

PRATYeK | NINEISMINE

OUR ERth

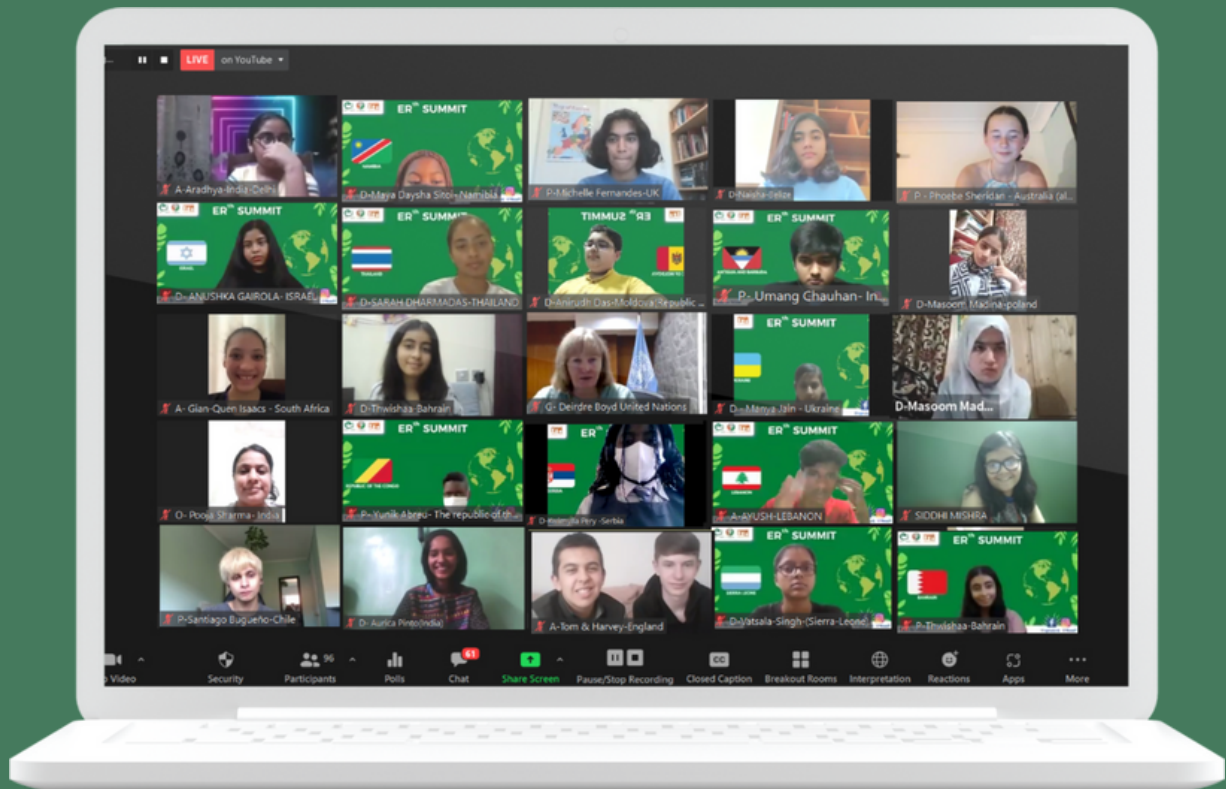
CHARTER

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CHILDREN
TO COP26

REPORT AND TOOLKIT



nine is mine



**In the lead up to COP-26,
193 child earth pro-activists
from 52 nations,
engaged online with 12 experts
during a 4-day consultation and evolved
these 12 asks to the world leaders
assembling in Glasgow..
with just 1 goal...
Climate Action ... NOW!!**



OUR ERth CHARTER

Recommendations of Child Earth Pro-Activists to COP26

**Approximately 1 billion children are at an
extremely high risk of the impact of climate crisis
- UNICEF, 2021**



REPORT AND TOOLKIT

2nd NOVEMBER, 2021



COP meeting opener

We invite you to a moment of silence at the beginning of your meetings to focus on the highest and most positive outcomes of the discussion at hand.

