

Hi all,

Last weekend took place in Capannori, Italy, a big international Zero Waste gathering. Activists from Italy, experts from Europe and the US as well as committed politicians and activists from several European countries participated in the event that was broadcasted live in internet.

They were 2 intensive days of learning, experience sharing and planning of future steps for the Zero Waste movement in Italy and Europe.

In the event there were presentations about the influence of waste on climate change, the threats for health and environment posed by incinerators, Zero Waste experiences in the US, impact of European legislation to local waste management, presentation of European best practices and many others. Representatives from many Italian municipalities presented amazing results of how they managed to jump from 15 to 70% of diversion rates in only 1 year thanks to door-to-door collection. It was a celebration of enthusiasm for clean alternatives for the waste management, most of them the result of many years of struggles, first to defeat incinerator projects and then to build alternatives. It was a success of the civil society, that showed to pro-incinerator politicians that there are alternatives to “business as usual”.

From Italy there were activists from Val d’Aosta, Torino and Piemonte, Liguria and Genova, Brescia, Mantova, Trento, Treviso, Reggio Emilia, Ferrara, Parma, Ravenna, Forli, all provinces of Tuscany, Perugia, Fabriano, Sassoferrato, Civitavecchia, Castelli Romani and Albano, Rome, Rieti, Naples, Acerra, Ischia, Salerno, Catania and Trapani in Sicily, from Carbonia in Sardegna.

From the rest of Europe we had representatives from Bulgaria, France, Scotland, Slovakia, Belgium and Croatia and from the US we had experienced “Zero Wasters” like Paul Connett, Eric Lombardi, Ric Anthony and Jeffrey Morris that shared the best practices from the other side of the Ocean. We also had European experts like Enzo Favoino, Patrizia Gentilini, MEPs like Roberto Musacchio, Beppe Grillo and many others.

The whole event was broadcasted via on-line webstreaming and you can see and listen to the presentations in www.ambientefuturo.org

GAIA in Europe is working on spreading the Zero Waste philosophy and influencing the decision-making regarding waste management both at European and local level. We are gathering best practices in the continent and we aim at producing the first Zero Waste European report soon.

This successful event was organized by Ambiente Futuro, member of GAIA in Italy. I would like to publicly congratulate Rossano Ercolini and all the people that worked to make this event possible,

Welldone Ambiente Futuro!!

Joan Marc

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