

ACT NOW for Climate Justice

The Young Friends of the Earth Handbook for Climate Action in Copenhagen 2009



ACT NOW for Climate Justice



2009 is the pivotal year for climate change.

In December all Governments from around the world will meet in Copenhagen to negotiate and agree on measures to stop climate change. **Act Now!** is about all of us as young people coming together and taking climate action to send the message loud and clear that this is our future and our planet being negotiated, and demanding justice for the people and the planet.

The Young Friends of the Earth Climate Action Handbook for Copenhagen 2009

This handbook has been created by a group young people from all over Europe to help you know more about what is happening this year and why it is such an important date for our future, and to give you ideas, opportunities and means to get involved yourself.

Contents

P 3- 6 Background to Climate Justice and Copenhagen

page 3-4 Climate Change the basics

page 5-6 The International politics and a 'Climate agreement' in 2009

P 7- 16 Organising Actions for Climate Justice

page 7 Introduction to running actions

page 8 The 'Messages in a bottle' action

page 9 Demonstrations

page 10 Teaser actions 'Chalking the streets with your climate message

page 11 Teaser actions 'Rubber boots'

page 12 Teaser actions 'Flyposting and Sticking'

page 13- 14 How to plan and run a successful action

pages 15-16 Template 'Action Plan' for successful actions

page 17 350.org and Day of action

P 18- 19 Lobbying

page 18 Finding your politicians and delegates

page 19 Writing a letter to your MP

P 20- 26 Using the Media

Page 20 Introduction to types of media

page 21 Writing Press Releases

page 22-23 Blogging

page 24 Taking great Photographs

Page 25 Using 'Facebook'

Page 26 Using 'Twitter'

P 27- 29 Resources

page 27 Useful links and websites

Page 28 Calendar for 2009

page 29 Project and organisation background

Climate Change- what you need to know

Climate change is any long-term change of the weather over durations ranging from decades to millions of years. Over the history of the earth, there has been huge variation in the climate and temperature of the planet, and the earth has experienced different climate changes, like ice ages and inter-glacials. However, in the last 200 years the average temperature of the earth's surface has risen by 0.74 degrees C which is a huge leap in temperature rise, the scale of which has never been recorded before. It is expected to increase by another 1.8°C to 4° C by the year 2100 - a rapid and profound change- should the necessary action not be taken.

Human caused global warming

The warming of the Earth's lower atmosphere is the result of an "enhanced greenhouse effect" mainly due to an increase in the amount of human-produced atmospheric greenhouse gases, emitted since the industrial revolution in the 1800s. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the main human-produced greenhouse gas and is produced by fossil fuel burning and through other human activities such as transportation, tropical deforestation and the production of cement, food and meat.

It is measured in parts per million, or ppm, and you will see and hear about the figure of 350ppm being the safe level of CO₂ in the atmosphere. Measurements of CO₂ from the Mauna Loa observatory show that concentrations have increased from about 313 ppm in 1960 to 389 ppm (Reference: <http://co2now.org/>) in July 2009. The current observed amount of CO₂ exceeds the geological record maximum (~300 ppm) from ice core data, and is already above what scientists say is the safe upper limit of CO₂ in the atmosphere. A rise in CO₂ levels is always accompanied by a rise in temperatures, and a rise in temperature will be accompanied by changes in climate.

Effects of Climate Change

Rising temperatures: The main effect is an increase in global average temperature which causes a variety of secondary effects, namely changes in patterns of precipitation, rising sea levels, altered patterns of water availability and agriculture, increased extreme weather events such as tornado's and flooding, the expansion of the range of tropical diseases, the opening of new trade routes and biodiversity loss, and the spread of diseases such as malaria and dengue fever.

Tipping points: Very worryingly is the threat of triggering positive feedback mechanisms. A positive feedback mechanism is when a result of climate change triggers another, bigger result of climate change. For example, the melting of huge layers of permafrost in Siberia under which the greenhouse gas methane is stored, would lead to a rapid release of these gases all in one go, which would then further and dramatically increase temperature rise. You can watch a really good short film which explains this at: <http://wakeupfreakout.org/film/tipping.html>

Deforestation

Deforestation is occurring all over the world and has a doubly damaging effect: it reduces the number of trees that can recover the carbon dioxide produced by human activities, and it releases into the atmosphere the carbon contained in the trees that are cut down. Deforestation is currently responsible for 18% of carbon emissions to the atmosphere, and 1.6 billion people are reliant on forests, and they provide the livelihoods of many local communities and indigenous peoples. They are also home to some of the most species diverse habitats on earth.

The global injustice of climate change

Global warming is a huge injustice on the world poorest people and nations, and those who are historically not responsible for climate change. The industrialized countries of North America and Western Europe, along with a few other states, such as Japan, are responsible for the vast bulk of past and current greenhouse-gas emissions.

These emissions are a debt resulting from the disproportionate use of the world's resources by a minority of the world's population- the developed countries representing less than one fifth of the world's population have emitted almost three quarters of all historical emissions. Yet those to suffer most from climate change will be in the developing world, as well as the poorest and most disadvantaged communities in the western world. The developing countries have fewer resources for coping with storms, with floods, with droughts, with disease outbreaks, and with disruptions to food and water supplies. They

are eager for economic development themselves, but may find that this already difficult process has become more difficult because of climate change.

For real- life stories of how people across the world are already affected by climate change, watch movies at <http://www.foei.org/en/who-we-are/new-testimonies> and read their stories: <http://www.foei.org/en/publications/annual-report/2007/what-we-achieved-in-2007/communications-in-2007/publications-and-materials/report-voices-from-the-front-lines-of-climate-change/?searchterm=voices%20climate>

What needs to be done:

At the rate of current rise in CO₂, we need to be able to stabilize emissions 5 years from now! Everything needs to be in place for a low-carbon economy, with high efficiency and equity between the currently developing and developed countries. Emissions can no longer be permitted and a decrease in atmospheric CO₂ levels has to be accomplished.

An International Agreement on stopping Climate Change

It fell to scientists to draw international attention to the threats posed by global warming. Evidence in the 1960s and '70s that concentrations of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere were increasing first led climatologists and others to press for action. It took years before the international community responded.

A quick overview of UNFCCC

In Rio de Janeiro in 1992 there was a famous and first International meeting on Development and Environment, commonly referred to as the "Earth Summit 92". It was here that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was set up. The convention consists of 192 countries, also referred to as parties and its goal is to prevent dangerous human made climate change. The countries in the convention set general rules and goals on how to tackle and combat climate change.

The UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) entered into force in March 1994 after being formally approved by over 100 countries, including all developed countries. Once the Framework became legally binding (which means it is enforceable by law), a process called Conference of the Parties (COP) was established. The COP is responsible for keeping international efforts to address climate change on track. A key task for the COP is to review the national communications and emissions inventories submitted by Parties (countries). The COP sessions are attended by thousands of government delegates, observer organisations and journalists. In fact it was the third COP, held in 1997 in Kyoto, where the **Kyoto Protocol** was negotiated. Now the Kyoto Protocol also has its own structure of governance, called the Meeting of Parties (MOP). The combined international meetings on climate change are now referred to as COP/MOPs. The meeting in Copenhagen in December will be the 15th session in 15 years of the Conference of the Parties, thus it is called the COP15.

