

Green Initiatives Database

A project of Adapting Canadian Work and Workplaces to Respond to Climate Change (ACW)

The Green Initiatives Database was first published online at the website of the Adapting Canadian Work and Workplaces to Climate Change (ACW) research project, and is [archived in YorkSpace, the York University digital repository](#). The database information was collected by Professor Linda Clarke, University of Westminster, London UK, and Professor Dimitris Stevis, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, USA. It summarizes campaigns, projects, networks, research and training activities in which unions were involved, proactively or reactively, directly or indirectly (but significantly), alone or as partners, across Europe and the USA. In some cases, references to related reports are provided. The research was conducted prior to 2017, but some of the initiatives may still be active.

This alternative version of the database is offered as a user-friendly source of same information, categorized by the type of initiative, and searchable by union name, stakeholder name, country, and keyword. As with all PDF documents, you can search by using Ctrl+F, then typing in your search term in the small bar that will appear in the corner of the page.

The Adapting Canadian Work and Workplaces to Climate Change (ACW) research project concluded in 2022, with [all its research outputs archived online in YorkSpace, the York University digital repository](#). As members of the ACW research project, Clarke and Stevis published related working papers, which are also archived:

- Stevis (2019), [Labour Unions and Green Transitions in the USA: Contestations and Explanations](#),
and
- Clarke, Sahin-Dikmen and Gleeson (2018), [Green Transitions in the Built Environment: Europe](#).

This summary document was prepared by Allana Mayer in April 2022.

Table of Contents

Training	4
Arbeid and Milieu	4
CENIFER (Integrated National Centre for Training in Renewable Energy)	6
Energy Efficiency Treasure Hunts	9
ETF Youth Work Programme	10
Euroeneff	12
Green Awareness Training Manual (UA)	14
Green Delegates for Europe 2020	15
Green Energy Construction Training	17
Green Training Mobile Trailers (UA)	18
GreenWorkplaces (TUC)	20
IBEW 99 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Facility	22
Net Zero Plus Electrical Training Institute	23
Power for America Training Trust Fund	25
Renewable Energy Training Field (IBEW-NECA)	27
Resource Efficiency for Works Councils	29
Zero Net Energy Center Training Facility	30
Campaigns	32
AFSCME Green Toolkit	32
Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy	33
Aluminium products resource efficiency (social partner dialogue)	34
Black Work Matters: Green Jobs Report	35
Broadband Speed Matters	36
Clean Power Progress	38
Climate Change Solutions	39
Climate Works for All campaign	40
Community Choice Aggregation Los Angeles	42
Going Green@Work	43
Green Schools (Am. Federation of Teachers)	46
Green Schools and Environmental Education	47

Green4sure Energy Plan	49
GreenTech	51
Huntley coal plant closing	53
Jobs to Move America	54
Labor Leading on Climate Initiative	55
Making it Green in Minneapolis Saint Paul report	57
May Transit Month Campaign	59
Movimiento Clima	60
No Coal In Oakland campaign	62
Our Planet Our Health – National Nurses United	63
Plastics industry resource efficiency	64
Puget Sound Sage Healthy Environment campaign	65
Repower LA Coalition	66
SEIU Environmental Justice campaign	68
Supplying Ingenuity	69
Sustainlabour	71
Transit Equity Day	73
TRUST (Trade Union Vision on Sustainable Transport)	74
Projects	76
Alliance for Work and Environment	76
Block Island Wind Farm	77
Building Clean	79
ChemHat (Chemical Hazard and Alternatives Tool Box)	81
Clean Economy Manufacturing Center	83
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant Closure	85
Eco-vouchers	87
Electric TV	89
Energy efficiency employee participation prize	90
Green Jobs Initiative – AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust	91
More climate protection through participation	92
Networks	93
Apollo Alliance	93
BlueGreen Alliance	95

BRISE	97
Labor Network for Sustainability	98
People’s Climate Movement	99
Resource Efficiency Network	101
RISE	103
Trade Unions for Energy Democracy	104
Research	106
DBA (The Sustainable Workplace)	106
Green Job Evaluation	108
ISTAS (the Union Institute of Work, Environment and Health)	109
Manufacturing Climate Solutions reports	111
Resource Check	113
Taking action for energy efficiency, increasing resource efficiency and safeguarding jobs	114

Training

Arbeid and Milieu



ABVV-FGTB



Arbeid & Milieu aims to develop understanding, disseminate information and deliver research that adds value to trade union operations in the workplace. Its mission is to empower representatives to contribute to a social and environmentally responsible economy. The Socio-Economic Council of Flanders (SERV) has an employment and investment plan that pays particular attention to the need for skill development linked to environmental challenges.

In cooperation with the Confederation of Christian Trade Unions, the partnership has also developed a training programme to raise awareness and build capacity on a variety of transversal green issues including knowledge of chemicals, soil contamination, and environmental legislation.

Arbeid & Milieu activities include:

- Consultations: A&M provides a forum for the organisations involved to discuss complex and delicate policy issues (emission trading, environmental taxes, among others) and establish common ground.

- Research, dissemination and raising awareness: bringing together and synthesizing information on issues where social and environmental aspects meet each other is a central task for A&M. A&M is also active in the dissemination and production of communication materials.
- Policy advice: A&M is invited as a stakeholder for public policy consultations.

Location(s)

Belgium

Tags: Belgium, Climate change education, Union education

Union(s):

General Federation of Belgian Labour, Confederation of Christian Trade Unions, General Confederation of Liberal Trade Unions of Belgium

Stakeholder(s):

Flemish Government 'and social partners' (through Social-Economic Council of Flanders); Flemish Federation of Environment and Nature Organisations; academia

Reference(s):

[Skills Needs in Greening Economies](http://erc-online.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Skills-needs-in-greening-economies_FinalReport.pdf) (2014) at http://erc-online.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Skills-needs-in-greening-economies_FinalReport.pdf Case study page 24.

CENIFER (Integrated National Centre for Training in Renewable Energy)



CENIFER is designed to provide vocational training to workers in the field of renewable energy. It is a collaboration between workers' and employers' groups and aims to identify the training and skills needed for the low carbon economy. It co-ordinates networks between business and universities and other course providers and designs course material.

In 2011 the Spanish Confederation of Employers' Organisations (CEOE), the Spanish Confederation of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (CEPYME), the Trade Union Confederation of Workers' Commissions (CCOO) and the General Workers' Confederation (UGT) signed the 'agreement for employment and collective bargaining' 2012–2014. The second chapter of this agreement focuses on employment, training, flexicurity, information and consultation, mostly including general recommendations such as the promotion of stable employment.

Training activities are integrated in three fields; specific or regulated, occupational and lifelong learning in order to respond to the different needs of individuals and society. CENIFER was created to train professionals in the field of renewables; some professionals have found employment in the region and others abroad. This national centre analyses training trends and skills needs in order to implement innovative practices, establish benchmarks and good practices for other vocational educational centres. They also seek to promote networks with business and universities.

CENIFER is also responsible for designing and updating training courses at the national level and for coordinating universities, private companies and education centres in order to meet the needs of the labour market. It is one of the 44 national educational

reference centres for vocational educational and training. These centres, certified by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, were created to perform actions for innovation and experimentation in the field of vocational training.

From 2002 onwards, as part of a follow-up to CENIFER, Navarre has been implementing its Environmental Training Plan. In cooperation with the Confederation of Entrepreneurs of Navarre and the Navarre Industry Association, the regional government identified the main skills shortages in the region through a project entitled “Strategic talent in the renewable energy sector”, and on the basis of its findings set up CENIFER, which became a major training provider for the sector. In 2006, the country’s first graduate programme for electrical engineers in wind and solar electricity was launched at the Public University of Navarre. Between 2002 and 2006, employment in renewable energies across Navarre increased by 183 per cent. In 2007 alone, 100 companies and over 6,000 jobs in renewable energies were created. Unemployment dropped to 4.76 per cent. Even in the economic and employment downturn of 2009, Navarre maintained the lowest unemployment level in Spain. This achievement bears witness to the success of a policy mix which incorporated environmental and skills measures in a proactive response to an economic crisis with a view to long-term dynamic development (ILO, 2011d).



Location(s)

Spain

Tags: Collective bargaining, Labour market research, Renewable energy, Skills training, Union-management initiatives

Union(s):

Confederation of Workers’ Commissions; General Workers’ Confederation

Stakeholder(s):

Spanish Confederation of Employers' Organisations; Spanish Confederation of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises

Reference(s):

UNFCC Technical Document (Oct. 2016) [*Just transition of the workforce, and the creation of decent work and quality jobs*](#)

CENIFER 'Integrated Higher Center of Renewable Energies (CISER), p.42

[*Skills Needs in Greening Economies*](#) (2014)

Energy Efficiency Treasure Hunts



“Through a unique partnership with the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF), IUE-CWA has developed a program to teach hourly workers and management how easy it is to identify and implement energy saving opportunities in manufacturing facilities. Over a three-day workshop, IUE-CWA’s experienced local union team leaders will increase awareness and enthusiasm about energy efficiency through powerpoint presentations and hands-on exercises. Starting on a Sunday, we look at a plant during shutdown and then the next two days in full operation with teams focusing on building systems and the production process. We then work together to develop recommendations on ways to minimize waste and quantify what the savings would be.”

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Energy efficiency, Labour-environmental alliances, Manufacturing sector, Training materials, Workplace practices

Union(s):

International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers (IUE-CWA)

Stakeholder(s):

Environmental Defense Fund

Reference(s):

<https://www.iue-cwa.org/images/docs/officer-manual/XIV.-Lean-Manufacturing-Treasure-Hunt.pdf>

ETF Youth Work Programme



The European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) Youth Work Programme for the period 2013-2017 was developed in the context of two EU-funded projects (TRANSUNION and the follow-up project Transunion Youth) that ran from 2010 to 2013. One of the issues it focuses on is the role of transport in climate change: 'Raising awareness of the impact the transport sector has on the environment with the aim to join forces in tackling its impact on climate change and ensuring a social transition towards a more environmentally friendly and sustainable sector'.

It recognises a variety of aspects to the problem, including lack of knowledge, the current regulatory framework, labour market rigidity and responsibility towards younger workers.

Our main goal in this field should be to secure jobs and ensure good wages and decent working conditions for all generations to come when the shift to a more sustainable sector starts. In order to achieve this, the following actions were developed:

- Develop a training module on climate change and implement a comprehensive education programme on climate change in all sectors to raise awareness and build union capacity to respond to climate change. An online presence collecting relevant data from different countries is one of the tools that will facilitate awareness-raising.
- Develop a network with other youth representatives, for example with IndustriAll, to exchange views and harmonise strategies.
- Organise a day of action to stress the urgent need for a social dimension in climate change policies, while at the same time making our demands known.

Location(s)

European Union (EU)

Tags: Climate change education, Online resources, Transportation Industry, Young workers

Union(s):

European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF)

Reference(s):

Youth Can Really Move Things at

https://www.etf-europe.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Brochure-ETF-Youth-Work-programme-2013-2017_EN.pdf. Note page 10.

Euroeneff

The Euroeneff project, which was launched in October 2008, is a transnational initiative dedicated to training the construction industry workforce in energy-efficiency techniques. Euroeneff, due to end in December 2010, is a European project led by the Bulgarian Construction Chamber and includes partners from the Netherlands, Romania and Spain. Its objective is to develop a multimedia guide to energy efficiency in building renovation for the trainers and teaching staff of vocational schools in these countries.