- ***Close your eyes and breathe gently. Your Breath reminds you of your vital connections to Earth's forests, oceans, and soils that create the air you breathe.***
- ***Envision the highest and most positive outcomes to your deliberations for people and the planet - a peaceful, equitable, healthy, sustainable world. A happy world.***
- ***Lean into your vision. Let it infuse you with clarity, determination, and love.***

Today, let all your decisions, actions, and choices be guided and inspired by your vision of the world as we know it can be.

Envision it- Embody it - Act on it - Achieve it.

"I used to think that top environmental problems were biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and climate change. I thought that thirty years of good science could address these problems. I was wrong. The top environmental problems are selfishness, greed and apathy, and to deal with these we need a cultural and spiritual transformation and we scientists don't know how to do that..."
Gus Speth.

Source: Cop Meeting Opener - Listening To The Earth, 2021

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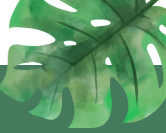
EARTH-NUT(SHELLS) : an executive summary

Three interrelated dimensions - Environmental Sustainability (protecting and restoring the Earth's ecosystem), Social Sustainability (acting as if people matter), and Economic Sustainability (operating profitably) - form the basis of Sustainable Strategy formulation and implementation by any country or a company (Werbach, 2009).

The first and the most critical dimension, Environmental Sustainability, requires that humanity should learn to live within the limitations of our biophysical environment. This requires a sustainable supply chain management, right from sustainable production to sustainable consumption (Goodland, 1995). Recent WHO data shows that worldwide 9 out of 10 people breathe air containing high levels of pollutants. Countries are prioritizing climate change and its impact on health in their respective national level policies, however, finances are limited and fewer than 10% of the countries are channeling resources to implement a climate change strategy or plan (Source: who.int, 2019).

Environmental education, especially during formative years, can serve as an effective intervention in countering environmental problems as it strives towards the goal of environmental protection and conservation. Knowledge of the environment develops concern for the environment in children, which in turn leads to pro-environmental action which is the ultimate goal. What adolescents know about environmental issues are important markers for long term social change as youth are active agents in protecting the environment. Parents also accept the influence of adolescents and learn about environmental issues from their adolescent children. This learning affects the knowledge of parents, their concern and also behaviour. Adolescents also have considerable influence on decisions regarding family purchases.

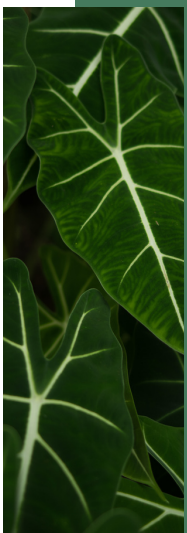
To understand the voice of the youth, a three-day international summit was organized by PRATYeK and Edmund Rice International under the nationwide campaign NINEISMINE. The objective was to provide an international platform to young voices around the world to raise awareness and express their concerns and develop an understanding related to climate change. In the long run the intention is also to engage with the participants with regards to climate change thereby making this initiative a long-term process for advocacy on the Environmental rights of children. The conference was held online on the zoom portal in which hundreds of participants from more than 55 countries joined, representing the voices of 2.2 billion children across 193 nations. The summit was designed based on the COP 26 conference taking place in the UK in November 2021. PRATYeK organized the earth summit conference in collaboration with Edmund Rice International.



