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Croatia

Urban Development and Innovations
EIT Climate-KIC Croatia Hub



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Psychological framing might be crucial in this fight as it tackles our core underlying cognitive and emotional concepts, out of which stem all our behaviour – and our behaviour is responsible for climate change, not our thoughts neither our emotions, but our actions.

1 Her story

Tena Petrovic is one of the first learners to enrol in our course **'Engaging with People on Climate Change'**. After growing up in Croatia, she moved to Paris and London pursuing her passions to learn about urban design, innovation and social sciences. She is now living in Zagreb and works in the newly launched EIT Climate-KIC Hub in Croatia.

One of the projects she is working on is a new project called 'Future Cities of South East Europe' which aims to develop and test urban and 'community-scale' initiatives across five Western Balkan cities to help accelerate actions that can tackle climate change.

"There are seven organisations within the Hub and I work connecting both private sector and the public sector when it comes to devising new urban R&D projects", she added.

Tena has also become a coach for EIT Climate-KIC's programme 'Pioneers into Practice', where she gets to work with young professionals looking to drive change through a placement of 4-6 weeks at a host organisation.

When asked about her experience with the course, she said: "I definitely felt like I was given a real set of tools that I can use afterwards... in my own teaching with my Pioneers and in our upcoming Future Cities project".

2 The learning experience

According to Tena, the course exceeded her expectations. She had volunteered to test the pilot version of this course hoping to develop her skills for talking to people on issues around climate change.

"I have this feeling that if I talk to other people about something when I'm not convinced that I'm translating the information properly, I'd feel like a fraud".

Furthermore, she has recommended this course to her colleagues: **"The reason I recommend this course was because I was very satisfied with it, I did not lose my attention for a second. I felt it talked to me directly, me personally. (Dr. Renee Lertzman's) video explanations on climate change through a psychosocial lens were quite new for me and they really resonated with me. It's also very visually appealing course: it has lots of small nuggets, videos, examples and tools. It all forms a very absorbing set of material that you are kind of pulled into".**

After taking this course, Tena is looking forward to apply what she has learnt: **"I definitely see potential in putting into practice the integrated approach that Dr. Renee Lertzman talks about – as we work with real cities in the Western Balkans".**