



**InterClimate  
Network**

29 April 2021

## **INTERCLIMATE NETWORK TO RECEIVE SHARE OF ALMOST £1.2M FROM SCOTTISHPOWER FOUNDATION AS PARTNER OF 'CONNECTING THE UK' PROJECT LED BY SIZE OF WALES**

(London, 29 April 2021) InterClimate Network (ICN), a charity which works across the UK to empower and enable young people to lead and advocate for environmentally sustainable behaviours, career choices, and societal change, will receive a share of almost £1.2 million funding from the ScottishPower Foundation as a partner in a joint project led by Size of Wales, a charity working with people in Wales and beyond to help protect four million hectares of tropical forests.

ScottishPower Foundation supports incredible projects that make a positive impact on people and communities across the country. This year's Foundation-funded projects – which support art and culture, education and empowerment, citizenship and society, and biodiversity and climate change – were selected on the basis of the significant and lasting contributions they will make to society, while enhancing people's quality of life.

Almost £9.2 million has been awarded to successful charities since the Foundation was established in 2013.

Among this year's beneficiaries is the 'Connecting the UK - MockCOP' project led by Size of Wales. ICN is collaborating to jointly deliver part of the project with Size of Wales, as well as the Welsh Centre for International Affairs (WCIA), a charity which inspires people to learn and act on global issues so everyone in Wales can contribute to creating a fairer and more peaceful world. The jointly-delivered project will enable schools across the UK to participate in a series of engaging UN-style debates to raise awareness among young people about climate change and related issues such as deforestation, and to promote their voices and local action in the run-up to the Glasgow COP26 climate conference in November 2021.

The project highlight is a special 'Four Nations' conference which will bring together school students from all parts of the UK to inspire and equip their advocacy for action on climate change at a local, national and UK wide level, and to initiate their own change projects in their schools and communities.

The collaboration builds on the success of the existing programmes of the three partner organisations. Size of Wales and WCIA's MockCOP programme, funded since 2019 by ScottishPower Foundation, has inspired climate action and advocacy through work with schools across Wales. InterClimate Network's Climate Voices programme, funded primarily through grants provided by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT), has a track-record of inspiring youth voices and advocacy on climate change through inter-school model climate conferences in South Gloucestershire, Bristol, Reading, Solihull, Liverpool and West London, alongside other work inspiring youth climate voices and action in schools through workshops, resources and action surveys.

## **Inspiring action on climate change**

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**Michila Critchley, Programme Manager at InterClimate Network, said:** "With the UK as hosts of COP26 this year, we have a unique opportunity to involve secondary students across the four nations in this critical global debate about the climate crisis and so we're delighted to be working with Size of Wales and the Welsh Centre for International Affairs to deliver this important project."

**Kevin Rahman-Daultrey, Policy and Education Manager at Size of Wales, said:** "Size of Wales and WCIA have been delivering the Welsh MockCOP programme for a number of years and it is with great excitement that we are able to join forces with InterClimate Network and their programme thanks to the funding from Scottish Power. We are excited to enable young people to have their voices heard on climate especially this year with COP26 around the corner."

**Susie Ventris-Field, CEO of WCIA, said:** "Pupils who take part in MockCOPs not only learn more about climate change, but better understand how to negotiate, compromise and find solutions together, and develop a better understanding of the impacts of climate change around the world. We're excited that this project will bring these opportunities to more young people across the UK."

The ScottishPower Foundation was established in 2013 to make a significant and lasting contribution to society, enhancing the lives of people living in communities throughout the UK. It provides funding to help support the advancement of education, environmental protection, arts and culture and citizenship. It also supports charities who aim to provide relief from poverty, disability, or other disadvantages. Find out more at [scottishpowerfoundation.com](http://scottishpowerfoundation.com).

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## Editor's Notes

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