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# CommitClimate

**Learning Platform: *Community engagement  
and behavioral change (2)***  
***Best practice & resources***

# Outlines

An aerial photograph of a wind turbine in a rural landscape. The turbine is the central focus, with its three blades extending upwards. The surrounding area consists of green fields, some of which are plowed, and a few scattered trees. In the background, there are rolling hills and a cloudy sky. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

- Green Footprints, Austria & Germany
- Best practice awards – Climate Star
- Climate action days
- Community climate action plan
- Online platforms
- Youth engagement
- Resources & tools
- Your turn: Create a draft local climate and energy action plan

## **Green Footprints – involving kids, teachers and parents**

Since 2002, the Green Footprints campaign has been helping children across Europe learn about the influences of their daily actions on the climate and encouraging them to become role models for both their parents and climate politicians. During at least a one-week period, children in participating classes collect so-called ‘green footprints’ for every sustainable trip completed via public transport, bike or foot as well as for other environmentally-friendly habits such as sustainable nutrition. These footprints are presented to the participants and politicians at the UNFCCC’s annual Climate Conferences.

More info: <http://www.zoom-kidsforclimate.eu/>



# Green Footprints – involving kids, teachers and parents (2)



# Best practice awards – Climate Star

Since 2002, Climate Alliance has been recognizing excellent projects carried out by Climate Alliance municipalities and their municipal networks from across Europe with the Climate Star award. The Climate Star honors the commitment and achievements of European towns, cities and regions in the fields of sustainable energy, mobility, consumption, urban and regional development and citizen involvement.

More information: <https://www.climatealliance.org/municipalities/climate-star-award.html>



# Best practice awards: Climate Star (2)

The winners 2023:

## Category 1: Up to 10,000 inhabitants

Bruck an der Leitha, Austria: Largest agri-photovoltaic plant in the country. Langau, Austria: Modern infrastructure thanks to citizen participation.

Pápateszér, Hungary: Tradition meets sustainability.

## Category 2: 10,000 to 100,000 inhabitants

Krems an der Donau, Austria: Assessing climate impact of local projects.

Korschenbroich, Germany: Child reporters investigate local climate action.

Monheim am Rhein, Germany: Free public transport with the Monheim Pass.

Sanem, Luxembourg: A center for circular economy. Schaffhausen, Switzerland: City buses go electric.

Weiz & St. Ruprecht an der Raab, Austria: A holistic



# Best practice awards: Climate Star (3)

## Category 3: Over 100,000 inhabitants

Nadace Partnerství in the city of Brno, Czech Republic: A green urban oasis.

Braunschweig, Germany: An energy cooperative for the energy transition.

## Category 4: Municipal networks

Rems-Murr-Kreis, Germany: Bicycle-friendly companies.

Kompetenznetz KlimaMobil, Germany: Climate-friendly parking management

Umbrella organization for nature and environmental protection South Tyrol, Italy:

Tap water for all.

KLAR! Region Südliches Weinviertel, Austria: Modern green space management.

KEM Stubaital, Austria: Becoming a climate frontrunner region.

**Question: Which municipalities would you recognize for their excellent climate, energy and sustainability work?**



# Climate action days

Getting people together around the theme of climate action can be an uplifting, exciting and energizing event and can serve multiple purposes. Pulling off a successful event has a lot to do with excellent planning.

When starting to plan an event, it is important to consider the audience you want to target, the objectives you want to achieve and the type of event you would like to host. Some ideas:

*Community climate night, climate rally, green career fair, film festival, gardening event, food festival, outdoor day, workshops, panel discussions with local decision makers and stakeholders etc.*

Address event promotion strategies as soon as you start planning your event!

Develop visually appealing materials and innovative ways of reaching out to your target audience.

**Question: What type of event would be your favorite?**

## Climate Action Days



## Climate action days (2)

It's a good idea to organize your event/activity connected to one of many international action days. Often the organizers offer support, materials, media coverage etc. Some examples:

Energy Action Day - <https://www.unep.org/events/online-event/energy-action-day>

Climate Action Day - <https://climateactionday.net/>

Youth Climate Action Day -

<https://climateactionday.org/en/> UNESCO Climate Action

Day -

<https://www.unesco.org/gem-report/en/articles/climate-action-day>

Earth Day - <https://www.earthday.org/action/>

Earth Hour - <https://www.earthday.org/action/>

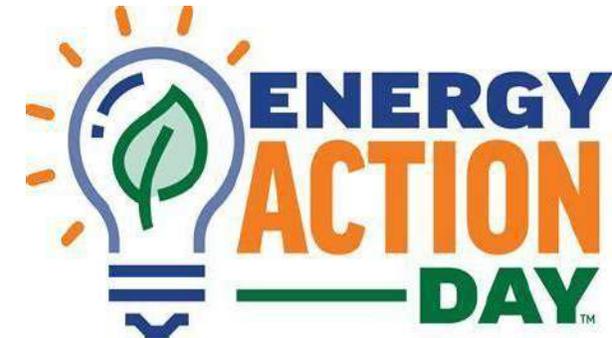
World Environment Day - <https://www.un.org/en/observances/environment-day>