The Euroeneff project adapts a learning and teaching tool called FAINLAB, developed by the Vocational Training Centre of the Building Industry of North Rhineland–Westphalia and the German Centre of Aviation and Astronautics. FAINLAB covers some 15 professions in the construction industry, and with its multitude of aids, animations and video material, is a compilation of current knowledge. It also includes access to a large number of online information databases. Unlike the German version of FAINLAB, which focuses on apprentices, the English guide designed for Euroeneff has a broader target group and focuses on those already practising their trade (especially in SMEs), with an essential focus on energy efficiency issues in new-build and building renovation.

The founder of the project on the Romanian side was the Vocational Institute of Builders (CMC), a non-governmental and non-profit organisation established in 2004 by the Romanian Association of Construction Employers (ARACO) and the National Trade Union Federation in Construction and Erection Works, Anghel Saligny. CMC is directly dependent on the Builders' Social Fund (CSC), a private social security operator organised in a parity structure led by the building employers' association and trade unions.

Location(s)

European Union (EU)

Tags: Construction industry, Germany, Romania, Skills training, Spain, The Netherlands

Union(s):

Vocational Institute of Builders (Romania)

Stakeholder(s):

Bulgarian Construction Chamber; AIDICO, the Technological Institute of the Spanish Construction Industry; GOA Infra group; Glavbolgarstroy (Bulgarian construction company); MGM (Bulgarian IT company); German–Bulgarian Vocational Training Centre Pleven.

Reference(s):

[Eurofound \(2011\), Industrial relations and sustainability: the role of social partners in the transition towards a green economy, p.42.](#)

Green Awareness Training Manual (UA)



HVAC Excellence



 FERRIS STATE
UNIVERSITY

The United Association of Plumbers, Pipefitters, Sprinkler Fitters and HVACR Technicians provide training and certification in Green Awareness and Environmental Sustainability for its members, the mechanical piping and service trades workforce.

HVAC Excellence, Ferris State University and the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters worked together to address the gap in green mechanical education. The result is the development of the Green Awareness Training Manual, released in 2008 by ESCO Institute. Green Awareness is designed to provide a basic understanding of green concepts, terminologies, systems, and the latest in green mechanical technology. The manual contains four main sections: core knowledge of energy management and analysis; green HVACR; electrical generation and consumption; and green plumbing.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Skills training, Training materials

Union(s):

United Association of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders and Service Technicians

Stakeholder(s):

HVAC Excellence; Green Mechanical Council; Ferris State University

Reference(s):

http://www.contractormag.com/green-contracting/green_awareness_manual

Green Delegates for Europe 2020



The project aims to improve trade union engagement in the development and implementation of environmental policy locally and regionally. It will give staff the skills to participate in the policy-making process.

Trade unions have a key role in industrial dialogue and policies, so they have to understand climate change's consequences on employment and integrate environmental policy design in treating employment. The overall objective is to improve expertise in the field of industrial relations about Sustainable Development. It activates initiatives designed to promote knowledge of effective industrial relations practices, including successful forms of worker participation about issue Sustainable Development.

The specific objectives of the project are to give systematic information and training to the green delegates on the following patterns:

- to develop better acknowledgement of the importance of involving the sustainability issues in trade unions' activity (negotiations etc.)
- to develop acknowledgement of potential impacts on employment in different regions and strategic sectors – give an input to local trade unions' representatives with the objective of being able to represent these issues at local and sectoral level
- to create a best practice network of different countries and realities having similar sustainability and competitiveness problems.
- give competences to read the European legal framework
- give competences to read the local exigencies, and emergencies in ambient issues
- develop capacity to integrate ecological efficient objectives in negotiations

Systematic information and good practice will be collected in a Guide which can support the trade unions' representatives in their activities related to sustainability and employment strategies.

Location(s)

European Union (EU)

Tags: Advocacy, Public Policy, Union education

Union(s):

USR CISL Toscana (Italy); Ecologia e Lavoro (Italy); IAL Toscana – trade union's regional training agency (Italy); Arbeit und Leben DGB/VHS NW e. V (Germany); Trades Union Congress (UK); Confederation of Labour PODKREPA (Bulgaria); EKA Athens Labour Unions Organization (Greece); Confédération Démocratique du Travail (France); Fédération Générale du Travail de Belgique (Belgium)

Stakeholder(s):

ETUC

Reference(s):

[Trade unions' Green Delegates for the Europe 2020 Objectives \(no date\) two page brochure](#)

Green Energy Construction Training



This is an initiative of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers. On one hand it aims at pointing out the economic and climate value of insulation to contractors and, on the other, offers training so that members can earn a Green Professional Building Skills Training (GPRO) Certificate. The Certificate has been developed by the Urban Green Council, the U.S. Green Building Council's New York City affiliate.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Construction industry, New York, Skills training, Union-management initiatives

Union(s):

International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers

Stakeholder(s):

Urban Green Council

Reference(s):

<http://www.insulators.org/green-energy-construction>

Green Training Mobile Trailers (UA)



“The United Association’s Mobile Training Trailers [fully equipped trucks that can be used to demonstrate renewable energy and water uses] are fully self-contained trailers that feature the very latest equipment used in the pipe trades industry today. We have a large number of mobile training trailers equipped to train our members at various locations across the United States and Canada. Even if the local union does not have the necessary equipment for a particular program, we can provide those members the training they need to succeed in the field. The UA has found ways to get all of our members trained to the very highest level of their respective profession whether in a large city or in a small remote rural area. The trailers are used throughout the country educating apprentices and journeyworkers and can be moved at a moment’s notice.

We also have a number of state-of-the-art demonstration trailers equipped with the most advanced technology and systems available in today’s industry. All these trailers were completely designed and built by UA craftsmen and contain different modules specific to the trailers’ particular trade. The trailers allow the United Association to stay on the leading edge of technology, while preparing our members to adapt to rapidly evolving technology.” The UA website is at <http://www.ua.org/training>; the Training Trailers are profiled at <http://www.ua.org/green>.

GreenWorkplaces (TUC)



Changing the world
of work for good

The **Trades Union Congress (TUC)** is working with unions and management to deliver training and support for many different types of projects at institutions from libraries and hospitals to councils, all of which aim to design environmentally-friendly workplaces, which improve workers' involvement in, and commitment to, green topics. GreenWorkplaces is also supported by a union-led environmental education programme.

GreenWorkplaces is the largest union-led initiative in designing environmental friendly workplaces in the UK. The projects are not limited to certain plants: every workplace can contribute to protecting or improving the environment. The projects aim to build capacity to tackle climate change issues at work; they cover workplace-based initiatives that bring together workers and management in securing energy savings and reducing the environmental impact of the workplace.

Today there are over 1,300 GreenWorkplaces projects in the UK. The aims of the projects are usually to:

- Develop good practice in workplace environmental activities.
- Provide environmental training for workplace green representatives (or 'green reps', as they are known).
- Raise awareness within the trade union movement, business and the wider population of the union role in environmental issues.

Most GreenWorkplaces projects include a range of activities such as:

- Staff opinion surveys and quizzes
- Union 'green' events
- Environment days and 'green' fairs
- Courses
- Publications

- Pilot projects supporting implementation

All the projects focus on how trade union members can champion environmental issues at the workplace and how green reps can form the link between staff and management to encourage change (Sustainlabour, 2008, p. 119). GreenWorkplaces newsletters ceased to be published in October 2015.

Location(s)

United Kingdom (UK)

Tags: Climate change education, Environmental representatives, Green representatives, Opinion surveys, Workplace practices

Union(s):

Trades Union Congress (TUC)

Stakeholder(s):

Companies, unions and employee representatives

Reference(s):

[Eurofound \(2011\), Industrial relations and sustainability: the role of social partners in the transition towards a green economy, p.16](#)

IBEW 99 Joint Apprenticeship and Training Facility



**IBEW
LOCAL 99**



The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 99 (IBEW 99) and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) runs a facility in Rhode Island that also provides training in renewable energy. IBEW 99 played a key role in the construction of the Block Island Wind Farm, the first off- shore wind farm in the USA.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Apprenticeship, Construction industry, Rhode Island, Skills training, Union-management initiative, Wind Energy

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 99 (IBEW 99)

Stakeholder(s):

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)

Reference(s):

The website is at <http://ibew99.org/our-facility>.

Net Zero Plus Electrical Training Institute



Recognized as the premier electrical training school in the U.S., the Net Zero Plus Electrical Training Institute (NZIP ETI) in Los Angeles is a partnership of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 11 (IBEW 11) and the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA). Each year, we train more than 1,500 electrical workers and contractors at our state-of-the-art electrical training center to be prepared for challenging and rewarding careers in the electrical industry.

The apprenticeship programs consist of 3-5 years of classroom-related study and jobsite experience. Each apprentice attends a minimum of 240 hours of related supplemental instruction each year of the apprenticeship program. The classroom-related study, coupled with at least 8,000 on-the-job-training hours, is a time-proven method of graduating skilled journey-level electricians.

The NZIP ETI offers journeymen electricians and electrical contractors continuing education on new technologies and developments in the industry through our living laboratory and demonstration center. Website is at <http://nzp-eti.com>.



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Apprenticeship, Construction industry, Los Angeles California, Skills training, Union-management initiative

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 11 (IBEW 11)

Stakeholder(s):

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the Net Zero Plus Electrical Training Institute (NZP ETI)

Reference(s): <http://nzp-eti.com>

Power for America Training Trust Fund



This is the training program of the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA). From the website:” P4A was created in 2009 by the UWUA, Utility Lines CS, Entergy and National Grid to provide training support to incumbent workers as well as administering apprenticeship programs. Since then, P4A has grown to 12 employers with training currently conducted in 11 states.” The union has adopted ‘an all of the above’ energy approach and seems to exert an influence in that direction with the BGA. The training program, therefore, covers all sectors but the renewables sector is also highlighted. It is most active in Iowa, Michigan and Illinois.

From an August 2019 press release at the UWUA website at <https://power4america.org/p4a-and-utility-workers-launch-first-of-its-kind-renewable-specialist-apprenticeship-program/>

“The UWUA Power for America Training Trust Fund (P4A) and the Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA), AFL-CIO announce a unique, new union apprenticeship program that provides world-class skills training and a path to employment for in-demand jobs in the renewable energy sector. The Department of Labor (DOL)-certified, program provides individuals with specialized skills to remain at the forefront of the offshore and land-based wind, solar generation and battery storage fields.”

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Skills training, Union-management initiatives

Union(s):

Utility Workers Union of America (UWUA)

Stakeholder(s):

Colleges and a number of employers

Reference(s):

<https://power4america.org/discover>

Renewable Energy Training Field (IBEW-NECA)



The new training facility, located on the campus of the Chicago-area IBEW-NECA Technical Institute – or IN-TECH – boasts several solar photovoltaic arrays, an 80-foot wind turbine, rooftop solar installations, a 100-foot cell tower and an 18 kW solar carport with four electric vehicle charging stations. Finn praised the completion of the IBEW-NECA joint project, saying, “The future is clear. There was one choice and that was to meet the growing demand for renewable energy. Contractors will be able to take requests from customers knowing they have electricians with the best training and who are certified in renewable energy.”

Students have responded enthusiastically to the new training field as well. “We’ve got 21 electricians enrolled in the PV [photovoltaic] course this term,” said Local 134’s assistant training director, Harry Ohde. “That’s a huge increase over last year’s course,” he said, adding that training center leaders expect to train 50 students using the field in the first year and hope for even more in the future.

