



EUROPEAN CLIMATE PACT

COLLECTIVE CLIMATE ACTION

Mobilising your community
to drive positive impact

Thursday 6 March 2025

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HOUSEKEEPING RULES



By default, all attendees' microphones and cameras are off, but you can use the **Slido Q&A function** to ask questions to the speakers



There will be polls being launched – so be ready to respond!



This meeting is **recorded**

WHAT'S THE EU CLIMATE PACT?

"My World. My Action. Our Planet."

- Initiative launched by the European Commission aiming to create a movement of people, communities and organisations united around **climate action**.
- As part of the European Green Deal, it is helping the EU meet its goal to become climate-neutral by 2050.

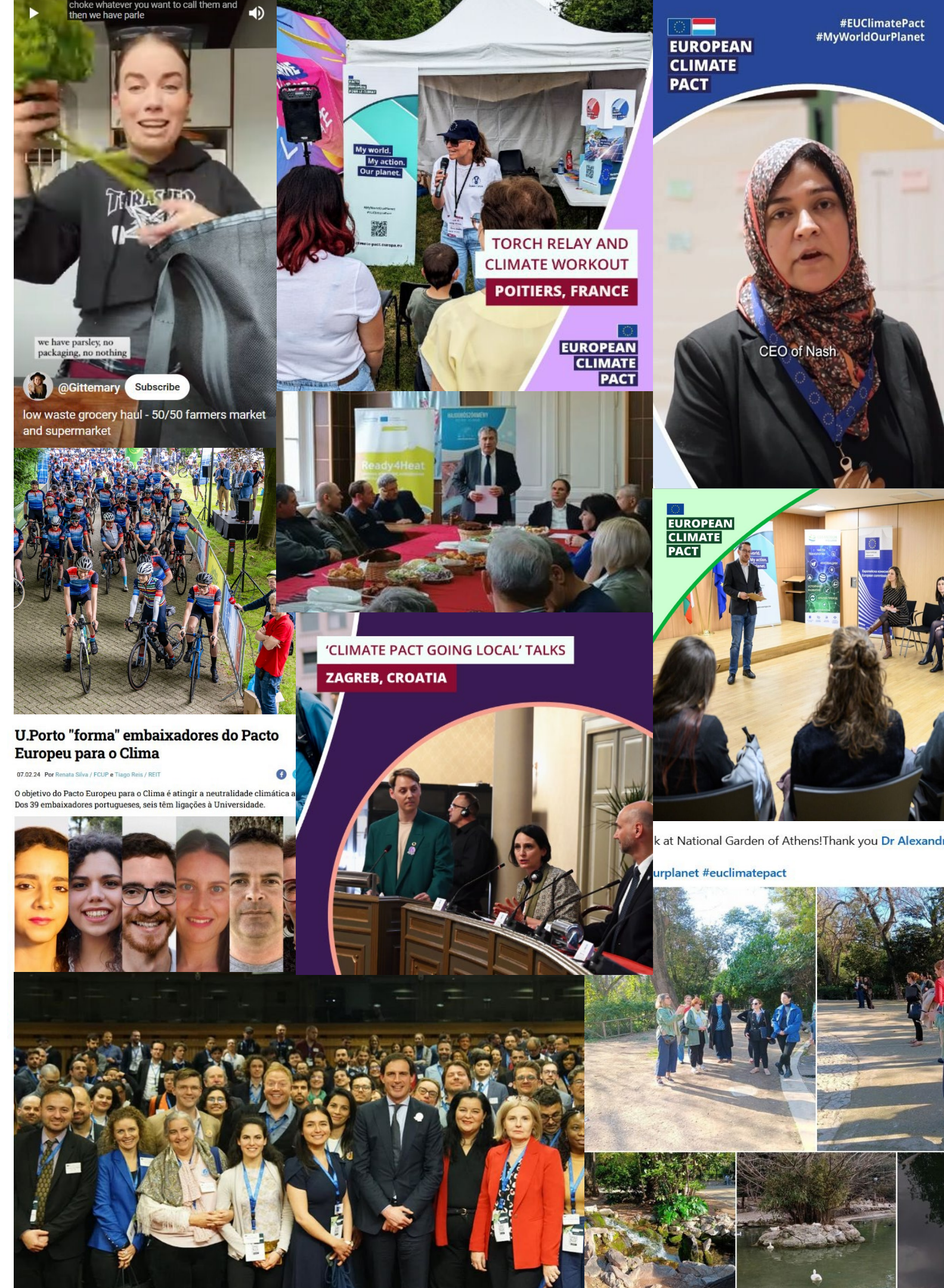
1000+
Climate Pact
Ambassadors
in all MS

52
Climate Pact
Partners

6
group
activity ideas
for citizen
engagement

147
Climate action
resources on
website

300+
events in EU
Member
States



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Which country are you joining us from today?



How would you rate your current involvement in climate action?

INTRODUCTION



**Elizabeta Zijlstra
Jovanovska**

Lead Link of Learning and
Practice at the
Transition Network



Alice Fonseca

Climate and Energy Officer
with responsibility for the
LIFE ASAP project
at **Worldwide Fund for
Nature (WWF)**



