

The following is a selection of the activities members of the Article 13 team completed in 2007. These activities formed part of the Group's ongoing efforts to uphold and be advocates of the UNGC's ten corporate citizenship principles. This list is by no means exhaustive. Further information can be found in the 2007 Communication on Progress, available on the Our CSR page at www.article13.com.

Tree-Athlon 2007 in support of Trees for Cities – 15 September

Article 13 entered a team in the 5K Tree-Athlon, held in Battersea Park, London. This sporting event was organised by Tree for Cities, a charity whose aim it is to fight climate change and make our cities healthier by planting trees in needy urban areas. The entire funds raised during the event will be dedicated to the planting of more trees. Article 13 decided to participate in this event to join other companies and individuals by taking more concrete actions to tackle global warming.

In addition to its participation in this event, Article 13 set up a fundraising page. All money donated was sent to Trees for Cities.

World Water Week – 12-18 September

"In a world of ever-increasing water scarcity, the business sector is confronted with a host of strategic challenges as well as significant opportunities." (Source: WBCSD)

Water Week is an annual event for the gathering of the scientific, business, policy and civil society communities to "advance efforts related to water, the environment, livelihoods and poverty reduction". Water is becoming an increasingly critical sustainable development issue for the whole business community - not just for the water sector. It can provide opportunities for companies to become more competitive through innovative performance, improved reputation and partnership with other stakeholders. Also, by reducing water use, energy is saved and CO₂ emissions reduced.

Around the time of World Water Week, Article 13 looked at the growing, high-profile topic of water for the business community, and ways in which we can all do our bit. We came across a number of recommendations on the Envirowise website which we would like to draw your attention to (see below). Also, as part of our own commitment as UNGC signatories, the Article 13 team has agreed to install an in-house tap water filter system to replace our water coolers when the contract runs out in early 2008.

Saving Water - for business

"Business accounts for a third of all the water used in the UK. If companies were to change their attitudes towards water by employing the simple reduction measures...not only would the water shortage be alleviated, they would also save themselves money." (Source: Martin Gibson, Envirowise)

- Work out how much water you're using so you can conduct an audit and produce a water management plan. Resources are available from sites such as <http://www.envirowise.gov.uk>.

- Fit a water saving device in your cistern - just contact your local water company for a free device, or install a litre bottle of water in older cisterns to reduce flushing water by up to 20%.
- Installing a water meter allows you to monitor how much water you're using - you could save money too.
- Spray taps reduce water by 70%.
- In winter, lag pipes to avoid bursts and keep heating on a low setting whilst out to prevent pipes from freezing.
- Monitor water readings overnight to detect any possible leaks that should be fixed.
- Fill kettles with only as much water as you need - this saves energy too.
- Keep water in the fridge so that you don't need to run the tap to get cold water.

UNGC Leaders Summit – July

The United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Leaders Summit in Geneva brought together approximately 1,000 senior corporate figures, top government officials and heads of non-profit groups to discuss corporate citizenship.

Jane Fiona Cumming, a Director of Article 13 - the corporate social responsibility specialists - represented the company at the summit. In her feedback, Jane Fiona reported on two key messages coming out of the summit: there is a desire to do more than just compliance amongst participants and there is a move towards working together to achieve scale. Read more about Jane Fiona's feedback on the Leaders Summit in the press section of our website.

(http://www.article13.com/A13_OurPress.asp?strAction=GetPublication&PNID=1298)

Take action against climate change – Join the Greenpeace 7 step climate campaign

Everyone at Article 13 is focused on doing their bit to reduce their carbon footprints, whether it be at home or at work. As individuals, members of the Article 13 have signed up to the 7 step climate campaign to gather more ideas...



(<http://greenpeace.org/7steps>)

London Sustainability Weeks 2007 – 3-17 June

As part of London Sustainability Weeks this year, the Article 13 team made sustainability pledges – small but meaningful changes for a more sustainable lifestyle. Actions undertaken included:

- Walking to work several times a week
- Making an effort to use local shops and ingredients
- Cycling for local trips
- Ensuring no household items are left on standby
- Accepting no new plastic bags
- Promoting Sustainability Weeks and the work of organisations such as Love London and We Are What We Do through social networking sites and the Article 13 website.

Everyone agreed that this was a successful and useful exercise to undertake, despite requiring initial effort and having to be proactive about finding the time to adapt the changes into our lifestyles. Benefits reported back included:

- Getting more exercise
- Eating more healthily
- Saving money
- Discovering new local places and events

The initiative was so successful that everyone is incorporating their actions more frequently into their daily lives in future. All this and living more sustainably and climate friendly too!