

A three-monthly newsletter highlighting the past and present activities of the CwC network and current issues relating to changing with the climate. Supported by a grant from the Lifelong Learning Programme of the EU's Directorate General for Education and Culture.

In this issue:

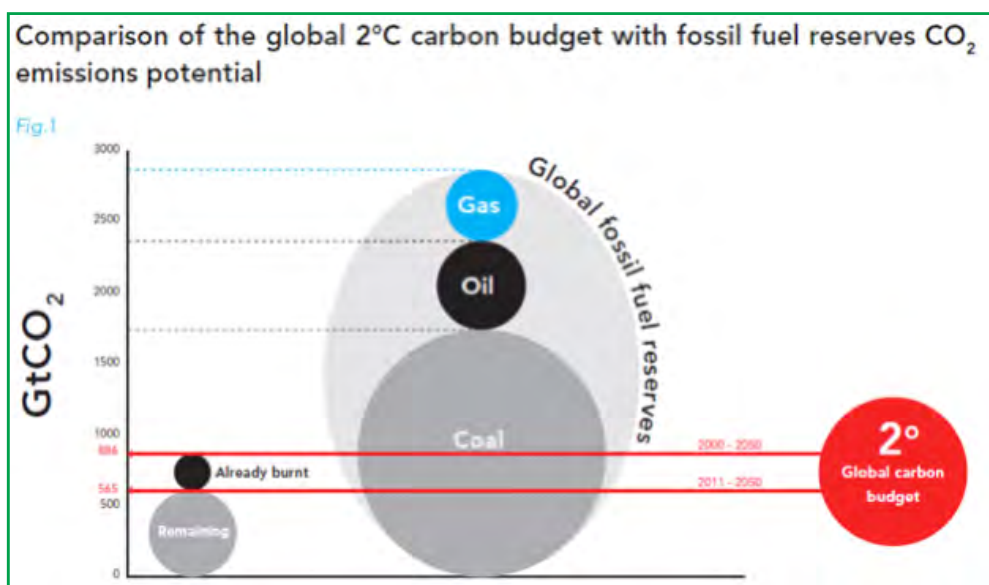
We discuss a new global dilemma facing mankind requiring a consensus which will not be easy to achieve, the outcomes of our network meeting in Bucharest, an existing and new energy challenge for schools and forthcoming network events.

A new global dilemma

According to both the IEA world energy review and the IPCC predictions based on climate change models, the global emissions of greenhouse gases have to be stabilised within a period of 5 years if global temperature rises are not to exceed 2C. As Jeremy Leggett has illustrated in the diagram below, the only way that this rise can be avoided if we are prepared to limit the use of fossil fuel and leave up to 70% in the ground by 2050 for use by future generations.

This creates a new dilemma for oil companies, utilities and Governments which are generally seeking to maintain low energy prices by increasing the supply of hydrocarbons to meet the growing demand. Instead of spending vast sums on finding and extracting more oil and gas, it would seem more prudent to invest some of these monies into technologies which can use energy more efficiently and energy sources, which do not pollute the environment like renewables.

This debate is becoming more focussed as the time available for action diminishes. It affects everyone because it is our increasing use of fossil fuel that created this dilemma and so each of us will now have to use less and more efficiently.



Network meeting in Bucharest, February 2010

In and amongst the snow in Bucharest, the network partners identified the generic barriers that have to be overcome to grow the network. These included

- lack of time during the normal school day for inclusion of climate change topics
- education for sustainable development of which climate change is a key topic, has too low a profile and priority within the annual school plan
- teachers do not always have the support of other teachers or the head teacher
- schools are not aware of the need for local action to limit climate change

We concluded that local authorities and Member States should remember their obligations under the Kiev declaration of 2003 and the UNESCO decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

To increase our membership, we decided to *create more awareness of the network's existence* by

- Designing a multi-colour brochure and poster which illustrates the activities and actions of the network
- Branding all network materials with the network logo
- Strengthening links with the local educational authorities and community

To *generate more publicity* by

- Encouraging more schools to upload their activities to blog and facebook pages
- working with environmental NGOs
- helping to implement Agenda 21 activities
- organising an annual European wide Changing with Climate challenge

To *Increase the advantages of joining the network* by

- Sharing teaching and learning experiences with schools in other countries
- Gaining access to a multi-lingual multi disciplinary resource data base
- Introducing a human face to science
- Improving teaching and learning skills in which the teacher acts as a facilitator
- Developing strategies which can result in reducing a school's energy bills
- Twinning activities for which Comenius funds may be available

At the associated workshop, the experience of the 11 Romanian schools associated with the network was described by teachers from Bucharest and Targoviste (Dambovit County).

