



student action on world poverty and the environment

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

Name	Emma Cockburn
Email	
Address	
Phone	
People & Planet group	Support Office

Proposer 2 (optional)

Name	Eleanor Smith
Email	
Address	
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People & Planet group	Support Office

Your proposal

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

Which category does your proposal best fit into?	Network
Title	Revolutionise the network.
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).	People & Planet's has a fantastic network of activists, but without reflecting the full diversity of the post 16 student body we fail to representing a huge chunk of the student population and limit what we can achieve as a movement. We need to change this to become more vibrant, effective and inclusive.
<p><i>What is the proposed agenda item? (Write about your proposal in more detail here.)</i></p> <p>This session will look at individuals own motivations for campaigning and any barriers (social, cultural, economic, etc) they may have come across. Current approaches to increasing student participation in campaigning at Further Education colleges and post-1992 Universities will be explored and evaluated.</p>	

Examples of other organisations and youth projects using innovative new approaches to get students campaigning will also be looked at for inspiration. The network will be asked for its ideas about creating a more diverse People & Planet network that can be directly implemented by the FE/HE team. The idea of creating a volunteer task force group will also be discussed.

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?

The strategic plan of P&P (2007-2013) lists 'increasing the reach of P&P's network and increase the opportunities to campaign in a P&P group' as one of the organisations 5 core aims. This discussion is central to getting the networks views on P&P's efforts to achieve this aim. Democracy is a central value of P&P, this can only be achieved if the true diversity of the student population in Britain, in terms of the ages, ethnicities, socio-economic backgrounds, is reflected in our network. Increasing the network's diversity will increase its breath of experience, its strength and ultimately its ability to achieve real change. Additionally, it will promote inclusion and cohesion within groups and better links with community and local networks.

In order to increase the diversity of the network and create lasting change we need to find new ways that People & Planet can encourage this. The FE/HE project has begun this process, now we want your input as members of the network with direct experience of these issues.

How could it be implemented? (if applicable)

The FE/HE team are keen to get the networks ideas and implement those that are feasible as soon as possible!

The proposed volunteer diversity task force would play an ongoing role informing and influencing the FE/HE project as well as creating and implementing new ways of working.

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