

Pioneers into Practice 2017

Showcase

Pioneers



Get out of your comfort zone
and make innovation happen

The only climate innovation
programme of its kind,
where placements
are supplemented with
interactive workshops
and online training

#YourPathYourFuture
pioneers.climate-kic.org

Climate-KIC is supported by the EIT,
a body of the European Union



Welcome Pioneers

With the Pioneers into Practice programme for 2017 drawing to a close, we are delighted to reflect on what has been an extremely successful year for the Climate-KIC funded project delivered from the Innovation Birmingham Campus. A series of exciting experiences, mentoring and networking sessions have helped to develop a talented and inspiring cohort.



Local Manager

Alison Fisher

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This year's programme has been built on the successes of previous Pioneers into Practice programmes, and we have had a diverse range of placements available to both UK and international Pioneers tailored to each individual's interests, ambitions and needs.

Pioneers have been provided with the opportunity to increase their networks, map out and maximise opportunities whilst developing their skillsets to the highest degree. Our UK Pioneers have also proactively participated in three challenging group projects revolving around the energy sector, converting challenges into opportunities in order to reach realistic and structured outcomes.



Project Assistant

Julia Staniforth

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We are proud to have provided host placements in a variety of sectors across the Midlands and the UK, organising and facilitating over 30 exciting placement opportunities to push the comfort zones of Hosts and allow each Pioneer to reach their full potential. This has been aided by providing access to the skills and expertise of both UK and international Pioneers.

The programme has been supported by an amazing coaching team made up of previous Pioneers, who we feel are best placed to provide support and Systems Innovation Training to Pioneers throughout their placements.

This brochure highlights the high calibre of this year's cohort collectively, whilst showcasing individual successes catalysed through the programme.

Head Coach

2017 has been another successful year for the Climate-KIC Pioneers programme in the UK. We have had a great group of pioneers with a huge range of backgrounds and expertise and a high level of interest and involvement in the programme. The placements have been very varied and interesting and the group projects have tackled real problems with enthusiasm .



Dave Green

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Business Coaches



Richard Bubb

Richard@symeco.co.uk

I was a Pioneer in 2013 and had fantastic experiences on my placements (when there used to be two placements). Obviously, part of the experience is exploring somewhere new and making new friends and work contacts, but it's also about tackling the challenges at the placement, understanding what the host needs and discovering how you can work in an environment where you might not have worked before. I will remember and value my experience at the placements for a long time.

As a coach, I particularly enjoy seeing the Pioneers that also have great experiences and make the most of their time during their placement. This year, part of my role has been visiting some Pioneers at the start and the end of their placements and there have clearly been Pioneers who have had fantastic experiences. Usually, most Pioneers are a little anxious at the start of their placement, maybe unsure of how they will work or be able to understand the challenge fully. At the end of the placements, I have seen many pleased Pioneers and satisfied hosts, both happy with the work that has been achieved. One host described the Pioneer as "... a valued asset to the company, a pleasure to work alongside".

Richard Davies

yimby@me.com



Climate KICs Pioneers into Practice Programme yet again has brought together a diverse group of talented, principled and committed individuals ready to tackle human induced climate change. Over the course of 6 months the Pioneers have had a rich and varied programme including a multi-week placement, group project, and a core curriculum of tools to help them make the transition to a low carbon future. As Coach I had the privilege of supervising a group project seeking to address the challenge of the UK's high carbon, energy expensive, existing housing stock. The project initiated by Marches Energy Agency (www.mea.org.uk) has explored how low carbon refurbishment can deliver low bills, healthier homes, jobs and economic opportunities while significantly reducing carbon emissions. The Pioneers brought a wide and deep knowledge base and a real passion to find a solution. With skilled tradespeople, low cost finance, high quality independent advice progress is certainly possible - this really can deliver social, economic and environmental benefits - and must be a key part of the UK's investment in 'infrastructure'.

Martin Kemp

martin@martinkemp.net



The Climate-KIC Pioneers have become co-creators of a sustainable and inclusive zero carbon economy. Learning systems innovation techniques and putting this straight into practice, to both own the knowledge and be part of the solutions. The cohort demonstrates the diversity of those who call the UK home and the transition toolkit enable people with different backgrounds to all contribute their skills within a common framework. The climate challenge crosses borders, as have the pioneers to help meet the mutual goals of implementing sociotechnical solutions. The Energy Capital Group project has explored the potential for decentralised energy in the region, connecting people with power. Applying the stakeholder mapping techniques collaboratively, online and at a distance. Finding and sharing best practices, within the group and with stakeholders. Highlighting the depth of experience in the region and opportunities for innovation. Adding to published best practice from around Europe with first hand experience for rich, multi-dimensional insight into the clean, smart and climate safe future available - and the sociotechnical roadmap to get there.



