



**InterClimate
Network**

Inspiring action on climate change

Model Climate Conferences

InterClimate Network (ICN) are pleased to offer secondary schools in the South West and South East of England 5 Model Climate Conferences.

The Conferences coincide with the 18th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP18) UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to take place in Doha, Qatar (26th Nov. – 7th Dec. 2012).

It is intended that these positive experiences of democracy in action will inspire young people to take an active part in decision-making about their own global future.

Conferences

Conferences will be held at the following locations from 12.30pm to 3.30pm. For further information please see www.interclimate.org/projects/model-climate-conferences/uk

Oxford: 28th November at Oxford Town Council Chambers

High Wycombe: 29th November at Wycombe District Chambers

Reading: 3rd December, at Reading Council Chambers.

Bristol: 4th December 2012, at Bristol Council Chambers.

Cheltenham: 5th December, at Cheltenham Council Chambers.



The Approach

What it involves: Groups of 3 to 5 students are invited to represent one of the countries attending COP 18 and negotiate Kyoto Phase 2, modeling a formal UNFCCC Climate Conference. We provide all teams with briefings in advance, enabling them to understand the issues and political processes linked with climate change and the role of each country in international negotiations. On the day we provide all materials and facilitators. Project methodologies will be designed to build skills and confidence in communicating and negotiating complex issues with others.

Who is involved: We welcome the input of council dignitaries in opening and closing the Conferences, especially as this helps young people connect to local decision-making. As well as the formal proceedings, we will organise a networking activity in which relevant local and national organisations, including Youth Councils, will be invited to represent their work.

European dimension: These conferences are part of a wider project which will see ICN, with partners in the Czech Republic and Poland run 15 Conferences across three countries during COP18. We will help young people understand the role of Europe internationally, and hear each others' viewpoints in deciding a common European position. There will be the additional excitement of live link-ups during the conference with young people from these partner countries.

Benefits for Students

The conferences have direct relevance to Citizenship, Geography and PSHE and will enhance students':-

Capacity to research, reflect on and think critically about complex issues.

Confidence to communicate a particular viewpoint in a formal setting.

Skills to negotiate and make collaborative decisions with groups from other schools.

Knowledge of the different global perspectives on climate change.

Experience of what is involved in making commitments at an international level.

Understanding of the vulnerabilities of the poorest countries to changes in climate.

Feedback

Those involved in the Conferences to date have been impressed by the way in which the young people have conducted themselves during the debates and by the standard of the negotiations. Student feedback has also been very positive including *'The [conference has made me think about the] future of the earth and what my generation are going to step up to do'* and *'It has made me think a lot more about climate change. Knowing about it has made me realise how important it is.'* Please do look on our website for more information, photos and comments: www.interclimate.org

Sponsorship

These conferences are partly funded by the European Commission and British Council. If your organisation would like to match fund one of these Conferences then please get in touch (details below).

Sign up

If you are interested in bringing a group of secondary school students to one of the Conferences please express your interest on our sign-up form www.interclimate.org/projects/model-climate-conferences/uk/sign-up or get in touch with

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