

# EMPOWERMENT FOR CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

## THE NEWSLETTER (03/2018)

Dear all,

In only two weeks we will all meet again in Arusha. We hope you are feeling pleasant anticipation towards our next and final reunion. We also hope that you are full of curiosity about the program we compiled for you with the help of your good ideas, helpful comments and attentive questions. May this newsletter give you some insights on what happened so far in and around our offices and the ECL-project team. Perhaps it also helps you a little bit to shorten the waiting period. Thanks to Sixbert for the excellent preparation meeting at "Alter Zoll" bier garden!

Best wishes!

Your ECL-Team

### IMPORTANT DATES

- May 3<sup>rd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>: Exchange in Tanzania
- May 4<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>: Advisory Board Meeting together with all of you
- Until July 29<sup>th</sup>: Deadline for last assignments for the Modules 6-8 and blog-articles for modules 6-9
- August 27<sup>th</sup>: Start of Module 10 on ESD and Germanwatch Hand Print.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS GERMANWATCH

#### What are we working on at the moment?

- **Marie strengthens ECL-Team:** As Tanja wrote to you, she is unfortunately not taking her place in the ECL-program. Since it was too late to make an official call for participation again, Marie will take her place and join us for the Tanzania exchange phase spontaneously. She will be a participant and work as Judiths twinning partner but also support the Germanwatch-ECL-office team. Her tasks will include public relations during the exchange, program evaluation and being a contact person between the organization teams and the participants.
- **Cofinance:** We are still working on the cofinance issue. Unfortunately, the Erbacher foundation will not support the ECL-project even though they showed a lot of interest beforehand. We are now looking for new funders and writing applications.
- **SDG-Sheets:** The editing of your SDG-sheets is advancing slowly at the moment because of UNFCCC negotiations and the upcoming exchange. But we are eager to take big steps towards publication after our reunion.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation:** We were invited by the African German Youth Initiative (AGYI) to participate in the creation of a joint framework for M&E (Monitoring and Evaluation) in the AGYI, which is a very interesting possibility for us to share our lessons learned from ECL within the weltwärts Begegnung funding line but also with other actors of the AGYI like ENSA and ASA. Moreover, Marie is supporting the ECL-Team to develop a good and effective M&E foundation for ECL.
- **Events we attended:** The Germanwatch ESD team took part in a national ESD congress called "WeltWeitWissen" from May 3rd-5th, which took place in Bremen. The

conference was titled “Learning for transformation” and our Hand Print won a prize as an outstanding idea for an excellent and motivating tool for political engagement on several levels. (in German: <http://germanwatch.org/de/15440>)



### What is important for the German Participants?

- **Travel preparations:** We hope you feel well prepared for our travel to Tanzania. Please have again a look into all e-mails we sent you for the preparation. Please print out/copy all your documents which are important for you (insurance policy, flight ticket ID-card etc.). Moreover, we recommend securing all your data from your notebook and smartphone on an external source for safety. Marie wrote an e-mail to all of you concerning our meeting point at Frankfurt airport. If you did not receive this e-mail please contact her.



- Together with the ECL-Advisory Board we were also actively involved in the UNFCCC SBI 48 Climate Change Conference in Bonn, especially regarding the process on “Action for climate empowerment (ACE)”. If you

want to read more about this, have a look into the article section (s.b.).

- **Travel before or after exchange:** If you are travelling earlier or staying longer in Tanzania, please make sure you have all required insurances etc. on your own for this period. We also need a project related short justification for your extended stay in Tanzania. A big thanks to all, who have done this so far.
- **Visa:** Most of you are still waiting to get their passport back including the visa for Tanzania. The normal procedure takes 14-17 days the embassy told us. Therefore, you should receive everything you need in the upcoming week. If this is not the case until Monday 28th, please call or Email Cornelius.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN TANZANIA

### What are we working on at the moment?

Currently there is a process continuing on preparation for the next upcoming second exchange meeting for participants. Coordination is made to secure possible and relevant learning hubs/destinations, excursion hotspots, accommodation and conference facilities and cool refreshing places. Meanwhile, entertainment places are in search and confirmed by ECL colleague in Tanzania (Benvalla Mlowezi). On the course of reviewing our tentative exchange schedule, we are still receiving some inputs from across our colleagues in Germany and Tanzania. From Ilona Steffen, we have received a proposition to visit a Germany organization (Hans R. Neumann Stiftung (HRNS)) which has projects on coffee and climate change issues. However, we have found some slots to include this learning opportunity.

## What is important for the Tanzanian Participants?

The updates on participants' arrival

Two participants from Germany (Alina Weiss and Lisa) will come earlier and engage in their own issues before joining their fellow in Arusha on June 3rd. Viveka Jani from India will stay

with the group only from 3rd June to 14th June and fly back to India because of other engagements.