Paula Cardoso

European Climate Pact
Ambassador, based in
Portugal

TOPICS FOR TODAY

Introduction & practical insights



Lessons from: LIFE ASAP



Lessons from: local initiatives





**EUROPEAN
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PACT**

MOBILISING YOUR COMMUNITY

PRACTICAL INSIGHTS

Elizabetha Zijlstra Jovanovska

Lead Link of Learning and Practice at the **Transition Network**

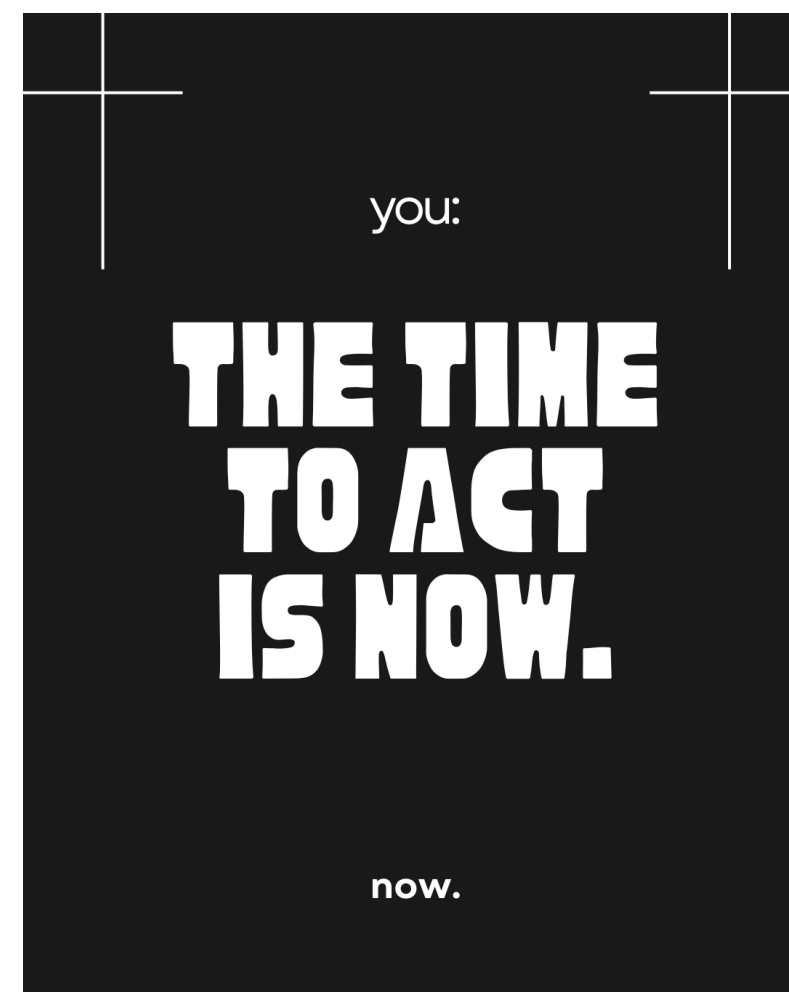
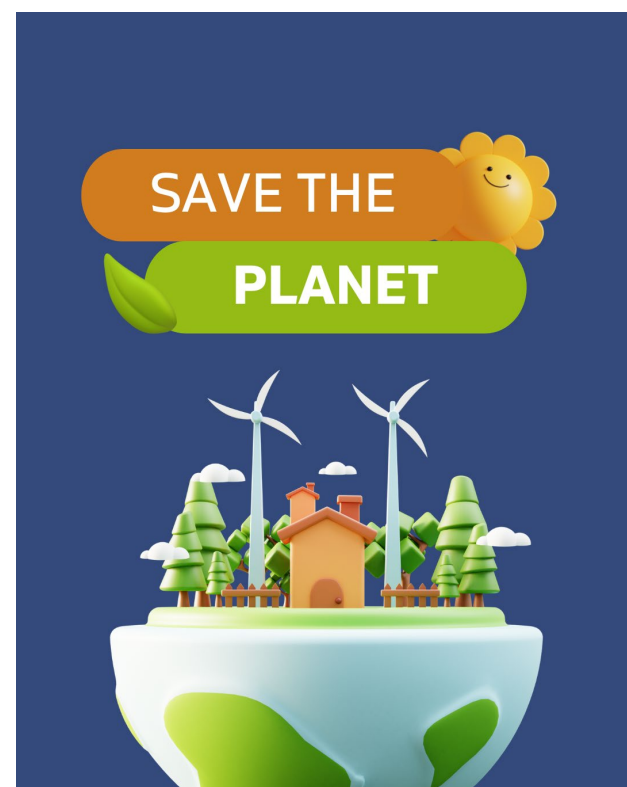
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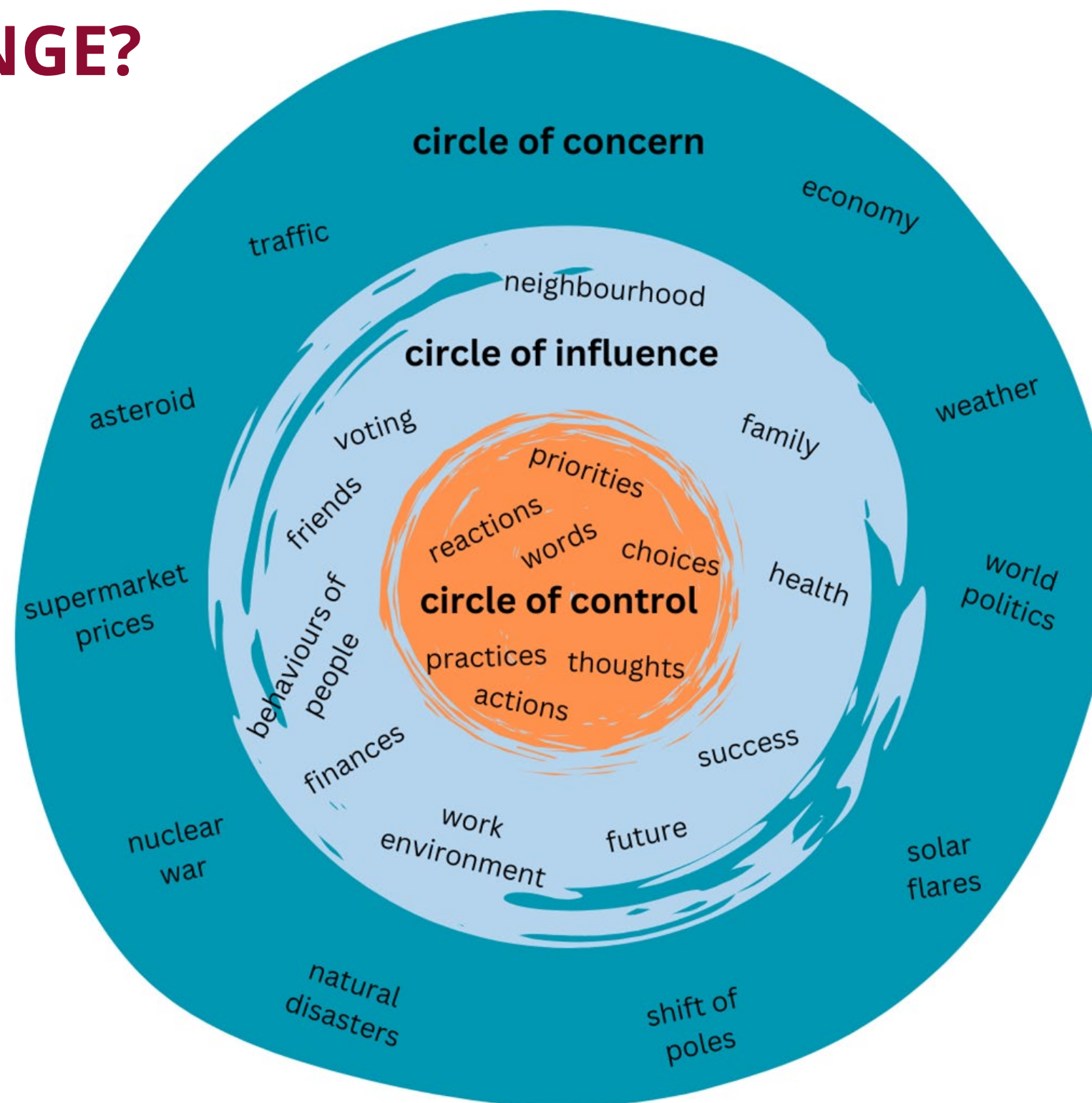
HOW PEOPLE TAKE ACTION

WHAT CAN I CHANGE?



HOW PEOPLE TAKE ACTION

WHAT CAN I CHANGE?



HOW PEOPLE TAKE ACTION

HOW DO PEOPLE TAKE ACTION?

AGAINST

Challenging harmful systems
(resistance)

- Protests and direct action
- Legal action and advocacy
- Divestment and boycotts
- Policy pressure and lobbying
- Exposing injustices

PRO

Building alternatives
(Creation)

- Community-led initiatives
- Sustainable living practices
- Regenerative and circular economies
- Education and skill-building
- Collaboration and movement building

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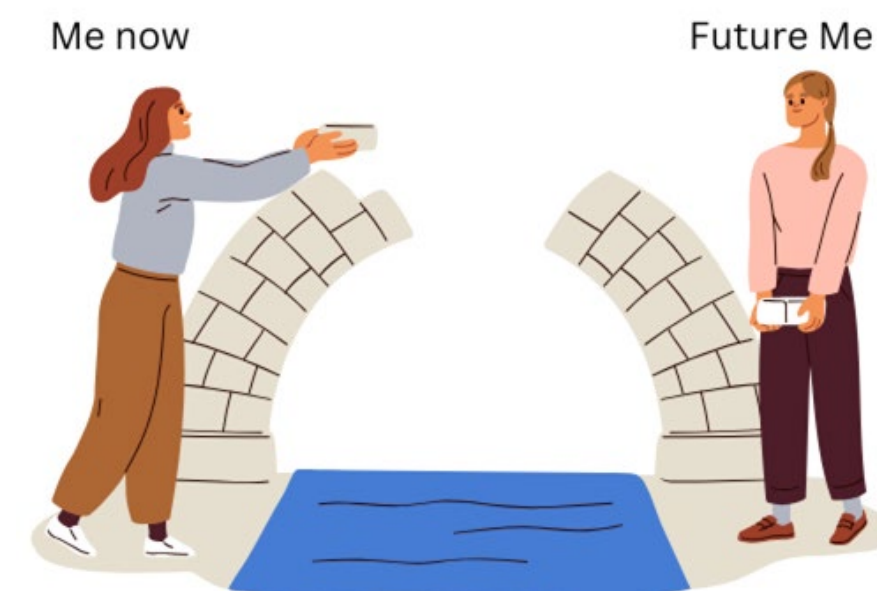
What is your own preferred way of taking action?

BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Transition

Tran • si • tion [tran – zish – uhn]

1. passage from one form, state, style or place to another
2. a period of transformation.

