

# For Global Ecovillage Network

## Norwegian Ecovillages autumn 2014



### Norwegian Ecovillage Association

This list is put together by the Norwegian Ecovillage Association (Norsk Okosamfunns Forening, NOF). It was first put together in 2013, and is updated in the autumn of 2014. It will be used to update a similar list in a year from now.

The Norwegian Ecovillage Network has over 300 members on the electronic mailing list and another 300 on Facebook. The network sends out between 4 and 6 electronic newsletters annually and arranges several open meetings in the Oslo area every spring and autumn. These are attended by between 10 and 30 participants, and various Ecovillage projects are presented. In October 2014, a seminar on Ecovillage Living was held by Craig Gibsone from Findhorn and Jan Martin Bang. Similar seminars are planned for 2015.

For more information about the Association see the website [www.okosamfunn.no](http://www.okosamfunn.no) or write direct to [leder@okosamfunn.no](mailto:leder@okosamfunn.no) or [jan@permakultur.no](mailto:jan@permakultur.no)

The list is divided up into three areas. The first is a list of **Established Ecovillages**, the second a list of **Forming Ecovillages** (that are in the process of being formed), the third list a number of other **Partner Organisations** that we work closely with, supporting each other in creating a sustainable future. We include them because we see them as essential co-workers, but not necessarily resident Ecovillages.

The list contains 8 established Ecovillages, 17 in formation and 5 partner organisations. This is a significant a significant rise in activity during the last year. The listings are in alphabetical order.

### Established Ecovillages

#### Alvdal Eco Village (Gaiagrenda Alvdal)

**Description:** Farm from 1919 with upgraded outbuildings and a residential building including 1000 square metres of commercial premises for conferences, meeting facilities and accommodation for 30 guests today. There are plans for taking over a small travel agency (Total Helse) in 2014 and to arrange seminars in green living and back to nature concept. There are also plans for buying property nearby and building 50 round houses to accommodate families, members and guests, starting in 2015. Plans for growing our own food and bring our work with us to build up a sustainable community in Alvdal to be self sufficient during 2016.

**History and status:** The farm was bought December 2012. Three small wooden cabins were bought and a restaurant with all the inventory, furniture, kitchen equipment etc. before Christmas and quickly increased our capacity for accommodation to a higher level.

3000 hours of volunteer work was done during 2013.

In 2014 Gaia Homes was established and signed a contract as an authorized distributor of Mandala Homes in Europe.

The work with the zoning for Gaiagrenda Eco Village started early 2014 and the final application will be delivered to the municipality of Alvdal in November. Final approval of the zoning is expected in June 2015.

In the summer of 2015 the first round Mandala Homes will be built in Norway. We have plans for building 4 Mandala houses in 2015, and a increasing number in the following years.

**Size:** 15 persons are now shareowners in Gaia Holding, which is the mother company. We invite new shareholders 2 times a year, and there will be 10 more in 2015.

Many helpful hands from friends and families are actively engaged in the project at present. 2 persons are staying as residents on the farm on a permanent basis and 2-3 more will move to Alvdal in 2015, and the number of permanent residents will increase as fast as we can build our round houses in Gaiagrenda.

**Location:** Central Norway. 300 km north of Oslo (4 hours drive by car or train)

**Contact:** Gaia Holding, Gaia Helse, Gaiagrenda and Gaia Homes: Nina Ostgaard  
tel + 47 902 80 335 [www.gaiasenter.no](http://www.gaiasenter.no)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gaia-Homes/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Gaiahelse>

## **Camphill Hogganvik**

Camphill Hogganvik lies in typical West Coast fiordlandscape near Vindafjord with views of fiords and mountains. The family houses, farm, gardens, cheese making dairy, forests and carpenter's workshop provide work for the 35 to 40 people who live there.

**Contact:**

Camphill Hogganvik

5583 Vikedal

Tlf: +47 52 76 01 11

[hogganvik@camphill.no](mailto:hogganvik@camphill.no)

[www.camphill.no/Hogganvik/](http://www.camphill.no/Hogganvik/)

## **Camphill Jossaasen**

Camphill Jossaasen lies East of Trondheim and about 50 people live in the village, and an additional 10 to 12 have day work places there. They have a farm, a cultural centre, bookbinding, ceramic and carpenter's workshops and a firewood group.