Kyoto protocol

The Kyoto Protocol is an international agreement linked to the UNFCCC. It was adopted in Kyoto, Japan, on 11 December 1997 and entered into force on 16 February 2005. 184 Parties of the Convention have ratified its Protocol to date, although Australia and the US (2 of the biggest emitters!) refused to do so. The major feature of the Kyoto Protocol is that **it sets binding targets for 37 industrialized countries and the European community for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions**. These amount to an average of five per cent against 1990 levels over the five-year period 2008- 2012. The major distinction between the Protocol and the Convention is that while the Convention encouraged industrialised countries to stabilize GHG emissions, the Protocol commits them to do so.

Actors in the negotiating process

Countries belonging to the Convention hold the real power- they take decisions at sessions of the Conference of the Parties (most decisions are reached by consensus). Government delegates go inside the conference and attend big plenary events as well as side discussions and meetings. Member countries often form alliances to increase efficiency and maximize influence during negotiations. The Conference has several groupings representing the concerns of developing countries, least-developed countries, small-island states, Europe (through the European Union), non-European industrialized nations, oil-exporting nations, and nations committed to "environmental integrity."

Inside the COP15 conference building you will also find individuals who are 'observers'. Amongst these observers are intergovernmental agencies, such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); the International Energy Agency; and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). To date, over 50 intergovernmental agencies and international organizations attend sessions of the Conference of Parties.

Observers also include non-governmental organizations, known as NGOs. These represent business and industrial interests, environmental groups, local governments, research and academic institutes, religious bodies, labour organizations, and population groups such as indigenous peoples. Their main focus is lobbying the government delegates.

Youth involvement in the UNFCCC

There is also a visible presence of young people who attend all the UNFCCC meetings, and an increasing number in the past few years as the international politics and issue of climate change has become more

critical. Youth now have 'constituency status' at the UNFCCC which means they are a recognized body at the meetings with certain rights.

There is a co-ordinated international youth process, made up of individuals and youth organisations who meet and work together during the UNFCCC meetings, and in the weeks and months between them. At the last COP in Poznan, Poland 2008 there were 500 'youth' amongst the 11,000 delegates. They work as many different working groups from 'actions and outreach', to specific policies to 'equity and youth representation'.

There are also regional networks within this, for example the **European Youth Climate Movement** who are running a great campaign targeted at delegations questioning them 'How old will you be in 2050?' You can find out more, join their mailing lists and GET INVOLVED here: <http://tinyurl.com/europeanyouthclimatemovement>

What is Copenhagen and why is it important?

2009 and Copenhagen is important as it is here that a "post- Kyoto" agreement is planned to be made. This will be an international agreement that all countries sign up to for reducing emissions after 2012 when the "Kyoto protocol" runs out.

The aim of the global agreement is to stop catastrophic climate change, yet the reality is that an agreement that does this needs drastic emissions cuts and fundamental change in the way that countries get and consume our energy.

Instead, rich, developed countries such as the US, Australia and the European Union are refusing to take responsibility for their historical 'climate debt' to developing countries, by pushing false solutions such as 'carbon offsetting' and failing to commit to the emissions targets they need to. Cuts of 40% by 2020 are needed, but the US has proposed a 4% target by 2020 compared to 1990 level, and Japan has only announced in Bonn a target of 8% cuts by 2020 based on 1990 levels.

Our message to decision makers at the UNFCCC meeting in Copenhagen is:

To reach a just and sufficient international agreement on climate change, which will secure the future of our generation and of those to come. The agreement should recognise that rich countries have done the most damage to our climate and they should take action first. In addition, the agreement should:

- Commit wealthy industrialised countries to at least 40% cuts in emissions domestically by 2020, by using green energy, sustainable transport and farming and cutting energy demand.
- Not allow cuts to be achieved by buying carbon credits from developing countries or by buying forest in developing countries to 'offset' ongoing emissions in the industrialised world.
- Commit rich countries to providing additional money for developing countries to grow in a clean way, and to cope with the floods, droughts and famines caused by climate change while ensuring that this money is distributed fairly and transparently.

Take action! Because 'Many drops make a flood'

"If you go to one demonstration and then go home, that's something, but the people in power can live with that. What they can't live with is sustained pressure that keeps building, organisations that keep doing things, people that keep learning lessons from last time and doing it better the next time."

There are loads of ways to take action from now until Copenhagen, and beyond, and everyone can get involved no matter what your level of experience! Action on climate change can take many forms, from letter writing, direct lobbying, and public shaming of politicians and political and media organizations, therefore a huge variety of ways for different people to get active. SO READ ON AND TAKE ACTION...!



Young Friends of the Earth organise a 'flood is coming' theme within a bigger climate change rally at the UN meeting in Bonn, June 2009

The campaign for justice does not end with Copenhagen in December 2009, so a good campaign needs to build support and activism at a local level. To build this support, actions that **raise awareness** to the issues around climate justice, that signalize **what is taking place in Copenhagen** and actions that **mobilize and empower others** are all absolutely necessary.

The theme of the following actions are all related to extreme and abnormal weather patterns that climate change will exacerbate, which all feed into the final 'Flood for Climate Justice' action in Copenhagen in December.

We need your help to be part of the flood and create excitement to the final flood in December so that all these collective actions across Europe, big and small, will ensure that politicians feel the pressure and our demands for climate justice in Copenhagen. For reports of actions as they are planned and happen visit our website: www.actnow09.eu

A handbook with more of the actions and plans for Copenhagen has been produced by Friends of the Earth Europe, and you can get a copy of this at:
http://www.foeeurope.org/climate/download/many_drops.pdf

Collect 'Messages in a Bottle'



Organize a stall or event in your town, university or another place to collect climate 'messages in a bottle', and deliver or use these locally or nationally to your decision makers. We'll also collect a selection of messages per group to combine and take to Copenhagen and deliver this to International delegates there, so please send in your messages!

We're collecting messages from everybody!

If you are affected by climate change, struggling against false solutions (such as nuclear power, large hydro dams and agrofuels), or are simply convinced that your government should do more to find fair solutions to the climate crisis... **send us your message!** Your contribution can be made in the form of video, audio, photography, drawings, letters or in any format that best gets your personal message across.

What could your message contain?

There are **many things you could say**. You might want to answer any of the following questions, but feel free to formulate your own message.

- What would you say if you had someone responsible for climate change in front of you?
- How do you want the climate to be in 2020?
- Have changes in the climate affected you directly?
- What can be done to stop climate change and what are you doing personally?

How will the messages be used?

The messages can be used really effectively nationally and locally. You can make an installation out of all the different types of messages you collect, or hand them over to national and political leaders, as Young FoE Netherlands will do with '**sending out an SOS**'.

