



CLUVEX
CLIMATE UNIVERSITY FOR VIRTUAL EXCHANGES



Educational activities in Erasmus+ CLUVEX/ UnaVEx/ ClimEd projects – virtual exchanges/ trainings for Climate Messengers, Climate Advocates, Climate Experts

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2 - Finnish Meteorological Institute, Helsinki, Finland

3 - Mechnikov's Odessa National University, Odessa, Ukraine

* <https://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU25/EGU25-15778.html>



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Erasmus+ ongoing projects with Virtual Exchanges (VEs):

- ❖ **CLUVEX** – *Climate University for Virtual Exchanges (2023-2026)*

<https://www.atm.helsinki.fi/cluvex>



- ❖ **UnaVEx** – *Una Europe for Virtual Exchanges for Sustainability (2024-2027)*

<https://www.atm.helsinki.fi/unavex>

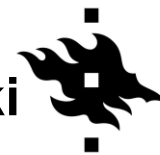


- ❖ **ClimEd** – *Multilevel Local, Nation- and Regionwide Education and Training in Climate Services, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation (2020-2026)*

<http://climed.network>



These projects are coordinated by the University of Helsinki



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Partners of the Projects / Consortia:

CLUVEX project Partners (budget: 474.359 €)



UnaVEX project Partners (budget: 499.878 €)



ClimEd project Partners (budget: 893.692 €)



In sumup, Partners from Europe (Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Italy, Spain), Africa (South Africa, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo), Armenia, and Ukraine incl. 2 Ministries of Ukraine plus, 16 Associated Partners

New recently started ongoing projects with Virtual Exchanges (VEs):

- ❖ **REOPEN** – *Next Generation Workforce – Empowering Young People for Improved Employment (2025-2028)*

<https://www.atm.helsinki.fi/peex/index.php/reopen>

<https://centralbaltic.eu/project/reopen>

- ❖ **EMPOANDES** – *EMPOwer ANDES societies to improve adaptation to climate change through the co-creation of climate services capacities (2025-2028)*

<https://www.atm.helsinki.fi/peex/index.php/empoandes>

<https://empoandes.eu>

In these projects, the University of Helsinki – is the Partner



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Online Learning - the Future of Education?

- Concept of traditional education is changing (COVID-19 !)
- Being physically present in classroom isn't the only learning option anymore - not with the rise of the internet and new technologies, at least
- Online learning - access to a quality education whenever and wherever you want, as long as you can get online
- Challenges of distance learning can be little interaction!
- Virtual Exchange (VE) is a tool to increase interaction in distance education!



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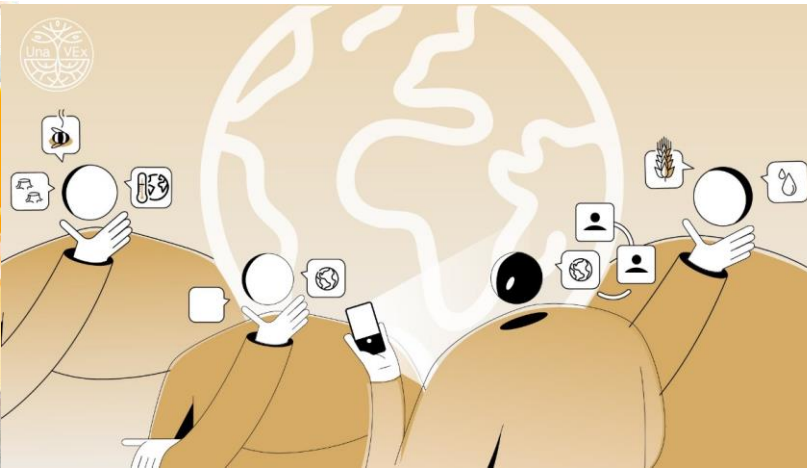
VIRTUAL BRIDGE
BETWEEN EUROPEAN & AFRICAN STUDENTS
FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES



