



Let's Take Care of the Planet

(MINI-) GUIDE



METHODOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES

“Let’s Take Care of the Planet” fosters the commitment and empowerment of young people necessary for the development of responsible citizenship.

YOUNG PEOPLE ELECTING YOUNG PEOPLE

In order to enable the young people to try out a democratic process, delegates are elected by their peers to represent their schoolmates during the regional, national or International gatherings organised. On their return, these same delegates are tasked with passing on the outcomes of these gatherings to their schoolmates, and as far as possible with mobilising them to help them disseminate the outcomes more widely.



ONE GENERATION LEARNING FROM ANOTHER

The passing on of knowledge is not only downwards from adults to younger people. It is also horizontal and upwards. The project enables young people to try out these different forms of knowledge sharing and gives them the opportunity to pass on what they have learnt or discovered to other young people but also to adults.



YOUNG PEOPLE EDUCATING YOUNG PEOPLE

Youth facilitators can be mobilised to facilitate the workshops organised for the delegates during the conferences. This is to promote the free expression of the delegates and the participation of all through interactive facilitation techniques. It is also a way of giving responsibilities to these youth facilitators, which they can later reinvest in their professional activity or in their personal life.



THE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBILITY AT THE HEART OF THE PROJECT

The concept of responsibility has been at the heart of the “Let’s Take Care of the Planet” process since its origins. Why was this concept so important in the 20th century?

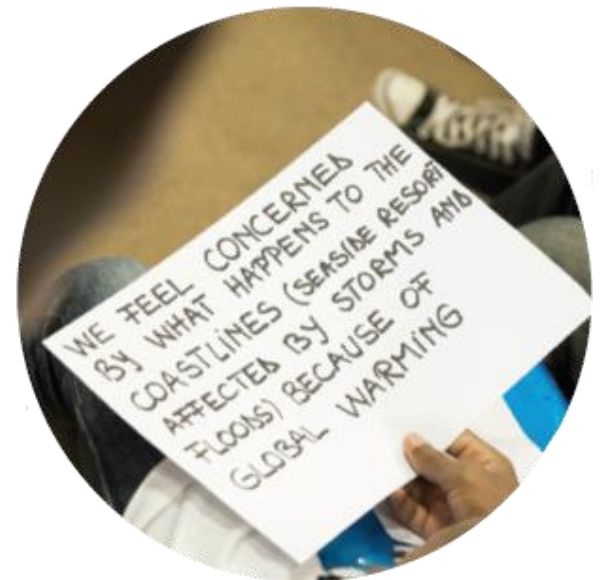
Several International conferences organised during the second half of the century highlighted global interdependence and the need to put in place international regulations in order to protect Humanity’s shared assets even though environmental problems do not recognise political borders.

The current globalisation is characterised by interdependence, but it is only feasible if it goes hand in hand with the concept of responsibility. The majority of people do not feel individually responsible for these problems and think that they are relatively powerless to change things. However, assuming one’s responsibility means being attentive to the positive and negative impacts of our actions here and on the other side of the planet (concept of space), now and in the future (concept of time). But of course this responsibility is not the same from one individual to another, or from one society to another because it depends on the level of knowledge and power of the individual or of a society in relation to others.

In this way, the more power and knowledge I have, the more responsibilities I have in return. In order to live and to interact with respect for the diversity of both human beings

and life, it is necessary to debate the problems democratically, assume responsibilities and also collectively seek actions for change. Because since the human impact on the Earth system has become prevalent, it is necessary to redefine the general interest for the whole of Humanity, which requires both respect for the current Universal Rights and the recognition of a Universal responsibility of all.

It is not enough to debate the problems democratically and assume responsibilities, we must also think about collectively developing actions for change. These opportunities for reflection and action enable us to create new ways of being, living and interacting that respect the diversity of both humanity and life.



THE INVESTIGATIONS

WHERE? In schools or extra-curricular organisations
WHAT? Defining an Issue for research and exploring it
WHEN? October - January

THE LOCAL CONFERENCES

WHERE? In schools or extra-curricular organisations
WHO? Young people aged from 11 to 18
WHAT? Debating local sustainable development issues and making proposals to be implemented locally
WHEN? November - January

THE REGIONAL OR NATIONAL CONFERENCES

WHERE? In the regions involved of the participating countries
WHAT? Debating and making proposals to be implemented at different territorial levels, creating edcommunication tools
WHEN? January - May

*e.g. [Spanish National Conference](#)
in Logroño (La Rioja),
November 16-19, 2016*

• THE PROCESS, STEP BY STEP

TBC THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

WHO? Elected European delegates aged 13 to 16
WHAT? Intercultural exchanges, comparison of the local realities and challenges, pooling of proposals and shared responsibilities, creation of edcommunication tools
WHERE? Lisbon TBC
WHEN? May 2018 TBC

THE LOCAL CONFERENCES

What is a youth conference?

A "conference" in this case refers to a gathering of young people organised to enhance their knowledge on Sustainable Development-related themes, facilitate debate and collective decisions on the proposals, responsibilities and actions that they wish to implement. At the conference, the young people also elect the delegates who will represent them at the next level. A conference is also an opportunity to produce education tools in order to promote their commitments.

