

Please briefly outline your proposal:

Carbon reduction in education sector – continuing with our Going Greener campaign

Right now, human activity is changing our climate and jeopardising the lives of current and future generations. In the global South, those least responsible for causing climate change are being hit first and hardest.

Universities have a key role to play in the UK's transition to a fair, low-carbon future, yet their responses to climate change so far have not been quick or effective enough. Their estates and operations are responsible for over 15% of the UK's public sector emissions and our Green League research reveals universities' emissions & energy consumption still rising at an alarming rate.

The Going Greener campaign has been chosen, developed and will be implemented by students wanting to tackle the root causes of climate change where they have the most influence – in their universities. Our student-led network has a proven record of creating huge impact through strategic and creative campaigning for effective, practical solutions.

We've done so much to push the sector forward but carbon emissions are still not being reduced at a fast enough pace across the majority of the sector and they are not yet addressing or moving forwards on renewable energy generation and sustainability within the curriculum.

Please answer these questions in relation to your campaign proposal: (1000 words max)

1. Does it focus on a significant human rights, poverty and/or environmental injustice

Right now, human activity is changing our climate and jeopardising the lives of current and future generations. In the global South, those least responsible for causing climate change are being hit first and hardest.

2. Is an issue raised by those affected or in solidarity with them

See above – climate change is effecting people all over the globe regardless of their location, background and wealth levels.

3. Can be tackled by People & Planet as a student network.

Definitely, the People & Planet student network has already been working on this campaign and could continue to do so. This campaign focuses has 5 campaign goals which students can push for in their institutions:

- Significant increase in the renewable energy being purchased by and generated by education institutions
 - annual carbon reductions from each institution
 - A competitive mechanism to track progress and highlight inaction publicly (ie. Green League)
 - Practical carbon reducing projects and campaigns led by students
- integration of sustainability and skills for 'green jobs' build into curriculum

4. Could include a variety of campaign goals and targets developed.

The campaign has an overall goal to bring about a low-carbon, resilient and community-led education sector that achieves annual carbon emissions reductions and is on track to achieve at least 50% cuts by 2020

The campaign goals are listed above and this campaign also has a number of targets.

- Universities and institutions
- partnerships with other organisations such as the NUS
- university representatives such as environmental managers

5. Is meaningful to students across the People & Planet Network, by age, geography, interest experience and skills

This proposal allows students to create a positive change in their own institutions and set up projects that are meaningful to them. Students are able to, and supported in, setting up their own projects based on their experience, skills and interests. Again, as students set up projects in their own institutions this project is not limited by geography and People & Planet staff can travel to different universities to offer training.

6. Has opportunities for cooperation with other groups, including those in the Global South

We already have strong, sustained links with other organisations and groups as part of the Going Greener project, these include:

- Sustain
- NUS
- Ecotricity

We also have links with Better World Books who use the money they make from selling second hand books to fund literacy projects in the global south.

7. Can be contributed to by People & Planet in a unique way and plays on our strengths as a student network

This proposal is all about making change in universities and educational establishments which means it fits perfectly with the People & Planet student network. Students are able to build their own projects at their own universities and use tools such as the Green League to apply pressure to university management to make changes to cut carbon in the education sector.

8. Has a body of research and resources available to us in order to develop the campaign.

A large body of research has been carried out assessing the environmental impact of universities. Over the course of the Going Greener campaign People & Planet has continuously researched the environmental impacts of the university sector and produce the Green league which itself measures the environmental impact of universities. Not only is this an excellent and up to date measure, it is also a great tool to be used in campaigning for change in the higher education sector by People & Planet student groups.

9. Fits in with and draws from current and past People & Planet's campaigns

This campaign is a continuation of People & Planet's Going Greener campaign, meaning that we are able to build on the resources, research and plans we already have. This has the advantage that we will not suffer a delay in building up a new campaign and as such money and staff time can be spent on continuing with Going Greener and facilitating more successes in carbon reduction in the university sector.

10. Is likely to or able to be funded ?

Much of the Going Greener campaign this year has been sustained by partnerships with other organisations. As we already have such links these could be built upon to try and secure more funding options. The advantage of this campaign is also that we already have a lot of resources available to us and as such may not require such large amounts to get the campaign off the ground.

The localised projects that this campaign supports, such as food co-ops, also allows groups to apply for funding locally to set up community and campus based projects.