We will also take the messages themselves to Copenhagen in December, where they will be visible for delegates to see in many ways. They will form part of an installation, and messages will be handed over to the delegates inside the conference.

How do you send your message?

Your message can be in digital form; like a video, sound or a photograph; or it can be something physical; a drawing, something from fabric, or...anything really, in any language. Please send all pictures and digital messages via email to sophie.manson@foeeurope.org so that they can go online as soon as possible.

Then, when you have finished collecting and using your messages locally or nationally, get in touch with sophie.manson@foeeurope.org about where to post it all your messages so that they can come to Copenhagen.

We'd like to collect some messages from every action and country to take to Copenhagen. If you want to contribute to this for a large installment which is being made and being taken to Copenhagen, you need to send this to us **by the END OF OCTOBER. Please contact: janneke@foei.org about this.**

Example:

*In the Netherlands, Young FoE have been running their 'Sending out an SOS' campaign. From summer festivals they have been collecting messages from people, young and old, about climate justice, and putting these into recycled plastic bottles. **Thousands of these messages** will be presented to their national government before Copenhagen in December when they transform the outside of their Government building into a beach for all the SOS messages to wash up ashore.*

For more information, you can also visit the website: <http://www.foei.org/en/what-we-do/affectedpeoples/global/2009/climate-capsule>



December 12th Global Day of Action and 'The Flood for Climate Justice' demonstration

On December 12th 2009, thousands of people will be in Copenhagen to join the 'flood for climate justice'. People are travelling to Copenhagen to be a part of this historic climate action, whilst others are organizing or taking part in versions of the flood in their home country.

We need your help to be part of the flood and create excitement to the final flood in December. **Come to Copenhagen, or use the idea at home before or at the same time as the Copenhagen Flood action.**

Organising a big or small 'The flood is coming demonstration'

There are different ways you can organising a 'Flood is coming' demonstration. You can organise one yourself that is Big or Small, or you can take advantage of an already planned climate demonstration where you live, and take some easy steps to make sure the 'flood' is visible inside it!

Organising a demonstration:

- Organising a demonstration can be a lot of work. There isn't space here to go into all the details, but try this link for a very useful guide on how to organize big actions: www.climateyouthnetwork.org/fileadmin/pictureArchiv/files/FoE_Big_Action_Manual.pdf
- If you want to contact other groups who may be organizing big and even national actions that will 'feed into' the big flood in Copenhagen in December, to share ideas and materials. Let us know what you're planning and we can put you in touch with other groups.

Joining a Demonstration:

- If there is already a climate change demonstration being organised in your country, you could organise a group to go on the demonstration with a clear climate justice demand which could also include some elements of the "flood". But make sure you don't seem to be hijacking the demonstration.
- 12th December is being promoted as a global days of climate action. (see website <http://www.globalclimatecampaign.org/>). Other days for action could be 24th October (international day of action promoted by 350.org), 12th October (International Day of Action in Defense of Mother Earth and in Support of Indigenous Rights) and the 5th December which many Friends of the Earth groups are using to plan mass national 'flood' actions immediately before the COP15 starts.

Flooding the demonstration:

- The feeling of contributing to the flood will become stronger if the local or national demonstrations contain some of the same visual elements as the flood action. For example: encouraging people to wear blue or distributing blue flags; moving in a wave or flood like manner; culminating with a human banner... Hint: cut some blue trash bags to ponchos and staple the holes with blue tape (cheap, free hands for actions, looks great and you can use them more than once)

Actions:

- Getting to the ground-counting from 20 to 1-start to run by screaming, "The FLOOD is coming!"
- Singing slogans like: "FLOOD, FLOOD, FLOOD will come" ...
- Wave movements (up - down) of the crowd

Be creative!

Your demonstration doesn't need to be massive to be effective. Sometimes a well choreographed action can be visually stunning, and achieve just as much media and political attention as a bigger demonstration

Actions that 'Tease'

"Teaser" actions can be used to create buzz, excitement and intrigue before a bigger action or campaign that we want to advertise and create anticipation for. By spreading a slogan, message or logo, in any way that you can imagine, they are a simple and effective way to cover the landscape and raise interest in your actions. They don't depend on getting media attention, but of course if you do something spectacular you may want to invite the press. These fun and easy to do actions make it easy for people to take part in something more than a cyberraction.

Just imagine, on a warm summer afternoon 200 rubber boots appear in front of the parliament building in your capital city, carrying slogans demanding climate justice... Metro stations are filled with stickers showing lines of rubber ducks leading the way to a demonstration in Copenhagen... Banks, petrol stations, and fast food restaurants are temporarily blocked by sandbags, as if to protect them (or the rest of us) from rising flood water... rubber boats appear in trees around cities as if the flood has been and gone... street furniture is marked with blue lines to show the high water mark left by a flood...

What follows is a step by step guide for ideas of different climate teaser actions and how to run the in the months leading up to Copenhagen.

1. Chalking the streets

Chalking is very cheap way of doing teaser action, as well as it leaves a lot of space to creativity and improvisation. It doesn't require a lot of planning, many participants, and it is fun and attracts a lot of attention!

What you will need: chalk, volunteer(s).

Planning an action:

1. Legal risks. Make sure you know the legal risks of leaving a temporary or permanent mark on public or private property. In most countries writing with chalk on pavement is no crime, as it fades away with first rain. Beware that in some strategic areas (like expensive hotels, important government buildings) you might have conflict with police or security.

2. Get on the streets Be creative, flexible and leave some space for improvisation

3. Get your message. First of all, you have to brainstorm of what message(s) should be written. Keep your message short and simple. For example, "the flood is coming", "watch out for a flood", etc. You can also come up with new messages during the action, be creative!

4. Figure out the area. Decide in which part of the city you want to write with chalk, if it's the inner city or another strategic area, depending on who should be the audience: residents of the city, delegates, workers etc.

5. Divide into smaller groups (if you're not doing it alone) and decide on which parts of the area each group disperses. You can also plan a route or choose the direction spontaneously. It's good to have one person taking photos of your messages all over the area.



2. Hanging up rubber boots

1. Figure out where you are going to put your boots strategically! The more exposure to key figures and to your target audience, the better.

At the UN Climate Talks in Bonn in June 2009, to make sure that every single person accredited to the conference of the United Nations (especially the delegates) would see our rubber boots teasers, they placed a display of boots just meters from the check-in entrance.

2. Ask permission

In advance find out who you should ask this permission from e.g. it could be to the owners of the location area or the organization hosting an event when your action will take place or the local police.

TIP It is best to get permission if you are doing anything that involves the logo, name or website of your organisation, as there may be legal implications later, and this organisation could be punished for taking part in an unauthorised action.

3. Get boots! Go around local second hand shops and ask your friends for rubber boots.

The same for any other materials or flood action props you can think of- borrow them or buy them all second hand. e.g. stickers to design and put on the rubber boots, umbrellas, raincoats, chairs, the ideas are endless...)