An interesting trip envisioned by our participants has been confirmed with the Zanzibar trip in which the participants will find a learning advantage for Island ecosystem in the context of climate change.

## ARTICLE SECTION

### Climate Education being negotiated at the UNFCCC SBI 48 in Bonn – Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE)

Empowerment and Education as crucial key areas for addressing climate change UNFCCC Workshop and Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) at the SBI 48 in Bonn.

A vivid ACE-Workshop followed by a two session ACE-Dialogue on the Bonn climate conference took important steps for the implementation of climate



education and empowerment into the NDCs.

The aim of the workshop on May 1<sup>st</sup> was to develop a list of actions to enhance the implementation of the Paris Agreement through ACE-related activities, which was requested from the UNFCCC secretariat by the Parties. About 150 participants from a diverse group of representatives, including Parties, NGO's and others experts from all over the

world took actively part in the ten break-out groups all over the day. In the morning session they were engaged in the core topics of ACE (Education, Training, Public awareness, participation and access to information). The afternoon session created a space to discuss five crosscutting issues e.g. "Mainstreaming ACE into NDCs and NAPs" or "Assessing and monitoring ACE". The participants formulated four to five actions to prioritize for each of the ten issues.



The task of the ACE-Dialogue on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> followed the workshop building up on its results. The participants of the dialogue discussed “ways of enhancing the implementation of education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information” so as to enhance actions under the Paris Agreement



The dialogue lacked a bit of inspiration because the ACE text was already negotiated the day before the ACE dialogue: A draft decision was adopted by SBI but is still to be adopted by the COP24 in Katowice – so no ACE trip to Bangkok.

Thus far, Dialogue and Workshop on ACE were successful in addressing and positioning all topics around ACE in the UNFCCC preparations for COP 24. The

following 7<sup>th</sup> dialogue will take place in 2019.

You can find the ACE text here: <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/103a2.pdf>

Pictures are here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/aceunfccc/sets/72157690882721960>

**Further details:** <http://www.climatenetwork.org> and <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/conferences/bonn-climate-change-conference-april-2018/events-and-schedules/mandated-events/mandated-events-during-sb-48/workshop-on-ways-of-enhancing-the-implementation-of-education-training-public-awareness-public>

## The inspiring spirit of the ECL Advisory Board

“Let’s remind the people of the best of their cultures!” was one of the core statements made by the members of the Advisory Board during their meeting in Bonn, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> of May. The board discussed future approaches for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and considered a wide range of perspectives – from the power of language to the role of human rights-based approaches.

Even though there was a tight agenda, the Advisory Board members\* took their time to share inspiring thoughts that resulted into new project ideas. An illustrative example: We had not even been in the room for 30 minutes, when Jim Taylor from WESSA, South Africa jumped off his chair and started noting down ideas for papers and blog articles that the Advisory Board and the participants could write together (see article on IPCC) to spread transformative ideas emerging from the exchange program.

To let you also feel the spirit that we could experience in Bonn, we want to share three glimpses of powerful thoughts with you.

(1) “People are only people through other people”

When discussing the influence of language and the power that positive framings can have in conveying important messages, Jim Taylor (WESSA) and Sixbert Mwangi (CAN Tanzania) started to come up with sayings that exist in different languages and that all transport not only information – but also cultural values, hope and a strong sense of community. A common Zulu phrase for example is “Ubuntu = putting others first – for the benefit of all”, in Swaheli people often say “Utu ni watu = for being human you need other humans/ people”. The Advisory Board

stressed that exchange programs offer the chance to reflect on these cultural values and the role they can play in Education for Sustainable Development.

(2) “We do not only need human rights, but also rights and duties”

Christoph Bals (Germanwatch e.V.) claimed that educators and advocates for climate action should use more human rights-based approaches in Education for Sustainable Development – especially when working with the SDGs.

Kartikeya V. Sarabhai (CEE India) added that with human rights, we also have responsibilities. These responsibilities include not harming other peoples’ rights and their living conditions. It also includes the protection of climate and environment as a human duty. Another example was the human right to education which also brings along the duty to go to school/send your children to school.



(3) Is ESD ready to address decision makers?

When reflecting upon whether and how we – as multipliers of ESD – can and should address decision makers, Christoph Bals proposed that we need to reach out to more groups that are not already in the environmental field. Jim Taylor emphasized that we should be careful with “educating” but that we should rather ask politicians the right questions. Moreover, the Board agreed that there can no longer be a discussion about whether a transformation is needed, but that the question to be asked now needs to be how a transformation is possible and what each decision maker can do to support it. Exchange programs can empower participants to play important roles as multipliers for this global sustainable transformation.

