

# Climate Care Uprising: Summary of Coalition Evaluation

The Coalition Evaluation was done in two steps. First a form was sent out over the email list created at the actions conference open to all to fill out. Secondly, a focus group discussed the evaluation at a breakout group in the By2020 European Strategy Call on Nov 5th.

## General Feedback

### Results:

The Climate Care Uprising was a big collective moment with 3 weeks of inspiring and creative actions with 24 countries globally, 20 European countries and 57 cities worldwide with over 72 activities! To have organised this in particularly difficult Covid-19 conditions has been an immense achievement, and it's a credit to the disobedient climate justice movement to continue adapting to these difficult circumstances!

### Feedback:

Overall survey results seemed to see the Climate Care Uprising as a success with a 4/5, reflecting that they loved the energy it gave to the movement despite being marred by COVID uncertainties and other issues taking the spotlight.

*One respondent reflected on this saying "Taking into consideration the Pandemia Context, 54 cities is not bad, but is very little compare to what is needed. I think it shows how the Climate issue is not as relevant as it should (like always, with the exception of last year). Probably, connecting to the recovery investment, or reconstruction funds can make it more visible (connecting to the economic and social crisis)."*

It also seemed to be another big entry point into European collaboration, especially with groups from Eastern Europe. *"I think it's first time that groups in Slovakia got involved in protest actions taken out under by2020 campaign - so this is definitely progress (and at the same time, it's first time different climate groups/NGOs here did something like this together, so another progress). And, as far as I know, it was the biggest by2020 action"*, These are groups that traditionally have been underrepresented in the European Grassroots Networks before.

## The Process:

### Background:

The Climate Care Uprising was first started by the invitation of By2020WeRiseUp platform and Greenpeace to a "Actions Conference on July 4th. This conference centered around

intersectionality and how to work together moving forward with guest speakers from indigenous rights, anti-war, and Black Live Matter movements in Europe.

The conference led to the creation of 4 working groups; Narrative, Announcement, Digital & Outreach. A Tactics working group was discussed but due to the changing COVID situation, it instead referred to the earlier By2020WeRiseUp tactics handbook developed in the spring. Coordination was done through the ActionsConference email list as well as the biweekly By2020 European calls.

The Narrative working group was tasked with deciding a name for the moment - and after input and discussion brought 3 proposals to the European By2020 call on July 16th at which the name Climate Care Uprising was agreed to by consensus. The narrative, announcement and digital working groups then brought forward proposals to the By2020WeRiseUp strategy conference hosted online on July 31st - Aug 2nd.

At the strategy conference, the climate care uprising proposals were discussed, developed and eventually reached strong consensus in the plenary. It was also placed as the first of the choreography of moments that contributed to the autumn proposal from the conference. You can find the [full minutes here](#):

This ended the work for the announcement and narrative working group, while the digital and outreach groups continued their work in support of local initiatives. The rest of the uprising was led by local actions and plans - with digital working group updating the website and releasing videos to summarize the movements work.

### **Feedback**

Groups struggled a bit with the process, giving the effectiveness of it a score of 3.33/5. The concerns were mainly in regard to the short timeframe and the conferences held over summer. *“the process is well designed and is helping to keep the climate struggle alive, but we were just 34 participants from all over europe in the first strategy meeting, 8 of them from Portugal, and GP and FFF were by far the most represented organizations, which means that we were not very representative of the social movements in Europe”*

It also took a few groups time to get engaged and orient themselves in the process if they missed the first one, *“It’s probably not something that you can improve, cause from my point of view it was mainly lack of experience with this kind of organizing - it took me a while to get oriented. And also internal issues in our group complicated things. So things were messy at the beginning,*

The focus group reflected that there was a relative lack of actions from western Europe, but lots of engagement in eastern europe. Similarly, unfortunately due to the pandemic there were a lot of cancellations and generally low energy level.

It seemed that generally the bigger, "established" grassroots groups joined the CCU with existing action plans in mind while smaller groups generally planned their actions based on the CCU call out and tended to more collaborative activities. With larger groups having longer planning processes it reflects the need to bring them in early in planning and shows the value of common moments for smaller groups. The online summer conferences were a big challenge as *"many groups have spring meetings and make decisions for the year after that they don't spend as much effort in planning"*.