“One of the most important components of the training field is the hands-on nature of it,” Ohde said. “I have high expectations for the program, and we hope its benefits aren’t limited to just the Chicago area.” Indeed, the training field was built with IBEW locals and NECA chapters all over the country in mind. Ohde said he hopes other locals from across the country will come to Chicago to take advantage of the unique setup, “and we are looking into offering on-line courses as well ... We want this training field to be the IBEW’s nationally recognized training facility for renewables.”

And while it trains the next generation of electricians, the field also serves a more immediate and practical function. The solar and wind technologies on site will contribute to IN-TECH’s status as a net-zero facility, powering the rest of the center’s campus with no carbon emissions. David Witz, president of the Chicago NECA chapter,

said at its opening, this project was designed “to meet the future demand for renewable energy that is coming like a freight train.” “We are doing what we can in the electrical industry,” he said, “to decrease dependence on fossil fuels and reduce carbon emissions, and we’re excited to celebrate our grand opening and to show the world what we’re doing.” Quotations from the IBEW media release (Oct. 23, 2015).



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Chicago, Demonstration project, Renewable energy, Skills training, Union-management initiative

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 134 (IBEW 134)

Stakeholder(s):

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)

Reference(s):

http://www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles/15Daily/1510/151023_Chicago

Resource Efficiency for Works Councils



To ensure that works councils can make thorough use of all the opportunities provided by the Works Constitution Act (BetrVG), IG BCE's Training, Knowledge and Seminars Association offers in-company training and situation analyses of resource efficiency for works councils and employee representatives.

Location(s)

Germany

Tags: North-Rhine Westphalia Region Germany, Social partners, Union education, Works Councils

Union(s):

IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie (Training, Knowledge and Seminars Association)

Reference(s):

[Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies](#), NRW background document (May 2015)

Zero Net Energy Center Training Facility



This is the first large scale Zero Net building (46,000 square feet) in the U.S. and the first training and demonstration center with respect to Zero training construction. It opened in 2013. It also serves for meetings and other activities. Members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 595 (IBEW 595) contributed financially to its construction and were instrumental in persuading the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) to follow suit. Participatory stakeholder process led to its conception and the retrofitting of the existing commercial building. More information at <https://www.znecenter.org>.



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Demonstration project, San Leandro California, Skills training, Union investment, Union-management initiative

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 595 (IBEW 595)

Stakeholder(s):

National Electrical Contractors' Association (NECA)

Reference(s):

<https://www.znecenter.org>

Campaigns

AFSCME Green Toolkit



American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) has a wealth of information on climate change, including a 'tool kit' that provides unionists with general and specific information with which to advance climate change policies. The toolkit is clearly something that was put together with effort and strategic thinking. No longer available online as of 2020.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Online resources, Training materials

Union(s):

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy



An important campaign in Washington State with strong participation by labor. This is a multidimensional campaign with an important transition agenda. According to interviews, it is serving as an example for other states. A list of dozens of allies is at the [Alliance for Jobs and Clean Energy website](#), including community groups, environmental advocacy groups and unions including IBEW and SEIU.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Environmental Justice, Labour-environmental alliances, Political activity, State of Washington

Union(s):

Significant presence of unions in steering committee

Stakeholder(s):

Community and even business organizations as well as environmentalists

Reference(s):

<https://jobscleanenergywa.com>

Aluminium products resource efficiency (social partner dialogue)



Social partner dialogue on resource efficiency of aluminium products: a joint project between IG Metall and Gesamtverband der Aluminiumindustrie (GDA), with the support of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety. It address the resource efficiency of aluminium products. The aim of the dialogue is to promote innovative approaches to resource efficiency of aluminium products through a process of joint sectoral dialogue.

Location(s)

Germany

Tags: Aluminum, Coalitions, North-Rhine Westphalia Germany, Sector focus, Social partners

Union(s):

IG Metall; Gesamtverband der Aluminiumindustrie (GDA)

Stakeholder(s):

Federal Ministry for the Environment; Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

Reference(s):

Described in a 2015 report published by Syndex, [Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies](#) – this is a background detailed case study for an ETUC project, *Industrial Regions and Climate Change policies: Trade Union's perspectives*.

Black Work Matters: Green Jobs Report



This is a campaign by [We are Philadelphians Organized to Witness](#), Empower & Rebuild (POWER), an affiliate of Partnership for Working Families. Its aim is to bring forth the importance of including black people in a Green and just economy. Unions, particularly UNITE HERE play a key role.

Published [Black Work Matters: Green Jobs Report](#) in 2017.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Coalitions, Environmental Justice, Job creation, Local focus, Philadelphia, Racial justice

Union(s):

UNITE HERE

Stakeholder(s):

We are Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower & Rebuild (POWER), Partnership for Working Families

Reference(s):

<https://powerinterfaith.org/campaigns/climate-justice/>

Broadband Speed Matters



BLUEGREEN
ALLIANCE



“Making affordable high speed Internet accessible to everyone creates many solutions to America’s growing energy problems. Broadband reduces our carbon footprint while promising substantial economic pay-offs. By including universally accessible, high speed Internet as an essential part of our energy plan, the United States can build a green economy, greatly reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions, and spur economic growth by creating new environmental jobs.” The proponents see concrete benefits with respect to telemedicine, smart metering/grids and related technologies, reduction of green house gases, and the creation of many green jobs in building such a network.

Many publications available online from the Speed Matters website at <https://speedmatters.org/>, including “Networking a green economy” <https://speedmatters.org/sites/default/files/networkingthegreeneconomy.pdf>, a 34-page document published in 2011.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Coalitions, Green Economy, Labour-environmental alliances

Union(s):

Communications Workers of America (CWA)

Stakeholder(s):

Various other unions, BlueGreen Alliance (BGA), Sierra Club, NRDC, Progressive States Network and a wide range of allies

Reference(s):

<https://speedmatters.org/partners>

Clean Power Progress



Clean Power Progress is a campaign created to inform the public about the benefits of natural gas infrastructure projects and how they can help the United States meet clean energy goals. From the website at <http://cleanpowerprogress.org/projects/>:

“The Clean Power Progress initiative is designed to power a fact-based conversation about the nation’s energy future, finding the most realistic path forward to meet clean energy goals while providing power for the nation’s projected needs. We currently have selected 27 states to represent various energy scenarios present across the country, in regions where the conversation is most focused: some states are more advanced in implementing renewable energy, some are more reliant on high-carbon sources, and some are in the process of mapping out what their next priorities should be. As the energy policy landscape shifts across the country, we are committed to contributing fact-based scenarios on the need for the development of energy infrastructure in additional states.”

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Natural Gas

Union(s):

Laborer's International Union of North America (LIUNA)

Reference(s):

<http://cleanpowerprogress.org/projects/>

Climate Change Solutions



“Climate Change Solutions [CCS] is a website of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. Here, we track and analyze global developments in technology, industry and government policy that impact climate change mitigation. We believe in an all-of-the-above approach to solving humanity’s energy needs, one that includes high-efficiency and low-carbon fossil fuel technologies.” This meta-site brings together information in support of CCS in an effort to promote an all of the above strategy. The Boilermakers are seeking to promote Carbon Capture and Storage as a climate change solution. Worth noting here is that the United Mine Workers are not in favor of Carbon Capture and Storage. The site provides extensive information and viewpoints from the USA and the world. The website is at <https://ccs.boilermakers.org/>.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS), Online resources

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

Reference(s):

<https://ccs.boilermakers.org>

Climate Works for All campaign



This is one of the major priorities of [ALIGN: The Alliance for a Greater New York \(ALIGN\)](#) which has very strong labour presence. ALIGN formed in 2011 through the merger of **New York Jobs with Justice** and **Urban Agenda**.

[*Climate Works for All: A Platform for Reducing Emissions, Protecting Our Communities, and Creating Good Jobs for New Yorkers*](#), published in April 2015, details ten proposals to make our city more resilient, create nearly 40,000 good jobs each year, and cut our annual greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 12 million metric tons of carbon equivalent.” The agenda report was produced by ALIGNNY, The NYC Environmental Justice Coalition, the BlueGreen Alliance, the NYC Central Labor Council and AFL-CIO. A more recent report in 2017, entitled [*Restart Solar: How New York City Can Renew its Solar Program to Benefit Workers and Community*](#), provides detailed information and a pathway. The goals of that campaign are to

“Create a local hire program and pathways to apprenticeship and civil service titles that bring well-paying jobs to our city’s residents. *Protect the public interest by ensuring good working conditions via project labor agreements and preserve work in the public sector where appropriate. *Prioritize renewable energy investments in environmental justice and low income communities, with a focus on communities that have historically been sites for polluting infrastructure.* Conduct a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis of different financing mechanisms, including direct funding, that facilitates the greatest benefits to the city.

*Share energy savings from solar installations with the communities and/or sites in which the projects occur.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Coalitions, Environmental Justice, Job creation, Local focus, New York City, Political activity, Project Labour Agreements, Solar Energy

Union(s):

NYC Central Labor Council and various other unions

Stakeholder(s):

Blue Green Alliance; ALIGN;

Reference(s):

<http://alignny.org/campaign/climate-works-for-all/>

Community Choice Aggregation Los Angeles



Community choice aggregation (CCA), also known as municipal aggregation, are programs that allow local governments to procure power on behalf of their residents, businesses, and municipal accounts from an alternative supplier while still receiving transmission and distribution service from their existing utility provider.

Information from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency website here:

<https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/community-choice-aggregation>

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 11 and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) support Community Choice Aggregation in Los Angeles. Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) provides a bridge between non-unionized residential Distributed Energy and utility scale energy.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Energy democracy, Local focus, Los Angeles

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 11 (IBEW 11)

Stakeholder(s):

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)

Reference(s):

[Youtube video explaining the Los Angeles CCA](#)

Going Green@Work



UCATT, (Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians), which merged with Unite in 2017, aims to green learning, workplaces, communities and our own union. Climate change will affect us all and we believe that tackling it is both a vital and urgent task for all trade unionists. As well as being good for the environment, going green is also good for the economy, good for businesses and good for UCATT.

Pursuing a sustainable construction agenda will provide economic and environmental benefits, including:

- Reduced energy use;
- Innovation in building management, technologies and policy;
- Protection of our natural and social environment;
- A healthy and comfortable living environment;
- Success for developers and occupiers;
- Opportunities for training, retraining, up-skilling and employment for our members;
- and
- Energy security for generations to come.

UCATT members will benefit because:

- Making workplaces sustainable saves money and helps to create green, sustainable jobs;
- Environmental improvements in workplaces can make them safer and healthier, by

maximising natural daylight, using less hazardous materials, improving heating and ventilation controls and improving air quality for example; and

- UCATT’s involvement in the green agenda will bring new members and representatives into the union. Unions need to be seen as modern and relevant organisations that deal with the big issues of the day. You don’t get much bigger or more important than global climate change.

At national level UCATT is calling on the government to increase investment in green building technologies, sustainable materials and zero-carbon housing. It must:

- Create confidence and the right environment for employers to invest in infrastructure and skills for the manufacturing of environmental goods and services;
- Encourage all employers to invest in best practice training for low-carbon construction;
- Create a partnership agenda to support routes into the low-carbon construction industry for young people, women and black and ethnic minorities; and
- Ensure that UCATT has a signatory role in supporting and mentoring apprenticeships of all ages in the sustainable construction industry.

At regional level, UCATT is organising a series of one-day Going Green@Work briefings for its activists in each of its region. The briefings will make sure that more UCATT activists understand how activities in their workplaces impact on the environment and have the knowledge and skills to tackle climate change at work.