The Local Conference enables the young people to present the results of their research, debate local issues relating to sustainable development and make proposals for actions to be implemented locally. It can involve just a limited group of youth volunteers (the eco-delegates, the sustainable development club), a class or a larger number of people, or even an entire school. **It will take a different form depending on the number of young people involved and on the capacity of each team to organise such an event.** It is also during this conference that the delegates who will participate in the Regional, National or European Conference will be elected by their peers.

THE LOCAL CONFERENCE IN A FEW WORDS

- **Objective :** *to enable the students to move from knowledge to the formulation of collective proposals*
- **Duration :** *minimum 3 hours*
- **Expected outcomes :**
 - *choice of 1 to 3 issues for each theme*
 - *1 to 3 proposals for actions*
 - *collective choice of one action that they will implement in the school*
 - *starting of a photo report on the local project*
 - *election of 2 or 3 delegates who will represent them at the Regional or National Conference*

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

PRESENTING THE RESULTS OF THE THEMATIC RESEARCH

Each group of young people will present the results of their investigation and in particular the issues that appear to them to be crucial regarding the theme(s) examined; if possible, by mentioning how they fit into the local context and what connection has been made with the territory during the project.

DEBATING

This is a crucial phase in the process because it enables the young people to go from the role of learner to that of actor. Each participant is invited to express their point of view and to argue on the basis of their knowledge and personal experiences.

The objective of the debate is to manage to identify priorities contributed by the whole group and to subsequently commit themselves to the implementation of concrete actions

The manner in which a debate is conducted is important, particularly in class, where the students find it difficult to move away from the position of "learner", in order to encourage everyone to speak and debate. It is therefore very important to define the rules of the debate with the young people (e.g. one person speaking at a time, no judgement on the ideas expressed by others, etc.) and to respect them. The role of the facilitator of the debate is essential since they are responsible for ensuring that everyone has an opportunity to speak, that the framework of the debate (its subject) is respected and for its outcomes. In order to encourage everyone to speak and to enable the participation of those who are not comfortable with speaking, the facilitator can use interactive facilitation techniques.

MAKING PROPOSALS, CHOOSING THE RESPONSIBILITIES

After the debate, the young people have to **develop proposals** that address the issues and problems identified in their project, be it in relation to energy, food, waste, etc. In the event that no consensus is reached naturally, it is necessary to list the different proposals and organise a vote in order to select them. Once the priorities have been identified, the participants are invited to select which one(s) they wish to commit themselves to (individually or collectively). These will become the responsibilities that the group wishes to implement. It is important not to have too many responsibilities in each local group in order to actually be able to implement them. Each responsibility must be presented in no more than three lines.

CHOOSING THE ACTIONS

After having chosen the responsibility(ies), the young people will propose actions that relate to them. It must be possible for each action chosen to be implemented in very practical terms by the young people. **It is necessary to be able to answer these questions: where, how and when will the action be implemented?** At this stage, it is also important to identify the actors to speak to (scientists, local experts, etc.) in order to verify the relevance of the actions chosen (relevance to the issue that it is intended to address, effectiveness or efficiency of the actions adopted, etc.). Then, the young people will identify the key people to support them in implementing these actions (head of school, school staff, parents, elected representatives, etc.).



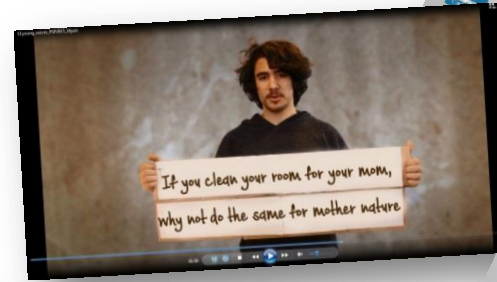
CREATING TOGETHER

IMPLEMENTING ACTIONS

EDUCOMMUNICATION : The Brazilian term educommunication is a way of linking education with communication and enabling individuals to themselves produce information in different forms: posters, newspapers, film, radio broadcast, etc.

More information on [educommunication](#) and other methodological support, visit care-planet.org

To learn how to easily make posters during the Conferences, [click here](#).



EUROPEAN Youth Conference
19th-23rd May 2015
Brussels

Call for co-responsibility

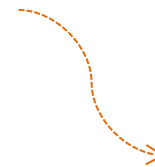
We, the young people, the world citizens, are gathered here in Brussels, in the European "Let's Take Care of the Planet!" Youth Conference in order to reflect on our future, stimulate the decision-makers and make people act on climate change as we do today.

Do you see what we see? Do you feel what we feel? If yes, then show us!

• GOING A STEP FURTHER...

...ON THE EUROPEAN EXCHANGES BETWEEN SCHOOLS

The twin schools are an opportunity for the young Europeans to exchange, share their experiences and knowledge, open themselves up to other realities and practice a foreign language, but also to promote the projects to other educational institutions.



http://careplanet-europe.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4&Itemid=187



For information concerning the project, the partners and the activities conducted in the different countries :

EUROPEAN WEBSITE:
<http://careplanet-europe.org>

Make this website yours, it's open to contribution!



Monde pluriel
Wolgs bjmles