Alessia Elia



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

I am in my second year of a PhD working on energy modelling to evaluate sustainable energy technology and their feasibility in the future energy system. My PhD work is focused on the innovation needs of new RES technologies. Alongside my studies, I was always interested in climate actions, and the experience with Climathon in 2016 intrigued me about the connection between my studies and practical business actions. I would like to join to increase my working competences on climate change doing a placement, and this experience will be very useful to improve my competence for my PhD research.

Fields of interest

Transforming the built environment

Sustainable city systems

Mobility

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

Master thesis project, under the EU CITIES project in Denmark. The project aims to identify the pathways for a sustainable use of bio-energy and hydrogen in a completely renewable future in Denmark. I am a PhD student at University College Cork in Innovation needs and technological earning for low carbon opportunities for potential investments in renewable technologies. 3 weeks of Youth Exchange on Healthy Living project with a focus on the environmental concern, waste management and recycling.

Placement



ΔΗΜΟΣ ΑΡΑΔΙΠΠΟΥ **Aradippou**
Cyprus

Placement Title: Land use design of a public space for the exploitation of renewable energy sources and efficient technologies

Website: www.aradippou.org.cy

Organisation Sector: Public Administration

Organisations main field of study: Public spaces and renewable energy.



Alexandra Molnar



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

Being an international student in the university allows me to see an issue from a different perspective. I think this placement would help me to open my viewpoint more specifically in order to further my international experience in my field. On the other hand, I would like to have experience in an international working environment, which would improve both my personal and professional skills.

Fields of interest

Land and water
management

Adaptation services

Sustainable city
systems

Industrial processes

Waste Management

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I am working on an Eco Hub project within the university. We are trying to set up a Hub, where both students and staff can collaborate. The main profile of the Hub will be to encourage students and staff to reduce waste, carbon and increase awareness about the climate change issue.

Placement

reciclean
recogida selectiva de residuos a domicilio



Reciclean
Spain

Placement Title: Reciclean: Waste Management, coffee composting and innovative retail, employment of people in risk of exclusion—crowdfunding and marketing campaign.

Website: www.reciclean.com

Organisation Sector: Business

Organisations main field of study: Waste Management, composting, social employee.



Arthur Rowland



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

As part of the Centre for Alternative Technology community and an active member of the Woodcraft Folk in my formative years, the importance and relevance of climate change has always been clear to me. I pursued a career in engineering to develop practical skills to meet the challenges presented by climate change. This project is an excellent opportunity to be exposed to new ideas, meet highly-motivated professionals, and apply my experience and skills on a practical task. The e-learning resources and systems innovation tools are also interesting and would be useful for my career.

Fields of interest

Transforming the built environment

Industrial symbiosis

Sustainable city systems

Waste management

Mobility

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I am an engineer by trade, and I have developed machinery from small to large scale manufacturing with a Korean company. I am also a director of a startup developing a waste-to-energy system—to create a local solution to organic waste and clean electricity supply. When I volunteered for the Face Your Elephant project, which educates festival attendees about their carbon footprint, I developed a carbon calculator with Peter Harper of the Centre for Alternative Technology. I trained volunteers how to use the tool then guided attendees through the calculator and received excellent feedback.

Placement

elwedo Elwedo Oy
Finland

Placement Title: Solar as a service start-up looking for a pioneer to join the team creating solar energy consumer/prosumer platform.

Website: www.elwedo.fi

Organisation Sector: Business

Organisations main field of study: Solar as a service.



Birgit Kehrer



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

Having run ChangeKitchen since inception for 8 years, I am looking for next steps to grow and expand both in business terms but also in positive environmental influence. As a native German, I am a strong believer in and advocate of the EU. I know that advances in green issues are big in continental European countries and I feel, I could learn a lot from the exchange and get the impetus to make a bigger impact. Being the owner of small social enterprise is sometimes a lonely place, I therefore value the opportunity for working EU-wide in terms of exchanging knowledge and ideas.