The teachers pointed out that the main objectives of the schools involve

- introducing climate change as a main topic during their lessons concerning sustainable development
- adopting an inter- disciplinary approach
- using interactive methods and techniques in order to raise interest in climate change issues among students.
- implementing a "Code of Manners" in the network schools during the following years, which should include behavioural changes such as: a rational use of energy, a School Energy Saving Plan, unplugging devices (TVs, faxes, computers, etc) at the end of school programme, turning off the lights whenever they aren't needed, finding school partners over Europe in order to exchange ideas, opinions and create common activities and encouraging community involvement and develop life skills.



The teachers Monica Caruntu (*School Nr. 45 "Titu Maiorescu" Bucharest*), Nicoleta Dina (*European School of Bucharest*) and Oana Vladila (*"Nicolae Iorga" High School Bucharest*) gave presentations concerning school activities in the environment protection field. Five students presented their achievements in activities related to climate change limitation.

Climate Action Network Romania-CANRO has been working in the environmental NGO sector for 8 years and includes 13 members from 12 Romanian counties plus the capital city, Bucharest. Ioana Ciuta, executive director of Terra Mileniul III member association, shared with the participants to the workshop, the activities developed in several projects with schools. Over 25 educational materials (for students aged 8 to 18) have been used in schools on topics such as: guide to climate change for students and teachers, saving energy and resources, energy and renewables, equity and climate change and newsletters

Greeninitiative Association is working in eco education for children and youth. Felicia Ienculescu Popovici shortly described some of the project developed during last years:

- “The Age of Clean Energy Campaign”
- “Be Green! Be Selective with Your Waste!”, “Separate Waste Collection at International British School of Bucharest” and “Eco leadership for Nicolae Iorga College”, pilot projects offering support for schools interested in implementing separate collection of waste systems
- “Terra Our Only Home”, climate change and energy sustainability awareness programme developed with Bucharest School Inspectorate and UN Information Center in 15 Bucharest schools
- “A Green Day in Mogoșoaia”, a series of workshops and events focusing on promoting green building and green living in Romania

Adriana Alexandru, ICI

Open day at the Institute of Education, UK

The Institute of Education has moved back to refurbished premises on the London Road site at Reading, UK. At an open day to introduce the new facilities for teacher training, the principles of renewable heating and electricity generation were demonstrated to visitors in the new science laboratories.



News from Hungary

By now all together 13 Hungarian school (both primary and secondary as well) have joined to the Changing with Climate Network.

All involved teachers and students are very enthusiastic to undertake actions again climate change. Thanks to the excellent teachers, the pupils are well informed about the environmental problems especially about the global warming, and its negative impacts on environment, and on human health as well. Based on the Hungarian teachers opinion they integrated the CwC teaching materials (e.g Kyoto in Home, Green Pack) which were sent to all school) very well to the local curriculum. They can integrate the climate change problems or the energy efficiency to the different topics, like physics, chemistry or geography, and foreign language courses as well. The Hungarian students enjoy very much these courses.



Students from Veres Péter High School presented the function of biomass power plant

The second good news from Hungary is the formation of the Changing with the Climate Facebook page. The idea comes from the Climate Team of Barczi Geza Primary School. The main goals of Facebook page were to create an interface to exchange experiences, to share very quickly, videos, articles from newspaper, or news from the Network, but the topic is only the climate change. Of course to know each other.

We invited all joined Hungarian schools, teachers, and students to join to the Changing with Climate Facebook page. By now on the Facebook page has registered three schools, and almost 40 members. Both the teachers and students use it to share information about their activity. In a couple of weeks we would like to invite all English, Spanish, French, Romanian, and Italian school to join to the Changing with Climate international Facebook page. Now we invite all member schools to join us and to share as much information as possible about our schools activities on tackle climate change!

Julia Schuchmann, Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe

News from Italy

From March 9th to March 12th 2012, in the center of Bologna, there will be a **Green Social Festival**. Each year, the Green Social Festival wants to contribute in creating knowledge how to create a better world. This year's focus is on the theme "*learn to live in the world*", program emphasizing all that is involved in helping us stay better: understanding our rights, overcoming difficulties, applying good laws, and acknowledging the need to be curious about our particular planet which evolves, but at the same time, unfortunately, is still full of painful situations and small or large daily insults.

We've prepared a program that deals with social and environmental sustainability defined in themes of rights, citizenship, legalities and responsibilities, clean energy, climate and mobility, sustainable town planning and a "green" economy. Like in previous years, we expect thousands of students and visitors.

