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Global citizenship

What Enabel does

The world is facing huge challenges in realising the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Enabel wants to contribute with its experience and expertise in specific domains: Peace and Security, Climate Change and the Environment, Social and Economic Inequality, Human Mobility, Urbanisation, and Global Citizenship. In our search for adapted solutions we take into account the inevitable ongoing population explosion and we strongly believe in empowering women and youths.

This brochure describes how our projects incorporate global citizenship.

Everything is interconnected

The world is changing rapidly. We are evolving into a super-diverse society, in which people from diverse cultural, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds live together.

At the same time, we are increasingly in contact with each other worldwide, sometimes consciously, but also often unconsciously. This is a consequence of digitisation, increasing mobility and international trade. In this globalised world, political, economic, social, cultural and ecological systems increasingly influence each other. Whatever happens in the world has an impact at home – and vice versa.

Societal challenges such as climate change, social and economic inequality or pandemics such as Covid-19 require a global approach. And this global approach requires a strong global awareness and commitment, among citizens, in government, in business and civil society.

In this context, we are forced to rethink our own functioning and the concepts of development cooperation or international cooperation. We want to transcend the outdated north-south dichotomy and evolve into a system in which citizens, organisations and institutions worldwide work together based on a strong global consciousness to achieve a sustainable and just development of the planet.



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Our expertise

Enabel's expertise is based on:

- A team of Brussels-based experts working at building, implementing and disseminating global citizenship education knowledge but also supporting practitioners and policy makers.
- Experience in organising national awareness campaigns, such as the Fair Trade Week.
- Experience in involving and actively engaging young people to address global challenges (cf. Junior Programme).
- Networking with international organisations, such as UNESCO, GENE, Council of the European Union, CONCORD and Belgian NGOs. Active participation in various expertise and research networks at national and international levels, such as ANGEL, GENE, UCL, ULiège and KULeuven.
- A team of experts working on the global challenges (Peace and Security, Climate Change and the Environment, Social and Economic Inequality, Human Mobility, Urbanisation, and Global Citizenship Education) in partnership with various public, private and civil society actors.

Enabel and global citizenship

Global citizenship is an important matter for Enabel's in general. Enabel commits to promoting global awareness and to clarifying complex global challenges.

Such engagement is explicitly pursued in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (target 4.7): 'By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development'

Strong global awareness is a lever for the global challenges. For example, climate change programmes benefit greatly from the backing and involvement of people. Programmes assisting human mobility are facilitated when citizens understand the reasons why men and women migrate. Programmes that tackle inequality are supported when citizens understand the structural mechanisms behind inequality and how they can be addressed.



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How do we do so?

Enabel is convinced of the need of global citizenship education in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Global citizenship education can take many forms, in schools and non-formal learning, through awareness campaigns, advocacy or the promotion of corporate social responsibility in Belgium and abroad.

With its Annoncer la Couleur and Kruit programmes Enabel has more than twenty years of experience in global citizenship education in Belgium. The programmes' three main results areas, all of which aim to embed the approach in education, are: policy dialogue with the competent instances, the strengthening and innovation of teaching practices, and the sharing, producing and disseminating of relevant knowledge and expertise.

Our concrete commitment is greatly appreciated in Belgium's schools. For the agency itself it is a basis to

further strengthen with a view to broaden the scope and diversify. Global citizenship is not a donor issue; it is a global challenge. That is why we have the ambition to increasingly integrate this into our programmes in the partner countries.

Enabel also fosters global citizenship through programmes that promote fair trade and mobilise young professionals to get started in development projects in Africa and the Middle-East as Junior Experts.

Our experience

Exchange of teacher trainers between Belgium and Uganda

A Belgian-Ugandan teacher trainers' exchange helped successfully enrich the knowledge and practices in global citizenship education, particularly on gender issues. Participants highlighted that the intercultural exchange and cross-examination of this global challenge undeniably contributed to their practices.

In order to gain a better understanding of African (education) perspectives on colonisation, Enabel started collaboration with our education partners in Uganda and the Master of Arts in Cultural Studies of KU Leuven. Online and offline exchanges have analysed how colonial history is covered by both education systems.

Master class Process-based work and sustainable global citizenship pathways

With Schoolmakers and 11.11.11 a five-day Master class on a process approach to global citizenship education was developed by Enabel. The Master class targeted non-school process managers (educational guidance, education providers) in all grades of primary and secondary schools and in all types of curricula.

Training of teachers in the Fédération Bruxelles-Wallonie

For more than fifteen years, Enabel has been training more than a thousand (future) teachers in global citizenship education each year so they can take up a multiplier role and reach students. All courses offered are recognised as part of the initial or ongoing training of teachers of the Fédération Bruxelles-Wallonie. These courses also translate into major projects in these teachers' classrooms and schools.

Fair Trade Week

Every year, Fair Trade Week, a generic fair trade promotion campaign, is organised across Belgium at the local and national level. For ten days at the beginning of October all kinds of activities highlight fair trade and its products. Furthermore, since 2015, Enabel's Trade for Development Centre has organised practically every year a fair trade breakfast at Belgium's federal Parliament/ The ideal opportunity to put certain topics on the political agenda and for fair trade organisations to get in touch with decision-makers.

Junior Programme

The Junior Programme offers young professionals an opportunity to work for one or two years in a project of the Belgian governmental cooperation or of one of the 26 NGOs that have adhered to the Programme. In this way, the Programme aims to ensure that more young people are committed to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. During their field experience in Africa or the Middle-East the focus is on developing competences, on innovation, on contact with the local reality and on networking. Some six hundred youths have been reached by the Programme since it started in 2006.



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