At local level UCATT union learning representatives (ULRs), shop stewards, safety representatives and convenors, supported by their regional and national officers, are already working in partnership with forward-thinking employers to tackle climate change, provide learning and training opportunities to develop green skills, and create sustainable long-term green jobs.

Location(s)

United Kingdom (UK)

Tags: Advocacy, Construction industry, Skills training

Union(s):

Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians (UCATT) (merged with Unite January 2017)

Stakeholder(s):

Part Green Skills Partnership for London; College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London; Lewisham College; South Thames College; Lend Lease, Lakehouse, Carillion and Willmott Dixon, the voluntary sector, including Groundwork, Job Centre Plus and trade unions UCU, UCATT, UNITE

Reference(s):

[Going Green @ Work newsletter](https://www.etuc.org/sites/default/files/UCATT_WDH_Going_Green_Newsletter_May_2013-2_1.pdf) from UCATT (2013) is available at the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) website at https://www.etuc.org/sites/default/files/UCATT_WDH_Going_Green_Newsletter_May_2013-2_1.pdf

Green Schools (Am. Federation of Teachers)



A sustained effort by the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) to promote the greening of school infrastructure. Towards that end it has produced fairly detailed programmatic research and has sought to influence school districts. This goal became part of its collaboration with the BGA.

The union published “Building minds, minding buildings: Our union’s roadmap to green and sustainable schools” in 2008.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Green buildings, Teachers

Union(s):

American Federation of Teachers (AFT)

Stakeholder(s):

BGA

Reference(s):

http://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/bmmb_greenguide.pdf

Green Schools and Environmental Education



Great Public Schools for Every Child

The National Educational Association (NEA) in the U.S. has 3 million members working at every level of education—from pre-school to university graduate programs. The NEA proposes the following: Environmental Education

Environmental education engages students and raises achievement in science, math, language arts, and social studies. It also prepares them for the growing green workforce, provides service learning opportunities with the greater community, and creates a new generation of environmental stewards.

Green Schools

Green school facilities are healthier for students and school staff and improve learning and working conditions. They also save money and natural resources, and can become a “living lab” that provide hands-on opportunities for experiential learning.



A Collaborative Approach

Green schools and environmental literacy are supported by the NEA Foundation through its Green Grants programs, the NEA Health Information Network through its Indoor Environmental Quality programs, and partner organizations of the National Education Association.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Green buildings, Teachers

Union(s):

National Education Association (NEA)

Reference(s):

<http://www.nea.org/home/Green-Schools-Environmental-Education.html>

Green4sure Energy Plan



These environmental and trade union organizations share a common objective: “To halve the Netherlands’ greenhouse gas emissions by the year 2030, relative to 1990”. The main focus of the study was the policy instruments the Dutch government should use to secure that objective. The policies in question had to promote development and implementation of new technologies and greater use of climate-neutral energy sources and induce behavioural change, with the net result that private citizens and industry will in the future duly account for the climate impact of their activities.

The terms of reference for the Green4sure project also included a number of explicit constraints. The core policy of the plan is allocating carbon budgets to all energy users, similar to the EU Emissions Trading Scheme now in force for industry. This quota system would be supported by efficiency standards for domestic appliances, vehicles and buildings; targets and, later, standards for the use of renewable sources by energy suppliers; and facilitation of sustainable choices.

The energy plan proposes a multitude of new financial and fiscal incentives, including road pricing and suitable compensation for low-income groups and others, but also new investments in utilities and changes to today’s legislation. So that change can start apace, Green4sure proposes an interim set of policies to support measures taken to protect the climate, until such time as the new regime of budgets and efficiency standards has reached maturity. These include so-called Green Funds and research grants to promote innovation, a variety of charges, environmental permits, an interim Electricity Act, tax incentives and differentiation of property transfer tax.

They propose three different carbon budgets: one for industry, electrical power generation and greenhouse horticulture, a second for the transport sector, and a third for the built environment (households, offices and small businesses).

The Plan, Green4sure; a green energy plan was published by CE Delft in 2008 and is summarized at

<https://www.cedelft.eu/en/publications/550/green4sure-a-green-energy-plan>

Location(s)

European Union (EU)

Tags: Behaviour change, Labour-environmental alliances, Netherlands

Union(s):

ABVAKABO FNV; FNV Vakcentrale

Stakeholder(s):

Greenpeace Foundation; Netherlands Society for Nature and Environment (Stichting Natuur en Milieu; Friends of the Earth-Netherlands (Vereniging Milieudefensie); Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)

Reference(s):

F.J. (Frans) Rooijers, B.H. (Bart) Boon, J. (Jasper) Faber et al. (2008) Green4sure; a green energy plan published by CE Delft at

<https://www.cedelft.eu/en/publications/550/green4sure-a-green-energy-plan>

GreenTech



A joint regional platform known as “Green Tech” pools the wide-ranging expertise required to discuss and advance various green issues for the benefit of the Vogtland economy, such as active protection of the environment, climate and resources, reduction of CO2 and sustainability in economy and society.

The joint initiative set up working groups focusing on various innovative fields of application. Recognized technical and scientific experts in these areas work closely together with company representatives within the scope of these working groups. The “Environmental Protection” working group is headed by a works council and environmental officer.

The “Environmental Protection” working group has presented an initial action plan for a regional waste recycling scheme for companies in Vogtland. The “Automotive” working group has committed itself to improving the exchange of experience in a number of different fields.

The “On-site Research” working group is supporting efforts to develop the vocational academy (Berufsakademie) in Plauen into a university of cooperative education, with the aim of training highly qualified young professionals who are connected to the region. The “Mineral Building Materials” working group has already developed a curriculum for a dual programme of study. This working group also campaigns for the transfer of knowledge, by stepping up efforts to exchange know-how with universities in Zwickau, Mittweida, Chemnitz and Dresden.

With respect to the sector strategy, focus is primarily placed on sales of regional goods and services, regional infrastructure and the more efficient use of resources.

Reflections on social strategy involve measures and projects for a personnel and work strategy.

For strategy, goals and measures involved in the joint initiative example, a regional campaign focused on the metal industry (“future.metal” (“zukunft.metall”) has the aim of facilitating the targeted recruitment of pupils and students, trainees, school-leavers

and graduates.

Location(s)

Germany

Tags: Germany, Green Economy, Local focus, Union-management initiatives

Union(s):

IG Metall

Reference(s):

Industrial Policy Today: Regional Examples from IG Metall (2014) at

https://www.igmetall.de/download/Industrial_Policy_today_Regional_examples_from_IG_Metall_7aacbbfd063d1bb0bf35f25e97e59359c0a83c78.pdf.

Huntley coal plant closing



A case of Just transition in upstate New York, involving unions, environmentalists and community advocates. This was in response to the closing of a coal plant. Profiled in Grist in 2017. A case of Just transition in upstate New York, involving unions, environmentalists and community advocates. This was in response to the closing of a coal plant.

Profiled in Grist in 2017 at

<http://grist.org/justice/a-working-class-buffalo-suburb-retired-a-coal-plant-the-right-way/>

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Just Transition, Labour-environmental alliances, Local focus

Union(s):

New York State AFL-CIO, United Steelworkers (USW), Teachers, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

Stakeholder(s):

Environmentalists; community advocates

Reference(s):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=205&v=c3l2NcSuu3s

Jobs to Move America

[Jobs to Move America](#) is an initiative to promote local jobs and manufacturing in conjunction with public transportation, especially trains. The idea is that transportation projects will create local employment not only in running buses and trains but, also, in manufacturing them. This initiative was facilitated by a policy under President Obama that allowed local hiring. The Trump Administration is likely to reverse this policy. While not explicitly climate-related, this policy can contribute to mitigation and adaptation.



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Union(s):

AFL-CIO, AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department, BGA, IAM, IBEW, IBEW11, CWA, Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO Industrial union Council (!?) Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, SMART, Transport Workers Union, USW

Stakeholder(s):

Funded by various foundations; ALIGN, PERI, community organizations

Reference(s):

"Linking Public Works to Local Hiring Faces a Trump Challenge" in the New York Times (Aug. 3 2017) at

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/03/business/economy/local-hiring-laws-public-projects.html?ref=business>

Jobs to Move America website at: <http://jobstomoveamerica.org>

Labor Leading on Climate Initiative



A campaign [led by the Worker Institute at Cornell University](#) (led by Professor Lara Skinner) which "... advances knowledge, policies, and practices to enhance the role of labor and working people in addressing the environmental and climate crises. The initiative's efforts focus on building a truly sustainable society and economy." The campaign was conceived and executed in consultation and collaboration with unions and influenced the State's 2017 Climate Jobs campaign.

The flagship publication is [Reversing Inequality, Combating Climate Change](#) (June 2017) available at

<https://archive.ilr.cornell.edu/sites/default/files/InequalityClimateChangeReport.pdf>



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Coalitions, Job creation, Local focus, New York City

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 3 (IBEW 3)

Reference(s):

Labor Leading on Climate website is at

<https://www.ilr.cornell.edu/worker-institute/initiatives/labor-leading-on-climate>

Making it Green in Minneapolis Saint Paul report



BLUEGREEN
ALLIANCE



A collaboration between the mayors of the two cities and BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) (which is headquartered in Minneapolis) to create a green manufacturing plan for the twin cities. Two reports outline the potential of the cities and reflect a depth of interaction between city, business and the BGA. Referring to the 2008 report by that name the 2009 report, which provides a Directory, Market Analysis and Employment Opportunities in the Twin Cities Green, states that “Making It Green report, an initiative of Mayor R.T. Rybak in Minneapolis, Mayor Christopher B. Coleman in Saint Paul, and the BlueGreen Alliance, a national partnership of the Sierra Club and the United Steel Workers. Making It Green was based in the belief that investments in solving critical environmental challenges represented strategic economic opportunities. “Making It Green” provided a starting point in a multi-phased process to identify the green marketplace, the Twin Cities’ strengths in this marketplace, and approaches to support the growth of the Twin Cities in this marketplace.” This initiative is worth noting because it is one of the few instances in which the BGA is addressing cities. Most of its other programmatic efforts have been national or at level of states.

Making it Green in Minneapolis Saint Paul (April 2008) is available at <http://www.bluegreenalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Making-it-Green-MSP.pdf>

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Labour market research, Local focus, Minneapolis-St.Paul Minnesota, Public Policy

Union(s):

Blue Green Alliance (BGA)

Stakeholder(s):

Minneapolis Saint Paul ; Sierra Club; United Steel Workers (USW)

Reference(s):

<http://www.bluegreenalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Making-it-Green-MSP.pdf>

May Transit Month Campaign



A campaign by the Amalgamated Transportation Union (ATU) and the Sierra Club to promote public transportation. ATU and the Sierra Club will also be calling on federal, state, and municipal legislators to address climate change by investing in public transit, including passing a robust federal transportation bill that increases funding for public transit. Part of the Sierra Club's Beyond Oil campaign, begun in 2014.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Labour-environmental alliances, Public Policy

Union(s):

Amalgamated Transportation Union (ATU)

Stakeholder(s):

Sierra Club

Reference(s):

<http://content.sierraclub.org/press-releases/2014/04/sierra-club-transit-union-announce-partnership-promoting-use-public-transit>

Movimiento Clima



This initiative aims to show the general public that climate change is a problem that affects everybody but is also caused by everybody. All actors are essential to solve it, starting with the way we produce and consume energy. The organizations called:

- On governments and public institutions of industrialized countries, to agree on ambitious reduction targets: 30% for 2020 (based on 1990 levels);
- On businesses, to switch to production systems based on energy and product efficiency and substitution of fossil fuels for clean energies. They call on businesses and organizations to adopt the fight against climate change as a priority for action; and
- On citizens, in their houses and workplaces, to be aware of their consumption patterns and use only as much energy as they really need.