Fields of interest

Land and water
management

Bioeconomy

Sustainable City
Systems

Greenhouse gas
emissions

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I have worked in connection with climate change in a volunteering capacity since I was 15 in Germany and the UK. ChangeKitchen was founded in big part to make a climate change related positive contribution within the catering industry. I have led that change since ChangeKitchen's inception 8 years ago and have won Birmingham Green Restaurant Award for my efforts. As a company we aim to cut our carbon footprint on all levels as much as possible.

Placement



**Munchner Klimaherbst
Germany**

Placement Title: Project Coordinator of 'Munchner Klimaherbst'.

Website: www.klimaherbst.de

Organisation Sector: Third Sector

Organisations main field of study: We are creating an event series with different Non Governmental Organisations and associations regarding climate protection.



Edward Macdonald



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

In order to further my understanding of working in climate change adaptation within an organisation that has a strong track record of pioneering progress in this area. As I am partway through an MSc, I'm looking for further training and practical experience. The program seems ideally geared towards building capacity of Young change-makers in supportive yet challenging contexts. I'd benefit from the push to work within a dynamic team and be guided by more seasoned professionals through the process of developing ideas and solutions to pressing issues of sustainability and climate change adaptation.

Fields of interest

Transforming the built environment	Land and water management	Industrial symbiosis	Adaptation services
Bioeconomy	Sustainable city systems	Waste management	Legalisation

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

Committed to working and helping facilitate community gardening schemes. During gap year in Cuba, I was involved with a local organic garden. As an undergrad, I helped set up a student allotment. Last year, I worked in Kenya to help set up a village tree nursery, partnering with schools to help inform and support them in planting agroforestry. Recently, I spent 7 months as a garden volunteer at the Centre of Alternative Technology, learning methods for sustainable organic Horticulture.

Placement



Ecodefyi

UK

Placement Title: Visioning in the UNESCO Dyfi Biosphere

Website: www.ecodyfi.org.uk

Organisation Sector: Third Sector

Organisations main field of study: Sustainable community regeneration, renewable energy and energy efficiency, tourism facilitation.



Ehab Sayed



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

I have always been incredibly passionate about sustainability in every sense and my professional and personal experiences have helped me refine my understanding of the term from an environmental, social and economic perspective. Before starting my studies and career, I spent two years travelling around the world and this experience has instilled in me this passion and continues to drive me. The programme will help me gain further experience and a fresh perspective on climate change action and sustainability, as well as allowing me to help and contribute my knowledge and experience.

Fields of interest

Sustainable city systems

Waste management

Materials

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

With a background in Civil engineering, Design engineering and product design, I have worked on projects with some of Europe's largest firms. I worked on all stages of sustainable product development from research and concept inception to testing and prototyping. I am, therefore, able to carry out life-cycle assessments on almost any process, product or service and implement Eco-design and circular economy strategies. On a recent research project investigating the UK's waste streams, I developed a construction system that forms the core of my R&D led start-up Biohm (www.biohm.co.uk) and won various awards.

Placement



Loughborough University

UK

Placement Title: Designing for material efficiency in building projects - Code of practice

Website: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk>

Organisation Sector: Academia

Organisations main field of study: Renewable energy technologies, energy demand in buildings, alternative fuel vehicles



Harry Ranford



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

I'm looking to further my network within the environmental sector and raise awareness of the eco tray that is really relevant to transforming the built environment. I have been in the building trade for over 15 years and have seen the steady progressions in green technology. The eco tray will have a massive effect on the maximum load on system which will make a big difference when designing new homes and infrastructure/renewable energy production I also love the idea of industrial symbiosis the eco tray is aluminium based, which can be made from reclaimed metal. Legalisation is also important.

Fields of interest

Transforming the
built environment

Land and water
management

Industrial symbiosis

Adaptation services

Sustainable city
systems

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

Electrician that takes great interest and offers professional/or advice on how to save money around the home and in/or business Founder of Eco-Tray Ltd, I have developed a high efficiency heat recovery shower tray/wet room heat exchanger.

Placement

marches
energy agency



Marches Energy Agency

UK

Placement Title: Domestic Retrofit

Website: www.mea.org.uk

Organisation Sector: Third Sector

Organisations main field of study: Sustainable energy, fuel poverty, climate change.