4. Create a message

You'll need to design and print flyers or whatever you attach to the boots as your message, and if you're leaving your props outside for a while, waterproof your message with clear, sticky-backed plastic sheets. Tie these onto your boots with a 'teaser message' such as 'get ready for a flood' or 'the flood is coming'. It's also a good idea to add a website.



5. Take time to plan

Do not underestimate the time and effort it will take you to organise the logistics. Make sure you have a suitable mode of transport (bike, car, van etc) and a chauffeur who knows its way around the location and that will be available at the given time to transport the material (e.i. banners, decorated boots, umbrellas, raincoats, flyers, chairs). Again, do not hesitate to contact other NGOs but also your neighbour, hotels, anyone who could help you out.

Example: To set up our teaser displays at the UN Climate talks in Bonn, luckily we were able to borrow the van and the driver of another NGO attending the conference, which solved a lot of effort of having to carry tools, banners and rubber boots on the tram!

6. And, Go for it! - Set up the decor. Hang up the banners to warn that the flood is coming, hang up the rubber boots and umbrellas with ropes. Be creative: make a large pile of these boots on the floor, wear raincoats and take umbrellas at hand.

Example: To give life to our setting in Bonn, we posed on the floor as stranded people after storm. We also found it was a good opportunity to invite the people passing by (especially the delegates!) to join 'the flood' by telling them about it or by giving out flyers to the 'Flood for climate justice' action on December 12th in Copenhagen.

7. Don't forget after the action has served its purpose to remove it, give back the material you have borrowed, and of course to recycle or give away the rest!

3. Putting up stickers and flyposting

A sticker action is relatively cheap, doesn't need a lot of coordination and planning, but can be incredibly effective as a teaser. You can do sticking anytime you want, anywhere on the way somewhere, or you can flood the city with stickers with other people's help. Flyposting means putting up posters. You can find a good online guide on how to do this here: <http://libcom.org/organise/flyposting-guide>

What you will need: Design for stickers, sticking paper, printer (or money for printing), volunteers.

Planning an action:

- 1. Think of sticker designs.** Keep the message short and simple. You can use a link for more information. Try to make design as much catching-eye as possible. Print out the stickers on special sticking paper. It is better if the ink stays well on paper and doesn't run off after first rain.
- 2. Think of the area.** Is it important to reach particular people, or is it better to flood the city with stickers to attract as many people's attention as possible?
- 3. Legal risk.** Make sure you know the legal risks of leaving a temporary or permanent mark on public or private property. Try not to be noticed while posting stickers in public places.
- 4. Printout as many stickers as possible,** gather all your friends and flood the city, so your message is noticed. Don't forget that you can post stickers not only when organized, but also when you pass by the street.



Stickering the city publicising a 'Flood' action



'Teaser' messages to create anticipation for something

Create your own action idea!

A guide to plan successful actions

Of course, these are all ready made action ideas, and you are free to think of your own great actions that spread awareness, build support, and mobilise people to demand climate justice.

What follows on the next pages is a step by step guide on how to organize successful actions, along with a blank 'checklist' that you can fill out for your action, to make sure you have everything you need and planned.

Step 1: Action Preparation- The most important steps

First of all, as a group you need to sit down and brainstorm through the following 5 things, in order to come up with a concept idea for your action.

Remember- Be respectful of each others ideas, and note them all down on a big piece of paper (every idea is worthwhile at this stage and should be recorded). Also, get one person to facilitate so that you can focus your discussion and stick to a reasonable time.

1. What is your theme?

In the lead up to these critical and historic UN climate talks this December, the theme of your actions should be based around climate change, its consequences, and the demand for climate justice. The exact theme can vary broadly depending what the situation or opportunity is for you locally or nationally to organise an action around

2 .Who is your group?

If you want to run an action you should from the very beginning involve others, like your fellows in your local Young FoE group, your friends or other groups/activists in the planning-process.

3. What is the aim of your action?

There are lots of different kinds of actions, and you should consider hard what the **aim** of the action you're organising is. **So agree this first**, before deciding what kind of action will best achieve this aim.

For Example- you want to stop a coal power station from being operations. The is your aim. One example of an action to achieve this aim is to use direct action to block the coal from arriving at the power station.

4. Identify a location, an opportunity or target

When you think of the location of your planned action, it might be useful to consider the following questions to make your action as successful as possible: what are the weak links in the system you are opposing? where is the press? when are you strongest? who are the key figures and how can we reach them (public, politicians, company)?

For example, Young FoEE activists at a UN Climate meeting in Bonn set up a street theatre action 50 metres in front of the main entrance to the conference venue. The location was on route between the main tram stop and the conference entrance, where almost all the conference delegates and press had to walk past, and could not ignore the action.

5. Which tactics can you use to achieve this aim at this location, to exploit this opportunity, and reach this target? Ask yourselves- is it in within the competency of your group to carry it our, or do you need to look for support/allies? Street theatre is a good tactic for awareness raising, as is some kinds of lobbying, but taking 'direct action' is maybe not the first thing you would consider for a public awareness raising aimed action. An action doesn't always have to be holding a banner or running round in penguin costumes....

Remember to: pay special attention to...

Resources: What skills do you have within your group? How much money do you have? How much time and energy can you put into the action? Have you got enough people to make it happen? If you lack any of these,

Democracy: Is everyone involved in the decision making process? Is this an action that everyone will enjoy taking part in or supporting? Does it need specialist skills that prevent most people taking part? How can you include as many people as possible in the action?

Many action groups suffer from small numbers in the group. Planning inclusive actions can attract people and encourage them to stay!

Step 2: Concrete action planning

You should now have an action concept for what you want to do. The next step is to take this concept, and start making it into a real, concrete plan. A good method for doing this is to **use a framework, such as an empty action plan checklist that you need to fill in (next page)**.

An action plan helps everybody who is involved in the planning of an action to get an overview of what needs to be done by whom, when and with which budget. If you fulfil your action plan you won't forget any important role (for example a media co-ordinator who has an overview of the action and can give interviews) or any action material (props, banners etc).

Example: At an action at the European Social Forum in Sweden, Young FoEE had prepared a 'The flood is coming' action with banners and choreography all to be enacted out during a big public rally. Where we were staying was an hour bus journey away from where the rally was taking place, but on arrival at the action location we suddenly realised we only had one of the banners that we had been up all the previous night painting, as the role of banner guardian had been forgotten!

There are also other techniques in planning actions- this is only one example on how to form a framework that will help you to ensure the action you plan will deliver the results you're looking for. How about asking yourself the 5 W's:

WHY are you planning this action?

What is your aim? What are you trying to achieve? How does this action fit into your wider campaign?

WHAT is the message of the action?

Keep it simple and clear and relevant to your target

WHO are you aiming the action at?

Who do you want to hear your message? Who is your target? Some actions might be aimed at the staff of a corporation or government office. Other might be aimed directly at members of the public. Still others might be aimed at the media. The way you phrase and communicate your message will vary depending on your chosen target.

WHERE will the action happen?

