

2021-2024

PLANET ONE

Empowering the global youth climate justice movement



This handbook is made up of knowledge, experiences, learnings and resources from all the **project staff** as well as from **youth participants** across the six project countries.

We would like to thank our funder the **Swedish Postcode Lottery** for making this innovative project a possibility. Additionally, we would like to thank the organizations involved for their ongoing support and efforts to make the project a reality: **Armenian Progressive Youth, Fryshuset, Greenpeace Africa, Greenpeace Central & Eastern Europe & Greenpeace Nordic.**

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Prologue



Hi and welcome to the **Planet One Handbook**! This handbook introduces the Planet One project, a global project supporting the growing youth movement for climate justice. The project operated between 2021 and 2024 and was a collaboration project between **Fryshuset**, Sweden's largest youth organization, and **Greenpeace**, the world's largest independent environmental organization. Planet One operated in the **six countries of Armenia, Cameroon, Hungary, Kenya, South Africa and Sweden** through the establishment of makerspaces – safe, inclusive environments where youth actively engaged in hands-on learning and addressed real-world environmental challenges. These makerspaces provided a foundation for youth to develop their own initiatives, gain practical skills and build a strong network of support, helping them become leaders in the global climate justice movement.

The handbook is divided into two parts; Concept and Inspiration. The **Concept** part is dedicated to **showcase the operations and impact** of the Planet One project with the **vision of supporting and inspiring others** who would like to do something similar. Here you will find chapters outlining the overall Planet One project strategy and other global strategies implemented throughout the project, such as our Communication strategy, Global community strategy and Learning & development strategy, along with our methodologies of Making and Youth participation. There is also a chapter outlining **how our makerspaces were organized and operated** together with a presentation of all the six makerspaces and their focus areas, impact and learnings.

In the **Inspiration** part you will find plenty of examples of **creative and impactful youth-led initiatives, activities and impact stories** from the project's makerspaces and the global network. By showcasing these initiatives, activities and stories, we wish to **uplift and widely share the voices of the youth involved in the project** and the numerous creative actions they have taken in their fight for climate justice. Our hope is that these actions will give others a **glimpse of the endless possibilities** there are and inspire more people to continue the fight.

P.S. If you would like more detailed information, including how-to-guides, resources lists and templates, **visit our Planet One Toolkit on Notion**.

planetoneorg.notion.site/homepage

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Legend:

In this part of the handbook you'll find that each section has **tags** at the beginning, that's meant to facilitate the fruition of the handbook.

The (Target group) refers to **whom the content of the section is written for**, while the (Content type) refers to **what can you expect to find** in the aforementioned section.

(🔧 How we did it) Explains what and how we used to do things in Planet One. (💡 Examples) Refers to more practical and hands-on examples. While under (📖 How-to) there are how-to guides and explanations of how you could do.

PART 1

Concept

1 The Planet One project



Planet One was a project with the [vision to support the growing global youth movement for climate justice](#). This collaborative project between [Fryshuset](#), [Greenpeace](#) and [Armenian Progressive Youth](#) aimed to combine the three organizations' long experience and strengths in meeting, engaging, and building platforms for youth to carry out advocacy work.

Based on the Maker movement's methodology of [creating common physical places](#) and providing tools for learning-by-doing, youth in Budapest (Hungary), Johannesburg (South Africa), Nairobi (Kenya), Stockholm (Sweden), Yaoundé (Cameroon) and Yerevan (Armenia) set the base of a [global network of local makerspaces](#).

These makerspaces [enabled youth to get involved in the climate justice movement](#) by providing space and opportunities to realize their ideas. They could run their own projects and campaigns, come up with sustainable innovations, organize activities and events, and so much more. The makerspaces were flexible and designed for and together with youth.

Partner organizations

Target group

Organizations



Content type

How we did it



FRYSHUSET

| About Fryshuset

Fryshuset, founded in 1984 in Stockholm, is a Swedish non-profit focused on empowering youth through education, creativity, and social engagement.

It operates over 20 physical and digital hubs across Sweden and has engaged in international projects. Fryshuset promotes holistic learning, inclusive youth work methods, and capacity-building through sports, cultural activities, research, and innovation.

Its vision is to empower youth, especially marginalized youth, to change the world by following their passions, making it a global force for youth development and social change.

GREENPEACE

| About Greenpeace

Greenpeace, founded in 1971 in Canada, is the world's largest independent environmental organization. It uses peaceful protest and creative communication to expose environmental issues and advocate for solutions. Operating in over 55 countries, Greenpeace works directly with communities to protect biodiversity, prevent pollution, and promote peace and non-violence.

It remains financially independent from governments and corporations, relying on individual donations. Over its 50+ years, Greenpeace has fought environmental destruction through advocacy, research, and active resistance, aiming for a green and peaceful future.

In the Planet One project three different Greenpeace National/Regional Offices (NROs) participated; Greenpeace Africa (Cameroon, Kenya & South Africa), Greenpeace Central Eastern Europe (Hungary) and Greenpeace Nordic (Sweden).

About Armenian Progressive Youth

Founded in 2009 in Armenia, Armenian Progressive Youth (APY) is a non-profit organization committed to empowering young people and promoting their active participation in decision-making processes. APY provides opportunities for youth to engage in community-driven initiatives, fostering positive change at both local and national levels.

The organization works across several strategic areas, including youth participation, economic empowerment, and resilience, while promoting democratic values, social justice, and inclusion. APY supports vulnerable youth through education, entrepreneurship programs, and volunteerism, helping them unlock their full potential.

About Swedish Postcode Lottery (the project funder)

The Swedish Postcode Lottery (Svenska Postkodlotteriet), active since 2005, has distributed over 15,5 billion SEK to Swedish civil society organizations, making it Sweden's largest private donor and the third largest globally.

With nearly 1 million participants, the lottery supports 68 beneficiaries, including Fryshuset and Greenpeace Nordic, providing both annual base funding and opportunities for project-based funding. In 2021 the Planet One project became a “dream project,” and was fully funded by the lottery.



Fryshuset and Greenpeace receive the check from Swedish Postcode Lottery

The Planet One project

Target group

Content type

Youth



How we did it



Makerspace



Organizations



Project organization & strategy

The Planet One project was a partnership between Fryshuset, Greenpeace and Armenian Progressive Youth, financed by the Swedish Postcode Lottery. Fryshuset was the lead organization, handling overall project management, while Greenpeace was the main partner, responsible for operations in four countries and leading the learning programs. Leadership was shared between Fryshuset's Project manager and Greenpeace Nordic's Learning manager. All partners hosted Planet One makerspaces, with Fryshuset and Greenpeace taking primary responsibility for project execution.

Fryshuset took responsibility for overall project management, leading formal communication with the Swedish Postcode Lottery and overseeing funding for work in Sweden and Armenia through its partner, Armenian Progressive Youth (APY). Fryshuset managed the relationship with the funder, ensuring all project-related communications were handled appropriately.

Greenpeace Nordic, the main project partner, led the learning programs and coordinated project operations in Hungary, Cameroon, Kenya and South Africa. Together with Fryshuset's Project manager, Greenpeace Nordic's Learning manager shared operational leadership, handling day-to-day management, reporting, and external representation of the Planet One project.

The project was run by the global team consisting of the Project manager (Fryshuset), Learning

manager (Greenpeace Nordic), Global support & External activity coordinator (Greenpeace Nordic), Head of communications (Fryshuset) and two Communication managers (Greenpeace Africa & Armenian Progressive Youth).

The overarching strategy of the Planet One project was to provide equal opportunities for youth globally to engage on climate and environmental issues.

The project sought to expand the environmental movement by **creating inclusive spaces where youth aged 15-25 could meet, collaborate, and develop solutions to the climate crisis**, regardless of prior experience. The project aimed to empower diverse groups of youth to influence societal change, offering platforms for both experienced and newly engaged participants to take part in the fight for climate justice. The main values of Planet One focused on creativity, diversity, inclusion, and youth empowerment. The project encouraged experimentation, built self-esteem and embraced all backgrounds through a bottom-up approach.

It empowered youth to drive change while promoting climate justice and advocating for the most affected communities. Key focus areas included **climate justice, advocacy, innovation, and youth empowerment & engagement**. The methodologies emphasized learning-by-doing through makerspace culture, informal education and active youth participation, to build practical, community-based solutions for climate action.

Indicators & objectives

Target group

Content type

Makerspace



How we did it



Organizations



Indicators

In order to evaluate the project's impact, we conducted an Impact evaluation that consisted of participant surveys, focus group discussions as well as staff evaluation workshops.

The purpose of the Impact evaluation was to ensure that the Planet One project was able to report to the funder on the indicators presented in the project application, as well as to support the internal learning process and development of our work.

The 5 indicators captured through the Impact evaluation were:

1. The diversity of youths from different backgrounds and contexts who meet and participate in the makerspaces increases over time
2. Increased faith/belief in the future amongst youths
3. Increased understanding among the participants of the underlying causes of the climate crisis and the challenges it leads to
4. An increased feeling of being able to influence climate issues

5. Number of actual changes locally and globally as a direct effect of youth engagement in the makerspaces.

Project objectives

For the Planet One project we had five qualitative and five quantitative objectives for the project period. All these objectives were achieved and most of the quantitative objectives were even exceeded.



Qualitative objectives

The qualitative objectives of the project were:

1. Youth who were not previously actively involved have found ways to get involved
2. Previously engaged youth have deepened their commitment
3. More diversified climate movement among youth in the regions where the project has established makerspaces
4. Enabled more meetings and networks between youth locally and globally
5. Have felt welcome, included and encouraged in their involvement
6. Felt that the makerspace was important for their development, commitment and/or possibility of influence in climate and environmental issues

7. Feel an increased belief in the future and hope to be able to influence the future in a sustainability direction
8. Experience that the makerspace has made it easier for them to implement their ideas and project

Quantitative objectives

The quantitative objectives of the project were:

1. A total of 21 000 physical participants divided into the six makerspaces
2. At least 6 000 initiatives started by youth
3. At least 1 000 000 views of the digital material produced within the project
4. At least 350 digital meetings with youth
5. 60 meetings with decision-makers



Results & impact

Target group

Content type

Organizations



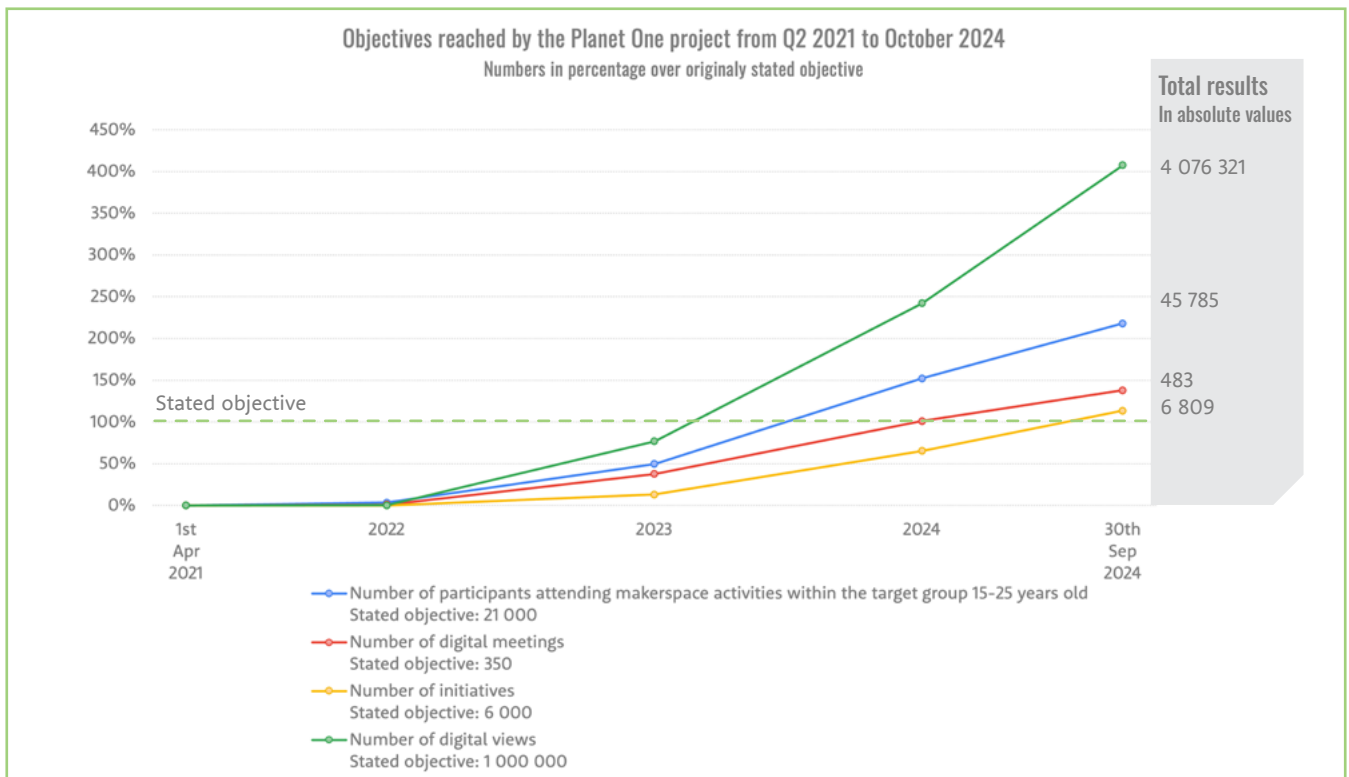
How we did it

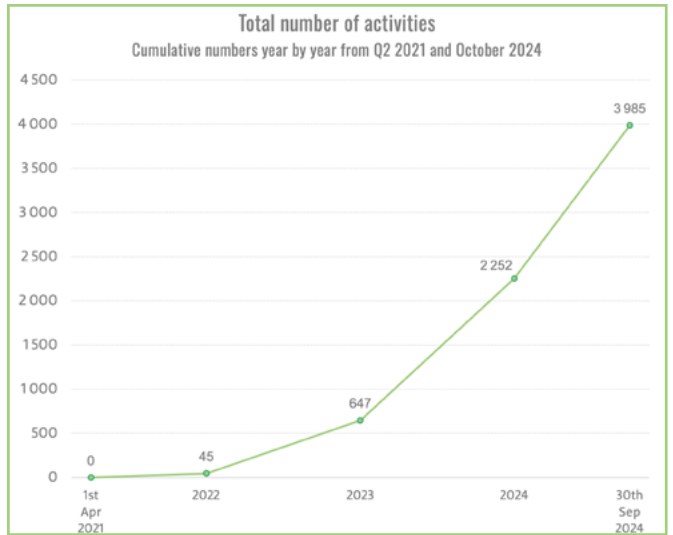
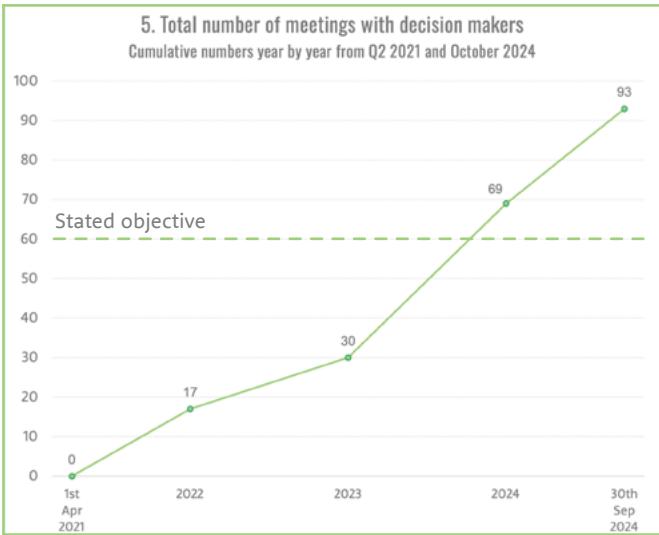
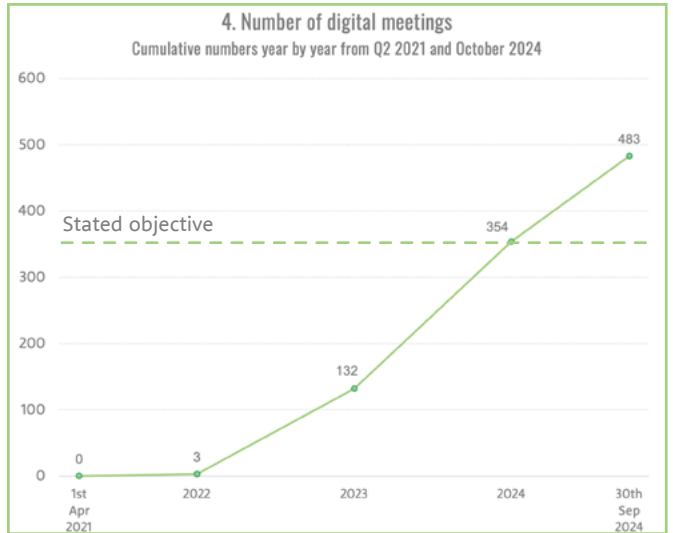
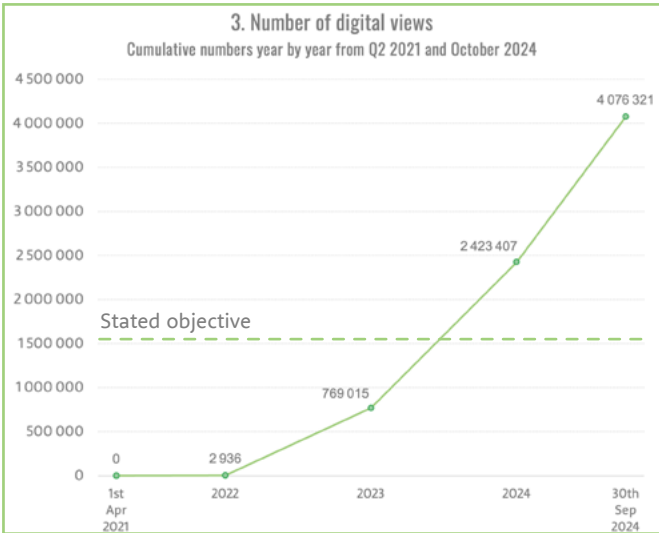
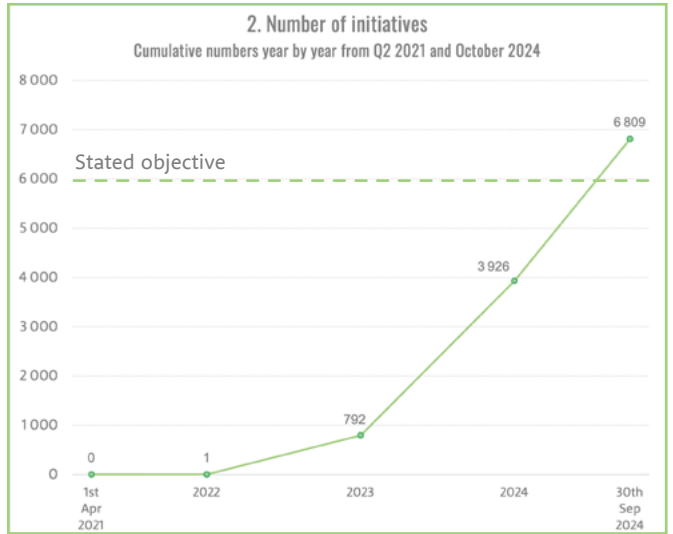
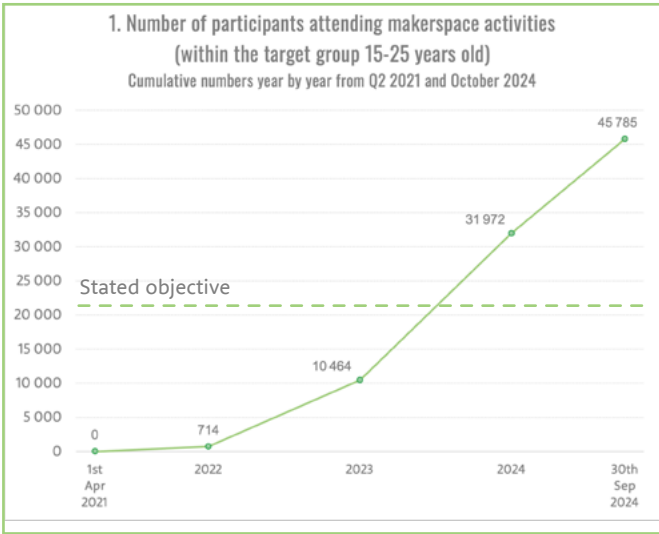


