

5 MONTH CLIMATE ACTIVIST PROGRAMME

**COLLEGE FOR
INTERNATIONAL
CO-OPERATION AND
DEVELOPMENT**

PROGRAMME INTRODUCTION

We headmaster and teachers from CICD take this opportunity to welcome you to this 5-Month Climate Activist Programme. We welcome you from the places where you have travelled to join together with us, on behalf of millions of The Poor; men, women, children and youth who benefit from programs carried out by our partners who make up the Federation of Humana People to People and our sister schools.

History is built on the foundation of actions taken by people in the here and now. So it is given that the world in which we live is a product of generations of life, love, loss, struggle and politics, each carried out in its own sphere of time. It took 12,000 years for mankind to reach 1 billion people. 130 years later in 1930 we were 2 billion. After this the rate of growth accelerated; 3 billion in 1959, 4 billion in 1974, 5 billion in 1987 and 6 billion in 1999. With time ticking and numbers mounting we reached 7 billion in 2011. The numbers show that we are growing by a billion people every 12 years, and this huge and exponential expansion of the human species is having a fundamental impact on life and its conditions on this planet.

We have started the Climate Activist programme as a response to the growing concern for the environment among people worldwide. We decided to create a course, where people can come together to learn about and discuss the consequences of climate change and what to do about it, and we decided that it had to include a period of action in a developing country, where people are most vulnerable. We are very happy to offer this course - the world needs environmental activists on all levels. You have a period in front of you full of education, training, fun and experiences, challenges, hard work and a sense of achievement. You are coming to an environment with some of the best people in the world - activists who want to change the world for the better, and who have a conscience towards the least fortunate people on this planet. We have trained Development Instructors and Climate activists since we started in 1998, and so far over 1300 have been educated at CICD. They have made a real difference in the fight against poverty and climate change. Since 2003 we have also offered a Gaia Environmental

Course with studies and actions in the UK. The Climate Activist course is theoretical and practical. You will study and learn, and you will do plenty of practical actions - some in the UK, but mainly in the project you will go to. Be prepared for an untraditional school! A school for activists, where “Development” and “Change” are headlines. Be prepared for challenges and for the unexpected, don’t get upset when things change, and get to know your own power to make things happen and create changes. Expect to learn and change in many ways: academically, physically, personally. Serious studies, lectures about global warming, washing up, budgeting, doing presentations, learning yoga, field trips, building up a team spirit in your group - all of these things form the education. The Climate Activist Course is open to everyone. No specific qualifications or previous experience are needed. But an open mind, a desire to learn new things, and a burning wish to help to create development through working with others, are essential. We look forward to working together with you!

Mankind today stands on the edge of an enormous abyss, the greatest crisis in human history and that of the planet – global warming and climate change. This manmade crisis threatens life as we know it. As stated in the program book for the Fighting Global Warming and Climate Change Program, we are standing midst; *“A crisis that can be best visualised as a dance until death-do-us-part between a multi-headed beast representing Capitalism-Run-Amok and nature itself represented by Climate-Out-Of-Balance. And whilst during the dance Capitalism-Run-Amok increases the subtraction of fossil fuels and increases CO2 emissions, Climate-Out-Of-Balance throws back a collection of mass extinction of plants and animals, super storms and hurricanes, with epic floods and historic droughts becoming the norm. The monster is raging”*. On the threshold of alienation from each other and a larger breakdown of community, we are living in a danger zone of losing everything that we used to call humanity.

The good news is that our problem is not an issue of capacity, nor is it an issue of ability. Mankind, We the People, have got what it takes. Time is not flat. It is multi-layered, and history and memories live there. Right now is OUR TIME to peel back the layers and create and lay down our premises for the future by taking up the duty of responsibility in our time and ploughing deep trenches of knowledge, understanding and actions. This is where you come in, dear student and future Climate Activist. With your big heart

beating for mankind, with your brain and hands ready for action, and with time and togetherness, you and we will make positive change. You will build your inherent singular and collective potentials and appreciation of living life to the full, of being productive in life. You will do this together with the many others who are fighting for necessary change.

