair Trade and World shops in Lund or Malmö. If you have tips for retailing, feel free to contact us!

Lina Åkesson, Project leader

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KIMAT - Value

Past activities

ABC's Activity Group looks forward to a spring full of interesting and fun activities. ABC has since the last newsletter taken part in Hålsninggillet and the General Information Market in Lund, where we tried to find new volunteers for our organization. With the same spirit, ABC also arranged an information meeting about the organisation and the possibilities to activate oneself within it.

In February nine ABC members participated in FOBO's – the association for organic-biological gardening – interesting in-depth course in organic-biological gardening.

In March numerous representatives from ABC attended a network meeting with various actors and agencies such as – FOBO, Lunds Municipality, LUMES students from Lund University, Holma Folkhögskola, LKF, Utmaning Hållbart

Lund, Origo Resurs as well as private gardeners. As intended, the meeting initiate a dialog about how we can cooperate within that network in order to increase and strengthen urban farming/ local food production efforts in Lund.

In March the spring's first GREEN TALKS Workshop was held together with Lund University's environmental association Hållbart Universitet at Wickmanska Youth Café. The Workshop was led by dynamic eco-gardener Anette Nilsson and revolved around learning how to plant organic herbs, how to cultivate and care for them. It was the most attended out of all GREEN TALKS so far, with more than fifty-five people attending – great stuff!

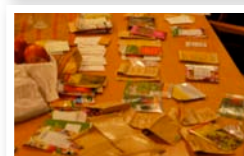
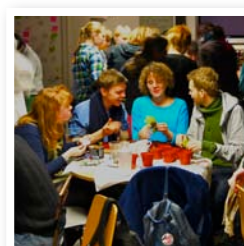
To create a forum for dialog and collaboration between gardeners and residents in Linero and other areas of Lund, Ett Grönare Lund arranged a Seed Exchange on the 15th of March in the locale at Vikingavägen. The event was very

successful where people from all ages and backgrounds met, had fika and exchanged seeds and knowledge.

In late March ABC has also sold its beautiful, tasty, fair and ecological products in both Malmö and Lund. Yet another opportunity to buy nice Easter gifts will be given at 2nd of April (see Upcoming Activities below).

We are still in great need of volunteers, so if you are passionate about development issues and likes to plan activities, please feel free to contact us! There are also many events to look forward to in the close future!

The Activity Group



Upcoming Activities!



Monday the 2nd of April between 11-14: *Easter Sales.* ABC sells Fairtrade products and much more at Sensus, 3rd floor at Studentgatan 4 in Malmö. Welcome!

Thursdays odd weeks between 17.30-18.45: *Gardening activities* for kids & youth in Linero at Ett Grönare Lund's location at Vikingavägen 12C.

Thursdays even weeks kl.17.15-18.30: *General Meeting* within Ett Grönare Lund in our locale at Vikingavägen 12C where we have fika together, garden and continue our planning of the project.

Thursday the 12th of April between 13-15: *Seminar Ecological Footprints Across the Globe* at the Globalen, Kommendanthuset, Malmö Museer, on Malmöhusvägen 5 with the focus days Global Malmö. The seminar will consist of a collaboration between the aid organisation Svalorna India Bangladesh, the global network Powershift, the environment federation Jordens vänner and ABC's local projects Ett grönaire Lund (A Greener Lund).

Friday the 13th of April between 15-19: *Training workshop* to become a communication officer on ecological footprints. With the aid organization Svalorna India Bangladesh's national campaign on ecological footprint is ABC's project A Greener Lund and Svalorna now interact in Linero, east of Lund, and lead workshops for young people about the ecological footprint. This training workshop is aimed at volunteers in A Greener Lund and pre-registration requested (sent to julia.linder@abcsweden.org).

Wednesday the 18th of April: *GREEN TALKS Workshop* in central Lund with focus on the connection between food and climate as well as practical gardening of tomatoes. More info regarding time and venue will come shortly!

Saturday the 21st of April between 10-16: *Permaculture Workshop*, Linero for residents in Linero, with Britta Nylinder from the cultivation network Mykorrhiza at the ABC:s project A Greener Lund place at Vikingavägen 12 C. If interested in participation, please email julia.linder@abcsweden.org.

Sunday the 22nd of April: *Earth Day* with Fair Trade. We celebrate Earth Day with Fair Trade and an Eco-Brunch at Sensus, Krafts torg 12a, Lund. NOTE! This activity is in the current situation preliminary. More info coming soon on ABC's website!

Monday the 23th of April between 18-19.30: *GREEN TALK-Workshop* with the theme Food & Climate at the Café Athen, Af-borgen. Subject to change of location.

Sunday the 29th of April between 11-14: Finally *ABC:s Fairtrade- and organic brunch with live music* at Wickmanska Ungdomskafét, Bredgatan 2 in central Lund.

May 12th to May 26th: Lund sustainability festival Planet Lund.

Saturday the 12th of May between 11-16: We are celebrating *World Fair Trade Day* in collaboration with Fairtrade City Lund, Klotet, and others parallel with the inauguration of Lunds first sustainability festival Planet Lund, 12 pm at Domkyrkofoorum in which others EU Affairs

Birgitta Ohlsson is participating. The day is packed with activities, music and other entertainment and it will be possible to find bargains among ABC's fairtrade and unique products.

Sunday the 13th of May between 11-14 - *Children's Day* in Lund City Park, where A Greener Lund and others organizes various culture-related activities with children and adolescents from Linero in the park's greenhouse. Changes can be made.

Tuesday the 15th of May between 19-20: *Lecture on Ecological footprint* values over the Domkyrkofoorum, central Lund - a seminar by the Svalorna India Bangladesh, the global network Power Shift, Jordens Vänner and ABC's Project A Greener Lund. Changes can be made.

Monday the 21th of May between 18.00-19.30: *GREEN TALK Workshop* with the theme of ecological herbal cultivation at Domkyrkofoorum, central Lund. Subject to change of location.

Thursday the 24th of May between 17.30-18.45: *Fair Trade Workshop* with Fairtrade City of Lund in Lund A Greener local at Vikingavägen 12C for children and adolescents aged 9-25 years at Linero.

See our updated calendar: www.abcsweden.org
Facebook: ABC- Active Aid



300 members
- soon we will be there!

Member Weeks - Let's influence together!

300 members - that's the goal we will reach together before the 30th of April.

To pursue development and support operations in Sweden and abroad, volunteering and our members are a prerequisite - that's why you are needed!

If you are not a member today or do you know someone who wants to be part of creating a more sustainable and just world? Pay your annual fee of 100 kr and join us to be able to influence our work. In addition to an important vote on ABC's annual meeting, you also get discounts on our

products, the ability to take advantage of free courses as well as our fine newsletter that is published four times a year.

ABC's financial year extends to September each year. So have you ever been a member, it's time to pay the membership fee to once again be able to influence with ABC!

The membership fee is paid to PG 90 07 43-6. Do not forget to write your name in the notification area! Also send an email to info@abcsweden.org with name, address, telephone number, email and social security number.