



Museums, human rights and climate activism:

Listen. Lead. Educate.

How should museums respond to the growing calls for action for environmental change? What is the role of the museum and how should it contribute to positive change. This brief outline is the outcome of an international workshop that FIHRM led as part of its annual meeting in conjunction with the ICOM 2019 Kyoto conference in September 2019.

What is the role of museums?

- Museums are not neutral – acknowledge that this work is controversial
- Listen and identify concerns
- Lead the debate
- Educate
- Understand your contexts
- Make links - collaborate

How should museums behave?

- Be persistent
- Be consistent
- Be urgent
- Be transparent
- Be relevant, not fundamentalist

Practical solutions (some examples)

- Create a sustainable checklist
- Be mindful of your planning process (for example in exhibition design)
- Use materials from ethical sources
- Look for ethical sponsorship solutions
- Re-use materials
- Offset carbon footprint