

## Competition

Going Green concludes with a student competition that awards and promotes outstanding initiatives for sustainable development arising out of classroom work at the end of the school year. Students are encouraged to develop ideas for 'real life actions', execute and document them online, enter the competition and present their action plans at concluding regional project events.

## Student Action Plans

**Student projects have focused on:**

- organizing an upcycling festival on school campuses
- developing a board to teach new students about sustainability
- create an App to promote restaurants that serve local foods
- planting trees and starting joint school garden sponsorships across schools;
- designing a waste management program
- creating a green ambassador program to reach out to the community and other schools
- and many more ideas and measures

## Awards

We are the proud recipient of the Hans-Eberhard-Piepho Prize for Creative Ideas in Communicative Language Teaching and the Germany – Land of Ideas Award.

## The Team

Going Green is part of the initiative Teach About US, a unique cooperation of many contributors, and a sister project to the U.S. Embassy Election Project. The concept, curriculum, and implementation has been developed by the U.S. Embassy in Berlin, Life e.V. Berlin, and Leuphana University Lüneburg under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Torben Schmidt and founding program manager Dr. Joannis Kalliampos (2014-2021).

## Partners

The U.S. Consulates promote the project Germany-wide and engage with schools locally.

The Transatlantic Outreach Program (TOP) in Washington D.C. is the principal partner to facilitate exchange with U.S.-based schools.

Starting with the school year 2021-2022, we are further developing close regional partnerships with the German-American Institutes in Baden-Württemberg under the leadership of the German-American Institute Tübingen, and with Amerikahaus Munich and the German-American Institute Nürnberg covering Bavaria.

## Past Partnerships

The project has been supported by the Friedrich-Ebert Foundation, the Berlin Senate, the Potsdam Institute for Climate Research Impact (PIK), and the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg.

**More information on:  
TeachAboutUS.org**

## Contact

**Teach About US/Going Green Team:**

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**Dr. Martina Kohl**, U.S. Embassy Berlin

**Katja Krüger**, Life e.V. (technical support)

## Regional Partners

### Baden-Württemberg meets California

Sophia Kummler, German-American Institute Tübingen;  
central coordinator for Going Green in Baden-Württemberg  
([Sophia.Kummler@dai-tuebingen.de](mailto:Sophia.Kummler@dai-tuebingen.de))

### Bavaria meets Georgia

Ines Jaehnert and Sarah Martin, Amerikahaus Munich;  
central coordinator for the Green Together Initiative in Bavaria  
([together@amerikahaus.de](mailto:together@amerikahaus.de))

Laura Bakotic, the German-American Institute Nürnberg,  
for Going Green in Unterfranken  
([bakotic@dai-nuernberg.de](mailto:bakotic@dai-nuernberg.de))

## Founding Partners



## Partner organization in the U.S.



## Regional Partnerships

### Baden-Württemberg meets California



### Bavaria meets Georgia



## A German-American Blended Learning and Hands-On Project



## Teach About US: Going Green – Education for Sustainability



GETTING READY FOR ACTION!



Students of the Lycée Français Victor Hugo School, Frankfurt a.M. for Going Green (2015/16)

## Going Green – Education for Sustainability

is an intercultural blended-learning project that looks at the different measures both countries are implementing concerning environmental issues. Students on both sides of the Atlantic explore federal, local and state initiatives, compare different approaches to combat climate change and contest commonly held stereotypes. Discussions with counterparts in both countries are explored via a shared blended-learning platform (Moodle) and further web applications.