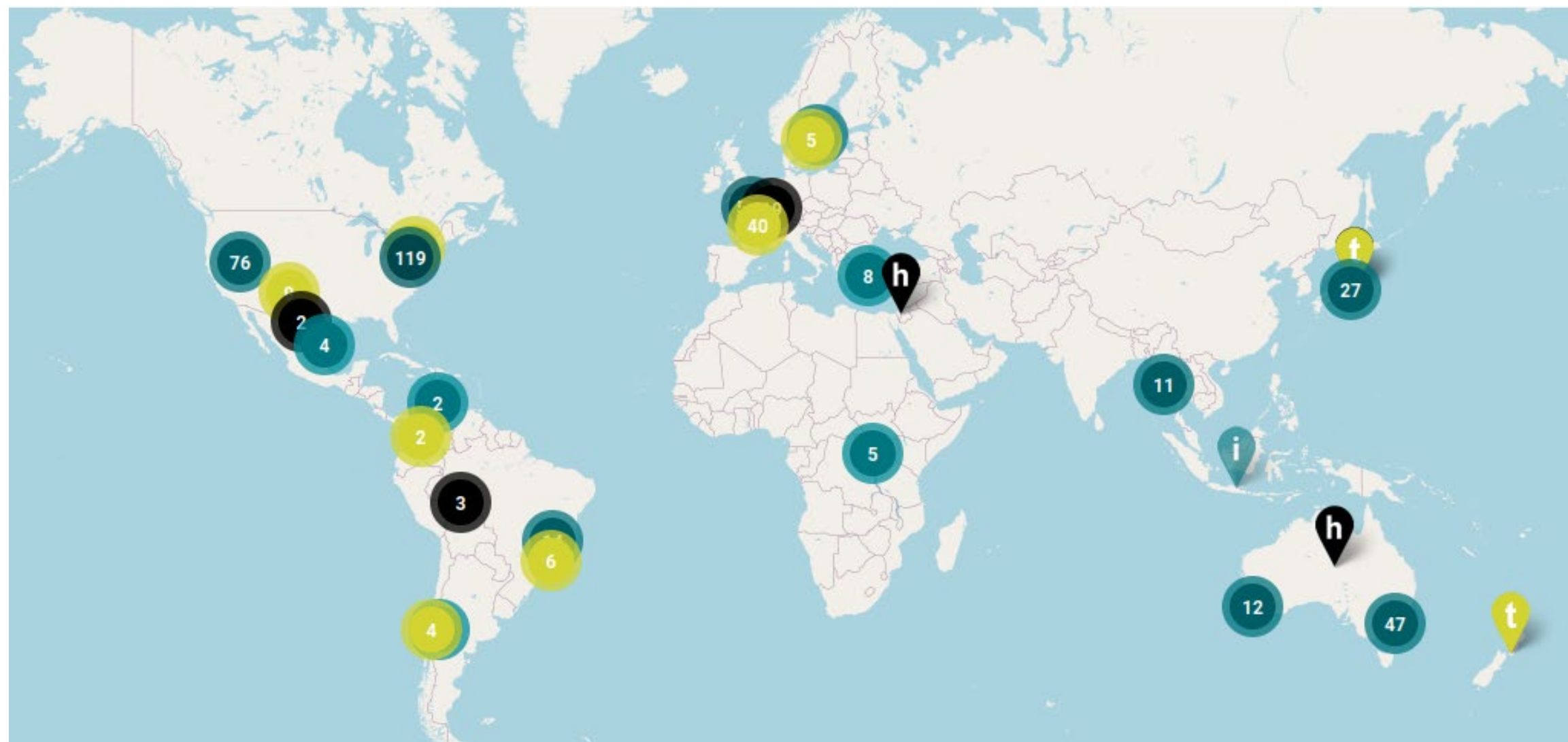


Transition is a grassroots response to global challenges - climate change, economic instability, social injustice.

Community-led Transition groups are working for a low-carbon, socially just future with resilient communities, more active participation in society, and caring culture focused on supporting each other.

COMMUNITIES IN THE WORLD

Transition Groups, Hubs and Trainers



Groups are active in **67 countries**

524 out of **1028** groups are recently active on this site (**51%**).

More than **10502** people are participating in Transition organisation.

More than **184325** people have been reached with this work.

Group projects include:

- Community Growing: **241** (10%)
- Building local networks: **229** (9%)
- Nature: **217** (9%)
- Share, Repair or reuse: **206** (8%)
- Festivals, fairs or events: **186** (8%)
- Community hub or activities: **183** (7%)
- Other food projects: **175** (7%)
- Energy: **155** (6%)
- Community visioning / imagination work: **132** (5%)
- Local economy or new economy projects: **121** (5%)
- Art / creativity: **112** (5%)
- Transport: **110** (4%)
- Wellbeing or Inner Transition: **108** (4%)
- Youth or education projects: **105** (4%)
- Other: **93** (4%)
- Social Justice / Just Transition activities: **80** (3%)

TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

People come together to:

1. Engage with the need for change
2. Co-create motivating and imaginative narratives and visions
3. Connect and care for each other
4. Support inner transformations
5. Address injustice
6. Apply living systems design



7. Take practical actions
8. Contribute to a wellbeing economy
9. Broaden and deepen participation
10. Energise networks and alliances

TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

1. Engage with the need for change

Some examples of communities coming together to:

- Organise local round tables and community-led Climate Action Plan
- Organise a fossil fuel-free campaign (Free by '33)
- 'Museum of Plants and People,' including preserving native varieties, learning and research and traditional wisdom

Find examples of Local Action Groups on the Climate Pact website.



TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

2. Co-create motivating and imaginative narratives and visions

Some examples of communities coming together to:

- Transforming unused spaces into a pop-up village green
- Theatre of Improvisation for community social issues
- Festival of the Possible: Fête des Possibles
- Establish a Civic Imagination Office
- A city tour with a vision quest – how do you imagine the city of tomorrow?



Before and after: Transition Town Tooting, UK

TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

3. Connect and care for each other

Some examples of communities coming together to:

- **Offer nature connection activities**
 - Wellbeing walks
 - Nature immersion and actions
 - Community education weekends
- **Build social cohesion, community spirit, mutual aid**
 - Resilient neighbourhoods
 - Creating and holding spaces for reflection and sharing (Community Cafes)
 - 'Food in the community' – sharing the surplus



TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

4. Support inner transformations

Some examples of communities coming together to:

- Build conflict resilience in groups
- Organise mentoring and wellbeing support programme
- Organise deep colonisation recovery circles - an inner led approach to social change
- Create inner transformation online course (MOOC)



Conflict resilience

Transforming conflict: a group relations perspective

” Et si créer un monde plus beau, plus équitable, durable, sain, soutenant et résilient reposait sur notre force d'action mais aussi sur notre capacité à nous transformer de l'intérieur et à faire face aux difficultés que nous rencontrons sur ce chemin ?

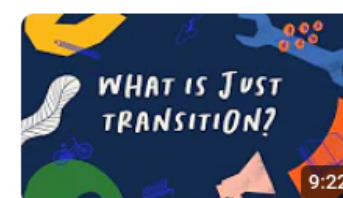


TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

5. Address injustice

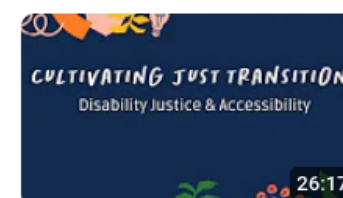
Some examples of communities coming together to:

- Organise projects such as Dignità in Campo ('dignity in the field') to protect agricultural workers from exploitation
- Deliver somatic practices (body-centered seminar to unlearn white supremacy)
- Deliver the Wiyot Honor Tax initiative (voluntary tax paid to original inhabitants of the area of Cooperation Humboldt)
- Host Just Transition talks and sharing
- Explore Power and Privilege ('Completely Changing Power') and changing attitudes, beliefs and actions



What is Just Transition?

TransitionTowns • 287 views • 11 months ago



An introduction to Disability and Climate Justice

TransitionTowns • 92 views • 7 months ago



Cultivating just transition: Working with Trade Unions

TransitionTowns • 33 views • 7 months ago



Just Transition Stories - Growing at the margins in Belfast

TransitionTowns • 16 views • 10 months ago



Just Transition Stories - Growing on Bolton estates

TransitionTowns • 27 views • 10 months ago



TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

6. Apply living systems design

Example of a city-wide process:

Bonn im Wandel, Germany

A concept of participation and co-creation for a climate neutral city
'Bonn4Future - we for the climate'.

- **Permaculture and Social Permaculture principles**
- **Human-centred Design**

"Bonn4Future - We for the Climate", Bonn im Wandel (Transition initiative) is an important co-designer for a sustainable city that aims to be climate neutral by 2035. As coordinator for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals at the City of Bonn, I am also working with Bonn im Wandel on the development of a sustainability platform for Bonn and greatly appreciate the constructive and cooperative culture among all participants".