They called for the following concrete commitments:

- Complete shut down of televisions, computers, and musical equipment when not in use;
- Unplug mobile telephone chargers when charging is complete;
- Use the washing machine only when full and on low temperatures programmes;
- Have a shower instead a bath;
- Install energy efficiency bulbs at home;
- Turn down blinds in summer and avoid the use of air conditioning;
- Use public transportation or, if possible, walk or cycle to work;
- Insulate housings in winter; and
- Choose only efficient household appliances.

Advanced commitments

- If buying a car chose a hybrid model;

- Install solar panels at home; and
- Take advantage of house reformations to integrally and effectively insulate houses.

Location(s)

Spain

Tags: Advocacy, Behaviour change, Energy efficiency, Labour-environmental alliances

Union(s):

Comisiones Obreras

Stakeholder(s):

WWF Spain, Oxfam Spain, the Union of Consumer Organizations

No Coal In Oakland campaign



This was a contested local policy regarding a port facility in Oakland California that would export coal, amongst other products. A number of unions were in support, such as the Teamsters. What is important is that the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the Alameda Labor Council supported the campaign, which was ultimately successful. There was evidence of contradictory attitudes within the same unions, however. The story is told in "[How Oakland Defeated Coal](#)" published in CityLab, July 1, 2016.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Labour-environmental alliances, Local focus, Oakland California, Ports and docks

Union(s):

International Longshore and Warehouse Union; Alameda Labor Council

Stakeholder(s):

Various community and environmental organizations

Reference(s):

[How Oakland Defeated Coal](#) at <https://www.citylab.com/life/2016/07/how-oakland-defeated-coal/489569/>

Our Planet Our Health – National Nurses United



Like the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), National Nurses United (NNU) has such a sustained and public approach that it cannot be considered as an event. Rather it is an educational effort within the union and a campaign, as identified by the union, towards the rest of the labor movement and society more generally. In addition to news items, the relevant website includes timely press releases. Finally, connecting climate change to health broadens and deepens labor's approach. Their website is at <http://www.nationalnursesunited.org/site/entry/environmental-justice>.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Environmental Justice, Health care Industry

Union(s):

National Nurses United (NNU)

Reference(s):

<http://www.nationalnursesunited.org/site/entry/environmental-justice>

Plastics industry resource efficiency

Initiative to promote staff involvement in resource efficiency issues with a view to improving knowledge, motivation and behaviour.

Social partner project between Gesamtverband Kunststoffverarbeitende Industrie e.V., PlasticsEurope Deutschland e.V. and IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie on “Increasing resource efficiency in the plastics industry”. The project has found that, alongside the major contributions made to resource efficiency by products and production processes, organisation and personnel are also key to enhancing resource efficiency – as demonstrated by examples of behavioural improvements. Significant improvements in resource efficiency can be achieved, in particular, by allowing staff with a particular interest in the issue of resource efficiency to become more involved. This also has a positive impact on motivation and knowledge.

Location(s)

Germany



Tags: Behaviour change, Coalitions, North-Rhine

Westphalia Region Germany, Plastics Industry, Social partners

Union(s):

IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie

Stakeholder(s):

Gesamtverband Kunststoffverarbeitende Industrie e.V., PlasticsEurope Deutschland e.V.

Reference(s):

[Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies](#), NRW background document (May 2015)

Puget Sound Sage Healthy Environment campaign



[The Puget Sound Sage](#) has had a long standing interest in the environment. It had been previously involved in a study regarding the impact of diesel exhaust in Duwamish and in Clean and Safe Ports Campaign in the Port of Seattle (with Teamsters Local 117). Currently it is emphasizing environmental justice. As part of the effort to build a climate justice movement in Puget Sound it has engaged in participant observation research that produced a report in March 2016.

This interest in long-standing as in 2012 the organization also produced a study on making the light rail system *Healthy, Green and Just*, available at

<https://pugetsoundsage.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/TOD-that-is-Healthy-Green-and-Just-1.pdf>.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Coalitions, Environmental Justice, Health and safety, Local focus, Ports and docks, Puget Sound, Research, Seattle, Transit, Transportation Industry

Union(s):

A number of unions are on the board of this alliance

Reference(s):

<http://pugetsoundsage.org/programs/clean-healthy-environment/>

Repower LA Coalition



Repower LA is a citywide coalition of community groups, environmentalists, and small businesses anchored by [Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy \(LAANE\)](#), [Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education \(SCOPE\)](#), and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 18 that advocates for equitable environmental programs and career-path jobs at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP), the nation's largest municipally-owned utility.

Repower LA formed in 2011 in response to high unemployment in many of LA's neighborhoods and our city's unsustainable reliance on dirty energy. Our goal is to help make clean energy and good jobs at DWP accessible to all Angelenos while helping them lower their bills.

A cornerstone of RePower LA's work is our support for the Utility Pre-Craft Trainee (UPCT) program, which was developed by IBEW Local 18, in partnership with DWP. The pre-apprenticeship program has partnered with our coalition to recruit women and communities of color, including the re-entry population. Participants learn various electrical and water utility skills while earning \$16/hour with benefits, and get on the path to a career at the DWP.

Our coalition also works to increase investment in clean energy and energy efficiency programs to help the DWP become greener. As part of our vision of progressive systemic change at the DWP, RePower LA successfully pushed for the DWP to institute the new "Equity Metrics Data Initiative" (EMDI). The EMDI will track and publically release semi-annual data on how well the DWP is serving customers across programs, jobs, and services in low-income communities.

In expanding sustainability and good jobs, our coalition campaigned for the new Community Solar pilot recently approved by the DWP Board in November 2016. The pilot program, called "Solar Rooftops," will utilize UPCTs to install solar panels on

customers' properties across Los Angeles. This will diversify DWP's renewable energy sources, benefiting customers who will receive fixed payments in exchange for leasing their roofs, while creating more sustainable jobs.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Apprenticeship, Job creation, Local focus, Los Angeles California, Skills training, Solar Energy, Union-management initiative

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 18 (IBEW 18)

Stakeholder(s):

Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE); SCOPE; Los Angeles Dept of Water and Power and DWP

Reference(s):

<https://laane.org/blog/campaigns/energy-and-water/>

SEIU Environmental Justice campaign



Service Employees International Union Local 1199 (SEIU 1199, also known as United Healthcare Workers East) plays a very active and leading role in climate politics. Environmental Justice, with particular emphasis on Climate Change – as well as energy and water – is one of its core campaigns. It also has a Green Justice Caucus “A new initiative to create an 1199 environmental justice caucus that connects labor and environmental advocates, educates our members about the importance of environmental advocacy and pushes for a healthy, green economy with living-wage jobs.” SEIU Local 1199 is a super local in the health care sector with 400,000 members, about 20% of SEIU membership.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Environmental Justice, Health care Industry

Union(s):

Service Employees International Union Local 1199 (SEIU 1199)

Reference(s):

<https://www.1199seiu.org/issues/environmentaljustice>

Supplying Ingenuity



This is a project first started by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). It provides detailed information and a proposal regarding a climate friendly automobile industry in the USA. The more recent report was made public in May 2017. In addition to these reports there are specific reports on Michigan and Ohio. Overall, this reflects the BlueGreen Alliance's (BGA) and the United Automobile, Aerospace, Agricultural Implement Workers of America's (UAW) interests.

Driving Growth: How Clean Cars and Climate Policy can create Jobs (March 2010) is at <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/drivinggrowth.pdf>

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Auto industry, Sector focus, Supply chains

Union(s):

BlueGreen Alliance (BGA)

Stakeholder(s):

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) actually started this initiative in collaboration with National Wildlife Federation and the United Automobile, Aerospace, Agricultural Implement Workers of America's (UAW)

Reference(s):

Supplying Ingenuity: U.S. Suppliers of Key Clean, Fuel-Efficient Vehicle Technologies
2011 edition is at <https://assets.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/SupplierMappingReport.pdf>

Sustainlabour



Sustainlabour was founded and has grown with the belief that workers can play a fundamental role in the route to a sustainable world. Trade unions are in a unique position to stimulate the social aspects of sustainable development while at the same time can contribute to the economic and environmental dimensions.

Workplaces are at the centre of production and consumption, therefore they should be central locations in any effort aimed to change production and consumption patterns at local, national and international levels.

We envision a world:

- which is just and egalitarian for the present generation and for the generations to come.
- where finite resources are fairly distributed and sustainability is ensured.
- where environmental and social needs are taken into account as much as the economic ones.
- where human rights- including workers' rights and the environment are universally respected.

How we work

- Involving Trade Union in environmental debates
- Integrating labour issues in the environmental agenda
- Encouraging changes that are in favour of the environment and workers

So far, we have worked with more than 200 trade unions from 90 countries. More than 1,000 unionists from all over the world have been part of our training activities, and much more receive our materials by electronic means and thanks to the huge power of multiplication of trade unions.

What we stand for

The current model of development is socially unfair and environmentally

unsustainable. This means the world must and will change. It also means that our production and consumption models will undergo a deep transformation. Understanding these changes and its consequences for workers and their communities is one of the major challenges the Trade Union movement needs to address. Therefore, we, the workers and the Trade Unions, should organize and strategize a debate and decide on our courses of action.

We at Sustainlabour firmly believe a sustainable and fair development requires broader labour rights along with environmental protection. The creation of decent and environmentally responsible jobs is the only way to guarantee the livelihoods of the millions of workers that live today on this planet.

Sustainlabour posted in 2016, "Sustainlabour says Goodbye" on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Sustainlabour/posts/thanks-to-everybody-sustainlabour-say-s-good-byesustainlabour-is-closing-after-12/10156812622915567/>. Their former website is no longer available.

Location(s)

Spain

Tags: Coalitions, International, Online resources, Research

Union(s):

International Labour Foundation for Sustainable Development. Main funders: ISTAS; International Labour Organisation; UNEP; SAICM

Stakeholder(s):

Other donors: ACTRAV; AECID; Fundacion Biodiversidad; ETUC; Expo Zara Goza; Foundation Ecologia y Desarrollo; Foundation Paz y Solidaridad "Serafin Arriaga", Castilla la Mancha; IPEN; Junta De Andalucia; Polytechnic University of Madrid; LO; UNEP; TUC; Caja Madrid Obra Social

Transit Equity Day



A nationwide campaign led by the Labor Network for Sustainability (LNS) and taking place in 15 places around the USA. “Transit Equity Day was a collaborative effort of several organizations and unions to promote public transit as a civil right and a strategy to combat climate change.” The latest Transit Equity Day was held on February 4 2020 . More information at <https://www.labor4sustainability.org/transit-equity-day/>

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Coalitions, Labour-environmental alliances, Political activity, Transit

Union(s):

Amalgamated Transit Union; Labor Network for Sustainability (LNS) are anchor a number of sponsors

Stakeholder(s):

Various community and environmental organizations

Reference(s):

www.labor4sustainability.org/transit-equity

TRUST (Trade Union Vision on Sustainable Transport)



The TRUST project aims to provide evidence in favour of an integrated transport system that is socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.

The [European Transport Workers' Federation](#), representing workers in all transport sectors and fisheries across an enlarged Europe, launched a broad debate towards a Trade Union Vision on Sustainable Transport. TRUST is an EU-funded project which intended to:

- Give guidance to a trade union's contribution to transport sustainability policies.
- Focus on the social dimension of a long-term outlook of the transport future in Europe.
- Highlight the importance of the "employment pillar" of the Lisbon Strategy: more and better jobs.
- Stress the need for appropriate assessment of restructuring processes.
- Mainstream gender-equality issues across a discussion on sustainability.
- Promote best-practice examples towards new forms of organization.

