

UNFCCC Action on Climate Empowerment & **Climate-KIC Education**

– **CONNECT – EMPOWER - INNOVATE**

How do we boost climate action internationally?

Climate-KIC is a European public-private partnership which drives climate action through innovation and entrepreneurship.

In Climate-KIC Education, we provide knowledge and skills development opportunities for students, professionals and innovators to collaborate on business climate change challenges.

It's about how everyone can play a role in creating powerful partnerships; enterprise innovation, knowledge transfer and exchange, and market transformation.

Our Education programmes are designed to inspire, connect and empower the next generation of climate leaders and entrepreneurs.

Our approach combines 3 distinct characteristics which give participants the tools, inspiration and hands-on experience to develop and deliver ideas, products and services which respond to climate change challenges. Our education and training activities are based on an impact framework and we have a track record of working with international partners and engaging participants from a diversity of backgrounds.

1. Innovative learning formats

We have developed a framework for supporting climate action step-by-step from ideation to implementation. We raise awareness, inspire and open the door to the infinite possibilities for climate solutions by offering creative, accessible activities for participation.

Programmes are structured in a way that leads participants who have a good idea from one stage of the entrepreneurship journey to the next, thereby increasing the chances of a successful outcome.

Methods include:

- Online modules
- Workshops
- Lectures
- Group assignment based on a real existing project / challenge
- Stakeholder dialogue
- Site visits
- Coaching

Example: Coolar – this team of students generated a breakthrough business idea with high climate impact during the Journey Summer School in 2012 and then moved through our pre-



incubation programme, the Greenhouse, into Climate-KIC's Accelerator where they received a range of training and financial support. They are now in the phase of entering the market with their solar thermal refrigerator.

2. Climate-focused entrepreneurship skills

In our graduate programmes, participants take the first steps in creating climate business ideas: identifying and defining the problem they want to focus on and initiating creativity and initial ideas. An Ideation toolkit is provided to highlight how participants can go on to develop their solution using human-centred-design and other techniques.

3. Interdisciplinary & international collaboration

Partnerships are the foundation of our way of working, enabling us to foster knowledge transfer, as well as a greater integration of the knowledge triangle (i.e. Education – Research – Business). Thanks to our partner network, we can bring different actors together and facilitate the exchange and collaboration necessary for new responses to climate challenges. Given the complexity of our economic and social systems, we incorporate a systems innovation approach and provide the necessary tools and knowledge to facilitate the problem-solving process. Through learning-by-doing and the application of tools on users' cases, we provide a platform where participants can work together to develop local solutions to local problems.

Please find two examples below which illustrate how we create impact through education, training and international cooperation. Impact that we seek to increase through further partnerships and impact that is long-lasting, as our very active alumni association testifies (<http://ckaa.eu/>).



“To sustainability and beyond”. I believe that Climate-KIC plays a crucial role in achieving a better and greener future, as the Journey brings people together who want to make an impact and gives them the tools and the network to do so! Thank you for this eye-opening and inspiring experience! “

Participant, Journey 2016

Summary

The Journey is Climate-KIC's main Summer School on climate innovation, and one of Climate-KIC's most successful programmes, offering top graduates and young professionals the tools, inspiration and hands-on-experience to develop and deliver ideas, products and services in response to climate change challenges. Participants learn to work effectively in multidisciplinary and international teams, ideate, deliver a climate-related business plan, and participate in a business-pitch competition.

Over 1200 participants from across the globe have gained climate and entrepreneurial knowledge and inspiration from The Journey since its inception in 2010. More than 240 business ideas have been generated, with an increasing number of these successfully continuing on to Climate-KIC's pre-Incubation, Accelerator and other start-up programmes. The format has been held up as a best case example of Innovation in Higher Education by the OECD (HEI Innovate), and in 2016 the programme also saw public recognition as it was awarded part of the "21 solutions pour demain" campaign in France¹.

In the Summer of 2016, Climate-KIC welcomed over 200 top-level graduates onto 6 Journeys in 13 locations across Europe, generating more than 45 climate-business ideas during the 8 weeks of programme. 2016 also saw the exciting pilot of a new three-week Journey format, blended with an online 'climate challenge creator' tool, to explore whether the same learning outcomes could be achieved within a shorter more resource-efficient time-frame.

