

LEAD Europe 2010

London-Brussels-South Africa



Highlights from the LEAD Europe Programme 2010

'The EU and Leadership - Towards a Sustainable Future'

Brussels, Belgium, 6-10 September 2010

THE EVENT - LEAD EUROPE 2010 BRUSSELS MODULE

What: "The EU and Leadership - Towards a Sustainable Future".

When: 6-10 September 2010

Where: Maison Notre Dame du Chant d'Oiseau

After a two months break over the summer, 21 Associates participating in the LEAD Europe 2010 Leadership for Sustainable Development Programme reconnected in Brussels on 6 September. Following the initial London-based module, the Brussels module is the second stage of a dynamic leadership journey, exploring leadership from a more regional point of view. The European Union is a unique international entity and strong driver towards a more sustainable future. This module will allow participants to familiarise themselves with the challenges and opportunities of climate action at the EU level.



LEAD Associates in break out groups

SETTING THE STAGE

The first day of the Brussels module, entitled 'The EU and Leadership - Towards a Sustainable Future', began with an introduction to the EU, led by three Brussels based LEAD Fellows. The session included an engaging debate around Europe's democratic deficit, points of engagement, and the future of a more integrated Europe.

This introduction provided a solid foundation for the following panel discussion on European leadership at the global level. Representatives from the Mexican and South African Embassies shared their expectations with us for a stronger European leadership in the international climate change debate.

THE HOT TOPIC – CLIMATE POLICY



In conversation with climate experts

One of the reoccurring themes of the week was the 2009 COP climate negotiations in Copenhagen. Michael Starbaek Christensen, European Commission DG Climate Action, joined our group to share his experience of participating in the negotiations in Copenhagen.

Another important contributor on climate policy negotiations was Graham Floater, The Climate Centre, who described his experience of influencing global deforestation policies. Hearing about real life examples of negotiations informed participants' knowledge about climate challenges and opportunities in the EU.

NEGOTIATING CARBON TARGETS

Developing participant's skills in negotiation, advocacy and influencing is an important aspect of promoting leadership for sustainable development. A new simulation exercise, designed around the current EU debate on altering CO₂ emission reduction targets from 20% to 30%, allowed participants to practice their negotiation and advocacy skills, and familiarise themselves with policy development at EU level. The simulation also underlined the wide range of stakeholders involved in the negotiation of EU policies, as well as their power relations.



Negotiating CO2 emission targets

One of our participants, Ben Coombes, Strategy Development Officer at the London Borough of Bromley, commented on EU negotiations: “*The EU is so complex that willingness in cooperation is an essential tool of leadership*”.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION SITE VISIT

Visiting a European institution at the heart of the European Union is a core part of the LEAD programme. This year Associates met with Cees Wittebrood and Denis Chaibi representatives of the Directorate General Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection at the European Commission. Participants enjoyed the behind the scene visit to the Commission Berlaymont building and were fascinated by the personal stories both speakers shared with the group.

Discussing the European perspective and actions on humanitarian aid and development in Africa gave participants a brief outlook on the next module in South Africa.



In conversation with Cees Wittebrood

THE LEADERSHIP PANEL

Participants’ Brussels Module learning journeys came to an end with the leadership panel where Mirella Visser, Centre for Inclusive Leadership, Raymond Van Ermen, European Partners for the Environment and Jean Yves Caneill, EDF Energy, shared their own views of leadership.

The open question and answer session triggered an interesting debate around the willingness to suffer in order to be a leader. Yanina Taneva, Directress of the Ideas Factory, came to the following conclusion: “*Failure is not failure if you have a long term vision*”.



Mirella Visser on women in leadership positions

NETWORKING IN BRUSSELS



Networking at The Hub

An open networking event at The Hub, a meeting place for social entrepreneurs, brought Associates and Fellows together in one room with LEAD’s partners, stakeholders, Hub Members and other interested parties.

Connecting with new people across different sectors and cultures is an integral part of LEAD’s approach. Participants will join our global network when they graduate and will be connected to more than 2000 LEAD Fellows in over 90 countries.

