

Climate Ready Classrooms

AND THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2015, countries of the United Nations (of which New Zealand is a founding member) adopted the Sustainable Development Goals – these are urgent calls for action to improve life on this planet, for all. The Climate Ready Classrooms programme links to 12 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as follows:



Zero hunger

2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality. Climate Ready Classrooms raises awareness of the need to reduce or be selective on imported food. It also educates as to the link between food security and the eco-systems services (Workshop 3).



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination. Climate Ready Classrooms investigates the relationship between human health and well-being in the context of the healthy environment (Workshop 2 and 4).



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles and global citizenship. Indicator: 4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment. The Climate Ready Classrooms programme aims to provide the youth of New Zealand with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary to shape a sustainable future by integrating climate change issues into teaching and learning. Students are encouraged to adopt sustainable lifestyles, not only for themselves, but also their parents and the community (All 4 workshops).



Clean water and sanitation

6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity. 6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management. Climate Ready Classrooms challenges learners to take climate action to address the impacts of climate change including sustainable water use practice (Workshop 4).



Affordable and clean energy

7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency. At the conclusion of Climate Ready Classrooms students devise climate actions to reduce their carbon footprints (Workshop 3 and 4).



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities. Climate Ready Classrooms challenges learners to look around at their school and local community to see what changes can be made to promote sustainability (Workshop 3 and 4).



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management. Climate Ready Classrooms educates and motivates students to contribute directly by taking climate action and reducing their carbon footprint (Workshop 3 and 4).



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature. 12.8.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment. The Climate Ready Classrooms programme aims at providing the youth of New Zealand with the opportunity to learn about and shape a sustainable future. Students are encouraged to adopt sustainable lifestyles, not only for themselves, but also their parents and the community (All 4 workshops).



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning. 13.3.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment. Climate Ready Classrooms encourages students to adopt a low-carbon lifestyle and to save on carbon-intensive fossil fuel use – walk, cycle, use less, buy less, energy efficiency. It gets them thinking about reducing the wastage of resources and increasing green spaces and other takers of carbon. The programme encourages students to explore the climate change issue and to suggest solutions (All 4 workshops).



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

14.c Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources. Increasing awareness and initiating or reinforcing environmentally responsible behaviours are important steps towards this SDG. Climate Ready Classrooms educates and motivates students to contribute directly by taking climate action and reducing their carbon footprint (Workshop 3 and 4).



Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats and halt the loss of biodiversity. Increasing awareness and initiating or reinforcing environmentally responsible behaviours are important steps towards this SDG. As above, Climate Ready Classrooms encourages learners to become more environmentally responsible by taking climate action and reducing their carbon footprint (Workshop 3 and 4).



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilise and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the SDG in all countries, in particular developing countries. Partnerships and working collaboratively are key to the success of global goals. Through the Climate Ready Classrooms programme, Keep New Zealand Beautiful has worked with Keep Scotland Beautiful to support global efforts for SDGs through time and other resources. The programme also encourages students to become active global citizens.