Therefore, from a trade union perspective, 'sustainable development' entails ensuring fair working conditions and quality jobs in a socially responsible industry which, at the same time, does not harm the environment. TRUST aimed to get trade unions in the transport and fisheries sectors more involved in promoting sustainable development policies. The project was divided into four phases: information gathering, sectoral workshops, cross-sectoral conference and a final results conference with European institutions.

Trade Union Vision on Sustainable Transport report was published in 2009.

Location(s)

European Union (EU)

Tags: Fisheries, Transportation Industry

Union(s):

European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF)

Reference(s):

European Transport Workers Federation (ETF) website <https://www.etf-europe.org/>

Trade Union Vision on Sustainable Transport report is at

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/sites/transport/files/themes/strategies/consultations/doc/2009_03_27_future_of_transport/20090207_european_transport_workers_federation.pdf

Projects

Alliance for Work and Environment

German unions are collaborating within a broad coalition of government, industry and environmental NGOs to renovate buildings for climate protection goals, whilst creating sustainable jobs and improving social conditions.

The Alliance for Work and Environment aims to renovate 300,000 apartments, create 200,000 jobs, reduce 2 million tonnes of CO₂ per year and lower heating bills for tenants, landlords, and the State by about US \$4 billion, through reduction of unemployment costs and increased income taxes etc. These effects could also be derived from a study of a joint project, the renovation of a building – A chance for climate protection and the labour market conducted by Greenpeace Germany and the German Trade Union IG BAU. The immediate objective is to improve insulation of buildings, advanced heating technologies, and use of renewable energy, such as photovoltaic or solar thermal systems. Thousands of new jobs are anticipated in the construction, heating, sanitary and air-conditioning sectors, as well as in building services. Financing for the programme is provided by the German government, which will spend less than US\$1.8 billion in the next 5 years. As well, a total of US\$8 billion will be available through credits at favourable rates of interest.

Location(s)

Germany



Tags: Coalitions, Construction industry, Germany, Job creation, Social partners

Union(s):

Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB), Industriegewerkschaft Bauen-Agrar-Umwelt (IG BAU)

Block Island Wind Farm



IBEW
LOCAL 99



This small off-shore wind power installation (5 towers) came on-line in late 2016 off the coast of Rhode Island. In order for it to become a reality, the builders approached the relevant building and construction trades (Ironworkers, IBEW) and the Long Island AFL-CIO and promised them that if they supported the project they would employ union labor. It is possible that they could have built it without union labor but it is worth noting that large scale project, including utility scale renewable energy projects, require highly skilled labor and that union presence is quite high in large projects – compared to retail scale projects.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Construction industry, Rhode Island, Union-management initiative, Wind Energy

Union(s):

Ironworkers; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 99 (IBEW 99); Rhode Island AFL-CIO

Stakeholder(s):

Deepwater Wind

Reference(s):

<http://electrictv.net/videos/offshore-wind-future-electricity-united-states/>

A history is available at the IBEW website at

http://www.ibew.org/media-center/Articles/16Daily/1604/160421_Making-History-IBE

[W-Builds-First-US-Offshore-Wind-Farm.](#)

<https://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/2016/1015/Unions-for-green-jobs-Why-organized-labor-is-getting-behind-offshore-wind>

Building Clean



BLUEGREEN
ALLIANCE



buildingclean.org

Building Clean "... is an initiative of the BlueGreen Alliance Foundation and is a companion piece to the broader Energy Efficiency for All initiative, a partnership of the Energy Foundation, Elevate Energy, National Housing Trust and the Natural Resources Defense Council. This effort is dedicated to linking the energy, housing and health sectors together in order to tap the benefits of energy efficiency for millions of low-income families. These projects are made possible with funding support from The JPB Foundation." "Building Clean is your portal to BUY LOCAL and HEALTHY energy-efficient products. Housing consumes more than 20 percent of U.S. energy. Building Clean is designed to help architects and designers, consumers, contractors and developers, and manufacturers find American-made, healthy products to help them capture the benefits of energy efficiency retrofits—including lower utility bills, improved tenant health and increased economic development. The Building Clean database supercharges efforts to find these healthy, American made products and highlights a broad range of energy-efficient housing products, illustrating the breadth and depth of America's energy-efficient product supply chain. Poor housing conditions and building product choices—including insulation, paint and sealants; roofing problems; heating, plumbing, and electrical deficiencies; water leaks and intrusion; and pests—are associated with a wide range of health conditions. These include respiratory illness, asthma, lead poisoning and cancer. Building Clean can help you avoid these chemicals and focus on products that are safe to install and safe for residents. Building Clean is part of a broader national initiative to accelerate the retrofit of low-income, multifamily homes." Their website is at <https://buildingclean.org/about-building-clean>.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Coalitions, Construction industry, Energy efficiency, Health and safety, Housing

Union(s):

BlueGreen Alliance Foundation

Stakeholder(s):

Energy Efficiency for All; NDRC; Energy Foundation; Elevate Energy; National Housing Trust; JPB Foundation

Reference(s):

www.buildingclean.org/about-building-clean

ChemHat (Chemical Hazard and Alternatives Tool Box)



“ChemHAT, the Chemical Hazard and Alternatives Toolbox, is a new internet database designed to offer up easy to use information that we can use to protect ourselves, our families and our co-workers against the harm that chemicals can cause.

ChemHAT is based on the simple idea that when we know how a chemical can hurt us we can take protective action. There are solutions at the bottom of the hierarchy of controls. Sometimes that action is using the chemical wearing gloves or with extra ventilation. ChemHAT was designed to let us ask and answer a different question. Instead of what engineering controls and personal protective equipment do I need to lower the levels of exposure to a “safe” level, ChemHAT is being designed to answer the question, “Is there a way to get this job done without using dangerous chemicals? We know from stories of substitution and elimination that already exist, that the answer can be yes.” The data base was the product of collaboration, first, between people from IUE-CWA and BGA and then a much broader union network as well as important research organizations at UC Berkely and UM Lowell. While not directly related to climate change, it is certainly an important initiative with possible direct and certainly indirect implications. The initiative is explained at <https://www.chemhat.org/en/why-do-we-need-chemhat> .

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Green procurement, Health and safety, Online resources, Toxic chemicals

Union(s):

International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers

(IUE-CWA); BlueGreen Alliance (BGA)

Stakeholder(s):

University of California (Berkeley); University of Massachusetts(Lowell)

Reference(s):

<http://www.chemhat.org/en/about-chemhat/who-made-chemhat>

Clean Economy Manufacturing Center



The Clean Economy Manufacturing Center (CEMC) helps manufacturers, public officials, and economic development organizations capitalize on the opportunities presented by the fast-growing clean economy. The Center focuses on building up the domestic supply chain for energy-efficient products and clean energy generation. To this end, it maintains a database of energy efficiency housing products and materials supply chain to better inform and assist building owners, contractors, suppliers, product manufacturers and tenant organizations concerning the selection of housing products and materials for the retrofit of multifamily residential buildings.

From providing technical assistance to companies to conducting informative workshops to researching supply chains to help manufacturers find ways to grow their businesses, the experts at the CEMC are supporting the growth of a thriving, domestic clean energy economy. These services are available nationally and primarily focus on building strong domestic supply chains in a broad range of industry sectors. Over the past two years, the CEMC has worked with private and public sector partners to conduct 26 workshops in 17 states and co-host a national conference on manufacturing opportunities.

The website is at

<https://www.bgafoundation.org/programs/clean-economy-manufacturing-center/>.

CHEMHat is a sister database also managed by the BlueGreen Alliance Foundation.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Construction industry, Energy efficiency, Green procurement, Online resources, Work practices

Union(s):

BlueGreen Alliance Foundation

Stakeholder(s):

BGA members; communities and companies

Reference(s):

<https://www.bgafoundation.org/programs/clean-economy-manufacturing-center>

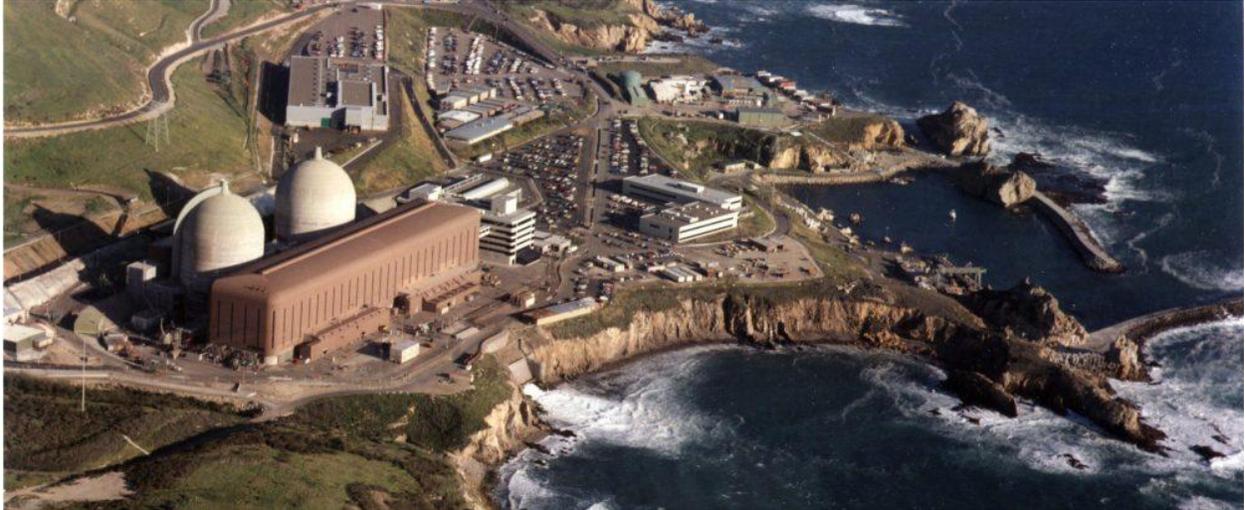
Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant Closure



During 2016, the Pacific Gas & Electric Company agreed to close the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant by 2025. In practice this extended the life of the plant beyond the 2019 re-licensing requirement. Some people opposed this extension on environmental grounds. Others opposed the decision to close the plant as inimical to climate change and nuclear power. For others this is an example of Just Transition on the Ground. The Company committed to significant transitional expenses for workers and the community. The package also included retention incentives to ensure that the plant closes down properly and is maintained safely for decades after that. My interviews suggest that while this can be considered a case of Just Transition with significant financial commitments – well over \$300 million- it was the result of special political and technical circumstances. Politically, it is taking place within California’s move to renewables along with strong environmental and labor voices coming to terms – Friends of the Earth, NRDC, IBEW 1245, others. Technically the energy provided by the plant was well beyond anything that the system could absorb.

The 4-page Letter of Agreement between the company and the IBEW is at <http://ibew1245.com/files/PGE-docs/LA-16-22-R1-PGE.pdf> .

