

STRATEGIC PAPER

Project "Green Youth Work Hubs - A Green Path for Sustainable Youth Work and Civil Activism" is long term Erasmus + activity for co-operation partnerships in the youth field. The project was funded by JUGEND für Europa with number 2021-2-DE04-KA220-YOU-0000 50538.





INTRODUCTION

Climate change stands as one of the most critical and pressing global challenges, holding profound consequences for both the planet and humanity. This comprehensive Strategy paper delves deeply into understanding climate change, with a particular emphasis on the pivotal role individuals play in contributing to climate change issues. Additionally, it explores how non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can effectively promote sustainable behavior among youth and implement green youth work practices, making a meaningful impact in combating climate change. Through a thorough examination of the causes and effects of climate change, the paper sheds light on the crucial role of civil society in addressing this multifaceted problem and inspiring action for mitigation.

Climate change arises from a myriad of human activities, including deforestation, burning fossil fuels, and industrial emissions, which lead to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, resulting in global warming. The effects of climate change extend across ecosystems, biodiversity, water resources, and weather patterns, significantly impacting food security, human health, and economic stability worldwide.

Crucially, the paper underscores the power of individual actions in driving change. Each person's daily choices, such as energy consumption, transportation habits, and waste management, collectively contribute to the overall carbon footprint. By recognizing the interconnectedness of these individual actions, the paper aims to motivate individuals to take responsibility for their environmental impact and adopt more sustainable lifestyles.

Moreover, the Strategy paper highlights the vital role of NGOs in fostering sustainable behavior among young people. NGOs act as influential agents of education and awareness, advocating for environmental protection and empowering the youth to become active participants in climate action. By engaging the youth in green initiatives and providing platforms for their voices to be heard, NGOs nurture a generation of environmentally conscious citizens committed to combating climate change.

Beyond individual and NGO efforts, the paper also acknowledges the strength of civil society movements in driving systemic change. By mobilizing collective action and advocating for policy reforms, civil society can compel governments and corporations to prioritize sustainable practices and take more significant steps in mitigating climate change.



I. Overview

1. **Understanding Climate Change:** Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperature patterns, precipitation, wind patterns, and other aspects of the Earth's climate system. Human activities have significantly contributed to the increase in greenhouse gas emissions, leading to a rise in global temperatures.

Fossil Fuel Combustion: The burning of fossil fuels, such as coal, oil, and natural gas, for energy production and transportation is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. Shifting towards cleaner and renewable energy sources is crucial in combating climate change.

Industrial Processes: Industrial activities, including manufacturing, chemical production, and cement production, release significant amounts of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions: The excessive release of greenhouse gases (GHGs) into the atmosphere is the leading cause of climate change. The primary GHGs contributing to the greenhouse effect are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O), and fluorinated gases. These gases trap heat in the Earth's atmosphere, leading to a rise in global temperatures.

Agriculture and Livestock: Agricultural practices, particularly intensive livestock farming, contribute to methane and nitrous oxide emissions. Deforestation for agriculture also adds to carbon emissions.

3. *Effects of Climate Change*

- ✓ **Rising Temperatures:** Global warming leads to rising temperatures, resulting in more frequent and severe heatwaves, melting glaciers, and changes in weather patterns.
- ✓ **Sea-Level Rise:** Melting ice caps and thermal expansion of seawater contribute to rising sea levels, posing risks to coastal communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems.
- ✓ **Extreme Weather Events:** Climate change intensifies extreme weather events, including hurricanes, droughts, floods, and wildfires, leading to devastating impacts on human lives, agriculture, and economies.



4. *Role of Individuals* in Climate change issues

People contribute to climate change through their behavior and activities in various ways. Here are some concrete examples:

Energy Consumption: The use of fossil fuels for heating, cooling, and electricity generation contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. People can reduce their energy consumption by adopting energy-efficient practices, such as using energy-saving appliances, properly insulating their homes, and opting for renewable energy sources like solar or wind power.

Deforestation: The clearing of forests for agriculture, urbanization, and logging contributes to carbon dioxide emissions and loss of carbon sinks. Individuals can support forest conservation efforts by avoiding products linked to deforestation, supporting sustainable forestry practices, and participating in reforestation projects.

Consumer Choices: The production, transportation, and disposal of consumer goods contribute to carbon emissions. People can make sustainable choices by opting for eco-friendly products, supporting companies with environmentally responsible practices, and embracing minimalism and conscious consumption.

Transportation: The reliance on fossil fuel-powered vehicles, especially private cars, leads to significant carbon emissions. People can reduce their carbon footprint by opting for public transportation, carpooling, cycling, or walking for shorter distances. Alternatively, switching to electric vehicles or hybrid cars can significantly reduce emissions.

Diet Choices: The agricultural sector, particularly livestock farming, generates significant greenhouse gas emissions. People can reduce their impact by adopting more plant-based diets or reducing their meat consumption. Additionally, choosing locally sourced and seasonal food reduces carbon emissions associated with transportation.

Waste Management: Improper waste management, including landfilling and incineration, releases methane and carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. People can contribute to climate change mitigation by practicing waste reduction, recycling, composting, and supporting circular economy initiatives.

Water Usage: Energy is required for pumping, treating, and heating water, contributing to carbon emissions. Conserving water through simple actions like taking shorter showers, fixing leaks, and using water-efficient appliances reduces the energy required for water management.

Education and Advocacy: Individuals can contribute to climate change mitigation by educating themselves and others about its causes and effects. By raising awareness, supporting climate-friendly policies, and engaging in advocacy efforts, people can create a collective impact and drive positive change.



It is essential to remember that individual actions alone cannot solve the climate crisis. However, collective efforts and systemic changes, supported by government policies, industry initiatives, and international cooperation, are crucial for achieving substantial and lasting climate change mitigation.

II. Climate Justice

Climate justice is a framework that seeks to address the unequal distribution of climate change impacts and promote equitable solutions. It recognizes that marginalized communities, often in developing countries, face the brunt of climate-related challenges despite contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions. Climate justice encompasses principles of fairness, equity, and human rights, aiming to rectify the injustices inherent in climate change's social, economic, and environmental dimensions.

Climate change and global inequality are closely interconnected, and addressing climate change requires a strong focus on social justice. Here's an overview of the role of social justice in addressing climate change and the impacts of climate change on global inequality:

1. **Disproportionate Impact:** Climate change impacts are not distributed equally around the world. Vulnerable communities, often marginalized and disadvantaged, bear the brunt of climate change effects. These communities include low-income populations, indigenous peoples, women, children, and people living in developing countries. Climate change exacerbates existing social inequalities, as marginalized communities face greater challenges in adapting to and recovering from climate-related disasters.
2. **Unequal Access to Resources:** Climate change exacerbates resource disparities, particularly in terms of access to water, food, and energy. Vulnerable populations often face limited access to these essential resources, leading to increased vulnerability and inequality. The impacts of climate change, such as droughts, floods, and heatwaves, can further restrict resource availability, deepening socio-economic disparities.
3. **Environmental Racism:** Environmental degradation and the disproportionate exposure to pollution and climate-related hazards often target marginalized communities. This phenomenon, known as environmental racism, reflects social injustice, as communities of color and low-income communities are more likely to live in areas with poor air quality, proximity to industrial pollution, or vulnerability to climate-related disasters.
4. **Economic Inequality:** Climate change can exacerbate economic inequality by affecting livelihoods and economic opportunities. For example, climate-related events like extreme weather events, sea-level rise, and agricultural disruptions can lead to job losses, reduced



- incomes, and increased poverty, particularly in developing countries. The unequal distribution of resources and economic power exacerbates the vulnerability of marginalized populations.
- 5. **Climate Justice:** Climate justice recognizes the need to address the unequal impacts of climate change and promotes equitable solutions. It emphasizes the importance of ensuring that those who are least responsible for climate change do not disproportionately bear its burdens. Climate justice calls for fair and inclusive policies that consider the needs and voices of marginalized communities, promote human rights, and support sustainable development.

The Intersection of Climate Change and Global Inequality:

1. **Disproportionate Vulnerability:** Vulnerable communities, including those living in poverty, indigenous peoples, and small island nations, are disproportionately affected by climate change. They often lack the necessary resources and infrastructure to adapt to changing climatic conditions and are more susceptible to extreme weather events, food insecurity, and water scarcity.
2. **Environmental Injustice:** Environmental degradation and pollution disproportionately impact marginalized communities, leading to environmental injustices. These communities often reside near hazardous industrial sites, waste disposal areas, or suffer from poor air quality, exacerbating health disparities and perpetuating social inequalities.
3. **Socio-economic Impacts:** Climate change disrupts economic systems, exacerbating existing inequalities and hindering sustainable development efforts. Impacts such as crop failures, displacement, and loss of livelihoods disproportionately affect those already marginalized, perpetuating cycles of poverty and inequality.

Addressing climate change and promoting social justice require transformative actions at local, national, and global levels. This includes empowering marginalized communities, ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making processes, providing access to education and resources, and implementing policies that prioritize social equity alongside climate action. By addressing the root causes of inequality and incorporating social justice principles, we can work towards a more just and sustainable future for all.

Climate injustice manifests in various forms across different regions of the world. Here are examples of climate injustice from different parts of the world:

1. **Sub-Saharan Africa:** In many countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, climate change exacerbates food insecurity and water scarcity, disproportionately impacting rural communities who rely on rain-fed agriculture for their livelihoods. Erratic rainfall



- patterns, droughts, and desertification further marginalize small-scale farmers and contribute to increased poverty and malnutrition.
- 2. **Small Island Developing States (SIDS):** SIDS, such as the Maldives and Tuvalu, are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise and increased frequency of extreme weather events. These countries face the prospect of losing their homes and cultural heritage due to coastal erosion and saltwater intrusion, despite contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions.
- 3. **Indigenous Communities:** Indigenous peoples around the world, from the Arctic to the Amazon rainforest, face climate injustice due to the loss of their traditional lands and ecosystems. Climate change disrupts their traditional ways of life, impacting cultural practices, subsistence activities, and their deep connection to the natural environment.
- 4. **South Asia:** In densely populated regions like South Asia, climate change amplifies the risks of flooding and landslides, leading to displacement and loss of homes and livelihoods. Urban slum dwellers and marginalized communities are particularly vulnerable, lacking adequate infrastructure, and facing increased health risks due to waterborne diseases and poor sanitation.
- 5. **Arctic Communities:** Indigenous communities in the Arctic face rapid environmental changes, including melting sea ice and permafrost, which disrupts their traditional hunting, fishing, and reindeer herding practices. These changes not only threaten their cultural identity but also jeopardize their food security and well-being.
- 6. **Low-income Urban Areas:** Within cities, low-income neighborhoods often experience a disproportionate burden of climate change impacts, such as urban heat islands, air pollution, and inadequate access to green spaces. Limited resources and social inequities make it difficult for these communities to adapt and cope with the adverse effects of climate change.

III. Climate Refugees Phenomena

Climate change exacerbates existing environmental, social, and economic challenges, leading to displacement and migration on both internal and international scales. Climate change-induced displacement, often referred to as climate refugees or environmental migrants, is a growing global concern. As the impacts of climate change intensify, including rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and loss of habitable land, communities are forced to leave their homes in search of safer living conditions. Here is an overview of climate refugees as a result of climate change:

Definition of Climate Refugees: Climate refugees are individuals or communities who are compelled to migrate due to the adverse effects of climate change. Unlike traditional



- refugees who flee due to conflict or persecution, climate refugees are forced to leave their
- homes primarily because of environmental factors.