On inclusivity of the process it fared better, with 4.33/5 with groups saying *"Taking into consideration the context, and resources (people involved, time, moment, needs ....), probably it was difficult to make it more inclusive"*.

The focus group agreed and reflected that engagement and ownership was dependent on offline relationships, *"Everything being run online was a challenge and made it hard to join the process - most online working groups for European collaboration tend to consist of people who had already met in person (e.g. in Brussels)"*.

## The Narrative:

The following narrative as agreed upon as the By2020 Strategic Conference on Aug 2nd:

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*Climate. Care. Uprising!*

*2020 has made everyone think about what is essential... how we need to care for people, for society and for the planet that sustains us. Crisis is all around us: health, the economy, [modern colonialism], structural discriminations of all kinds, injustice and inequality, ecological collapse... And these crises are interconnected.*

*Our [so-called] political leaders [and CEOs] should be taking this moment to correct their dire wrongs, but they are failing miserably. Instead, they are neglecting basic human needs and rights, and are spending our money to feed the greed of corporate climate criminals who line their pockets through human exploitation and environmental extraction.*

*[If you like, insert a specific example here - it can be EU and national and/or local one that is adapted to the country/region using the narrative] It's high time for a radical change. We are here to help make it reality.*

*We desperately need to heal ecologies, societies, bodies, public services and economies. To achieve that, we need to come together as a community and take direct action, based on local realities, to block politics and companies of mass destruction.*

*Economic, social and environmental/climate justice must rise on the agenda! We all must urgently take care of each other and our planet. It's essential work that cannot stay at home!*

*The crises we face can't be solved individually. We need to learn and listen actively. We need to take action collectively and carefully. The uprising begins last week of September and continues on through 2nd week of October], as part of a wave of actions from By2020, XX, and XX.*

*Acting together is our strength. Join one of the grassroots groups all around Europe. Or start your own!*

*Join the #ClimateCareUprising!*

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## **Feedback**

The survey had slightly more mixed feelings as to how the narrative fit the struggle in their region with 3.33/5, with a few stating that their groups struggled to work intersectionally.

*"In general [the narrative] fit - those problems are more or less everywhere around the globe. But most of the groups involved here are concerned mainly with climate (and their argument regarding intersectionality was mainly that here we don't have BLM and colonialist past), so the other problems (sadly) weren't the main focus of the protest here. Our group tried to broaden the focus of our CCU action, but the consensus was we target the climate first and during the 2nd phase try to do something intersectional."*

The focus group highlighted the importance of intersectionality in the narrative saying, "Good focused effort to get input from social justice groups. Both on name and narrative. Would have been nice to have a symbol as well. Would have helped with more action logic as well."

However they also raised doubts on how central the narrative was to all groups who planned actions, but that this also is a perception by media and mainstream - "climate justice actions are often perceived as only climate action - e.g Ende Gelände is strongly anti capitalist and immediate coal phase out - but media only mentions "anti-coal" protest."

## **Digital Support:**

### **Background**

Throughout the Climate Care Uprising, a digital working group had two main tasks:

First it acted as the steward for the coalition website: <https://www.climatecareuprising.org/>

Secondly, it continuously updated macros, videos and social media posts for all groups to post and share each week. You can review the [full digital resources in this one stop doc](#):

### **Feedback**

Overall the digital support structure was very appreciated, receiving a 4.66 / 5 on the survey. This is reflected in the broad use of the material among grassroots groups with many of the videos and macros being some of the higher performing on social media.

The focus group also highlighted the value added by creating a “checklist” for key influencers being invited to speak on the coalition campaign. “*[it] proved to be very useful to make sure that these met a minimum standard of not being problematic:*<https://bit.ly/3i9xcll>”

The focus group continued to discuss the potential of social media and wondering if we should invest more in direct communication with supporters such as email, whatsapp groups or telegram, to avoid being dictated by algorithms.