Irene Correia



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

Municipal adaptation strategies for climate change and integrating them as tools of municipal planning are key in order for the objectives to be achieved. I would like to understand how in the UK these measures are being implemented, as well as on an international level. By participating as a Pioneer, I will have the opportunity to get involved in discussion sessions about climate change mitigation and the adoption of these policies nationally and internationally. Climate change is a reality and I am passionate about helping to find ways to help reduce, control or mitigate its effects.

Fields of interest

Land and water management	Adaptation services	Bio-economy	Sustainable city systems
Greenhouse gas emissions	Waste management	Mobility	Rainwater storage and usage
Native woodlands	Conservation of nature & biodiversity	Environmental	Volunteering

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

As a forest Engineer, a significant part of my current work is the land management of natural areas. I've been implementing action plans with local communities to educate but also to get them engaged and to help us to protect the nature and biodiversity at the Natural Park of Sintra-Cascais. An example of this includes but is not limited to the removal of non native invasive plants every year with the help of volunteers from different socio and economic backgrounds, we help to reduce the problem and educate the volunteers as to why what they are doing, fomenting native forests, is so important.

Placement



Weather Logistics UK

Placement Title: Market validation of seasonal climate forecasts, and product design

Website: www.weatherlogistics.com

Organisation Sector: Business

Organisations main field of study: Climate data analytics to solve sustainability issues in the agricultural and energy sectors.



Julia Ponce Gonzalez



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

I have an extensive background in academic research but my main goal at this stage is the transfer of my knowledge and skills into a real application. By initiatives like this, I aim to get in contact with centres that enable me to contribute in the fight against Climate Change. I work on Energy storage and I think there is a long way to go. I see the need of a new energetic model that is sustainable and respectful with the environment and I believe in the power of renewable energy sources to fulfil the demand.

Fields of interest

Circular economy

Materials

Waste treatment
and recycling

Decentralised
energy grids

Energy Storage

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I work as a Research Fellow at the University of Surrey. My research is focused on the use of hydrogen as an alternative to fossil fuels. We develop the electrolytic materials to be employed in alkaline Water Electrolysers and Hydrogen Fuel Cells. However, these materials could also have application in energy conversion devices, such as redox-flow batteries or biological fuel cells. We form part of the Supergen H2FC Research Hub that cover all aspects of the hydrogen economy, from the production and storage to the safety and incorporation into the electrical network.

Placement



Tuning Fork

Malta

Placement Title: Concept Development Executive - Bio-degradable packaging

Website: www.tfork.com

Organisation Sector: Business

Organisations main field of study: Energy Management, Environmental Management, Waste Management, Eco-friendly consumer solutions.



Nafsika Christa Drosou



UK Pioneer

Motivation for joining the programme

Through professional and postgraduate roles in the last 8 years I have been committed to sustainability in the built environment. My work, research and contact with UK and international industry and academic stakeholders in this field, have led me to the realisation that there is much more outside engineering that I need to learn in order to make impactful contributions toward a sustainable future. In today's highly complex world, this learning has to involve areas outside my comfort zone, such as entrepreneurship, sustainable urbanization and adaptation. The Pioneers into Practice programme gives me the unique opportunity to apply my skills in territories that are new to me; to build on my learning journey and to meet interesting and like-minded professionals.

Fields of interest

Land and water
management

Adaptation services

Sustainable city
systems

Sustainable
urbanization

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

As a Research Assistant based in the Portsmouth School of Architecture (University of Portsmouth) I worked on the EU funded programme Strategies for Innovative Low Carbon Settlements (SILCS), which involved low carbon building initiatives within the framework of sustainable developments in Spain, the UK and the Netherlands. As a PhD student and scholar of the London-Loughborough (LoLo) EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Energy Demand, I have focused on the areas of ventilation and daylighting in school buildings and the students' perception of them. Currently I am moving on to research flood resilience in urban areas through the integration of Blue Green Infrastructure. In all my endeavors I strive to understand the interplay between technical and human-centered (i.e. socio-economical, psychological, ergonomics) issues.

Placement



**Climate-KIC Benelux
Netherlands**

Placement Title: Assessment and Development of Entrepreneurial education

Website: <http://www.climate-kic.org/locations/the-netherlands>

Organisation Sector: public-private innovation partnership (academic institutions & public sector)

Organisations main field of study: : Education, urban transitions, sustainable land use, sustainable production systems, decision metrics.