Factors Driving Climate-Induced Displacement: Various environmental changes caused by climate change contribute to displacement. These include sea-level rise, coastal erosion, desertification, prolonged droughts, increased frequency and intensity of hurricanes, and loss of agricultural productivity. These impacts render certain areas uninhabitable or unable to support livelihoods, compelling people to move elsewhere.

Vulnerable Regions: Climate refugees are predominantly found in vulnerable regions, such as small island nations, coastal areas, arid and semi-arid regions, and areas prone to flooding. Examples include Pacific island nations like Kiribati and Tuvalu, which face the imminent threat of being submerged due to sea-level rise.

Impacts on Displaced Populations: Climate-induced displacement disrupts lives, economies, and social structures. Displaced individuals often face numerous challenges, including loss of homes and assets, increased poverty, limited access to basic services, social unrest, and health risks. These challenges are compounded for marginalized communities with limited resources and support systems.

Legal and Policy Framework: The legal status of climate refugees is not yet universally recognized. Many existing international refugee frameworks do not explicitly cover those displaced solely due to environmental factors. Efforts are underway to develop policies and legal frameworks to address the protection and rights of climate refugees, including the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration.

Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies: Addressing climate-induced displacement requires a two-pronged approach: mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation efforts aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow down climate change, while adaptation focuses on building resilience and providing support to vulnerable communities to cope with and adapt to climate change impacts.

International Cooperation and Assistance: Recognizing the global nature of climate-induced displacement, international cooperation and assistance are crucial. This involves providing financial resources, technology transfer, capacity-building support, and innovative solutions to affected communities. Efforts by international organizations, such as the United Nations and regional bodies, aim to address the needs of climate refugees and promote global cooperation.

IV. Role of NGOs in promoting climate justice



- Addressing climate-induced displacement requires a comprehensive approach that integrates climate change mitigation, adaptation, and a focus on human rights. It necessitates collective global action, policy coherence, and solidarity to protect and support those who are displaced due to the impacts of climate change.

Climate justice is a critical aspect of addressing the challenges posed by climate change. As the impact of climate change becomes more evident, it is crucial to empower and engage young people in adopting sustainable behaviors and advocating for climate justice. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) play a vital role in promoting climate justice among young people by raising awareness, providing education, and fostering environmentally responsible behaviors. This article explores how NGOs can effectively promote climate justice among young people and encourage behaviors that contribute to a sustainable future.

Raising Awareness and Education:

NGOs can facilitate climate justice by providing educational programs that raise awareness about the causes, impacts, and solutions to climate change. This includes organizing workshops, seminars, and campaigns focused on climate justice issues. By engaging young people in interactive and participatory learning experiences, NGOs can empower them to understand the connections between climate change and social equity. These initiatives can help young people recognize the importance of climate justice and inspire them to take action.

Encouraging Sustainable Behaviors:

NGOs can encourage young people to adopt sustainable behaviors that reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to a greener future. This includes promoting actions such as energy conservation, waste reduction, sustainable transportation, and responsible consumption. NGOs can provide practical guidance, resources, and tools to help young people integrate these behaviors into their daily lives. By emphasizing the positive impact of individual actions, NGOs can motivate young people to become agents of change and role models within their communities.

Advocacy and Youth Empowerment:

NGOs can empower young people to become advocates for climate justice by providing them with platforms to voice their concerns and ideas. This can involve supporting youth-led initiatives, organizing youth forums, and fostering partnerships with other stakeholders. By involving young people in decision-making processes and amplifying their voices, NGOs can empower them to advocate for policies that promote climate justice at local, national, and international



- levels. NGOs can also facilitate networking and knowledge exchange among young climate
- activists, enabling them to collaborate and amplify their impact.

Collaboration and Partnerships:

NGOs should actively collaborate with other organizations, government bodies, and institutions to strengthen their efforts in promoting climate justice. By forging partnerships, NGOs can leverage resources, expertise, and networks to expand their reach and effectiveness. Collaboration can also facilitate the development of innovative projects, campaigns, and initiatives that address the specific needs and aspirations of young people. By working together, NGOs can create a collective impact and advance climate justice goals.

NGOs have a crucial role to play in promoting climate justice among young people. Through awareness raising, education, advocacy, and collaboration, NGOs can empower young people to become agents of change in addressing climate change and promoting social equity. By encouraging sustainable behaviors and providing platforms for youth engagement, NGOs can inspire young people to take action and contribute to a sustainable and just future. Together, NGOs and young people can drive meaningful change and build a more equitable and resilient world for generations to come.

V. Economy and Climate Change: Understanding the Economic Impact and Sustainable Solutions

Climate change poses significant challenges to global economies, requiring a comprehensive understanding of its economic impacts and the implementation of sustainable solutions for long-term economic growth. This scientific text explores the economic consequences of climate change and presents concrete examples, best practices, and case studies highlighting sustainable strategies that can foster economic development while mitigating environmental risks.

1. Climate change is a pressing global issue that affects various sectors of the economy, including agriculture, energy, tourism, and infrastructure. Its economic impact stems from both direct consequences, such as extreme weather events and rising sea levels, and indirect effects, such as shifts in market dynamics and resource availability.

2. The Economic Impact of Climate Change:

2.1. Physical Impacts: Climate change leads to increased risks and damages from extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, droughts, and floods, resulting in substantial economic losses in affected regions.



- o **2.2. Transition Risks:** The transition to a low-carbon economy may bring economic challenges for sectors dependent on fossil fuels, while creating opportunities for sustainable industries.

2.3. Market Risks: Climate change can disrupt supply chains, affect resource availability, and introduce regulatory changes, impacting market stability and economic growth.

Climate change is not only an environmental issue but also a significant threat to the global economy. The increasingly severe consequences of climate change are disrupting various sectors, increasing costs, and undermining economic stability. This article explores the concrete impact of climate change on the world economy and highlights the urgent need for proactive measures to mitigate these effects.

- o **Extreme Weather Events:** One of the most visible impacts of climate change is the rise in extreme weather events, including heatwaves, hurricanes, floods, and droughts. These events have devastating consequences for the global economy:
 - **Economic Losses:** Extreme weather events cause significant economic losses due to damage to infrastructure, agriculture, and property. Insurance claims skyrocket, leading to increased premiums and financial burdens for individuals and businesses.
 - **Disrupted Supply Chains:** Natural disasters disrupt global supply chains, affecting manufacturing, transportation, and distribution networks. Interruptions in production and delivery lead to increased costs, decreased productivity, and economic instability.
- o **Agriculture and Food Security:** Climate change directly affects agricultural production, posing challenges to global food security:
 - **Crop Failures:** Changes in precipitation patterns, heatwaves, and water scarcity negatively impact crop yields. Reduced agricultural productivity leads to higher food prices and food scarcity, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations.
 - **Shifting Growing Seasons:** Changing climate conditions force farmers to adapt to new growing seasons and plant different crops. These adjustments require additional investments in infrastructure and technology, increasing costs for farmers and affecting global food production.
- o **Rising Sea Levels and Coastal Infrastructure:** Sea-level rise poses a significant threat to coastal regions and their economies:
 - **Infrastructure Damage:** Coastal cities and infrastructure face increased risks from storm surges and flooding. Damage to buildings, roads, ports, and airports leads to costly repairs and investments in climate-resilient infrastructure.
 - **Tourism and Real Estate:** Many coastal areas rely on tourism and real estate sectors for economic growth. Rising sea levels and increased risks of coastal erosion impact these industries, reducing tourism revenues and property values.



- o **Health and Productivity:** Climate change has indirect effects on human health and workforce productivity:
 - **Health Costs:** Climate-related health risks, such as heat-related illnesses, respiratory problems from air pollution, and the spread of vector-borne diseases, result in increased healthcare costs and decreased productivity.
 - **Workforce Disruptions:** Extreme weather events disrupt work routines, leading to decreased productivity and increased absenteeism. Additionally, the need for adaptation measures, such as heat stress protocols and workplace safety enhancements, imposes additional costs on businesses.
- o **Financial Stability and Investment:** Climate change poses risks to financial stability and investments:
 - **Stranded Assets:** Fossil fuel reserves and infrastructure risk becoming stranded assets as the world transitions to cleaner energy sources. This shift could lead to significant financial losses for energy companies and investors.
 - **Investor Confidence:** Increasing awareness of climate risks has prompted investors to assess companies' climate-related disclosures and strategies. Failure to address climate change may result in reduced access to capital and investor confidence.

The concrete impacts of climate change on the world economy are already evident and demand urgent action. Governments, businesses, and individuals must collaborate to mitigate these impacts by transitioning to sustainable practices, investing in renewable energy, adopting climate-resilient infrastructure, and implementing adaptation measures. Addressing climate change is not only crucial for environmental sustainability but also essential for safeguarding the stability and prosperity of the global economy.

3. Sustainable Solutions for Economic Growth:

3.1 Renewable Energy Transition: Shifting from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions but also fosters innovation, creates jobs, and attracts investments.

3.2. Sustainable Agriculture: Implementing sustainable agricultural practices, such as precision farming and agroforestry, can enhance productivity, conserve natural resources, and promote climate resilience.

3.3. Circular Economy: Adopting circular economy principles, including recycling, waste reduction, and product life extension, promotes resource efficiency, minimizes waste, and unlocks economic opportunities.



- 3.4. *Green Infrastructure*: Investing in resilient and low-carbon infrastructure, such as public transportation systems and energy-efficient buildings, can boost economic development, reduce emissions, and enhance climate adaptation.

3.5. *Carbon Pricing*: Implementing carbon pricing mechanisms, such as carbon taxes or emissions trading schemes, creates incentives for businesses to reduce emissions, stimulates innovation, and generates revenue for climate-related investments.

4. Concrete Examples, Best Practices, and Case Studies:

4.1. *Denmark's Wind Energy Transition*: Denmark has successfully transitioned to wind energy, reducing dependence on fossil fuels, creating jobs, and positioning itself as a global leader in renewable energy technologies.

4.2. *Costa Rica's Sustainable Tourism Model*: Costa Rica has prioritized sustainable tourism, attracting environmentally conscious travelers, preserving natural ecosystems, and stimulating economic growth in local communities.

4.3. *Germany's Energiewende*: Germany's Energiewende (Energy Transition) involves phasing out nuclear power and expanding renewable energy sources. This initiative has contributed to job creation, technological advancements, and reduced carbon emissions.

4.4. *Circular Economy in the Netherlands*: The Netherlands has implemented circular economy strategies, including waste-to-energy initiatives and resource recovery projects, resulting in reduced waste, increased resource efficiency, and new business opportunities.

Addressing climate change requires a multifaceted approach that recognizes the economic implications while striving for sustainable solutions. By embracing renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, circular economy principles, green infrastructure, and carbon pricing mechanisms, societies can achieve economic growth while mitigating climate risks. Concrete examples, best practices, and case studies demonstrate that sustainable practices can foster economic development, create jobs, and enhance resilience in the face of climate change. Policymakers, businesses, and individuals must collaborate to accelerate the transition towards a low-carbon, sustainable economy for a prosperous and climate-resilient future.