Is there a venue that will maximise it's impact? This might be somewhere symbolic, or somewhere where your action will get the most attention. Maybe the location's dictated to you- if you want to pull up a genetically manipulated crop, you have to go to where it's growing, for example.

WHEN will your message be heard the loudest?

Is there a time that maximises the impact of your action? Do you want your action to coincide with a meeting or conference, with the visit of a politician or dignitary. Should it coincide with a public announcement or press release, with the start of a war or other act of injustice? Maybe you want it to happen at a time when the media will be available or when the area will be full of commuters or shoppers.

HOW will you get the message out?

What form will the action take? What tactic(s) will you use? Do you want to do a press stunt, or take direct action? Maybe you just want to raise awareness amongst the public and can use a street stall or leafleting to achieve that

TTEMPLATE ACTION PLAN for filling out and knowing who is doing what.

	Details	Who	Deadlines	Budget
Coordination and roles	Everyone should know their role in the action, but it can be handy if someone or a small group has an overview of the whole action and preparation			
Plan the choreography of the action	What will happen when, how is the action going to start, how will you end it?. It can be useful to make a sketch and/or map of how the action will look like. You may need to check the location in advance For an action with many parts, a timeline can also be useful. What is Plan B? (and Plan C,D,E,...)			
Time and location	Where and when will the action take place			
Divide the tasks for the action, not all of the tasks will be used for every action	Police/security speaker			
	Press speaker			
	People to speak to public			
	People to hold banners			
	People to wear costumes/perform street theatre etc.			
Logistic support: first-aid, driver, food, photographer, etc...				
Request permission from the relevant authorities	Police, owner of private property where the action will take place, etc...			
Risk assessment	What risks are involved in the action. How will you limit them? For large actions, the police may require a formal risk assessment			
Finances	What is the budget for the action, where is the money coming from, who can spend it?			
Briefing/debriefing	Will you organise a briefing or training for activists? How about a debriefing afterwards?			
Communication	How will you communicate and make decisions during the action?			
Media	The media is not your friend. It is not your enemy. Use them. They are using you.			
Co-ordinate media	Media co-ordinator has overview of the action and ensure implementation of media strategy			
Write, send and follow up media invitation	Invite your media contacts to attend the action, and follow up with a phone call. Invitation can be repeated the day before the action.			
Write the press release for after the action	Most actions are fairly predictable. You can often write 95% of a press release before the action. Doing this in advance will save time after the action when everyone is tired and busy.			
Press folder	Have a package ready for every journalist including a copy of the press release, and any flyers etc. that you are distributing			
Contact with media during the action	Meet the press before or during the action, give interviews and background information. Will you organize a separate press conference or briefing?			
Make photographs of the action	Photos for websites, press release, and your own publications.			
Media follow-up	Send press release during/after action. Follow up with a phone call. Post on indymedia			

Publicity/mobilisation	You may chose to keep your action secret, you may want 100,000 people there...			
Mobilisation of activists to help with the action	Increase the number of participants by contacting other NGOs or local groups. For large actions, you may be able to involve a media partner to help mobilize.			
Posters and flyers	For a large action, you may need to produce flyers and posters. This involves copywriting, layout, printing, distribution and financing.			
Virtual mobilization	Advertise the action on your website, email lists, facebook/myspace/hives, etc.			
Action Material	A simple action doesn't need to be boring. Use props, make sure you're noticed.			
The action material will depend on which type of action you are organising.	Posters, banners and other visual material, costumes, material for street theatre, flyers, petitions, other things to give to the public, or things to ask the public to fill in/take away, "gifts" for politicians or company directors, background information, merchandising, info-table, etc. Technical action material related to a specific type of action: climbing ropes, superglue, etc.			
Logistics	Look through your action scenario. Think about EVERYTHING you need to achieve this...			
Transport	How will you and the material get to the action? How will you get back?			
Shelter	In case it rains or gets cold, also for training and briefing/debriefing			
Food and drink	It is nice to provide food and drink for activists, especially if it's cold/wet/early/late			
Legal	Because even if getting arrested is part of the action, you need to be prepared.			
Legal risk assessment	What are the risks associated with the action, how can you reduce these risks? (maybe ask a lawyer to give you advice if you don't know the situation)			
Legal observers	In some countries, and for some types of action, it can be useful to have observers who do not participate in the action, and who can give evidence in court.			
Home base	For actions with a risk of arrest, make sure everyone has the phone number of someone who will not be risking arrest, but can follow up any arrests			
Legal support	Are there lawyers you can contact if necessary during the action?			

Take a photo for 350.org on 24th October

The most recent science tells us that unless we can reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million, we will cause huge and irreversible damage to the earth.

The bad news is we're already past that number—we're at 390 parts per million, which is why the Arctic is melting, why drought is spreading across the planet, why people are already dying from diseases like dengue fever and malaria occurring in places where they've never been seen before.

The good news is that it's possible to get back down to 350 ppm.

Right now most world leaders and negotiators who are working on the UN climate treaty already know the science of 350ppm, but they don't think it is politically possible.

So, on **October 24**, we are going to show them that not only is it possible, but it is what everyone all over the world is demanding they do. 350.org is not another organization, but a dynamic, short-term campaign based around making the number 350 known across the planet, talked about and written and yelled and photographed, that mere fact will exert real pressure on negotiators. We need people to understand that 350 marks either success or failure for these climate negotiations. It's not an easy fight—the other side has the power of the fossil fuel industry. But the voice of ordinary people will be heard, if it's loud enough.

What we're asking you to do is **take a photograph that somehow depicts 350** and upload that photo to the web at 350.org, at an action you have already organised, or one that you specifically organise to raise awareness of 350 ppm. As actions take place around the world, we'll link all the pictures together electronically via the web- by the end of the day, we'll have a powerful visual petition linking together the entire planet that we can deliver to the media and world leaders.

You can see the 9-step guide to planning an action on **October 24** at 350.org. As we write this part of the handbook, there are 1267 actions planned in almost a hundred countries. Make it bigger!



Students spelling out 350 in Nagpur, India

Lobbying Delegates and Politicians

It is important to contact delegates politicians before the actual conference starts since many decisions are made beforehand. Politicians such as your MP (Member of Parliament), civil servants and negotiators will all have an influence on shaping the international climate agreement. We can remind the delegates and politicians that we are watching them and pushing for a strong climate agreement, to compel them to act.

Writing letters and emailing them can be very effective in getting the message across, especially original letters or emails addressed to them. They do not receive many letters from constituents therefore they are likely to read your letter and reply. As our democratic representatives, politicians have the duty to read and to respond to letters from their constituents.

When writing to delegates, it is also an opportunity to tell them about an event or demonstration that you are holding, or to invite them to a meeting to hand them "messages in a bottle". The political pressure may be crucial in reminding individual politicians that there are people behind them pushing them to act, since it is their responsibility to secure a just climate agreement.

