

SUSTAINABILITY IN THE CLASSROOM AND BEYOND – ENGAGE THE WHOLE SCHOOL!

Using the knowledge and ideas that you've gathered from the course, you will create an **action plan** in three chapters:

- **background**, where you provide some basic information about yourself and your school
- **preparation**, where you brainstorm about the role of sustainability in your class
- **action**, where you come up with a project and map out the steps needed to complete it

Don't forget to check the evaluation criteria by which your plan will be assessed.

CHAPTER 1: BACKGROUND

Introduce yourself. Simple as that!

My name:	Veronique De Grave
My country:	Belgium (Flanders)
My role:	(I used to be a) Geography teacher . Nowadays I'm working for the Flemish government on the implementation of Education for Sustainable Development (www.mosvlaanderen.be)
My school:	<i>Secondary school (ages 12-18) in a medium-sized city centre. Around 700 pupils, staff: around 80 people, preparation for higher education, Focus on (ancient) languages and STEM.</i>

CHAPTER 2: PREPARATION

Think about a class that you currently teach, or a single lesson if you prefer. How can you add more sustainability elements to it?

You don't need to fill in all the blanks! Only fill in what is relevant to your subject, needs and goals. The point of this exercise is just to help you brainstorm and set priorities.

You can simply write 'N/A' if some cells are not relevant to your objectives.



My class/lesson:	<i>Geography (1 hour a week), Climate change</i>
Environment	
<i>Some related Sustainable Development Goals: affordable and clean energy; climate action; responsible consumption and production</i>	
Knowledge already in my class:	Climate change (the causes and consequences worldwide) , SDGs in general, 3P's
Knowledge I would like to add:	need for action and behavioural change (not only technology)
Local issues already in my class:	Our own energy-use (from the school)
Local issues I would like to add:	Good examples in the city centre or area (from grassroots to high technology)
Competences already in my class:	Geographic information systems, ICT
Competences I would like to add:	inquiry-based learning
Society	
<i>Some related Sustainable Development Goals: gender equality; reduced inequalities; peace, justice and strong institutions</i>	
Knowledge already in my class:	Historical responsibility of the rich countries in the climate crisis
Knowledge I would like to add:	reflecting on (different) values and norms
Local issues already in my class:	Reflection on the impact of our own behaviour
Local issues I would like to add:	Not everybody in our direct neighbourhood has the same values and norms and thus behaviour
Competences already in my class:	search for information

Competences I would like to add:	observation and interview techniques, collaboration.
Economy <i>Some related Sustainable Development Goals: no poverty; affordable and clean energy; industry, innovation, and infrastructure</i>	
Knowledge already in my class:	Need for infrastructure and technical innovation to battle the Climate Crisis
Knowledge I would like to add:	Influence of infrastructure on behaviour (for ex. Bike infrastructure)
Local issues already in my class:	Local innovation companies (for. Ex. Renewable Energy)
Local issues I would like to add:	Local examples of (grassroots) sustainable mobility (for ex. shared cars)
Competences already in my class:	systems thinking: Climate Change –mobility- sport- Health – air quality – Health- road safety- ...
Competences I would like to add:	Citizen science (citizenship)

CHAPTER 3: READY, SET... ACTION PLAN!

Think about a class that you currently teach, or a single lesson if you prefer. How can you add more sustainability elements to it?

Now that you've identified some gaps and needs in your curriculum, try to think of a **whole-school sustainability project** that you can carry out to further them.

The project can be anything from a **pedagogical innovation** (e.g., using issue analysis in your lessons, building a school garden) to an **organisational change** (e.g., setting up an eco-committee, collaborating with colleagues on a series of lessons) to a **community effort** (e.g., painting a 'Cut X%' mural, contacting a local NGO for workshops). There are many paths to the same destination!

If you're not sure what project you want to carry out, you can write down a few possibilities on a sheet and give them a score between 1 and 5 based on 'importance' and 'availability of resources'. The project with the highest combined score should be a good candidate. Then...



1. Write the **title and/or summary** of your project in the first row
2. Outline the **steps you need to follow** to carry out the project
3. Note down **who will be involved** in each step and **how long you think it will take**

You can add or remove rows if you wish.

Lesson set (6 lessons) about Climate Change and the link with mobility		
What?	Who?	How long?
<p>Repetitive lesson (+ homework) on causes and consequences of climate change using the climate term sheet</p> <p>See: https://www.mosvlaanderen.be/climate-change-causes-effects-and-solutions-mindmap-and-text</p>	Me and the class (pupils)	First lesson
<p>Climate walk (or bike ride) near the school</p> <p>Zie: https://www.mosvlaanderen.be/aan-de-slag/uitstappen-activiteiten/klimaatfietstocht-voor-basis-en-secundair-onderwijs</p>	Me and sports-colleague	Second lesson/ half a day
<p>Possible Solutions to the Climate Crisis: choose 1 theme per group of students to explore with the aim of coming up with concrete, feasible solutions.</p>	Me and the class (pupils)	Third lesson
<p>Conduct limited scientific research of their own (or participate in an existing citizen science project) that ties in with the chosen theme.</p>	Pupils, collaboration	2 moths
<p>Present results and propose concrete feasible solution to the headmaster (and parents)</p>	Pupils, headmaster	Live (evening) or video

<i>Voting with the whole class (headmaster and parents) for one of the suggested solutions and making an action plan to make it reality</i>	me	Online voting
<i>Implement action plan within the school (seek funding first if necessary)</i>	Depending on the chosen proposed solution.	Depending on the chosen proposed solution.

This worksheet is adapted from UNESCO's [Education for sustainable development toolkit](#). We hope you will find good use for this action plan in your school.

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