VI. The Role of Youth Work in Tackling Climate Change

1. **Youth work plays a vital role** in empowering young people to become active participants in addressing the urgent issue of climate change. As youth workers, our role



- extends beyond imparting knowledge; we have the unique opportunity to inspire, support, and mobilize young individuals to take meaningful action on climate change issues.
- Understanding the Importance of Youth Work in Tackling Climate Change

1.1 Engaging Youth as Key Stakeholders: Youth are not just passive recipients of information; they are active contributors to the climate change discourse. By involving young people in decision-making processes, youth work empowers them to voice their concerns, aspirations, and solutions. Recognizing youth as key stakeholders fosters their ownership and commitment to addressing climate change issues.

1.2 Fostering Environmental Consciousness: Youth work provides a platform to raise awareness about environmental issues, including climate change. By promoting environmental consciousness, we can help young people understand the interconnectedness between their daily actions and the environment. Through education, discussions, and practical activities, youth workers can instill a sense of responsibility and inspire sustainable behavior changes.

2. Equipping Youth with Climate Change Knowledge and Skills

2.1 Building Climate Change Literacy: Youth work serves as an avenue to educate young people about the science, causes, and impacts of climate change. By providing accurate and accessible information, youth workers enable youth to understand the complexity of the issue and make informed decisions. Climate change literacy equips youth with the knowledge to critically analyze climate-related information and develop sustainable solutions.

2.2 Developing Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills: Youth work fosters critical thinking skills by encouraging young people to question prevailing norms, challenge societal structures, and envision alternative futures. By facilitating discussions and activities that explore the multidimensional aspects of climate

change, youth workers nurture problem-solving skills among youth, empowering them to generate innovative ideas and strategies.

3. Inspiring and Supporting Youth-led Climate Action - Encouraging Youth Engagement: Youth work provides spaces for young people to engage in climate action, whether through advocacy, community projects, or grassroots initiatives. By offering mentorship, resources, and networking opportunities, youth workers can encourage youth-led initiatives, empowering young individuals to drive change within their communities.

- *Facilitating Collaboration and Networking:* Youth work plays a crucial role in connecting young people with relevant stakeholders, organizations, and



- platforms for climate action. By facilitating collaborations, youth workers enable young individuals to amplify their impact and create synergies among diverse stakeholders. Networking opportunities empower youth to leverage collective efforts in tackling climate change on a broader scale.

□ *Youth work holds immense potential to empower young people as leaders and*

change-makers in the face of climate change. By recognizing youth as key stakeholders, equipping them with knowledge and skills, and providing avenues for action and collaboration, youth workers play a pivotal role in inspiring and supporting youth-led climate action. Through our collective efforts, we can harness the passion, creativity, and determination of young people to create a sustainable and resilient future for all.

3. Climate Change and Sustainable Development: A Path Towards a Resilient

Climate change poses a significant threat to sustainable development, jeopardizing progress in various social, economic, and environmental domains. This section of the manual delves into the intricate relationship between climate change and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By understanding the impact of climate change on the SDGs and the importance of sustainable development in combating climate change, we can work towards integrated solutions that promote both human well-being and environmental resilience.

3.1 The Impact of Climate Change on the Sustainable Development Goals

3.1.1 Understanding the Interconnectedness: Climate change has profound implications for the achievement of the SDGs. It exacerbates existing vulnerabilities and inequalities, affecting the core dimensions of sustainable development, including poverty eradication, food security, health, education, water and sanitation, energy access, and biodiversity conservation. Climate change acts as a cross-cutting issue, amplifying and magnifying the challenges faced in these areas.

3.1.2 Threats to Social and Economic Progress: Climate change-induced extreme weather events, such as floods, droughts, and storms, disrupt livelihoods, damage infrastructure, and undermine economic stability. Rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns impact agricultural productivity, food systems, and water resources. These impacts can exacerbate poverty, exacerbate inequalities, and hinder progress towards achieving social and economic development goals.

3.1.3 Environmental Degradation and Ecosystem Resilience: Climate change accelerates environmental degradation, affecting ecosystems, biodiversity, and natural resources. Rising



- temperatures, sea-level rise, and ocean acidification threaten coastal communities, marine ecosystems, and the availability of freshwater resources. Protecting and restoring ecosystems are crucial for climate resilience and achieving sustainable development.

3.2 The Importance of Sustainable Development in Combating Climate Change

3.2.1 Climate Change Mitigation:

Sustainable development practices are essential for mitigating climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promoting clean energy sources. Sustainable development pathways emphasize energy efficiency, renewable energy adoption, sustainable land use practices, and responsible consumption and production patterns. Integrating climate action within sustainable development strategies can create synergies and maximize co-benefits.

3.2.2 Climate Change Adaptation:

Sustainable development approaches enhance resilience to climate change impacts. By strengthening social, economic, and environmental systems, communities can better adapt to climate risks and shocks. Sustainable

development measures such as investing in climate-resilient infrastructure, promoting ecosystem-based approaches, and supporting community resilience can minimize vulnerabilities and increase adaptive capacity.

3.2.3 Coherent Policy and Integrated Approaches:

Aligning climate change action with sustainable development goals enables coherent policy frameworks and integrated approaches. By considering the interconnectedness between climate change and various sectors, policies can address multiple challenges simultaneously. Integrated approaches foster collaboration among stakeholders, enhance coordination, and optimize resource allocation, leading to more effective and sustainable outcomes. :

The intertwined relationship between climate change and sustainable development necessitates an integrated and holistic approach. Recognizing the impact of climate change on the SDGs and the importance of sustainable development in combating climate change is crucial for youth workers and educators. By promoting sustainable practices, advocating for policy coherence, and fostering resilience in communities, we can work towards a future where climate change is mitigated, vulnerabilities are reduced, and sustainable development is achieved. Through our collective efforts, we can forge a path towards a more resilient and sustainable world, leaving a positive legacy for future generations.

4. Ways Youth Work Can Contribute to SDGs Related to Climate Change

Youth work plays a vital role in empowering young people to actively contribute to the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs) related to climate change. By engaging young individuals in meaningful activities and providing them



- with the necessary tools and platforms,
- youth work can catalyze positive change and contribute to achieving the following SDGs:

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy:

Youth work can promote renewable energy adoption and energy efficiency practices among young people. By organizing workshops, campaigns, and projects focused on clean energy, youth workers can raise awareness and inspire young individuals to embrace sustainable energy solutions in their daily lives.

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities: Youth work can foster sustainable urban development by engaging young people in community-based initiatives. Youth workers can encourage youth-led projects that promote sustainable transportation, waste management, green spaces, and climate-resilient infrastructure, creating more livable and environmentally friendly cities.

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Youth work can promote responsible consumption patterns among young people. By organizing awareness campaigns, workshops, and sustainable lifestyle challenges, youth workers can educate youth about the impacts of their consumption choices and empower them to make environmentally conscious decisions.

SDG 13: Climate Action: Youth work has a significant role in mobilizing young people for climate action. Youth workers can facilitate climate change education, organize climate strikes and

demonstrations, and support youth-led advocacy initiatives. By providing platforms for youth to voice their concerns and ideas, youth work enables young individuals to become effective agents of change in the fight against climate change.

SDG 14: Life Below Water and SDG 15:

Life on Land: Youth work can contribute to the conservation and protection of marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Youth workers can engage young people in environmental restoration projects, tree planting activities, beach clean-ups, and biodiversity conservation initiatives. Through hands-on experiences, youth gain a deeper understanding of the importance of preserving our ecosystems and the role they play in mitigating climate change.

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals:

Youth work can facilitate collaboration and partnerships among young people, NGOs, government agencies, and other stakeholders. By fostering networks and platforms for knowledge sharing and joint action, youth workers enable young individuals to work collectively towards climate-related SDGs. Youth work can also support youth engagement in policy dialogues and decision-making processes, ensuring that their voices are heard and their ideas are integrated into climate change action plans.

Youth work has immense potential to contribute to SDGs related to climate change by empowering young people to take action and make a positive difference. Through education, awareness-raising, advocacy, and practical projects, youth workers can inspire and support young



- individuals to become agents of change in achieving a sustainable and climate-resilient future. By nurturing youth leadership, fostering partnerships, and

providing platforms for youth engagement, youth work plays a crucial role in creating a generation of environmentally conscious and empowered individuals who actively contribute to the SDGs.

VI. Green Youth Work

Green youth work is an approach that combines environmental sustainability, youth empowerment, and education. It aims to engage young people in activities and initiatives that promote ecological consciousness,

The origins of green youth work can be traced back to the broader environmental movement and the recognition of the urgent need to address global environmental

NGOs can adapt and integrate green youth practices by implementing the following strategies:

advocacy, conservation projects, and sustainable lifestyle choices.

es of
uity,
ave a
vital role to play in shaping a greener and more sustainable future.

Incorporating Environmental Education:

NGOs can include environmental education in their programs and activities for young people. This involves providing knowledge and raising awareness about environmental issues, climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development. NGOs can organize workshops, training sessions, and awareness campaigns to empower young people with the necessary knowledge and understanding to make informed decisions and take action for a greener future.

Encouraging Youth-Led Initiatives:

NGOs can create platforms and spaces for young people to lead their own environmental initiatives. This can involve supporting youth-led projects, providing mentorship and resources, and fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship.

NGOs can facilitate youth-led campaigns, community projects, and grassroots movements that address local environmental challenges and promote sustainable solutions.



- **Promoting Youth Participation:** NGOs can actively involve young people in decision-making processes related to environmental issues. This can be done through youth forums, advisory groups, or youth representation within the organization. By giving young people a voice and meaningful participation, NGOs can empower them to contribute their perspectives, ideas, and solutions to environmental concerns. 4.

Advocating for Policy Change: NGOs can engage in advocacy efforts to influence policy and promote environmentally friendly policies at local, national, and international levels. This can involve

supporting young activists in their advocacy work, conducting research and policy analysis, and partnering with other organizations to amplify youth voices and call for policy reforms that prioritize environmental sustainability.

Collaborating with Stakeholders: NGOs can foster partnerships and collaborations with other stakeholders, such as governmental bodies, educational institutions, businesses, and community organizations. By working together, NGOs can create a more comprehensive and holistic approach to green youth work, leveraging resources, expertise, and networks to maximize their impact.

By adapting and integrating green youth practices, NGOs can provide young people with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities to actively contribute to environmental sustainability. This approach not only benefits the environment but also empowers young people as agents of change, nurturing a sense of responsibility and stewardship for the planet they will inherit.

Overview of Green Youth Work: Green youth work is a growing field that combines environmental sustainability, youth empowerment, and education. It aims to engage young people in activities and initiatives that promote ecological consciousness, sustainable practices, and environmental stewardship. Green youth work recognizes the importance of involving young people in addressing environmental challenges and shaping a sustainable future. It encompasses various approaches, including environmental education, youth-led initiatives, advocacy, and collaboration with stakeholders.

1. Concrete Green Youth Work Practices in Europe:

Eco-Schools: The Eco-Schools program is a widely recognized initiative in Europe that engages young people in sustainable practices within their schools and communities. It involves students in environmental audits, action planning, and implementing sustainable projects, such as waste reduction, energy conservation, and biodiversity preservation.