Antonio Carnieletto



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Malta**

Motivation for joining the programme

I am interested in the role of Pioneer for this Programme, as I wish my expertise and academic background could fulfil the skills of this specific position, and also in order to continue my career in the EU Affairs and Climate issues. This represents a personal opportunity for boosting further my passion in Environmental challenges. I would highly appreciate to join this team as I believe that working for an estimable Project would surely enhance social aspects, team attitude and stimulate my interest in analysing and understanding the main features of the Planet's Sustainability.

Fields of interest

Land and water
management

Bioeconomy

Sustainable City
Systems

Greenhouse gas
emissions

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

Support to Policy Officers of the FVG Brussels Office through: preparation of reports, participation to conferences and seminars organised by both EU Institutions and various organisations located in Brussels, writing of articles on news, events, factsheets regarding current calls and EU programmes, and sheets for partner research within EU programmes. Administrative tasks (management of common mailbox and calendar-MS Outlook, archiving invoices, hotel/transfer booking etc) Main topics of interest: circular and blue economy, environment and climate issues, EU cooperation, migration.

Placement



University of Warwick UK

Placement Title: Sustainability Study for the Warwick campus: A focus on
Scope 3 Carbon Emissions

Website: www2.warwick.ac.uk

Organisation Sector: Academia

Organisations main field of study: The Estates team covers the campus, buildings, transport and student sustainability activities.



Elena Lazzari



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: Italy

Motivation for joining the programme

The opportunity to work with other realities will be a way to test my experience, maybe adding value to tools or aspects not so important in Italy or in my job. At the same time, it will be an opportunity for an information's / culture / method exchange, useful to grow my work motivations. In fact, gaining new skills and experiences in different realities can surely bring novel advances in my daily work, in particular the improving of case studies. After the Pioneer programme I would share the knowledge gained proposing new policies related to climate change topics in the implementation of the Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP).

Fields of interest

Transforming the built environment

Sustainable

Legislation

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

As urban planner I've been part of an internal City Council's task force which had the aim to create an intersectoral knowledge useful for all Council's offices involved in urban transformations. In 2015 I participated to a simulation course (REBUS) where, using a role-playing game, the group made a project focused on the quality of public spaces. I had to use bioclimatic design (morphology and materials) and ENVI-met, an outdoor microclimate simulation software. From about one year I've been working in the Environment Office of a City Council where I've been facing the monitoring of the SEAP

Placement



Coventry City Council UK

Placement Title: Low Carbon & Sustainability Awareness Planning

Website: www.coventry.gov.uk

Organisation Sector: Public Administration

Organisations main field of study: Incorporating low carbon and sustainability into planning process. Promoting low carbon within Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs)



Laura Menéndez Monzonís



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Spain**

Motivation for joining the programme

My work on climate change and sustainable development combines three areas: management and evaluation, training and research. I have now focused my efforts on training local technicians and academia on projects undertaken to promote global change from the local level because only changes in lifestyle of each person in their environment will be able to bring about global change. That is why participating in this program would be an opportunity to meet people and initiatives in other contexts and share our experiences to expand our knowledge and work better in the future on issues related to climate change.

Fields of interest

Sustainable lifestyles

Awareness on environmental issues

Climate Change

Responsible

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

Facsá Fair of Innovation in the Integral Water Cycle (UJI). Evaluator of European education projects (KA2). Dissemination of results regarding the quality of life through access to drinking water (AECID). IN2RURAL: Innovative practices in renewable energies to improve rural employability (UJI). IT-FOREST: Innovative Training in Forest Biomass for sustainable rural development (UJI). Energy efficiency in bricklayers to mitigate climate change (SWISSCONTACT). Initiative of Emerging and Sustainable Cities (BID). Study of vulnerabilities and climate change Sustainable cities: rehabilitation, competitiveness and social cohesion (UJI). Manos Unidas' volunteer in campaign: "Change for the planet, Care for the people" (CIDSE).

Placement



Keele University

Keele University Sustainability Hub UK

Placement Title: Keele University Sustainability Hub workshop developer.

Website: www.keele.ac.uk

Organisation Sector: Academia

Organisations main field of study: Research into sustainability, education, renewable energy.



Marcin Wróblewski

International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Poland**



Motivation for joining the programme

After years of work in Poland on multiple projects connected with climate, I have a feeling I have achieved enough and it is time to test myself abroad. The subject of my work should be connected with my activities in Poland; but since I am involved in many different activities, these are connected with multiple subjects, so I remain flexible as to my specialization abroad. However, I would do my best in other city administration or in organisation cooperating with such administration. There would be the best conditions for mutual transfer of knowledge and joint work on new ideas.