The key takeaways from the summit are as follows:

- Climate change affects not just physical health but also the mental health of children
- Children are willing to change their habits right from consuming less meat to buying more local goods, to using public transportation instead of private vehicles and using water cautiously.
- Children have a right to live in a safe and healthy environment and deserve a more active role in climate change
- Children are seeing the effects of climate change in their respective countries from Australia to Canada to Thailand to Mozambique. They appeal to their governments for stricter regulation. Subsidizing electric cars, community education, carbon tax and planting of trees are some measures that have been suggested to combat the climate crisis.
- Children believe that “Environmental crisis is a child rights crisis”.
- The policy makers of environmental education need to redesign the curriculum in such a way, that it increases the emotional connect of children towards the environment rather than stick to an emphasis on facts and figures
- The children appeal to the world leaders to stop thinking about profits and redirect the focus of people into a circular economy.

The youth of today are active agents in climate crisis mitigation and are willing to do whatever it takes to combat the climate change crisis. They feel helpless as the laws and legislation controlled by adults lead to decisions that affect their future. Through this report the youth appeal to world leaders and governments to remember the very basis of sustainability which is “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”





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Children at risk

Climate change will progressively affect everyone, but children will bear a disproportionately larger share of the burden, particularly in impoverished places.

Droughts, floods, heat waves, and other extreme weather events will become more frequent as a result of climate change, contributing to the spread of key killers of children such as malnutrition, malaria, and diarrhoea.

Climate change may also create a vicious circle: a kid who lacks access to clean water and sanitation before a crisis is more likely to be harmed by a flood, drought, or severe storm, is less likely to recover quickly and is even more vulnerable when faced with a later catastrophe.

Floods & Storms - Over 530 million of them are in high flood occurrence zones. Asia is home to a great majority of children who live in flood-prone areas. More than 115 million children live in areas where tropical storms – also called as typhoons, hurricanes, or cyclones depending on their location – have a high or extremely high danger, with Asia being by far the most vulnerable continent.

Heatwaves- Rashes, cramping, fatigue, and stroke are among the potential side effects of heat waves. Dehydration, which inhibits sweating, can occur as a result of extreme heat stress. Infants, small children, and the elderly are all susceptible to hyperthermia resulting in death. As a result of climate change, extreme heat will become a major issue in many regions of the world, including many countries with moderate climates.

Droughts- Approximately 160 million children live in drought-stricken areas, Drought causes crop failures and higher food costs, resulting in food poverty and nutritional deprivation for the impoverished, which can have long-term consequences for children. Over 50 % of the population living in places with acute or severe drought are from Africa, and over 40% are from Asia.

- ***Prioritise the rights of vulnerable, especially children, in climate change adaptation;***
- ***Invest in children as a component of national climate mitigation and adaptation policies;***
- ***Put plans into action to safeguard children who have been relocated due to climate change;***
- ***Ensure climate change support and learning for children and youth.***

Source: Unless we act now: The impact of climate change on children UNICEF, 2015

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WHAT ON EARTH?

introduction



EARTH-BOUND : What is COP 26?

In November 2021, the world leaders will gather for an event called COP26, to discuss climate change.

What is COP?

'COP' which stands for 'Conference of Parties' is a meeting of members of the 'United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change' (UNFCCC).

Why 26?

In 1994, the first COP meet took place when world leaders became part of the UNFCCC and decided to combat global warming. Ever since, COP has been organized so that decision makers can discuss and implement what can be done next. This is the 26th such gathering

Where is the meeting?

COP26 will take place at the Scottish Events Campus (SEC) in Glasgow, Scotland.

When is the meeting?

COP26 was supposed to take place in November 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was delayed by a year. The conference is now happening on the 1st-12th of November 2021.

Who will be at COP26?

Representatives from nearly every country in the world will attend COP26! including Prime Ministers, Boris Johnson and Narendra Modi, President Joe Biden of the U.S.A. Pope Francis along many other significant leaders, scientists and activists.

Representatives from over 2,000 NGOs* will be present, along with swarms of journalists and people affected by climate change.

*NGOs are 'non-governmental organisations', such as PRATYeK and Edmund Rice international, Greenpeace, and WWF – all have an interest in the outcome of COP26.

Why is this meeting held?