Youth Environmental Volunteering: Many European countries have established youth environmental volunteering programs, providing opportunities for young people to actively contribute to environmental conservation projects. These programs offer hands-on experiences in activities like tree planting, beach clean-ups, and habitat restoration.



- *Sustainable Youth Camps:* Green youth work practices include organizing sustainable youth camps that incorporate eco-friendly living, outdoor activities, and environmental education. These camps aim to raise awareness about sustainable lifestyles, foster a connection with nature, and empower young people to take environmentally responsible actions.

Youth-Led Climate Strikes: Inspired by the Fridays for Future movement led by Greta Thunberg, European youth have been actively participating in climate strikes and protests. These youth-led movements demand stronger action on climate change and advocate for sustainable policies and practices at local, national, and international levels.

Sustainable Youth Entrepreneurship: Green youth work encourages the development of sustainable youth entrepreneurship. It supports young people in launching green startups and initiatives that focus on renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, waste management, and other environmentally friendly sectors.

2. Good Practices in Green Youth Work

Youth Participation: Effective green youth work involves meaningful youth participation in decision-making processes. Engaging young people as active contributors and involving them in shaping environmental initiatives increases their sense of ownership and commitment.

Holistic Approach: Good green youth work practices consider the interconnections between environmental, social, and economic aspects. They address sustainable development holistically and promote a balanced approach that integrates environmental protection, social justice, and economic sustainability.

Interdisciplinary Education: Green youth work practices encourage interdisciplinary education that combines environmental sciences, social sciences, arts, and technology. This approach fosters a comprehensive understanding of environmental challenges and empowers young people to develop innovative solutions.

Collaboration and Partnerships: Successful green youth work involves collaboration among various stakeholders, including NGOs, educational institutions, government bodies, and businesses. By working together, they can pool resources, share expertise, and implement more impactful initiatives.

Long-Term Engagement: Green youth work emphasizes long-term engagement rather than one-time activities. It focuses on empowering young people to become lifelong environmental advocates, fostering a commitment to sustainable practices and continuous learning.

These examples of green youth work practices and good practices in Europe demonstrate the diverse approaches and strategies adopted to engage young people in environmental



- sustainability. By combining education, participation, and collaboration, green youth work aims to inspire and empower the next generation of environmental leaders and change-makers.

3 Overview of EU Policies and Strategies towards Climate Change and Green Youth Work

The European Union (EU) has been actively implementing policies and strategies to address climate change and promote green youth work. Recognizing the urgent need for action, the EU has set ambitious goals to transition towards a sustainable, low-carbon future. Here is an overview of EU policies and strategies in these areas:

3.1. European Green Deal: The European Green Deal is the EU's flagship initiative to make Europe the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050. It encompasses a wide range of measures and actions to promote a sustainable economy, protect the environment, and enhance the well-being of citizens. The Green Deal focuses on various sectors, including energy, mobility, agriculture, circular economy, and biodiversity.

3.2. Climate Action: The EU is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and meeting the targets set by the Paris Agreement. The EU's climate action policies include the EU Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), which sets a cap on emissions from certain sectors, and the Effort Sharing Regulation, which sets binding emission reduction targets for member states. Additionally, the EU supports renewable energy deployment, energy efficiency measures, and the electrification of transport.

3.3. Youth Engagement: The EU recognizes the importance of engaging young people in climate action and green youth work. The European Youth Strategy promotes youth participation in decision-making processes and

encourages young people to actively contribute to sustainable development. The EU fosters youth-led initiatives, provides funding opportunities for youth projects, and supports platforms for young people to exchange ideas and share best practices.

3.4. Education and Awareness: The EU emphasizes the role of education in promoting sustainable development and raising awareness about climate change. The European Commission promotes environmental education and provides funding for projects that enhance climate literacy among young people. The Erasmus+ program offers opportunities for youth exchanges and training courses focused on environmental topics, enabling young people to develop knowledge and skills in green youth work.

3.5. Funding and Support: The EU provides financial support to initiatives that address climate change and promote green youth work. Funding programs such as LIFE, Horizon Europe, and the European Solidarity Corps support projects that contribute to climate mitigation, adaptation, and environmental conservation. The EU also supports capacity building, networking, and



knowledge-sharing initiatives for youth organizations and stakeholders involved in green youth work.

3.6. Research and Innovation: The EU invests in research and innovation to drive the transition to a sustainable and climate-resilient society. Programs such as Horizon Europe fund research projects that focus on sustainable technologies, climate solutions, and the development of green skills. The EU encourages collaboration between researchers, businesses, and youth organizations to drive innovation in climate-related sectors.

3.7. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency: The EU supports the transition to renewable energy sources and promotes energy efficiency measures. The Renewable Energy Directive sets binding targets for the share of renewable energy in the EU's energy mix. The Energy Efficiency Directive promotes energy-saving measures in buildings, industry, and transport.

3.8. Youth Engagement and Education: The EU recognizes the importance of engaging young people in climate action and

sustainability. The European Youth Strategy promotes youth participation in decision-making and provides opportunities for youth involvement in environmental initiatives. The Erasmus+ program offers funding for youth exchanges, volunteering, and training courses focused on sustainability and climate change.

3.9. Supporting NGOs and Civil Society: The EU provides support to NGOs and civil society organizations working on climate change. Funding programs such as LIFE and Horizon Europe offer opportunities for NGOs to implement projects and initiatives. The EU also promotes collaboration between NGOs, businesses, and research institutions to foster innovative solutions and knowledge sharing.

3.10. Awareness Raising and Communication: The EU conducts awareness-raising campaigns and communication initiatives to engage citizens in climate action. Platforms such as the European Climate Pact bring together stakeholders from different sectors to share ideas, initiatives, and best practices for climate action.

These concrete actions and efforts by the EU demonstrate its commitment to addressing climate change, promoting sustainability, and supporting youth-led initiatives through various programs, funding, legislation, and collaborative platforms. The EU recognizes the importance of engaging NGOs and civil society in driving climate action and creating a more sustainable future.

By implementing these policies and strategies, the EU aims to foster a sustainable and resilient future, while actively engaging young people in climate action and green youth work. The EU's



commitment to addressing climate change and promoting environmental sustainability is reflected in its ambitious goals, funding programs, and initiatives that empower young people to become agents of change in the fight against climate change.

VII. Campaigning for Climate Change

1. Challenges in Implementing Green Youth Work Practices for NGOs

As the urgency to address climate change grows, NGOs play a vital role in promoting green youth work practices that empower young people to become environmental stewards. Green youth work integrates environmental sustainability and youth development, providing opportunities for young people to engage in activities that contribute to a greener future. However, implementing these practices comes with its own set of challenges. This article explores the key challenges that NGOs face in implementing green youth work practices and offers insights on how to overcome them.

1.1. Limited Resources: One of the primary challenges faced by NGOs is limited resources, including financial constraints and a lack of dedicated staff. Implementing green youth work practices often requires investment in training, infrastructure, and program development. NGOs must seek alternative funding sources, establish partnerships, and leverage community resources to secure the necessary support. Collaborating with like-minded organizations and seeking grants and sponsorships can help alleviate the resource limitations and create a sustainable framework for implementing green youth work practices.

1.2. Educational Gaps and Training: Effective implementation of green youth work practices requires comprehensive training and educational programs. NGOs must invest in capacity-building initiatives to equip staff members and volunteers with the knowledge and skills needed to deliver high-quality green

youth work programs. Training should encompass environmental literacy, sustainability practices, and facilitation techniques to engage and empower young people effectively. Building partnerships with educational institutions, environmental experts, and local community leaders can enhance training opportunities and bridge educational gaps.

1.3. Engaging Diverse Youth Populations: NGOs face the challenge of engaging diverse youth populations, including those from marginalized communities, low-income backgrounds, and culturally diverse groups. It is crucial to ensure that green youth work practices are accessible and inclusive to all young people. NGOs can overcome this challenge by adopting culturally sensitive approaches, providing language support, and tailoring programs to meet the unique needs and interests of different communities. Creating safe and inclusive spaces where



young people can freely express themselves and actively participate in environmental initiatives is key to ensuring broad engagement.

1.4. Behavior Change and Sustained Action: Encouraging behavior change and fostering sustained action among young people can be a significant challenge. NGOs must go beyond raising awareness and inspire young people to take tangible steps towards sustainable practices. It is essential to provide ongoing support, mentorship, and platforms for young people to showcase their initiatives and impact. Collaborating with local businesses, governments, and community leaders can create opportunities for young

people to implement real-world projects, thereby reinforcing the importance of their actions and fostering long-term commitment.

1.5. Policy and Advocacy: NGOs often face barriers when advocating for policy changes and creating an enabling environment for green youth work practices. Building relationships with policymakers, engaging in evidence-based advocacy, and participating in coalitions and networks can amplify the voices of NGOs and create momentum for policy reform. NGOs should leverage research, data, and success stories from green youth work initiatives to advocate for supportive policies at local, national, and international levels.

Implementing green youth work practices is a powerful way for NGOs to empower young people as environmental advocates and agents of change. While challenges exist, proactive measures can overcome these obstacles. By securing adequate resources, investing in training, promoting inclusivity, fostering behavior change, and engaging in policy advocacy, NGOs can successfully implement green youth work practices. Together, NGOs, young people, and communities can create a sustainable future where young voices and actions drive positive environmental change. Let us embrace these challenges as opportunities and work collaboratively to build a greener and more resilient world for generations to come.

2. Green Youth Work Practices for NGO-led Youth Exchanges and Events

NGOs play a crucial role in organizing youth exchanges and events that promote green youth work practices. These initiatives not only empower young people but also contribute to environmental sustainability. This article highlights concrete green youth work practices that NGOs can implement during youth exchanges and events to foster environmental awareness and sustainable behaviors among young participants.

2.1. Sustainable Transportation: Encourage participants to use sustainable modes of transportation when traveling to and from the youth exchange or event. Promote the use of public transportation, carpooling, or cycling. Provide information about accessible public

transportation options and facilitate group travel arrangements to minimize carbon emissions. Additionally, offset the remaining carbon footprint by investing in carbon offset programs.



2.2. Waste Reduction and Recycling: Implement a comprehensive waste management system throughout the youth exchange or event. Encourage participants to bring reusable water bottles, coffee mugs, and utensils to minimize single-use plastics. Provide clearly labeled recycling bins for proper waste separation. Conduct educational sessions on waste reduction, recycling practices, and the importance of minimizing waste generation.

2.3. Sustainable Food Choices: Prioritize locally sourced, organic, and plant-based food options during meals and refreshment breaks. Collaborate with local vendors or caterers who follow sustainable practices. Raise awareness among participants about the environmental impact of food choices and the benefits of adopting a more sustainable diet. Encourage mindful consumption, avoiding food waste, and promoting sustainable agriculture practices.

2.4. Energy Conservation: Optimize energy consumption throughout the youth exchange or event venue. Encourage participants to switch off lights and electronic devices when not in use. Utilize energy-efficient equipment and appliances. Choose event venues that prioritize renewable energy sources, such as solar or wind power. Promote the use of natural lighting and ventilation whenever possible.

2.5. Eco-friendly Activities and Workshops: Incorporate eco-friendly activities and workshops that promote environmental awareness and sustainable practices. Offer

sessions on topics such as renewable energy, waste reduction, sustainable fashion, urban gardening, and conservation. Engage participants in hands-on activities, such as upcycling workshops or community clean-up initiatives, to reinforce the importance of environmental stewardship.