Quantitative results

The Planet One project reached all quantitative objectives and most of them we were even exceeded. Within the project 45 000 youths in our target group (over 52 000 including participants outside target group) participated at the makerspaces and in global activities against the objective of 21 000 youth participants. At the makerspaces, over 6 800 youth-led

initiatives were created against the objective of 6 000. The objective of 1 000 000 digital views was exceeded by more than 300%, and the number of digital meetings within the project was over 480 against the objective of 350. The objective of 60 meetings with decision-makers was also exceeded with a total of 93 meetings, which equals 155% of the objective. The number of activities organized at the makerspaces and globally was not an objective, but still tracked, and in total 3985 activities were organized.





Qualitative results

The evaluation shows that the makerspaces succeeded in bringing together a diverse group of youth, and that they significantly contributed to the empowerment and skill development of their participants. Many youths gained valuable leadership, advocacy and entrepreneurial skills, enabling them to actively engage in climate and environmental initiatives. Participants experienced a shift in their perception of environmentalism—from a sacrifice to a fulfilling, empowering practice—leading to increased hope and optimism for tackling global challenges. The makerspaces also nurtured creativity and collaboration, evidenced by impactful community projects such as podcasts, eco-parks and waste management campaigns.

These initiatives demonstrated the tangible outcomes and actual changes achieved by participants.

A few of the many highlights put forward were that 91% of participants reported connecting with people they would not otherwise have met, showcasing the makerspaces' role in fostering diverse social and professional networks. Further, 85% of participants reported that the makerspaces influenced how they see themselves and their future.

Additionally, 82% of the participants felt they could influence climate and environmental issues in their local communities thanks to the makerspaces.

And 65% said they would have had fewer opportunities to influence their communities without the makerspaces.

Our evaluation underscores the pivotal role of makerspaces in shaping resilient, capable leaders ready to influence systemic change for climate justice and environmental action. By prioritizing sustainability and addressing systemic barriers, the makerspaces can continue to empower youth changemakers and amplify their impact on a global scale.

Future impact

The Planet One project ended in 2024, but the impact of the project will continue to live on.

All the six makerspaces established in the project will continue their work to empower youths to become changemakers.

Some of the makerspaces will continue their operations similar to their operations during the project, while other makerspaces will take a more intersectional approach and add other topics than climate justice to broaden their impact. Two new meeting places for youths, inspired by the Planet One project, have already started up in Europe, and there are also plans to start up more makerspaces on the African continent. The project legacy will live on and continue to empower and engage youths in the future.



Momentum

2 Makerspace: a creative hub for youth



A **makerspace** is a collaborative workspace for **making, learning, exploring** and **sharing**. The space is open for everyone, and it contains tools and resources that allow youth to **enter with an idea and leave with a complete project**.

The goal with our makerspaces was to get **youth to come together** and learn new skills, collaborate and create projects, and also to share their experience and knowledge with each other. We wanted our makerspaces to be places where youth learned more about climate and environmental issues and where they explored, created and improved **sustainable solutions for the future**.

Makerspace organization & strategy

Target group

Content type

Makerspace



How we did it



Organizations



Each makerspace had a **Local coordinator** responsible for managing local activities, including relationship building, coordinating youth teams, and facilitating workshops. They ensured budget and planning adherence, led project and campaign coordination, and maintained collaboration between makerspaces. Additionally, the Local coordinators supported digital content creation and monitored progress for reporting purposes. The Local coordinator was also part of the project's **Core team**, ensuring effective communication between the local and global teams, while managing the physical makerspace to ensure it remained functional for youth activities.



Each makerspace had a small local team, led by the Local coordinator and supported by 1-4 **Youth team leaders**. These Youth team leaders held roles such as Digital mobilizer and Community mobilizer, overseeing day-to-day operations. Some makerspaces also included volunteers and trainers to assist with activities. The local organization structure ensured smooth running and active community engagement within the makerspace.

Makerspace mission & vision

The makerspace strategy aimed to **create a dynamic and inclusive environment that empowered youth to drive meaningful change in their communities**. By focusing on diversity, education, collaboration, innovation and support, we believed that our makerspaces effectively could address climate and environmental challenges while building a generation of informed and engaged changemakers.

Our mission: To provide safe, accessible and collaborative spaces where youth could learn, innovate, and take action on climate and environmental challenges through education, skill development and community engagement.

Our vision: To create an inclusive network of makerspaces that empowered youth to become changemakers in their communities, focusing on climate and environmental issues.

Strategic objectives

Enhance diversity & inclusion

- Increase the participation of youth from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.
- Build an inclusive environment where all youth feel welcome and valued.



Empower youth through education & skill development

- Offer comprehensive educational programs on climate and environmental issues.
- Provide training and resources for youth to develop practical skills and lead their own projects.



Facilitate community engagement & collaboration

- Encourage collaboration between different youth movements and organizations.
- Create opportunities for youth to engage with their communities through events, workshops and projects.



Promote innovation & sustainable practices

- Support youth-led initiatives that focus on innovative solutions to climate and environmental challenges.
- Promote sustainable practices within the maker-spaces and the broader community.



Build capacity & support networks

- Strengthen the capacity of makerspace staff and volunteers through ongoing training and professional development.
- Develop a support network for makerspaces to share resources, best practices as well as successes.



Makerspace offers

Target group

Content type

Youth



How we did it



Makerspace



Examples



Organizations



How-to



Makerspace offers

Drop-in: Open makerspace

The Planet One makerspaces were open several days a week, offering hands-on, informal learning through activities focused on climate, environment and innovation. Participants engaged in art projects, technology discussions and climate research, among other topics, supporting their creativity and skill development. **The drop-in model promoted environmental sustainability, collaboration and personal growth.** Key outcomes included increased youth engagement, development of practical skills —like upcycling and renewable energy—, networking opportunities and creativity in solving environmental issues. **Youth team leaders and mentors played a vital role in maintaining long-term involvement in climate activism.**



Bookable space

At the makerspaces, **Planet One offered youth and established youth groups to book the makerspace for their own internal and external activities.** As an incentive, the space was made available for booking at no cost, along with access to existing tools, materials and resources. Our primary focus was to provide suitable venues for both internal gatherings and external events catering to the youth community. Youth working with climate and environmental topics had precedence.



Activity & event program

The Planet One makerspaces offered a variety of activities, including meetings with decision-makers, exhibitions, workshops and wellness sessions. These activities focused on climate justice, advocacy, innovation and youth empowerment, providing both in-person and digital engagement opportunities. The program featured three “tracks” of activities –on-site, makerspace-to-makerspace collaborations, and global online trainings–tailored to different knowledge levels (curious, familiar and experienced). Activities were designed to encourage learning, innovation and advocacy, engaging and empowering youth to lead climate-related initiatives across local and global platforms.



Youth-led initiatives

At the heart of the Planet One project was the offer to youth to develop and run their own initiatives. These projects could be both big and long-term projects, as well as smaller and one-time events. The requirement was to have a focus on climate and environment and fulfill the set initiative criteria. At the makerspaces we offered youth on-site support from the Youth team leaders and the Local coordinators, with the possibility to gain expert input and guidance. We also offered the possibility for youth and youth groups to apply for funds from the Project youth fund to finance their initiatives.

Global network

In addition to the local makerspaces, we offered a global community network. This network was a place where youth from the different project countries met, exchanged ideas and experiences, and ran global projects. Within the global network, trainings, workshops and events were offered on different topics relevant on a global level and to the global community (but with the possibility to make connections to work at the local level).



Makerspace venue guidelines

On the Notion platform, a comprehensive set of guidelines for selecting suitable venues for makerspaces has been compiled. These guidelines, accessible through the QR code below, outline essential criteria for creating safe, inclusive, and well-equipped spaces tailored to climate and innovation activities, ensuring accessibility and engagement for diverse youth communities.

planetoneorg.notion.site/venue-guidelines

3 Showcasing our six makerspaces



The **six makerspaces** in the Planet One project all operated with the same vision, objectives and methodologies, but **with different adaptations to their local context**. Here you will find a presentation of all the makerspaces; how they operated, their main focus, what they are most proud of, what they were most successful at, as well as what they have learned throughout the project period.

Alternative

Yerevan, Armenia



@alternative_youth_center



@alternative_youth_center



Alternative

The Alternative Youth Center, located in Yerevan, serves as a dynamic and accessible space for young people aged 15 to 25, offering them a safe and welcoming environment to come together, share ideas, and take action. Designed to inspire youth involvement in climate justice and social change, the center provides a platform where youth can engage in training, workshops, and community-driven initiatives. It fosters an atmosphere of collaboration, where young people from diverse backgrounds can exchange knowledge, develop their leadership skills, and tackle the pressing challenges.



Alternative Youth Center is committed to empowering youth to become climate advocates and leaders. The center's programs focus on equipping young people with the tools and resources they need to address environmental issues and promote sustainability. Through skill-sharing activities, hands-on projects, and collaborative events, the center enables youth to expand their understanding of climate justice and actively contribute to the environmental movement in Armenia and beyond.

As a free, inclusive space, the Alternative Youth Center is a home for young people, particularly those from marginalized communities, providing them with a vibrant space to grow, engage, and take action. The center encourages youth to create and implement their ideas, whether through art, advocacy, or environmental projects, empowering them to make a lasting impact on their community. Armenia.



Main focus

The primary focus of Alternative was to inspire and train young activists on climate and environmental issues, as well as to provide a free space to them.

Armenia is a country affected by war, humanitarian crisis and political insecurity which has pushed environmental issues to the margins of the public agenda during the last five years. On the other hand, Armenia had some exciting and powerful environmental movements between 2008 and 2018, with impressive public mobilization and victories. Unfortunately, many youths today are unaware of these achievements.



While younger ecoactivists in Armenia often concentrate on liberal agendas, such as plastic recycling and clean-ups, Alternative aimed to broaden the scope of environmental awareness and activism, and to address a wider range of issues related to the climate crisis and environmental pollution. Alternative led a training series and supported youth to carry out their own research. We supported youth initiatives on issues such as stopping mining projects, awareness raising on water pollution and water scarcity issues, community mobilization on harms of fast fashion and animal agriculture, among other issues. Alternative also created spaces for making and repairing things together, exchanging stuff rather than buying new things, rehabilitating land, etc. Last but not least, we focused on bringing the youth closer to nature through organizing outdoor activities like bird watching, hiking trail construction, planting, gardening, etc.

Most proud of

At Alternative, we are most proud to have planted and nurtured the seeds of what could become a new wave in the youth climate and environmental movement in Armenia. As we entered the final year of the project, we reached a point where youth at Alternative were inspiring their peers to adopt more sustainable behaviors and take meaningful environmental action. In the beginning we began working with individuals who had limited knowledge about climate and environmental issues and came to Alternative to learn more. At the end of the project, we could see powerful and enthusiastic young advocates who are effectively inspiring others.



Most successful at

The **six-week training program** successfully expanded youth' awareness of various climate and environmental issues and supported them in launching their own environmental initiatives.

The program was structured in three steps:

1. Building connections & raising awareness: Participants connected with one another and increased their understanding of climate and environmental issues.
2. Research component: Participants chose from over 30 topics, conducted research, and shared their findings.
3. Design & implementation: Participants designed and executed their own climate and environmental initiatives.

Learnings

It takes time! **Creating connections and changing mindsets takes time.** Gaining the courage to act in an environment where activism and environmental care are not widely supported also requires patience. The Alternative makerspace operated for just over two years, which was sufficient to initiate meaningful progress. However, there are very few spaces that support youth environmental activism and provide free space to the youth, so it is crucial that we continue efforts to ensure that the progress we have made keeps growing.

Connecting across borders is incredibly powerful! It was truly **empowering to work within a global team and see people from around the world united by the same concerns and struggles.**



Earth day celebration

Bolygó

Budapest, Hungary

@ bolygo.hu

@ bolygo.hu

@ bolygo.hu



Bolygó

Bolygó, meaning “Planet” in Hungarian, was a youth-driven makerspace that offered trainings, open events, workshops and a creative space to empower young people. Our mission was to broaden the environmental movement by **equipping youth with the knowledge, resources and support necessary to take action on environmental issues and foster strong, community-driven initiatives.**



Main focus

Bolygó was centered in a region where communities had diminished, democratic spaces were shrinking, and consumerism was on the rise. The main focus of the makerspace was **to build an alternative culture for youth by transforming the narrative of the green movement.**

Rather than seeing environmental responsibility as a sacrifice, Bolygó reframed it as a path to liberation

from exploitative systems. Being green meant shifting from exploitation to finding harmony with nature, your community, and yourself.

At Bolygó, we built a diverse community where it was encouraged to ask questions, debate, hold different views and take a stand. **We created spaces where youth could rediscover their ability to imagine a different world, challenge systems and solve problems.** Once individuals feel empowered and supported by their community, and equipped with the right tools and knowledge, action and cultural change are the natural next steps.



| Most proud of

At Bolygó, we are most proud of **building a diverse and united community of green-minded youth**.

This wide network was made up of individuals with various backgrounds and interests—some passionate about biology, others about activism, teaching, or even radical approaches. Despite these differences in views, personalities and experiences, everyone shared a common commitment to environmentalism and the drive to create a better world.

From the start, our goal was to create an inclusive atmosphere where anyone could feel welcome, no matter their differences. We are proud to have reached a major milestone in **creating a space where diversity is embraced, and people see that unity can be built around a common cause, even when individuals hold varying perspectives**.

Additionally, **Bolygó became a symbol of hope**. It showed the community that a better world is possible, provided a sense of belonging, and empowered individuals to feel they are not alone in their struggles. This hope fueled their passion to continue working toward positive change.

| Most successful at

Bolygó's greatest strength laid in its diversity—we offered a wide range of opportunities and programs for engagement. **Our initiatives catered to different interests and skill levels, ensuring that there was something for everyone**. Some of our successful programs included:

- A high school volunteer program.
- A makerspace room that people could book for crafting or personal projects, as well as woodcraft workshops and maker events.
- A school program for high school students and teachers, discussing our relationship with nature.
- Reconnect event series, where university professors provided deeper knowledge about biodiversity, both in our space and in the field.
- Board game nights for community building.
- A podcast studio, where we held two podcast training sessions for youth.



- Climate camps, two four-day events that focused on environmental education.
- Bolygó Club, a half-year training program on system change and activism.
- A window gallery, offering young artists the chance to exhibit climate and ecological-themed art.
- We also provided space for other groups, movements and NGOs in need of a venue for meetings, trainings, or conferences.

This wide range of activities invited many different types of youth to participate and created a lively and diverse community at Bolygó. It feels like **we created fertile ground from which numerous initiatives, ideas and connections could flourish, akin to a vibrant field of flowers.**

Learnings

One of our key learnings at Bolygó was that **empowerment takes time—it's not a process that can be rushed.** A saying we often used is: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." This reminded us that when aiming for significant social and cultural change, especially while working with a diverse group of people, we could not expect immediate results. It took time for us to adjust our mindset to embrace the slow but steady progress needed for lasting change.



Anti fast fashion day



OZONE window gallery opening

Mboa Hub

Yaoundé, Cameroon



@mboa.hub



@mboa.hub



Mboa Hub, meaning “Home”, was a safe, free and fun space in Cameroon designed to inspire youth involvement in climate justice and environmental issues. It provided a welcoming environment where youth could receive training, hold events, organize meetings, and host workshops. **Mboa Hub also served as a place for youth to share skills and knowledge and brainstorm solutions to climate justice challenges.**

The makerspace enabled youth from diverse backgrounds, particularly those in the Francophone African region, to expand their knowledge on climate justice, broaden the environmental movement, and become empowered to take action and form communities.

