



Laurence Pollier, UNFCCC, talks about youth climate activism



Discussing recent climate change communication activities



Sharing best practices at a workshop meeting

« Young people are getting organised. They are not just young, they are also concerned, thoughtful citizens capable of changing the society of which they are a part. »

Laurence Pollier,

UNFCCC Programme Officer

Special Report on Article 6: Developments in Climate Change Education, Training and Awareness-raising

Article 6 and Climate Campaigns

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) provides a framework for tackling global climate change, by launching national greenhouse gas strategies, sharing best practices and co-operating on adaptation planning. Article 6 of the Convention focuses on education, training and public awareness-raising, recognising that successful climate change strategies must actively engage the general public and other stakeholders. Awareness campaigns targeted towards these stakeholders can build support for policies and measures to address climate change. Educational campaigns can also encourage good practices and behaviour that cannot be regulated by legislation. Outreach tools thus have great potential for consensus building on climate change issues, which in the past have often been contentious, and for the creation of shared goals with which to move forward.

Exchanging Ideas on Climate Change Education

The European Regional Workshop on Article 6, held in Stockholm on May 18-20th 2009, supported European implementation of the enhanced New Delhi Work Programme, the UN framework for promoting Article 6 activities approved in 2007. The workshop provided a forum for exchanging information on good practices in climate change education, training and awareness-raising. 70 participants from a wide range of organisations, including Gender CC - Women for Climate Justice (UK), the Céntrico Nacional de Educacion Ambiental (Spain), the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development Youth Caucus and Unicef Denmark, shared their experiences through presentations. Businesses and consultants presented their good practices as well. The workshop also offered training on CC:iNet, the UN's climate change information network.

Find out more about the European Regional Workshop and CC:iNet here:
www.unfccc.int/cc_inet/items/3514.php.



Participants at the European Regional Workshop on Article 6



Don't Forget Green Week 23rd to 26th June!

Green Week 2009, the biggest annual conference on European environmental policy, takes place in Brussels this month. The conference, which draws high-level speakers from across Europe and beyond, will look at prospects for a new global climate agreement, how to 'climate-proof' our economies and how to ensure climate change policies effectively protect our ecosystems.

A special newsflash on Green Week will be published soon...

Please find further information here:
www.greenweek.europa.eu

**Brussels - Charlemagne building
23 - 26 June 2009**

Young People and Climate Activism

Laurence Pollier, programme officer for the UNFCCC, sees children and young people as a top priority in climate change communication, and discussed this in a presentation on day one of the workshop. A UNEP survey of 12-18 year olds in Brazil, Russia, India, South Africa and the United States last year showed that young people want more information about what they can do to fight climate change and nine out of ten agreed that world leaders should do whatever it takes to tackle the problem. Ms. Pollier stressed that young people are already doing a lot at community level and that they are starting to make their presence felt internationally, turning out in increasing numbers for example at UN climate conferences in Nairobi, Bali and Poznań. Young people, the decision-makers of tomorrow, are proving that they can make a difference now and the UNFCCC expects their strong presence at the crucial UN climate change conference in Copenhagen in December, at which a new global climate agreement is due to be finalised.

There was significant discussion of the role of children and young people in climate change efforts throughout the workshop and participants agreed that they should be recognised as a constituency in the same way as businesses or NGOs. Finding ways to facilitate policy input from children and young people was an objective identified for moving forward on this issue, which might depend on structures and support for organisation within this group.

Goals and Resolutions of the Workshop

The European Regional Workshop on Article 6 concluded that guidelines are needed for national communication strategies on climate change. Financial mechanisms for the implementation of Article 6 are a priority and should be identified on a national basis. There was also a resolve to strengthen North-South alliances in order to build capacity for climate change communication and policy in developing countries. The workshop provided a great networking opportunity for climate change professionals from across Europe and many workshop events encouraged building contacts as well as sharing insights. Through the workshop, participants were able to strengthen their co-operation under the enhanced New Delhi work programme and reinforce climate change partnerships in Europe.

This newsflash is issued by the EECN which is DG Environment's support structure for European Environmental Communication Networks.

Visit the website of the EECN on:
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/networks/index_en.htm to learn more about the activities of the networks and read newsflashes previously released.



Youth in action. Here, a youth session at COP14 in Poznań.