

[Belgium - SchoolLinks: linking Belgian schools and schools in Africa, South America or Asia](#) [1]



Title: Scholenbanden - SchoolLinks

Location: Flemish community

Timing: Continuous

Budget: €110,000 for 2022

Donor: Flanders; Brussels

Sector: Primary education; secondary education; higher education

Focus: Professional development of teachers (INSET) and school leaders; Sustainable Development Goals; global citizenship; climate education; children's rights

Challenge:

Over the last decade, Flemish schools have shown a growing interest in the Sustainable Development Goals and building a partnership with a school in Africa, South America or Asia. Their wish is to bring the SDGs and global citizenship competencies into the classroom through a personal relationship with a school in Africa, South America or Asia.

However, these schools often lack the necessary contacts, competences and resources to turn these collaborations into successful and sustainable partnerships. Support from a third party is crucial.

Goal:

Schools develop sustainable international schoollinks that create a forum for educational and intercultural exchange through which competences of global citizenship are fostered at the level of teachers and learners.

Partners:

- [Vlaams Departement Buitenlandse Zaken \(Flemish Department of Foreign Affairs\)](#) [2]

Approach:

The SchoolLinks programme centres on strengthening teachers, school leaders, and other relevant individuals of the school community to **better understand the other's reality and challenges, and to respond to them in a positive way**. Teachers in particular are trained to use the schoollink as an educational tool to stimulate changes in their learners. In 2020 the program added a special focus on climate education through its s-cool-links online exchange platform for teachers globally. The platform supports collaborative learning and climate action, and aims to use education as a strategic tool to battle climate change and increase resilience to climate injustice within future generations.

The programme is built around three pillars:

- Quality **support and guidance** of the schoollinks so they can successfully evolve into a sustainable partnership
- Effective **communication** about schoollinks so schools are inspired to either start up a new or strengthen their existing partnerships
- Strengthening **teacher capacity on climate education** through supporting knowledge exchange and climate actions on the S-Cool-Links platform

Links:

[SchoolLinks website](#) [3]

[s-cool-links platform](#) [4]

Source URL (modified on 07/12/2022): <https://www.vvob.org/en/programmes/belgium-schoollinks>

Links

[1] <https://www.vvob.org/en/programmes/belgium-schoollinks>

[2] <https://www.vlaanderen.be/nl/contact/adressengids/administratieve-diensten-van-de-vlaamse-overheid/beleidsdomein-internationaal-vlaanderen/departement-buitenlandse-zaken>

[3] <https://www.scholenbanden.be/en>

[4] <https://s-cool-links.org/>