**CLIMATE
UNIVERSITY**

General Aims: CLUVEX & UnaVEx

- to design Virtual Exchange (VE) concept for **climate change** & for **sustainability** education
- to bridge students from **European**, **Neighborhood East**, and **African** universities;
- to engage and educate students with competencies in **climate and green agenda together with interdisciplinary, green and soft skills & sustainability**
- to train moderators for **climate change** & for **sustainability** education
- to educate up to 500 students in each 1 VE Week (5 VE Weeks in total, per project)
- to educate altogether **2500** & **2500** students as the “**Climate Messengers**” & the “**Global Sustainability Advocates**” in 3 years
- to upscale VE concept to various networks and partnerships internationally



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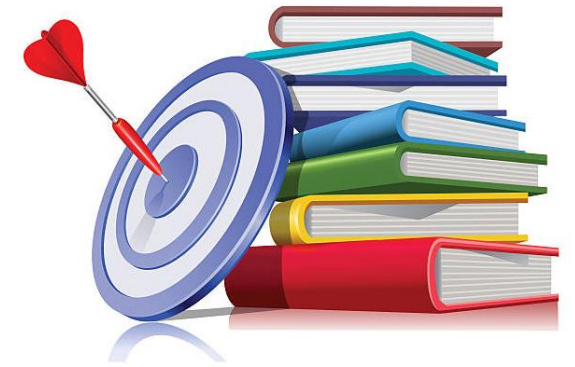
Welcome to act as a Moderator

The VEs organized by the CLUVEX & UnaVEx projects (led by Univ Helsinki) are currently the largest EU VEs projects in their field **offer a unique opportunity to learn about remote working and teaching in an international environment.**

Moderators' central role is ONLINE to support and motivate international and interdisciplinary interactions, discussions, and learning in small groups of students.

Moderators will

- get the necessary ECTS credits from the University of Helsinki/ Open University,
- get a certificate related to studies and moderator's activities,
- try pedagogy and language skills in international small groups of students,
- learn technical remote working and interaction skills needed in the working life,
- increase personal network with the organizing/hosting/collaborating universities,
- have a unique experience that broadens world view.



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Calls for Virtual Exchange (VE) Weeks for Students



Main Activity

- To announce **5 + 5** VE Calls and organize and carry out online in Zoom the interactive trainings called “VE Weeks-for-students” in 2024-2026
- **CLUVEX**: VE Week program includes: attendance of plenary sessions (lectures on climate related topics and demo of tools for visualization and analysis of climate related data) + online work (in break-out-rooms) in small groups of students (guided by educated CLUVEX moderators) discussing specific topics of climate change + working on Individual and Collaborative “Climate Horizon” exercise.
- **UnaVEx**: VE Week program includes: attendance of inspiring guest speakers and discussions on different perspectives on sustainability (sustainable development as a concept and in politics, ecological, social, economic, cultural sustainability) + online work online in small group of students with peers and moderators (guided by educated UnaVEx moderators) discussing and developing a collaborative, sustainability-themed action task + self-studying the “Introduction to sustainability” online course.



