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„We got to know a lot of brilliant mayors of the country who received thorough knowledge about climate protection and they will be able to spread the information effectively in their every-day work. I feel that all the participants' commitment to the climate issues became deeper in the training course.“

Györgyi Újszászi
representative of the Protect the Future Society and also representative of the municipality of Miskolc Hungary

“Local Climate Protection Manager” in 4 steps

Mayors and community representatives are facing quite a few challenges, when it comes to reaching climate protection targets.

A stand-alone training course – which combines information and positions on climate protection from research, business, ecology, politics, and psychology – has been specially designed for community representatives, who are taken in four steps to the level of local climate protection managers:

- 1 Successful completion of three 2-day course modules
- 2 Designing a specific, practicable project
- 3 Involving a group in the development of a strategy
- 4 Certificate

1. Theoretical basis

Technical lectures, group discussions and e-learning tasks convey special knowledge – enlarged by case studies, good practise examples and excursions. The following 6 subject areas are covered:

- 1 Basic knowledge of climate protection, scientific and political background
- 2 Renewable energies and energy efficiency
- 3 Agriculture, nutrition and soil protection
- 4 Mobility, transport and regional land use / spatial planning
- 5 Project development and implementation at local level, including methods of communication regarding municipal and environmental matters
- 6 Adaptation measures and solutions including good practice examples from local communities as well as possibilities of funding

The individual training steps

2. Individual work

Each participant will draft a project plan for the solution of a current problem case faced by the municipality in the context of climate protection and/or adaptation to climate change including:

- analysis of the courses of action / measures required / areas of interest in the municipality
- dialogue with specialised consultants, organisations, institutions
- time schedule including steps towards practical implementation

3. Group work

Municipal tasks are tackled by teams; their solution depends on efforts at persuasion and on solid arguments. How to deal jointly with a given topic is „practised“ during group work by:

- putting to use the expert knowledge of the individual group members
- developing/benefiting from the dynamism of an internal organisation
- jointly solving conflicts of interest
- presenting the outcomes

4. Certificate

Upon completion of the course, graduates will be presented with their certificates in the presence of the Minister of Education and of top-class scientists during a special event in a festive setting.

Voices of participants and lecturers

Photo: Private



„This course has made me realise the significance of taking action in our municipality and of contributing to climate protection. First and foremost, the climate protection course has been of great help to me in putting my project into practice.“

Claudia Melmer
Local Councillor
Community of Haiming, Tyrol

Photo: Private



„Participation in the municipal climate protection course has both motivated and encouraged me to work even more actively for climate protection in the Community of Mäder. Opinion exchange among the participants as well as the projects presented have demonstrated what can be achieved through concerted effort.“

Günther Giesinger
e5-Team, Community of Mäder
Vorarlberg, Austria

Photo: Slovenski E-Forum



„Because we believe that our strategic natural raw material is wood, we have built a wooden kindergarten which is heated by wooden chips.“

Rupert Gole, mayor of Šentrupert, Slovenia

Photo: Slovenski E-Forum



„Adaptation and mitigation of climate change must account other shocks and unexpected circumstances and have a clear policy and development objectives.“

Lučka Kajfež Bogataj, lecturer, Slovenia



A training for Europe

Local authorities and municipalities will have to play a key role in the achievement of the ambitious climate protection goals of „Europe 2020“. Here the training shows European potential.

The Central and Eastern-European region, for example is characterised by relatively small local communities, 75% of them having fewer than 10'000 inhabitants. It follows that the conditions and challenges encountered in planning and implementing climate protection measures will differ from those prevailing in large towns. The training provides with special competences in order to meet the relevant national provisions and requirements on municipality level.

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION TO CURRENT TRAININGS!

www.clipma.eu

Austria: www.klimabuendnis.at/lehrgaenge

Hungary: www.reflex.gyor.hu

Slovakia: www.zivica.sk

Slovenia: www.se-f.si

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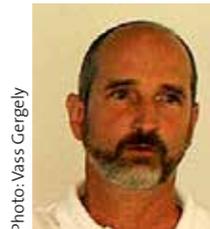
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„The training course gave us a comprehensive knowledge

about the topics of climate issues and what concrete steps we can take towards the sustainability in our municipalities. The best practices were very much welcomed. It was very useful to see how other municipalities can implement green projects in the reality. And all the locations of the course were perfect! Thanks for the possibility to participate!“

György Laki

mayor of the municipality Kajáréc,
Hungary

The Climate Alliance - concerted action for climate and rain forest

Climate protection depends on local initiative and global networking. These are the guidelines that have been followed by the Climate Alliance since 1990. Meanwhile the global partnership for climate protection has become the connecting link between more than 1'600 municipalities in 20 European countries and indigenous peoples in South-America. The common aims pursued

are reduction of greenhouse-gas emissions and the preservation of the Amazon rainforest.

Largest climate-protection network in Austria

In Austria, the Climate Alliance is the largest climate protection network currently including 954 municipalities, 791 businesses, 380 schools and kindergartens as well as all the 9 federal

launders. The focus of Climate Alliance activities is on information, awareness-raising, networking and continuing education in the fields of climate protection, climate justice and climate change adaptation.

Unique global climate protection partnership

This long-term cooperation with selected areas in the Amazon region is unique in Europe. Since 1993, the Climate Alliance Austria has supported FOIRN, the Federation of Indigenous Organisations of the Rio Negro in Brazil. The protection of 122.000 km² of rain forest in Amazonia has been the biggest success of this partnership. In two steps – 1998 and 2012 – the government of Brazil endowed FOIRN with the land rights to an area of one-and-a-half-times the size of Austria.



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



Imprint: media owner, editor, publisher: Climate Alliance Austria, Hütteldorfer Straße 63-65, 1150 Vienna; Editorial staff: Petra Muerth; Graphics art and layout: Andreas Strasser; print: Janetschek GmbH; on recycled paper from 100% used paper with colors on the basis of renewable materials. Heidenreichstein 2013.



Printed following the guideline of the Austrian Ecolabel „ecologically compatible printed matter“
Druckerei Janetschek GmbH • UWNr. 637



Europe needs Municipal Climate Protection Managers

Climate Alliance Austria already identified this need in 2007 and developed a stand-alone training course which now is gradually spreading to Europe. Result: 210 local Climate Protection Managers in 4 European Countries.