(4) Germany is delivering a bad performance in climate politics and SDG implementation

What does this mean for exchange programmes and civil society south – north cooperation? To improve Germany and other often still called “developed countries” ecological and social performance more critic from southern and northern actors is needed. And more exchange on political processes in which proposals and demands can make a difference.



\* who was attending the Advisory Board Meeting?

Pooja Dave (CEE India), Kartikeya V. Sarabhai (CEE India), Sixbert Mwanga (CAN Tanzania), Jim Taylor (WESSA South Africa), Reiner Mathar, ESD Expert.net), Christoph Bals (Germanwatch) and Stefan Rostock (Germanwatch) from the Board as well as some other Germanwatch colleagues came together to discuss ESD and its transformative impacts – using and improving the role of exchange programmes.

Left: Pooja, Jim, Kartikeya and Stefan at the exhibition: examples to follow – sustainability and aesthetics.

## IPCC – how to achieve a broader view on the social side of climate change?

As a scientific body, the IPCC can only use scientific literature, which means only peer-reviewed and published literature. The amount of social science dealing with ESD or climate education for instance dealing with the (short and long term) impacts of climate education is compared to other climate science relatively small.



ECL Advisory Board at the exhibition: examples to follow – sustainability and aesthetics.

<https://www.unbonn.org/node/13126>

One point discussed by the ECL international Advisory Board was how to improve this situation. There is one offer by the international advisory board to co-author articles with ECL-participants. Different topics for articles and journals to address have been proposed so far.

We will describe this idea in another email and we will talk about it and start getting active during the meeting with (parts of) the ECL Advisory Board in Arusha.

See us on twitter: <https://twitter.com/Germanwatch>

## International Expert Workshop on Education for Sustainable Development

On Wednesday, 9th of May, an international expert workshop on Education for Sustainable Development and its transformative impacts was hosted by Germanwatch e.V. in Bonn. The Advisory Board as well as other experts in Education for Sustainable (ESD) participated and discussed – among other things - how to use and improve the role of exchange programmes in ESD.

In one discussion round, the emphasis lay on the lessons that exchange programs offer to Northern ESD-practitioners to learn from ESD-professionals in the global South. These include for example a stronger integration of local cultural and social dimensions into ESD work as well as a stronger focus on implementation. Moreover, more and stronger links between university research and local communities were perceived as an example to follow.

Moreover, it was reflected that ESD exchange programs are especially relevant for a transformation of our societies as bottom-up processes. Exchange programs can support a mutual monitoring by pointing out political incoherencies and empower participants to speak up for sustainable politics. The relevance and chances of citizen based science have been highlighted here. Also, they can bring together various stakeholders to support understanding and dialogue between civil society and governments.

The guests of the workshop also discussed the current ACE dialogue taking place at the 48th Subsidiary Body of Implementation (SBI) negotiations of the UNFCCC and participated and enriched the process with their input at the World Conference Centre in Bonn in the afternoon (see article on ACE-Dialogue).

## WHAT ELSE ?

- An interesting video for the German participants about coming back:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBm7ya\\_KGp4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBm7ya_KGp4)
- New in your cinema: In Mai 2018 starts: "Guardians of the Earth" bringing an inside view of the Paris climate negotiations. (COP 21, Dez. 2015) <https://germanwatch.org/de/guardians>
- Parlamentarischer Beirat für nachhaltige Entwicklung – Parliamentary Advisory Board on Sustainable Development starts to work in the (new) German government. This Advisory Board on Sustainable Development has to be installed with each new legislation period – it is time that it becomes a formal committee.  
[https://www.bundestag.de/ausschuesse/weitere\\_gremien/ParlamentarischerBeiratNachhaltigkeit?url=L2Rva3VtZW50ZS90ZXh0YXJjaGl2LzlwMTgva3cxNy1kZS1laW5zZXR6dW5nLWJlaXJhdC1uYWNoaGFsdGlnZS1lbnR3aWNrbHVuZy81NTEwOTQ=&mod=mod551914](https://www.bundestag.de/ausschuesse/weitere_gremien/ParlamentarischerBeiratNachhaltigkeit?url=L2Rva3VtZW50ZS90ZXh0YXJjaGl2LzlwMTgva3cxNy1kZS1laW5zZXR6dW5nLWJlaXJhdC1uYWNoaGFsdGlnZS1lbnR3aWNrbHVuZy81NTEwOTQ=&mod=mod551914)
- The best at the end:  
***“By regional train to Tanzania!”*** Advertising in Bonn local trains.

*But they are just kidding... advertising trains to the next airport to go to Tanzania. What a pity.*



Looking forward seeing you in Tanzania!