Inside this important event, the Environment and Energy Sector will organize the **Energy Days** that will focus on the energy saving and renewable energy actions needed to mitigate the global warming. Moreover in particular on energy upgrading of existing buildings and also



Dal 9 al 12 marzo 2012, nel centro di Bologna, ci sarà il Green Social Festival .Ogni anno, il **Green Social Festival** vuole contribuire a creare la conoscenza su come creare un mondo migliore e quest'anno è incentrato sul tema "*imparare a vivere nel mondo*".

Quest'anno abbiamo preparato un programma che si occupa di sostenibilità sociale e ambientale definito nei temi dei diritti, cittadinanza, legalità e responsabilità, energia pulita, il clima e la mobilità,

educational and informational activities on climate change. These activities aim to grow the knowledge of citizens about the opportunity of direct action inside their dwelling/offices.

Indeed buildings, especially existing historic buildings, are among the most responsible for energy consumption in the city (and therefore CO2 emissions). Therefore, in the **Energy Days** it will organize important conferences with experts, to investigate the possible energy saving measures in historical buildings.

The environmental challenges, to which Bologna is called, need a strong cooperation with the schools and also the participation and the consciousness of the citizens. The school role is fundamental in order to educate the future generations but at the same time to communicate with the families. For this purpose, amenable to educational activities (including Comenius network of CWC) represent specific actions of the **Sustainability Energy Action Plan of Bologna (SEAP)**, even to reach the aim of the reduction of 20% of the emissions of "greenhouse gas" of the city.

The opening plenary forum on the SEAP with stakeholders on 8th March 2012 (the forum will end on 13th of April).

La foto mostra l'apertura del forum sul PAES con gli stakeholders della città, avvenuto l'8 marzo 2012 (il forum si concluderà il 13 aprile).

urbanistica sostenibile ed economia "verde". Come negli anni precedenti, ci aspettiamo migliaia di studenti e visitatori.

All'interno di questo importante evento, il Settore Ambiente ed Energia organizzerà gli **Energy Days**, giornate incentrate sulle azioni di risparmio energetico e sull'uso delle energie rinnovabili è necessarie per mitigare il riscaldamento globale. Saranno organizzati incontri con esperti del settore sulla riqualificazione energetica negli edifici storici e



COMUNE DI BOLOGNA

ci saranno importanti attività educative e di informazione sui cambiamenti climatici.

Queste attività mirano ad aumentare la conoscenza dei cittadini sulle opportunità di azioni dirette all'interno della loro abitazione / uffici. Gli edifici infatti, in particolare gli edifici storici, sono tra i maggiori responsabili dei consumi energetici cittadini (e quindi delle emissioni di CO₂). Pertanto nelle giornate dell'energia (**Energy Days**) si organizzeranno importanti conferenze con esperti, per indagare le possibili misure di risparmio energetico negli edifici storici.

Le sfide ambientali a cui è chiamato Bologna, hanno bisogno di una forte cooperazione con le scuole e anche una forte partecipazione e coscienza dei cittadini. Il ruolo della scuola è fondamentale per educare le future generazioni e al tempo stesso per comunicare con le famiglie. A tal fine, le attività educative (e fra queste la rete del progetto Changing With The Climate, Comenius) rappresentano azioni specifiche individuate nel **Piano d'Azione per l'Energia Sostenibile di Bologna (PAES)**, necessarie per raggiungere l'obiettivo di riduzione del 20% delle emissioni di "gas serra" nella città.

Daniele Zappi, Unita Ambiente

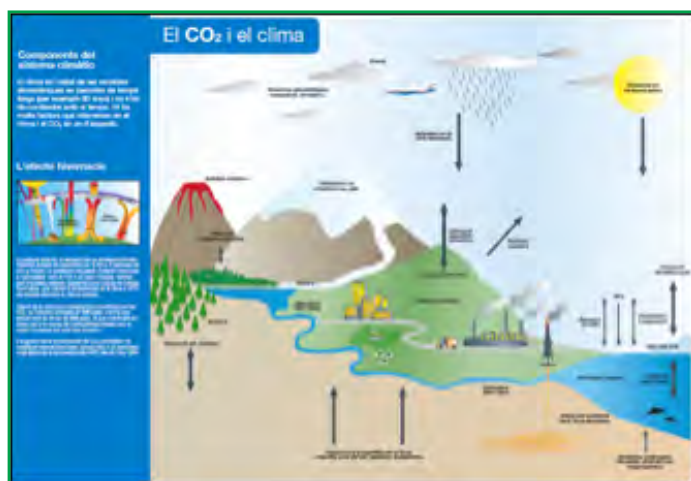
News from Spain and Catalonia!