Both the training period at your school and the project period will also include preparing yourselves thoroughly for the last one-month period of Bringing It to The Public, where you will bring on what you have learned and done to many people. You will mobilise future teams by showing products and proof of life-changing activities that you have carried out together with The Poor.

All the elements of the program; the new learning, the actions, the debates within the team and with the people you meet, the obstacles you face, the results you accomplish, the comradeship you build through your daily life and work, and most importantly the commitment and investment you make along the way, will change you and those around you. Is this scary? Possibly. Is it liberating? We believe so.

The time for dreaming is now, as it is here that great things start! We believe we have what it takes to make the change, even though it may take all we have.

It is now.

It is you.

It is We.

Let the journey towards Open Future begin!

PERIOD 1 - 4

The study and preparation period

From period 1 to 4 you will be challenged. You will be learning and un-learning and you will be building up your team.

In the world we live in the need for Climate Activist grows each day. The preparation period is short and there is so much to go through before heading to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

During period 1 you will be learning about Another Kind of School, DRH pedagogy, DI Concept, Running the school together, understanding the team economy and the responsibility areas as well as the uniqueness of the Common meeting, is more of an introduction week where you will get used to the school routine as well as getting to know your team and teacher better. You will have your first study tasks and courses and you will be running the school together with the other teams. You will be introduced to the history of HPP and its charter as well as briefly the different projects HPP runs. Humana People to People has been CICD's partner for many years and we are proud to be together with an NGO that does true development. We will use HPP example as to show you what Development means and how it is done. We will also go into the history of Richmond Vale Academy, our sister school and your project destination. We will look into what RVA does and which projects you will be involved in. We will communicate with the headmaster at RVA and get introduced.

During period 2 and 3 – Climate and Sustainability and Planet Protection periods you learn about the risks that our way of life present to the people and the future, the Gaia theory, Food production, Monsanto and Renewable energies. These two periods are full of discussions about what we do as human beings, what we can change and what it takes for the world to make a change. These periods include studies and courses, deepening of the understanding of the 9 planetary boundaries, introduction to what is permaculture, organic farming and the damages of industrial farming.

As a team you will have debates and you will be out and about, getting new knowledge from an investigation and action you will carry out in an eco-village/transition movement/ permaculture place in UK. You will also have an action of 3 days to boost CICD's environmental center. You will write a proposal for this action for it to be approved by the teacher's council and you will carry it out. It can be in the garden farm, creating permaculture beds, full

on on naming trees, making a tree nursery, creating signs with information about the surrounding area for the forest path at CICD, etc.

During period 4, those last weeks will be specialised in preparing for the project, learning and developing skills that will be needed at the project and concluding on the period at CICD as well as getting recommended to go to Richmond Vale Academy by the Teachers council. You will carry out your final People's exam for the whole school as well as to invited guests.

Another Kind of School, HPP and Solidary Humanism

This first week will lay important foundations for the programme by starting out with in-depth learning about Another Kind of School, DRH Pedagogy and the DI Concept. The Core Groups are organized in Trios while getting introduced to areas of running the school, and with great appetite taking their part. Experiencing common life at the school.

Main Themes and Content

- Introduction to the school and programme
- Reading the programme book
- Learning about Another Kind of School & DRH Pedagogy
- Delving into the Responsibility Areas
- Understanding the DI Concept
- Understanding the economy of the team
- A short introduction to Open Future
- Defining individual and common expectations
- Getting into Richmond Vale Academy and its projects
- Learning about Development with the specific example of Humana People