LEAD ASSOCIATE PROJECTS

The LEAD Associate Projects are an important element to the programme as participants can apply their acquired skills and knowledge. In London Associates formed groups around common interests and began to work across sectors and cultures on projects such as ‘Microfinance and Climate Change Adaptation in East Africa’, ‘MBAs and Leadership for Sustainability’, ‘Sustainable Tourism Phone App’, ‘A Systems Thinking Tool for Climate Risk Assessment’, ‘Sustaining Cohort Engagement’, and ‘Combining Capacity Building with Business Opportunities in Poor Countries’.

LEAD EUROPE 2010 LEAD ASSOCIATES – ABOUT THEIR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT



Masha Kutelova

Associate in the Regional Initiative for Sustainability, Colliers International

"Leadership requires a lot of listening and empathy in order to better understand and influence people. I think I realised I have this potential and I need to work hard to develop these skills better."

Susanne Schroeter

Associate Director, Equity-Linked Solutions, Standard Chartered Bank

"I'm reassured of my idea that banking/business is a good starting point to create change."



Douglas Cook

Senior Policy Advisor, Department of Energy and Climate Change

"Small things can make big waves."

Katharine Cross

Senior Programme Officer, International Union for Conservation and Nature

"I can get easily frustrated if things are not going my way (i.e. negotiation game) but if I take time to reflect I can find an alternative, more cohesive approach."



Marieke Rodenhuis

Programme Coordinator Progreso for Latin America, Avance PMC BV

"Now I see myself as a leader!"

ABOUT LEAD TRAINING

LEAD creates unique learning journeys around leadership and sustainability challenges in order to fully engage participants from different sectors and diverse cultural backgrounds. With 17 years' experience of delivering global development programmes we recognise that people start from different places, with different expectations and have different learning styles. The purpose of the learning journey is to map a clear path through specific sustainability themes and challenges, and to strengthen opportunities for individual and group learning and reflection.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PROGRAMME



We are very grateful to all our friends and supporters from government, business, NGOs and Academia who shared their knowledge and experience with our Associates. We'd like to thank everyone who helped us to achieve our goal of delivering a truly diverse cross sectoral learning experience including: **Antoine van den Bogaert**, *The Hub Brussels*; **Alberto Glender**, *Counsellor for Energy and Environment, Mexican Embassy*; **Cees Wittebrood**, *Head of Unit for East, West and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean, European Commission DG Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection*; **David Ferguson**, *Head of Corporate Responsibility Strategy, EDF Energy*; **Denis Chaibi**, *Member of Cabinet of Commissioner Georgieva, European Commission DG Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection*; **Graham Floater**, *Director, The Climate Centre*; **Jason Anderson**, *Head of European Climate and Energy Policy, WWF*; **Jean Yves Caneill**, *Head of Environmental Affairs EDF Energy*; **Joris den Blanken**, *Energy and Climate Policy Director, Greenpeace*; **Klaus Niederlaender**, *Programme Manager SME*

Development, Centre for Development Enterprise, LEAD Fellow; **Kristalina Georgieva**, *Commissioner, European Commission DG Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection*; **Martijn Quinn**, *Member of Cabinet Commissioner Georgieva, European Commission DG Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection*; **Martin Porter**, *Director, The Centre*; **Michael Starbaek Christensen**, *Deputy Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Hedegaard, European Commission DG Climate Action*; **Mirella Visser**, *Founder, Centre for Inclusive Leadership*; **Patricia Lodge**, *Administrative Assistant, European Commission DG Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection*; **Raymond van Ermen**, *Executive Director, European Partners for the Environment*; **Stefanie Hiesinger**, *Legal Officer, European Commission DG Climate Action, LEAD Fellow*; **Tony Long**, *Director, WWF European Policy Office*; **Tom Dodd**, *Policy Officer Corporate Social Responsibility, European Commission DG for Enterprise and Industry, LEAD Fellow*; **Zintle Koza**, *First Secretary, South African Embassy*.

Special thanks go to the team at the Maison Notre Dame du Chant d'Oiseau, our venue for the training and to Tellus Mater for supporting 10 LEAD Europe Associates.

JOURNEY TO BE CONTINUED...

For information about LEAD leadership development programmes, please contact Juliane Nier, Project Officer
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The next step for LEAD Europe will be to attend the final module, the International Session in South Africa on "Population, Climate Change and Development".

