

EUROPARC Youth Manifesto

A CALL FOR **CHANGE**
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES
AND PROTECTED AREAS

CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK
SCOTLAND, UNITED KINGDOM

EUROPARC
Youth Manifesto



The Scottish Government
Established 16 06 2014



SCOTTISH RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK

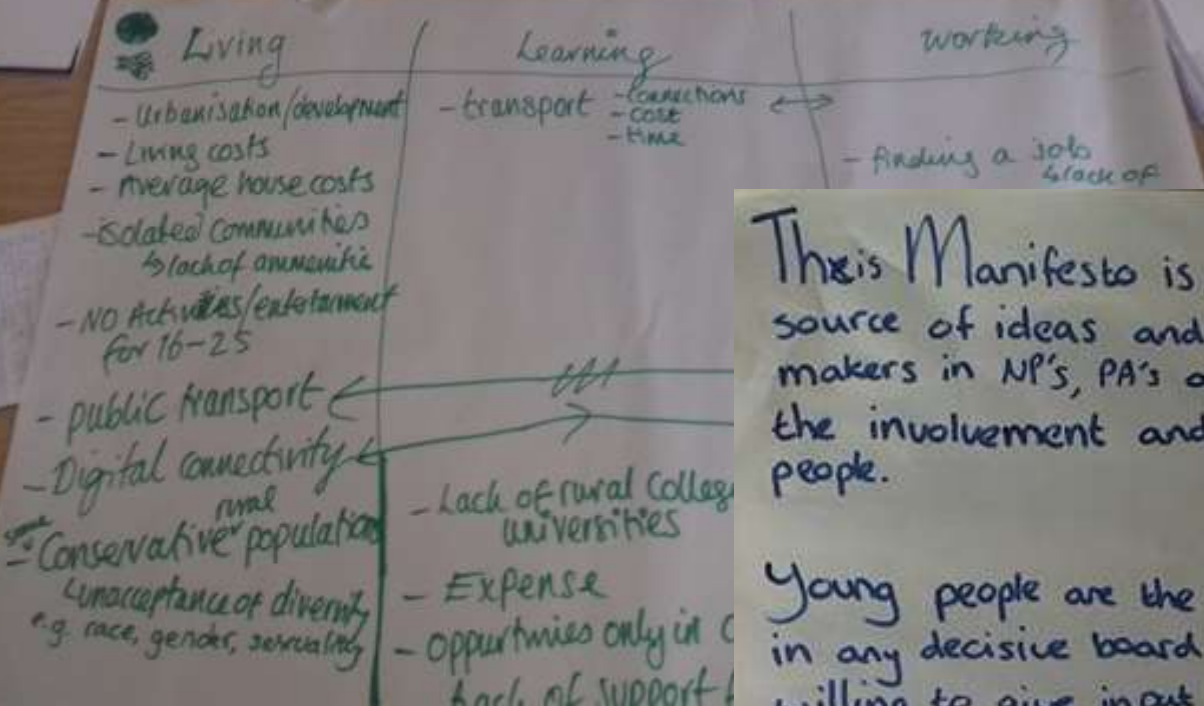
Who made it?

- Around 40 young people
- Aged 16-25
- At two workshops



Scotland





This Manifesto is a document that is a source of ideas and inspiration for decision makers in NP's, PA's and rural areas, to ensure the involvement and empowerment of young people.

Young people are the future and underrepresented in any decisive board; yet we are capable and willing to give input and implement changes if given the chance. Here we offer straightforward solutions to engage a technology based next generation.

2018 is the year of young people in Scotland and the initiative to create a youth manifesto was started. Together with Leader, Scotland and Finland organised two workshops where 30 young people aged 16-25 from ... countries came together. Coming from different backgrounds, all ideas and issues have been merged into one document, the Youth Manifesto, to ensure the voices of youth all over Europe are heard.

Lack of support within

Lack of interest

Limited nature education

Solutions:

- Applying to gain experience...
- Creating a youth council...
- Developing a youth project fund...
- Creating National Park & school links...
- Part members visiting schools...
- Educational visits within the park...

The parks more of a Social Platform

Using things like Social media and activities to make the park interesting (video to film) or to make the park better (e.g. better signage) or to make the park better (e.g. better signage) or to make the park better (e.g. better signage).

CREATE THEIR OWN BUSINESSES

- Visit to one NP to learn about the local environment
- Each age group to visit over NP area a week/semester

LINKS SHOULD BE CREATED BETWEEN BUSINESSES IN RURAL AREAS AND PROVIDERS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ORDER TO EDUCATE YOUNG PEOPLE ABOUT EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS IN RURAL AREAS

- Bring classrooms outside
- Formulating guidelines for the lessons, that include example pieces on how to lead lessons e.g. Finland & H
- Practical engagement lessons e.g. Start with earth sciences to hopefully lead to all subjects
- Engagement boxes filled with objects to help teach 'outside'

CAMPING

Make the parks more of a social platform

Medical Centre in the countryside

Provide engaging activities for young people i.e. youth council, after school club.