Birgit Rücker, Coordinator for the
17 Sustainable Development Goals
City of Bonn

TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

7. Take practical actions

Communities coming together to:

- Reduce carbon emissions
- Increase resilience to climate change impacts
- Local food
- Promote renewable energy
- Promote green transport
- Deliver waste or pollution reduction
- Protect and restore land or water
- Improve biodiversity, protect wildlife



TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

8. Contribute to a wellbeing economy

Communities coming together to:

- Weave social cohesion and community spirit
- Develop mutual aid/care systems
- Share 'care or wellbeing economies' principles and practices
- Develop a local currency
- Develop social enterprises or cooperatives
- Create social innovation

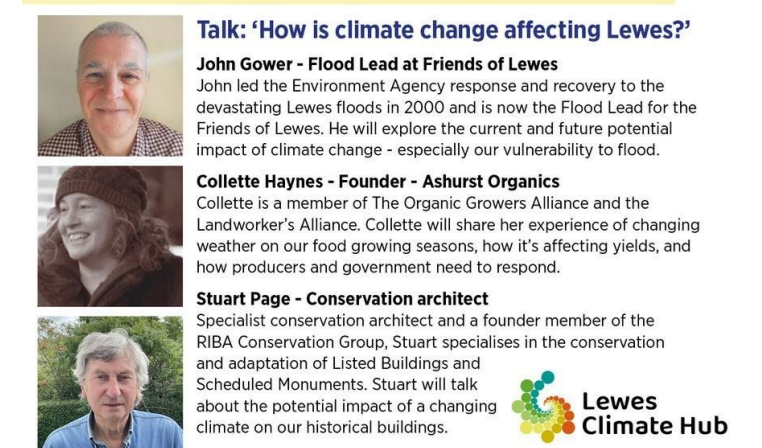
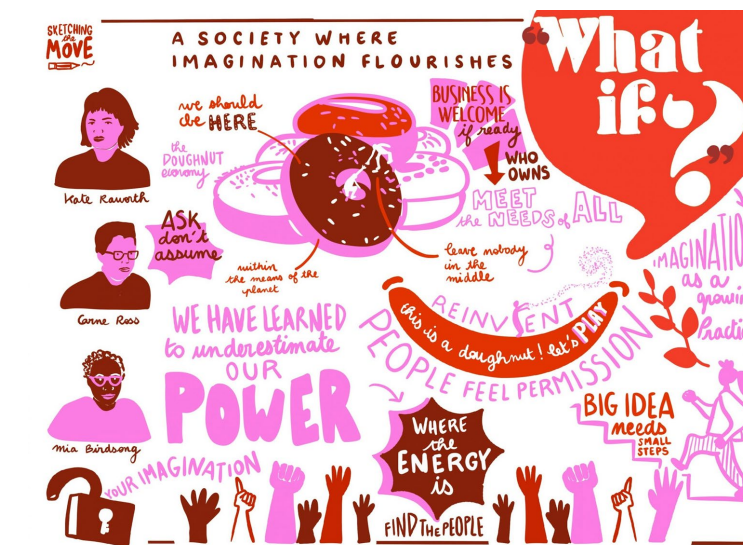


TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

9. Broaden and deepen participation

Some examples of communities coming together for:

- Participatory democracy (e.g. citizens' assemblies)
- Influencing political debates or processes
- Broadening participation through local festivals and events



TRANSITION CHARACTERISTICS

10. Energise networks and alliances

Some examples of communities coming together to:

- Network and convene in the local community
- Energise and contribute to local networks over time
- Build networks and coalitions – for example: Municipalities in Transition (MiT)
- Build networks for learning and support
- Build networks for mutual aid and local resilience
- Nurture social enterprise



How do we collaborate to bring about Transition at a municipal level?

DIRECT IMPACT

So, what can we change?

The movement evaluation in 2021 indicated that Transition has strengths in:

- Raising awareness of intersecting **crises**, and re-framing and changing cultural mindsets
- Creating and sharing **regenerative narratives and visions** of alternatives to the dominant paradigm
- Prefigurative practical projects that demonstrate regeneration (**building the alternative now**)
- Building social cohesion, **solidarity** and community resilience
- Playing a convening and connecting role, enabling people, organisations and networks with different perspectives and priorities to find **common purpose** and collaborate
- Distributed network **governance**, collaborative participation and collective decision-making
- Participants in the movement feeling a global connection, **being part of something bigger**



WIDER IMPACT – 20 YEARS

Mycelial impacts of local groups



Foundations for many mycelial impacts which spread out from the original group and projects, social enterprises, mutual aid, local government initiatives, food resilience and other benefits for the local community.

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What is your preferred way of working with the community?

THE TRANSITION MODEL

Steps to take for successful
Community activation initiatives

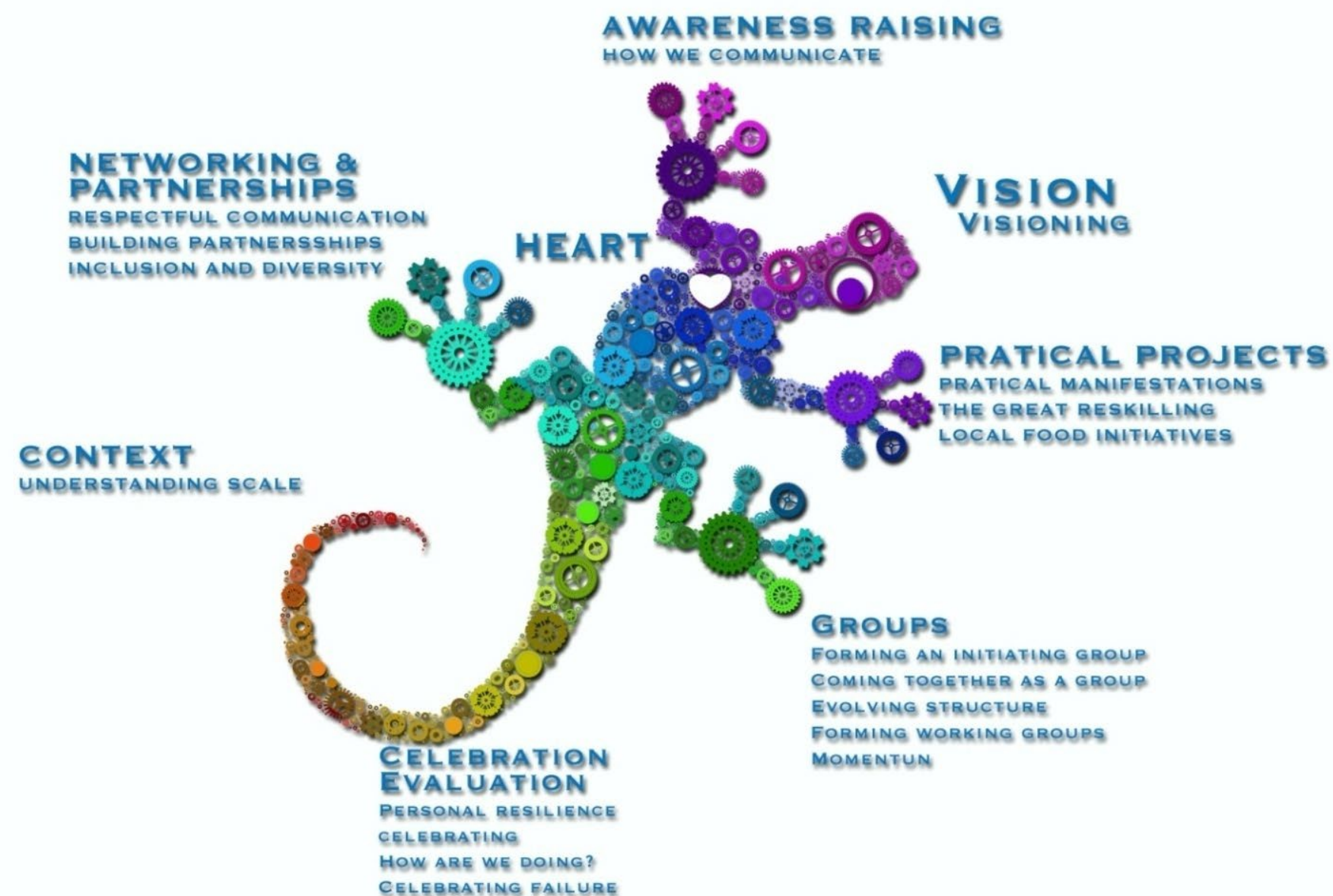


7 ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS



THE TRANSITION ANIMAL

TRANSITION ANIMAL



HEAD, HEART & HANDS

Doing Transition successfully is about finding a balance between:

The Head

We act on the basis of the best information and evidence available and apply our collective intelligence to find better ways of living.