| Week 1 Nov | Monday 16 | Tuesday 17 | Wednesday 18 | Thursday 19 | Friday 20 | Saturday 21 | Sunday 22 |
|------------------|---|---|---|--|--|----------------|--------------|
| Morning | Common meeting | Study task - Thoughts about Pedagogy | Running the school together; Responsibility areas and school action | Course: HPP and charter | HPP and the different projects types – development work | Open Weekend | |
| | Course: Another Kind of School Studying the programme book Read Introduction and debate the understanding of Another Kind of School | Course - DRH Pedagogy – DMM and its methodology | | Course: Richmond Vale Academy and projects | | | |
| Afternoon | Go through the first 2 periods description and go through day by day plan | Introduction to Leadership Intelligence and Open Future | Course: The DI Concept | Cont. Richmond Vale Academy and projects | Team Economy and school economy | | |
| | | | | | Course: Health & Fitness; Staying healthy what does it take? In Europe and in Project country - protocol | | |
| Evening | Team start welcome party | Sports | Film | Sports | Cultural evening | | |

Climate and Sustainability

The team is introduced to the risks that our way of life present to the people and the future, the Gaia theory, Food production, Monsanto and Renewable energies. Many discussions about what we do, what we can change and what it takes for the world to make a change. The team will also make a plan of Action for the CICD's Environmental Center and start to make that plan happen

Main Themes and Content

- Gaia theory
- Environmental Risk and the impacts of life on Earth
- Monsanto
- Green Capitalism and Ecological Society
- Renewable energies
- Wars over Water
- Action on the Environmental Center
- Sports
- Oral and individual presentations

| Week 2 Nov | Monday 23 | Tuesday 24 | Wednesday 25 | Thursday 26 | Friday 27 | Saturday 28 | Sunday 29 |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------|---|--|----------------------|
| Morning | Common meeting | Garden action | Responsibility areas and school action | Course: Renewable energies | Each prepare a 15 minute presentation about a topic related to sustainability and climate to present next day | Presentations | Brunch |
| | Cleaning | | | | | | |
| | Course: The Gaia Theory | | | | | | |
| Afternoon | Course: The Environmental Rift & the Impacts for Life on Earth | Monsanto | Trios studying Al Gore's Green Capitalism vs Noemi Klein's notions for an Ecological Society | Study task: Wars over water | Presentation from 12m team about their investigation | Course: Open Future Further Unfolded – contemplating open & closed systems, absences and cruelties | |
| Evening | Music evening | | Sports | Debate evening | Finalise presentations | | |

Planet Protection

In this period the Core Groups study about the risks that our way of life today presents to our planet and people of the future along with the consequences in the form of the planetary boundaries being breached which threatens all life on the planet. The Core Groups get to grips with the human, natural and material resources and potentials that humankind has at its disposal. During this period the Core Groups use 5 days to make an investigation and action in a eco-village and 3 days of action in the Environmental Center at CICD.

- The 9 planetary boundaries and how Capitalism will breach them
- Understanding principles of garden farming
- Introduction to permaculture
- 40 green actions
- Action at CICD's Environmental Center
- Investigation and action in a Eco-village in UK
- Building Weekend
- Wars and Pollution
- People's Exam

| Week 3 Dec | Monday 30 | Tuesday 1 Dec | Wednesday 2 | Thursday 3 | Friday 4 | Saturday 5 | Sunday 6 |
|------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Morning | Common meeting Cleaning Course: The Nine Planetary Boundaries & how Capitalism will breach them | Garden action | Responsibility areas and school action | Garden action | Into green actions book 40 | Building weekend | |
| Afternoon | Task: Organic farming | Course: Introduction to Permaculture | Studying about the effects of industrial farming & pollution of soil on human health, and what we can do about it | Wars and Pollution (how the military is the biggest polluter) | Prepare building weekend | | |
| Evening | Music evening | | Sports | Debate evening | Cultural evening | | |

| Week 4 Dec | Monday 7 | Tuesday 8 | Wednesday 9 | Thursday 10 | Friday 11 | Saturday 12 | Sunday 13 |
|------------------|-------------|---|---|----------------|--------------|--|--------------|
| Morning | TG DAY | Responsibility areas and garden Environmental Center action | 3 days action to boost CICD's environmental center. It can be in the garden farm, creating permaculture beds, full on naming trees, making a tree nursery, creating signs with information about the surrounding area for the forest path at CICD, etc. | | | 5 days investigation and action in an eco-village/transition movement/permaculture place in UK | |
| Afternoon | | Finalise preparations for Action days Preparation Investigation week | | | | | |
| Evening | | Preparation Investigation week | | | | | |

