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WWViews | 16. October 2009 | [www.wwviews.org](http://www.wwviews.org)

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Newsletter no 4, October 2009. Fourth out of six.

## **Circulate the Newsletter**

The scope of this newsletter is to engage people that will play important roles at COP15: negotiators, politicians, interest groups, journalists - everyone, who will be able to forward, comment, and use the results of our global citizen consultation on future climate policy.

Should you not find this information relevant, please forward it to the relevant persons in your organisation or other people, who might find it interesting.

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## **+ Making Public Opinion Heard**

*By Bjørn Bedsted, Project Manager and WWViews Coordinator, The Danish Board of Technology*

World Wide Views on Global Warming has now happened, and a total of 4.000 citizens in 38 countries have shared their views on climate change and how a climate deal should be shaped at COP15, the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen this December.

We want to thank everyone involved in this historic event: project managers and staff from our national partner organisations, sponsors, spokespersons, ambassadors, volunteers at the national meetings, and most of all, we want to thank the 4.000 citizens, who spent a day in September on deliberations on climate change and future climate policy.

The citizens' message to their politicians is clear: They should take fast and strong action at COP15. 91 % of the world's citizens find it urgent to reach a global climate deal at COP15. Furthermore, 89 % think that Annex 1 countries' short-term target for emission reductions should be 25-40% or higher. This target is remarkably higher than targets proposed by political decision-makers in the lead-up to COP15.

All WWViews partner organisations are now working on disseminating these clear and important messages. We want to spread the message as far as possible, and we therefore welcome all climate stakeholders, NGOs, politicians, journalists, scientists, and everyone else, who find it relevant, to make use of the WWViews results in their work.

The views of ordinary citizens should not be ignored. Therefore, we kindly encourage you to browse through the [results](#) and help us disseminate their messages in order to make sure that the views of the public will be present at the COP15 negotiations less than two months ahead of us.

In this issue of the WWViews newsletter you can read about the WWViews Policy Report and how to use the WWViews results. You can also watch video interviews with citizens who participated at the WWViews meetings on September 26; you can see the opening speech by Ms. Connie Hedegaard, Danish Minister of Climate and Energy, and we have made slideshows from the 44 WWViews meetings.

Thank you and enjoy!

#### + **This is what WWViews looks like!**

Beginning in Sidney, Australia, and ending in Claremont, California, about 24 hours later, September 26 2009 was surely the day of a worldwide event. We have collected pictures from almost all 44 meetings around the globe. Click [here](#) to see what WWViews looked like in Arizona, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, California, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Massachusetts, Mozambique, Netherlands, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Uganda and Vietnam.

#### + **The WWViews Policy Report**

'Urgency' is the most often-used expression from the many recommendations formulated by the 4.000 citizens on September 26, and 91 % of the citizens who participated, agree on this point. But though many of the results are easily interpreted, others are more intricate and demand a further level of analysis. Therefore, WWViews representatives are right now working on a compilation of the many results and recommendations from September 26. A compilation, which will end up as the official WWViews Policy Report.

This policy report will contain a short and precise executive summary listing the most important tendencies from the material. It will also provide an interpretation of the results and messages from September 26. Finally the report will present a clear description of the method regarding for example ways of recruitment along with a presentation of all partners and organizations that have been part of the project.

The Danish Board of Technology will distribute the report, so that all partners will be able to present it to their own national COP15 delegates and politicians on November 19, 2009. It is our intention that no negotiator shall reach Copenhagen in December without having heard about or seen the remarkable results of the World Wide Views On Global Warming.

#### + **Citizen Interviews from Russia, Austria, Denmark, and Chile**

One thing is to organise a global citizen consultation; it is a whole other thing to actually participate in one! Many of the WWViews partner organisations has therefore made video interviews with citizens, who participated on September 26. The main focus of these interviews is the personal experience of these citizens: What is it like to participate in a global citizen consultation? And what are their personal recommendations for their COP15 delegates?

Click [here](#) to hear (and see) what they have to say!

#### + **Media output**

World Wide Views on Global Warming received good media coverage before, during, and after September 26. Here you can watch, read, and listen to some of the thoughts on WWViews:

International:

The official COP15 website, September 29, 2009: News article. (English):  
<http://en.cop15.dk/news/view+news?newsid=2230>

USA:

Sea Change Radio, September 30, 2009: News article and radio show.  
(English): <http://www.cchange.net/2009/09/30/how-everyday-folks-world-wide-view-climate-change/>

France:

Le Monde, September 29, 2009: News and feature articles. (French):  
[http://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2009/09/28/un-exercice-de-democratie-mondiale\\_1246099\\_3244.html](http://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2009/09/28/un-exercice-de-democratie-mondiale_1246099_3244.html)

Chile:

24 Horas, September 29, 2009: TV news. (Spanish):  
<http://www.24horas.cl/videosRegiones.aspx?id=11416&idRegion=7>

Germany:

Klima-media.de, October 7, 2009: online news article. (German):  
<http://klima-media.de/2009/10/07/buengerkonferenzen-in-aller-welt-tagten-im-vorfeld-des-kopenhagener-klimagipfels/>

Denmark:

Information, September 27, 2009: news article (Danish):  
<http://www.information.dk/205309>

#### + **Use the WWViews results!**

All our efforts and the efforts of the 4.000 citizens, who participated, are focused on reaching the political decision-makers, who will be negotiating future climate policy, in Copenhagen this December, and you kindly ask you to help us.

You can do this by:

- disseminating the WWViews results and information about the project

- to people you find relevant
- using the results in your work yourself

So please take a look at the results [page](#) and our [website](#) to help us make sure the views of the public will be present at the COP15 negotiations only two months ahead of us.

As one of the ambassadors for WWViews Ms. Connie Hedegaard, Danish Minister of Climate and Energy and host of COP15, opened the Danish meeting with a speech that underlined the importance of public opinion in political decision-making. [Here](#) you can listen to what she had to say.

#### + Follow us on Facebook and our media server

On our [Facebook page](#) you can follow the different steps of the project, get information on how to contribute to the success of our citizen consultations, and you can take part in debates on democracy, citizen consultations, and climate change.

[Surfoffice](#) is our new media server for file sharing. Here you find video portraits, photos, and pod casts – all of which is free to use.

We look forward to seeing you online!

#### + The WWViews Ambassadors

##### Connie Hedegaard

Danish Minister of Climate and Energy and host of COP15.

[Read letter of support.pdf](#)

##### Prof. Mohan Munasinghe

Vice Chairman of the IPCC for the 4th Assessment Report

[Read letter of support.pdf](#)

##### Bill McKibben

Renowned writer and environmentalist, co-founder and director of 350.org.

[Read letter of support.pdf](#)

#### + WWViews in 60 Words!

On September 26, 2009, citizens from all over the world gathered to discuss, define, and communicate their views on issues central to the COP15 negotiations in Copenhagen this December. Citizens have to live with future climate policy and through this global citizen consultation we wish to make sure that citizens of the world will be represented at the negotiations this December.

#### Relevant links

[World Wide Views on Global Warming](#)

[The Danish Board of Technology](#)

You find a complete list of partner organisations in the WWViews Alliance [here](#).

If you wish to subscribe or unsubscribe for this newsletter, please send a notice to: [manager@wwviews.org](mailto:manager@wwviews.org)

**The next newsletter will be issued November 17th.**

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