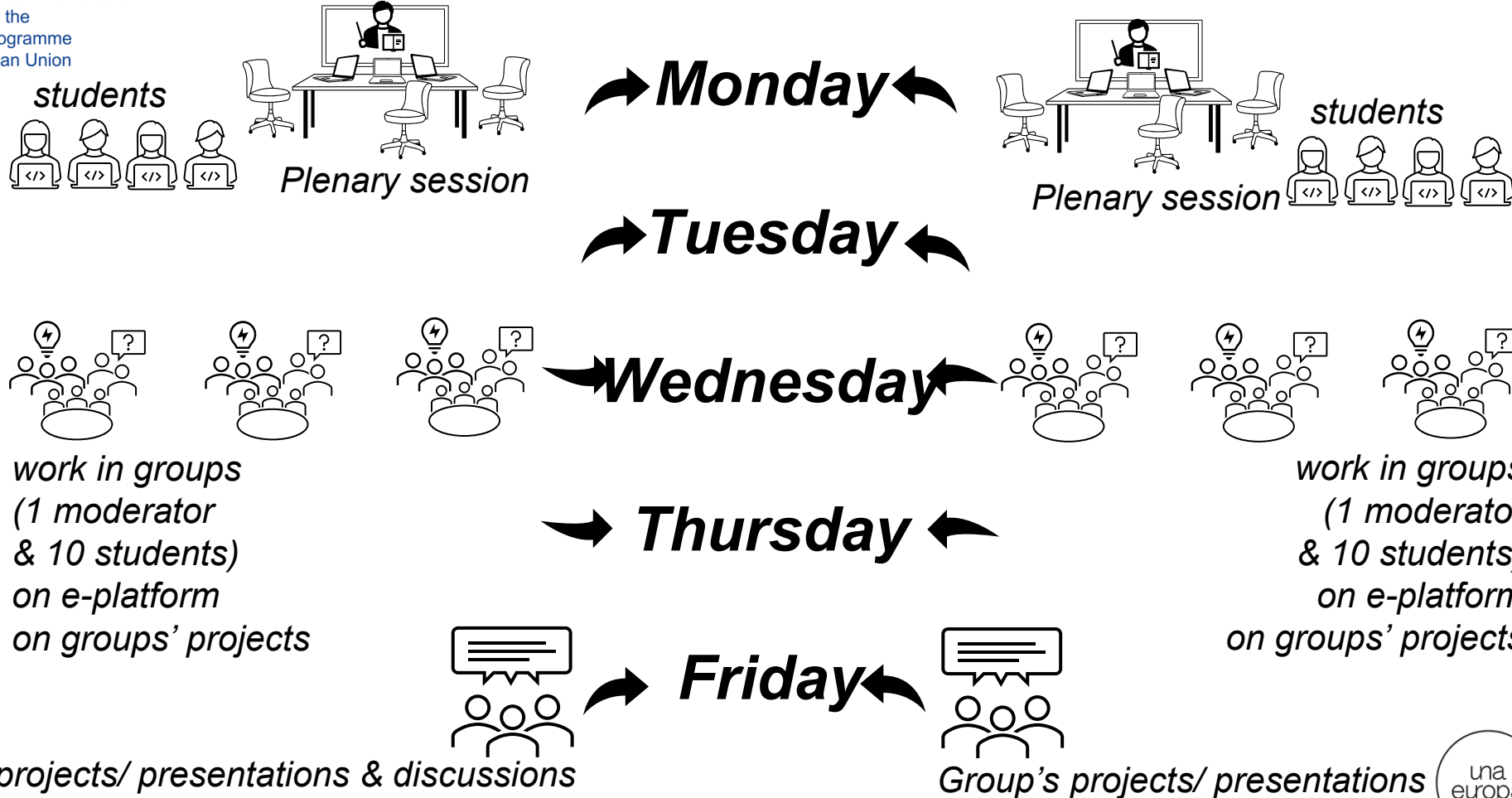
Virtual Exchange Call for Students

Up to 500 students



Virtual Exchange Week

Up to 500 students + up to 50 moderators + tech. support staff



Each VE Week includes: 3 h of online work from Monday-to-Friday



1st CLUVEX & UnaVEx Virtual Exchange Weeks



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Lecturers and Guest Speakers



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Sustainable Development as a Concept and in Politics
President Tarja Halonen



Ecological Sustainability
Prof. Daniel Olago



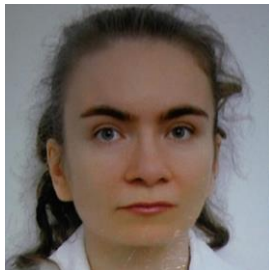
Social and Economic Sustainability
Prof. Evans Njewa



Cultural Sustainability
Prof. Ezio Manzini



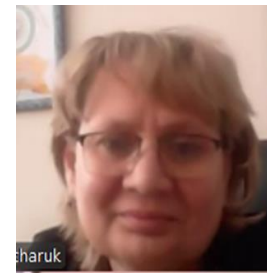
Climate Change, Disasters, Carbon-neutrality and UN SDGs
Prof. Alexander Baklanov



Navigating Planetary Boundaries
Assoc. Prof. Inna Khomenko



Climate Change Impact on Water Resources
Profs. Olga Shevchenko & Sergiy Snizhko



Nature Hazards – Floods
Prof. Valeriya Ovcharuk

Artistic Research and Critical Thinking
Yvonne Billimore



Impacts of Climate Change and Future Outlook
Prof. Hasmik Movsesyan

Towards Sustainable Future Utopia
Prof. Antti Rajala



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VE Week – Work in Groups on Climate Horizon

Learning + Communication + Collaboration Platforms (★)

