



First announcement - November 2009

CarboSchools open conference - Jena (Germany) 14-16 April 2010

**Teacher-scientist partnerships for climate change education:
Results & perspectives**

The Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry and the CarboSchools consortium invite educators, scientists & anyone interested in climate change science education to come to Jena for two and a half days of presentations, meetings and discussion with project participants from all over Europe.

This conference aims at

- showing the achievements from educational projects developed since January 2008 by nine leading EU carbon research laboratories in partnership between scientists and secondary school teachers around Barcelona (Spain), Bergen (Norway), Firenze and Benevento (Italy), Groningen (Netherlands), Norwich (UK), Paris and Bordeaux (France), Jena and Kiel (Germany).
- discussing the educational impact of these projects based on in-depth evaluations carried on participating students
- giving new inspiration, tools and resources for climate change education to the broader educational community in Europe and beyond, and to research institutes willing to develop their education & outreach activities.

Preliminary agenda

Wednesday 14 April: Achievements from regional projects (9h-15h)

- Plenary presentations by CarboSchools regional coordinators - benefits and limitations of educational action from within research institutes
- Discussion of experiences
- Invited talks from other science education projects (t.b.d.)

16h-18h in the streets of Jena, public event by CarboSchools students

Thursday 15 April: Global Change Science Festival

CarboSchools participants: students, teachers, scientists & regional coordinators from all over Europe show experiments, games, posters, videos etc. developed within the project - and invite everyone to try & take part.

Friday 16 April: Evaluation & the way forward (9h - 13h)

- 2 years of evaluating CarboSchools projects using self-evaluation questionnaires, pre & post attitude questionnaires and interviews: what did we learn about the impact of CarboSchools activities on pupils' perception of science, scientists and school science?
- Publication of CarboSchools resources & results on-line and as a book devoted to integrating climate change science education in school curricula: how the broader educational community can use this experience?
- Open discussion - scenarios for beyond 2010

A more detailed agenda & hotel information will be available by the end of January.

Conference venue

Max Planck Institute for Biogeochemistry, Jena, Germany

Registration

Registration is open **until 1st March 2010** on a first come, first served basis. Please send an expression of interest + contact details to Susanne Hermsmeier <sherms@bgc-jena.mpg.de>. All participants are expected to cover their travel & accommodation costs + a conference fee of 100€ covering coffee breaks, lunches and social dinner. This conference fee can be waived upon request for participants from outside the CarboSchools consortium.

Travel grants for new EU member states

A limited number of travel grants are available for scientists and educators involved in science education from countries which joined the EU in 2004 and 2007. Applications must be sent by 22 January 2010 to Susanne Hermsmeier <sherms@bgc-jena.mpg.de> indicating information about your organisation + experience in science education, current & future projects in the field. Receiving a travel grant involves attending the whole conference.

How to reach Jena?

Please check travel information at <http://conventus.de/icdc8-travel/> or http://www.personal.uni-jena.de/~beb/travel_to_jena.htm

CO2 neutrality

We invite all conference participants to make our meeting carbon neutral. For this we encourage you to travel by train to Jena. For advance booking Deutsche Bahn offers very low fares inside Germany and from all bordering countries (check European offers on www.bahn.de, available in 9 languages). When you come from too far away to travel by train, we invite you to compensate your airline CO2 emissions in an innovative way:

- 1) calculate your CO2 emissions and give them a voluntary price based on the carbon offset market (i.e. companies which collect money to finance projects who reduce emissions for you elsewhere when you can't reduce your own) - the price varies a lot between companies, generally ranging from 10 to 100 euro per ton.
- 2) bring this money in cash to Jena where we will put it in a common pot
- 3) all CarboSchools student groups are challenged to design local mitigation projects in their own schools and present their ideas in Jena. The group who will demonstrate the highest potential for emissions reduction will receive the money from everyone as a symbolic award to help implementing it.