2.6. Green Event Planning: Adopt sustainable event planning practices throughout the entire organizational process. Minimize the use of printed materials by utilizing digital platforms for registration, communication, and program dissemination. Choose eco-friendly event materials, such as recycled paper products or biodegradable materials. Consider the environmental impact of event logistics, including transportation, accommodation, and venue selection.

2.7. Environmental Education and Awareness: Integrate environmental education and awareness sessions into the youth exchange or event program. Invite guest speakers or experts to deliver talks on climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable development. Facilitate discussions and interactive sessions that encourage participants to share their perspectives and ideas for environmental action.

2.8. Collaboration and Networking: Facilitate opportunities for participants to connect with local environmental organizations, initiatives, and activists. Organize networking sessions or field visits to sustainable projects or eco-friendly businesses. Encourage participants to collaborate on environmental initiatives and develop their own sustainable action plans.



By implementing these concrete green youth work practices during youth exchanges and events, NGOs can effectively promote environmental awareness, empower young people, and foster sustainable behaviors. These practices not only contribute to the overall sustainability of the events but also inspire participants to become active agents of change in their communities. By integrating these practices into their programs, NGOs can play a pivotal role in shaping a more environmentally conscious and sustainable future driven by the actions of young people.

3. Tips and Tricks for NGOs: Implementing Green Youth Work Practices on a Daily Basis

NGOs have a unique opportunity to empower young people and cultivate sustainable behavior through daily interactions. This article presents tips and tricks for NGOs to adapt and implement green youth work practices on a daily basis. By incorporating these practices, NGOs can inspire young people to embrace sustainable behavior and become advocates for environmental stewardship.

3.1. Lead by Example: NGOs should strive to be role models by integrating sustainable practices into their own operations. Ensure that your organization follows sustainable principles in office practices, resource consumption, and waste management. By demonstrating commitment to sustainability, NGOs can inspire young people to adopt similar practices.

3.2. Raise Awareness: Create awareness among young people about the importance of sustainable living and the impact of individual actions on the environment. Organize workshops, discussions, and awareness campaigns on topics such as climate change, waste reduction, energy conservation, and responsible consumption. Use interactive and creative methods to engage young people in meaningful discussions and knowledge-sharing.

3.3. Engage Youth in Decision-making: Involve young people in decision-making processes regarding green initiatives. Seek

their input and suggestions on how to improve sustainability practices within the organization and in community projects. Encourage them to take ownership of environmental initiatives and provide opportunities for leadership roles.

3.4. Provide Education and Skill-building: Offer educational opportunities and skill-building activities that empower young people to take action. Provide workshops on sustainable gardening, recycling, upcycling, renewable energy, and eco-friendly practices. Equip young people with the knowledge and skills necessary to implement sustainable behaviors in their daily lives.

3.5. Incorporate Eco-friendly Technologies: Integrate eco-friendly technologies into daily operations. Utilize energy-efficient appliances and lighting systems, promote digital communication to reduce paper waste, and encourage the use of renewable energy sources whenever possible. These technological advancements



demonstrate a commitment to sustainability while engaging young people in innovative solutions.

3.6. Organize Sustainable Events and Activities: Plan and implement events and activities with sustainability in mind. Choose eco-friendly venues, encourage carpooling or public transportation for participants, provide recycling stations, and use sustainable materials for event signage and promotion. Incorporate sustainability themes into the event's content and activities to inspire young people to make conscious choices.

3.7. Foster Collaboration and Partnerships: Collaborate with other NGOs, local businesses, and community

organizations to create impactful sustainability projects. Form partnerships for initiatives such as community clean-ups, tree planting campaigns, or energy conservation projects. By fostering collaboration, NGOs can amplify their efforts and engage a wider audience.

3.8. Recognize and Celebrate Green Achievements: Acknowledge and celebrate the achievements of young people who embrace sustainable behavior. Establish recognition programs, certificates, or awards for individuals or groups who demonstrate outstanding commitment to sustainability. Celebrating their efforts creates a sense of pride and encourages others to follow suit.

Concrete Examples

Implement a recycling program within the organization and involve young people in its management. Provide educational sessions on recycling and conduct waste audits to track progress.

Create a community garden or urban farming project where young people can learn about sustainable food production, organic gardening, and the importance of locally sourced produce.

Organize a sustainable fashion event or workshop that raises awareness about the environmental impact of the fashion industry and promotes second-hand shopping or clothing swaps.

Develop a sustainable transportation campaign that encourages young people to walk, cycle, or use public transportation instead of relying on private cars. Provide incentives or rewards for sustainable transportation choices.

Engage young people in environmental advocacy by organizing letter-writing campaigns, petitions, or public awareness campaigns to address local environmental issues

By incorporating these tips and tricks into their daily practices, NGOs can effectively promote green youth work and inspire young people to adopt sustainable behaviors. Through education, engagement, and collaboration, NGOs can empower.

4. Campaigning for Climate Change (Creating and Running Effective Campaigns)

4.1 Creating Effective Climate Campaigns:



- }] *Define Clear Goals:* Climate campaigns should have clear, specific, and achievable goals to guide their activities. Whether it's advocating for renewable energy policies, reducing carbon emissions, or promoting sustainable lifestyles, a well-defined objective provides focus and direction.
- }] *Build Broad Coalitions:* Collaborative efforts involving diverse stakeholders, including activists, NGOs, scientists, businesses, and community leaders, can amplify the campaign's impact. Broad coalitions foster collective action, leverage expertise, and enhance credibility.
- }] *Tailor Messages to Target Audiences:* Effective climate campaigns recognize the importance of tailoring messages to resonate with specific target audiences. Utilizing relatable language, visuals, and narratives that emphasize local impacts and co-benefits can engage a wider range of people and foster a sense of ownership and urgency.
- }] *Utilize Data and Science:* Campaigns grounded in robust scientific evidence and data-driven messaging are more likely to influence public opinion and policymakers. Sharing credible information and utilizing scientific consensus helps build trust and counter misinformation.

4.2 Running Successful Climate Campaigns:

- }] *Grassroots Mobilization:* Climate campaigns often thrive when they involve grassroots mobilization. Engaging communities at the local level, organizing events, conducting workshops, and empowering volunteers to take action can create a groundswell of support and drive meaningful change.
- }] *Leveraging Social Media and Digital Tools:* Harnessing the power of social media platforms and digital tools can amplify campaign messages and engage a wider audience. Online petitions, social media campaigns, and interactive content can raise awareness, build communities, and mobilize support.
- }] *Collaborating with Influencers and Celebrities:* Partnering with influential individuals, such as celebrities, social media influencers, and thought leaders, can significantly increase the visibility and reach of climate campaigns. Their platforms and networks can help amplify campaign messages and engage new audiences.
- }] *Advocacy and Lobbying:* Lobbying policymakers, engaging with elected representatives, and advocating for climate-friendly policies are essential components of successful climate campaigns. Building relationships with decision-makers, providing evidence-based policy recommendations, and mobilizing public support can drive legislative and regulatory changes.



- **Fostering Youth Engagement:** Recognizing the power of young voices, successful climate campaigns actively involve and empower youth. Youth-led initiatives, student strikes, and youth-led climate organizations have proven instrumental in driving the climate agenda and demanding action.

Campaigning for climate change is a critical tool for raising awareness, mobilizing communities, and pressuring policymakers to address the urgent challenges we face. By creating effective campaigns with clear goals, building broad coalitions, tailoring messages, utilizing data and science, and running successful campaigns through grassroots mobilization, digital tools, collaboration with influencers, advocacy, and youth engagement, we can create a powerful force for change. Together, we can accelerate the transition to a sustainable future and combat the climate crisis.

5. The Significance of Local Actions and Youth-Led Activities in Addressing Climate Change and Climate Justice

Addressing climate change and achieving climate justice require collective efforts at all levels of society. Local actions and youth-led activities play a crucial role in driving meaningful change and creating a sustainable future. This article highlights the significance of local actions and youth-led activities in combating climate change and advancing climate justice.

Building Resilient Communities: Local actions allow communities to take ownership of climate issues and develop tailored solutions that address their specific challenges. When young people engage in climate action at the local level, they contribute to building more resilient communities that are better prepared to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. This includes initiatives such as community gardens, renewable energy projects, sustainable transportation programs, and climate education campaigns.

Grassroots Mobilization and Advocacy: Youth-led activities serve as a catalyst for grassroots mobilization and advocacy on climate change and climate justice. Young people have been at the forefront of global movements, organizing strikes, protests, and awareness campaigns to demand action from governments and corporations. By raising

their voices and mobilizing their peers, youth activists are shaping the discourse around climate change and pushing for urgent and ambitious climate action.

Education and Awareness: Local actions and youth-led activities contribute to raising awareness about climate change and its impacts on both local and global levels. Through educational programs, workshops, and community events, young people can educate their peers and community members about the importance of sustainable practices, climate justice, and the interconnectedness of environmental and social issues. This helps foster a culture of environmental responsibility and encourages sustainable behavior among individuals and communities.

Innovative Solutions and Demonstrating Feasibility: Youth-led activities often



showcase innovative solutions and demonstrate the feasibility of sustainable practices. Young people are creative problem solvers who bring fresh perspectives and ideas to address climate challenges. From developing sustainable technologies to implementing circular economy models, youth-led initiatives inspire others by showcasing practical examples of how sustainable living and climate action can be integrated into everyday life.

Amplifying Marginalized Voices: Climate change disproportionately affects marginalized communities, exacerbating existing inequalities. Local actions and youth-led activities provide a platform for amplifying the voices of those most impacted by climate change and environmental injustice. By engaging with marginalized communities, youth activists can highlight their experiences, advocate for equitable solutions, and ensure that climate justice is at the center of climate action.

Local and youth-led activities are at the forefront of addressing climate change and promoting climate justice. This article highlights inspiring case studies and best practices of successful local and youth-led initiatives that have made significant contributions to tackling climate change and advancing climate justice.

1. Transition Town Movement (Totnes, United Kingdom): The Transition Town Movement in Totnes is a community-led initiative focused on building local resilience and combating climate change. Through sustainable agriculture, renewable energy projects, and community engagement, Totnes has become a model for transitioning to a low-carbon economy. The movement empowers local

Inspiring Global Change: Local actions and youth-led activities have the power to inspire global change. When young people take the lead in their communities and demonstrate the effectiveness of climate solutions, they inspire others to do the same. Through their actions, youth activists contribute to a global movement for climate justice, influencing policy decisions, corporate practices, and societal norms on a larger scale. Local actions and youth-led activities are instrumental in driving climate change mitigation, adaptation, and climate justice efforts. By actively engaging in their communities, young people can bring about transformative change, raise awareness, and inspire others to take action. It is essential for societies to recognize and support the significance of local actions and youth-led initiatives in addressing climate change and advancing climate justice for a sustainable and equitable future.

residents, including young people, to take action and develop practical solutions to address climate challenges at the community level.

2. Fridays for Future (Global Movement): Fridays for Future, led by youth activist Greta Thunberg, is a global movement that has gained significant attention and mobilized millions of young people worldwide. By organizing school



strikes for climate action, young people have demanded urgent political and societal changes to address the climate crisis. The movement has effectively raised awareness, inspired youth-led climate action groups globally, and influenced policy discussions at various levels.

