

# The Generosity of bumble bees and the consolations of philosophy

Museums and the dissemination of  
Climate Change

# The museum as an arena

- Providing the arenas and social spaces in which different communities can come together to understand the impacts of climate change, share ideas for action and build networks that support responses.
- Museums worldwide can provide arenas where this can take place.
- Museums are already equipped with tools that lend themselves to the dissemination of complex themes.
- Museums are capable of contributing to the task of building awareness and changing attitudes to climate change and thereby activating the public.

# Vardø









# Why Museums

- Museums are perceived as being impartial actors in society: guardians of the truth.
- Museums transcend boundaries in both space and time, and have established successful patterns of international cooperation over national borders.
- Museums erase borders between disciplines within museums and between museums and other sectors of society.
- Museums have the capacity to rethink and adjust their dissemination skill sets to meet the new challenges inherent in climate change.
- Museums can act as social spaces for communities.

# Objectives

- To speak with one voice on the international stage.
- To encourage museums to be developed as arenas for dialogue with governments, independent bodies, NGOs and other community organisations..
- To encourage wider engagement in the issues of climate change among all museums, not only specialist museums, science museums or museums of natural history.

# Need for change

- There is a need for a profound change in the fundamental model for, or perception of how the challenges of climate change are communicated to the general public.
- That museums have a central role to play in the new model.

## A possible scenario.

- International museum's sector being involved in the production of the 2018 report - form and content.
- A team of international museum professionals design a dissemination project to communicate this contents of this vitally important document.





# Insights

- The greatest challenge presented by climate change is ethical. What matters most is what we do to protect those vulnerable to our actions and unable to hold us accountable, the global poor, future generations and non-human nature.
- There is a differences between information about, and the communication of the challenges of climate change.
- Facts are not enough to change attitudes to climate change or when considering our behaviour towards nature.
- The only thing that can change our behaviour, is that we rediscover that nature has a value in itself, *through experiencing it.*