Fields of interest

Transforming the built environment	Land and water management	Adaptation services	Sustainable city systems
Greenhouse gas emissions	Waste management	Mobility	Legislation

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I am a Chief Specialist in Infrastructure Department of the Warsaw City Hall and a member of Secretariat of Mayor's Climate Protection Team. I have vast experience in cooperation connected with energy efficiency, RES, low-carbon buildings, e-mobility and reducing GHG emissions at all levels: local/Polish (like Warsaw SEAP and Low-Carbon Economy Plan, E-Mobil Cluster, Polish national e-mobility strategies), EU projects (FP7, IEE, EFRD, H2020), European (EUROCITIES, Energy Transition Partnership, European Innovation Partnership on Smart Cities and Communities) and international (C40, ICLEI, UN, UNEP).

Placement



Digital Greenwich UK

Placement Title: Sharing Cities (a Horizon 2020 funded project aimed at developing replicable smart city solutions)

Website: www.digitalgreenwich.com

Organisation Sector: Public Administration

Organisations main field of study: The Royal Borough of Greenwich, through its Digital Greenwich team, is one of Europe's leaders in smart city innovation. It has a comprehensive smart city strategy and linked to it, a number of strategic and scalable smart city initiatives. It is for example, a UK test bed for the introduction of connected and autonomous vehicles; a UK test bed for the introduction of 5G wireless applications; a EU demonstrator for smart cities and communities (with the cities of Lisbon and Milan); and the host of the UK smart mobility living lab (UKSMLL) – a joint venture with the Transport Research Laboratory.



Mayra Alejandra Lacruz



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: Spain

Motivation for joining the programme

During my professional experience as a geologist, I realised how important sustainability is for us to preserve the Earth for future generations and one way to achieve this is to work together, have cooperation, find quick adaptation strategies at 'glocal level' and make resilient cities through prevention. My interest in this programme is the opportunity to create cooperation, services and feedback about the platform I am developing to boost the low carbon economy. I also believe that the university would provide me with important knowledge for the development of the project.

Fields of interest

Transforming the
built environment

Land and water
management

Sustainable city
systems

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

The environment is under pressure from multiple directions and has social, environmental and economic consequences. My role and experience are to promote sustainable and innovative solutions for the often conflicting needs of people, and the environment by developing projects that help meet these needs and fight against climate change. As an entrepreneur, I am developing an online platform which connects all the environmental solutions around the world making a network to cooperate against this problem.

As a Geologist Engineer and Master in Planning and Management of Natural Risks, I have a detailed knowledge of the scientific, legal and social issues concerned with environmental issues and use this knowledge to influence ways of living and working sustainably.

Placement



**Loughborough
University**

Loughborough University UK

Placement Title: Review of technology for recovering materials from construction and demolition waste flows in EU Member states.

Website: www.lboro.ac.uk

Organisation Sector: Academia

Organisations main field of study: Renewable energy technologies, energy demand in buildings, alternative fuel vehicles.



Dr Miklós Horváth



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Hungary**

Motivation for joining the programme

My main objective for joining the program is to expand and deepen my knowledge of sustainability. I'm hoping to find new perspectives and learn more about current progress in that area. Furthermore, gaining more international experience with different groups would further enhance my personal and professional development. Finally, networking itself is of a high value for me. Previously I've enrolled in summer universities in Wien and Paris and in both cases, it was very useful. By connecting with each other and maintaining partnerships we can really make a difference and contribute to progress.

Fields of interest

Sustainable city systems

Solar Energy Utilisation

Impact of occupant behaviour on energy consumption

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I've participated as technical expert and data analyst in international (SLED) and national projects (National Building Stock Database) in the field of building stock bottom-up modelling and development of carbon-dioxide mitigation scenarios. Focus countries were Albania and Hungary, the scope covered both residential and public sector. Also, I've been involved in the development of a building environment classification tool (CESBA project)

Placement



Sustainable Housing Action Partnership UK

Placement Title: SHAP Task and Finish Research Groups 2017 Project Officer.

Website: www.shap.uk.com

Organisation Sector: Research

Organisations main field of study: Our Vision: all domestic dwellings will be energy efficient, resilient to extreme weather, affordable and comfortable to live in, and that this will provide a structure for sustainable communities, attractive places to live and support jobs and skills within a low carbon economy.



