



Press Release

1 December 2012

160,000 children in 12 European countries joined forces again and collected 2.5 Million "Green Footprints" for the UN Climate Conference in Doha

On Saturday, 1 December, Climate Alliance handed over 2.5 Million "Green Footprints" collected by 160,000 children in 12 countries to UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres in Doha, Qatar.

Since 2002 kids all over Europe are on the move together to save the One World's climate. This year 159,983 children in 12 European countries (Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovakia, Sweden, and Ukraine) ZOOMed in and collected 2,447,900 "Green Footprints" by using sustainable means of transport for their daily journeys, by saving energy in their schools and kindergartens, and by eating regional food.

In 2012 the ZOOM-Kids also highlighted issues of eco-fair and climate-clever procurement of school and kindergarten consumables to honour the 20th anniversary of the Agenda 21 and the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. So in addition to the fun of climate-friendly mobility on everyday journeys, the children paid attention to the things that they carry in their rucksacks and schoolbags as well as the materials they use for writing, drawing, painting and other art work.

While the climate negotiations struggle to reach binding results, the children have been on Climate Action for ten years. Thomas Brose, Executive Director of Climate Alliance, handed over the kids' Green Footprints together with their concrete wishes and demands to the UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres asking her to pass these messages to all the participants of the UN Climate Conference in Doha. "It would make us feel embarrassing if, after the conference, we once again have to tell the children of Europe, that the World's politicians didn't follow the kids' model and joined forces for to save the One World's climate. We therefore call on the politicians in Doha to at last get on the move together and to pave the way for a worth living future." said Brose.

Children's wishes and demands (originally written on paper footprints):

Dear politicians, please drive together if you have to get to a meeting.

Dear Politicians, I expect that you, too reduce CO₂ emissions.

I wish that you decide that everyone gets only one and not two or even three cars.



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I wish for our environment that biodiversity does not disappear and that everyone contributes to save CO₂ emissions!

My climate-wish is: No chopping of trees in the rainforest, or we will not get fresh air anymore someday.

I wish our environment to be better saved so even my great-great-grandchildren can still enjoy the sun.

Dear politicians, I hope my wish comes true!

“ZOOM – Kids on the Move for Climate Action” is Climate Alliance’s annual campaign on sustainable mobility for children aged 4 to 12 years old. ZOOM is running since 2002 and aims to show that the ‘little ones’ can take steps to help protect the climate too and not just talk about climate protection like the ‘big ones’ at the UN Climate Summit.

Photos and further information:

www.zoom-kidsforclimate.eu/results.html

The “Climate Alliance of European Cities with the Indigenous Rainforest Peoples” is the largest city network committed to climate protection and preservation of the tropical rainforests. Since 1990, Climate Alliance has supported a total of now over 1,600 members from 20 European countries in attainment of their voluntary commitments to reduce CO₂ emissions by ten percent every five years and to halve per capita emissions by 2030 at the latest (base year 1990). To preserve the tropical rainforests, Climate Alliance cooperates with Indigenous rainforest peoples.



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