



#YALILEARNS



**YALILearns Session
Facilitation Guide**

**UNDERSTANDING
CLIMATE CHANGE**

Your Guide to Facilitating a Session on Understanding Climate Change

You can lead a community dialogue about climate change using the YALI Network Online Course, [Understanding Climate Change](#). This course covers how climate change occurs, the impact it has on the environment and human development, and the practical and innovative solutions to address its causes. Are you ready to be a facilitator?

Total Time: 100 Minutes

Introduce Yourself (3 Minutes)

- Thank your participants for joining and introduce yourself. Be sure to mention that you are an interested YALI Network member who wants to start an important conversation about climate change in your community.
 - Briefly share why you are interested in this topic and chose to organize a community dialogue on climate change.
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Icebreaker: Introduce Yourself in 20 Words or Less (10 minutes)

Have participants choose a partner and introduce themselves in 20 words or less by addressing the following points:

- Include your name, where you are from, what you are passionate about, and what you are doing to solve a problem in your community.
 - Ask participants to switch partners after one minute. Repeat this three or four times.
 - After several introductions around the room, attendees should have a good idea of who their fellow participants are, even if they have not been introduced to everyone.
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Group Activity: Brainstorm (10 minutes)

- Split participants into groups of three to five people.
- Ask each group to brainstorm 10 causes of climate change.
- Have a representative from each group present its list to the larger group.
- Briefly summarize the responses after every group has had a chance to present its list.
- Did most groups arrive at the same conclusions? What were the most unique ideas presented?



Watch Lesson 1: [The Basics: The Science of Climate Change](#) (5 minutes)

Group Discussion (15 Minutes)

Compare the causes brainstormed before watching the video to those explained in the clip when answering the questions below as a group.

- Because climate change is measured over years as opposed to days and weeks, it is often difficult for humans to see how their daily activities contribute to a dangerous warming of the planet. What are some of the signs that indicate climate change is occurring?
- What historic changes to your habitat have been identified that can be linked to climate change?

Watch Lesson 2: [The Impacts: How Climate Change Affects Africa](#) (5 minutes)

Group Discussion (20 minutes)

Invite participants to reflect on the video and discuss the following:

- Are people in your community aware of climate change?
- How do people in your community discuss climate change?
- What information and in what form would resonate the most in convincing your community that climate change is a real threat to human existence?

Watch Lesson 3: [The Solutions: Taking Action to Reduce Climate Change](#) (6 minutes)

Group Activity: Action Planning (20 minutes)

- Have participants break into pairs or small groups to design an action plan for tackling one cause or sign of climate change in their community.
- Building awareness and hosting additional YALILearns sessions could also be a good action plan.
- Encourage participants to work together and hold each other accountable for carrying out that plan.
- Action plans should include information about one's:
 - 1) Target audience: Who should be aware of this issue?
 - 2) Behavior change: What do you want this target audience to do?
 - 3) Messaging: How do you approach them and what do you say or do?

Wrapup (5 Minutes)

- Thank participants for attending and briefly restate the importance of understanding climate change.
- Encourage participants to sign up for the YALI Network at yali.state.gov