Olga Antczak

International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Poland**

Motivation for joining the programme

Joining Pioneers into Practice will be the great occasion for making international scientific contacts. During the placement, I want to learn how to make analyses and reconstruct climate on the basis of fossil beetle assemblages (Mutual Climate Range), as well as how to identify remains of other invertebrates and what they can tell us about the climate.

Fields of interest

Land and water
management

Greenhouse gas
emissions

Climate
reconstructions

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I was working for sustainable development as an investigator in fauna inventories on the area of railway lines, as well as on proposed areas for the construction of a nuclear power plant. My activities related to climate change were focused on past climate reconstructions on the basis of subfossil invertebrates.

Placement

UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

University of Birmingham UK

Placement Title: Training and development in Archaeology

Website: www.birmingham.ac.uk

Organisation Sector: Academia

Organisations main field of study: Higher education, academic research, past environmental reconstruction.



Thomas Kopel



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Germany**

Motivation for joining the programme

A few years ago I got to know the Cradle-to-Cradle principle of Michael Braungart. Since then I was fascinated by the vision of a circular economy. **I truly believe that our current economic concept needs to be fundamentally rethought by applying a systemic thinking approach**. This program will give me the opportunity to really expand my knowledge for circular business models.

Fields of interest

Sustainable city
systems

Solar Energy
Utilisation

Impact of occupant behaviour on
energy consumption

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I am working with different stakeholders to put circular economy into practice, e.g. EU funded project about applying principles of the circular economy at industrial parks.

Placement



The Ellen MacArthur Foundation UK

Placement Title: Internship with New Plastics Economy team.

Website: www.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org

Organisation Sector: Third Sector

Organisations main field of study: Circular Economy thought leadership



Virginia Martínez Vallier



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Spain**

Motivation for joining the programme

I'm looking for promoting models of Industry 4.0 to our clients. I want to learn about new eco intelligent technologies of energy, generation and energy efficiency. Nowadays Spain is less prepared than other countries in Europe to introduce Industry 4.0 in their activity. I see this programme as an opportunity to learn more about this subject and be prepared when Spain industry starts developing it.

Fields of interest

Industrial symbiosis

Software
development

Industrial processes

Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

I have been working as an Engineer Improving Energy Efficiency in a Nestle's yoghurt factory for 3 years: studying and controlling factory's consumption, analysing and proposing energy-savings. To enhance my knowledge and skills, I studied a master's degree in Energy assessments, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in order to be prepared to work as an Energy Auditor promoting energy-saving and renewable energy.

Placement



Warwick University and Energy Capital UK

Placement Title: Energy Capital Industrial Eco-System Development and evaluation.
IS050001

Website: www2.warwick.ac.uk www.energycapital.org.uk

Organisation Sector: Business

Organisations main field of study: Sustainable buildings and energy in the built environment.



Urszula Uminska



International Pioneer

Pioneer Location: **Poland**

Motivation for joining the programme

I love working in the international environment and this program is a great opportunity to do it. I really enjoy solving complex problems and planning. I believe education and knowledge transfer are basic for development. It requires also practical experience and communication with professionals. What is more climate innovations for me are effective if they lead to day to day changes in habits and perspectives, as well as education. I am always a curious person and I am willing to transfer the Pioneers experience to my work life as well as to my daily life.

Fields of interest



Describe your professional experience and entrepreneurial activities related to climate change/sustainability

At work, I am responsible for collecting the fee from property owners. It generates income to our city budget and is one of the financial sources that cover public expenses. I tend to reduce paper use at office and use recycling bins. Together with my family and friends, we collect batteries and exchange them for flowers. Having the idea of a walking city in mind and being climate friendly, I use public transport or walk. I am a curious person and as someone who grew up in the countryside, I have a great respect for our environment.

Placement



University of Wolverhampton UK

Placement Title: An exploratory study of the impact of occupant behaviour on building energy efficiency.

Website: www.wlv.ac.uk

Organisation Sector: Academia

Organisations main field of study: The Built Environment team undertake research and development activities in the field of built environment sustainability.

Case Study—Loughborough University

Circular economy and sustainable collaborations at Loughborough University

Loughborough University has been part of the Climate-KIC's Pioneers into Practice Programme (<http://www.climate-kic.org/about/>) since 2011 and has hosted 13 Pioneers to collaborate on projects and inspire work between academia and enterprise (www.lboro.ac.uk/enterprise).