How to find your country negotiators:

The full list of negotiators at the latest climate talks (June 2009) can be found at the following website:- <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/sb/eng/inf05.pdf>

Tip: Their full contact details and emails can sometimes be found by using Google. If you know the format of their email address e.g. @parliament.uk then you can insert their name to send an email to them



Young FoEE meeting Stavros Dimas, EU Commissioner of the Environment, during 2008 UN Climate negotiations, Poznan, Poland.

How to... Write a letter to your Member of Parliament

Contacting your Member of Parliament (MP) is one of the most powerful ways of getting your voice heard; they are your voice in parliament and have a duty to listen. Lobbying your MP's is a democratic right that only a few exercise, although, MP's are fully aware that for every individual letter they receive there are many more silent constituents with the same concerns. It may only take a handful of letters to have a positive impact on an MP, so what are you waiting for, pick up your pens!

The response:

In most cases your MP will forward your letter to the relevant minister or government department and you will get a standard reply; with little relevance to the original issue of concern that you raised (which is why it is important to ask specific questions and to inquire about your MP's personal opinion).

But! don't feel disempowered, either pick up your pen once again or phone your MP's office and arrange a meeting in which to discuss how the issue could effectively be taken forward.

Once a relationship is becoming established it is important to create and maintain a communication channel for your encouraged friends, family and colleagues to use and strengthen the case you have raised.

Oh, and finally, if your MP does take effective action on your behalf do remember to thank them.

Top tips:

1. Tackle only one issue of concern per letter, for example:

- the need for more ambitious commitments with regard to financing climate change adaptation in the developing south
- the lack of renewable energy initiatives in the MP's local constituency

2. Don't babble on about the issue, MP's are busy! You can always enclose more information for the MP to read if they would like.

3. Give your MP a specific instruction, for example:
- inform the relevant minister of your concerns, and if the concern is shared to contribute
- ask a question at a parliamentary question and answer session
- sign a particular petition at an public event you are organizing

4. Always be polite and courteous, aggression and impatience will not encourage your MP or their staff to spend time taking the issue you raise further. Last but definitely not least, in fact perhaps the most important rule...

5. Do not send a standardized letters, such letters rarely make any impact as they will usually be discarded once the first has been seen. For this reason only a bare bones of a template is given here...

Your full address

(To prove that you're MP's constituents)

There full address

Date

Dear Mr/ Ms.....

As a member of your constituency I am writing to you because I am concerned about x. This is of particular interest to me because of y.

- Outline how you or your community have been or will be affected by the consequences of your concern. If this is difficult because the concern only affects people from other communities than try to give examples of how the actions of individuals in your community are exacerbate the consequences of others.
- It may also be worth while dropping a few snappy facts that illustrate your concern, -try scanning the FoE web pages for appropriate facts.

In light of this I would very much like it if you could....

[Insert a specific instruction here]

I have enclosed more detailed, yet concise, information on this issue and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

[your name]

Spreading your message using the Media

When you do a brilliant action or have a lobby success, then it's really great that other people know about your success. Of course you can tell it to your neighbour or a good friend, but it's even better to reach a group as big as possible. Using the (new) media is therefore essential to make your actions even more successful and known.

This part of the handbook gives you an overview of the possibilities of (media) work, in which we make a distinction between. Media and New Media:

Media: Traditional and conservative, though really helpful to get your message across to many people. In the parts of this handbook, we explain how to approach the media, how to write a good press release, what to think of when you are doing an interview, etc. If you are successful you can reach the minds of millions.

New Media, or otherwise called social media, goes into ways of using all those things that are on the web these days, like facebook, blogging, twitter and Flickr. The endless possibilities of the web and social networks have become a new kind of science and we want to give you a little overview on how to reach all those people that are active on the Net.



Young FoEE in the media

How to... Write Press Releases

Conventional media and newsrooms are run somewhat similar to factories: staff are short on time, and are forced to churn out story after story without ever really getting the time to do anything properly or even check facts. Journalist, news desks, newswires etc receive hundreds of press releases every day, so if you want yours to stand out and get picked up, you have to present the release in a way that appeals to a journalist. Thankfully, this is pretty easy...

Content:

- It's all about angles – make sure your story is current or timely, and offers an interesting angle, whether it's conflicting or controversial (Journalists love this), funny or just plain interesting.
- People – news is about people. Journalists need the human side of a story because the average reader's attention span is too short to read anything other than something about humans, because they connect on a level they can't control.
- Journalists are looking for stories which have impact. Tables, rankings and statistics can help them convey this. More importantly pictures (see photo guide)
- Make sure all your facts are accurate in order to show you are a reliable source of information – or at least make it look like your facts are reliable ;)
- Always include an opinion/quote that adds to a current debate and ensures your release gets read.
- Your aim is to ensure that the contents of your release are picked up in their entirety, in order to achieve this it should be written in a journalistic style, because sadly, most journalists don't have time to actually write material, so your press release should be written as if it's going directly to print...then they can cut and paste.

Which means...

- Write like a news journalist, using the inverted pyramid as a guide. The most important information should be at the top with the less important at the end. The headline and opening paragraph should grab the attention and include all the essentials: it should answer the questions what is happening and who is it happening to?
- Spell check, make sure dates are correct, and facts and figures, and names!
- Include something about YFoEE and its aims.
- Always have a contact press person who knows everything about the topic of the release, with full contact details.
- Keep your release to a page. And keep sentences short and simple, using the active rather than passive tense.
- Remember to put "For Immediate Release" or to give an embargoed release time.
- Try to send it out as soon as possible, before midday, but coordinate with any actions/photographers to make sure the release is timely.
- Note on humour, be wary of your audience, sometimes jokes do not translate ;)
- Keep in mind who you're aiming the release at, and make it interesting for them – there's no point sending a really interesting article about a Croatian summer camp to the Norwegian press...

Finally always remember to KISS – Keep It Simple and Straightforward... !

‘Blogging’ on Copenhagen and Climate Justice

What is a blog?

The word blog is a contraction of ‘web log’. A blog is a log of your thoughts, ideas, useful links, photos, videos, or the latest news. Many people differentiate a blog from a website. A website is ‘serious information’, while a blog is ‘not so serious’. A blog presents facts, figures, articles and educational materials, just as a website does, but offers next to this also links, talk and comments. Blogs are giving people a voice they never had before! So make use of this!. Here we would like to show you in which way you can use your blog as a way to inform as much as people as possible about brilliant actions, lobby successes and many more. And you’ll see this is not difficult at all!

Which blogging platform should I use?

There are a large range of different blogging platforms available to you. By far the easiest way to get started is a hosted blogging platform. The most popular choices here are Blogger.com , MSN Spaces and Wordpress.com. Both of these services are free to use, and you can get started on your blog very easily, with a minimum of setup.

Blog Master Plan

What are you going to write about? Do you only want to show of the photographs of the action and talk about them? Or do you want to write about the meeting you just attended? Do you have any news to announce ? Or will you only post links and a few comments to guide people to related information about climate change? Just go for it! But maybe it’s important to keep in mind that whatever topic you want to talk about, it’s always better to narrow your interest down to a specific topic rather than rambling all over the place!