At COP meetings, governments from across the globe agree on targets for the future, with the aim of reducing greenhouse gases and protecting the planet. These decisions affect people all over the globe; they help us all work together to become greener and more sustainable.

Which agreement does this conference map?

Five years ago at COP21 in Paris, every member of the UNFCCC signed the Paris Agreement – an international commitment to tackle climate change.

At COP26, members will review if this agreement is working, and highlight any progress.

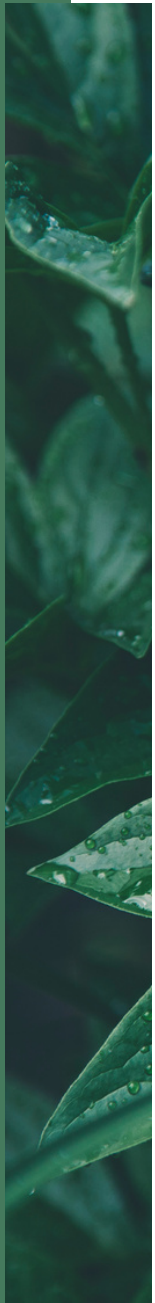


How does this agreement work?

The Paris Agreement binds nations to:

1. Reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, and invest in renewable energy sources, like wind and solar power.
2. Prevent global temperatures from warming by more than 2°C, and try to keep the increase as low as 1.5°C.
3. Aid less-developed countries become more environmentally friendly, by supporting them financially.
4. Review progress on the Agreement every five years.

Source: COP26 Glasgow: a guide for kids - National Geographic Kids ([natgeokids.com](https://www.natgeokids.com))



COP SUMMITS THROUGH THE YEARS

YEAR	COP'S	HOST COUNTRIES
1995	COP 1	BERLIN, GERMANY
1996	COP 2	GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
1997	COP 3	KYOTO, JAPAN
1998	COP 4	BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
1999	COP 5	BONN, GERMANY
2000	COP 6	THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS
2001	COP 6	BONN, GERMANY
2001	COP 7	MARRAKECH, MOROCCO
2002	COP 8	NEW DELHI, INDIA
2003	COP 9	MILAN, ITALY
2004	COP 10	BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA
2005	COP 11	MONTREAL, CANADA
2006	COP 12	NAIROBI, KENYA
2007	COP 13	BALI, INDONESIA
2008	COP 14	POZNAŃ, POLAND
2009	COP 15	COPENHAGEN, DENMARK
2010	COP 16	CANCÚN, MEXICO
2011	COP 17	DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA
2012	COP 18	DOHA, QATAR
2013	COP 19	WARSAW, POLAND
2014	COP 20	LIMA, PERU
2015	COP 21	PARIS, FRANCE
2016	COP 22	MARRAKECH, MOROCCO
2017	COP 23	BONN, GERMANY
2018	COP 24	KATOWICE, POLAND
2019	COP 25	MADRID, SPAIN
2021	COP 26	GLASGOW, UNITED KINGDOM
2022	COP 27	SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT

CRITICISM

The UN climate summits have been criticized in general for the lack of meaningful political action and serious climate change policies.

"Nothing has changed from previous years really," Greta Thunberg, a climate-change campaigner, said in an interview just before the 2021 COP26 summit, when asked how optimistic she was that the conference would achieve anything. The leaders will say things like 'we'll do this and we'll do this, and we will put our forces together and achieve this', and then do nothing. Perhaps some symbolic gestures and imaginative accounting, as well as other little details. We can have as many COPs as we want, but no real progress will be made.

"Build back better. Blah, blah, blah. Green economy. Blah blah blah. Net zero by 2050. Blah, blah, blah. This is all we hear from our so-called leaders. Words that sound great but so far have not led to action. Our hopes and ambitions drown in their empty promises."

"Of course we need constructive dialogue, but they've now had 30 years of blah, blah, blah and where has that led us? We can still turn this around – it is entirely possible. It will take immediate, drastic annual emission reductions. But not if things go on like today. Our leaders' intentional lack of action is a betrayal towards all present and future generations."

