

## RESEARCH CLINIC

### General information

Supervisor:	Dr. Thijs Bosker and Dr.Paul Behrens
Title of clinic:	Global Challenges – Local Actions
Number of students:	2-4
Major ( <i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i> ):	All
(Pre)requisites ( <i>if applicable</i> ):	None

### Research context

One of the key hurdles to increase the visibility and integration of sustainability across curricula is the significant time-investment for educators in developing specific content, especially when they are not specialists in environmental or sustainability science. The challenges we face are hard-to-fathom and represent wicked problems. They require collective action at a global scale and across disciplinary boundaries. Yet, at a local level changes are happening. Local cooperation and community norms often *are capable* of sustainably managing shared resources in the long term. It is vital that society move from ‘issue’ to ‘action’.

It is important to give young people in our society a sense of **agency and ownership of** environmental issues and to help them feel empowered in making a difference. To this end we have recently developed a set of **Local Actions**: tangible and practical exercises that students can engage in which deal with environmental issues from a local perspective. We will develop a set of Local Actions: **ready-made local activities** which link to core content in different disciplines, and which are designed to be easily incorporated in existing courses. They will consist of two components:

- First, there is a practical ‘in the community’ component in which an environmental issue or solution is placed in a local context.
- Second, discipline specific content which links the exercise to the theoretical frameworks of that discipline.

### **Students' tasks and activities**

We are looking for 2-4 students that want to help develop these local actions. You can have any background, but ideally we end up with a group of students interested in different topics (e.g. governance, politics, history, sociology). Your task will be to:

1. Help develop these Local Actions, and link them to content.
2. Help organize workshops with other teacher
3. Help with organizing the local actions and pilot them in GC Sustainability or other courses