3. Plant-for-the-Planet (Global Initiative): Plant-for-the-Planet is a youth-led initiative that aims to combat climate change by planting trees. Started by a young boy, Felix Finkbeiner, in Germany, the initiative has grown into a global movement engaging children and youth in tree planting activities. Plant-for-the-Planet demonstrates the power of youth-led action in addressing climate change through practical solutions such as reforestation, carbon sequestration, and raising awareness about the importance of trees in mitigating climate change.

4. Youth Climate Lawsuits (Various Countries): In several countries, young people have taken legal action against their governments for inadequate climate policies. For instance, in the Netherlands, the Urgenda Foundation, representing a group of young citizens, successfully sued the government for not doing enough to combat

climate change. These lawsuits highlight the role of youth in holding governments accountable for their actions and pushing for more ambitious climate policies.

5. Community Renewable Energy Projects (Various Locations): Numerous communities have initiated renewable energy projects, demonstrating the potential for local action to reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable energy sources. For example, the Isle of Eigg in Scotland became the world's first community to rely entirely on renewable energy, showcasing the benefits of community ownership and decentralized energy systems.

6. Indigenous-Led Climate Activism (Various Indigenous Communities): Indigenous communities worldwide have been at the forefront of climate activism, advocating for the protection of their lands and traditional knowledge. Examples include the Standing Rock protests against the Dakota Access Pipeline in the United States and the Waorani people's legal victory in Ecuador, which prevented oil drilling in their ancestral territory. Indigenous-led climate activism highlights the importance of cultural preservation, land rights, and the role of traditional knowledge in sustainable practices.:

These case studies and best practices exemplify the power of local actions and youth-led initiatives in addressing climate change and advancing climate justice. From community-led renewable energy projects to global youth movements demanding policy changes, these examples demonstrate the effectiveness of grassroots mobilization, innovative solutions, and youth empowerment. By highlighting and learning from these successful initiatives, we can inspire and replicate similar efforts to create a sustainable and just future for all.



VIII.Strategy paper toolbox for youth workers

The "Green Youth Work Hubs" project, which flourished through the collaboration of partner organizations from Georgia, Finland, Bulgaria, and Germany, represents a pioneering effort to carve out a sustainable path for youth engagement and civil activism. At the heart of this collaboration is the notable initiative, the "Sustainable Days". Each partner, in a celebration of unity and purpose, uniquely hosted this event in their homeland, staying true to the overarching theme.

Imagine a day dedicated to sustainability. The Sustainable Day event, carefully curated to bring the essence of the project to the forefront, would typically commence with an enlightening keynote speech. A prominent figure, be it a politician, an environmental ministry representative, or even the town's mayor, would take the stage to set the tone for the day.

As attendees settle into the rhythm of the day, they're introduced to a series of presentations that shed light on the project's broader framework, the synergies of the partner consortium, and the expansive reach of the Erasmus+ Programme. The day is not just about listening – it's also about participating. Children, our future torchbearers, find themselves engrossed in workshops that teach them the art of upcycling, the importance of water conservation, and the joys of creating their own cultivation boxes.

For the youth workers and trainers, the day promises a deep dive into the concept of "Green Youth Work." Through specialized workshops, they uncover actionable activities and tried-and-tested methodologies they can employ in their daily interactions with the youth.

One of the day's highlights is undoubtedly the clothes swapping party, an initiative that marries sustainability with style. As the day progresses, a panel discussion takes center stage. This is where thought leaders from diverse fields – environmentalists, policymakers, media folks, and educators – come together for a riveting conversation.

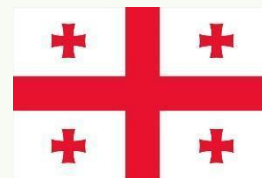
Every element of the Sustainable Day is thoughtfully planned. While the consortium sets the overarching framework, the genius lies in the customization. National coordinators tailor every event to reflect the unique flavor of their local context. Despite the geographical distances, there's an ambitious vision to synchronize these events, to make sustainability a global celebration.

The Sustainable Day event becomes not just an occasion but a congregation, where diverse individuals unite, learn, and envision a greener tomorrow.



1. Georgian example of Sustainable day

The Sustainable Day was a one-day festival dedicated to promoting sustainability, climate change awareness, recycling, and sustainable food industries that took place in Rustavi, Georgia on July 22, 2023. The event aimed to inspire the community to adopt eco-friendly practices, educate attendees about environmental challenges, and empower them to take meaningful action. Sustainable Day brought together a diverse group of individuals and organizations committed to climate action. Notably, the event featured Climate Ambassadors who were selected through the "Green Youth Work Hubs" project. These young ambassadors, representing the future generation, demonstrated their dedication to environmental causes and their potential to inspire others in their community. Additionally, climate experts and stakeholders were present, adding invaluable insights and expertise to the discussions.



Festival featured activities for all ages. For children, engaging and interactive activities were designed to instill environmental consciousness from an early age. Youth and adults participated in panel discussions, interactive debates, and hands-on workshops to foster a deeper understanding of the issues at hand and encourage collaborative problem-solving.

The Sustainable Day culminated in an uplifting concert by a local ensemble called "MIX". This musical performance served as a celebration of the collective efforts and commitment to sustainability showcased throughout the day. Local and international music brought together Georgian youngsters, as well as foreign guests.

More than ten workshops and activities were organized throughout the day, covering a wide



range of sustainability-related topics. These workshops catered to different age groups, engaging children, youth, and adults alike. Some of the workshops included:



- **Workshop about Sustainable Food and Modern Food Industry**
This workshop aimed to raise awareness about sustainable food practices and the impact of modern food industries on the environment. Facilitators and guests discussed the importance of supporting local and organic food sources, reducing food waste, and choosing eco-friendly packaging. They learned about the benefits of adopting plant-based diets and the role of regenerative agriculture in mitigating climate change. Discussions also focused on the importance of fair trade and ethical practices in the food industry.



- **Workshop about Local Everyday Plants and Their Benefits with Tea Ceremony:**
Participants explored the local plants and their unknown benefits. Facilitators highlighted the medicinal, culinary, and environmental significance of these plants in the region. The workshop concluded with a tea ceremony, where attendees experienced firsthand the flavors of traditional local herbal teas.



- Workshop about Recycling Single-Use Plastic Bags by Crocheting Them into Multiple-Use Shopping Bags:

In this creative workshop, guests learned practical ways to repurpose single-use plastic bags. Facilitators guided participants through the process of crocheting plastic bags into reusable shopping bags. This activity promoted the importance of upcycling, reducing plastic waste, and adopting eco-friendly alternatives.

- Workshop about the Effect of War on Ukrainian and Georgian Environment:
This workshop shed light on the often-overlooked environmental consequences of armed conflicts. Facilitators and guests discussed the long-term impact of war on ecosystems, water resources, and biodiversity in both Ukraine and Georgia. The session emphasized the importance of peacebuilding and environmentally responsible approaches to post-conflict recovery.
- Workshop about Making Hats and Baskets from Used Paper Cups:
Facilitators demonstrated how used paper cups could be transformed into stylish hats and practical baskets. This activity showcased the potential of reusing materials and inspired participants to rethink waste as a valuable resource.
- "Wheel of Fortune" Activity: Answer Questions and Win Project Merchandise:
The "Wheel of Fortune" activity engaged guests in a fun and informative way. Participants spun a wheel and answered sustainability-related questions. Correct answers were rewarded with project merchandise. This interactive activity encouraged attendees to test their knowledge and deepen their understanding of sustainability concepts.
- Quiz Game about Sustainability, Winners Got to Make Vegan Burgers Together:
The sustainability quiz game challenged participants' knowledge on various environmental topics. They had to answer questions related to climate change, renewable energy, biodiversity, and waste reduction. Winners learned how to make delicious and environmentally friendly vegan burgers and taste them of course.
- "Waste Basketball": Guests Had to Sort the Waste in the Right Boxes, by Playing a Ball Game:
This interactive workshop combined sports and waste management education. Guests played a basketball-inspired game, aiming to shoot different waste items into the appropriate recycling boxes. The activity encouraged proper waste separations and the significance of responsible waste disposal.
- Making Postcards from Leaves:
In this artistic workshop, participants discovered the beauty of nature-inspired creativity. Using fallen leaves and other natural materials, attendees crafted unique and environmentally friendly postcards. This was a good way to show appreciation to beautiful nature, while also showing sustainable alternatives to conventional paper-based products.



Sustainable day successfully brought together individuals, experts, and stakeholders to champion sustainability and climate action. Through interactive workshops and activities, the festival educated and empowered attendees to make informed decisions in their daily lives. The participation of Climate Ambassadors and the Green Youth Work Hubs project highlighted the significance of engaging the youth in shaping a sustainable future. The event not only raised awareness but also served as a powerful catalyst for driving positive change in the local community. As we move forward, it is essential to continue organizing such events to promote sustainable practices and create a more resilient and environmentally conscious society.

2. Finnish example of Sustainable day

The Sustainable Day “Etnofest goes green” was organized on 03.06.2023 in the vibrant district of Varissuo, Turku, was a remarkable celebration of cultural diversity and sustainability. Bringing together music, dance, food, various workshops to promote sustainability and a commitment to inclusivity. The day left an indelible mark on attendees and the community alike.



The sustainable day “Etnofest goes green” was filled with activities that increased people thinking about sustainability and a greener environment. Another main theme and one of the workshops was human rights and accessibility.

The goal of the Sustainable Day was exceeded. An estimated 250-300 young people, experts, teachers, youth workers and others attended the sustainable day.



The festival kicked off with a diverse lineup of musical performances, ranging from traditional tunes like Finnish punk rock trouper Pelle Miljoona to modern pop Sonya and rapper Bizi. The rhythmic beats and melodies resonated with attendees, creating an atmosphere of unity and joy. Dance performances added an enchanting visual element, showcasing the rich tapestry of cultural expressions from different parts of the world. Bright coloured dresses with amazing talent made the audience gasp their breath.



Alongside with music and dance performance several parallel workshops were conducted during the sustainable day and the implemented workshops were as follows: Cloth swap workshop, flower planting, sustainable food market, handicrafts with recyclable items, open space on recycling. Beside that “a bird feeder and bug hotel” workshop and a workshop on human rights were organised by the youth ambassadors of the Green youth work hubs project. The bird feeder and bug hotel -workshop was a unique example of sustainability. Materials for the crafting were recycled: old milk cartoons, pines from the forest and hay from the field. Recycling open space was a good example of sustainability. The messages of the workshop were: - if one doesn't need an old toy, thing, or an old furniture anymore, rather than throw it to the bin just give it to someone or swap it. – Instead of buying new things from the shops, one can buy it from the second-hand shops, which can be cheaper and better for the environment.

Along with events super soap bubbles, temporary tattoos and chalk drawing were for the younger audience.

The workshops were conducted by the city of Turku, the library of Turku, Turun church association, Varissuo's work and activities ry, Akseli kiinteistöpalvelut, Varissuo's lämpö, Turku and Kaarina parish association, Catherine's parish, Sondip ry and Together association.



3. Bulgarian example of Sustainable day

From September 1st to September 3rd, Sofia, Bulgaria, bore witness to an inspiring and informative event that not only celebrated sustainability but also laid the foundation for a national network dedicated to innovative and inclusive urban development. The Sustainable Day, organized by Alternativi International, showcased a diverse range of activities, discussions, and presentations that left a profound impact on the attendees. The event was opened by the mayor of the region and attended also by policy makers and representatives of local authorities such as Sofia Municipality and Ministry of youth and sport.





