

„Dealing with Climate Change“

How communities can contribute to tackling climate change

THE PROGRAM

Our Program will accompany the UN World climate conference 2015 in Paris (COP21). Often called „the last chance“ to adopt international measures, principles and standards to avert the worst effects of climate change, the conference serves well to take a stand in our communities.

As educational partners with close ties to the American and German public, politicians and decision-makers, the German-American Institutes bring together the critical know-how behind any German-American collaboration. We provide a platform to discuss how and if fighting climate change is possible if experts, future leaders, and academics work together to come up with a plan to mitigate and manage climate change.

THE WORKSHOPS

In the form of interdisciplinary workshops, we bring together talented students from the region to discuss how simple climate change measures can be adapted to a city. Under the guidance of climate change experts, we will try to stress the importance of this program and hope, that the participants will remain active in the discussion beyond our program. We introduce the students to key concepts such as resource management, waste management, circular economy, food security, urban planning and economic competitiveness.

This will enable the students to develop an opinion and give policy advice in one out of four key areas so that they can strategically manage climate change and remain active in the public discussion.

THE GERMAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTES

The Deutsch-Amerikanisches Zentrum/James-F.-Byrnes Institut e.V. is part of the German-American Institute network - a network of independent bi-national cultural and educational institutes in Germany. Their history has its roots in what was formerly known as *Amerika Haus*, a US institution developed after WWII to provide an opportunity for German citizens to learn more about American culture and politics and engage in discussion and debate on the transatlantic relationship. After the *Amerika Haus* program was phased out, 10 institutes were re-founded by local communities with support of the German Foreign Office, the state governments, as well as other interest groups.



The program is co-funded by the US Embassy in Berlin, Germany and will take place in Stuttgart, Tübingen, München, Leipzig, Heidelberg and Freiburg i. Br.

„Dealing with Climate Change“

How communities can contribute to tackling climate change

December 2nd, 2015

Workshops for Students

2:00 pm **Opening welcome & Introduction**

Weltraum, ifa
Charlottenplatz 17, 70173 Stuttgart

„Climate change mitigation & city management“,
Mayor Jim Brainard, City of Carmel, Indiana (US)

Developing sustainable and resilient regions,
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jörn Birkmann, University of Stuttgart

„Climate change adaption – a necessity for cities to remain
livable“, Dr. Ulrich Reuter, Climatologist, City of Stuttgart

2:45 pm **Workshops**

4:00 pm **Coffee break**

4:15 pm **Workshops**

5:15 pm **Break**

Public Lecture

6:00 pm **Welcome & Introduction**

Weltraum, ifa,
Charlottenplatz 17, 70173 Stuttgart

Student presentation: Tackling Climate Change - Measures for a
successful adaptation to climate change.

7:00 pm **Keynote lecture:** „Prosperity and success through accepting the
truth – city management & climate change adaption“,
Mayor Jim Brainard, City of Carmel, Indiana (US)

Q&A

8:15 pm **Reception**

Registration for the workshops:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xGwGXz3Y03ITjsqiRaWrVW0Ju9YtAsPW82JEKpaciKg/viewform?usp=send_form

Contact:

Christiane Pyka (Director, DAZ)

Phone +49 711 22 81 81 0

Email pyka@daz.org

Fabian Flohr (Coordination American Spaces, DAZ)

Phone +49 711 87 03 857 5

Email flohr@daz.org

„Dealing with Climate Change“

How communities can contribute to tackling climate change

Mayor Jim Brainard

Carmel's first five-term mayor. Under his tenure, Carmel has experienced tremendous growth and prosperity. It is considered one of the fastest growing cities in the United States. The population has grown from 25,000 to almost 80,000 in the last 12 years. Park land, greenspace, and trails have increased from 40 acres to more than 800, including the Monon Trail and Central Park. The creation of a new downtown and the Arts & Design District has breathed new life into forgotten areas of the city. All of these improvements have given the citizens of Carmel increased opportunities for recreation and cultural activities.



Carmel has been honored with many awards for its high quality of life and environment initiatives. Most recently, the City was awarded first place in the Climate Protection Awards from the U.S. Conference of Mayors and as national runner-up of The Home Depot Awards of Excellence in Community Trees. Carmel has also been the recipient of the Sterling Tree City Award, honorable mention for Municipal Excellence from the National League of Cities and been designated a Bicycle Friendly City.

Mayor Brainard has implemented numerous environmental initiatives for the City of Carmel. He has encouraged the construction of roundabouts in place of traditional signaled intersections in Carmel, which reduces vehicle emissions. The City now has more than 50 roundabout intersections. Mayor Brainard has signed executive orders mandating the use of hybrid or flex-fuel vehicles for city operations when available and recently enacted a "No Idling" policy for city employees. He also encouraged the City's Utilities Department to develop the technology to use recaptured methane gas to power its wastewater treatment facility as well as repurpose its biosolid waste into high quality fertilizer (topsoil), eliminating the need for its transport to and disposal in a landfill. He has also initiated testing the feasibility of utilizing wind energy as a future power source for the plant.

Mayor Brainard's achievements and commitment to public service include serving as a Trustee and co-chair of the Energy Independence and Climate Protection Task Force for the U.S. Conference of Mayors.