Example of
CLUVEX

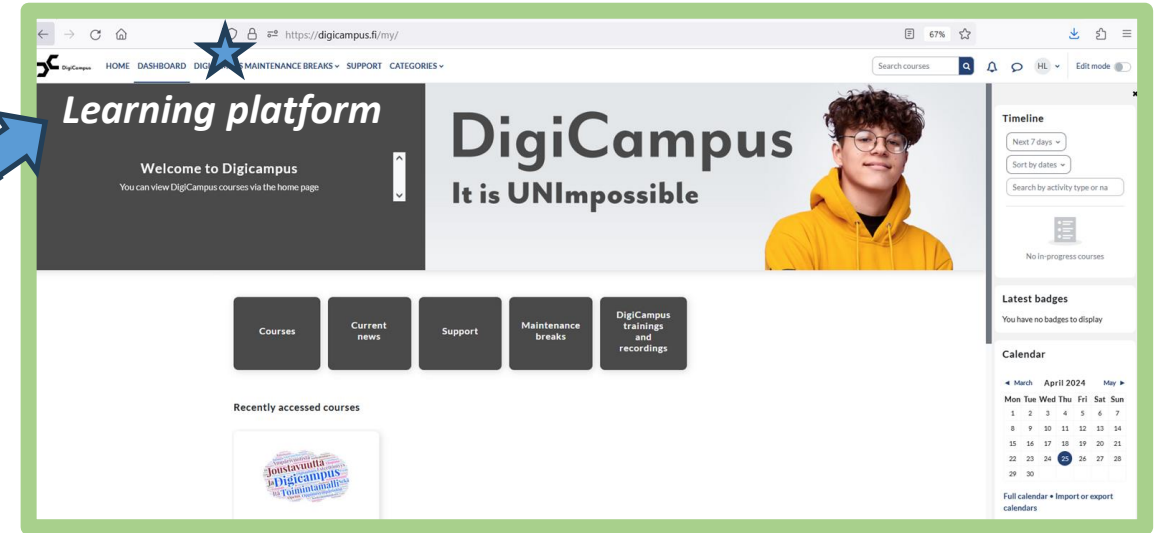


Communication platform

zoom



Collaboration platform



**DigiCampus for sharing materials
for students & moderators:**

- VEG – Virtual Exchange Guidebook
- CLG – Climate Literacy Guidebook
- CMC – Climate Messenger Code of Conduct
- Videos+slides of 8 lectures & 3 tools for data analysis
- Group Exercise “Climate Horizon”
& linking to SDGs
- Questionnaires



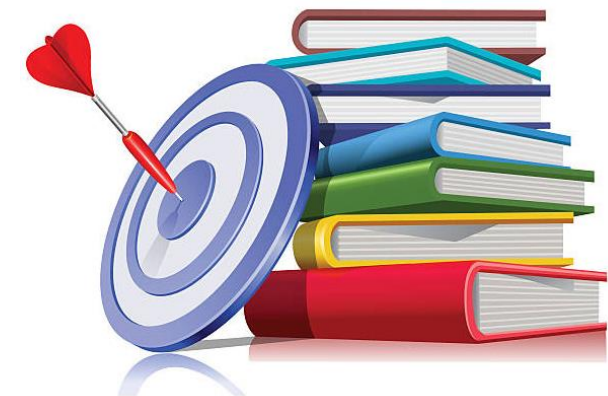
VE Week – Earned Bonuses for

CLUVEX & UnaVEx Students



Students awarded the following:

- **1 & 1(+3)** ECTS credits by University of Helsinki/ Open University
- **CLUVEX & UnaVEx** Certificate
- **Status of Climate Messenger & Global Sustainability Advocate**
- **Welcome to Online Courses of Climate University & Una Europa and Climate University**



Welcome to Climate University Online Courses



Students (BSc, MSc, PhD, PostDocs)
who participated in CLUVEX VE Weeks
and became the **Climate Messengers**



are also encouraged to take the Climate University online courses

<https://climateuniversity.fi>

Climate University

- brave forerunner in educating active sustainability makers for the society and business -