The Heart

We work with compassion, valuing and paying attention to the emotional, psychological, relational and social aspects of the work we do.

The Hands

We turn our vision and ideas into a tangible reality, initiating practical projects and starting to build a new, healthy economy in the place we live.



DYNAMIC FRAMEWORK

Radical imagination

What is?

What if?

What next?



EXAMPLES

TOWN ANYWHERE

TOWN ANYWHERE

26 SEPTEMBER 2023
10.30-16.30

KALEIDOSCOOP
STRASBOURG, FRANCE



EXAMPLES

POP UP TOMORROW



Tooting Swirl: "What if this were our village green?"

EXAMPLES

HOW TO FALL IN LOVE WITH THE FUTURE

The poster features a central photograph of Rob Hopkins, a man in a white protective suit with a clear helmet, standing in a field of yellow wildflowers. He is holding a black sign that reads "I'VE BEEN TO THE FUTURE. WE WON." The background of the poster is a collage of colorful, hand-drawn illustrations including a brain, a lightning bolt, a watering can, a lightbulb, a bicycle, a plant, and a person. The text on the left side of the poster is as follows:

**HOW ROB HOPKINS
FELL IN LOVE WITH
THE FUTURE...**

Online, 7.30pm, 15 January 2025

Join us for a special conversation with Transition co-founder Rob Hopkins on his forthcoming book and what he hopes the future holds for our communities, our Transition movement and the world...

 **TRANSITION
TOGETHER**

EXAMPLES

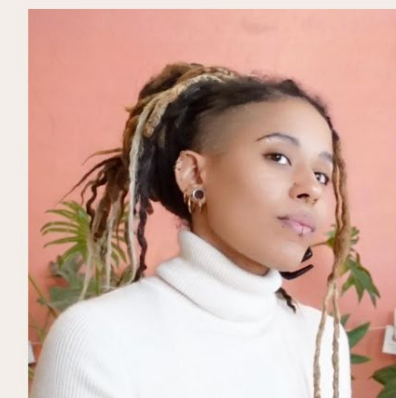
VOICES FROM THE FUTURE POSTCARDS FROM THE FUTURE



DAY OF TRANSITION PRACTISE

FEATURING

Ora Wand (France)



Traveling to the Future

Friday, 4 April 2025

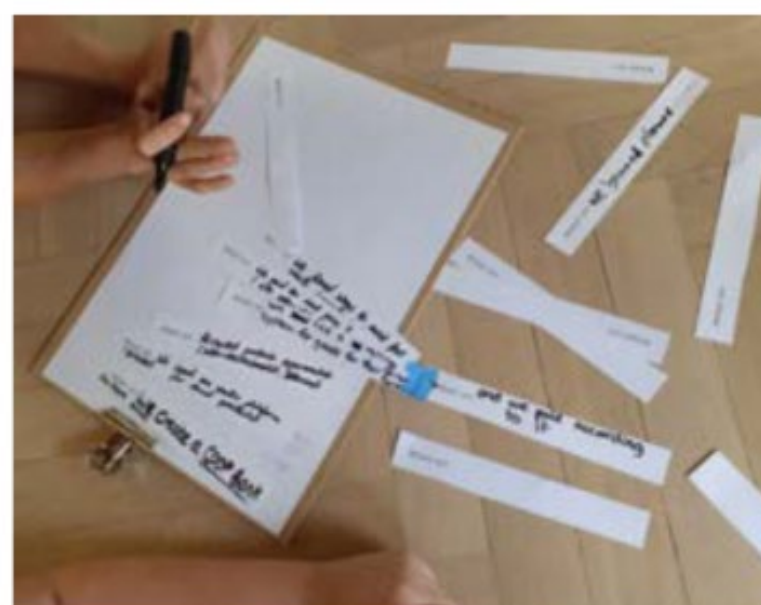
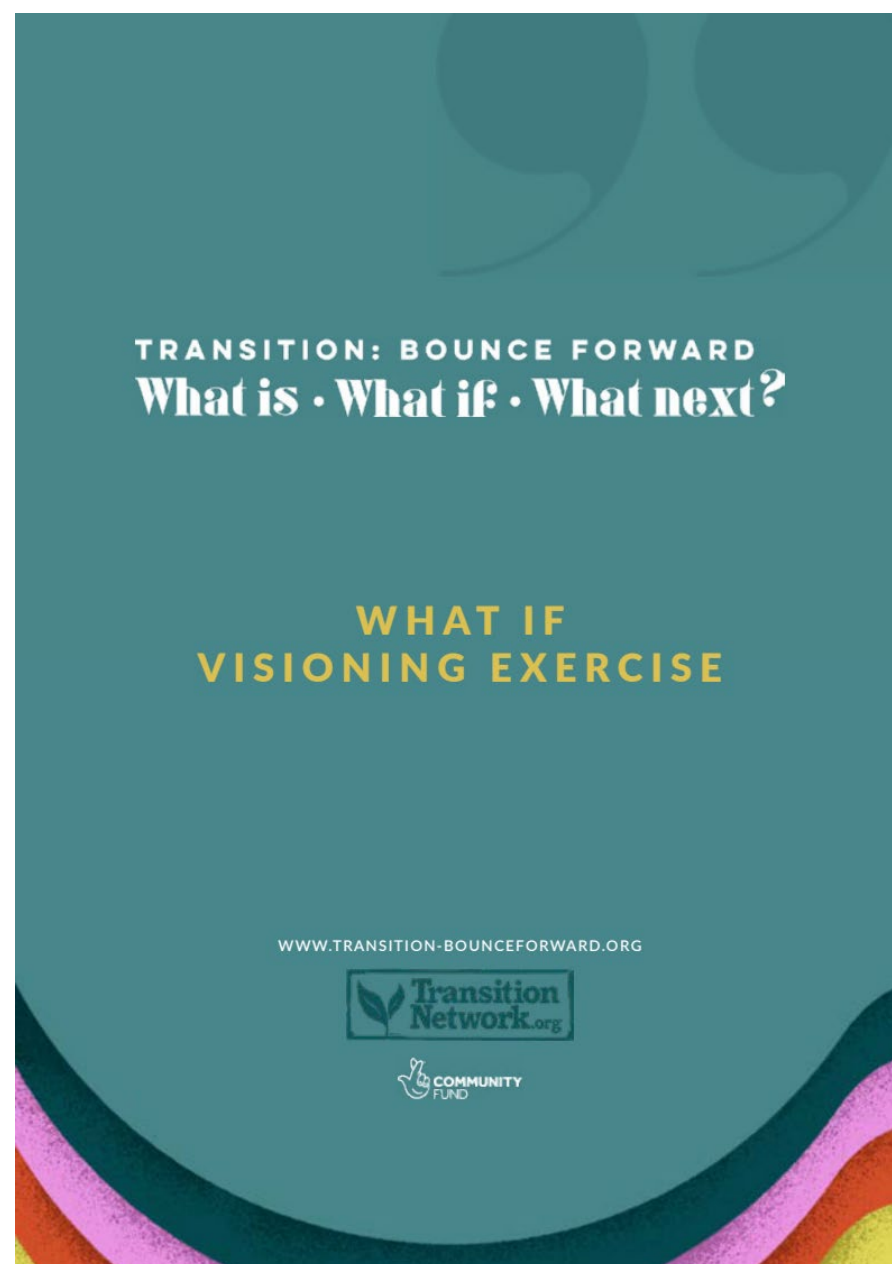
18:15 UTC



PRACTISING
TRANSITION

PROCESS

VISIONING EXERCISE – MAKING VISIONS ACTIONABLE



EXERCISE

We are going to travel to the future
that **YOU** want to have

AND bring memories from **2040**

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Name 3 key things that you will remember from 2040

WHAT NEXT?