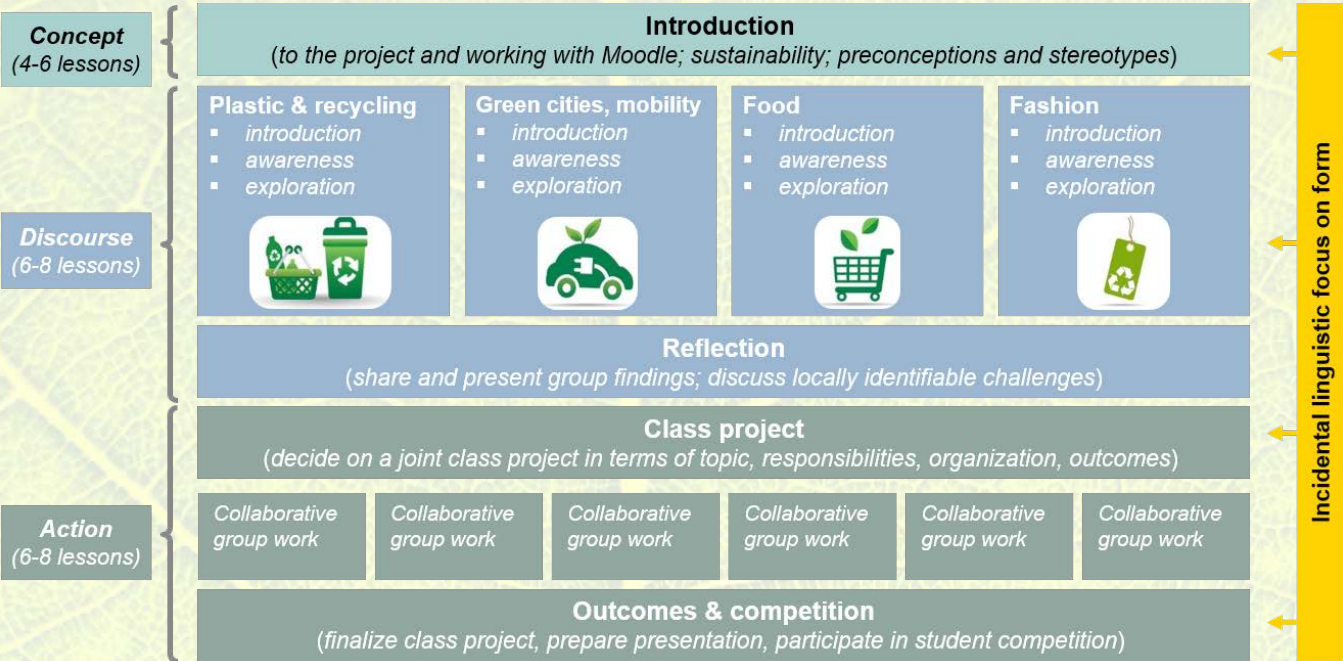
### Goal

It is our goal to inspire German and American High School students to participate in the project, engage with each other through the e-learning platform and interact with their respective communities. In the long term, we would like to develop Going Green – Education for Sustainability into a truly international project.

### Target Audience

Almost 6,000 students have participated in this project since 2014, partnerships with German and American schools are developing, and existing school partnerships are adopting the project. Though the curriculum is designed for classes 10 through 13 of all school types, content can be adapted to the needs of younger learners. In the past, even classes 5 to 9 have participated in the project.

## The Going Green Curriculum



The project curriculum can be taught throughout the school year in about four to six weeks. It is primarily designed for the English-as-a-Foreign-Language (EFL) classroom and for Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) in German High Schools. Yet, it can also be taught across the curriculum and outside of Germany as well. Learning modules have been developed to incorporate STEM content to attract participation of science teachers and classes.

## Going Green Add-Ons

### Power to the People From Humboldt to Education for Sustainability

‘Power to the People’, a module on renewable energies and community energy transformation can be taught intensively within one week. In 2019, we added a project module on ‘Humboldt 250’ with materials tracing the legacy of Alexander von Humboldt, an early global citizen. This module can be easily connected with classroom work on Going Green.

### Looking ahead: A Module on the History of Environmentalism in the U.S.

2022 will see the 60th anniversary of the publication of ‘Silent Spring’ by Rachel Carson. We are planning a new module on the famous scientist and author and on the history of the environmental movement.

GETTING READY FOR ACTION!



Going Green participants visit the US Embassy Berlin (2018)

### Teacher Trainings

Seminars with hundreds of teachers are conducted annually all over Germany to promote the project. These trainings include an overview of the curriculum, introduce how-to-teach sessions and feature expert speakers on the issue of sustainability.

### Evaluation

The 2014 pilot program has been evaluated by Leuphana University Lüneburg and is subject of a doctoral dissertation as a state-of-the-art teaching tool (completed 2021). Each project cycle is evaluated through teacher and student feedback.

### Going Beyond the Classroom

While learning about the concept of sustainability, students are encouraged to reach out to their local communities (policy makers, businesses, organizations), explore measures that could be implemented in their families, schools, and communities, and develop ideas to advance the environmental agenda. Knowledge about sustainability and the environment does not remain in the classroom: It is widely shared!