How can I make my blog content stand out?

Perhaps the most important part of any blog post is the title, because that’s what will make a reader that finds your content through a search engine decide whether to visit your website or not. This is the make or break point that determines whether you get read or passed over! Once you have a great title the next thing worth thinking about is what happens when your reader actually arrives at your website. In actual fact, a lot of readers will disappear from a site in seconds unless they are captivated and encouraged to stay. So catch their attention and be creative!

Photos

It’s always really nice to have some photos illustrating what you’re talking about, because as we all know, an image says more than thousand words together. If you talk about an action, put some pictures next to it, or if you talk about the interaction that goes on outside the session rooms during a conference, don’t hesitate to add some snaps as well. So take lots of photos! And if you want to show more pictures then there’s place for on the blog, put them for example on Flickr or on whatever other online photo sharing application, and insert a link in your blog post.

Video

Videoblogging can also be used as a medium for covering an event. You can, for example, make a video of the action you did and put it afterwards on your blog. On the www.actnow09.eu website, you can find some nice illustrations.

Blogging from conferences

As the summit in Copenhagen will be such a massive event where thousands of people will come together, and where so much information will need to be spread around the world, it will be easy to get lost in the huge communication forest. Therefore we think it’s relevant to give some tips for communication during conferences!

Planning

Come together with the blog team in advance and develop a plan for who is covering what. Are there particular sessions that somebody wants to attend? Is there an action going on outside? Who will be the

funny-storycatcher? Some interesting news should be send quickly in the aether? Are there some topics that suit a particular blogger because of his interests? Everybody should know their roles/schedules in advance.

Side coverage

If you have extra bloggers assign them other tasks such as hallway interviews. What additional information can you get from the speaker? Is the speaker willing to provide a copy of the handouts or some other elements of their presentation? Upload them and link them. Did the speaker show a video? Can you link to it on YouTube or get a copy of it from the speaker? And as we all know, the true 'fun' at conferences is the interaction that goes on outside the session rooms. This can include hallway conversations, dinners, receptions, time by the pool...Do your best to cover these items as well! Many times these are the posts that draw the most interest and often have a lasting impression. And very important here as well is to take plenty of photos.

Wrap-Up

Remember that some of this activity can take place before or after the event. It's important to have somebody look after the activities right after a conference as well. Post additional wrap-up items and photos along with links to any external conversations. Use the momentum to promote other events and begin talking about next year's event.

Current existing blogs made by YFoEE

- our main blog which we've opened in Bonn www.actnow09.eu
- the blog of Act Now Belgium (opened in July 09) www.actnowbelgium.blogspot.com

How to... take good pictures

As a short appendix to the press release: pictures are a great universal way to convey an idea without the hassle of having to write anything, and without having to worry about spelling. A powerful shot can be spread much further than any press release.

Simple guidelines (by no means all inclusive, and definitely not written by a pro!)

- Always communicate with the press officer about what they want, and take pictures of what's relevant to the cause.
- Make sure you get all the elements into the shot, without cluttering (see example)
- Make sure the shots are dynamic, have depth, colour and faces, yet keep them simple and clean, so that anyone can work out what's going on at a glance – not as easy as you'd think.
- Experiment with angles, different heights etc, but always try to keep faces in.
- If you're surrounded by press, join the scrum for a bit and see what they do...
- Don't be scared to cheat with Photoshop, and don't be scared to order people about to get a better shot – it hurts your subconscious photographic principles, but a planned or cropped shot can work so much better sometimes, and save a lot of time.
- Get the images out onto the web as quickly as possible after the event – using Flickr etc
- But as a last note, as we're Young FoEE, as well as press shots, take lots of creative shots that your friends will like. This all sounds very hippy-ish, but sharing images amongst the group is a good way to form bonds, build the group, and provides solid mementos of what you've actually achieved. So keep the touristy-camera-eye open.
- Oh, and clichéd as it is: smile. People respond better to a human photographer than a steely-eyed pro...



Logo + message + action + person = nice shot



Web address + message + depth + person = nice shot



Facebook is one of the platforms that range under social media on the Internet, but in order to enter the holy reigns of Facebook you will first have to create an account; a security measure against guest-watchers who wish to dwell or spy incognito. So first thing to do is to go on www.facebook.com and get your Campaign an account! You don't know how? Then read the following instructions!

1. Getting yourself an account: Go on www.facebook.com and click on **“Create a Page for celebrity, band or business”**. Choose the settings that seem most appropriate for your Campaign, fill in the details and before you know it you will be signed up.

2. Arranging the settings and profile: Now you are ready to start using Facebook, but before you get underway you should have a detailed look at your settings. To do this log in and under **“Settings”** have a look at the three points in the blue line at the top of the page: **(1) Account Settings, (2) Privacy Settings and (3) Application Settings**. Check if everything is correct!

After that click on **“Profile”** and make sure you have a **nice picture and inviting text** on the first page.

3. Getting friends: You want to use Facebook for spreading the message of your Campaign. So the most important thing is to get friends on Facebook, - without friends nobody will know about your Campaign. So click on **“Friends”** in the top-line and explore the different options to search and add friends. OR...a quicker way to add friends....If you already have a private Facebook account, you can **make a friend-request on yourself**. As soon as you have confirmed friendship with your Campaign through your private account, you can suggest making friends with the Campaign to your private friends!

4. Using status updates and applications: u can now start spreading your message to your friends through frequent **status-updates** –“What is on your mind?”. Your friends will see them when they enter their account or when they visit your page. **Insert links to newspaper articles, pictures and videos**. They will turn up in your status-line and make your page more interesting!

Explore the big variety of **“Applications”**, which are available via the application-icons in the bottom line of the page. Here are some that are commonly used to promote campaigns: **Photos, Videos, Groups, Events, Notes and Causes**. You will have to get to know the tools and decide which ones are good tools for your Campaign and how to use them effectively!

And one last hint!

People will take their time! Don't surrender if you don't get feedback at once. You will have to repeat the message a lot of times to engage people in what your doing. You will have to ask them many times if you want them to spread what you are asking them to spread. But never give up: many of them will come back to you in the end :-)...

Befriend the ActNow Climate Team on facebook and be kept up-to-date on all there antics! Oh, and don't forget to invite your friends!



Tweet! Twitter is one form of microblog that connects you with friends and professionals all around the world. It allows you to post snappy messages (up to 140 characters) and all your so called “Followers” will receive them. In exchange you will read all the messages which the people that you are “Following” post. In contrary to Facebook, making friends does not work mutually, that means even if you start following lots of people, they still have to become interested in your twitters and independently choose to start following you. Only after they have done that will they receive your posts. That means you have to be really active on Twitter and spread a lot of interesting thoughts and links to get and keep people interested.

1. Get yourself an account: Of course you’ll need an account for your Campaign, but this is really easy. Go on www.twitter.com and follow the instructions!