Main focus

Mboa Hub, located in the Central African region, addressed the gap in youth activism within the climate justice space, which had fewer initiatives and physical spaces compared to other African regions. Our main focus was to bridge this gap by **building a culture where youth play an active role in climate justice, environmental discussions and eco-friendly practices.**



At Mboa Hub, we provided:

- Training & capacity building programs: Youth received in-depth knowledge on climate justice, advocacy, innovation, as well as youth engagement and empowerment.
- Free meeting & event space: A physical space for workshops, meetings, events and campaigns.
- A safe environment for creativity: A supportive space for youth to brainstorm, create and implement projects.
- Engagement with decision-makers: Opportunities to advocate for policy change through dialogue with leaders.
- Resources & tools: We offered materials and resources to help youth develop and implement innovative ideas.
- Online & offline community engagement: Platforms for youth to connect and share experiences across communities.
- Exchange programs: Youth had the chance to participate in exchange programs with peers from different regions of the world.

Mboa Hub's goal was to inspire and empower the next generation of climate leaders in Central Africa.



Most proud of

We are most proud of having created a platform that significantly increased youth engagement in climate justice and environmental action across diverse backgrounds in our region. This platform has empowered youth to participate, take action and create solutions for pressing environmental issues.

We are also proud to have established YACJA (Youth Alliance for Climate Justice Advocacy)–Cameroon's first youth climate movement. YACJA is composed of youth from 23 different groups and organizations, united to create impact in their communities. Formed in partnership with the Africans Rising movement, YACJA helped us fulfill the core mission of the Planet One project: Creating a youth-led movement.



Most successful at

We were most successful in **establishing Mboa Hub as a household name for youth climate justice and environmental advocacy in Cameroon**. Through our mentorship and training programs we directly impacted over 20 000 youth, motivating them to take action for climate and environmental protection in their communities.

We supported youth initiatives across various areas, including clean energy (solar power solutions), waste collection and disposal, waste-to-fashion and waste-to-art projects, community sensitization, public speaking, theater arts, agriculture, photography, and both offline and online campaigns and advocacy work.

Additionally, we achieved over 150 000 online engagements, surpassing our initial objectives by more than 100%.

Learnings

We learned that, **when provided with the right platform and freedom of expression, youth can engage in issues that lead to systemic change, particularly in areas like climate justice**. Additionally, we recognized that the entry point for youth engagement—their understanding, participation and ability to create positive community impact—varied significantly depending on factors like age, culture, education level and social background.

One of the key takeaways was that **trusting the abilities of youth allows them to take ownership of projects**, bringing out their best and enabling them to drive meaningful change in their communities.



Clean-up and eco-jogging

Momentum

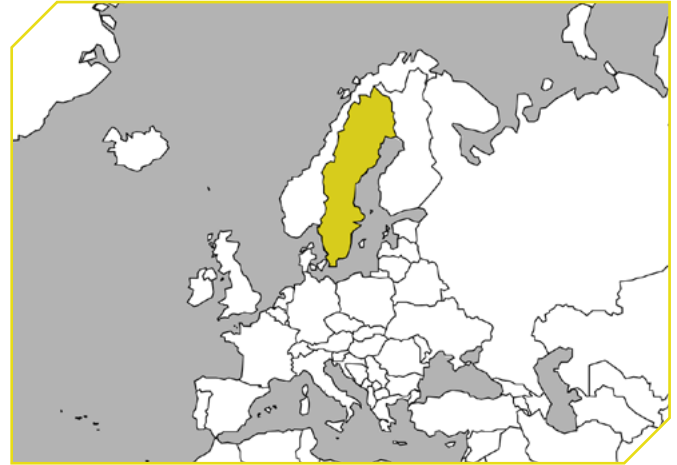
Stockholm, Sweden

 @momentum.hub

 @momentum.hub

 @momentum.stockholm

 @momentumhubswe



Momentum was a meeting space for youth aged 15-25 who were engaged in climate and environmental issues. The makerspace **provided a platform for youth to create, re-make and host their own workshops, seminars and events on topics they were passionate about.** Participants described it as “a mix between a cozy living room and a workshop”, offering inspiration for creativity and action.

Momentum was an **open and safe space, welcoming youth from all backgrounds, genders, and religions.** Managed by five positive and welcoming youth leaders, the space aimed to make everyone feel at home, boost creativity, and support the implementation of new ideas.

Main focus

The primary focus of Momentum makerspace was to **create a welcoming environment where youth could actively participate in a variety of activities centered around climate action and social justice.** Open three days a week during its early years, the space greeted participants with youth leaders who facilitated workshops on topics such as climate action, clothing upcycling, social media, and climate justice. The makerspace also highlighted the impact of climate change on different communities in Stockholm and beyond, covering topics like animal rights and political struggles related to climate issues. Momentum

hosted visitors from other countries, allowing youth to hear firsthand stories of the effects of climate change worldwide.

Momentum was also a hub for activism and hosted two concerts with youth activists, organized banner-making workshops, and participated in climate strikes to amplify youth voices. The space succeeded in feeling more like a home than a formal meeting room, building a sense of belonging and community among participants.



Momentum embraced the “re-make” mindset, **focusing on upcycling and trying new creative techniques.** Though limited by space, the makerspace offered a variety of materials and tools for experimentation. Youth engaged in sewing, embroidery, painting, working with clay, fabric tie-dye techniques, and printing. The emphasis was on testing and trying out new things, encouraging creativity and resourcefulness in line with the theme of sustainability.

| Most proud of

We are most proud of **Momentum becoming a safe space frequently used by climate activists**. It provided an environment where youth could gather, share ideas, and actively engage in climate action, building a strong sense of community and support for youth-led initiatives.



| Most successful at

Momentum was most successful at **providing a safe and accessible space for youth activists**. It became a hub where youth could hang out, plan their work and events, and connect with other like-minded youth. This supportive environment helped to build collaboration and facilitated the growth of a strong community of climate activists.

| Learnings

One of the key learnings was the need for better resource allocation from the start. Employing a full-time project leader and a part-time youth leader (50%) would have strengthened outreach efforts. Additionally, more **visits to schools could have been made to engage with a broader audience**.

Adjusting the opening hours to include daytime, every second week, rather than just after school, would have helped connect with youth during school hours, improving engagement and participation.





Climate strike



A safe meeting place



Concert for climate

Ubunifu Hub

Nairobi, Kenya

@ubunifu.hub

@ubunifu_hub

@planetone.ubunifu



“Ubunifu,” meaning innovation in Swahili, embodies the spirit driving our makerspace. From venue selection to hub offers and youth interventions, **Ubunifu Hub was built on innovation**. Many youths refer to it as their second home.

Ubunifu Hub was a safe space for youth from all walks of life, including in-school and out-of-school youth, refugees, internally displaced individuals, and marginalized youth. **It served as a haven for youth from diverse backgrounds, experiences and circumstances**. Our interventions focused on developing climate activists, innovators and future decision-makers.



Located in Nairobi, Ubunifu Hub was a free and vibrant space where youth gathered to share skills, receive training, hold meetings and workshops, and brainstorm solutions for climate justice. The hub

offered a platform for Kenyan youth to expand their knowledge and turn their ideas into reality, whether through art, projects, or environmental action.

Main focus

At Ubunifu Hub, our primary focus was on **climate education and literacy, delivered informally through a learning-by-doing methodology**. We offered a bookable space where youth could host meetings, events and workshops, creating a dynamic environment for youth-led activities.

Ubunifu Hub **provided a makerspace with the tools, resources and infrastructure for youth to ideate, nurture and incubate climate-related projects**. Our engagement spanned both online and offline platforms, ensuring broad participation.



Youth benefited from the following key offers:

- Skill-sharing & capacity building: We focused on reskilling, upskilling and skill development in our four thematic focus areas: Climate justice, Advocacy, Innovation, and Youth engagement & empowerment.
- Ideation & project creation: We provided a space for youth to brainstorm and launch climate-related initiatives.
- Meeting space: Our hub was available for hosting retreats, events, actions and campaigns.
- Tools & resources: Youth had access to tools, materials and support to develop their activism, innovation as well as decision-making capabilities.
- Networking opportunities: We built connections through online communication and collaboration platforms.

Ubunifu Hub was a space where youth could thrive, grow their ideas and collaborate on climate justice and innovation.



Most proud of

We are incredibly proud of having brought together over 500 youth that we trained and mentored, resulting in the formation of the **Ubunifu Eco Train movement**. This youth-led movement, made up of 26 youth groups and organizations, organizes significant events, like Earth Day, to gain visibility and engage other youth in Nairobi. They also hold smaller events

that strengthen community initiatives. The creation of this movement ensured that the spirit of activism and collaboration will live on beyond the Planet One project.

We are also proud of the development and adoption of our learning series, which combined theory with practical application. This approach made climate concepts more accessible and helped demystify complex climate jargon, empowering youth to engage more effectively in climate justice work.



Most successful at

Ubunifu Hub was most successful in transforming learning into practical, tangible and innovative projects led by youth. These initiatives included urban agriculture, insect bioconversion for composting and food waste reduction, circular economy practices, green energy solutions, and activism (activism through art). Youth also used platforms like podcasts and YouTube to raise awareness on climate and environmental issues.

Through our training and mentorship programs, we successfully equipped over 18 000 youths, who have applied their skills across seven sectors:

- Agriculture: Urban farming and livestock value chains.
- Technology: Using podcasts, YouTube, and apps to support farmers.
- Circular economy: Reuse, repurpose, repair, and recycle initiatives.

- Green economy: E-mobility and solar solutions.
- Artivism: Activism through art, dance, poetry, beadwork, and woodwork.
- Rethinking fast fashion: Creating clothes from sustainable materials.
- Advocacy & campaigns: Youth-led campaigns and awareness-building efforts.

This ability to turn knowledge into real-world impact was a key success for Ubunifu Hub.

Learnings

One of the key learnings was that youth can be drawn to engage rather than requiring outreach efforts. The makerspace approach was a game-changer, creating a space where youth took ownership of the program. Through their participation, they successfully mobilized others to join Ubunifu Hub, demonstrating their commitment to climate and environmental conservation.

We saw a significant positive shift in attitudes among the youth, particularly regarding their involvement in community dialogues. They actively engaged with local leaders, holding them accountable and seeking ways to contribute to a better planet. This reinforced the lesson that youth are not only reliable but also accountable in their efforts to drive meaningful change.



Urban gardening



Wellness Wednesday with yoga

Ubuntu Hub

Johannesburg, South Africa

 @ubuntu.hubsa

 @planetone.ubuntu



Ubuntu Hub was located in Braamfontein, Johannesburg, South Africa. It was situated in a vibrant area known for youth activities, surrounded by restaurants, high schools, colleges, universities, and recreational spaces where youth gather. The hub was also just 10 minutes away from the Central Business District – the economic center of South Africa.

Ubuntu Hub fit perfectly into this dynamic environment, with activities like upcycling, thrifting, music, and fashion shows that were aligned with youth interests. Nearby organizations, such as 350.org, Earthlife Africa and WWF, offered valuable

opportunities for collaboration, as they share similar values and goals.

The makerspace occupied a space of approximately 263 square meters, which included a boardroom, a chill room, an open space for various activities and a podcast room designed to help youth record and produce content.

Ubuntu Hub provided an engaging and creative space for youth to learn, collaborate, and participate in activities that align with their passions and the makerspace's mission.



| Main focus

Ubuntu Hub centered its efforts on several key areas to empower and inspire youth:

- Sustainable fashion: The makerspace promoted eco-friendly practices through events like pageant shows, focusing on sustainable fashion. Youth **learned to upcycle discarded materials**, such as old clothes and tires, into creative, functional items.
- Making & innovation: Ubuntu Hub provided the tools and skills for **youth to engage in hands-on creation**. Using sewing machines, paint, drills and recycled materials, participants produced a variety of sustainable products, supporting creativity and innovation.
- Youth empowerment: A core goal of the hub was to equip youth with skills that allowed them to become self-sufficient. **We focused on empowering youth to form independent groups to pursue their passions and interests**, extending its impact both regionally and globally.

Through these activities, Ubuntu Hub successfully **created an environment that nurtured sustainable practices, innovation and self-reliance among youth**.



| Most proud of

Ubuntu Hub was significantly proud of the following achievements:

- Increased confidence: Many youths who were initially shy became confident and expressive, particularly when presenting on climate justice issues.
- Launch of Leak fashion: **Ten young designers launched “Leak Fashion”**, an initiative aimed at addressing overconsumption through sustainable fashion, showcasing their innovative designs.
- Youth exchanges: Four youth participants from the makerspace had the opportunity to attend youth exchange programs in Armenia and Sweden, expanding their horizons and building global collaboration.

These achievements reflect the makerspace’s **success in empowering youth and building meaningful global connections**.



| Most successful at

Ubuntu Hub was most successful in building and supporting creativity and innovation. Through our various programs and activities, **we empowered youth to think creatively and develop innovative solutions**, particularly in sustainable fashion, upcycling, and climate-related projects. This environment allowed youth to explore new ideas, express themselves, and address pressing global issues in unique and impactful ways.

| Learnings

One of the key learnings at Ubuntu Hub was the significant need for such initiative across the African continent. It became clear that **engaging with youth, rather than talking at them, is crucial**. This approach built a deeper connection, encouraging active participation and empowering youth to take ownership of their learning and actions, especially on issues like sustainability and climate justice.



Tire upcycling



Tree planting

4 Maker methodology & making



The **Maker movement** is best defined by its goal; to **empower people to 'make'**. Makers create and invent new things. **Maker methodology** is a combination of hands-on learning and project-based learning. Within maker methodology, the focus is on **learning-by-doing in a social community**, with access to both physical and digital places to share knowledge and tools, so-called makerspaces. **Maker methodology and making was an integral part of the project** and one of the ways in which the project was different from other existing climate projects.

Maker methodology

Target group

Youth



Makerspace



Organizations



Content type

How we did it



How-to



Maker education within the Planet One project prioritized learning-by-doing, offering practical, hands-on experiences, before introducing theory. This approach contrasts with traditional education, which typically presents theory first without an immediate context for application.



By engaging in real-world activities, youth could better understand and apply theoretical knowledge to climate and environmental challenges. The project's methodology aimed to ensure active participation and experimentation, encouraging youth to explore new skills and ideas in a dynamic learning environment.

Learning-by-doing

The learning-by-doing approach at Planet One makerspaces focused on giving youth hands-on experiences with climate and environmental projects. Participants engaged in activities like building prototypes, composing campaigns, and assembling objects, such as

bicycles. This method encouraged experimentation, allowing youth to explore solutions and tools for change while stepping outside their comfort zones.

By actively creating and experimenting, they developed practical skills and learned how to address real-world issues through innovative approaches.

Sustainable making

The vision with Planet One project was to create something unique that had not been done before. We aimed to increase youth engagement in climate and environmental related issues and to empower youth to make their voices heard and push for climate action and system change. As a tool for this work, we wanted to incorporate the methodology and concept of making. Making is a way to empower people to solve problems they face and develop the skills and mindsets needed to do so. At its core, the maker movement is about working together in a social community and sharing ideas and access to solutions in order to make the world a better place.

To incorporate the Maker movement's learning-by-doing and the concept of making, we offered a combination of hands-on learning and project-based learning. In practice this meant that we strived to have a "making component" to most of our local and global activities as well as encourage youth to develop and make their own initiatives and projects for a more fair and sustainable future. In order to

incorporate the importance of climate awareness and sustainability, we had to adapt the original Making manifesto into one that emphasized sustainable making.

Our sustainable making manifesto, together with the climate and environmental policy adopted, made us confident that the Planet One project and its activities had as low climate and environmental impact as possible.

Our focus was making activities such as repairing, upcycling and reusing materials, and also on lending and sharing the skills and tools needed for such activities.



Making resources

A list of tools and materials available at the makerspaces is accessible on the Notion platform via the QR code below. These resources serve as a starting point for the makerspaces, enabling them to support youth in implementing sustainable practices as they develop their projects and initiatives.

planetoneorg.notion.site/making-resources

Planet One's Making Manifesto

MAKE!

To combine theoretical learning with practical making is at the core of this project. We want to enable the possibility for youth to come together and make things that bring value to them and their communities. The vision is to create products and solutions that solve real-world problems and contribute to positive change. But –do not overthink it. The most important thing is to just start making and trying, to honor mistakes, and to move forward. Since this is a new and unique project, there are no answers yet – we need to find them together along the way, and we will not do that without trying and making mistakes. The methodology is after all learning-by-doing, so do not be afraid to make (mistakes)!

EQUIP!

We need tools, equipment and materials to be able to make. The tools and materials we decide to equip the makerspace with shapes what we can make and create, and also what kind of people that will come to the makerspace. It is therefore important to choose tools wisely and according to the needs of the community as well as what kind of problems you want to solve. Learn how to use and take care of the tools and pass that knowledge on to others. Skills in developing and using makerspace tools and infrastructure also need to be complemented with community development skills.

SUSTAIN!

Due to the nature and vision of our project, sustainability should be an intrinsic part of everything we do and make. Relevant tools, resources, activities and information to sustainably make need to be conveniently presented for the participants at the makerspaces. We want youth to turn to our makerspaces for personal and social development, with sustainability as a foundation in this process. In practice, aiming to create sustainable makerspaces and activities, there needs to be consideration of what kind or

materials, resources and tools we use. Be mindful of the environmental and social impacts the production of new materials entails when you buy something new. We ask you to aim to purchase the least environmentally damaging and most socially just materials and products that you can find. You can use Planet One's Environmental Policy to guide you in the right direction, although it is written from a Sweden-centric perspective and is understandably not applicable everywhere to its entirety. But **be creative and focus on upcycling, recycling and circular economy.**

LEARN!

We aim to give youth opportunities to learn by doing, giving them concrete visual and sensorial experiences of engaging on climate and environmental issues. Theoretical learning and development lectures will be combined with hands-on making workshops. **We want the makerspaces to be a place where youth learn about climate and environmental issues and where they take what they have learned to explore, create and improve sustainable solutions for the future.** Giving learners agency and responsibility over their own learning, they gain trust – a trust in themselves as powerful problem solvers and agents of change. **We encourage youth to try new things and to experiment in ways that might push them into doing something new and outside of their comfort zone.**

EMPOWER!

We want to empower youth in order for them to shift from being passive by-standers and consumers, to **being active collaborators and changemakers.** Maker-centered learning is a fitting method to use to empower youth to build and shape their futures. Participation is empowerment, and empowered participation is democracy. Integrating the culture, local knowledge, lived experience and perspective of the communities we work in and with, is essential for social innovation and sustainable change. **Empowering youth is an act of showing trust by transferring power and agency to the learner.** Helping youth learn how to handle the responsibility that comes with this power is the sensible way to do it.

