

## KICK-OFF YOUNG INNOVATORS

### 2021

On March 25, 2021, a large part of the Young Innovators network and former participants (students!) gathered online in the kick-off for 2021. Together, the participants looked back on the activities of the Young Innovators in 2020 and ahead to the goals for the (near) future.

It was an educational and inspiring afternoon full of presentations, pitches and break-out rooms. At the start, coordinator Annemarie Voorsluys took the opportunity to express thanks on behalf of the team of Young Innovators for the flexibility of the teachers and challenge holders. They have put a huge amount of effort into adapting the program in 2020 to the demands of the pandemic.

It is also clear that in 2021 the team will continue to pursue its shared mission: empower future generations to create a carbon-free economy by mainstreaming climate change education.

During the second half of the kick-off, everyone in breakout rooms had the opportunity to share ideas on different themes. These conversations yielded insights that we translated into the following action points:

- Strive to introduce students to the competencies and network needed to take action on their own.
- Go beyond the limitations of disciplines and combine perspectives to gain a holistic understanding of the problem and its solutions.
- From an early stage, allow students to express their preferences about the challenges they want to tackle.

The team thanks all participants for the time they have taken to participate. The team appreciates the input. The team hopes that the participants have become as enthusiastic about the potential of Young Innovators in 2021 as the team itself. Partly thanks to the new ideas and feedback, Young Innovators 2021 promises to be an even bigger and better program in the autumn!

If you have any ideas, questions, or would like to participate in the program, do not hesitate to contact:  
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