—Greta Thunberg, Youth4Climate Summit in Milan, Italy.



Source: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/>



However This time is different!

Because there is a better sense of emergency, and better people to work on it

Since the 2015 Paris Agreement, COP26 will be the most important meeting thus far. It is an opportunity for the world to see what targets have been achieved and focus on what haven't.

The after-effects of the coronavirus pandemic will also have an impact on COP26. Many governments are now paying more attention to the environment. As a result, they are hoping to rebuild their economies in a greener and more sustainable way.

Today we have ...

- 1. Cheaper inputs***
- 2. Better technologies and new ways of using computers enable one to explore and develop, use less fuel for the economy, provide opportunities, develop equipment that can suck carbon dioxide***
- 3. Better developing materials for buildings***
- 4. Climate tech that is elegant and cheap, like electric vehicles***
- 5. Much more money directed to zero-emission investments***
- 6. Better policies,***

Governments are working with entrepreneurs. Engineers and scientists are working together to bring climate justice. They are bringing a realistic pathway for a clean future for all. All these opportunities give rise to green electricity bringing green hydrogen.

You cannot manage what you don't measure. That's why we need good, reversible and transparent carbon accounting.

Another opportunity is developing carbon accounting and reporting software.

New and old now go hand in hand, we cannot sit around and wait for the solution instead develop the ones we don't have while using the ones we have.

For this, we need passionate people and we have passionate people around us, who bring more people and it becomes an ongoing cycle.

The people are the solution


And that's why it is different this time.

Source: Gabriel Kra - TED COUNTDOWN TALKS Oct 2021






OUR ERth SUMMIT - vision and process



A three-day international ERth summit was organized by PRATYeK under the nationwide NINEISMINE campaign to provide an international platform to young voices around the world to raise awareness and express their concerns and develop an understanding related to climate change. ER in the title ERth Summit stands for Earth Rights. The conference was held online on the zoom portal in which hundreds of participants from more than 55 countries joined, representing the voices of 2.2 billion children across 193 nations.

Participants included school children, youth, and experts from different parts of the world to address the climate change conference. The children were facilitated in breakout rooms of the zoom meeting in which they asked questions on climate change. They were keen on being a part of climate action programs both at the individual level as well as part of any campaign. The entire conference was facilitated by interpretations in several languages including sign language adhering to an inclusive policy of NINEISMINE.

NINEISMINE is a national advocacy campaign led by children to speak for their rights, particularly earth rights, through the conference. All children were encouraged to be part of child rights campaigns and movements. The Earth Summit conference was designed based on the COP 26 conference in Glasgow, UK, about to happen this year in November. PRATYeK organized the Earth Summit conference in collaboration with EDMUND RICE INTERNATIONAL (ERI) to gather voices from young child advocates who called upon global leaders to ensure they act wisely on the ensuing climate crisis. Edmund Rice International (ERI) is a non-governmental organisation (NGO), granted ECOSOC status at the UN in 2012, that is committed to working for children and young people who are marginalised because of poverty, lack of access to education, legal status, environmental degradation and involvement in armed conflict. ERI works at the international level to promote and protect the rights of children and young people particularly in regard to education. Care for the environment is a value that is embedded in all that they do.



ERth Summit is a platform that is solely created for the children as a representation of their opinions, the challenges they face as earth activists and as current citizens of their respective communities. We intend to engage further in the future with the participants with regards to climate change thereby making this initiative a long-term process for advocacy on the Environmental rights of children. This summit aimed to foster dialogue on an international scale, provides an opportunity to showcase youth-led climate action around the world.



We organised a digital ERth Strike on October 22, 2021 as part of the 'Fridays for Future' Global Climate Strike. Environment Experts shared their feedback on the emerging report. along with the policy tasks they want to add to the emerging document.