COLLABORATE!

One of the core parts of this project is to **bring youth from diverse backgrounds together to share knowledge and experiences, learn new skills and gain new perspectives in order to work towards a common goal.** We want to create a welcoming, safe space and a community where youth can be creative and collaborate across borders and cultures. We also want to broaden the climate youth movement and collaborate with youth and youth groups involved in other issues but with a vision and values similar to ours. **By coming together, collaborating and creating something together in a social community, we have a much bigger chance of having an impact and achieving our goals and vision.**

SHARE!

Sharing is what makes a makerspace a community. Share how you make and what you make. Openly document everything about the making of a project to pass that knowledge on to others and inspire them to build-on or develop their own projects. Share thoughts and ideas to make the best solutions possible.

We want our makerspaces to be a sharing place, where we share space, tools, ideas, knowledge, perspectives and so on. Foster that culture!



Ubunifu Hub

Focus areas

Target group

Content type

Makerspace



How we did it



Organizations



Examples



The focus areas of Planet One included climate justice, advocacy, innovation, and youth empowerment and engagement, promoting inclusivity, political influence, creativity, and community participation.

Climate justice – intersectionality, inclusion, equity

Climate (in)justice concerns the fact that the impacts of climate change are not evenly distributed across countries and communities. The most marginalized communities, such as low-income, indigenous communities, people of color and those whose economies are dependent on agriculture, have historically been and continue to be the most vulnerable and the most severely affected by the consequences of climate change, despite them having contributed the least to it.

Within this project we also identified youth as another societal group that is and will be disproportionately affected by the on-going climate crisis.

In Planet One, we worked to achieve climate justice by empowering, amplifying and uplifting the voices of marginalized youth. We gave them the opportunity and encouraged them to have intergenerational discussions with older generations. Since the majority of the youth that are most affected by climate change

are living in the Global South, our main focus was on giving them equal opportunities to engage in climate and environmental issues. But we also focused on marginalized communities in the Global North. Our work was intersectional, meaning that we aimed to reach and engage youth that were currently not represented in the climate movement, in order to diversify and broaden the movement as well as the idea of what a climate activist looks like. We also worked for social justice since there is no climate justice without social justice.

The activities we offered connected to climate justice in this program touch upon different forms of activism, food sovereignty, social inclusion and justice, among others.



Advocacy – movement, influence, politics

Advocacy work is an act of speaking up for and/or supporting someone or something that you believe in. Advocacy is very important when it comes to climate action as it gives us the power to influence

decision-making and politics concerning climate and environmental issues. It is also a tool to hold power-holders accountable for their promises and (in) actions.

The Planet One project's advocacy work focused on making youth voices heard in the climate debate, supporting the existing climate movement and grassroots groups together with advocating for environmental protection and climate action. The activities we offered connected to advocacy in the program included both campaigning; e.g. supporting youth in organizing demonstrations, supporting youth groups in organizing campaign and petitions, knowledge-enhancing activities, as well as direct communication, e.g. through panel debates with decision-makers, companies, organizations or other important institutions connected to society, in what we called Meeting with decision-makers.



Innovation – entrepreneurship, hands-on, creativity

Innovation is generally known as something that improves or replaces something for the better; be it a process, product or service. The Maker movement is said to be the ultimate embodiment of innovation since it offers theory together with methods for creative creation of new inventions.

In Planet One, innovation was foremost the work the youth conducted within the concept of youth-led initiatives which could be anything from an improved type of solar panel to a new way of conducting climate activism.

The youth projects were developed through the concept of learning-by-doing with the overall aim to create some kind of positive change, locally or globally.

We gave the support, resources and tools for hands-on projects and the youth came with ideas and creativity. We also offered knowledge-enhancing activities in areas of creativity, idea development, entrepreneurship as well as practical skills workshops building prototypes, gardening, mechanics and so on.



Youth empowerment & engagement – diversity, community, participation

Youth empowerment is a process where youth are encouraged to take charge of their lives. They can do this by addressing their situation and then take action in order to improve their access to resources and transform their consciousness through their beliefs, values and attitudes. Youth empowerment aims to improve quality of life and a better community, and the engagement of youth is very important for building a just and sustainable future.

In the Planet One project, the aim was to empower and engage youth to become changemakers and

create their own paths towards the future they wanted to see. We offered a sense of community at the makerspaces where the youth had a safe space and the opportunity to engage and participate in a variety of activities on different engagement levels.

The idea was to engage youth from diverse backgrounds that would exchange ideas and experiences with other youth, both locally and globally.

Examples of activities connected to youth empowerment and engagement included learning how to project manage, hold workshops, trainings and events, social entrepreneurship etc. All of the work we conducted at the makerspaces in collaboration with the youth participants resulted in increased youth empowerment and engagement.



Momentum



Ubunifu Hub



Ubuntu Hub

5 Youth empowerment & engagement



Youth empowerment refers to the process of **enabling youth to take control of their lives** by addressing their own needs and desires. It involves providing them with the tools, skills, and opportunities to make informed decisions, take action, and have a **positive impact on their communities**. Empowered youth are encouraged to participate actively in social, political, and environmental issues, helping to build their confidence, **engagement**, leadership abilities, and **capacity to create meaningful change, both locally and globally**.

Youth empowerment

Target group

Content type

Makerspace



How we did it



Organizations



Youth empowerment refers to the process of enabling youth to take control of their lives by addressing their own needs and desires. It involves providing them with the tools, skills, and opportunities to make informed decisions, take action, and have a positive impact on their communities. Empowered youth are encouraged to participate actively in social, political, and environmental issues, helping to build their confidence, leadership abilities, and capacity to create meaningful change, both locally and globally.

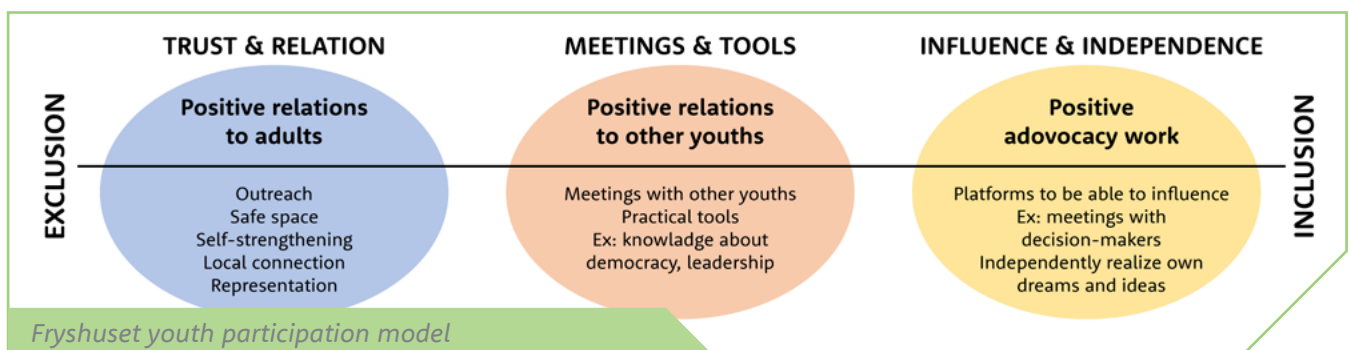


Youth participation – Fryshuset’s model

The Planet One project utilized Fryshuset’s youth participation model to empower marginalized youth, transitioning them from exclusion to leadership within the climate movement.

The model emphasized building trust through outreach programs, creating and supporting youth relationships, and offering activities that promote engagement.

In the final stage, youth were supported in initiating their own projects with tools, resources and expert guidance, empowering them to take ownership of climate initiatives and building community resilience. This approach aimed to create a proactive, self-reliant community capable of facing future challenges with empowered youth at its core.



Involving youth in forming the project

Planet One was a project to build and enable youth empowerment and engagement. Therefore, we wanted to have youth at the core of the project planning. Since most of the project coordination, planning and management happened in different online forums, we invited and included Youth team leaders in those meetings. Following you can read about the online forums we used to make important decisions as well as how we included youth.

Planet One ensured active youth participation through various structures. Core team meetings were held weekly, involving Local coordinators, Project managers and Youth team leaders, to ensure project alignment and collaborative decision-making. These meetings covered updates, program planning, learning development, and communication strategies.

Steering committee meetings included youth representatives, selected through an open process, to provide youth perspectives in top-level decision-making. They contributed with feedback and suggestions on the project's direction.

Task force meetings allowed youth from different makerspaces to co-organize global events, such as Earth Day activities, encouraging and enabling global collaboration across makerspaces.

Youth exchange goals & organization

The Planet One Youth exchanges brought together youth from across the globe to collaborate, learn new skills, and share knowledge on climate and environmental issues. Held in Sweden (2023) and Armenia (2024), the exchanges encouraged and promoted innovation, climate justice and cultural exchange.

Participants, selected based on engagement and initiative, collaborated on projects, planned future initiatives, and engaged in hands-on learning.

The program ensured inclusivity by covering expenses and offering clear logistical support, especially for those inexperienced with travel or colder climates.



Ubunifu Hub

Youth initiatives & project fund

Target group

Content type

Makerspace



How we did it



Organizations



How-to



Youth project fund

The Planet One Youth project fund was established to support youth-led initiatives within makerspaces, allowing each location to independently select projects to fund. **This fund enabled young people, including those under 18 and others facing funding access barriers, to secure resources for projects like workshops, camps, and events.** By managing the fund internally, makerspaces facilitated quick and direct funding, helping projects progress without the typical delays associated with external funding.

Setting up the fund

Before launching the fund, staff considered its purpose, target beneficiaries, and funding goals. Reviewing donor agreements was essential to understand any restrictions or requirements. This helped ensure that fund management complied with financial and legal guidelines, such as petty cash limits or restrictions on specific uses of funds.

Application process & criteria

Once approved, each makerspace created a straightforward application template to gather necessary details, like project descriptions, number of participants, and legal information. Communication strategies were designed to ensure applicants understood eligibility, timelines, and project expectations, helping to manage application volume.

Fund allocation & reporting

Selected applicants received guidance on project documentation requirements, including submitting receipts and a brief report detailing project outcomes and lessons learned. The fund typically operated without contracts, though formal agreements were recommended in cases of prior payment issues. If minor reporting issues arose, such as missing receipts, staff approached these situations with flexibility to support the youths' learning process.

Through a streamlined application and allocation process, the **Youth project fund enabled young people to launch impactful projects, contributing to the Planet One community and fostering accountability, growth, and climate engagement.**



Youth-led initiatives

At the heart of this project was the offer to youth to develop and run their own initiatives. These initiatives could be both big and long-term projects, such as building a community garden, as well as smaller and one-time events, such as a banner making workshop. The focus had to be on climate and environment and the initiatives had to fulfill the set initiative criteria set up by the project.

In this youth-led initiatives program we put emphasis on the possibility for youth to apply for initiative funding from the Youth project fund to finance their initiatives.

At the makerspaces, the youth were offered on-site support, including guidance and expert input, from the Youth team leaders and Local coordinators.



Mboa Hub

For all categories of initiatives, the makerspaces offered the following:

- Space: Youth and youth groups could book the makerspace venues for activities and events as well as internal meetings.
- Materials: The makerspaces supported with existing materials or bought new materials for initiatives.
- Coaching & mentoring: The makerspaces offered support in developing youth-led initiatives or with specific skills, for example event management, campaign development, workshop facilitation, budgeting etc.
- Promotion: The makerspaces offered to share the youth-led initiatives on their channels, and/or support with PR, marketing, social media captions etc.
- Contacts, network & community: The makerspaces offered to connect the youth initiator(s) with people they wanted support from, and/or offered to invite contacts to the activities and events.



Ubuntu Hub

6 Global strategies



The Planet One project's **global strategies** centered on building a vibrant and connected **global network of young changemakers**. This network brought together youth from diverse regions to exchange ideas, collaborate, and inspire one another in addressing the climate crisis.

Through digital tools and coordinated global activities, **Planet One created opportunities for dialogue, learning, and collective action**. The project prioritized inclusivity and creativity, ensuring that young voices were at the forefront of climate advocacy and that **diverse perspectives** shaped impactful, youth-led solutions on a global scale.

Communication strategy

Target group

Makerspace



Organizations



Content type

How we did it



How-to



Communication strategy

The Planet One communication strategy emphasized a simple, creative and youthful brand, focusing on youth engagement in climate action. The brand featured bold, clear messaging and colors, supporting the project's purpose with a positive and playful tone. Planet One did not engage in direct political action but provided a platform for youth-led initiatives. Its communication tone was guided by youth empowerment, a fact-based approach, and openness to diverse perspectives, building inclusive participation and a welcoming space for youth and grassroots movements.

Communication pillars

The communication pillars of Planet One provided a framework for delivering creative and impactful messages. These included showcasing activities like workshops and campaigns, using testimonials from participants to build trust, amplifying voices of young changemakers to inspire action, highlighting youth-led initiatives for climate justice, and sharing impact stories to demonstrate real-world success.

Each pillar aimed to engage the audience by highlighting the positive outcomes and personal experiences within the makerspaces, building a deeper connection to the project's mission.

GDPR guidelines

Planet One's GDPR guidelines, accessible through the QR code below, provided essential instructions for managing participant data responsibly. These guidelines served as a foundation for ensuring data privacy and compliance across all communication activities, supporting a secure and respectful environment for youth engagement.

planetoneorg.notion.site/gdpr-guidelines

Digital software & tools

The Planet One project had operations and staff in six countries, and it was therefore crucial to have suitable digital software to facilitate our organization and internal communication. The digital software and tools that we used throughout the project were:



Asana

A project management tool where all actionable items and tasks were tracked. This included milestones, time plans, project descriptions, and tasks. Tasks were assigned to individuals with deadlines, and meeting agendas and notes were also kept here.



Canva

A graphic design tool used to develop social media content and other branding materials.



Notion

A workspace and internal wiki for high-level knowledge, static and semi-static information as well as approved content.



Email

Primarily used for communication with external stakeholders and actors outside of the project staff.



Slack

An internal communication tool for day-to-day updates, urgent matters, and team collaboration. It also supported social communication and inspiration-sharing.

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Google Calendar

Used to schedule meetings, block focus time, and mark vacations to ensure that colleagues were aware of each other's availability.



Zoom

A digital meeting tool used for team meetings and virtual gatherings.



Google Drive

A file storage and collaboration tool that also included Google Docs, Slides, Spreadsheets, and Forms. It was used to store detailed content, knowledge, co-created information (before final approval), and sensitive data.



World Clock

A tool displaying the current time in all Planet One project countries.



Armenia youth exchange 2024

Global community strategy

Target group

Content type

Makerspace



How we did it



Organizations



Examples



The Planet One project expanded its impact beyond the six local makerspaces by establishing a Global community network. **This network aimed to connect youth from the project's different regions and backgrounds to facilitate dialogue, inspiration and collaboration in addressing the climate crisis.**

Two key objectives guided this strategy:

- Organizing 350 digital meetings where youth could discuss project-related topics online
- Creating opportunities for both regional and global networking among youth

To fulfill these objectives, Planet One created a set of approaches and concrete activities which can be found below.

Country-to-country exchange & learning

Planet One's aimed to by a learning-by-doing approach be part of changing societies on systemic issues. By involving youth to learn, and be learned, from people in our different countries we hoped to create more systemic awareness and understanding.

Examples of activities we organized to make this happen were workshops, learning & development trainings, storytelling as well as case-study sessions. These were held either by staff, youth or external

guests. We organized youth team members meetings online, where youth from the makerspaces had a space to share and learn from each other without other adult staff. We encouraged the makerspaces to arrange online meetings between each other. We also organized two physical Youth exchanges.



Joint global activities

Doing joint global activities was a strategy to become more connected to each other and to gain attention from non-engaged youth and attract them to our makerspace. By organizing bigger external events we increased the likelihood that our partner organizations, decision-makers and media would recognize and share the word of Planet One, our makerspaces and our events.

Around twice a year, Planet One organized two global activities. A global activity was when the majority of our makerspaces made activities on the same climate or environmental theme, during a certain period of time. We had global activities on MAKE SMTHNG Week, Earth Week, World environment day and the Planet One celebration.

Youth involvement

Part of the Global community strategy was the emphasis on involving youths in forming the project, as mentioned earlier under chapter 5. *Youth empowerment*. Since most of the project coordination and management happened on a global level, Planet One had almost all meetings online.

For the Planet One project to honestly be able to call this a “youth project”, we invited and tried to make sure that youth took part in Planet One’s internal online meetings and communications.

This included participation in our weekly Core team meetings, quarterly Steering committee meetings, and ad-hoc Task force meetings, as well as to be active on Slack – our internal communication tool.

Raise youths’ voices & diversify the movement





Planet One aimed to empower youths and to give them access to platforms for their voices to be heard and ideas to be shared. When a youth, with the support from our makerspaces, had created an initiative or plan for an event we wanted to share this to a broader public.

Examples of activities we organized to make this happen were: regularly posting youth testimonials from the global Planet One social media channels, regular blog posts from the Planet One blog and quoting youths in press releases.



Mboa Hub

Learning & development strategy

Target group		Content type	
Makerspace		How we did it	
Organizations		Examples	

Global learning program

The Learning & development strategy for Planet One was built on three levels: knowledge-sharing between Fryshuset and Greenpeace, organic team learning through daily operations, and formal/in-formal training. The first level involved exchanging expertise, such as Greenpeace learning about youth engagement and Fryshuset about climate advocacy work. The second focused on organic learning through team meetings and discussions, while the third provided structured training, including both internal and external sessions. The strategy followed the OSF model, emphasizing hands-on experience (60%) and formal training (40%), aiming to support staff development and enhance the project's impact.

This strategy aimed to equip staff with the skills needed to conduct their work effectively and encourage individual growth. It leveraged the project's resources and capacities while aligning with the project's qualitative objectives and impact goals.

By offering a combination of structured training and organic learning opportunities, the strategy aimed to create a robust learning environment that supported both immediate project needs and long-term growth in the climate youth movement.

Following the learning model described above, our estimate was that 60% of the learning and

development in this project comes from daily operations. The remaining 40% had to come from the below stated four elements: 1) digital trainings, 2) wikis and instructions, 3) digital learning cafés, and 4) staff-teaches-staff sessions. We saw the need for and importance of all these elements, however our focus was to increase knowledge-sharing within the project, and therefore on elements 3 and 4, since that type of learning and development has been proven to be very effective.