- Replicable and scalable ideas, projects and actions
- Creative Commons, Copyleft, Content syndication, Open source
- Mycelial connecting, organic growth, bioregional support
- Training (Launch and Thrive)
- Hubs' and groups' Communities of Practice
- Transition Network international support

IDEAS AND
PROJECTS TO
**REUSE
REPURPOSE
RECYCLE**



"If we wait for governments, it will be too late. If we act as individuals, it will be too little, but if we act as communities, it might just be enough, just in time."

Ben Brangwyn,
co-founder Transition movement

RECAP

MOBILISING YOUR COMMUNITY TO DRIVE POSITIVE IMPACT

- Action needs to be within the Circle of Control and Circles of Influence.
- Two complementary ways of taking action for eco-social and just transition: challenging harmful systems and building alternatives.
- Transition as a concept, scope and depth
- Practices and examples of community projects and actions
- Seven Essential Ingredients for Doing Transition
- Radical Imagination and Falling in Love with the Future
- **Next steps – making the visions actionable**



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What was the most useful thing you hear today?

PERSONAL REFLECTION QUESTION

**IS THERE ANYTHING FROM
TODAY THAT WILL INSPIRE
YOUR NEXT ACTION?**

TRANSITION NETWORK INTERNATIONAL



Thank you!



Transition Network International teams and projects supporting you in 2025

Elizabeta Zijlstra Jovanovska

elizabethajovanovska@transitionnetwork.org

www.transitionnetwork.org





**EUROPEAN
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LESSONS FROM EU LIFE ASAP PROJECT

Alice Fonseca

Climate and Energy Officer
with responsibility for the LIFE ASAP project at **Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)**

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FOSTERING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION

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THE LIFE ASAP PROJECT

Project goal

Accelerate climate action in EU cities by enhancing access to climate policy assessment and advice and supporting their engagement with citizens.



**ONE PLANET
CITY CHALLENGE**



CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Cities have a critical role in the global response to climate change and can act as transformation catalysts.

OUR WORK PILLARS

- **CATALYSE:** engage cities in reporting climate action targets and plans and providing strategic support
- **CONNECT:** beneficiary partners and other local civil society organisations are capacitated to deliver technical and strategic support to cities and engage in climate action plans
- **LEARN:** raising the awareness and mobilising citizens, in particular youth groups

CITIES AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Local governments are our closest democratic entities, which opens many opportunities for public engagement.

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Have you ever engaged with local policymakers on climate issues?

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES




Journey of designing and implementing youth engagement activities





**WORKSHOPS WITH
YOUTH GROUPS IN EACH
MUNICIPALITY**





Propostas

Transportes e Mobilidade

- **Expansão do Metro Transportes do Sul**, com prolongamento, em particular, até à Costa da Caparica e com paragem junto do Centro Comercial Almada Forum. Sugere-se também o estudo da hipótese de prolongamento do MTS até à Charneca da Caparica, atualmente servida apenas pelo serviço de autocarros da Carris Metropolitana.
- **Extensão da Rede Ciclável do Concelho**, através da criação de ciclovias.
 - Em específico, sugere-se a criação de um percurso que interligue a zona da Escola Anselmo de Andrade (área próxima à Avenida Bento Gonçalves e Praça da Liberdade), a esta grande área verde urbana, complementando o percurso ciclável já existente entre o referido parque e a zona de Cacilhas. Esta interligação já se encontra prevista na Rede Ciclável Hierarquizada do Concelho de Almada.
 - Sugere-se igualmente a extensão das ciclovias de forma a completar o percurso ciclável entre Cacilhas e Corroios, conforme previsto na Rede Ciclável Hierarquizada do Concelho de Almada, bem como a criação de percursos



**MEETINGS BETWEEN YOUTH
AND LOCAL POLICYMAKERS**

**ONE INTRODUCTORY
WORKSHOP**



**ONE OR TWO WORKSHOPS TO
GO DEEPER AND DEVELOP
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS**



CO-CREATED WITH YOUTH

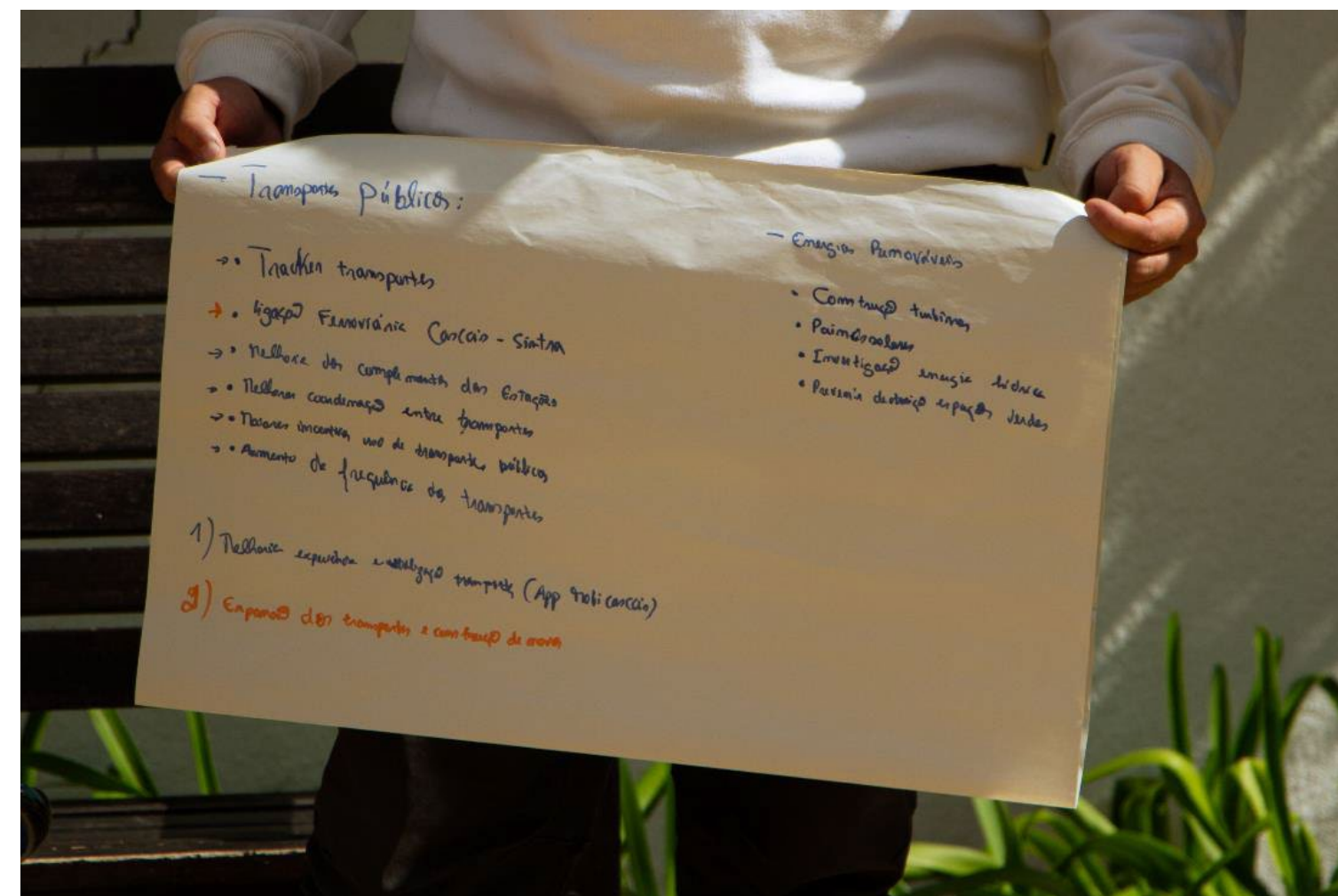
YOUTH AS PROTAGONISTS



**YOUTH-POLICYMAKER
MEETINGS**

KEY TAKEAWAYS AND LESSONS LEARNED

WHAT WE LEARNED AND CAN SHARE WITH YOU



TAKEAWAYS

YOUTH RECOMMENDATIONS FOCUSED MOSTLY ON:



Urban mobility



Green infrastructure and urban spaces

**Proposals that bring together action for the climate
and to improve the quality of life in the city!**

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What is the biggest challenge in engaging youth and other people in your community in climate action?