Courses

2-5 ECTS each
50+ ECTS in total
CC-BY-SA

www.climateuniversity.fi



Welcome to Una Europa & Climate University Online Courses

Students (BSc, MSc, PhD, PostDocs)
who participated in UnaVEx VE Weeks
and became the **Global Sustainability Advocates**

are also encouraged to take the Una Europa & Climate University online courses

Building on the Una Europa Micro-credential in Sustainability

<https://www.una-europa.eu/study/microcredential-sustainability/programme-information>



Introduction to sustainability, 3 ECTS
University of Helsinki



Climate.now, 2 ECTS
University of Helsinki



Biodiversity.now, 2 ECTS
University of Helsinki



Political economy of sustainability, 2 ECTS
Jagellonian University



Sustainability and the arts, 1 ECTS
University of Bologna



- Development **programme** with specific focus of training
- **Announcement** of the training & opening web-page (at <http://climed.network/events/climed-trainings>)
- **Web-applications/** evaluation/ informing & assigning **successful applicants** to groups/ granting access to Moodle system
- **Training event** (lectures, home-work-assignments as group's projects, presentations/ defences) *lecturing materials (slides & videos) are asap publicly available at web-page of the training*
- **Evaluation** of group's presentations (by lecturers & organizing committee) & awarding certificates
- **E-evaluation** of the training & of own (participants) learning outcomes
- **Self-evaluation** (by ClimEd project) of the completed training



Because **covid19 pandemic**, the originally planned face-to-face trainings were required to be converted into **online trainings**

- (i) **Online lecturing**
- (ii) **Home-work-assignments (HWAs) as groups' projects**
- (iii) **Final oral presentations (projects' defences) of HWAs with evaluation and feedbacks, discussions, and awarding certificates** (corresponding to ECTS credits)

Moving to face-to-face or onsite events (and combining also with online participation) – hybrid

- (i) **Lecturing** (*combined onsite & online teaching*)
- (ii) **Work in groups** (*onsite vs. online groups OR mixture of online/onsite participants in groups*)
- (iii) **Final oral presentations** of work done in groups with **evaluation** and feedbacks, discussions, and **awarding certificates** (corresponding to ECTS credits)



Spain & Estonia - ClimEd Trainings 4-7 in 2024-2025



<https://peexhq.home.blog/2024/05/24/climed-training-on-developing-learning-courses-in-climate-services-2/>



<https://peexhq.home.blog/2024/10/16/climed-5th-training-applying-different-technologies-of-blended-online-learning-in-education/>



<https://peexhq.home.blog/2025/02/21/7th-climed-training/>



<https://peexhq.home.blog/2025/02/22/sumup-about-6th-climed-training/>



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ClimEd Trainings, LOs, Groups, Participants

Tr#1 : Competence-Based Approach to Curriculum Development for Climate Education (10 LOs)

12 Groups – 46

(19 April – 12 May 2021) / Online – completed

Tr#2 : Adaptation of the Competency Framework for Climate Services to conditions of Ukraine (5 LOs)

12 Groups – 56

(29 June – 26 August 2021) / Online – completed

Tr#3 : Digital tools and datasets for climate change education (12 LOs)

12 Groups – 45

(26 October – 12 November 2021) / Online – completed

Tr#4 : Learning courses' development in climate services considering needs of different users (7 LOs)

12 Groups – 50 persons

(6-10 May 2024) / Onsite-Hybrid (Spain) – completed

Tr#5 : Applying different technologies of blended/on-line learning in education (5 LOs)

8 Groups – 34 persons

(30 Sep – 4 Oct 2024) / Onsite-Hybrid (Estonia) – completed

Tr#6 : Mastering technologies of massive open on-line courses development for general public (6 LOs)

15 Groups – 58 persons

(10-14 Feb 2025) / Onsite-Hybrid (Estonia) – completed

Tr#7 : Skills to use climatic information and services for climate-dependent branches of economy (9 LOs)

16 Groups – 79 persons

(7-11 Apr 2025) / Onsite-Hybrid (Spain) – completed



Acknowledgements

Special Thanks

- To all **guest speakers, lecturers, moderators** – for their professionalism, enthusiasm and commitment to the trainings.
- To all **organizers and hosts** of the CLUVEX, UnaVEx and ClimEd training events
- To all **colleagues/ participants** of the Erasmus+ CLUVEX, UnaVEx and ClimEd projects teams:
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