**Contact:**

Camphill Jossaasen  
7550 Hommelvik  
Tel: +47 73 97 12 22  
[office@jossasen.no](mailto:office@jossasen.no)  
[www.jossasen.no](http://www.jossasen.no)

## **Camphill Rotvoll**

Camphill Rotvoll is in a rural situation just outside Trondheim and comprises the life sharing community Kristoffertunet and the Rotvoll workshops and gardens. They welcome people with special needs in the community and have day places for those who do not live on site.

**Contact:**

Camphill Rotvoll  
Rotvoll Alle 1  
7053 Ranheim  
Tlf: +47 73 82 68 50  
[kristoffertunet@camphill-rotvoll.no](mailto:kristoffertunet@camphill-rotvoll.no)  
<http://rotvoll.camphill.no/hjem/>

## **Camphill Solborg**

Camphill Solborg lies in southern Norway about an hour west of Oslo, with beautiful views westward to the mountains and with the wilderness area Nordmarka to the east. About 55 people live in the village. They have a farm, gardens, a herb workshop, weavery, bakery and a firewood group.

**Contact:**

Camphill Solborg, Solborgveien 21, 3520 Jevnaker  
Tel: +47 32 13 24 80  
[solborg@camphill.no](mailto:solborg@camphill.no)  
<http://solborg.camphill.no/hjem/>

## **Camphill Vallersund and FRAMskolen**

Camphill Vallersund lies on the coast east of Trondheim. They offer a working and life sharing community to people with special needs. About 35 to 40 live there and work on the farm, the bakery, weavery, gardens, the shop and a herb workshop.

FRAMskolen is part of the village. The school is a two year course for young adults with special needs in transition between school and an active working life.

**Contact:**

Vallersund Gård, 7167 Vallersund  
Tel: +47 72 52 70 80  
[vallersund-gaard@camphill.no](mailto:vallersund-gaard@camphill.no)  
<http://vallersund.camphill.no/hjem/>  
<http://www.framskolen.no>

**Camphill Vidaraasen**

Camphill Vidaraasen, with about 120 residents, lies a couple of hours travel south of Oslo. The village comprises a farm, gardens, dairy, felt, carpenter's, herb, and painting workshops, a weavery, bakery and a shop. They have concerts, theater productions, lectures and meetings, and there is a therapy building for people who need extra care.

**Contact:**

3158 Andebu  
Tel: +47 33 44 41 00  
[office@vidaraasen.no](mailto:office@vidaraasen.no)  
[www.vidaraasen.no](http://www.vidaraasen.no)

**Hurdal Ecovillage (Hurdalsjoeen Oekologiske Landsby SA)**

**Description:** Today the property has gained legal consent to build 150 living units; building commenced in summer 2013 and should be completed within 5 years. In 2014 the ecovillage takes title of a neighbouring school which will be converted to a sustainable business-centre with café, bakery, classes in various arts and topics and a centre for sustainable research.

**History:** Hurdal Ecovillage was started in 2002 by a small group of people who formed a cooperative and bought an old farm with 173 acres of land in Hurdal.

**Size:** Around 20 people is currently living in the village. There is also 40 acres of farmland on which grow vegetables and hay for the animals.

**Location:** 55 minutes north of Oslo.

**Contact:** Hurdalsjoeen Oekologiske Landsby SA  
Landsbyvegen 3  
2090 Hurdal  
[www.hurdalecovillage.no](http://www.hurdalecovillage.no)  
[post@hurdalecovillage.no](mailto:post@hurdalecovillage.no)

**Forming Ecovillages****Asgard Ecowork in Rogaland**

## **(Asgard Oekoverk i Rogaland)**

A forming group on the south west coast, not far from Stavanger.

### **Contact:**

Jean Paul Maire [jmaire666@gmail.com](mailto:jmaire666@gmail.com)  
Sandskjellveien 34  
4310 Hommersaak  
Norway  
Tel: 0047 98185269

## **Baldron**

Raphael og Marianne Kleimann [post@baldron.com](mailto:post@baldron.com)

## **Bergen Ecological Village**

(Bergen Okologiske Landsby, soon changing its name to Bruvik Okologiske Landsby)

**Description:** We are an ecologically inspired cluster village with space for 40 to 45 living houses (family houses, flats and rooms) and 80 to 100 inhabitants.