During the 3 days, Alternativi team has been spreading awareness on sustainability issues and how the project Green Youth Works Hub has been tackling those issues. We were able to present the whole project and its activities, the website, the online newsletters and most importantly the Strategy Paper. On the second day of the event, there was a time for presentations and best practices sharing from different organizations involved in the topic-Alternativi team hosted a presentation where we focused on sharing our experience within the project and the topic sustainability, the Strategy paper and our experience as creators of a youth hub in Blagoevgrad, called Myastoto/The Place/ and how European programs can help such youth hubs to be more sustainable.



The Sustainable Day was made possible through the collaboration of several organizations, including BG BE Active, GRADOSKOP, and IMP-ACT. These organizations shared a common vision: to foster sustainable urban renewal, where citizens actively participate in reshaping their communities. Together, we have created an event that not only showcased best practices but also opened doors for collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Over the three-day event, participants enjoyed a rich variety of activities both indoors and outdoors. These included round table discussions, debates, workshops, presentations of successful practices, and engaging forums. The event catered to a broad audience, with over 600 attendees, including youth workers, social workers, NGO members, young enthusiasts interested in placemaking, sustainability, and green living, as well as social activists.



The concept behind "Placemaking Bulgaria" and the Sustainable Day revolves around the growing interest, both formal and informal, in Bulgaria, to create more sustainable and vibrant urban environments. It emphasizes the active



involvement of citizens and seeks to spread global trends in innovative and inclusive approaches to building places where people not only reside but also thrive. This event was a milestone in bringing together organizations that are actively contributing to this transformative shift in urban development.

One of the key highlights of the event was the official launch of a national network of organizations committed to implementing innovative and inclusive urban development practices in Bulgaria focused on environmental sustainability. Named "Placemaking Connected: Bulgaria," this network aims to unite organizations that share the common goal of making cities more liveable, sustainable, and engaging.

During the event, participants engaged in discussions on common urban and sustainability challenges and had the privilege of learning from international experts and policymakers. The event was a platform for creating a shared vision for the future of this emerging sector. Moreover, it was also an opportunity to connect activists and policy makers.



The Sustainable Day, part of Placemaking Bulgaria"-Connected organized by Alternativi International, stand as a testament to the growing commitment in Bulgaria towards creating sustainable, people-centric urban environments. Through this event, a national network of NGOs, and activists has been forged, laying the foundation for a brighter, more inclusive future in urban development. As participants departed from the Sustainable Day, they carried with them not only new insights but also a shared sense of purpose in making their cities better and greener places for all.



IX. Strategy paper toolbox for youth workers

In this current chapter of the Strategy paper, we delve into the empowering potential of youth work and explore the diverse methods and tools available to effectively engage different target groups when addressing climate change, sustainability, and related issues. Youth work plays a pivotal role in empowering young people to become active agents of change in the face of climate change. By providing a supportive and inclusive environment, youth work fosters a sense of agency and responsibility among young individuals, motivating them to take concrete actions towards sustainability. Through various activities, workshops, and projects, youth work equips young people with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to make informed decisions and contribute positively to environmental conservation. One of the key strengths of youth work lies in its participatory nature. It involves young people in the decision-making process, allowing them to have a say in the topics, activities, and initiatives related to climate change and sustainability. This participatory approach fosters a sense of ownership and commitment among youth, making them more likely to actively engage and sustain their involvement in environmental efforts. Youth work often adopts experiential learning techniques, enabling young people to engage in hands-on experiences related to environmental issues. Activities like field trips, nature walks, and ecological projects provide valuable opportunities for direct interaction with nature and ecosystems. Experiencing the consequences of environmental challenges firsthand helps youth develop a deeper understanding of the urgency and importance of climate action.

Campaigning for Climate Change

Age group: 12+

Group size: 4+

Time: 60 minutes

Overview: This activity will help the group to come up with slogans for their campaign.

Objective : To come up with slogans for a campaign

Materials: Flipchart paper, masking tape, pens, markers Slogans (see appendix)



- **Preparation:** Write each slogan on a piece of paper. (appendix)

Step-by-step instructions:

1. Start by asking the group why they think slogans are important for their campaigns. What do they want to achieve with a good slogan? Let them discuss in pairs for two minutes and ask them to share afterwards. Note their answers on a flipchart.
2. Put the slogans (copied from appendix) in the middle of the room. Give participants some minutes to go through the room and read all of them. They should choose the one they like most and stand next to it.
3. Ask everyone to read out their preferred slogan. Then come back in to a circle. Ask everyone why they like their particular slogan. Do they make you think? Do they inspire you? Why (not)? Write their answers on a flipchart and let them discuss if they disagree.
4. Explain that you want to write inspiring slogans that will help to achieve your campaign aim. Put several pieces of flipchart paper taped together in the middle of the room. If you have more than 10 participants, use two posters and split the group. Write the aim of your campaign in the middle of the poster.
5. Explain that the group can write or draw whatever comes to their mind related to this aim. Emphasise that this is a group process; they don't have to come up with a slogan immediately. It is important to be influenced by the ideas of others. It's okay to just write a word, or an idea, or to draw something. They should react to what others have written, making questions, contradictions, suggestions... Always having in mind what they liked about other slogans and what they want to achieve with their slogan. They should never only write 'yes' or 'no'.
6. When the poster is full or participants get tired, it is time to choose the slogans that they want to use in the campaign. Everyone should take a marker and circle the text or texts they like most. If they think that something needs to be changed or added, they can still do this now.
7. Come back together and read out the texts that are circled most. Write them on a separate flipchart. Is there anything someone still wants to change in the wording?
8. You can end the workshop by painting the slogans onto coloured paper or bed sheets or to lay them out on a computer.

Appendix-Handouts



Cut defence spending:
a white flag isn't that expensive.

George W. Bush is still looking
for carbon dioxide on his map.

True poverty:
when the biggest treasure you own
is money.

Free the market
– buy less.

Don't let school get in the way of
good education.

Money can travel everywhere,
so why can't people?

When you are 18 the world is:

- A playground
- A career opportunity
- Black and White
- Something to be changed

Make railways,
not wars

The next climate meeting
will be even warmer.

If the climate changes on global level
– why can't people?

Everything is ready for a war against Iraq.
Except for a reason.

Workshop: SDGs Scenarios

Overview: The SDGs Scenarios Workshop is a collaborative activity designed to engage participants in understanding and brainstorming specific actions related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Participants will be divided into teams and assigned different SDG scenarios. Each team will then have a designated time to discuss and develop action plans to contribute towards achieving their assigned SDG. The workshop aims to foster creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration while deepening participants' understanding of the SDGs.



Objectives:

1. Increase participants' knowledge and awareness of the SDGs and their importance in addressing global challenges.
2. Encourage participants to think critically and creatively about practical actions that can contribute to achieving specific SDGs.
3. Foster teamwork, communication, and collaboration among participants.
4. Provide a platform for participants to share their ideas and engage in meaningful discussions.

Tips for the Facilitator:

1. *Prepare the SDG scenarios in advance:* Create diverse and relevant scenarios for each team, ensuring that all 17 SDGs are covered. Consider incorporating local or regional perspectives to enhance relevance and engagement.
2. *Provide clear instructions:* Explain the purpose of the workshop, the allocated time for discussion and presentation, and the expectations for the action plans. Emphasize the need for specific, actionable ideas.
3. *Encourage active participation:* Foster an inclusive and respectful environment where all participants feel comfortable expressing their ideas. Encourage everyone in the team to actively contribute and participate in the discussions.
4. *Facilitate the discussion:* As the facilitator, guide the teams through their discussions, ensuring they focus on practical actions that can be taken to address their assigned SDG. Offer prompts or ask thought-provoking questions to stimulate brainstorming and idea generation.
5. *Time management:* Keep track of time during the workshop to ensure each team has enough time for discussion and presentation. Remind teams of the time remaining as they work on their action plans.
6. *Promote collaboration:* Encourage teams to leverage the diverse skills and perspectives within their group. Encourage open dialogue and the sharing of ideas, allowing for constructive feedback and refinement of action plans.
7. *Foster a learning environment:* After each presentation, facilitate a brief Q&A session where participants can ask questions or seek clarification about the presented action plan. Encourage participants to learn from each other and explore potential synergies between different SDGs.

Materials used: Pen and paper for note-taking and brainstorming.



- **Number of participants:** Ideally, each team should consist of 4-5 participants. Adjust the number of teams based on the total number of participants to ensure an optimal group size for effective collaboration and discussion.

By providing participants with specific SDG scenarios and facilitating their brainstorming and action planning, the SDGs Scenarios Workshop encourages participants to think critically, creatively, and collaboratively about their role in contributing to the achievement of the SDGs. Through this interactive and engaging activity, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the SDGs and be inspired to take concrete actions to create a more sustainable future.

Workshop Gallery Walk: Taking Action for a Sustainable Future

Overview: Gallery Walk workshop is an interactive and collaborative activity designed to inspire participants to take action for a sustainable future. The workshop incorporates a gallery walk format where participants explore photos and descriptions of different sustainable actions. Teams then select a specific topic from the gallery that they believe they can address in their local community. The teams will work together to develop real solutions to address the identified issue, fostering creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills.

Objectives:

1. Raise awareness and understanding of various sustainable actions and their potential impact on mitigating climate change.
2. Encourage participants to identify specific topics from the gallery that resonate with their local community.
3. Facilitate team collaboration and brainstorming to develop real and actionable solutions for addressing the identified issue.
4. Promote creativity and critical thinking in designing sustainable solutions.
5. Empower participants to become change agents in their communities by taking concrete actions for a sustainable future.

Tips for the Facilitator:

1. Set up the gallery: Display photos of different sustainable actions on the canvas or as a PowerPoint presentation. Ensure that each photo has a corresponding description that provides context and details about the action.



2. Explain the activity: Briefly explain the purpose of the workshop and the gallery walk format. Encourage participants to explore the photos and descriptions, paying attention to the details and considering the relevance to their local community.
3. Facilitate team selection: Divide participants into national teams. Each team should select one topic from the gallery that they believe is relevant and feasible to address in their local community. Encourage teams to choose topics that align with their interests, resources, and expertise.
4. Brainstorm solutions: Once teams have selected their topic, provide them with sticky notes or other materials for brainstorming. Facilitate a discussion where teams develop real solutions and action plans to address the identified issue. Encourage them to think creatively, considering the specific needs and context of their community.
5. Team presentations: Allocate time for each team to present their chosen topic, the identified issue, and their proposed solution. Encourage teams to be clear and concise in their presentations. Allow for questions and feedback from other teams to foster learning and exchange of ideas.
6. Reflect and discuss: After all teams have presented, facilitate a discussion where participants reflect on the different solutions proposed. Encourage them to discuss the feasibility, potential impact, and challenges of implementing these solutions in their respective communities.

Materials used: Photos of different sustainable actions displayed on a canvas or PowerPoint presentation ; Sticky notes for brainstorming. ; Canvas or PowerPoint for displaying the gallery walk photos and descriptions.