After four days of interactive discussions, a collaborative list of recommended solutions were prepared, which will then be submitted to COP 26, scheduled in November of this year, for their consideration and to help inform their recommendations. The recommendation will be fed into a document asking the UN to recognize the ecological rights of the children. This report will be further presented to various ministries of the government of India, embassies, media, and other stakeholders.

The summit provided a global stage for young people to come and work together in creating solutions for both local and global climate problems. Participating in the conference has empowered young attendees to enhance various crucial skills which will help them both academically and socially such as intensive research - to effectively understand climate issues, what the world is doing, and what needs to be done to mitigate climate change.

The participants of the conference came from all walks of social categories, therefore, this conference has helped hundreds of participants to improve their communication, for example adequately convincing a large committee of attendees and professionals why certain solutions proposed by child advocates might be worthwhile. The leadership and teamwork skills of the participants were benefited by working with other young people from different countries, ethnicity, and linguistic and cultural backgrounds.





The ERth Summit process in short

- **In order to gather children's voices on climate and COP 26 participants were invited from across the world.**
- **Day1- Inauguration: Experts spoke on various themes of the ERth Summit. Children Delegates were divided into breakout rooms based on those themes they shared their learnings and feedback. They also voiced their environmental concerns and passions. They spoke of their previous activities connected with climate change, and they enthusiastically shared their future plans of engaging in climate change advocacy**
- **Day 2- Discussions: There were two sessions - morning and evening to accommodate different time zones. Child Delegates made the presentations based on the countries allocated to them, if not the countries they hailed from. First, they introduced themselves and then talked of:**
 - **Country-specific problems and challenges related to climate changes**
 - **Solutions based on the identified issues of climate change**
 - **One idea based on the topic of Environment Rights of Children**
 - **A statement on their commitment related to address climate change**
- **Children Moderators from Tribes for Good, Frank Anthony School, and Salwan School - Tronica City were there to collate all this information as well as their further deliberations and clarifications.**
- **Day 3- Culmination: The recommendations and summary of the previous days' discussions were presented on the culmination day. Best speakers were given an opportunity to re-emphasize their recommendations/ demands and speak in the main session amidst the esteemed chief guests and leaders.**
- **Dr. Gurpreet Mehdiratta, Dr. Preety Kamble, and Sunil Gupta collated all the information and prepared a rough draft report which was summarised and presented at the ERth Strike event on 22nd November 2021. Environment Experts were invited to share their feedback on the report along with the policy- that reflected the young advocates' recommendations. They also wished for Tom and Harvey from England who would be presenting this report at the COP 26 event on 8th November 2021.**
- **Day 4- ERth Strike: On the 22nd of October to mark the Fridays For Future global climate strike the delegates were invited to come again and review the emerging document while prioritizing the same. Adult experts were also invited to offer their expert 'Policy Asks ' in response to the children's charter of demands. The session also included a poster and slogan session inviting young members to submit slogans in keeping with the 12 point demands.**





DOWN TO EARTH
inputs from experts



The ERth Summit kicked off with a diverse set of panelists who established the tone and spirit for the Summit by sharing their knowledge and skills with the young environmental activists. The main focus of the Summit was to create a platform that will allow young voices across the globe to speak on Climate Change. These voices will further be presented in the form of recommendation and policy ask at the upcoming COP26 program scheduled in Glasgow.

The concluding ceremony was held on October 2, 2021, to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, with a focus on his views about politics, economics, health, and development. All of the young activists from 193 nations shared their experiences and recommendations.

Ms. Deirdre Boyd, United Nations Resident Coordinator India was present on the last day of the culmination of the entire summit. She shared her thoughts on the work done by PRATYeK | NINEISMINE on child rights and earth rights. "Climate change is no longer a threat 100 years away, it is already here. Children and young people are not just victims, you are the future to bring change. Being yourself doesn't mean your voice cannot be heard.", she added.

