

Climate Connections

Climate Connections is an exciting new partnership project between Brighton Peace & Environment Centre (BPEC), Brighton & Hove City Council and Oxfam GB. The project is funded for 3 years by the Department of International Development (DFID).

Minute Item 2

The project aims to:

- Raise awareness on the impacts of climate change from a global to local level
- Show the global links of climate change by connecting stories of people living around the world, with those in Brighton & Hove
- Engage with residents and communities across Brighton and Hove in acting on climate change and support learning through the creation of local champions
- Promote local community projects, initiatives, organisations and businesses for supporting local residents making informed choices and actions concerning how they impact the world around them

These aims will be achieved through the following:

- Creation of an **outdoor large scale photographic exhibition** illustrating human stories of people living in developing countries alongside those of local Brighton & Hove residents, showing how individuals in different parts of the world are intrinsically linked through the challenge of climate change and inspiring individuals to take action
- An **interactive website**, an information portal following the stories of those individuals participating in the photographic exhibition; for facilitating information on citywide environmental projects and community initiatives that people can get involved in, and for providing the links, advice and updates useful for supporting people in taking action
- **Workshops** to community groups and organisations for facilitating information exchange of the different local projects, initiatives and businesses that can help individuals and communities to take action

The first month:

- Since coming into post in September this year I have been working closely with Mita Patel from the council's Sustainability Team and others of the Climate Connections project steering group in progressing with the initial steps of the project. So far we have begun work on developing a website, a monitoring and evaluation system, outreach work to communities, begun recruiting volunteers and city-wide events to publicise the project.

Next steps:

During the next 5 months we will be working towards the public launch of the project and more specifically on:

- Completion and launch of the official project website
- Ongoing promotion at a series of forthcoming city-wide events
- Identification & selection of 10 stories from people living around the world supported by Oxfam
- Collection of 10 stories from people living in Brighton and Hove supported by the Council
- Creation of large scale public outdoor exhibition
- The project will be launched between March and April 2010

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