Number of participants: The workshop is designed for national teams, so the number of participants may vary depending on the number of teams formed. Adjust the number of teams based on the total number of participants to ensure an optimal group size for effective collaboration and discussion.

By engaging participants in a gallery walk format and facilitating team discussions and solution development, the Gallery Walk workshop empowers participants to identify and address sustainable issues in their local communities. Through this interactive and collaborative activity, participants gain a deeper understanding of mitigation strategies and are inspired to take meaningful action towards a more sustainable future



Overview: The Green Campaigning workshop is an engaging and hands-on activity that focuses on addressing a relevant climate change issue in each participant's country. The workshop guides participants through the process of developing a comprehensive campaign plan to tackle the identified issue. Participants will work in teams and follow various campaign steps, including setting campaign goals, identifying target audiences, crafting key messages, selecting tactics and strategies, creating a timeline, conducting evaluation, and addressing potential risks and contingency plans. The workshop utilizes digital tools like Canva and PowerPoint to enhance the campaign planning process.

Objectives:

1. Enhance participants' understanding of climate change issues and their relevance in their respective countries.
2. Develop participants' skills in campaign planning and strategy development.
3. Promote teamwork and collaboration among participants.
4. Foster creativity in designing effective campaign goals, messages, and strategies.
5. Encourage participants to think critically about evaluation and risk management in campaign planning.

Tips for the Facilitator:

1. Introduce the workshop: Begin by providing an overview of the workshop and its objectives. Explain the importance of addressing climate change issues and the role of campaigns in raising awareness and driving action.
2. Climate issue assessment: Ask each participant to identify a relevant climate change issue in their country. Provide guidance and resources to help them understand the local context and identify pressing concerns.
3. Team formation: Divide participants into teams of 4 or 5, ensuring diversity in terms of backgrounds, skills, and perspectives. Encourage participants to form teams that represent different countries to facilitate cross-cultural exchange and learning.



4. Campaign planning process: Guide participants through the campaign planning steps, including setting campaign goals, identifying target audiences, crafting key messages, selecting tactics and strategies, creating a timeline, conducting evaluation, and addressing risks and contingency plans. Provide templates or frameworks to assist participants in structuring their campaign plans.
5. Utilize digital tools: Introduce participants to digital tools like Canva and PowerPoint for visualizing and presenting their campaign plans. Provide instructions or tutorials on how to use these tools effectively.
6. Team presentations and feedback: Allocate sufficient time for each team to present their campaign plans. Encourage teams to be clear, concise, and persuasive in their presentations. Facilitate feedback and discussion after each presentation, allowing other teams to ask questions, provide suggestions, and offer constructive criticism.
7. Group reflection: Conclude the workshop with a group reflection session. Encourage participants to share their key learnings, challenges faced during the campaign planning process, and ideas for future improvements.

Materials used: Canva or similar graphic design software for creating visual elements of the campaign plan.; PowerPoint or similar presentation software for team presentations.; Templates or frameworks for guiding the campaign planning process.

Number of participants: Each team should consist of 4 or 5 participants. Adjust the number of teams based on the total number of participants to ensure an optimal group size for effective collaboration and discussion.

The Green Campaigning workshop provides participants with practical skills in developing and implementing impactful campaigns to address climate change issues. Through collaborative team work, creative thinking, and the use of digital tools, participants gain valuable insights into campaign planning and acquire the necessary knowledge to advocate for positive change in their respective countries.



Workshop: Climate Justice Board Game

Overview: The Climate Justice Board Game is an interactive and educational activity that aims to enhance participants' understanding of the challenges associated with addressing climate change and the significance of climate justice. The game is played between two teams, representing climate justice and climate injustice, who compete to reach the end of the board first. Through gameplay, participants explore various climate-related scenarios, make decisions, and learn about the impact of individual and collective actions on climate justice.

Objectives:

1. Increase participants' knowledge of climate change and its implications for social justice.
2. Promote critical thinking and decision-making skills in relation to climate change issues.
3. Encourage teamwork and collaboration within the teams.
4. Foster empathy and understanding of different perspectives on climate justice.
5. Inspire participants to take action towards achieving climate justice in their communities.

Tips for the Facilitator:

1. Introduce the game: Start the workshop by explaining the objective and rules of the Climate Justice Board Game. Provide a brief overview of climate change and the concept of climate justice to ensure participants have a foundational understanding of the topic.
2. Divide participants into teams: Divide the participants into two teams, one representing climate justice and the other climate injustice. Encourage participants to work together within their teams, strategize, and make decisions collectively.
3. Explain the game mechanics: Describe the movement and decision-making process within the game. Each team takes turns rolling the dice and moving their game piece along the board. When a team lands on a space, they draw a card with a climate-related scenario and discuss the actions they would take in response.
4. Facilitate discussions: Encourage participants to engage in meaningful discussions during gameplay. Prompt them to consider the implications of their decisions on climate justice, discuss potential solutions, and reflect on the challenges faced by marginalized communities.
5. Create a debriefing session: After the game, facilitate a debriefing session where participants can reflect on their experiences. Discuss the outcomes of the game, the lessons learned, and the connections to real-life climate justice issues.



6. **Encourage reflection and action:** Conclude the workshop by encouraging participants to reflect on how the game relates to their own lives and communities. Encourage them to consider the actions they can take to promote climate justice and create positive change.

Materials used: Game board with 12 spaces, marked with numbers.; Dice for each team.; Climate-related scenario cards.; Paper and writing materials for note-taking.

Number of participants: The activity requires two teams, with a recommended size of 9 participants per team. Adjust the number of teams and participants based on the available resources and the desired group dynamics.

The Climate Justice Board Game provides an interactive and engaging platform for participants to explore climate justice issues and develop a deeper understanding of the complexities of climate change. Through teamwork, decision-making, and critical thinking, participants gain insights into the importance of addressing climate change from a justice perspective and are inspired to take action in their own lives and communities.



Workshop: Climate Change World Cafe

Overview: The Climate Change World Cafe is a dynamic and interactive workshop designed to engage participants in meaningful discussions about climate change and related topics. It utilizes the World Cafe format, where participants move between different stations or tables, each focusing on a specific question or topic related to climate change. Through small group discussions, participants gain diverse perspectives and collectively build a common understanding of the subject.

Objectives:

1. Facilitate dialogue: Create a space for participants to engage in open and inclusive conversations about climate change.
2. Foster knowledge sharing: Encourage participants to exchange ideas, insights, and personal experiences related to climate change.
3. Promote active listening: Enhance participants' listening skills by encouraging them to attentively listen to others' perspectives and opinions.
4. Build a common understanding: Establish a shared understanding of the challenges, impacts, and potential solutions associated with climate change.
5. Encourage collaboration: Inspire collaboration and idea generation among participants by fostering a supportive and inclusive atmosphere.

Tips for the Facilitator:

1. Set up the stations: Arrange several tables or stations, each with a specific question or topic related to climate change. Place enough chairs around each table for the team members to comfortably sit and engage in discussions.
2. Introduce the activity: Begin by explaining the purpose of the Climate Change World Cafe and how it will unfold. Emphasize the importance of active participation, active listening, and respect for different perspectives.
3. Facilitate small group discussions: Divide participants into small teams, ensuring each team has a balanced mix of individuals. Assign each team to a specific table or station. Provide clear instructions and time limits (e.g., five minutes per station) for discussions before rotating to the next station.
4. Rotate teams between stations: After each designated time period, signal the teams to move to the next station. Encourage participants to leave behind any notes or key insights from their discussions for the next team to build upon.



5. **Foster inclusive conversations:** Encourage all team members to actively contribute to the discussions. Remind participants to listen attentively, ask clarifying questions, and respect differing viewpoints.
6. **Recap and synthesis:** At the end of the rotations, gather all participants for a collective debrief. Allow each team to share the key insights, ideas, and observations from their discussions. Facilitate a synthesis of the main points, common themes, and areas of further exploration.
7. **Reflect and wrap up:** Conclude the workshop by facilitating a reflection session where participants can share their reflections on the activity, lessons learned, and potential actions they can take to address climate change in their lives and communities.

Materials used: Papers with questions or topics related to climate change; Pens or markers for note-taking.

Number of participants: The activity can accommodate multiple teams, depending on the number of participants. Ideally, aim for four teams, but adjust the number of teams based on the number of participants to ensure meaningful discussions and engagement.

The Climate Change World Cafe is an engaging and participatory workshop that allows participants to delve into the complexities of climate change through meaningful discussions. By moving between different stations and engaging with diverse perspectives, participants gain a broader understanding of the topic and are encouraged to think critically and collaboratively about potential solutions.



Workshop: Economy and Climate Change

Overview: The Economy and Climate Change workshop is an interactive session designed to explore the relationship between economic activities and their impact on climate change. Participants are divided into teams, with each team representing a fictional company. Through guided discussions, the teams analyze the ways in which their company contributes to climate change and how climate change impacts their economic interests. The workshop aims to foster critical thinking, promote awareness of the environmental implications of economic activities, and encourage participants to explore sustainable solutions.

Objectives:

1. Understand the link between economic activities and climate change: Explore the connection between business operations, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate change.
2. Examine economic motivations and consequences: Analyze how economic interests and practices can either contribute to or mitigate climate change.
3. Encourage critical thinking: Engage participants in thought-provoking discussions about the trade-offs between economic growth and environmental sustainability.
4. Foster sustainable decision-making: Encourage participants to identify and propose strategies for integrating sustainability into business practices.
5. Promote collaboration and knowledge sharing: Encourage team collaboration and the exchange of ideas and insights between participants.

Steps by Step Instructions:

1. Introduction:
 - Begin by explaining the purpose of the workshop and its relevance to the intersection of economy and climate change.
 - Briefly introduce the concept of greenhouse gas emissions and their impact on the climate.
2. Team formation:
 - Divide participants into teams, ensuring each team has an equal number of participants.
 - Assign each team a fictional company name or industry sector.
3. Company analysis:
 - Instruct each team to discuss and identify the ways in which their assigned company contributes to climate change.



- Encourage participants to consider various aspects, such as energy consumption, waste generation, transportation, and supply chain practices.

4. Economic impact assessment:

- Prompt teams to discuss and identify the economic interests or benefits associated with their company's practices.
- Encourage participants to explore how climate change impacts their company's operations, market demand, financial risks, or opportunities.

5. Presentation and discussion:

- Allocate a specific time for each team to present their findings and insights to the rest of the participants.
- After each presentation, facilitate a discussion to explore the implications and trade-offs between economic interests and climate change.

6. Sustainable solutions:

- Encourage teams to brainstorm and propose strategies or measures that their company could adopt to mitigate its impact on climate change.
- Facilitate a discussion on the feasibility, potential benefits, and challenges associated with these sustainable solutions.

7. Reflection and takeaway:

- Engage participants in a reflective discussion about the workshop's key insights and lessons learned.
- Encourage participants to consider how they can apply these insights to their own lives, work, or decision-making processes.

Tips for the Facilitator:

- Provide clear instructions and time limits for each step to keep the workshop on track.
- Foster an inclusive and respectful environment that encourages open dialogue and active participation.
- Encourage teams to think creatively and critically about the topic, promoting innovative and sustainable solutions.
- Be prepared to answer questions and provide additional information or resources related to climate change and its economic implications.
- Use visuals, such as posters or charts, to aid in the presentation and discussion of findings.



Co-funded by
the European Union