**History:** The idea started in 2004 and we envisage beginning to build in 2015.

**Size:** There are 8 to 10 people who are beginning to build the first cluster with a common house and 4 to 6 houses in 2015.

**Location:** Bruvik on the Osteroy, an island just outside Bergen, in Western Norway.

**Contact:** <http://www.bergenokologiskelandsby.no/>  
email: [info@bergenokologiskelandsby.no](mailto:info@bergenokologiskelandsby.no)  
facebook: <https://nb-no.facebook.com/bergenokolandsby>  
tlf: 92018283 (Kristian) postal adress: Pinnelien 9, 5053 Bergen

## **Dharma Mountain**

Meditation centre in central Norway.

**Contact:** <http://dharmamountain.com>

## **Hadeland Folk High School**

**Description:** A one year residential school offering courses in: Yoga, Holistic Health, Martial Arts and Zen, Aikido and Diet Mindfulness Training.

**History:** The school has a long history, and in recent years has upgraded itself in the food that is offered to students. The school now includes Permaculture, recycling and environmental awareness.

**Size:** Up to about 100 students and staff.

**Location:** About one hour north of Oslo.

**Contact:** <http://www.hafos.no/>

## **Hegli Gårdsfelleskap**

Potential ecovillage in formation. Currently a farm and garden attached to a local school, just north of Oslo.

**Contact:** Sidsel Sandberg [sidserk@online.no](mailto:sidserk@online.no)

## **Herligheten**

Group based on a farm about an hour south of Oslo

**Contact:** [institute@craniosacral.no](mailto:institute@craniosacral.no)

## **Hurum Ecovillage Project**

Group looking for a site just south of Oslo

**Contact:** [cwkirk@broadpark.no](mailto:cwkirk@broadpark.no)

## **Jenstad Gaard**

Farm and meeting centre just outside Oslo

**Contact:** Terje Fjellstad [terjefjellstad01@gmail.com](mailto:terjefjellstad01@gmail.com)

## **Kolonihage paa landet**

**Description:** Ecological houses/holiday homes, eco-allotments for growing their own vegetables.

**History:** It started in 2006/7. It is currently a start-up, hopefully sales will commence in the spring of 2015.

**Size:** Between 5 and 10 persons are actively involved

**Location:** Rudshogda, in Ringsaker municipality, Hedmark County, between the cities of Hamar and Lillehammer.

**Contact:** Fridthjof Tokstad Platou [fridthjof@tokstad.net](mailto:fridthjof@tokstad.net)

## **Nakuhel i Sigdal**

Centre being established about 2 hours ewest of Oslo

**Contact:** Gunnar Telnes [gunnar.tellnes@medisin.uio.no](mailto:gunnar.tellnes@medisin.uio.no)

## **Natursamvirke på Eidsfoss**

A group of ecovillage activists moved to this area, south west of Oslo, in the autumn of 2013, and are developing an Ecovillage model which will be publicised in the spring of 2015.

**Contact:** [audun@gulliksen.org](mailto:audun@gulliksen.org)

## **Nesjar Ecovillage**

**Description:** Nesjar Ecovillage is situated on Nesja Farm, a regulated housing area, surrounded by beautiful nature, with a view over the Slidre Fjord and the Jotunheim Mountains. The farm is being turned to organic practice. The future residents will have their own allotments for gardening and will have an opportunity to participate in the growing and preparation of berries, vegetables and meat, in addition they will have access to firewood forests and mountains. The farm will have horses, sheep and cows. The farm is close to school, kindergarden, shops, public transport, mountains, forests and lakes.

**History:** Nesja Farm is an old farm with several old, large houses, in a traditional farming area, where the surroundings allow for the growing of good, clean food. Here it will be possible to follow "barefoot living".

**Size:** Regulated building area is 140 hectares, with an additional workshop area of 90 hectares. The farm has 1300 hectares cultivated land, about 400 hectares grazing and 8000 hectares forest. In addition there is a small mountain farm and extensive mountain grazing rights.

**Location:** Nesja farm is in the middle of Southern Norway, 200 klms. north of Oslo, 300 klms. south of Trondheim, and 300 klms. east of Bergen.