During the autumn of 2017, two international placements were hosted by the University as part of the Programme which brings together climate change professionals with organisations from across public, private, research and not-for-profit backgrounds from a range of climate change sectors to share knowledge and influence climate change action.

This year, the Pioneers were located in the School of Architecture, Building and Civil Engineering's research hub and were under the supervision of **Dr Mohamed Osmani**, Senior Lecturer in Architecture and Sustainable Construction.

Ehab Sayed, Founder and Director of Innovation at **Biohm** (www.biohm.co.uk), is from Egypt and has worked with Loughborough University through the Climate-KIC programme as a Pioneer in the support and development of the BSI Standard, BS8895-3. The standard is part of a multi-part standard which looks at material efficiency in building projects. The collaboration involved assessing the effectiveness of all parts of the standard as well as supporting the communication and visualisation of the information within the standard. There will also be a focus on the future of standards and potential future developments that may improve their effectiveness and uptake within the construction industry.

Mayra Lacruz, Founder and CEO of **SEN** (www.sen.world) based in Alicante, Spain, has worked in the assessment of WG1-COST Action CA15115-Mining European Anthroposphere (MINEA). This project focuses on the assessment of technologies in the recovery of construction and demolition waste (C&DW). The collaboration helped analyse the context of the research and recommended future vision strategies of MINEA WG1.

Dr Kelly Manders, Partnership Development Manager within the Enterprise Office at Loughborough University has illustrated the importance of enterprise collaborations and innovation for the University and in support of academic researchers.

Ehab and Mayra are two entrepreneurs with different start-ups, but they share the same aim: the development of a sustainable future. Ehab founded **Biohm** (<http://www.biohm.co.uk/>), a research and development led company that allows nature to lead innovation to promote a healthier and more sustainable built environment. Mayra founded **SEN** (www.sen.world), an online platform, which connects professionals working on or interested in climate change action and sustainable solutions.

Mayra Lacruz says of the Programme: “This placement is an excellent experience for sharing expertise and knowledge, and to improve my language and intercultural skills. It was also a good opportunity for connecting with professionals working in similar areas. There was a strong networking element which was highly beneficial to me in my career as an Entrepreneur.”

Ehab Sayed continues: “An invaluable experience that has opened doors for my academic and professional career. Working alongside Dr Mohamed Osmani was truly inspiring and I have built great relationships through this opportunity. An ongoing collaboration, it will have a great impact on the construction industry’s sustainability and is a valuable contribution to knowledge.”

Other Partners on the 2017 Programme



building knowledge

www.aecb.net

ecoHub Energy

ecohubenergy.wordpress.com

CAE POST

www.caepost.co.uk



Smart
Renewable
Heat

Providing heat as a service

smartrenewableheat.com



carillion

www.carillionplc.com



Solihull

METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH COUNCIL

www.solihull.gov.uk



cenex

www.cenex.co.uk



Climate Action Network

West Midlands

www.climateactionwm.org.uk



Centre for Alternative Technology

Canolfan y Dechnoleg Amgen

www.cat.org.uk



Innovation Birmingham is the Midlands' leading digital campus and the go-to location for Birmingham's digital and technology community. We nurture digital brilliance across start-ups, scale-ups and clients and provide access to innovative companies.

We pride ourselves on our Campus being a hub for a community of over 1000 techies. But you don't have to be here physically to get involved in conversations and projects driven by a strive for innovation. Our iCentrum Forum encourages interaction between innovative thinkers from start-ups to educational institutions.

Our multi-million-pound Campus includes all the physical assets needed to launch and run a successful digital technology business, and hosts a full calendar of external corporate events throughout the year. Our varied facilities include offices from 82 sq ft to 10,000 sq ft, purpose built meetings and conference facilities, and free collaborative workspaces, providing a location catering for all business needs.

In addition to the impressive physical offering of the Campus, it's our people who make us special. Regular tutorage and support is provided to our start-ups and clients, including anything from expert sessions, market insight and PR services. Attracting the brightest talent in the region and nurturing digital brilliance presents a nucleus of opportunity for entrepreneurs and investors aspiring to develop, maintain or support successful digital start-up companies.

Pioneers into Practice 2017



Pioneers 2017



Management Team—2017

For more information on participating in future programmes please visit the website www.pioneers.climate-kic.org