



**InterClimate
Network**

Inspiring **action** on climate change

Speak Up!

Make your voice heard at COP21 in Paris

What's it all about?

InterClimate Network is gathering school students' visions for a sustainable future, and their views about how politicians should work towards this at the upcoming United Nations Climate Negotiations in Paris this December (called COP21).

We are looking for students to turn their vision into creative messages. We will then turn these messages into postcards and deliver them to international leaders and participants at COP21.

All the messages will be showcased on the InterClimate website (www.interclimate.org), and we will send the final designs back to your school.

How to get involved

Use Speak Up! activities on the following pages to:

- Explore and further understand climate change and its impact, and learn about the upcoming climate negotiations (COP21).
- Critically examine others' verbal responses and photo or video messages about climate action.
- Devise and create key messages (made individually or collectively) using text, film, or photography.
- Select the strongest messages from your school or class to send to us.

Send your messages

Please make sure each message clearly shows:

- The name(s) and age(s) of the students
- Your school
- The title or caption if you are sending a film or photograph

Then send your Speak Up! messages to Cecily at cecilyetherington@yahoo.co.uk

If you are sending large files you may like to use Drop Box or We Transfer (www.wetransfer.com) which are free and easy to use.

The deadline is 6th November 2015 for the postcards going to Paris. Later entries are also fine – they'll go on our website.

Your school may also want to follow us on twitter @ClimateVoicesUK

What is COP21?

In 2015 the COP21, also known as the 2015 Paris Climate Conference, will, for the first time in over 20 years of United Nations negotiations, aim to achieve a legally binding and universal agreement on climate, with the goal of keeping global warming below 2°C.

Details can be found at www.cop21paris.org/about/cop21/

What you should do

1

Look at the video and photograph messages about climate change and climate action. In small groups, discuss the messages and your reactions to them.

Questions to get you started

- Who is the message from? And who is it intended for? How does climate change affect them?
- Why is climate action important to them?
- Is this message relevant to you - how does it make you feel?
- What can this person do about climate change and what are they asking others to do?
- Do you think the message is powerful? If so why and if not, why not?

Video messages

Michael, New Zealand -
Turn all the lights off



www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mz51Lqc6ODc&index=18&list=PLYT7vD-5He2VBSD2I6_vxVixrynfis-pLc4

Alina, Nepal



www.youtube.com/watch?v=jAqn6K0VMIY

Bill Gates, USA



www.gatesnotes.com/Energy/Who-Will-Suffer-Most-From-Climate-Change?WT.mc_id=09_02_2015_EnergySmallFarmer_BG-TW_&WT.tsrc=BGTW

Barack Obama, USA



www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXOXiBZw5CY

&

www.youtube.com/watch?v=SC5F_X4n7SY

There are also some brilliant 30 second video messages created by students to be found on the Guardian website:

www.theguardian.com/connect4climate-partner-zone/creative-students-climate-action-30-second-videos

2

In groups or pairs - or as a whole class - take a large piece of paper and divide it into quarters. Call them Climate Hopes; Fears; Threats; Opportunities.

Talk about each in turn. Then write down in each box what you talk about.

Here are some questions to help

- **Hopes:** What do you hope might happen in the future as positive responses to climate change? What is your vision for the world?
- **Fears:** What might happen to you and your community, to people in other countries, to the ecosystem, to the economy, animals etc?
- **Threats:** What is at the root of the climate issue? What is making the situation worse? What makes you angry and frustrated about people's responses to climate change?
- **Opportunities:** How are people coming together to tackle problems associated with climate change? What can you and others do to tackle climate change?

3

Reflect on the messages you have seen and your own work and opinion on climate change. Decide what is most important to you, and what you most want to say to leaders in Paris as they negotiate a global agreement to tackle climate change.

Plan how to create the greatest impact, and film/photograph/write it.

Your message can be a

- Short video (up to 2 minutes) with a snappy title
- Photograph or created image with a short caption
- Written message of up to 50 words
- Message the length of a tweet (up to 140 characters)

Some photo inspiration



"If it's melted it's ruined. Save our Swirled" Through the company's global advocacy initiative **Ben & Jerry's** is mobilising citizens around the world to demand climate action, with a message that can't be ignored: "If it's melted, it's ruined." Learn more: www.newsroom.unfccc.int/unfccc-newsroom/ben-jerry-s-save-our-swirled-initiative/



The future as I see it Hussein Malla, a 9 year old boy from Kenya, is the regional winner for Africa of the 24th International Children's Painting Competition. Hussein's winning artwork contrasts the world today with the future he would like to see. www.unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=26844&ArticleID=35418&l=en



Zero By 2050 Young people making a stand for global net-zero emissions by 2050 at the climate negotiations in Bonn, September 2015. Learn more: <https://twitter.com/UNFCCC/status/639059929991655424/photo/1>

4

Choose the strongest message or messages that you want to go to Paris as part of Climate Voices. Then send them back to us (see front of pack for details).

Here's an idea of how to choose

- Show all the messages you have created as widely as possible within the school community
- Give students time to discuss them and use peer voting – students view them all and vote – to select the favourite(s).
- Alternatively, hold a debate or 'hustings' – students can expand on their message and justify why it should go to Paris with a show of hands at the end.

Notes for teachers

Speak Up! is an initiative by InterClimate Network. We are a charity with a mission to mobilise the energy and creativity of young people, inspiring them to become active citizens and leaders in sustainable development.

Speak Up! is part of a wider programme entitled Climate Voices, details of which can be found on the website www.interclimate.org/projects/climate-voices

Regarding this resource we want to mention that while we strive to provide only links to useful and ethical websites, we have no control over their content and the links to other websites do not imply a recommendation for all the content found on these sites.

Do it your way ...

You may want to adapt the resource to suit your needs depending on the age range, ability, interest of your students and the time you have available. Or you may want to fit the activities to a particular subject, topic or club – media literacy, photography or art, P4C, debating society, the Eco-group, science, politics.

We have come up with some ideas here and you will be surprised how versatile this resource is!

Your school could also ...

Take part in a Model Climate Conference

If you are in Reading, London, South Gloucestershire, Bristol and Gloucestershire, students can take part in Model Climate events. For more information and a registration page go to www.interclimate.org/projects/model-climate-conferences/2015-conferences

Hold a Model Climate Conference in school

Purchase our excellent Model Climate resource and hold your own conference in an afternoon! The electronic pack provides you with all you will need including briefings for facilitators and delegations, background notes and even flags. Available for only £50. For an order form email: michila@interclimate.org

Get in touch

If you have any queries or need any help, do get in touch with:

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www.interclimate.org

Follow us on twitter
[@ClimateVoicesUK](https://twitter.com/ClimateVoicesUK)

Here are some other ideas to try with the Speak Up! resource

- Identify other images or films to use that you feel are appropriate for your students.
- Ask the students themselves to search out other images and videos and repeat the activity, perhaps where they lead it with other classes.
- Go deeper and set some independent learning challenges for students to find out more, reporting their key findings back to class, or through the school newsletter and website.
- Turn the Hopes and Fears activity into a class display setting out the hopes and fears as a mind-map or spider diagram, and adding images to represent each.
- Focus simply on creating images for an art class or photography club, or on creating videos for media studies or media literacy.
- Share all your students' messages – on your website, school displays, or at parents' evening – so that they are seen, and thought about, by as many people as possible.

And finally

- Let the ICN community know how you have used the resource – email us your suggestions for making it better, and we'll add them in!

**Remember the deadline for postcards: 6th November 2015
(later entries will still make it onto the website)**