



General Proposal for the Forum 2009

Deadline for proposals: 8 December 2008

peopleandplanet.org/forum

Categories for proposals: finance and fundraising, present campaign, group support, communications, democracy, network, other, events

Your details

Please provide the details of those putting forward the proposal. More than one proposer is optional.

Proposer 1

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Proposer 2 (optional)

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Your proposal

Total word limit for this section: **500 words.**

Which category does your proposal best fit into?	Present (and future) campaign
Title	Climate campaign priorities (DDD and Copenhagen)
Summary of your proposal (no more than 30 words). For example, a topic for discussion, a position to debate or suggested course of action (like a motion).	Decision on whether to focus the climate campaign on the Copenhagen climate summit, prioritised against the potential boycott of RBS as part of the Ditch Dirty Development campaign.
<i>What is the proposed agenda item? (Write about your proposal in more detail here.)</i>	
In December 2009, world leaders will meet in Copenhagen to finalise negotiations on a global climate deal to follow Kyoto. This could be a pivotal moment in climate politics, setting the framework for emissions reductions and finance for adaptation and mitigation.	
People & Planet could choose to focus on Copenhagen in autumn term 2009. This would	

mean running actions to put pressure on politicians in the build-up to the summit, and mobilising during the summit itself. Many other organisations are planning to mobilise around Copenhagen, including the Stop Climate Chaos coalition.

P&P's Ditch Dirty Development campaign is also coming to a crucial moment, with our internal deadline for calling a boycott set for September 2009. If we decide that a boycott is the right campaign strategy, this would mean putting massive resources into the boycott launch in order to have maximum possible impact. No other big organisations are campaigning on this issue.

In this Forum session we would like the network to decide whether Copenhagen campaigning or the RBS boycott should be the climate campaign priority in autumn 2009. This means deciding:

- whether P&P should focus on Copenhagen at all and whether this should just be for the autumn term, or beyond.
- what angle P&P should take in relation to Copenhagen (ie what are our demands?)
- whether the RBS boycott is a good strategy in principle (based on what we know at the time of the Forum)
- if the network wants to focus on Copenhagen, could the RBS boycott be delayed until Spring 2010? Or Autumn 2010? What impact would this have on the DDD campaign?

The session should lead to a clear recommendation of direction. This may not be a final decision as there are factors that probably won't be known at the time of the Forum (ie if RBS suddenly change policy we wouldn't boycott them), but the session should give a very clear steer about campaign priorities.

Ideally, the session would be for everyone at the Forum as it is a big question about the direction of P&P's climate campaigning, and equally relevant to uni and sixth form students.

Why is this important for People & Planet? For example, why is it valuable to discuss or if implemented, how will it make P&P more effective?

Copenhagen is likely to be the focus of much climate campaigning in 2009. P&P needs to decide whether to take part in this, or whether to stick to the existing campaign strategy. This would add a new dimension to P&P's climate campaigning, which needs to be decided by the network.

The RBS boycott strategy has not been discussed at a Forum, and if P&P is to go ahead and call a boycott, this should be based on a network decision as far as possible. It is possible that we will not have all the information needed to decide whether we should call a boycott at the time of the Forum, but we would aim to set criteria (eg RBS have to show X, Y and Z and we won't boycott) to enable the decision to be made with as much network input as possible.

Both decisions are about P&P's campaign approach and priorities, which are key questions for the Forum to discuss.

How could it be implemented? (if applicable)

Launching a boycott of RBS alongside a new campaign focus on Copenhagen would stretch both office and network resources, and result in both campaigns having less impact. That's why the decision is framed in terms of prioritising these two campaign elements.

If the Copenhagen focus is chosen, this would require more detailed thinking on the question of policy and demands. This would ideally involve considerable network input after the Forum, to ensure that the position reflects the concerns and ideas of the network.

**If you need any help or advice relating to completing this form,
please contact Harry: forum@peopleandplanet.org or call 01865 245 678
When completed, please return by email to forum@peopleandplanet.org**