CHALLENGES

1. Reaching out to and recruiting participants

- Plan multiple strategies for reaching out and strive to find the “right” recruitment length

2. Adapting the methodology for age-diverse groups

- Improve strategies for working with age diversity and different levels of prior knowledge and experience on the topic within the same group and for better harnessing the potential of that diversity

3. Keeping youth engaged and motivated

- Make very clear what they can “get” from the experience and what will be the outcome

LESSONS LEARNED AND TIPS

1. Empower youth in their role as citizens
2. Making it about the city, makes it more personal
3. Using participatory approaches and co-creation
4. Preparing youth and decision makers and managing expectations
5. Prepare policymakers to give feedback and actively engage



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THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

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LESSONS FROM LOCAL CITIZENS ASSEMBLY

Paula Cardoso

European Climate Pact Ambassador,
based in Portugal

#MyWorldOurPlanet

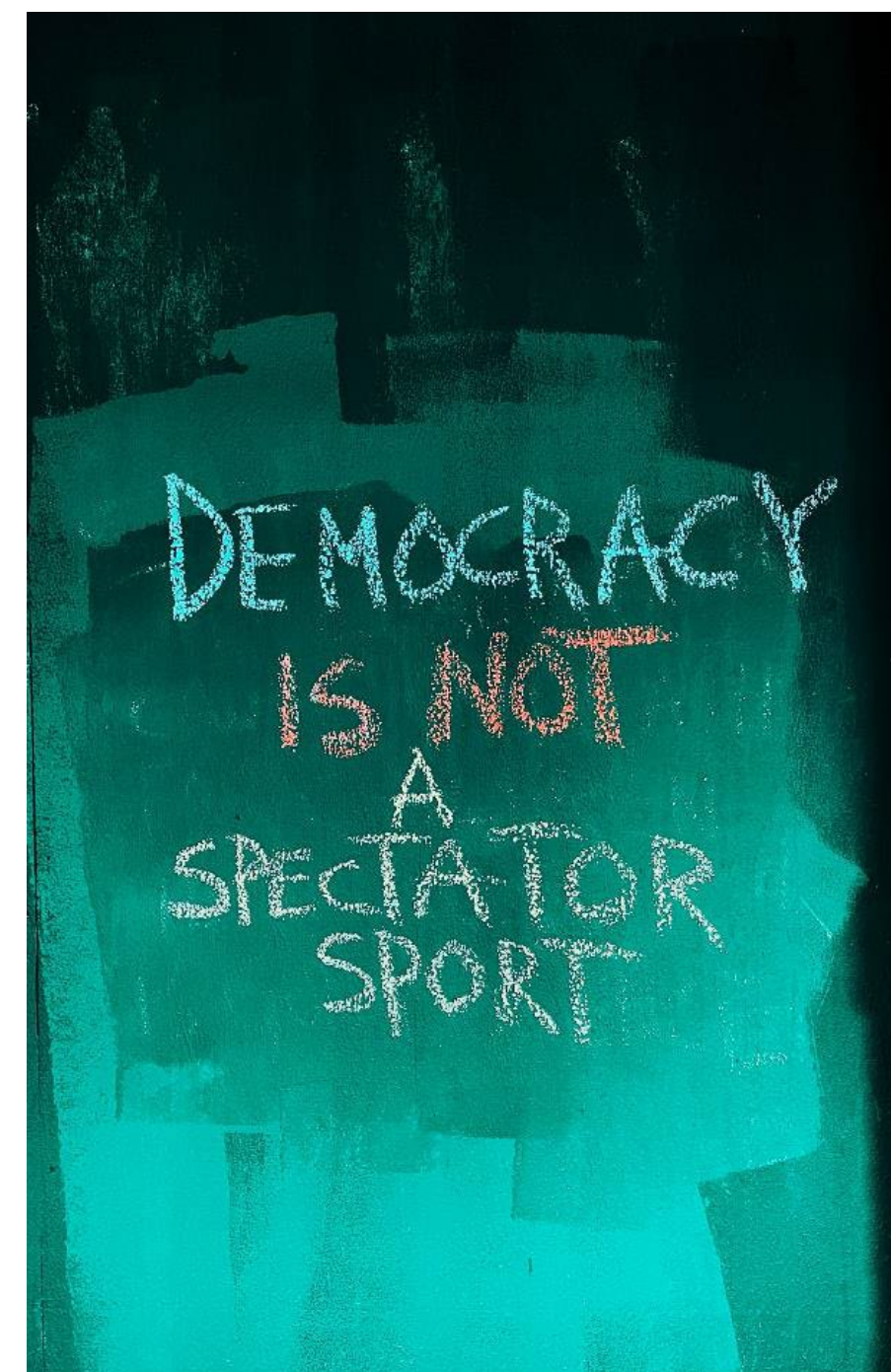
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WHY CITIZENS' ASSEMBLIES?

Political context

- Many people are not interested in politics
- There is a lack of trust in politicians
- Voter turnout is low
- Extreme-right populism is increasing
- Exploring the benefits of both participatory and representative democracy can enhance civic engagement



WHY CITIZENS' ASSEMBLIES?

Systematic exclusions

- Include underrepresented populations, specifically people of Afro descent and Roma communities
- Facilitate connections among individuals who might not otherwise meet
- Make hidden stories visible
- Survival strategies can foster creativity and innovation
- Focus on decisions that directly improve living conditions



CITIZENS' CLIMATE ASSEMBLY

Vila Franca de Xira, Portugal



VILA FRANCA DE XIRA, PORTUGAL

Citizens' Climate Assembly

- Local government project
- Climate participation initiative
- Promoting public involvement in climate action
- Municipal climate policy



HOW IT WAS IMPLEMENTED

Preparation phase

- **Question:** How can the Vila Franca de Xira municipality better handle extreme heat?
- **Participation:** 50 citizens
- **Duration:** One weekend
- **Communication:** Social media, press releases, and local outreach
- **Demographics:** Categories included were age, gender, nationality, education, parish of residence, and professional status.
- **Invitation letters:** Sent to involve a maximum number of citizens
- **Sortition:** To ensure diversity

HOW IT WAS IMPLEMENTED

Deliberation phase

- **Facilitators:** Must be independent from the promoter
- **Group dynamics:** Ensure every voice is heard
- **Learning process:** Educate participants on the topic
- **Experts:** Clearly define who is in the room and their roles
- **Q&A sessions:** Provide opportunities to clarify and deepen understanding of the information received
- **Voting:** Ensure a transparent process for choosing recommendations

HOW IT WAS IMPLEMENTED

FORMULATING RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Negotiation:** to decide which ideas should move forward
- **Collaboration:** to explore ways to work together to improve proposals
- **Spokesperson:** to identify which voices will represent each group
- **Peer approval:** to create consensus in a polarised society

HOW IT WAS IMPLEMENTED

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

- **Ambassadors:** To ensure personal availability for communication
- **Email updates:** To strengthen the connection with participants
- **Report:** To inform citizens about the outcomes and next steps

KEY TAKEAWAYS

KNOWLEDGE IMPROVEMENT

Assess participants' understanding of climate change before and after the assembly

PROPOSALS TO THE MUNICIPALITY ON HANDLING EXTREME HEAT

1. **Establish a municipal emergency plan** for heat waves
2. **Implement water reuse systems**, including, reusing hand and bath wash water for toilet flushing and collecting rainwater for irrigation and cooling purposes
3. **Organise a competition** to promote the installation of green balconies and vertical gardens
4. **Design training programmes** for high-risk population groups to educate them on behaviours during excessively hot days

KEY TAKEAWAYS

CHALLENGES

- **Inclusive mobilisation:** Focus on the inclusion of underrepresented groups to enhance the assembly's impact
- **Incentives for participation:** Offer compensation to engage those from disadvantaged backgrounds effectively
- **Time for discussion:** Allow ample time for thorough deliberation and meaningful dialogue
- **Political commitment:** Ensure the percentage of proposals to be implemented and provide a timeline for their execution



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THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

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Questions & answers








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Final remarks

CLIMATE PACT ACTIVITIES

Visit the Climate Pact website to:

Build your climate knowledge with the EU Climate Action Academy's resources

-  Connect with Climate Pact Ambassadors, Partners and Country Coordinators
-  Get inspired by our photo competition winners
-  Check out our tools for citizen engagement
-  Discover Climate Pact satellite events near you
-  Subscribe to the newsletter!