1) Digital trainings

The Planet One project offered internal digital trainings for staff. These trainings were primarily organized by the Learning manager and facilitated by the Learning manager or other internal or external persons. These could be presentations with the addition of a workshop and/or break-out room sessions.

2) Written & visual wikis & instructions

We offered written and visual wikis and instructions which were put on our project wiki on Notion. This written information came in the form of wikis, guidelines, practical instructions etc. as well as recordings of digital trainings and other visual sources. This element aimed to fill the need for easily accessible information when needed and was a part of the digital Planet One Toolkit.

3) Digital & digi-physical learning cafés

We offered **interactive learning methods** by organizing digital and digi-physical learning cafés. These learning cafés were open calls with different focuses and themes to which all staff could call in and get support from either the Learning manager or other staff in the call. These cafés were organized frequently and upon request.

4) Staff-teaches-staff sessions

Within the Planet One project we had a lot of different knowledge and skills which **we wanted to highlight** and encourage staff to teach and learn from each other. This element consisted of sessions where one or more staff shared their skills, knowledge and best practices on certain themes, operations and issues. These sessions also **had the format of “case work”** where someone came up with a case they needed support with and other staff supported and gave feedback. These sessions were learning and development opportunities for all staff involved and mitigation to the risk of “re-inventing the wheel” or making the same mistakes again and again.

Local learning programs

The Learning series at Ubunifu Hub

The **Learning series at Ubunifu Hub** focused on providing participants with **both theoretical knowledge** and practical skills related to climate justice,

innovation, advocacy, and youth empowerment & engagement. Through a combination of hands-on activities and discussions, **youth were encouraged** to engage with environmental issues, develop new ideas, and work on projects that created positive change in their communities. The series emphasized learning-by-doing, encouraging experimentation and active participation to foster leadership and creativity among young climate activists.

Planet club concept at Bolygó

The aim of **Bolygó's Planet club** was to create active-aware-acting communities that not only exist within the walls of Bolygó but also are active in public life, both as individuals and as a community.

The groups that leave the club aim to create new movements and communities, make the green youth movement sparkling and cool, in addition to actively representing the interests and demands of youth, putting pressure on decision-makers and making environmental issues a priority.

The **participants of Bolygó's Planet club became prepared and committed leaders** in their own groups and are now able to coordinate and unite groups. After the test period, the club could run in parallel with several groups at the same time, thereby multiplying the number of youths reached. The Planet club aimed to **become a self-sustaining organization** that could produce its own trainers and organizers.



7 Learnings & takeaways



To build a project organization including **three different NGOs** with staff from **six different countries** and cultures was very challenging. The process to build the global project organization and to get all the makerspaces up and running took over a year. But once we had created a **solid foundation for the project**, the second phase of implementation and operations was very successful. **We learned a lot throughout this build-up of the project** organization and from the operations of the makerspaces to increase youth empowerment and engagement, and some of these key learnings are outlined below.

Organizational strategies & adaptation

Target group

Content type

Makerspace



How we did it



Organizations



Organizational strategies & adaptation

The importance of organizational structure & communication

Coordinating across multiple countries required a **clear communication strategy and structured management**. Initial challenges, such as uneven resource allocation and inconsistent communication, were addressed through regular team meetings and capacity-building. **Establishing communication plans and ensuring resource allocation** for both local and global needs were critical for success.

Establishing a culture of continuous feedback & reflection

Regular feedback loops, including participant surveys, staff interviews, and quarterly impact and financial reporting, facilitated ongoing learning and timely adjustments. **Structured reflection sessions at different stages** helped refine approaches and strengthen organizational practices, leading to continuous improvement.

Strengthening internal capacity & staff support

Planet One faced internal challenges related to staff workload, especially when team members had dual roles with their host organizations. Addressing these

issues involved **expanding the team, clarifying roles, and offering training** to support local staff. Future projects should prioritize staff development and set clear expectations to maintain a balanced and motivated team.

Investing in leadership development & capacity building

Investing in leadership development for local coordinators and youth leaders was crucial. Training in project management, communication, and advocacy enhanced the team's ability to implement activities effectively, **empowering staff to take on greater responsibilities** and build a resilient team.

Balancing global objectives with local autonomy

Combining global guidance with local autonomy allowed for adaptation based on regional contexts, though balancing these elements posed challenges. **Clear guidelines paired with local flexibility** ensured alignment with global goals while meeting diverse community needs, fostering coherence and innovation across the initiative.

Adapting to local contexts while maintaining a global perspective

Ensuring consistent outcomes across diverse regions was challenging. **Tailoring activities to local needs**, such as skill-building workshops in Kenya, proved

crucial for success. Meanwhile, **promoting cross-border collaborations** fostered a shared sense of purpose among participants from different countries, balancing local adaptation with a unified global vision.

Embracing mid-project revision for adaptive management

Structured mid-project review allowed for **adaptive management**, with significant revision to the description of objectives, resource allocation, and staffing, aligning budgets with strategy. This proactive approach to reassess and **adjust plans based on evolving circumstances** kept the project on track and responsive to changes, ensuring flexibility throughout implementation.

Youth empowerment

Empowering youth participation through makerspaces

Planet One showed makerspaces' effectiveness in engaging youth in **hands-on learning and empowering leadership**. Flexible spaces with resources enabled skill development, peer connection, and climate solutions, fostering ownership, engagement, and **empowerment through a safe space**.

Supporting youth-led initiatives for greater impact

The project emphasized **youth-led approaches**, allowing young participants to design and implement their own initiatives. By giving youth control over projects, the initiative empowered them to shape climate action strategies according to their perspectives, leading to more relevant and impactful results. **This approach fostered leadership skills and provided practical experience in driving change.**

Leveraging diverse approaches for climate justice & advocacy

The project integrated climate justice themes, **giving marginalized youth a platform** to voice concerns. Combining grassroots campaigns with policy dialogues empowered participants to influence climate policies, broadening the movement's inclusivity.

Building resilience through learning-by-doing

The **initiative's learning-by-doing approach** effectively taught practical skills and fostered new ideas. Makerspaces served as hubs for sustainable projects, from renewable energy to urban farming, **boosting confidence and delivering tangible benefits.**



PART 2

Inspiration

Climate justice



In this project, we worked to [achieve climate justice](#) by amplifying and uplifting the voices of marginalized youth. We gave them the opportunity and [encourage them to have intergenerational discussions](#) with older generations. Since the majority of the youth that are [most affected by climate change](#) are living in the Global South, our main focus was to give them equal opportunities to engage in climate and environmental issues. But we also focused on [marginalized communities](#) in the Global North.

Our work was [intersectional](#), meaning that we aimed to reach and engage youth that are currently not represented in the climate movement, in order to [diversify and broaden the movement](#) as well as the idea of what a climate activist looks like. We also conducted work for [social justice](#) since there is no climate justice without social justice.



Fridays For Future march in Budapest

Reclaim our future

Just a few kilometers outside of the central city is the oil port. Every day, all day, trucks with fossil fuels go in and out – but today they’ve stopped. A few young people are sitting on the road in front of the gates and when the driver gets out two of them carefully climb on to the truck. Their signs says: “Human rights over fossil fuel industry” and “This is an act of self defense”

Olga, a youth climate activist, joined the movement Reclaim the Future, in peaceful resistance against a society which burns our chances of a dignified life. The movement is youth-led, focused on challenging the fossil fuel industry while prioritizing the well-being of its members. In a world which does not care for us or the lives of innocent people resistance is the best possible life.

Olga’s motivation stems from the urgency of the crisis. She believes in using all possible tools to make a difference. What makes Reclaim the Future unique is its focus on caring for activists, as climate justice is a long-term commitment. Activists like Olga understand the importance of sustainability in both the movement and personal well-being. The group emphasizes the need for rest and community support to prevent burnout, recognizing that the fight for climate justice is a marathon, not a sprint.

Momentum, a hub in Stockholm, has provided a crucial safe space for the movement to thrive. It’s a place where activism is celebrated, and where activists can gather to paint banners, cook meals, hold workshops, play games, or simply rest. For Olga, Momentum has been a welcoming space where activists can recharge, plan actions, and find encouragement. She believes that having such a space is essential for introducing new activists to the movement, as it offers a supportive community.



Activism isn’t just about fighting – it’s about celebrating small wins and finding joy in the process. Momentum helps envision a future where people are not at war with the earth but living in harmony with it. Olga reflects on the long hours spent on actions, knowing that after each one, she can return to Momentum to rest and recharge, ready to continue the fight for a better world.

Blog post by Momentum



Peaceful youth protest



Ubuntu Hub



Activity

Implementation: A peaceful protest by the youth calling for an urgent shift away from coal produced electricity to renewable energy. The protest was in the height of the rolling black outs (load shedding)

that would go for hours and days and the Ubuntu Hub would have no electricity for the youth to run initiatives.

Outcomes: There were 400 people in attendance from different civil society groups joining our youth. Our youth designed banners at the hub that were displayed at the peaceful protest.

“ The biggest hope for the future is the resistance, and the makerspace facilitates that resistance. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023



Greenpeace demonstration against plastic pollution

Plastic pollution is affecting our environment negatively. At Mboa Hub we organized a demonstration and clean-up because we wanted to highlight that everyone has the right to a healthy and clean environment.



Intersectionality



Pride parade

Intersectionality is a core value at Momentum, where we openly welcome everyone, regardless of gender or sexual orientation. We have consistently

participated in pride marches and organized events with the queer collective Queer the Space. We recognize that queer individuals are often more severely impacted by the climate crisis than non-queer people, and we actively advocate for climate justice that includes and supports queer rights.

Andile's story

How is intersectionality and climate change connected?

Certain groups of people, who are already facing discrimination and inequality, are also more likely to be affected by the impacts of climate change, making them even more vulnerable. As a result, the Planet One makerspace in Johannesburg, Ubuntu Hub, has a strong focus on intersectionality – which sparked the interest of photographer Andile.

“I was at Ubuntu Hub for a youth unemployment workshop and quickly became interested in Planet One. The insight they gave me into the climate

justice movement sparked a desire to be involved so I told the youth lead of my photography and asked how I could be part of this movement and include my art”, says Andile.

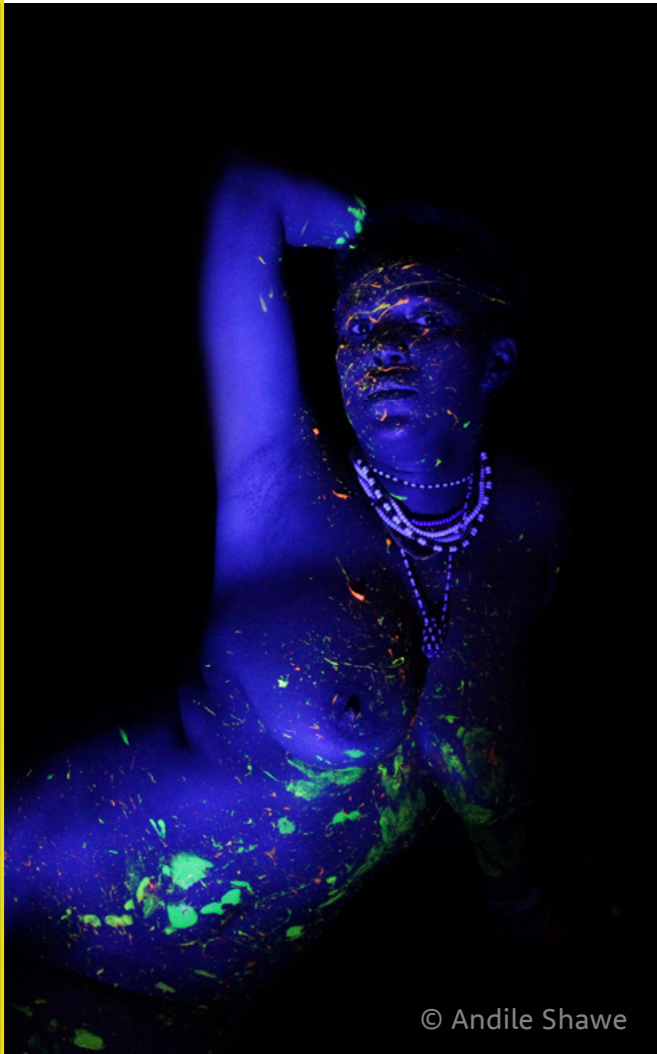
With the support of the Ubuntu Hub trainers, Andile arranged his first ever intersectionality art exhibition, celebrating the beauty of diversity. The exhibition took place in April at Ubuntu Hub and included musical and poetry performances by local band Oshun Grizzly.

The exhibition led to several opportunities for Andile, including invitations from the Ugandan LGBTQIA+ community to collaborate and freelance photography work for international media platform UATV.

“ Presently in the Baka Community in the South Region of Cameroon, as the Secretary General of Indigenous Peoples and Rural Development (INPRUDEV), a community-based organization, we are working to empower indigenous communities on the fight against climate change, biodiversity loss, and possible actions for a healthy community while promoting socio-economic development in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. So far, there's been a lot of progress and changes in the community in the fight against climate change. They have learned about planting water-friendly trees, fruit trees, and constructing clay ovens to prevent excess gas emissions into the atmosphere. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Intersectionality photo exhibition



Intersectionality



Ubuntu Hub



Initiative

Implementation: The exhibition was themed on bodily intersectionality and the discrimination/ pressures the youth in urban Johannesburg face on a daily basis. The cultural precincts of the city, where there is a thrive in art, music, activism and art (artivism), have become a nesting hub for body shaming and sexual orientation discrimination. There has been unspoken rules about the perfect body in relation to social

media trends and fitting in the urban city culture. The exhibition aimed to address and challenge the norms by letting people embrace bodily diversification and sexual identity, through activism of unspoken words. The event had 14 exhibits of photographs taken by artist and Activist Andile and a live photo studio (re-created at the hub) where participants could interact with the activists on the photographs.

Support given: Space, PA system, refreshments, printing of the visual art.

Rainbow resilience

In the summer of 2024, from July 12th to 17th, we embarked on a transformative journey to the Lori region of Armenia with 25 like-minded youths. Our focus was on nurturing self-care and resilience, managing daily stresses, and addressing anxieties about the future. Set against the serene backdrop of the Lori forests, we concentrated on practices to enhance our well-being and strengthen our ability to face life's challenges.

The camp, called Rainbow Resilience, was organized by Armenian Progressive Youth with support from the Alternative, which has consistently provided a safe space for Armenian queer youth. The goal was to create a supportive, inclusive, and safer space for young LGBTIQ+ individuals from Yerevan and across Armenia to support their physical, mental, and emotional well-being while building community resilience.

Our program included activities focused on mental and emotional health, such as mindfulness, yoga, and relaxation exercises. We explored tools to support the mental health of LGBTIQ+ youth, emphasizing the role that activists, youth workers, and educators can play in promoting well-being within their communities. Participants like Anush, a social worker, highlighted how queer individuals in patriarchal societies like Armenia face significant mental health challenges. The camp provided a space to connect with nature, find support, and foster community.



Participants reflected on the benefits of the camp. Siranush learned valuable anti-stress techniques and gained insights into healthy relationships, while Ruben, a youth worker, found the experience deepened his understanding of mental health and provided tools for working mindfully with the queer community. Ghazar appreciated the rare opportunity to connect with others from the queer community, and Emma, an independent drag artist, enjoyed the productive self-care sessions like body theater and yoga.



The camp also shed light on the need for more inclusive projects and spaces for queer youth, as many organizations hesitate to embrace LGBTIQ+ inclusion. Moving forward, we plan to continue initiatives like yoga and meditation, with the Alternative providing a welcoming space for these activities.

The camp was part of a larger project supported by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe, known for backing green initiatives. This foundation is a valuable resource for those passionate about climate-related projects, offering support to bring innovative ideas to life.

“In Armenia, there are very few safe and welcoming spaces for queer people or allies, so this camp was a rare opportunity for me to connect, work and relax with others from my community who are also actively involved in the youth sector or activism in general”, concludes Ghazar, one of the active youth workers.

Blog post by Nelly

Fostering climate resilience through empowerment

In a world plagued by the ominous impacts of the climate crisis, the urgency to act has never been more palpable. The scorching heatwaves and devastating floods serve as stark reminders of the dire consequences of inaction. Amidst this turmoil, one voice often overlooked is that of people with disabilities.

With over a billion individuals globally, people with disabilities constitute the largest minority group, yet they are disproportionately affected by climate change. The lack of inclusive policies and infrastructure exacerbates their vulnerability, leaving most marginalized and voiceless in the fight against environmental degradation.

Recognizing that climate change is a collective battle, societal equity becomes paramount. Accessibility in public transportation, inclusive infrastructure design, digital inclusion, and equitable employment opportunities are not just moral imperatives but essential components of climate resilience.

Ubunifu Hub has been a pivotal institution, bringing together youth-led groups like Najimudu Empowerment Initiative. On a personal level, Ubunifu Hub has been instrumental in enabling me to hone my skills in public speaking. I've had first-hand opportunities to host various events as the

emcee, courtesy of the hub, the most recent being the Ubunifu Hub alumni event. My understanding of advocacy has also been enhanced through training and activities such as meetings with state actors. Through networking with members from other groups, we have continued to encourage and sharpen each other in the pursuit of climate justice.

As Najimudu Empowerment Initiative, the hub has been of immense value. We have received training and hosted numerous events within the hub, including International Women's Day 2024. We have also met various professionals and leaders through the support of the hub, who have helped us build capacity in terms of our organizational structure and strategy to realize our objectives.

Empowering people with disabilities is not just a matter of social justice; it is a strategic imperative in our quest for a sustainable future. As we embrace inclusivity and diversity, we move closer to a world where everyone, regardless of ability, can take part in creating solutions for climate resilience.

As the Director of Strategy, Research, and Innovation at Najimudu Empowerment Initiative, Bill Kaunda is a proponent of disability rights with lived experience as a person with a physical disability. A Greenpeace volunteer and a student doctor at Mount Kenya University, his multifaceted perspective underscores the importance of inclusive climate action.