| Week 5 Dec | Monday 14 | Tuesday 15 | Wednesday 16 | Thursday 17 | Friday 18 | Saturday 19 | Sunday 20 |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------|
| Morning | 5 days investigation and action in an eco-village/transition movement/permaculture place in UK | | | Prepare for Peoples exam about investigation week | Prepare Xmas dinner and People's exam Christmas dinner | People's exam 12 month programme People's exam on Climate S | Christmas Holidays |
| Afternoon | | | | | | | |
| Evening | | | | | | | |

Specialization – Zooming in to Open Future

The Core Groups have had an array of input during the programme and has deepened their understanding about global warming and Climate Change as well as sustainability. These last two weeks will be used for the team to finalise detailed plans for Bringing It to the Public, to complete the project skills training required for the project period, and to show everyone they are ready for action.

Main Themes and Content

- Work on Project Skills - prepare materials for the project
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- Show everyone at the school and in the project that you are ready
- Detailed plans for Period 6 - Bringing It to the Public period
- Conclusion report & meeting
- People's Exam
- Leaving party

| Week 6 Jan | Monday 4 | Tuesday 5 | Wednesday 6 | Thursday 7 | Friday 8 | Saturday 9 | Sunday 10 |
|---------------|--|---|----------------|---------------|-------------|---|--------------|
| Morning | Common meeting – welcome back Big deep cleaning | Project skills; Working on the calendar, communication & reporting in the Project. Getting to know the plan on arrival to the project Communicate with PL Preparing presentations for the Conclusion Meeting Language training Prepare materials to use at the project; cultural events, songs, educational programs, games etc. Bring it to the Public preparations | | | | Event by the 12 months team (Send conclusion report by Sunday lunch) | |
| Afternoon | 1 st Aid Course Start on Conclusion report | | | | | | |
| Evening | Music evening | | | | | | |

| Week 7 Jan | Monday 11 | Tuesday 12 | Wednesday 13 | Thursday 14 | Friday 15 | Saturday 16 | Sunday 17 |
|------------------|--|--|--|------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Morning | Common meeting Cleaning | Project skills finalise what was missing | Responsibility areas and school action | Finalise People's exam | Final People's exam to the school | Packing and prepare to leave | Heading to the project |
| Afternoon | Final meeting with teachers council based on conclusion report | | Prepare final People's exam | | | | |
| Evening | Music evening | | Sports | Final preparations | | Goodbye party | |

Period 5 – The service period

11 weeks

11 weeks in St. Vincent and the Grenadines that you are ready for.

This period will be spent working closely together with Richmond Vale Academy and the communities around RVA. You will be part of RVA's environmental projects. The concrete tasks will depend on the time of year and the specific needs RVA. The concrete agreement about the projects and which tasks your team will have, is normally made in the beginning of the training. You and your team need to be flexible and ready to do what is most needed because that is exactly what means to be a Climate Activist – do what is needed! Wherever you work, your tasks are defined within the necessities of the specific RVA project in which you work, and by the Project Leader and your teacher. You can of course give your comments and come up with proposals at planning meetings and in the everyday, but the final say lies with the project.

The tasks at the project can be within tree planting, beach cleaning actions, helping setting back yard gardens in the community, working on RVA's Ecological modern farm, produce compost and distribute it in the community, boosting the permaculture system at RVA, making presentations regarding sustainability etc. One week is set aside for traveling and experiencing the area, you will agree in team how to do this one week that you will all do as a team.

During this period your teacher will also be with you. Planning and actions will be decided in agreement with your teacher and RVA's headmaster or teachers council. During this period you will write reports weekly and you have a midway meeting and a conclusion meeting with RVA's headmaster, your teacher and CICD's headmaster (through skype).