European Mobility Week - <https://mobilityweek.eu/home/>

Earth Overshoot Day -

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth\\_Overshoot\\_Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_Overshoot_Day) International Day for

Biodiversity –



# Community climate action plans

Local communities have a key part to play in addressing the climate and ecological challenges. We need communities to keep working together to convince decision-makers and stakeholders that an ambitious climate action plan is necessary and will have benefits for health and equity. It's particularly important that climate action plans work for those most at risk of the impacts of the climate and ecological emergencies.

The EU standard for municipality Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAP) is defined within the Covenant of Mayors network:

Here you can find more than 8000 local action plans from all over Europe:

[https://eu-mayors.ec.europa.eu/en/action\\_plan\\_list](https://eu-mayors.ec.europa.eu/en/action_plan_list)

We recommend the EU guide-book “How to develop a Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan”.

<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/338a9918-f132-11e8-9982-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>



# Online platforms

How to create a climate action plan through community engagement:

<https://www.citizenlab.co/blog/environment-sustainability/how-to-create-climate-action-plans-through-community-engagement/>

Global Climate Action (UNFCC):

<https://climateaction.unfccc.int/>

Moving forward climate action plans using online workshops:

<https://www.citizenlab.co/blog/environment-sustainability/moving-forward-climate-action-plans-using-online-workshops/>

Social Media for Climate Engagement:

<https://leadthechange.bard.edu/blog/social-media-for-climate-activism-a-massive-online-experience>

Community-based participatory climate action:

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/global-sustainability/article/communitybased-participatory-climate-action/8EAC9C7F3FC0EF97BEA3572E5D1B868B>

# Youth

**engagement**  
Climate change is here. As its impact intensifies over time, it is the children and young people of today who will face the worst effects.

But far from being passive victims, young people all over the world have begun to fight back on a scale never seen before.

Whether through education, technology, science or law — young people far and wide are

tapping into their skills to speak up for climate action.

*“We are the last generation that can end climate change. We can and we will.”*

Khishigjargal, 24, Mongolia.

As stated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, every person under the age of 18 has the right to participate in the decision-making processes that impact them. This includes a public forum to express their views, and support for them to do it.



## Youth Engagement (2)

Some ideas how to cooperate with and involve young citizens in your community:

Green Footprints:

<http://www.zoom-kidsforclimate.eu/> Voices if Youth is UNICEF's digital community FOR YOUTH, BY YOUTH:

<https://www.voicesofyouth.org/> UNESCO Youth Climate Action Network is an innovative platform connecting youth climate networks from all over the world to enhance cooperation and upscale youth-led climate action and research:

<https://www.unesco.org/en/youth/climate-action-network>

Environment and Climate Change Youth Council – an example from Canada:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/get-involved/environment-climate-change-youth-council.html>

How Young People Can Create a Sustainable Future:

<https://earth.org/youth-climate-action/>



# Resources, good examples & tools

Green Best Practice: A EU tool to discover, showcase and collaborate on green best practices: <https://greenbestpractice.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

Best practices: Solutions for nature-positive, community-led renewable energy in Europe compiled by the European Environmental Bureau:

<https://eeb.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/RES-Best-Practices-factsheet-5.0.pdf> EU

Green Deal going local: The EU Green Deal map is an evolving effort to show how EU cities and regions are taking action to decarbonize and make the economy resource-efficient, where the well-being and health of citizens and of nature are protected and improved:

<https://cor.europa.eu/EN/regions/Pages/eir-map.aspx?view=stories&type=greendeal>

Energy communities. Citizen-driven energy actions that contribute to the clean energy transition, advancing energy efficiency within local communities:

[https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/markets-and-consumers/energy-communities\\_en](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/topics/markets-and-consumers/energy-communities_en)

# Your turn: Create a draft local climate and energy action plan

How would you start to create a local action plan?

How to agree on (quantified) short- and long-term goals and targets?

What sectors and stakeholders should be involved?



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ENERGY TRANSITION

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**Thank You for your attention!**

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