A press summary appears in “[History made: The deal to shut down the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant](https://medium.com/climate-energy/history-made-the-deal-to-shut-down-the-diablo-nuclear-power-plant-4176aa746023)” in Medium (June 22, 2016) at <https://medium.com/climate-energy/history-made-the-deal-to-shut-down-the-diablo-nuclear-power-plant-4176aa746023>



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: California, Collective bargaining, Job protection, Just Transition, Nuclear energy

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1245 (IBEW 1245)

Stakeholder(s):

Friends of the Earth; Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC); Pacific Gas & Electric

Reference(s):

Letter of Agreement at <http://ibew1245.com/files/PGE-docs/LA-16-22-R1-PGE.pdf>

Eco-vouchers



Trade unions brought about the idea of eco-vouchers during multi-industry talks. Furthermore, eco-vouchers can only be granted through a collective bargaining agreement taking place at company or sectoral level. Eco-vouchers (also known as 'ecocheques' or 'green vouchers') were officially launched in July 2009 as purchasing vouchers for environmentally friendly and sustainable consumer products. The eco-voucher is based on an incentive system with the aim of transferring social benefits to workers. The voucher system is well-established in Belgium, where employees often receive non-wage benefits like 'restaurant vouchers' or 'gift vouchers' for cultural or sports activities.

In practice, employers distribute eco-vouchers to their employees who can then purchase certain products listed as 'green products'. Eco-vouchers were issued by employers up to a limit of €125 net per employee in 2009 and €250 per employee in 2010. Each eco-voucher has a maximum value of €10. Combinable and valid for two years, they can be used to make sizeable investments.



An open-ended list specifying their use was defined by Collective Bargaining Agreement No. 98. Products and services that can be purchased with eco-vouchers can be divided in six main categories:

- products bearing the EU Ecolabel
- products and/or services relating to energy savings
- products and/or services relating to water savings

- products and/or services relating to sustainable mobility
- products that limit waste generation
- environmentally friendly and sustainable products

In general, eco-vouchers have the following direct and indirect objectives.

- The eco-voucher will improve the purchasing power of employees while simultaneously promoting the purchase of ecological products and services (Graines de Changement, 2009).
- This development will have a stimulating long-term impact on employment.

Location(s)

Belgium

Tags: Behaviour change, Belgium, Collective bargaining, Green procurement, Worker incentives

Union(s):

National Labour Council (CNT)

Stakeholder(s):

Federal Council for Sustainable Development (and its regional offices); economic and social consultation bodies; Central Council of the Economy

Reference(s):

[Eurofound \(2011\), Industrial relations and sustainability: the role of social partners in the transition towards a green economy, p.35](#)

Electric TV

This is a collaboration of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and its goal is the



production and dissemination of stories that highlight the collaboration of IBEW and NECA, many of them with respect to renewable energy, including retrofitting, new construction, training facilities and other related areas. It is a project of the Powering America collaboration of IBEW and NECA, as well as their Electrical Training Alliance. The website with an archive of videos is at <http://electrictv.net/>.



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Construction industry, Demonstration projects, Skills training, Union-management initiatives

Union(s):

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

Stakeholder(s):

National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA); Electrical Training Alliance

Reference(s):

<http://electrictv.net>

Energy efficiency employee participation prize



Staff incentive to improve workplace energy efficiency.

To mark its 20th anniversary, IG BCE's Labour and Environment Foundation awarded an environmental prize for "Energy efficiency with employee participation". The award, worth a total of €25,000, was given for "successful measures to increase energy efficiency". The measures had to involve employees and make a practical contribution to environmental protection and sustainable development.

Location(s)

Germany

Tags: Behaviour change, Coalitions, Energy efficiency, North-Rhine Westphalia Region Germany, Social partners, Worker incentives, Workplace practices

Union(s):

IG Bergbau, Chemie, Energie (Labour and Environment Foundation)

Reference(s):

Noted in [Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies, NRW background document](#) (May 2015) published by Syndex for the ETUC.

Green Jobs Initiative – AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust

AFL • CIO
HOUSING
INVESTMENT
TRUST

“The [AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust \(HIT\)](#) has supported environmentally sustainable building practices for many years. Its Green Jobs Initiative formalizes that commitment, with a focus on investments in energy-efficient rehabilitation and retrofits of existing housing stock as well as financing of new construction that meets the energy-saving requirements of LEED or other similarly rigorous criteria. Workers’ capital invested by the HIT, together with tax credits allocated by HIT’s subsidiary, Building America, are helping the Green Jobs Initiative grow. These investments are generating significant numbers of jobs for union construction workers while helping to make the built environment cleaner, healthier, and more resource-efficient.” “Under its Green Jobs Initiative, the HIT has invested over \$1.6 billion in 54 projects, including both energy-efficient retrofit and LEED-certified projects. Together with projects that received funding from HIT’s subsidiary, Building America, 61 projects represent over \$3.95 billion of development, approximately 19,315 union construction jobs, and 22,465 housing units.” It is worth noting here that the AFL-CIO’s Building Investment Trust does not have any similar priorities.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Construction industry, Job creation, Skills training, Union investment

Union(s):

AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust (HIT)

Stakeholder(s):

AFL-CIO and various unions, mostly in construction

More climate protection through participation



In North Rhine-Westphalia, DGB NRW is championing a project called “More climate protection through participation”.

Location(s)

Germany

Tags: North-Rhine Westphalia Region Germany

Union(s):

German Confederation of Trade Unions (DGB NRW)

Reference(s):

[Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies](#), NRW background document (May 2015)

Networks

Apollo Alliance



The Apollo Alliance was a project of the Tides Foundation and was created in 2003 by the Center for American Progress and the Center on Wisconsin Strategy (COWS). Its leadership included a number of important labor and environmental leaders, in many ways anticipating the BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) and the BlueGreen Alliance Foundation (BGGAF). The Apollo Alliance emphasized the need for a US industrial policy – hence its focus on clean/green manufacturing. It organized itself at national level, but also had a number of state chapters. It helped prepare specific manufacturing proposals for the national economy as well as a number of states. In 2011 it became a project of the BGA. Published many reports, some archived at the BlueGreen Alliance, including

The California Apollo Program

<https://www.bluegreenalliance.org/resources/california-apollo-program/> (2010)

The Apollo Green Manufacturing Plan (2009)

<https://www.bluegreenalliance.org/resources/apollo-green-manufacturing-action-plan/>

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Coalitions, Green Economy, Labour-environmental alliances

Union(s):

United Steelworkers; Service Employees International Union (SEIU); Laborers International Union (LIUNA)

Stakeholder(s):

Center for American Progress; COWS; Sierra Club,

Reference(s):

<https://www.bluegreenalliance.org/?s=apollo>

BlueGreen Alliance



BLUEGREEN
ALLIANCE



BLUEGREEN
ALLIANCE
FOUNDATION

The BlueGreen Alliance (BGA) <https://www.bluegreenalliance.org/>, and its Blue Green Foundation partner, was formed in 2006 by the United Steelworkers (USW) and the Sierra Club. Over the last 11 years its membership has varied but the core has remained stable. It now consists of 9 unions (manufacturing, construction, service) and five environmental organizations. While it often avoids taking positions due to internal tensions the longevity of its existence is worth noting as are its initiatives and points of view. The BGA sees itself as a strategic initiative rather than an an alliance of convenience: “The BlueGreen Alliance unites America’s largest labor unions and its most influential environmental organizations to solve today’s environmental challenges in ways that create and maintain quality jobs and build a stronger, fairer economy.

Our work is centered around three key objectives:

Clean Jobs: Innovating, building and installing the clean economy—clean energy, energy efficiency, safe chemicals, and clean vehicles—is protecting the environment, creating quality jobs across the country, and ensuring the health of workers and the environment.

Clean Infrastructure: Repairing America’s infrastructure is a significant opportunity to create quality jobs. But it’s also an opportunity to rebuild these systems to protect the health of workers and communities, to reduce carbon and methane emissions, and to build a stronger, more resilient system for the future

Fair trade: We can only achieve a thriving and fair clean economy if our international trade and climate agreements raise standards for workers, consumers, and the environment.”

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Advocacy, Green Economy, Labour-environmental alliances, Public Policy, Research

Union(s):

USW, SEIU; AFT, UA; SMART; IUE-CWA; UWUA; Bricklayers; Amalgamated Transit Union

Stakeholder(s):

Sierra Club; NRDC; National Wildlife Federation; EDF Action, Union of Concerned Scientists

Reference(s):

<https://www.bluegreenalliance.org>

BRISE



BRISE (2006) is a network aiming to inform and raise awareness among trade union members and delegates on climate issues tailored to the specific features of the socioeconomic landscape in the Brussels-Capital Region.

Location(s)

Belgium

Tags: Brussels Belgium, Climate change education, Union education

Union(s):

General Federation of Belgian Labour; Confederation of Christian Trade Unions; General Confederation of Liberal Trade Unions of Belgium

Reference(s): [Skills Needs in Greening Economies](http://erc-online.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Skills-needs-in-greening-economies_FinalReport.pdf) (2014) at http://erc-online.eu/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Skills-needs-in-greening-economies_FinalReport.pdf. Case study p. 26.

Labor Network for Sustainability



This is a small but active NGO that brings together union activists. In addition to its research output – geared towards generating a strong labour environmentalism- it is also actively engaged in various other efforts to do so including – Labor Convergence on Climate and the People’s Climate Marches. It has also produced a Labor Landscape Analysis on the environment and is spearheading training initiatives.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Climate change education, Coalitions, Just Transition, Labour-environmental alliances, Research

Union(s):

No organizational affiliations

Reference(s):

<http://www.labor4sustainability.org>

People's Climate Movement



Labour unions have played and are playing a central role in this movement. So far, there have been two marches – one in April 2014 and the other in April 2017. In 2018, they led the efforts to **Rise for Climate, Jobs, and Justice**, with over 30,000 people taking to the streets of San Francisco ahead of the Global Climate Action Summit, and tens of thousands taking action at more at 250+ events across the country. These marches bring together unions, environmentalists, communities and advocates, drawing a line between those who are in favour of climate policy and those that are simply in favour of green capitalism. They also facilitate networks that have resulted in more specific initiatives, such as the climate work of ALIGN NY. The vision statement, platform and principles are [at the website](#).



Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Coalitions, Environmental Justice, Labour-environmental alliances, Political activity

Union(s):

SEIU 32BJ; SEIU 1199; Amalgamated Transit Union; AFGE Council 238; AFT; APWU; BGA; CWA; SEIU

Stakeholder(s):

Many other community and environmental organizations

Reference(s):

<https://peoplesclimate.org/>

Resource Efficiency Network



The Resource Efficiency Network is intended to bring together existing expertise on resource efficiency in the economy, improve communication and co-operation between actors (e.g. unions, firms, politicians, the media) and to promote awareness of the issue.

It has four central tasks:

- to promote more efficient use of resources for products and services in manufacturing, trade and consumption.
- to bring together actors from politics, business enterprises, industry associations, trade unions, academia and civil society and to co-ordinate their activities.
- to initiate the exchange of experience gained with promising approaches to efficient use of resources
- to develop proposals for the design framework conditions that provide incentives to use resources more efficiently and to remove obstacles that impede this.

The Resource Efficiency Network organises regular network conferences to provide information and help to SMEs, offer support in implementing efficiency measures, provide information about funding options for innovative technologies, create links within regions and sectors and present successful examples of companies. It also organises expert meetings on special topics and information campaigns aimed at the public. In addition, it has developed an internet platform for resource efficiency.

Location(s)

Germany

Tags: Coalitions, Energy efficiency, Germany, Online resources, Social partners, Supply chains

Union(s):

IG Metall; Confederation of German Trade Unions (DGB)

Stakeholder(s):

BMU (Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety), UBA (Federal Environment Agency) A number of research institutes, consultants and associations belong to the core group of Network Resource Efficiency'

Reference(s):

[Eurofound \(2011\). Industrial relations and sustainability: the role of social partners in the transition towards a green economy.](#) page 23.