Blog post by Bill



Really really free market



Alternative



Initiative

Implementation: The Really Really Free Market was an initiative with a space where participants could bring what they no longer needed and take items for

free that they need. It operated on the principle of reducing consumption and waste, highlighting that every new item purchased contributes to air, water, and soil pollution.

Support given: Materials, mentoring, and promotion were provided to support the event.

“ Bolygó is important because it is exemplary. With its existence, it creates the possibility that people of different ages and mindsets can meet in real time, gain knowledge about environmental protection, and learn about different forms of action. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Young mechanics initiative

Since the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon, many youths had to relocate from their homes due to insecurity and a need for a better future. With limited income, several of these youths dropped out of school, finding work in informal sectors such as mechanic workshops, tailoring, and hairdressing.

In Cameroon, typical garages often operate under poor conditions, with waste and oil spills creating unhygienic environments. In response, young mechanics from Charlie Garage partnered with Mboa Hub, taking an interest in our climate justice program.

After months of training, they initiated a project within their garage to manage waste effectively. This project involved educating themselves on waste sorting, building local disposal bins specifically for iron, oil, plastics, and biodegradable materials, and teaching proper disposal methods. The mechanics, led by Zidane, also took on the responsibility of raising awareness among their colleagues and neighboring workshops, promoting sustainable practices.



The success of this initiative was evident. Not only did it enhance the waste management practices within their workshop, but it also served as a model for the community, inspiring other youths in nearby workshops to engage in environmental actions. Zidane, their leader, gained further exposure by participating in the Planet One Youth Exchange, broadening his perspective and reinforcing the hope and enthusiasm within his group for a brighter future.

Mboa Hub



Mvelingqangi podcast



Ubuntu Hub



Initiative

Implementation: maSibiya films recorded two podcast episodes with the theme “Dealing with spirituality and adolescence in times of climate change”.

Support given: Podcast studio, video camera, space and snacks.

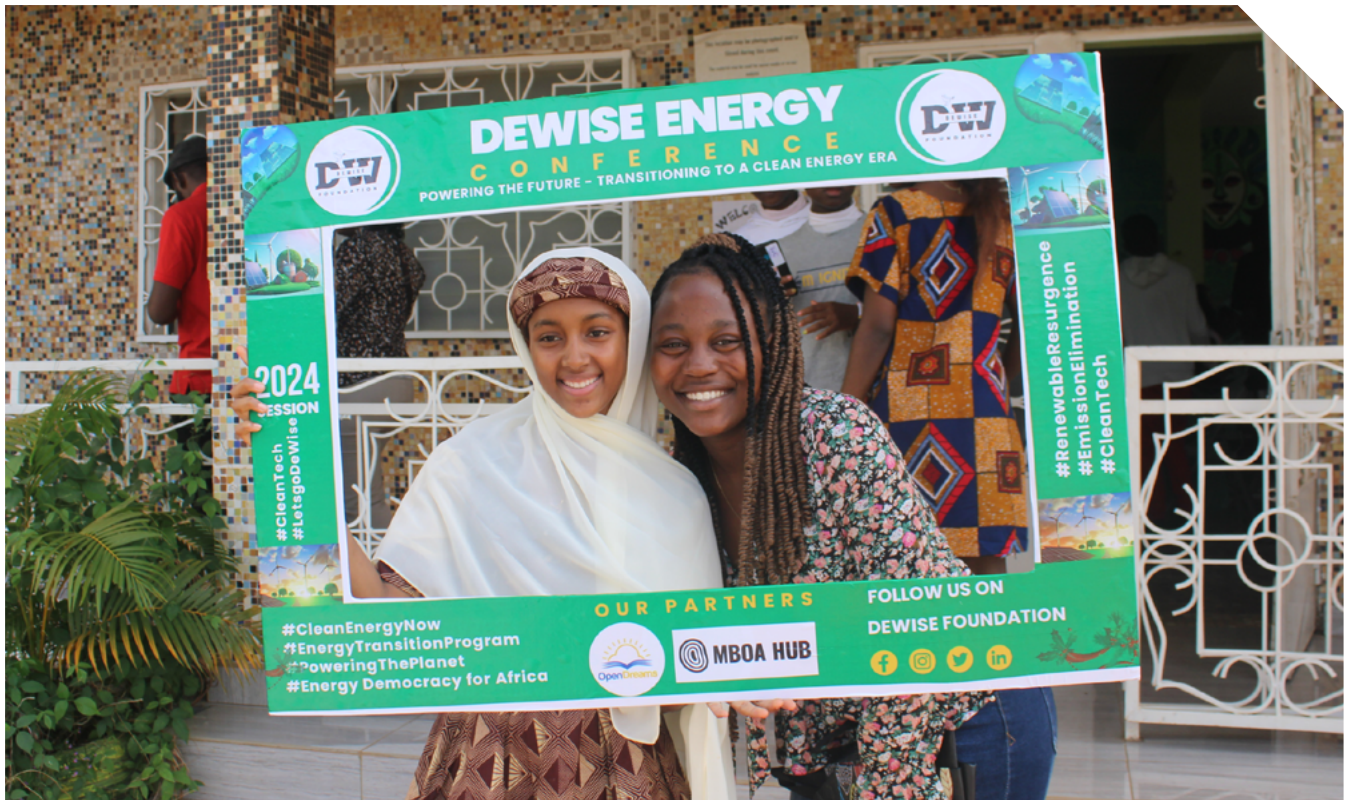


Soccer for climate justice

An external event supported by Ubunifu Hub through the project youth fund involved the Better Living Empowerment Program (BLEP) youth group; the first beneficiaries of the Local Learning Series launched in September 2022. BLEP, having completed their training at Ubunifu Hub, organized the event which included 15 other community groups interested in

joining the program. The youth-led initiative used their new skills to organize a soccer tournament promoting climate action. Sixteen teams participated, with commentary sessions on climate justice, environmental issues, and the importance of conserving water bodies and green spaces. The event engaged 187 young people, all within the target group of Planet One, and was fully organized and led by the youth in their own community.

Advocacy



The Planet One project's [advocacy work](#) focused on [making youth voices heard](#) in the climate debate, supporting the existing climate movement and grassroots groups together with advocating for environmental protection and climate action. The activities we offered connected to advocacy in the program included both [campaigning](#); e.g. supporting youth in organizing demonstrations, supporting youth groups in organizing campaign and petitions, knowledge-enhancing activities, [as well as direct communication](#); e.g. through panel debates with decision-makers, companies, organizations or other important institutions connected to society, in what we called [Meeting with decision-makers](#).

OZONE window gallery opening



Bolygó



Activity

Implementation: We dedicated one of our street-facing windows to young artists for an environmental installation focusing on the climate and ecological crisis. The concept highlighted whom society deems important by examining the sculptures we raise—typically of humans, rarely of nature. The artists created sculptures of significant natural elements to

emphasize their importance alongside humans. At the opening event, a short concert was held, followed by a workshop where participants crafted their own mini sculptures, reflecting on what they personally valued.

Outcomes: It included youth planting vegetable seeds, designing personalized plant pots, and taking them back to their homes and communities to grow. A documentary on Afolu was screened, sparking engaging discussions, especially among young women.

The leak fashion show



Ubuntu Hub



Initiative

Implementation: The Leak fashion show was a youth-led initiative in Johannesburg where nine emerging designers showcased their upcycled apparel.

The event, titled Walk Tall for Climate Change, aimed to raise awareness about environmental sustainability through fashion, promoting the use of recycled materials and advocating for climate action.

Support given: Space, sound system, mentoring, marketing and snacks.

H2O heroes: uniting for Armenia's freshwater future

In 2019, a group of passionate individuals founded ECO Group with a vision to create a community united by environmental stewardship. By 2020, the group evolved into a dynamic youth-led initiative aimed at empowering environmentally conscious youth to lead and inspire change.

One of our most successful projects is the H2O Heroes Campaign, a collaboration between ECO Group, the Alternative, and the “Eco Group” youth-environmental NGO. The campaign, dedicated to World Water Day, addressed the pollution of Armenia's freshwater resources and raised awareness about environmental conservation. The project involved young activists aged 16–30 from Vanadzor, Armenia, who participated in various phases of the campaign.

During the first phase, participants attended capacity-building training sessions on topics such as “Freshwater pollution in Armenia” and “How to make creative postcards.” These trainings equipped them with the skills to understand and address freshwater pollution. A key highlight was a visit to a water treatment plant where participants witnessed the water purification process, emphasizing the importance of clean water resources.



In the second phase, participants used their knowledge to create informative postcards designed to raise awareness about freshwater pollution and inspire action. This creative process empowered the youth, turning their advocacy efforts into tangible tools.

“This campaign gave me friends and a deeper understanding of freshwater issues,” said participant Angelina. “It motivated me to work towards a clean and green planet.” Another participant, Aram, shared, “I learned about our ecosystem and gained design skills that I can use in other areas of life. This was an amazing learning experience.”

The partnership between ECO Group and the Alternative demonstrates the importance of joint efforts in tackling environmental challenges. Together, we are building a network of environmentally conscious individuals prepared to lead conservation efforts.



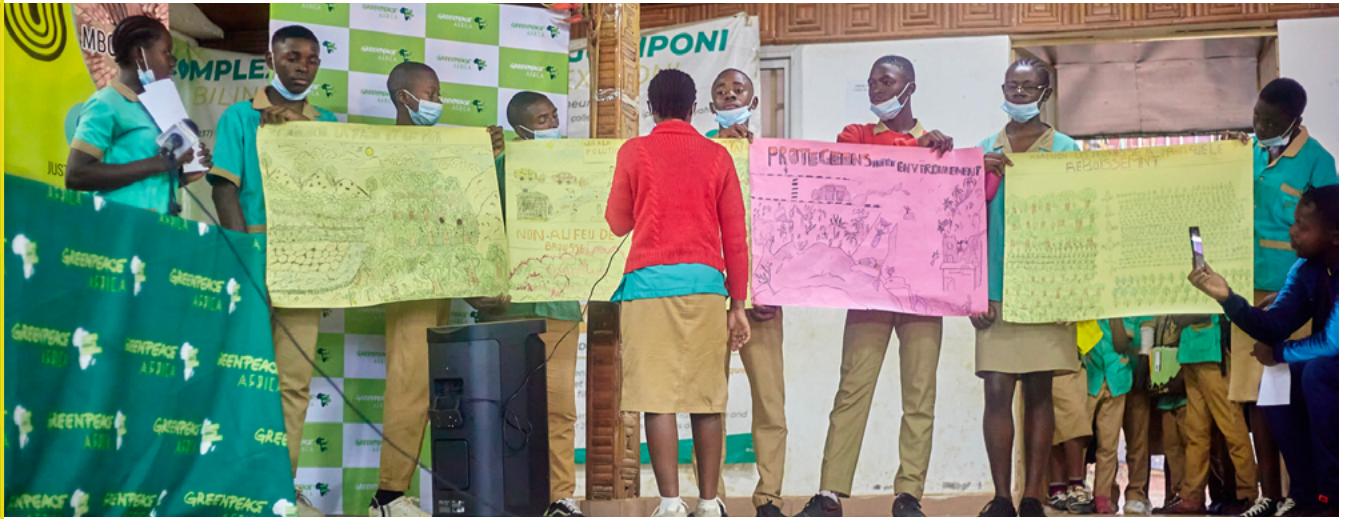
“I believe campaigns like these empower young people to tackle environmental issues creatively,” said Seryan, president of ECO Group. Monika, vice president of ECO Group, added, “Alternative is a second home for many of us, filled with warmth and care.”

Inspired by the success of the H2O Heroes Campaign, we are committed to organizing more environmental initiatives under the Youths4EcoCampaign banner. Our goal is to address various environmental issues through collaboration and innovation, empowering young people to become future changemakers.

As we look to the future, ECO Group and the Alternative remain dedicated to fostering a generation of environmentally conscious youth. Through ongoing collaboration and creative projects, we are paving the way for a sustainable and greener future. Together, we are addressing today's challenges and inspiring tomorrow's leaders to build a better world.

Blog post by Seryan

Celebrating World forest day



Mboa Hub



Initiative

Implementation: Mboa Hub and Greenpeace volunteers collaborated to provide a platform for youth at IPONI College to express their ideas and initiatives in celebration of World forest day, themed “Forest &

Health.” The participants showcased their creativity through drawings, poems, dance, songs, and interviews, all centered around the importance of forests and their role in promoting health.

Support given: It included providing materials, facilitation, coaching, and equipment to ensure the youth could successfully present their initiatives.



Participatory environmental art

The initiative aimed to engage youth in creating environmental art in the backyard of the youth center

while also learning about gardening. This hands-on project fostered collaboration and creativity, blending artistic expression with environmental awareness. We supported them with space, materials and mentoring.



Dinner with Gurgîn

A popular recurring event at Momentum has been the Dinner talk series. Participants are offered dinner while listening to a guest speaker present on a specific topic, followed by a group discussion. One notable session featured Gurgîn, a Swedish influencer and

activist, who spoke about the role of suburbs in the transition towards climate action and how to put climate justice into practice, not just theory. A common theme throughout these events has been the strong connection between social justice and the climate crisis, highlighting that these issues are intertwined and must be addressed together.

“ Participation has been more than just brainstorming ideas; I have become confident in myself and in the ideas that I present without feeling less worthy. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Why is it (not) a sacrifice to be green?



Bolygó



Activity

Implementation: A youth group that began recording podcast episodes at our media lab organized their first public event, which was also recorded as a podcast episode. They invited an eco-philosopher to explore whether living sustainably is a sacrifice or a

liberation from society's false values. The discussion aimed to emphasize how adopting a green lifestyle can add value and joy to life, rather than detracting from it.

Outcomes: The event attracted about 30 participants and sparked an eye-opening discussion on sustainability and its impact on personal well-being.



Launching of the “clean energy transition program”

The DeWise Foundation youth group officially launched a clean energy platform aimed at empowering youth with the skills to tackle climate change

by embracing clean energy sources and designing practical solutions. To introduce the platform, they organized a conference where participants received foundational knowledge on clean energy and climate justice. This initiative seeks to equip young people with the tools to contribute to sustainable energy solutions within their communities.

Experiences on the Island of community learning

Tasks, work, projects. Exam preparation, submissions, more assignments, more exams, new projects. Lectures, meditation sessions scheduled and missed. The feeling of enthusiasm mixed with anxiety that everything is good, yet nothing is, everything will get better, and everything will go to waste. Eco-anxiety and university stress. It would be nice to get out of this.

I rush to the tram, late again despite promising myself I'd be on time. Mentally, it takes fifteen minutes to arrive, to set aside my worries. Walking through the door, I feel a sense of relief as I disconnect from my phone and the overwhelming flood of notifications. Finally, I'm in a better place. An Island in the middle of the city.



Each three-hour session at Bolygó Club felt like landing on an island—detached from the world yet focused on understanding it better. Internal rebellion, conscious presence. No screen time for three hours, no work or university, just joint thinking and

engaging with exciting topics. This was possible because of the safe environment created by Olga and Panka. Bolygó Club became a place free of judgment, anxiety, and the need to fit in.

We connected quickly, bonded by our shared love for nature. The beauty of the sessions was not just in our commonalities but in our differences. Together, we explored ecological sustainability, questioning “truths” and learning from new perspectives.



Each session took us deeper into topics such as climate justice, green economics, and permaculture, with experts like Katalin Rodics and Anna Werlein enriching our understanding.

As we learned, the club also answered the question of whether individual actions matter. We realized our small actions, amplified by community, could create meaningful change. In this supportive space, individual efforts didn't feel insignificant; they felt impactful.

Bolygó Club wasn't just beneficial for the planet but for us as well. We shared our personal struggles with hectic life, climate anxiety, and stress, finding solace and energy in our caring community. These were deep, restorative "immersions" that helped us navigate life's challenges with renewed hope.

It gave me hope that we are not alone facing the problems, but also we're not alone searching for solutions. It gave me hope that a more sustainable lifestyle does not actually mean a sacrifice, but it gives people a more wholesome life. It gave us hope that we do in fact shape our future and that ecological systems will be our allies if we look at them

that way and don't want to exploit them. We can only succeed together, and together we will succeed. Everything is one.

Through eight sessions, the participants of the first Bolygó Club training explored the mysteries of the climate and ecological crisis, gaining knowledge to organize a campaign that would inspire others to act for a better future.

Blog post by Maté



“ It meant a lot to me as I have been able to learn so much, especially on climate justice and advocacy. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Tree hugging



Mboa Hub



Activity

Implementation: Youth organized an activity to hug trees, raising awareness both offline and online about the importance of trees and our connection to the environment. They also held discussions on key

regional climate justice issues, accompanied by face painting and photo opportunities.

Outcomes: The event fostered a connection between youth and nature, increased online engagement and awareness, and encouraged participants to share their stories and experiences about climate justice.

“ Alternative center has immense importance, not only for individuals but also for groups and larger youth organizations. If this center didn’t exist, I am totally SURE there would be a big gap, not only in the environmental sphere but also in addressing youth issues. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Open Getar river in Yerevan

“I’m trying to find myself, and I realized that one of the ways to do that is to understand the place where I live and the issues it faces. Activism around Getar River helped me a lot in this regard,” says Anna Karapetyan.

On April 25th, 2024, visual artist Anna and members of the Alternative held an environmental art event titled Open Getar River!. Participants walked along the visible and hidden parts of the Getar River, raising awareness about the pollution affecting the river and its importance to Yerevan.

Anna, who had not previously known about the river’s issues, played an active role in organizing and implementing the project. Getar, one of Yerevan’s two rivers, has been severely polluted for decades.

Instead of cleaning it, the government buried parts of the river in tunnels, covering it with streets and parking lots. Open sections of the river remain heavily polluted, impacting all of Yerevan’s residents.

During the walk, participants wore fish-shaped hats and carried cloth fish, symbolizing the river’s lost ecosystem. For Anna, this action emphasized the need to address the river’s plight, regardless of individual identity.

“My parents were born in Yerevan but didn’t know about Getar’s issues. Through this project, I’ve informed them and can now raise awareness among friends and family,” Anna reflects. “Anyone living in Yerevan should know about the Getar River, and we must restore it to a clean, flowing river.”

Blog post by Alisa



Anti fast fashion day



Bolygó



Activity

Implementation: Bolygó organized a batik coloring workshop to which youth could come and give their clothes a new life.

