



## **Climate Solidarity: Oxford Climate Change NGO Launches Biggest Ever UK Environmental Engagement Project**

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**The Oxford based Climate Outreach and Information Network (COIN) is today launching an innovative new project, funded by Defra's Greener Living Fund, aimed at mobilising the UK Trade Union movement on climate change.**

The project will see COIN working with Trade Union members to build a sustainable society in which new low carbon workplaces thrive and provide green jobs for the future. It builds on core Trade Union ideals of collective action, social justice and solidarity and will mobilise a combined union membership of nearly one million.

Tim Baster, COIN's Executive Director said "*The partnership of Climate Solidarity is delighted to be part of the Greener Living Fund. This is a wonderful opportunity for Trade Union members from CWU, NUT, PCS, UCU and the wider Trade Union movement to work together to create the sustainable and just society that we all know is necessary.*"

The project aims to create a wave of action across the Trade Union network by inspiring community action on transport (travel to work and the efficient use of cars), housing (cutting bills, switching to low carbon suppliers and fitting insulation) and food (ending waste and buying locally). It will achieve this by supporting 180 Trade Union members to present the climate change issues to their peers and create some 1,100 action groups over the course of the two year project. Each action group will work together for 6 months to make "sustainable" attainable and will communicate their work to many thousands more Trade Union members across the UK.

By working with the Trade Union movement, COIN and its partners hope to affect the biggest ever mobilisation effort on climate change in the UK, creating the basis for a more just and sustainable society for all.

### **Notes to editors:**

- For further information, contact Tim Baster, Executive Director, COIN, 07906 187 873 or see [www.coinet.org.uk](http://www.coinet.org.uk).
- The four unions partnering with COIN on the project are: the Communication Workers Union (CWU), the National Union of Teachers (NUT), the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS) and the University and College Union (UCU).
- Experts from the Open University, the Environmental Change Institute at Oxford University and the University of Sussex will evaluate the project.
- The project is funded by Defra's Greener Living Fund aimed at promoting greener living. Through the fund, over £6 million is being made available to support the projects and programmes of 8 national delivery partners between July 2009 and June 2011.