Follow the QR code
to visit the website

AWORLD CHALLENGE



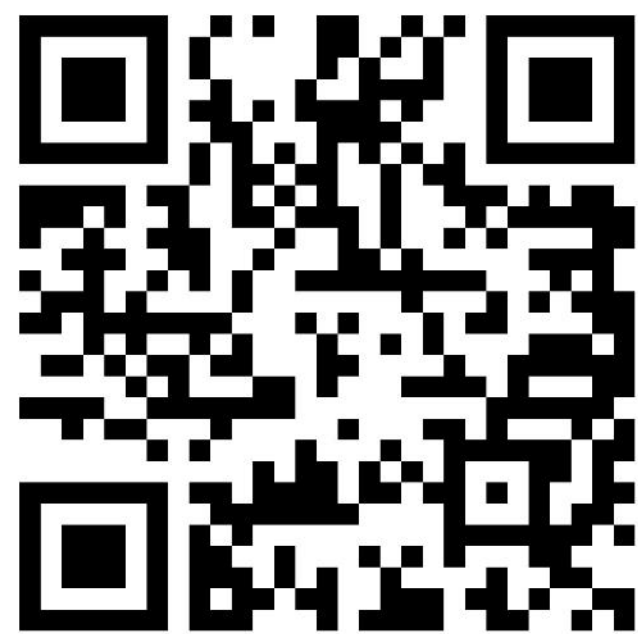
Ready to make a difference in 2025? Join the European Climate Pact Team on **AWorld** and help us reach our goal of **200,000 climate actions** this spring!



REGISTER NOW



European Climate Pact: Together in Action



A special two-day celebration of our community's commitment to climate action, co-designed with our inspiring Climate Pact Ambassadors and partners but accessible and open to everyone.

Join to connect, share ideas and take part

19 March 2025 | Brussels and online





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THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR ATTENDING THE WEBINAR TODAY!

An evaluation survey will pop up when you leave the webinar. We would appreciate your feedback.


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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Additional Climate Pact resources
and tools for mobilising collective climate action

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ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO DOING TRANSITION



The 7 essential ingredients to getting the transition started in your street, community, town or organisation.

This guide will give you everything you need to know to start Transition in your community and outlines the processes and activities needed to make it a success. It is essential reading for all people involved in Transition, as it explains the 7 essential ingredients of Transition that will give you all you need to get Transition started and established in your community.

Find the guide [here](#) (available in different languages).

Author: The Transition Network



The Essential Guide to Doing Transition

Getting Transition started in your street, community, town or organisation.

By the Transition Network team



LINKS AND IDEAS FOR EXPLORATION

- [Transition Guide to Doing Transition](#)
- [Seven Essential Ingredients](#)
- [Video on the new Transition narrative \(Rob Hopkins\)](#)
- [Transition groups map](#)

All together and other resources at:

- www.transitionnetwork.org
- <https://linktr.ee/transitionnetwork>

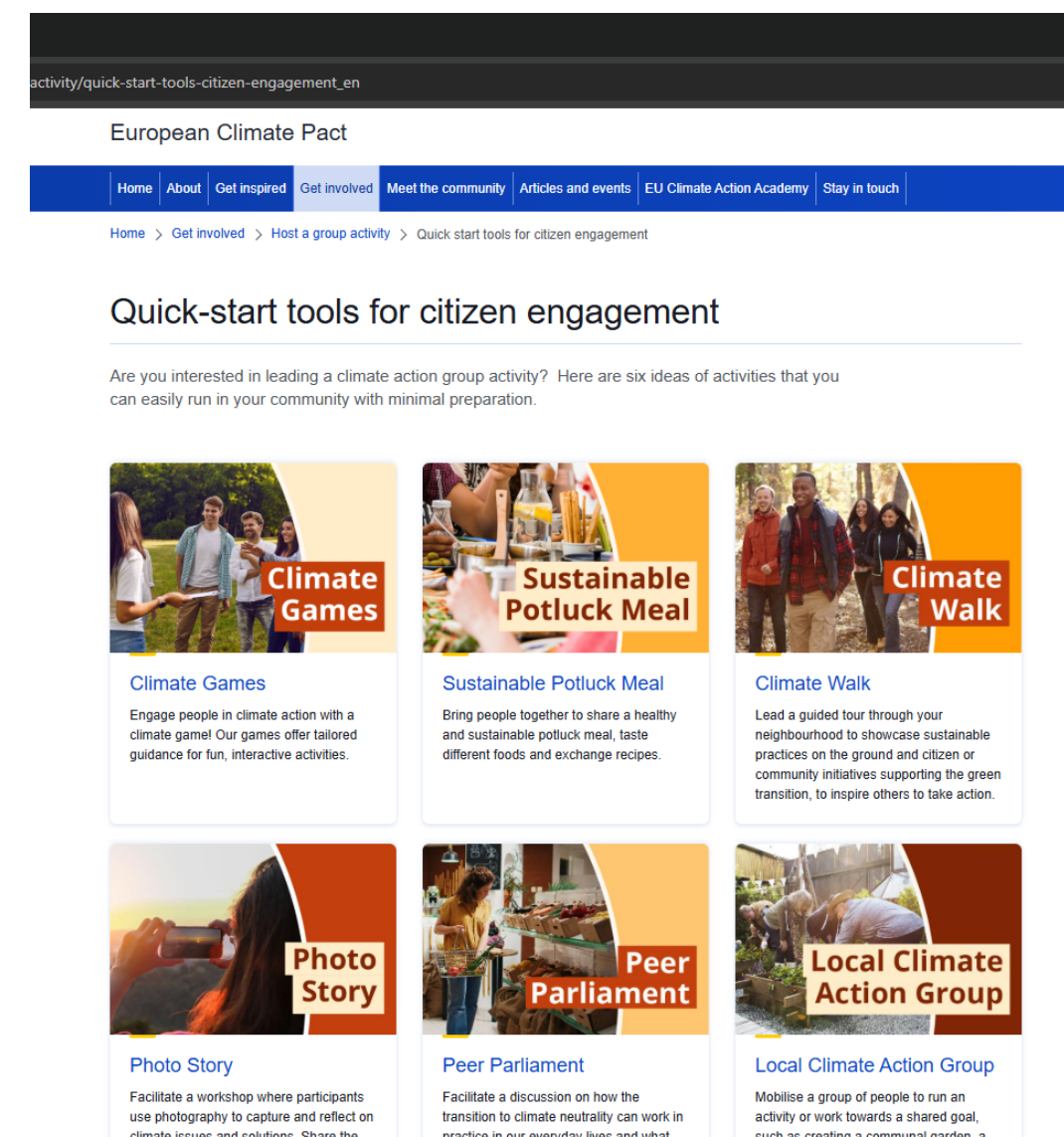


QUICK-START TOOLS FOR CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

This toolkit includes six ideas of activities that you can easily run in your community with minimal preparation.

Are you interested in leading a climate action group activity?
This citizen engagement toolkit includes six ideas that you can easily organise, including: climate games, sustainable potluck meal, climate walks, photo story, peer parliament and local climate action groups.

Find the toolkit [here](#) on the European Climate Pact website.



DIY MANUAL ON ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS AND CITIZENS IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Supporting stakeholder engagement in climate adaptation, fostering collective and community-driven resilience-building actions.

This updated version of the manual has been produced as part of the EU Mission Implementation Platform for Adaptation to Climate Change (MIP4Adapt). The manual will guide you on how to engage stakeholders and citizens throughout the six main steps of the climate change adaptation planning process described in the Regional Adaptation Support Tool (RAST).

Author: [EU Mission Adaption to Climate Change](#)

 [Download](#)



**DIY Manual on Engaging
Stakeholders and Citizens in
Climate Adaptation**
Tools, Good Practices and Experiences



TRANSFORMING CITIES TOGETHER: A PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT GUIDE FOR CITIES

This guide will help your city on its journey to become inclusive and sustainable through public engagement.

WWF and Civocracy designed the Transforming cities together guide to help city planners to increase public engagement in their city. The guide gathers tips, experiences and ideas to shape public engagement in cities. The guide is divided in three parts and covers: (1) Five key factors for success in creating a good approach to public engagement (2) Examples of good practices from WWF's One Planet City Challenge partners and other cities on how they engaged their public (3) Questions to consider while designing an approach to public engagement in a city.



Author: WWF and Civocracy

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