Outcomes: 50 youths brought clothes and participated in the batik coloring.

“ It has created opportunities for me, enlightening me about plant prevention and awareness. I have participated in a number of projects within the space and am currently heading my own project. The hub has opened many elements in my life, and I am truly grateful. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Coastbusters

Every Tuesday in July, a special event unfolds across the breathtaking archipelago near Stockholm. Young people from all over the region come together, united by a shared mission: to protect and preserve the stunning coastal landscapes by picking up trash. This inspiring initiative, supported by the European Union, highlights the importance of environmental and community involvement.

Coastbusters is an EU-funded Solidarity Project and is run by ESC (European Solidarity Corps) volunteers from Fryshuset: Ksusha, Helen, Ignasi, and Danyil.

Every Tuesday in July, young people across the stunning archipelago near Stockholm united to protect the coastal landscapes by picking up trash. This initiative, supported by the European Union, raises awareness about environmental conservation and community involvement.

The project addresses coastal pollution, which threatens the beauty and biodiversity of the islands.

Each week, volunteers gather at different locations to clean up litter and highlight the impact of pollution on marine life.

“We wanted to do something beneficial for people and the environment while exploring Sweden,” shares Ksusha, a volunteer from Ukraine.

The day begins with orientation, followed by cleanup activities, refreshments, and socializing. Volunteers from various countries, including Ukraine, Spain, Italy, and Sweden, connect through shared efforts. Reflecting on the experience, Asher from Italy says, “It’s a great way to care for our coast and interact with the international team.” Helen adds, “We observed that the beaches are cleaner here compared to Spain.”

If you’re inspired to organize a similar initiative, visit the European Solidarity Corps website for guidance. Follow Fryshuset Youth Mobility on Instagram for more details.

Blog post by Zofia



Innovation



In Planet One, innovation was foremost the work the youth conducted within the concept of youth-led initiatives which could be anything from an improved type of solar panel to a new way of conducting climate activism. The youth projects were developed through the concept of learning-by-doing with the overall aim to create some kind of positive change, locally or globally. We gave the support, resources and tools for hands-on projects and the youth came with ideas and creativity. We also offered knowledge-enhancing activities in areas of creativity, idea development, entrepreneurship as well as practical skills workshops building prototypes, gardening, mechanics and so on.

Planet One maker manifesto

This Making manifesto has seven principles that outline what making was for the Planet One project and guides how to and what is needed in order to incorporate sustainable making into the project operations (see pages 49-50 for an expanded version).



MAKE!

The most important thing is to just start making and trying, to honor mistakes, and to move forward.



EQUIP!

We need tools, equipment and materials to be able to make. It is important to choose tools wisely and according to the needs of the community.



SUSTAIN!

Sustainability should be an intrinsic part of everything we do and make. We want youth to turn to our makerspaces for personal and social development, with sustainability as a foundation in this process. Be creative and focus on upcycling, recycling and circular economy!



LEARN!

We offer theoretical learning combined with hands-on practice. We encourage youth to try new things and to experiment in ways that might push them into doing something new and outside of their comfort zone.



EMPOWER!

We want youth to be active collaborators and changemakers. Empowering youth is an act of showing trust by transferring power and agency to the learner.



COLLABORATE!

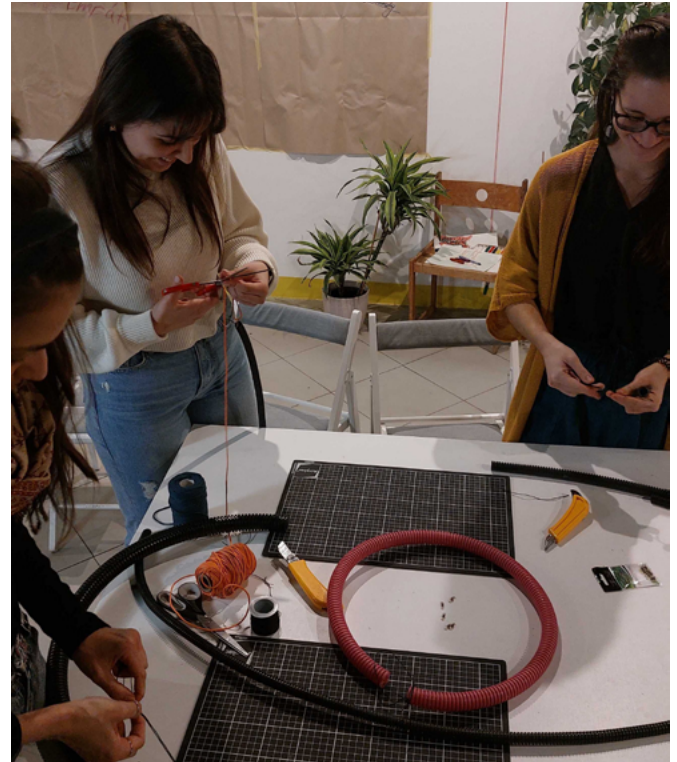
We want to create a welcoming, safe space and a community where youth can be creative and collaborate across borders and cultures. By coming together, collaborating and creating something together in a social community, we have a much bigger chance of having an impact and achieving our goals and vision.



SHARE!

Sharing is what makes a makerspace a community. We want our makerspaces to be a sharing place, where we share space, tools, ideas, knowledge, perspectives and so on. Foster that culture!

Musical instrument making & jam session



Bolygó



Initiative

Implementation: Participants crafted musical instruments from waste materials and then held a jam session using their newly created instruments.

Support given: Space, equipment, and materials were provided to facilitate the activity.

“ I never knew creativity could feel this empowering, seeing how art can drive real change in our communities ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Do-it-yourself day



Bolygó



Initiative

Implementation: Fridays For Future organized a do-it-yourself (DIY) day at Bolygó, featuring activities like making recycled jewelry from skateboards and coffee

capsules, creating pins, and crafting bowls from old vinyl records.

Support given: Assistance was provided with organizing, preparing, purchasing equipment, and advertising the event.

Paper from paper



Alternative



Initiative

Implementation: The initiative aimed to re-purpose used paper, giving it new life and raising awareness about paper waste.

Support given: Expert guidance, materials, mentoring, and promotional efforts were provided to support the initiative.





Tire upcycling

Ubuntu Hub and African Make collaborated on a tire upcycling activity aimed at training youth in sustainable green businesses.

The initiative introduced participants to the process of collecting used vehicle tires and transforming them into furniture. The goal was to empower youth to pursue independent green business ventures while addressing the issue of tire burning pollution prevalent in local communities.

MAKE SMTHNG Week: a global celebration of sustainability

In a world driven by consumerism yet awakening to environmental concerns, MAKE SMTHNG Week has emerged as a powerful movement. This annual international week of action, championed by Planet One makerspaces, takes center stage amid the Black

Friday and Christmas shopping frenzy. More than just a series of events, MAKE SMTHNG Week is a global celebration of creativity, a challenge to consumerism, and a commitment to a sustainable future.

MAKE SMTHNG Week brought communities together globally, highlighting diverse initiatives at Planet One makerspaces. This celebration against consumerism showcases a united effort to challenge norms and pave the way toward sustainable living.

Alternative

Embracing diversity, Alternative organized four unique activities, each drawing 15-20 participants. From workshops with local students on nature and sustainability to sessions on pot-making, clothes renovation, and crafting pencil purses, the hub promoted a holistic approach to sustainable living. By inviting artists and experts, the workshops offered deeper insights, concluding with an impactful lesson on the fashion industry and greenwashing.



Bolygó

At Bolygó, the MAKE SMTHNG Week kicked off with a pre-event featuring instrument crafting and a lively jam session, setting an energetic tone and attracting a community eager to return for more. The week continued with crafting and musical collaborations, forming a close-knit group where 70 participants attended the pre-event, followed by 10-15 dedicated attendees at each subsequent activity.



Momentum

Momentum captured the spirit of MAKE SMTHNG Week by hosting hands-on workshops and skill-sharing sessions that united young people. Participants learned to upcycle old materials into functional art and explore zero-waste living, gaining practical skills for everyday life. These workshops were both educational and community-driven, encouraging participants to exchange ideas and experiences.



Mboa Hub

At Mboa Hub, we hosted a vibrant MAKE SMTHNG Week event that showcased the creativity and engagement of youth, who produced impressive upcycled items from plastic waste. They crafted jewelry, flower jars, Christmas trees, decorative bottles, Zulu caps, earrings, and even family tortoises. Standout moments included Thierry and Cabrel's innovative chairs, tables, and slippers made from waste tires, with a donated chair set for the makerspace.

Spanning four days, the event featured an outdoor visit, youth workshop, two days of making, and an exhibition. With 162 participants it raised awareness on climate justice and inspired youth to take environmental action through upcycling and advocacy.



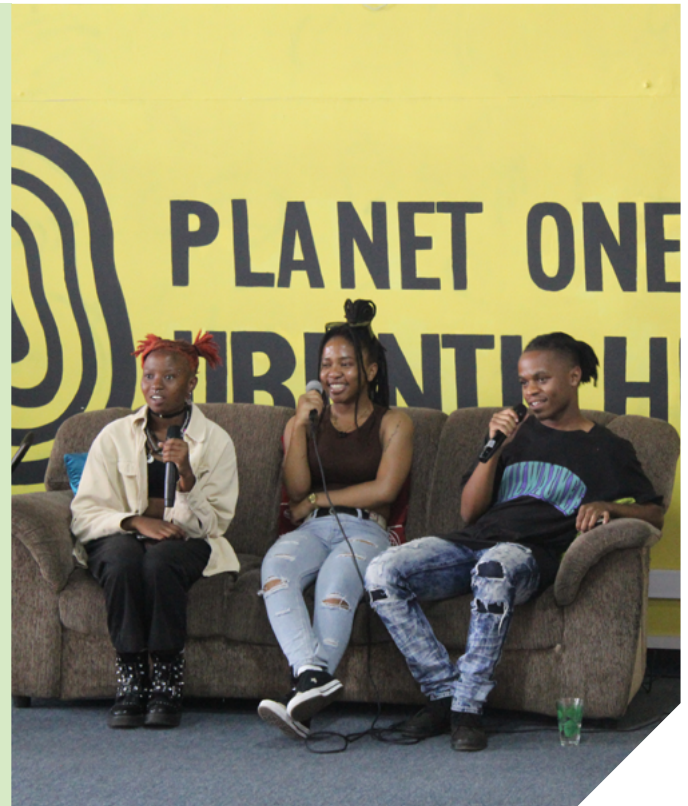
Ubunifu Hub

Ubunifu Hub's 'Green Friday' exhibition, drawing around 200 participants, showcased sustainable creativity through urban farming, DIY projects, and a clothing swap. By inviting past facilitators, the event became a vibrant hub of inspiration, demonstrating the transformative potential of eco-friendly initiatives.



Ubuntu Hub

At Ubuntu Hub, the ambition reached new heights as the community voiced support for quarterly MAKE SMTHNG Weeks, reflecting a strong commitment to creativity and mindful living. Over four days, participants immersed themselves in mural and canvas painting, upcycling, and transforming old tires into unique furniture. Ubuntu Hub became a vibrant space for artistic expression and sustainable craftsmanship.



Black art fever II



Art & creativity



Ubuntu Hub



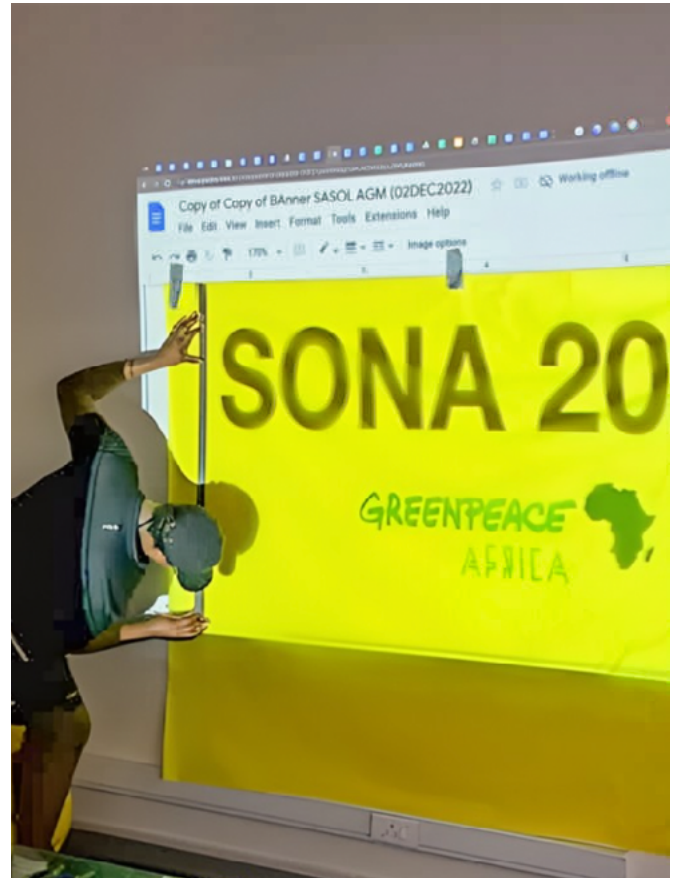
Initiative

Implementation: The Black Art Fever creative hang-out event featured a diverse lineup, including five upcycling fashion designers, two painters, three

visual artists, five poetry readings, five hip-hop performances, five neo-soul performances, and three freestyle performances.

Support given: The event was supported with space, a PA system, and refreshments.





Banner-making

One of the focus areas of the Planet One project was Advocacy. Our advocacy work focused on making youth voices heard in the climate debate, and one

way we did this was to support youth in organizing campaigns and demonstrations. An important part of campaigning and demonstrating is to get your messages across and a great way to do this is by making banners. At all the makerspaces we organized banner-making workshops on several occasions.

Macramé knitting



Alternative



Initiative

Implementation: The workshop aimed to demonstrate how to reuse existing materials to create new products while promoting creativity and sustainability. In contrast to the fast consumption culture,

the workshop also aimed to emphasize the value of creating together, producing slowly, and fostering meaningful connections among humans and with the things we wear.

Support given: Mentoring, promotion, and materials were provided to support the initiative.



Crafting with clay & beads

The activity involved crafting with air-drying clay and beads in a relaxed environment. Like many



Momentum activities, its purpose was to create a safe space for youth to gather, offering them the opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences or simply enjoy a pleasant evening with peers.

Empowering dreams: Seka's journey with Mboa Hub

Hello, fellow planet enthusiasts! I'm Seka, a passionate advocate for clean energy hailing from the beautiful Grassfields of Cameroon. My journey with clean energy began when I witnessed the harsh realities of limited energy access in my community. Fueled by this experience, I embarked on a mission to empower youth like me and bring about a transition to clean energy in Cameroon, with a vision of energy democracy for rural communities.

My transformative journey took an unexpected turn one Friday afternoon at Open Dreams when I met Albert and Dolores, Greenpeace Africa Volunteers. They shared the exciting news about the launch of a youth climate justice makerspace, Mboa Hub, powered by Greenpeace Africa and Fryshuset through Planet One. Little did I know that this encounter would lead me to a roller-coaster ride of purpose discovery and self-actualization.

Before January 17, 2023, I was a novice in the field of climate action. However, the invitation to the opening ceremony of Mboa Hub changed everything. This youth makerspace became the catalyst for my academic and professional transformation. Through

Mboa Hub, I was nominated as a delegate from Cameroon, funded by Greenpeace Africa, to attend the Climate Justice Camp in Lebanon. This one-week experience, focused on clean energy, exposed me to expert leaders from 350.org in France and Greenpeace in Greece, shaping my perspective on energy democracy—a life goal I now aspire to achieve for Cameroon by 2035.

Out of this passion, DeWise Energy was born—a startup dedicated to providing affordable and reliable clean energy to all Cameroonians. Mboa Hub became the wind beneath DeWise's wings, offering invaluable technical and financial support. Together, we've launched projects like the DeWise Fellowship, empowering displaced youth to propose solutions to community problems, and the DeWise-Mboa SunSpark Energy Accelerator Program, training 20 youths annually on clean energy technologies.

What sets Mboa Hub apart is not just its professional prowess but the sense of family it exudes. The unity within the team translates into effective programs that resonate with the youth. I'm grateful for the support from the Mboa Hub team, and I eagerly anticipate future collaborations and projects. Together, we're not just dreaming of a cleaner, greener future—we're actively building it!

Blog post by Seka



Reconnect: biodiversity in the middle of the city



Bolygó



Activity

Implementation: The Reconnect event series aimed to help people reconnect with nature by gaining deeper knowledge and experiences through community activities. For this event, we organized a walk in an innovative, biodiverse city park experimenting with solutions like rain gardens, fruit tree plantings, and

mini forests to address urban challenges such as heavy rainfall and extreme heat. The park manager guided participants, teaching them how these solutions can make cities more sustainable.

Outcomes: The event was successful, with participants asking many questions. Eight participants from the target group attended and engaged with the learning experience.

Sustainable savory



Ubunifu Hub



Activity

Implementation: This event, organized by youth team leader Barbra, was a making activity where participants prepared healthy dishes while learning about food security and its environmental challenges. Youth interested in food hackathons, including food

innovators, entrepreneurs, and scholars, gathered to collaborate on solutions to the pressing issues facing Kenya's food systems.

Outcomes: The full-day event attracted 14 participants, all within the target age group, and provided a hands-on experience combining culinary skills with environmental education.

Sustainability

Benson's story

What are wetlands and why are they so important to tackle climate change?

A wetland is a place in which the land is covered by (or saturated with) water, either seasonally or permanently. Wetlands are capable of absorbing and storing large amounts of carbon dioxide known as "carbon sinks," making them ideal for helping to reduce climate change. However, wetlands are disappearing three times faster than forests, making them the most threatened ecosystem on Earth.

As a response, Benson founded Wetland Conservation Organization (WCO) in 2022, a Kenyan

youth-led initiative dedicated to address climate change and biodiversity loss through the conservation and restoration of wetlands. At Ubunifu Hub, he was offered a much-needed space where WCO could host events, carry out research and do admin work.

In October 2022, WCO organized and held their first event Art for Wetlands with over 50 youth participants engaged in making art to campaign for the protection of wetlands. The makerspace now serves as the Wetland Conservation Organization office where Benson is on a regular basis. This provides him with the opportunity to join other events to increase his knowledge on related environmental issues: "I learnt about how plastic pollution plays a huge role in destruction of wetlands, I did not previously know."

