

Workshop on climate change education, awareness & behaviour

10-11 February 2020

Brussels, Belgium

Context: In both the EU and the EaP countries, citizen engagement is an underdeveloped tool for climate change policy. Climate change awareness and education have the potential to ensure support for ambitious policies as well as enable actual greenhouse gas reductions with behavioural changes. This workshop aims to inspire and empower youth and policy-makers from the EU and EaP countries to step up climate change awareness and action in their home country. Participants are encouraged to signal opportunities for citizen climate change engagement by providing them with academic and practical tools, exchanging experiences and visiting a practical implementation example. Day 1 will be livestreamed to allow for further in-country participation (except for the breakout sessions).

Draft Agenda

10 February: Inspiration & Empowerment

Venue: NH Brussels EU Berlaymont Hotel, Boulevard Charlemagne 11-19, 1000 Brussels

- 09:00 – 09:30** *Registration and welcome coffee*
- 09:30 – 09:45** **Welcome**
Yvon Slingenberg, Director International, Mainstreaming and Policy Coordination at the Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA), European Commission
Lawrence Meredith, Director Neighbourhood East, Directorate General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (NEAR), European Commission
- 09:50 – 10:00** **Introduction of the day**
DG CLIMA
- 10:00 – 11:00** **Expert session on climate change awareness**
Academic insights on climate change awareness and communication – Professor Wouter Poortinga (University of Cardiff)
- 11:00 – 11:15** *Coffee break*
- 11:15 – 11:35** **From awareness to behaviour**
Academic tools to drive behavioural change – Dr. Hendrik Bruns (Joint Research Center, European Commission)
- 11:35 – 12:30** **Change maker session**
Practical insights
11:35 – 12:00 *My2050 webtool – Elisabeth Ellegaard (Belgian Federal government)*
12:00 – 12:30 *How to mobilise youth for climate change – Toon Lambrecht (Belgian Youth for Climate)*
- 12:30 – 13:30** *Lunch*

13:30 – 14:30 **Best practices exchange between EU and EaP**
Experiences that participants like to share, longer contributions from:
Laura Maanavilja (DG CLIMA, Brussels)
Anouk Ispiryian (Khazer NGO, Armenia)
Mariia Symonova (Solar City, Ukraine)
Rosa Hofgartner (Sail to the COP, Netherlands)

14:30 – 17:00 **Breakout sessions**
Domain-specific brainstorm of opportunities and barriers for behavioural change, led by the Joint Research Centre (European Commission).
Proposed subjects: awareness, transport, food, waste, energy use.

17:00 – 18:00 **Day 1 closure**
Presentation of results and preparation of day 2
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11 February: Field Trip Day

Venue: various in the area of Gent

08:45 – 09:00 *Meeting in front of the hotel*

09:00 – 10:00 *Travel to Gent by private bus*

10:00 – 12:00 **Visit Neighbour Electricity (“Buurzame Stroom”) & Food project**
Buurzame Stroom wants to make it possible for everyone to install solar panels on their roof. Putting solar panels on your roof is interesting both for the citizens' energy bill and for the climate. However, not every roof is suitable and not every family can afford the initial investment. Therefore the City of Ghent, citizen energy cooperative Energent, Society BuildingGhent, Ghent University, citizen energy cooperative Ecopower, DSO Fluvius and the WiseGRID project joined forces to look for answers and solutions under the umbrella of 'Buurzame Stroom'. <https://municipalpower.org/podcast/>

Ghent is the capital of vegetarian restaurants and a European frontrunner on sustainable food policy. Together with local partners, the city designed 'Ghent en garde', the food policy which initiated several good projects and actions. You will hear about the topics where citizens are 'sensitized' in making more sustainable food choices, like resto restje, Neighbourhood pigs, Thursday Veggieday, gardening in schools, etc. <https://stad.gent/en/city-structure/food-strategy-ghent-gent-en-garde>

12:00 – 13:00 *Lunch (location TBA)*

13:00 – 13:30 *Travel time*

13:30 – 15:00 **Visit school Don Boscocollege Zwijnaarde**
Tour; address: Grotesteenweg-Noord 113, 9052 Gent

15:00 – 15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30 – 16:30 **Day 2 closure in the bus to Brussels**
Arrival at the NH Berlaymont hotel approx. 16:30