During these ongoing months, Spanish schools have been working on their projects. Some of them have used the resource "Join the change!", an exhibition about the causes and effects of climate change, explained through 14 different discipline approaches. Some students are also rehearsing the theatre play "Imagine the world..."; a play that raises the issue of climate change and our energy habits. A music teacher is also working with the project by analyzing and playing a song about climate change with the students. Another resource that is being used is the online game Ecoville and the CO₂ calculator, which have been very useful to identify where energy efficiency can be improved.

The twinning with other European schools have already started. Some students have designed postcards for their partner schools, and they have received back some postcards from them. Some classes have used the blog of the project to introduce their school, and one school has even produced a video presentation of their school, involving some classes and teachers, and uploaded it at the blog.

We have also new associate members that have joined the network and that are willing to give us some support. They are all organizations experienced in the field of energy and sustainability, so let's give them a very warm welcome!

Joana Mundo, Ecoserveis



Challenge yourself, become a champion in energy education!

The European-wide competition U4energy is a unique opportunity for teachers and students to learn about energy efficiency by performing short and long-term actions to help reduce daily energy consumption. It supports the same goals as the Changing with the Climate Network.

Taking part in U4energy will give high visibility to your school European-wide and allow you to set an example for other schools at European level. You have the possibility to win great prizes of a value of €3,000 and be part of the European Award Ceremony in Brussels together with all national winners from around Europe. There are three competition categories targeted at various groups and all schools up until the end of secondary are eligible to compete. As a school already involved in climate issues, this is a great opportunity for you to be rewarded for the fantastic work you are already doing and gain recognition at European level!

Signing up is easy – it can be done through an online portal at www.u4.energy.eu. On the webpage you will also find more information on competition categories, submission and prizes. Competition entries can be submitted in all official European languages until 16th May 2012. Any additional questions? Contact Anni Siltanen at European Schoolnet at anni.siltanen@eun.org

Anni Siltanen, European Schoolnet



Changing with climate challenge 2012

The 2012 competition is now open to all schools, primary as well as secondary, who are willing to join the network.

Entries are therefore invited from classes who are willing to undertake the following challenge

- Identify the possible impacts that climate change could have on your community
- Undertake a new project which will raise awareness of or limit such impacts
- Publicise your activity on your school website, blog or in the local press
- Submit an illustrated report to a network partner in English, French or Spanish by 15th December

A suitable prize will be presented to the winning teams and a commemorative shield at one of our network events .

Please submit your expression of interest by 1st July 2012 by completing a form at www.changingwithclimate.info



Coming events

April 22

More than one billion people around the globe will participate in Earth Day 2012 and help Mobilize the Earth™. People of all nationalities and backgrounds will voice their appreciation for the planet and demand its protection. Together we will stand united for a sustainable future and call upon individuals, organizations, and governments to do their part. Attend a local Earth Day event, organise your own event or share with your partner school and elevate the importance of environmental issues around the world. For more info go to www.earthday.org

May 11

Activity day for year 7 and 8 students at Leighton Park School, Reading from 09.00 to 14.30. The day will start with a brief introduction to climate change, followed by 3 interesting group activities and a debate about the sustainable use of energy 'Should each of us use less energy'. Entries invited from teams of 6 students and sent to r.m.mayer@reading.ac.uk or p.m.e.lewis@reading.ac.uk

October 23 to 25

2nd annual network event at University of Reading with interactive workshops for teachers and a chance to meet teachers from other countries

Contacts

If you would like to join the network, or require further information go to our website www.changingwithclimate.info blog site www.changingwithclimate.tumblr.com or contact a network partner

UK John Oversby j.p.oversby@reading.ac.uk

ES Joana Mundo joana@ecoserveis.net

RO Adriana Alexandru adriana@ici.ro
or Elenora Tudora gilda@ici.ro

IT Daniele Zappi
daniele.zappi@comune.bologna.it
or Francesco Tutino
francesco.tutino@comune.bologna.it

HU Peter Szuppinger pszuppinger@rec.org
or Julia Schuchmann
jschuchmann@rec.org

FR Maite Eyquem
maite.eyquem@hespul.org

Next issue

Potential of renewable energy sources; all contributions to editor by June 1; publication date June 15

Editor

Rayner Mayer,
Institute of Education, University of Reading
r.m.mayer@reading.ac.uk
tel: +44 118 378 6357.

This publication reflects the views of the authors and the European Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein