



Youth Climate Conferences

Youth Climate Conferences 1st year report 2008-2009



Youth Climate Conferences (YCC) is organised by the Danish Youth Association of Science (UNF) in collaboration with the International Movement for Leisure Activities in Science & Technology (MILSET).



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1. Introduction

What is YCC?

The non-governmental, non-profit and politically independent youth organisations UNF and MILSET are organising the Youth Climate Conferences (YCC); the first world event dedicated to visualize the views and the concerns of youth regarding climate topics by regrouping the voices of youngsters from every part of the globe to state a global opinions and actively enter the debate on their future living conditions. It is our intention to encourage youngsters from all around the world to participate in the climate debate. We are confident that the open-mindedness of young people combined with a scientific approach yields important contributions.

Our goals

- Set a space where we, the youngsters, can express our concern on climate
- Be engaged in the climate debate that concerns our future and discover our own personal responsibilities
- Express our climate related concerns through various activities
- Present the final result through a statement at the official UN Climate Congress in Copenhagen, scheduled for December 2009 and at the official UN Climate Congress scheduled for December 2010.

Through the worldwide network of MILSET, we create a space for youngsters to discuss and present their ideas and suggestions about environmental and climate related topics.

Methodology

The participants are all following a common 3 steps methodology:

1. Observations: a brainstorm on the common knowledge of climate related observations
2. Causes: a definition of the possible causes at the base of the observations
3. Actions: a definition of the most accurate actions to be undertaken to reduce the effect of the causes

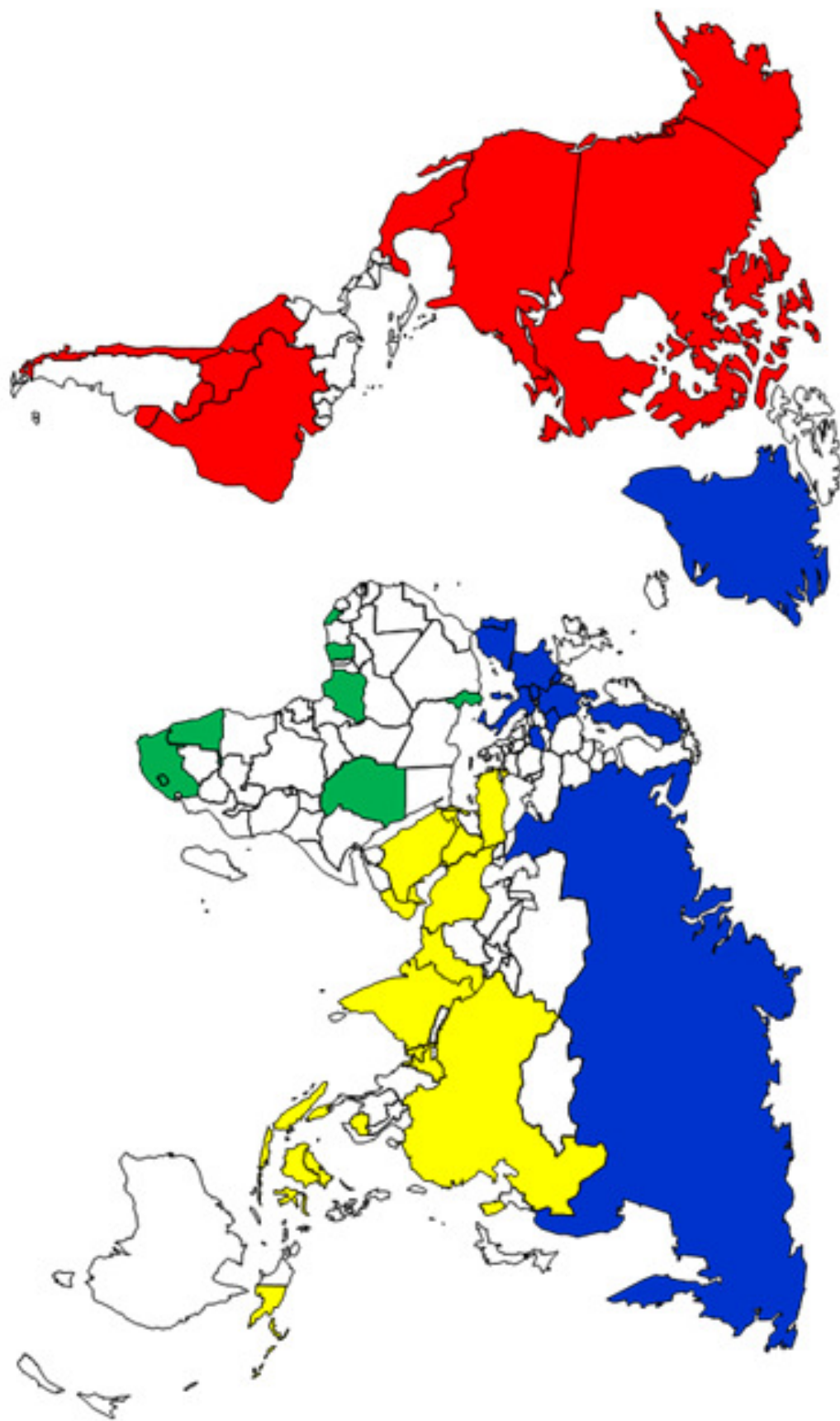
2. Participants

For the period from July 2008 to September 2009, the YCC was:

- 400 workshops
- 15000 participants

53 countries

- **Africa:** Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia, Namibia, Sudan, South Africa, Tunisia
- **America:** Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, United States, Uruguay
- **Asia:** United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, South Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey
- **Europe:** Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden



3. Workshop results

Observations

We observe that the:

- Public awareness is lacking
- Foreign species are invading ecosystems
- Average mean temperature is rising globally
- Eco-systems are changing;
- Plants and animals can be found outside their natural habitats and some are extinguishing
- Birds tend to stay for the winter instead of migrating
- Oceans flora is increasing
- Environmental phenomena we face are more extreme
- Weather is changing
- Environmental effects of acid rain are increasing
- Reproduction of harmful insects is increasing
- North Pole is melting and the areas with permafrost are decreasing
- Modification of the quantity of salt in the water could alter the equilibrium of the oceans´ streams
- Fresh water supply is in danger
- Temperature of seas and oceans increases
- Level of greenhouse gases has increased. Especially the CO₂ and CH₄ levels
- Disease and epidemic rates increase

Causes

We believe that some of the causes are:

- Combustion of fossil fuels
- Deforestation
- Overgrazing
- Out-dated non-sustainable manufacturing methods
- Inappropriately treated industrial waste
- The greenhouse effect, caused by gases such as H₂O, CO₂, CH₄, O₃
- Increasing consumption of products and services as a consequence of our lifestyle
- Lack of public knowledge on climate and subsequently how to reduce the burden
- The change of the cosmic radiation on the planet
- The large distance between producers and consumers
- Inadequate environmental management of waste
- The use of pesticides, insecticides, fungicides and fertilizers
- Urban and agricultural expansion at the expense of natural biotopes

Actions

Message from the Youth to the World

We, the 15,000 youngster participants originating from 52 countries who took part in the Youth Climate Conferences (YCC) organised under the coordination of the International Movement for Leisure Activities in Science and Technology (MILSET) and the Danish Youth Association of Science (UNF) relayed around the world by the members and partners organisations of MILSET, are grateful to those who give us a chance to express our opinion and our will to act.

Conscious of everyones role and involvement in the discussion about climate and the actions to be taken in the perspective of the future of our planet, we recommend a development of the public awareness promoted through education and accurate governance.

We have defined a series of actions to be priorities. We request:

- that environmental and climate issues are included in the education programs in every country
- the governments to start a large-scale public support to change behavioral habits
- more, cheaper and sustainable public transportation
- funding for research and public incentives for sustainable construction technologies and energy production
- products to be classified with labels to document the overall CO2 emissions of the products lifecycle
- that parks are to be erected and deforestation has to be stopped to protect endangered wildlife flora and fauna
- the global community to invest into research considering the increased efficiency of farm lands, especially in the third world countries
- taxes on CO2 emissions to make the product price reflect the environmental impact
- the levy on vehicles to be altered to have cheaper eco-friendly cars

4. Organisers

Project Coordinators

MILSET

The International Movement for Leisure Activities in Science & Technology (MILSET) is a non-governmental, non-profit and politically independent youth organisation, which aims at developing scientific culture among young people through the organisation of science-and-technology programs, including Science Fairs, youth congresses, science camps, science contests and experimental activities of high quality as well as training programs and knowledge transfers between member and partner organisations.

Created in 1987, on the occasion of an International Science Fair for Young Researchers held in Québec; MILSET has been presenting a constant and impressive growth regrouping nowadays over 130 organisations from 90 countries dealing with science & technology non-formal and/or extra-curricular education and regrouped in five regional platforms: MILSET Africa, MILSET Amlat (Latin America), MILSET Europe, MILSET Noram (North America) and MILSET Asia.

More information at: www.milset.org

UNF

The Danish Youth Association of Science (UNF) is a Danish non-profit politically independent organisation of youth with an interest in science. The purpose of UNF is to promote science to youth and give already interested youngsters an opportunity to get an insight into today's science which the school usually is unable to give. The level of difficulty is usually such that everybody who has passed at least the first year of high school (app. 15 years of age) will be able to follow the events with a reasonable understanding and outcome.

We try to promote science in several ways, the main one being lectures and field trips by volunteers from the elite of all fields of science in Denmark. All administration and arranging of lectures and field trips is done by volunteers, usually students, who like to share their spare time with colleagues to promote their common interest.

Every summer since 2002 we have been organising summer camps for high school students in different fields of science, e.g. Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, Mathematics and Game Development. Our Science Camps take place on universities in Denmark during the summer holidays.

More information at: www.unf.dk

National Coordinators

Africa

Namibia

Namibian Young Scientists

South Africa

ESKOM EXPO for Young Scientists

Tunisia

Association Jeunesse Science de Tunisie (AJST)

Amlat (Latin America)

Brazil

Colegio Christus

Fundacao Escola Tecnica Liberato / MOSTRATEC

Chile

Club de Ciencias Centro Cultural, Talca

Mexico

La RED Nacional de Actividades Juveniles en Ciencia y Tecnología

Uruguay

Copae al Uruguay

Paraguay

Colegio Internacional

Peru

Consejo de Ciencia y Tecnología Global

Copae al Peru

Asia

United Arab Emirates

Emirates Science Club

Bahrain

Bahrain Science Center

Youth Excellence Center

China

China Association for Science and Technology (CAST)

Beijing Association for Science and Technology (EBAST)

India

Earth Science India

National Council of Science Museums (NCSM)

Iran

Shahid Mahdavi Educational Complex

Jordan

Jordan Environment Society

South Korea

Korea Science Foundation (KSF)

Ministry of Education

Kuwait Robot Center

Malaysia

Malaysia Science Centre (PSN)

Philippines

Philippines Science Centrum

Qatar

Qatar Convention Center

Qatar Ministry of Education

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia Ministry of Education

Saudi Arabia Science Club

King Abdulaziz organization for the gifted

Singapore

Singapore Exhibition and Convention Bureau

Thailand

Faculty of Science

Europe

Belgium

Jeunesses Scientifiques de Belgique (JSB)

Czech Republic

Asociace malých debrujárů České Republiky

Národní institut dětí a mládeže (NIDM)

Sdružení na podporu talentované mládeže České republiky, o. s. (SNPTM)

Asociace Středoškolských Klubů České Republiky (ASK CZ)

Denmark

Ungdommens Naturvidenskabelige Forening (UNF)

France

Collectif Inter-Associatif pour la Réalisation des Activités Scientifiques, Techniques et Internationales (CIRASTI)

La Réunion - Association Nationale des Centres de culture Scientifique, Technique et Industrielle (CCSTI)

Planète Sciences (PS)

Germany

Landesverband Sächsischer Jugendbildungswerke e.V. (LJBW)

juForum e.V.

Hungary

TIT Kossuth Klub

Italy

Federazione delle Associazioni Scientifiche e Tecniche (FAST)

Malta

National Student Travel Foundation (NSTF)

Portugal

Associação Juvenil de Ciência (AJC)

Russia

All-Russia Movement of creative teachers "Researcher" (OODI)

Spain

Associació per promoure la Recerca Jove (MAGMA)

Noram (North America)

Canada

Youth Science Canada (YSC)

5. Global sponsors of the YCC



www.uvm.dk



www.ekj.dk



www.duf.dk