Skills for a low carbon future

Presentation by Graham Petersen, University and College Union Environmental Coordinator October 23rd, 2012

Workshop Aims

Introduction to:

- UCU and the Greener Jobs Alliance
- SW London Community Engagement Project
- Closing the skills gap



- Largest post-16 trade union in the UK
- Environment Reps plus Union Learning Reps
- Link between jobs and environmental concerns – future employability of students and staff
- Opportunity to form partnerships + pro-active
- Launch of Greener Jobs Alliance in 2011

GreenerJobsAlliance



student action on world poverty and the environment











Extracts from the House of Commons Audit Committee Report May 2012

- "There appears to be little priority in Government attached to moving to a green economy, and it is not clear how all Government departments are taking this agenda forward."
- "Scottish Renewables calculated that the current output of STEM graduates and technicians "was insufficient to even meet the need to fill vacancies that come about through retirement, let alone to simultaneously help drive the rise of new innovative industries which will create a green economy for the UK".
- "Producing a green skills strategy to ensure that skills and training are adequate to meet the aspirations of green economy policies."

http://www.parliament.uk/documents/TSO-PDF/committee-reports/cmenvaud.1025.pdf

Greener Jobs Alliance

- Green Skills Manifesto 2012
- Joint working with unionlearn on Green Skills Partnerships
- Joint working with NUS and P&P FHE curriculum, up-skill existing staff and unemployed

SW London Project

- Project to support sustainability skills in Merton and Wandsworth working with local college, trades union council, schools, employers, campaign groups and councils
- Phase 2: Sept-March, 2013
- Video 'Community engagement and the green deal' <u>http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VNRx6tNFG8U</u>
- Nominated for Green Gown Award 2012

Some conclusions

- Need an international policy framework
- National policy priorities:
- ~ Minister with overall co-ordination role
- ~ Integration of ESD into the curriculum
- Employer and consumer led approaches not working. Strategic interventions needed at government and local government level
- ~ Green Skills Manifesto 2013

Get in touch

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