**Contact:** Oyvind Nesja, Tyinvegen 1999, N-2966, Slidre, Norway.

Telephone: 0047 952 05 130

Email: [nesja@nesja.no](mailto:nesja@nesja.no)

Email: [birkebeiner@nesja.no](mailto:birkebeiner@nesja.no)

## **Organic farm in Finnmark**

Organic research farm in Finnmark

**Contact:** [hsaevery@gmail.com](mailto:hsaevery@gmail.com)

## **Soerum Ecocluster (Oekogrend Soerum)**

**Description:** Plans to build 20 – 25 ecofriendly apartments in a social context. Possibility to grow food, near a train station.

**History:** Started in 2011. The project is not yet realised.

**Size:** Between 4 and 5 people are currently involved.

**Location:** East of Oslo.

**Contact:** [roelhout@online.no](mailto:roelhout@online.no)

[www.okogrend.no](http://www.okogrend.no)

## Sofieville

**Description:** Sofieville is an international, spiritual ecovillage initiative in Norway, politically and religiously independent. The vision is a place where people can develop their higher awareness in community with others, a place where people, animals and plants live in a dynamic and harmonic cooperation with each other, with nature and the universe. We wish for an ecovillage that is sustainable, where we will build up self sufficiency and recycling. In this way we will create one model for future lifestyles.

We will also build a part of Sofieville as an Ecological Health Farm, where traditional medicine and alternative nature medicine work together hand in hand, and where we take back respect for people from birth to death. Because everyone is part of their own healing process, we would like to create new ways, where those who are "sick" or challenged, can participate in a larger scale than is usual today. For this we will need a range of different professions.

**History:** The project started in February 2012, after two visits to Auroville in India. Today we are a core group of 10 with another 10 who are evaluating their membership. We have had 7 weekend meetings and 3 study trips in Norway. We have bought the domains [www.sofieville.org](http://www.sofieville.org) and [www.sofieville.com](http://www.sofieville.com). Our plan is to find a site and begin establishment in 2015.

**Size:** Sofieville will be designed for about 200 people.

**Contact:** Ann Ellsie Morger, email: [annellsie@morger.no](mailto:annellsie@morger.no)

## Vanaheim Natursamfunn

**Description:** Vanaheim Natursamfunn is going to be a holistic and enchanting ecovillage with great emphasis on self sufficiency, self development, children, sustainability, deep ecology and health, everything in harmony with nature and each other. We want to create a model that aims to inspire the world towards positive change by living as an example, sharing knowledge and research. Eco-tourism will also be part of the project, as we are influenced by fairytales and old Norse history and hence attract people because of our aesthetic and green focus.

**History:** We have aimed to develop the first "natursamfunn" since we established the concept in 2007. Projects that resemble ours are Lammas in Wales and the Anastasia villages in Russia, and others with a main focus on permaculture and natural organic buildings.

**Size:** We are a core group of 6 people with a bigger network that has been in the process of creating an eco community since 2006.

**Location:** Vanaheim Natursamfunn will purchase land on the beautiful west coast of Norway in the near future.

**Contact:** Website: [www.natursamfunn.no](http://www.natursamfunn.no) Email: [kontakt@natursamfunn.no](mailto:kontakt@natursamfunn.no)



## Partner Organisations

### Camphill Landsbystiftelse

Camphill Landsbystiftelse, (Norway's Camphill Village Trust) maintains 6 villages in Norway. They are life sharing communities, where people with special needs live together with co-workers. They are inspired by Anthroposophy, the Spiritual Science developed by Rudolf Steiner. Art, handicrafts and culture are combined with a high degree of environmental awareness. The first Norwegian village was founded in 1966.

**Contact:**

Camphill Landsbystiftelse  
Reidar Jensensgate 10  
7550 Hommelvik  
Tel: +47 73 97 84 60  
[landsbystiftelsen@camphill.no](mailto:landsbystiftelsen@camphill.no)  
[www.camphill.no](http://www.camphill.no)

### Cultura Bank

We use this bank as our bank, it is the only ethical bank in Norway, and has extensive experience working with Hurdal Ecovillage and the Camphill Village Trust.

**Contact:** <https://www.cultura.no>

### Norsk Permakultur Forening

The Norwegian Permaculture Association. There is extensive overlap of membership and amongst the board members.

**Contact:** <http://www.permakultur.no>

### WWOOF Norway

World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms. Many of the operating Ecovillages in Norway are WWOOF hosts, and appreciate very much this network of contacts.

**Contact:** <http://www.woofnorway.org>



**Norwegian Ecovillage Association**