Once again the Summer School - both traditional and pilot formats - have proven to be a great success. As with previous years, a highlight of the programme has been the hands-on entrepreneurial offer, and in particular the opportunity to develop a business plan and pitch for an innovative climate business idea in international and multidisciplinary teams with the support of business coaches. Students likewise appreciated the climate change inputs: inspirational lectures, site visits, and opportunities to meet with climate scientists, companies, entrepreneurs and experts from within the Climate-KIC community.

All Climate-KIC offices were involved in the Journey 2016, with 13 locations across Europe – from Valencia up to Trondheim, from Birmingham across to Wroclaw - making it a truly community-wide event. The Journey participants came from across the world, giving it a global reach, and the range of professional and academic backgrounds of participants remains diverse, making it a strongly multidisciplinary programme.

"I think that the greatest outcome is giving these students the inspiration, experience and confidence to put their heart and passion, values and knowledge in to practice wherever they may end up and providing a firm supporting community for them to continually get strength from in the future."

Coach, Journey 2016

¹ <http://www.21solutionspourdemain.org/2016/05/11/climate-kic/>

Climathon



Citizens around the world take direct climate action by coming up with innovative solutions to local climate change challenges



Students, start-ups, entrepreneurs, big thinkers, technical experts and app developers meet simultaneously for a 24-hour marathon session



Locations include major universities, research centres, government facilities and corporate offices around the world



Climathon brings together the challenges of the world's cities with the people who have the passion and ability to solve them.



Over
1400
applications



#Climathon

10,194 posts
5,241,914 unique reach
16,811,199 absolute reach

Topics dealt with

Sustainable business
Green buildings
Smart city
Energy
Green mobility
Extreme weather



Local community
Food
Health
Air pollution
Waste management

More than 100 Partners around the globe

Ethiopia Climate Innovation Center | Adelaide City Council | Council for State Support to NGOs | Privredna Komora Srbije | VEOLIA Berlin | TU Berling | Innovation Birmingham Ltd | Foundation People and Earth Institute | Urban Center Bologna | Queensland University of Technology | Griffith University | Timis Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture | Budapest University of Technology and Economics | Canberra Innovation Network | Castellon City Council | Anna University | UCC | Kerpely Kálmán Szakkollégium | Sustainable Nation Ireland | Energy Department of the City of Frankfurt | Fremantle City | National University Ireland Galway | Herzliya Municipality | Hong Kong University of Science and Technology | City of Indianapolis Office of Sustainability | Fundacja Aeris Futuro | Municipality of La Plata | Sempre Verde | Priestly International Centre for Climate | Cyprus University of Technology | Libélula y Líderes | Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park | Malmö Innovation Arena | Institute Intercer | City of Melbourne | Politecnico of Milan | NMIMS Deemed to be University | ALEM | University Paris-Saclay | IDEUM | Riga Technical University | Tongji University | Cleantech Bulgaria | EnergyLab | Startup Estonia | The City of The Hague | Metropolitan Development Agency of Thessaloniki | Timis Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture | MaxQ | Lighthouse Labs | Trondheim Municipality | Turn Municipality | InnDEA Valencia Foundation | Paragon Europe | Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei | International Center for Climate Governance | Y-Square | Miesto Laboratorija | Institute of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences | The George Washington University Office of Sustainability | Victoria University of Wellington | Wellington Council | Municipality of Wrocław | Impact Hub Zurich | Stadt Zurich

Winning ideas

Turning buses into giant filtration systems to clean up city air

Counteract heat island effect using nature-based solutions in public spaces (portable floating islands in Venice)

User friendly cycling app, to take cyclists the safest route

Urban permacultural, multifunctional learning park for kids

Co-creation app for empty parking spaces in the city

Water tank with a solar panel which provides hot water in the shower- at the same time has a circuit that diverts and reuses water that is normally lost.

Developing a network of green roofs with a technological element that gives information about the local area