Youth empowerment & engagement



In the Planet One project, the aim was to **empower and engage youth** to become changemakers and create their own paths towards the future they wanted to see. We offered a **sense of community** at the makerspaces where the youth had a safe space and the **opportunity to engage and participate** in a variety of activities on different engagement levels. The idea was to engage **youth from diverse backgrounds** that would **exchange ideas and experiences** with other youth, both locally and globally. Examples of activities connected to youth empowerment and engagement included learning how to project manage, hold workshops, trainings and events, social entrepreneurship etc. All of the work we conducted at the makerspaces in collaboration with the youth participants resulted in **increased youth empowerment and engagement**. In this chapter you will find examples of activities, initiatives and impact stories connected to youth empowerment & engagement.



Community building



Youth empowerment & engagement



Concerts for climate

At Momentum we have celebrated the activism and engagement of youth involved in the climate movement with big parties a few times throughout the project. These parties aimed to bring people together

through music, reflect on their achievements, and celebrate their hard work. In line with the concept of regenerative activism, the parties also served to inspire and encourage more young people to get involved in the climate movement, blending fun with a sense of purpose and community.

Podcast training at Bolygó

As a young person, I feel surrounded by environmental problems yet often feel alone in facing these challenges. Solving the crises affecting nature and society requires collective action and cooperation, which is why we need communities open to exploring the root causes of these issues from a scientific perspective.

I found Bolygó makerspace with these thoughts in mind, and it became the ideal place for action. Bolygó, with its experts from various sciences, helps us understand human-caused environmental and social problems and provides the tools to take meaningful action for a better future.

I participated in a podcast production training at Bolygó, jointly organized with Greenpeace Hungary, aimed at giving young people a voice in environmental protection. The podcast format is excellent for exploring a wide range of topics informally and discussing environmental questions and solutions. Every minute of the training was practice-oriented, and together with other participants, we worked towards a common goal, resulting in an interview and podcast by the end of the two-day training.



The training was led by Hungary's top media professionals, and we learned valuable tips in a friendly, collaborative environment. Bolygó's inspiring space, supportive staff, and welcoming atmosphere made it easy to learn the theoretical and practical aspects of podcasting. My initial nervousness quickly turned to excitement, and the experience allowed us to express and explore deeper opinions. Bolygó's message and mission are authentic and forward-thinking, and I highly recommend their programs to any young person ready to act for the environment and their community. Bolygó will open the door for you if you are dealing with climate anxiety!

Blog post by David



Alumni celebration to initiate movement building



Ubunifu Hub



Activity

Implementation: The event gathered 497 youth activists to reflect on the milestones achieved over the

past 3.5 years in the project. These youth had fully engaged with the offerings at Ubunifu Hub.

Outcomes: The event saw 497 participants, with 78% within the target age. Of these, 232 attended in person, while 265 joined via Instagram Live.



International dinner

Youth team leaders and EU Solidarity Corps volunteers prepared traditional vegetarian and vegan

dishes from their countries and shared them during a dinner open to all. The event provided an opportunity for participants to connect, build relationships, and enjoy a fun evening with like-minded peers.

“ My involvement in the center greatly influenced my perceptions of the future, giving me new perspectives and experiences. Here I not only learned new skills, but also deepened my self-awareness and clarified my goals. I realized that every opportunity at the center is a step towards my future, developing not only my professional but also my personal skills. This experience helped me to be more confident that the path I have chosen is the right one and that everything will work out if I continue to work with the same aspiration.”

Anonymous youth, survey 2024



Young mechanics training

Mboa Hub provided young mechanics both with practical and theoretic sessions. The hands-on training focused on climate justice and youth



engagement. Skill-sharing sessions organized in local classrooms aimed to provide practical knowledge and engage school dropouts, equipping them with new skills and encouraging their involvement in climate and environmental initiatives.

Streaming workshop



Skill-sharing



Bolygó



Initiative

Implementation: Fridays For Future, which organizes events at Bolygó, proposed streaming their activities, inspiring the idea of a professional training session on live broadcasting. Participants learned about the challenges of live streaming by analyzing real broadcasts and received hands-on experience setting up a studio with lights, cameras, microphones, and decorations. They also practiced using free streaming software to arrange broadcasts from prerecorded materials. Those who completed both training

sessions earned certificates and gained access to the video studio as a bookable space. Feedback was highly positive, with participants expressing increased confidence in using streaming equipment, and one participant successfully tested their skills by setting up a camera at their own event.

Support given: Bolygó enlisted two professionals to lead the workshop, ensuring the training was tailored to the audience's needs. The necessary technical tools were purchased, and the mentors were compensated for their time. Additionally, participants received follow-up consultations with the mentors to further develop their streaming skills.

Lusine & Lia's journey to inspire environmental change

Lusine, aged 19, and Lia, aged 20, crossed paths last March at the Alternative in Yerevan.

Lusine, passionate about nature and animals, sought out Alternative to share her voice with and contribute to meaningful climate and environmental work.

Lia's interest in environmental issues ignited three years ago when she encountered ISSD, a social business in Armenia dedicated to recycling and raising awareness about plastic waste. Inspired, Lia delved deeper into environmental education, eager to spread knowledge and inspire action among her peers.

Their meeting at the Alternative was coincidental. Both shared a keen desire to engage and mobilize young people to prioritize planetary well-being. At Alternative, they found not just a platform to express themselves but also a supportive community of like-minded individuals.

From this shared passion, their initiative, Green Mind, was born. Through social media platforms like Instagram, Telegram, and Facebook, they disseminate information ranging from facts to films, all aimed at nurturing greener mindsets. Despite the challenges of motivating Armenian youth amidst

regional conflicts and security concerns, Lusine and Lia remain steadfast in their commitment to environmental activism.



In addition to their online efforts, Lusine and Lia launched a series of workshops in March 2024 across universities in Yerevan and community centers in Armavir. They focus on critical issues like water pollution and preservation, the environmental impact of fast fashion, and animal agriculture. Their awareness of these interconnected issues was heightened during their membership training at Alternative, fueling their determination to educate others.

Both Lusine and Lia were actively engaged in Alternative's workshops and events, culminating in their participation in a youth exchange in Stockholm in December 2023. There, they found inspiration in meeting fellow activists and participating in their first climate march.

Blog by Alternative



Urban gardening



Skill-sharing



Ubunifu Hub



Initiative

Implementation: Urban gardening initiative where 21 participants engaged in various activities, including a theory session on gardening, soil preparation and

bagging, selection and planting of strawberries, kale, spinach, and indigenous vegetables (managu – black nightshade). Participants also learned about and practiced irrigation techniques to care for the plants.

Support given: Provided space, refreshments, farming tools, seedlings, inputs, and training for participants.

“ Mboa Hub makes the space comfortable for youths to express themselves creatively; before, I couldn’t talk to people boldly, thinking my ideas were bad or fearing judgment. But thanks to my persistent participation in each session, I can now communicate freely, which has helped me build my leadership skills and embrace creativity. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

Youth exchanges

During the project period, two Youth exchanges took place: one in Stockholm, Sweden in December 2023, and the other in Yerevan & Dilijan, Armenia in August 2024.

The youth exchanges within the Planet One project provided a unique opportunity for young people from different makerspaces and regions to come

together, share ideas, and collaborate on climate action. These exchanges aimed to build cross-cultural learning, build global networks, and empower youths to take leadership roles in their communities. By participating in hands-on activities, workshops, and discussions, participants gained new perspectives on climate justice, innovation, and activism. The exchanges not only strengthened the global community of youth climate advocates but also equipped participants with the skills and inspiration to drive meaningful change both locally and globally.

An unforgettable youth exchange in Armenia

This past week, a remarkable youth exchange program took place amidst the scenic beauty of Armenia, bringing together young activists from Hungary, Sweden, Armenia, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Kenya, Cameroon, and South Africa. Organized by Planet One and partner organizations, the event aimed to foster global connections and hands-on learning. Set in Dilijan's picturesque Vanatun Hotel, participants enjoyed breathtaking mountain views, creating a tranquil atmosphere for collaboration.

The program featured enriching workshops, including sensory theatre and discussions on upcycling as

a tool for activism. Sustainable leadership sessions emphasized the importance of environmental and social responsibility, equipping participants with practical skills to drive change. Beyond the workshops, we explored Armenia's cultural and natural heritage with hikes, a visit to the historic Haghartsin Monastery, and an exhilarating biking experience at Boo Mountain Bike Park.

Cultural night was a highlight, with each participant sharing traditions, songs, and cuisine, celebrating diversity and deepening our mutual understanding. Visits to local markets near Sevan Lake showcased Armenian craftsmanship, adding a rich cultural layer to the experience.

Blog post by Jafta



Uniting for empowerment: the 2023 youth exchange

In December 2023, young leaders from Sweden, Hungary, Armenia, Cameroon, Kenya, and South Africa gathered in Stockholm for Planet One's Youth Exchange, a five-day event designed to inspire climate action. The program began with a tour of Fryshuset and a talk from Fridays For Future, followed by crafting banners for an upcoming strike, which energized participants with a shared sense of purpose.



On day two, participants joined the Fridays For Future strike and explored Stockholm's Old Town, ending with a passionate debate on climate justice. The third day was an immersion in Swedish nature at Hellasgarden, where a sauna and lake dip enhanced environmental connection, followed by a youth-led project workshop.



Day four focused on relaxation and creativity, starting with yoga and including vegan baking, painting, and a self-discovery art workshop. The day fostered mindfulness and strengthened connections, with participants recording podcasts as a fun team activity.



The final day was bittersweet, featuring Christmas-themed crafts, handmade guitar-building, and a farewell dinner with African cuisine. Participants reflected on friendships, cultural exchange, and the knowledge gained for a sustainable future.



The Stockholm Youth Exchange strengthened bonds and inspired a commitment to climate justice, leaving everyone motivated to drive change in their communities. The event even featured the first episode of "Unveiling Environmental Echoes," an environmental podcast recorded with youth leaders from Kenya and South Africa, marking the beginning of a shared journey toward a sustainable world.

Blog post by Danyil



Youth exchange in Stockholm – December 2023





“ During the youth exchange, I improved working with people, especially approaching people. This has been a challenge for me. With the diverse cultural background of the youth during the exchange, I could approach them without fear. I want to add this, I sometimes think that I have nothing interesting to share with others. But during this youth exchange and with the presentation I did, i discovered that youths want to learn. There is therefore a necessity to share with them what we know. ”

2023 youth exchange survey





Youth exchange in Armenia – August 2024





“ Thank you so much for this beautiful experience. My summer got even better because of this week, I learned so much new and met so many amazing people. I want to sincerely thank you for the hard work, time and caring you’ve put into this program. I hope you also enjoyed it just the way I did! ”

2024 youth exchange survey

From jack-of-all-trades to eco-artist

In the vibrant landscape of Nairobi, Kenya, Ken's story stands out as one of resilience and creativity. As a "jack-of-all-trades", Ken has tried his hand at construction, acrobatics, car washing, waste management, food vending, and more. Despite setbacks like water rationing impacting his car wash business and challenges in renting out equipment, Ken's determination led him to a new path: art.

In June 2022, Ken joined Tempo Arts Center's climate justice training, learning to turn waste into art. Inspired, he began experimenting with waste cardboard to create art pieces, receiving support from Ubunifu Hub. His passion for art drives him to continuously learn, now creating and selling his pieces, with 16 artworks completed and four sold.

But why art? Ken's answer is simple: "I have a passion for it, and I learn something new with every painting, so it keeps my interest high. I'm very hopeful about the future of this project, so I will focus on it."

Ken's work at Ubunifu Hub allows him uninterrupted focus, where he has become a source of inspiration for others, guiding youth interested in circular economy initiatives. In May 2023, he showcased his work at the Africa Youth Leadership and Entrepreneurship Conference, further motivating him to train others and expand his business.

Through his art, Ken has diverted 60 kg of paper waste from dumpsites, a small yet meaningful step toward sustainability. His journey exemplifies how dedication and innovation can pave the way for a greener, more sustainable future.

Blog post by Ken



“ Before coming to Alternative, I struggled to find environmental projects, even though I was very interested in the topic. Since then, I've learned so much and gained confidence to engage in environmental initiatives. ”

Anonymous youth, survey 2023

The Youth Struggle book launch



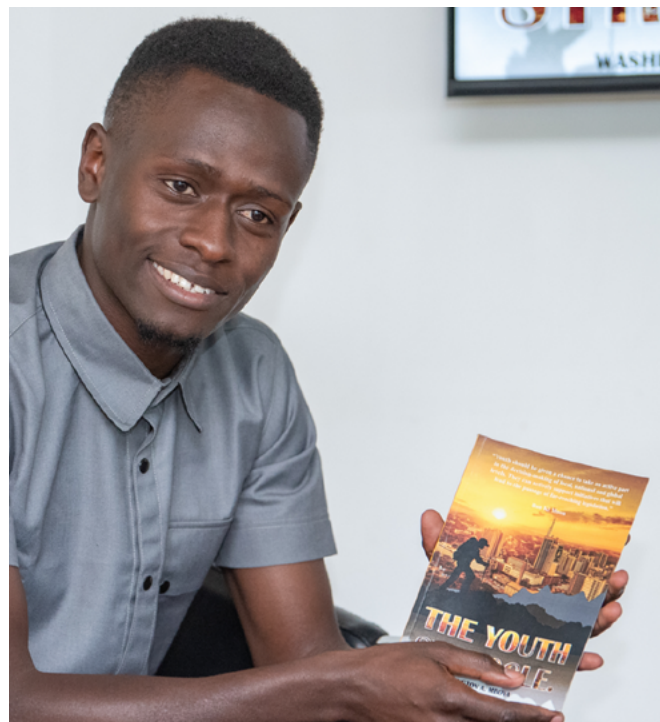
Ubuntu Hub



Initiative

Implementation: YOUTHPRINUA utilized the Ubuntu Hub to write their book *The Youth Struggle* throughout 2022 and early 2023. They conducted research using the hub's tools and resources, culminating in the book's launch at the makerspace. A total of 150 copies were printed, with Planet One purchasing 60 copies to distribute across its six hubs.

Support given: The hub provided space for writing and launching the book, along with access to tools and resources. The launch was sponsored by the hub and a guest speaker was invited. Additionally, the hub supported the establishment of a small community library to encourage reading and sports among children and youth.



Lubabalo's story

In the vibrant heart of Soweto (Johannesburg, South Africa) a young and inspiring individual is making waves in the world of climate change and spirituality. Meet Lubabalo, a local theater actor who recently realized his dream of recording a podcast show that explores the deep connection between climate change and spirituality.

For three years, Lubabalo poured his heart and soul into crafting a podcast that would shed light on the profound question of how climate change affects our spirituality. Armed with just his trusty mobile phone, he embarked on a journey of self-discovery and enlightenment.

One fateful evening, while scrolling through social media, Lubabalo stumbled upon Ubuntu Hub. This discovery changed the course of his journey. He decided to pay them a visit, and this visit turned his long-held dream into a reality. At Ubuntu Hub,

he found state-of-the-art equipment that he could use for free, which was instrumental in bringing his podcast to life.

We celebrate this young champion of climate justice and spirituality. His dedication and unwavering passion have led him to become a leader in a youth movement focused on creating a brighter future for our planet. Lubabalo is now at the helm of a remarkable podcast show, collaborating with other talented young minds from Soweto who share his belief in achieving climate justice within their lifetime.

Lubabalo's story is an inspiration to us all, demonstrating how determination and the right resources can empower individuals to make a real impact on the issues they care about. He is an inspiration, not just in Soweto, but for a global audience. His story reminds us that by pursuing our passions and uniting with like-minded souls, we can create a world that's more in tune with our spirituality and the environment.

Epilogue



Planet One, with its countless inspiring stories—some of which are featured in this book—stands as a powerful testament to the resilience, creativity, and leadership of youth worldwide. They embody the potential that emerges when we empower youth to tackle the climate and environmental crisis head-on through activism, entrepreneurship, culture, and collaboration.

What has inspired me most throughout this journey is the incredible talent and brilliance of the youth employed in this project. They are some of the most exceptional individuals I've worked with—bright, skilled, and deeply committed. They are the reason I have genuine hope for a better, more sustainable future.

Yannick Porter
Planet One Project manager





Learning-by-doing has been the main methodology in the Planet One project, and this has really been embodied in everything that we have done - in various different ways. My role as the Learning manager was to create a learning and development strategy that was collaborative, inclusive, relevant and possible to implement into six very different contexts - a pretty difficult task.

We concluded that our focus should be interactive sharing of knowledge and skills since we wanted the staff and the youth participants to learn while doing and also learn from each other across the countries. This turned out to be a very good focus. Personally, I never could have imagined that I would learn all the things that I have learned throughout the project.

I am so utterly impressed by everyone's knowledge and engagement, especially the youth's and youth leaders', and for their willingness to share their skills with me and each other. Starting up this project from scratch was a challenge on many levels, but by working together, learning by doing, trial and error, we succeeded to create a very impactful project. This way of working with focus on interactive, informal learning has been really inspiring for me and something that I will take with me in my future endeavors.

Thank you so much to everyone that made this project the success that it is.

Julia Hedberg
Planet One Learning manager



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The Planet One project was a **global project supporting the growing youth movement for climate justice**. The project operated between 2021 and 2024 and was a collaboration project between **Fryshuset**, Sweden's largest youth organization, and **Greenpeace**, the world's largest independent environmental organization.

Planet One operated in the six countries of **Armenia, Cameroon, Hungary, Kenya, South Africa** and **Sweden** through the establishment of makerspaces – safe, inclusive environments where youth actively engaged in hands-on learning and addressed real-world environmental challenges. These makerspaces provided a **foundation for youth** to develop their own initiatives, gain practical skills and build a strong network of support, **empowering them to become changemakers**.

With this handbook we want to **showcase the operations and impact** of the Planet One project together with **highlighting examples of creative and impactful youth-led initiatives, activities and impact stories** from the project's makerspaces and the global network. Our hope is to support and inspire others who would like to do something similar and continue to empower youths in their fight for global climate justice.

We are very thankful for all the youths, staff, collaborating organizations and the funder Swedish Postcode Lottery for making this innovative project a reality!



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