You will also follow up the Bring it to the Public appointments and start on the product you want to bring back and you will in the previous period make a plan for working with it on a weekly basis for a few hours. You will as well have a final People's exam at the project.

Climate Activist Service Period

Working at Richmond Vale Academy project. Delivering as a Climate Activist, whilst using the forces and abilities of the Trio and each single Climate Activist for the benefit of the project and people. Improving and changing conditions shoulder to shoulder with The Poor.

Main Themes and Content

- Introduction Period at the project and getting to know RVA, the project staff and members of the community
- Getting into the routines of the work - do what it is needed approach
- Define goals for the next 11 weeks with your teacher and the Project Leader at RVA
- Organise a big event at the project in cooperation with the project activities
- Fortnight preparation of quality materials for the Bringing It to the Public period
- Follow up on appointments for the Bringing It to the Public period
- Fortnight report and Skype meeting with CICD's Headmaster and RVA headmaster
- Midway report and midway meeting
- Conclusion report and conclusion meeting
- Handover activities to the project staff and community
- People's Exam

PERIOD 6 – The Bring it to the public

4 weeks

The Bring it to the Public period – 4 weeks. With your head and hands full of new knowledge and energy for Bringing it to the Public, you are ready to share what you have seen and experienced during the last 11 weeks with as many people as possible. Together with your Trio, you have planned and thought through how you will do this during previous periods, and you have gathered information and stories from the project and made the products that you will use to “Bring It”. Now it is time to make it happen! After your arrival from the project you use 3 days to meet in the Core Groups to conclude on the project period. You exchange experiences of what you achieved and learned together with the people whom you worked with, and you debate and conclude on the “how” and “why” of what came out of it.

You spend the next 4 to 5 days gathering the documentation and fine-tuning the products you have made in order to be ready and able to bring true journalism to the Public. After the conclusions in the Core Groups you can expect to evaluate each of your products and make the last changes to it: Does the product represent truth? Is it a valid example of the fight for sustainability day by day? Is the substance of the matter made clear? Are the communities and the project the main subjects? Can people understand and follow your logic, and do you adequately bring your experiences to life through what you show and tell? Finally your products, be they articles, pamphlets, videos, podcasts, presentations, exhibitions, posters, speeches or a book, will be presented to the common meeting, which will qualify the products with your Core Groups as a very active part.

Now you are ready for presentations at high schools or universities; maybe you decided to make a photo exhibition in a gallery, or you present a theatre play or small movie that you have made. Whatever it is, your mission in the next 2 weeks is to reach as many people as possible, talking to them and engaging with them about the realities you learned and what can be done for the Planet Protection.

After 2 fruitful weeks, upon returning to your DRH School, you write a final concluding report about your 5-month programme. You assess your ability to act and get things done, and you count the theoretical and practical skills you have learned. You conclude on what it has meant to you individually, and as a group, to live and work as a collective during the past 5 months; you consider

what you have achieved and learned from governing the school and running the school together, and what you have gained from carrying out the programme as a group. You also prepare for “It’s Show Time”, which will be the main highlight of your Graduation Day.

Here you are with a bag full of New Learning, knowledge and experiences, and with an expanded vision of how the world works. After being part of a truly unique international brigade acting upon the biggest issues of our times, the Graduation event calls for you. With your footprints firmly embedded in the hearts of the people you have met, loaded with the spirit of making change in this world, you fling the doors to Open Future wide and march onwards.

Viva Open Future!

Bringing It to The Public

Back at CICD, the Core Group finds the best ways to spread the vision of CREATING CHANGE. The message about Sustainability is brought to people with creative methods to show that Fighting with The Poor is possible, is needed and is happening right now. Decisions about Open Future are laid out and worked with.

- A 3-day session to conclude on the period at the project
- Discussions about the Open Future
- The common meeting qualifies the materials and presentations
- Make the last touches to the materials for the period
- 2 weeks of Bringing It to the Public
- Final conclusions and hand over to the next Core Group
- Graduation