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PRESS RELEASE

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## ***CEEweb for Biodiversity***

### **Gold mining and dying lakes– these are the winner short films of the 5th Green-Go International Short Film Contest**

**The dark side of exploitation, our footprint on Earth and the future of nature – these were the topics of the 5th Green-Go International Short Film Contest. The competition, organised by CEEweb for Biodiversity, received 151 applications from 40 countries. The short films were evaluated by a renowned jury from the filming and nature conservation sector, such as Hesna Al Ghaoui, editor-in-chief of the documentary series named Babel, and Jason Peters nature film maker.**

CEEweb launched the call for its short film contest on 27 March, drawing the attention to overconsumption, social and environmental effects of mining, and to the beauties of nature. Applications were received until 15 September with maximum 4 minutes long short films, and the winners were announced on 15 October. 151 short films were submitted, out of which 105 were pre-selected for the online public voting.

This year, the jury had a difficult job selecting the best ones, as many-many good quality short films have been submitted.

Member of the jury was among others Hesna Al Ghaoui, journalist and editor-in-chief of a documentary series broadcasting from conflict areas screened on Hungarian national television. “Through the past years I learned how much the way of storytelling counts. (...) I was the eye through what the viewers watched the stories and I was the filter which sorted out, edited and put together the tons of information, feelings and impressions that I met. It is a huge responsibility and a huge blessing when your story makes a change. Even if it is only a minor one.”- says Hesna, who was just awarded with a Hungarian Television award.

Jason Peters was also a jury member, who helps to save the nature through wildlife filming. After working as a zoologist in the rain forests of Northern Vietnam and with cheetah in Southern Africa, he went on to study wildlife film-making in Cape Town. Now he is Managing Director at Wildlife Media Ltd. About the Green-Go topics he says: “The future will be bleak unless we both consume and exploit far less.”

Moreover, jury member was Ákos Malatinszky, president of CEEweb for Biodiversity and associate professor of Szent István University, and Lajos Hollósi, creative designer, winner of a Green-Go category in 2011 with his short film “Once upon a Time” presenting a future visionary Museum of Once Upon a Time Lived Animals.

Winner of the category *Our Footprint on Earth* is the short film “[Take a right step](#)” from Ukraine. According to the director, if we continue to leave such huge footprints on our Earth – which he presents in his 1,5 minutes long short film - there soon might be nobody to leave prints.

“[Gold rush](#)”, the winner of the *Two faces of exploitation* category, was filmed in Kenya, where we can get a glimpse of the hazardous circumstances of the gold miners, the social inequality and environmental damages through the eye of the German director.

“[The Barb](#)”, winner of the category *You are part of nature. Live with it!* reflects on hope and hopelessness, in the person of a little boy and a dried out lake from where the boy angles a toy fish. The film reminds us that we inherited the Earth from our children.

The short “[Twilight](#)” from Turkey won the public award with 3881 likes.

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**More information:**

CEEweb for Biodiversity is a network of non-governmental organizations in the Central and Eastern European region working for 20 years in 20 countries. Our mission is the conservation of biodiversity through the promotion of sustainable development.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Green-Go International Short Film Contest was realized within the EU funded project “*Time for change: Promoting sustainable production and consumption of raw materials in the context of EYD 2015 and beyond*”. The 13 international partners in the campaign aim for an ethical consumption and extraction of raw-materials with the support of consumers, companies and political decision makers; and aim for the reduction of raw-material consumption and the phasing out of fossil fuels. More information: [www.stopmadmining.org](http://www.stopmadmining.org).

See the short films on [www.greengofest.eu](http://www.greengofest.eu).



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*The short film contest was realised with the financial support of the European Union. The contents of this press release are the sole responsibility of CEEweb and the contents of the films are the sole responsibility of the filmmakers, and can in no way be taken to reflect views of the European Union.*