2. Getting to know Twitter: Twitter is not at all complex in getting started. Log in and check the six buttons on top of the site: “Home”, “Profile”, “Find people”, “Settings”, “Help”, “Sign out”. Simply click on them to get to know them, but I promise, they contain exactly what they say. In “Home” you see your “Following”’s messages and here you update your own ones. In “Profile” you see what you have written and the same “Profile” will be seen by anybody who clicks on your name. Explore the page and start “Following” people you know!

3. Following and Followers: In the right column of your Twitter you can see how many people you are “Following” and how many people your “Followers” are. To spread your Campaign you need “Followers” and as I said initially you will really need to win their interest.

4. How to win Followers: To win “Followers” interest, you will have to update your status frequently and it’s very important to supply people with a lot of information and creates a value for them to “Follow” you. Most popular is adding links! If the URL (webaddress) is too long, you can easily shorten it on pages like www.bit.ly . You can also win people by getting in contact with them, to do this leave comments on things they have written. To comment on a persons message you start your own message with @username_of_the_person_you_want_to_comment_on, i.e. @ActNow, and add your comment after that. For that purpose it’s obviously helpful to follow a lot of people that are possible followers of your own twitter: you read their messages and can comment back, which builds useful mutual relationships.

5. Making conversation flow: There are a lot of abbreviations used on Twitter that you should get to know. Moreover there are communication techniques that you will have to explore and develop when using Twitter. For example you can connect your mobile to Twitter and update through SMS. For getting an introduction on what is basic and easy to adopt, have a look at “Help” and you will find loads of valuable hints there!

Good tweet!



Useful links- websites and blogs

Activism on COP15, Copenhagen and Climate Justice:

www.actnow09.eu Keep up to date with the Act Now Climate Team Blog, Movies, Twitter...

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/actnow09/> Young FoEE Climate action photos

<http://www.demandclimatejustice.org> Sign the international petition here to demand climate justice in Copenhagen

<http://youthclimate.org/> An amalgamation of youth blogs on Climate change and the UNFCCC from all around the world, in lots of different languages

<http://unfccc.int> Home page for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

350.org International Day of Action on 24th October and cool action ideas

<http://beyondtalk.net/> Taking non- violent civil disobedience for climate change

Background reading:

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change: <http://www.ipcc.ch/>

Stern Review: <http://www.sternreview.org.uk/>

Eldis Climate Change Resource Guide: <http://www.eldis.org/go/topics/resource-guides/climate-change>

Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_warming

Resources:

'Many Drops Make a Flood', Friends of the Earth Europe handbook for Copenhagen:

http://www.foeeurope.org/climate/download/many_drops.pdf

Organising big actions handbook:

www.climateyouthnetwork.org/fileadmin/pictureArchiv/files/FoE_Big_Action_Manual.pdf

'flyposting' guidelines: <http://libcom.org/organise/flyposting-guide>

Youth at UN meetings:

http://www.youthforum.org/sites/youthforum.org/files/_old_website_yfj_files/Downloads/Press_publications/reports/UN.pdf

Climate Testimonies- short films and report: <http://www.foei.org/en/who-we-are/new-testimonies> and

<http://www.foei.org/en/publications/annual-report/2007/what-we-achieved-in-2007/communications-in-2007/publications-and-materials/report-voices-from-the-front-lines-of-climate-change/?searchterm=voices%20climate>

Forests and REDD: <http://www.foei.org/en/publications/pdfs/forests-and-biodiversity/2008/redd-myths-exec/view>

Movies:

Young FoEE youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/YFriendsOfTheEarth>

'Wake up freak out' on tipping points and positive feedback mechanisms:

<http://wakeupfreakout.org/film/tipping.html>

Act Now, by Friends of the Earth Belgium, 2008:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T7mETr1SqXk&feature=related>

Detailed calendars for 2009:

Official UNFCCC: http://unfccc.int/meetings/unfccc_calendar/items/2655.php

CAN: <http://www.climate-network.org/about-can/calendar>

IISD: <http://www.iisd.org/calendar/default.aspx?month=7&year=2009>

Calendar

Key events and actions leading up to COP15

24 Sep - 16 Oct 2009 UNFCCC Bangkok, Thailand

UNFCCC meetings: LEG 16, AWG-KP 9 & AWG-LCA 7, Enforcement Branch 7th meeting, Facilitative Branch of the Compliance Committee 7th meeting, Compliance Committee 6th meeting, CDM-EB 50.

8-11th October 'Act Now' Conferences across Europe

Young Friends of the Earth Europe will be running 4 conferences in Malmo (Sweden), Berlin (Germany), Montpellier (France) on 8-11th October, and Dublin (Ireland) on 15-18th October. To hear all about the issues and Act Now project, and plan actions together!

16 October 2009 World Food Day

FAO- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

At a time when the global economic crisis dominates the news, the world needs to be reminded that not everyone works in offices and factories. The crisis is stalking the small-scale farms of the world too, where 70 percent of the world's hungry live and work.

24 October 2009 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CLIMATE ACTION

On October 24, we need you to organize an action in the place where you live, something that will make that most important number visible to everyone.

So far more than 100 nations are taking part—it's shaping up to be to be the biggest day of grassroots action on global warming ever.

October 24 comes six weeks before those crucial UN meetings in Copenhagen. It's a great chance to take a stand—maybe the last great chance, given what the scientists tell us about the momentum of global warming. Register your action: <http://www.350.org/oct24>

02 Nov - 06 Nov 2009 UNFCCC Barcelona, Spain

UNFCCC Resumed meeting AWG-LCA 7 & AWG-KP 9

Resumed Seventh session of the AWG-LCA and resumed Ninth session of the AWG-KP.

Young FoEE will be there taking action inside and outside the conference. Keep following us at:

www.actnow09.eu

07 Dec - 18 Dec 2009 UNFCCC COP 15 and CMP 5, Copenhagen, Denmark

Conference of the Parties (COP), Fifteenth session and Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP), Fifth session and sessions of the Subsidiary Bodies

12 December 2009 GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION and 'Flood for Climate Justice'

International Demonstrations on Climate Change: We intend synchronised demonstrations around the world on Saturday December 12th 2009 - in as many places as possible - to call on world leaders to take urgent action on climate change. Friends of the Earth is planning the 'Flood for Climate Justice' from 10am on the 12th in Copenhagen.

<http://www.demandclimatejustice.org/>

<http://www.globalclimatecampaign.org/>

Act Now: Background

Young Friends of the Earth Europe is a grassroots network of young people and youth organisations working together on social and environmental justice issues. We work collectively on a local, national and European level, to inspire other young people, organise great actions and events and get lots of attention in the media, in politics and amongst the general public on what we think as young people in Europe.

The 'Act Now' climate project is coordinated jointly by BUNDjugend (Young Friends of the Earth Germany) and Young FoEE.



Contact:

Young Friends of the Earth Europe
Rue d'Edimbourg 26
1050 Brussels
Belgium

Tel: +32 2 893 10 09

Email: youngfoe@foeeurope.org

Web: www.youngfoee.org



'Youth in Action' Programme

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.