Have outdoor (e.g. activities) that will lead to the youth club to see to see their adventure in the park when they go to school.

From a youth council, make rules

Improve promotion, give an incentive (money) to the youth council members (e.g. a bonus will allow older generation (walking) to get involved.

provide Community buses throughout the year. These would need to be funded by a collaboration between the park, people, the government, local businesses/organisations, local councils + tourists. (Free for locals)

Introduce a park wide facility to allow young people to purchase goods and services at a reduced rate. Authorities, local businesses and transport companies should provide a discount scheme to allow the youth to fully harness on affordable existence in the Parks.

Explore a housing scheme specifically identified for individuals living and/or work in the Park on a low income. Short term and permanent options should be provided to cater for different employment opportunities.

decision makers. Provide a place on boards for one of the youth council members.

Establish a youth project fund for young people to apply to. The projects will be planned, implemented & reported by young people. The youth councils will make decisions about project funding.

Keeping up in rural communities efforts some of the problems associated with ageing rural populations and build sustainable communities. Young people bring new & creative ideas to sustain their rural areas. They can help communities to become more connected, open minded + active. Young people make a significant contribution to rural economies by bringing in new jobs, services + business opportunities. Supporting young people to live in rural areas

Finland







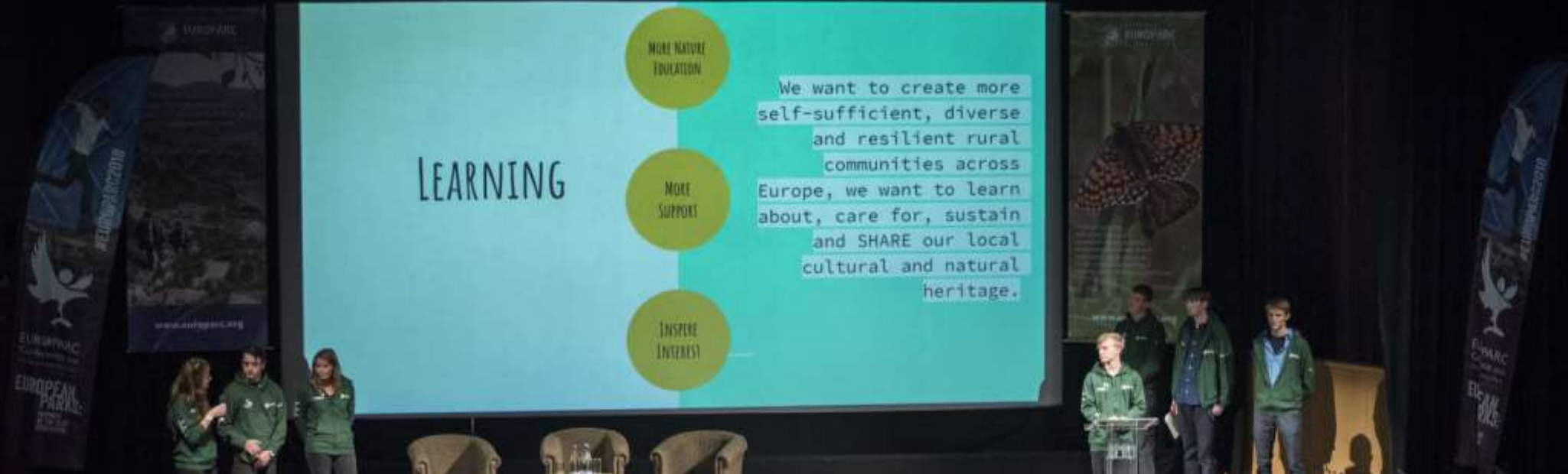
LEARNING

MORE NATIVE
EDUCATION

MORE
SUPPORT

INSPIRE
INTEREST

We want to create more self-sufficient, diverse and resilient rural communities across Europe, we want to learn about, care for, sustain and SHARE our local cultural and natural heritage.





EUROPARC Youth Manifesto

What is a manifesto?

Several definitions:

- “a written statement declaring publicly the intentions, motives, or views of its issue”
- “a public statement stating your views or your intention to do something”

What is our message?

- We want to protect and conserve our environment.
- We need to create more self-sufficient, diverse rural communities across Europe
- We want to connect to each other, across generations and share our ideas

We can **help** build these communities!

A CALL FOR **CHANGE**
IN RURAL COMMUNITIES
AND PROTECTED AREAS

Youth Empowerment

- We are **under-represented** in the decision making process
 - We are **capable** and **willing** to give input and implement **change**
 - We can help **empower** the next generation to develop skills to become **future leaders**
- We want to be heard and entrusted with the opportunity for direct involvement in decision making!

Youth Empowerment

What do we need you to do?

- Establish youth councils
- Use online platforms to connect with us
- Provide a place on boards for one youth
- Create a youth project fund
- Deliver an induction scheme for the adult board members on youth representation



Living

We want to stay in our protected areas!

But:

- They are often difficult to reach and travel around
- Connections are not good

You cannot afford young people to continue to leave, and we need support to stay.



This is our call to action!

Let's co-design a sustainable future – now!