

100 % Renewables & Low-Carbon scenarios in Europe by 2050.

The role of civil society: experience from the UK

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Stakeholder engagement

- * Principles and practices should be well understood
- * The right to participate in environmental decision-making is in the Aarhus Convention
- * The practice still often poorly done
- * There is a need too consider how we build better engagement by civil society

The role of civil society

Who are we?

- * NGOs national and local
- * Community-based and focused voluntary organisations
- * Social enterprises

“A unique and critical role” for civil society

- * Saying the politically unsayable
- * Innovation and fresh thinking
- * Building trust and engagement
- * Mobilise people and organisations

Delivering long-term and sustainable change

We need radical changes in:

- * Policy
- * Infrastructure
- * Stakeholder and popular engagement

Increasingly change is not led by policy but by engaged innovators supported by stakeholder pressure

We have a major lack of the infrastructure needed to deliver and live a low/zero carbon future



Zero Carbon Britain 2030

A project based with the Centre for
Alternative Technology

- * *Science says “we must”*
- * *Technology says “we can”*
- * *Time to say “we will”*

13 universities, 12 research bodies, 8
industry figures, many NGOs
On the edge of the possible?

The role of civil society in this:

- * Have the idea!
- * Do the work
- * Launch the report
- * Build stakeholder engagement
- * Keep the dialogue going

Making it real

Stronger local activity is needed to engage people in discussion on low carbon futures.

Civil society is well placed to build trust and deliver this
But (from a recent conference):

- * Infrastructure to support low carbon change is poorly developed
- * Other sectors do not understand the potential of community action
- * National media have little interest in this agenda

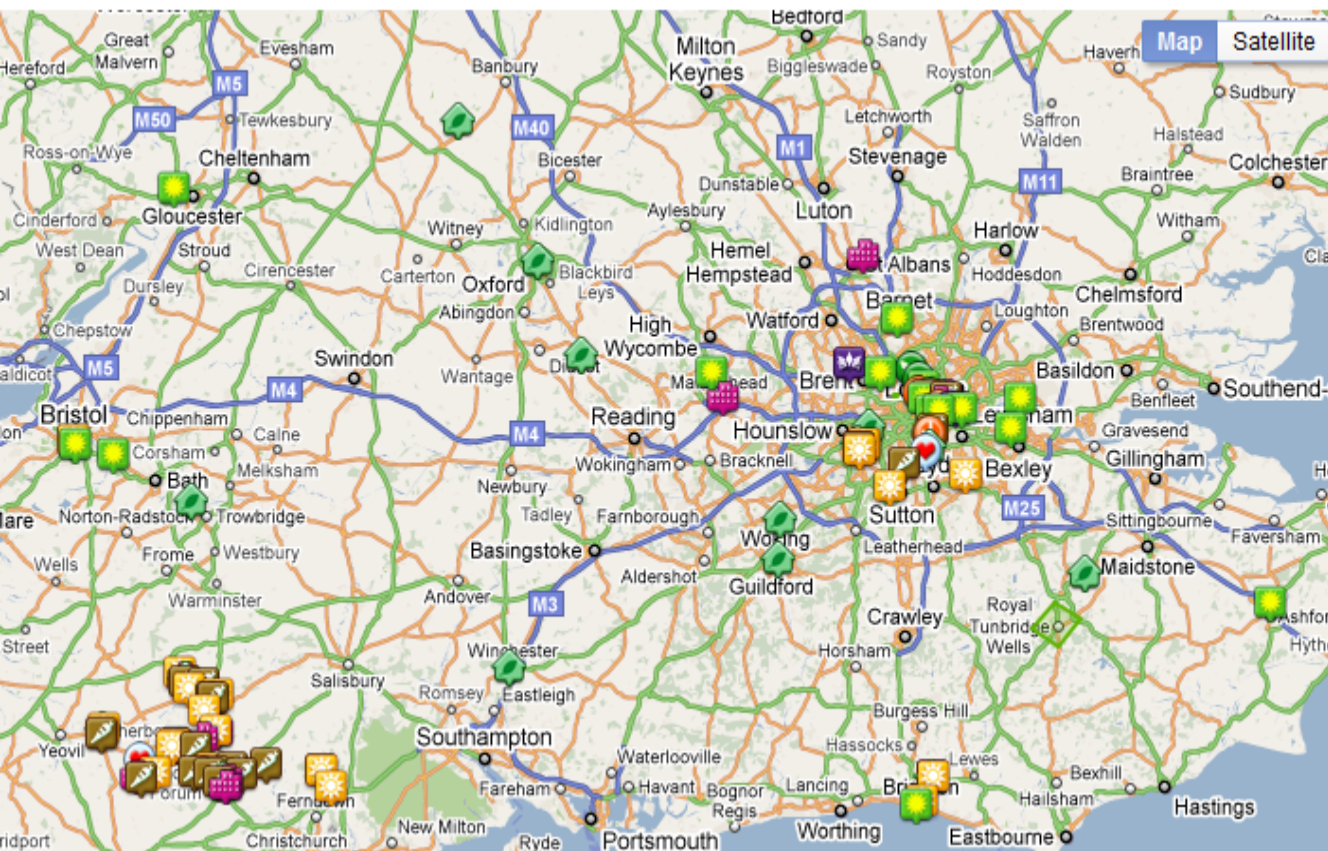
Communities and Climate Action Alliance (CCAA)

- * A new voice for national organisations supporting local action
- * A 'network of networks'
- * Aims to support and enable engagement And...



The UK Climate Action Map

Enabling easy access to local stakeholders
One example of the use of social media



Map Legend Search Add Content Edit

On the map

Please use the check boxes to switch data on and off.

- All Layers
- Biodiversity and Climate
- Buildings and Renewable Energy
- Climate and Environmental Groups
- Community and Voluntary Organisations
- Education and Awareness
- Energy Agencies and Project Support
- Events
- Food and Farming
- Health and Wellbeing
- Local Economic/Time Bank
- Renewable Energy Advice
- Transport

And that's it...
Thankyou!



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* CCAA report:
www.lowcarboncommunities.net/2011-conference-report/

* www.mappingforchange.org.uk