RISE

Establishment of a network aiming to inform and raise awareness among trade union members and delegates on climate issues.

ABVV-FGTB



A series of initiatives were developed by the General Federation of Belgian Labour (ABVV-FGTB), the Confederation of Christian Trade Unions (CSC-ACV) and the General Confederation of Liberal Trade Unions of Belgium (CGSLB) to support activities on: education and training, systemic dissemination of information, trade union pilot projects focused at the company level, as well as regular support and aid. Concretely, this resulted in the creation, at the end of the 1990s, of inter-trade union networks on awareness raising and training on environmental and climate questions in the 3 Belgian regions: Wallonia, Flanders and Brussels-Capital.

RISE offers support to trade union delegates on environmental questions and stimulate social consultation on environmental issues in business, to reinforce delegates' capacity for intervention on environmental questions, and to raise awareness among workers and their representatives about the environment.

Location(s)

Belgium

Tags: Belgium, Climate change education, Union education

Union(s):

General Federation of Belgian Labour; Confederation of Christian Trade Unions; General Confederation of Liberal Trade Unions of Belgium

Reference(s):

[Skill needs in greening Economies](#) by ICF/GHK (2014) Case Study page 26.

Trade Unions for Energy Democracy



[Trade Unions for Energy Democracy \(TUED\)](#) is a global, multi-sector initiative to advance democratic direction and control of energy in a way that promotes solutions to the climate crisis, energy poverty, the degradation of both land and people, and responds to the attacks on workers' rights and protections.

We are facing an energy and climate emergency that amounts to a planetary crisis. The growing levels of fossil-based energy is stretching planetary limits by raising greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution to alarming levels. This is affecting the health and quality of life of millions.

The power of fossil fuel corporations has made it practically impossible to protect the health and safety of workers and communities, and union representation is under attack across the globe. Despite more energy being generated every year, energy poverty remains a serious global issue — 1.6 billion people, or 20% of the world's population, do not have regular access to electricity.

It has become increasingly clear that the transition to an equitable, sustainable energy system can only occur if there is decisive shift in power towards workers, communities and the public. The goals of the project are:

- Help build and strengthen a global trade union community for energy democracy. TUED is a platform for trade unions from all sectors and countries to debate, develop and promote real solutions to the climate crisis, land grabs, energy poverty, and pollution generated by fossil fuels — solutions that can build unions, worker and community power, and advance social and environmental justice.
- Develop high-impact union educational materials, distribute an electronic bulletin, and convene meetings and working retreats that encourage debate and help create a shared analysis of key energy and climate issues.
- Connect the energy democracy agenda to union struggles and campaigns in ways that

build broad membership engagement, increase worker power, and facilitate solidarity across movements that share similar goals.

Location(s)

International

Tags: Advocacy, Climate change education, Coalitions, Energy democracy

Union(s):

66 unions from 19 countries as of July 17, 2017. US unions include SEIU 1021, 1199, 32BJ; National Nurses United; National Education Association; IBEW; NECA and IBEW11; LNS; UNITE HERE; AFSCME Council 57 [California]; United Electric Workers; New York State Nurses Association; Railroad Workers United

Reference(s):

<http://unionsforenergydemocracy.org>

Research

DBA (The Sustainable Workplace)



The focus here was more directly on the role of the trade union in a future society. The goal was to set the pace for creating sustainable, socially responsible workplaces and workplace democracies. For more than two years, a network of 15 workplaces and six educational institutions, as well as many researchers and union representatives, discussed how you can work to incorporate sustainability in a workplace scenario.

In April 2004, a report and blueprint for debate was ready which underlined the need for trade unions to re-define their role. It is no longer enough to stick to the traditional role of safeguarding income and working conditions for your members. It is necessary to get far more involved in production and social issues.

At the same time, the report warns against trade unions taking on the role as the employers' business partners. There is a danger that members will no longer regard the trade union as an allied, and it will turn into an irrelevant accessory.

The project is described in a 2006 article in the Nordic Labour Journal at <http://www.nordiclbourjournal.org/i-fokus/i-fokus-2006/theme-new-thinking-mobilising-change/making-production-sustainable-the-danish-experience>

Location(s)

Denmark

Tags: Union education, Workplace practices

Union(s):

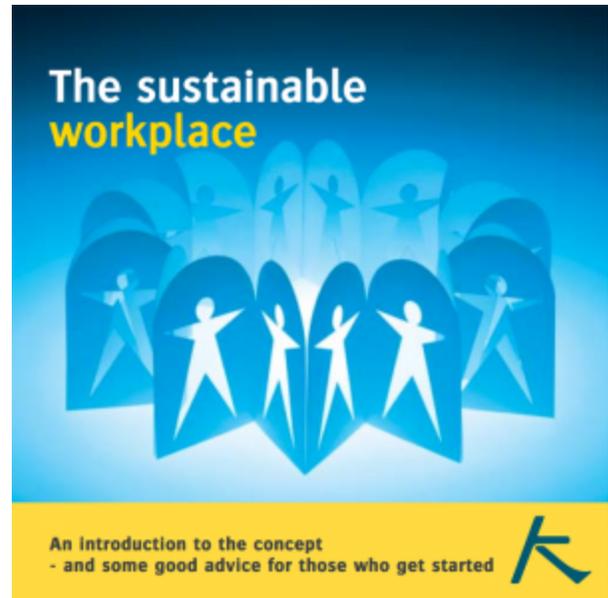
Danish Confederation of Trade Unions

Stakeholder(s):

Employers

Reference(s):

The Sustainable Workplace - manual on how to develop sustainability initiatives in the workplace



Green Job Evaluation



The FSE Competence Assessment System project was implemented by the Bulgarian Industrial Association in partnership with trade union confederations CITUB and Podkrepa. It included an evaluation of workforce skills.

Almost 2,000 companies were questioned under this project. One of the objectives was to evaluate green jobs at sectoral and regional levels. The trade unions participate actively in the project “Competence Map” and are represented in the consultative Council.

Location(s)

Bulgaria

Union(s):

Confederation of Independent Trade Unions of Bulgaria (CITUB); Confederation of Labour PODKREPA

Stakeholder(s):

Bulgarian Industrial Association (BIA); funding from the European Social Fund

Reference(s):

[Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies](#), Reference Document for the region of Stara Zagora (2016) p.27. at https://www.etuc.org/sites/default/files/document/files/stara_zagora_report_-_final_en.pdf

ISTAS (the Union Institute of Work, Environment and Health)

“ISTAS is a project within the scope of Spanish Trade Union (CC.OO.) strategy. Its main task is to support trade union’s health and safety and environmental actions through technical and specialized expertise. Work on environmental issues is particularly related to problems stemming from industrial activity.” The main aim of ISTAS is to support union action on the environment, particularly in th technical and training fields. It was also an early adopter of greenhouse gas inventory reports.



ISTAS is the main expression of CCOO’s commitment to the environment and climate action. ISTAS is a technical and scientific foundation which was conceived and supported by Comisiones Obreras in 1996 to promote environmental protection in Spain, as well as the improvement of working conditions, particularly in occupational health and safety.

For example, in 2008, in order to promote sustainable, safe and healthy mobility of workers in their daily commutes to the workplace, ISTAS established the Sustainable Mobility Reference Centre to push for a new model which would satisfy the needs of transport in a reasonable time and cost, and at the same time minimize the negative effects on the environment and human quality of life.

To date, ISTAS has carried out many studies on climate change, energy, sustainable transport, and employment issues. Additionally, it has provided training and education for workers in order to involve them in the greening of their workplaces, to adapt them to the new energy and climate change regulations, as well as to encourage the participation of affiliated unions in this process, while at the same time raising collective awareness.

Since its inception in 2006, ISTAS has trained 19,130 people through more than 850 training activities that have been carried out so far (ISTAS, 2014a).

The ISTAS website remains active at <https://istas.net/istas/istas-english/about-us> as of

May 2020 with only a small portion written in English.

Location(s)

Spain

Tags: Climate change education, Health and safety

Union(s):

Comisiones Obreras

Stakeholder(s):

FITEQA (textiles union - appears to have been dissolved); FECOMA-Cementeras (cement union);

Reference(s):

ISTAS website is at <https://istas.net/istas/istas-english/about-us>

Manufacturing Climate Solutions reports



Manufacturing Climate Solutions



Carbon-Reducing Technologies and U.S. Jobs

by
Gary Gareffi, Kristen Dubay, Marcy Lowe
Center on Globalization, Governance & Competitiveness, Duke University

The Manufacturing Climate Solutions series of reports presents new research on technologies that can protect the climate by reducing CO2 emissions. In this ongoing series, we ask, “What are the U.S. job opportunities in clean tech?” We use a value chain lens to present the technology, break it down into its main materials and components, identify companies and their locations, and give examples of the associated jobs. We believe this series is a useful starting point to explore opportunities for U.S. job growth and technology leadership in the new, carbon-constrained global economy. The Center on Globalization, Governance & Competitiveness at Duke University prepared the 2008 report for five sponsors: Environmental Defense Fund, the Building and Construction Trades Department (AFL-CIO), Industrial Union Council (AFL-CIO), International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, and United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters.” Ultimately the study covers 12 sectors, the first five published in 2008. While the EDF played a leading role, the research is worth noting because of the participation of building and construction unions. The unions dropped out of the project which ended

up covering 12 sectors and was completed in 2009 with some updates in 2010. It is an important research project for labor and others in that it is placed within global value chains and reflects an effort of many unions to reshore the key components of global value chains.

Location(s)

United States (U.S.)

Tags: Coalitions, Green Economy, Labour-environmental alliances

Union(s):

Building and Construction Trades of AFL-CIO; Boilermakers; Plumbers and Pipefitters; Industrial Union Council of the AFL-CIO ; UA

Stakeholder(s):

Environmental Defense Fund

Reference(s):

<https://gvcc.duke.edu/cggcproject/manufacturing-climate-solutions>

Resource Check



SUSTAIN | CONSULT GREAN 

Development of resource efficiency tool.

To kick start the improvement dynamic in companies, in partnership with works councils, SUSTAIN CONSULT teamed up with the consultancy GREAN to develop the 'resource check' for IG Metall. This tool, which is suitable for works councils in all industrial sectors, identifies potential areas for improvement and actions that could be taken to reduce material and energy costs.

Location(s)

Germany

Tags: Energy efficiency, North-Rhine Westphalia Region Germany, Training materials, Workplace practices, Works Councils

Union(s):

IG Metall

Stakeholder(s):

SUSTAIN CONSULT; GREAN

Reference(s):

[Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies](#), NRW background document (May 2015)

Taking action for energy efficiency, increasing resource efficiency and safeguarding jobs



With energy and resource efficiency an increasingly hot topic for all companies, and codetermination partners needing to be encouraged to initiate and support energy and resource efficiency measures within their company, IG Metall has published two booklets aimed at bringing together scientific knowledge and works council experience to help works councils use their information and participation rights to foster a sustainable company policy. The booklets are entitled *Aktiv werden für Energieeffizienz – Leitfaden für Betriebsräte und Beschäftigte* (Taking action for energy efficiency – A guide for works councils and employees) and *Ressourceneffizienz erhöhen und Arbeitsplätze sichern – Ein Leitfaden für Betriebsräte* (Increasing resource efficiency and safeguarding jobs – A guide for works councils).



Location(s)

Germany

Tags: Energy efficiency, North-Rhine Westphalia Region Germany, Training materials, Workplace practices, Works Councils

Union(s):

IG Metall

Reference(s):

[Industrial Regions and Climate Change Policies](#), NRW background document (May 2015)