"This is an extremely timely discussion ahead of COP26. Your leadership in climate action is vital", said Peadar O Hubain, Embassy of Ireland.

"I was amazed at your experience and moved by confidence. Your voice is being heard and your voice is making a difference. If our leaders don't take you seriously, they will regret it as you'll soon become voters and they'll be out of power", Brother Tino D'Abreu. Another guest, John Mullan from Edmund Rice International stated, "Cry of the poor and cry of the Earth, we need to keep listening to these two."

Mr. Jonathan Levy mentioned, "It's wonderful to see how empowering children are, and that participation is alive. I believe the best educators are children. They need to help us (adults) to learn and adapt."

Further, Mr. Pinto added that everyone showed how deeply involved they are.

Neha Jain 17 year old- Earth pro-activist while hosting the summit, said, "It's high time we make a shift from being egocentric to being Eco-centric. It's time we act. From deliberating with children across 50+ nations to interacting with global leaders, this summit has truly empowered me and made me believe that the impossible is possible by marking the beginning of a youth-led revolution against climate change."





Key thematic areas of the ERth Summit

- 1. The impact of climate change upon vulnerable children and communities***
- 2. Holistic Development of Children in the context of climate change***
- 3. Protection and Safety of children and vulnerable communities***
- 4. Participation in dialogues and movements demanding change***
- 5. Governmental responsibility and commitments to climate change – legislation and accountability***
- 6. The Environmental Rights of Children***
- 7. Changing business standards and ensuring better environmental practices***
- 8. Children and the COP 26 Summit***

EARTH-WORMS? : impact of climate change on children

A circular portrait of a woman with long dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark patterned shirt. The portrait is set against a background of green leaves.

Analisa Ramsahai

Analisa Ramsahai is a member of the Laudato Si' Generation steering committee. It is the youth arm of the Laudato Si' Movement, a global network of over 800 Catholic organizations. She is now the Regional Programme Coordinator of the Franciscan Institute for Personal and Family Development, a ministry of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Moth, in the Caribbean area.



According to Analisa, the IPCC and UNICEF reports suggest that the most vulnerable populations, such as impoverished families, children, and indigenous people, contribute the least and experience the greatest adverse effects of climate change owing to inadequate education, health care and living conditions. Furthermore, climate-related consequences make children especially exposed to the possibility of climate-induced migration, starvation, infections, a lack of access to school, psycho-social stress, child exploitation and mortality.

The Laudato Si' Movement's power and effort works to call on leaders to strive for climate justice, and the youth may join hands to do the same.



“

Climate change and child rights

1. Right to live and development - Article 6, UNCRC.

Every child has the right to life and development -

1.5 million deaths of children under the age of 5 could be stopped by reducing environmental health risks

2. Right to health- Article 24, UNCRC.

Every child has the right to good quality health care and a clean environment

Not being able to wash their hands with clean water can increase children's chances of getting diseases such as stomach bugs.

3. Right to adequate standard of living- Article 27, UNCRC.

All children have the right to a decent standard of living, including food, housing, water -

When there is not enough food and clean water children can become hungry and sick.

4. Right to play and recreations- Article 31, UNCRC.

All children have the right to relax and play, and to join a wide range of activities -

Many children are in danger when they play, because of polluted water and open dumps.

Source: Adapted from the Special Rapporteur's report on Children's Rights and Environment (A/HRC/37/58) 2018

”



impact of climate change on children (contd.)

Toshy Tataua

Toshy Tataua is a young woman from the small Pacific Island nation of Kiribati. She is in Australia temporarily and is very passionate about the issue of climate change. In preparation for COP26, the annual United Nations Global Climate Conference in November this year, Tosy is writing to Australian leaders, including PM Scott Morrison and Opposition Leader Anthony Albanese, to ask them to take urgent, strong climate action. Her hometown Kiribati is one of the world's least developed countries and Kiribati's contribution to climate change and global warming is very small. Kiribati is very vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and could well become uninhabitable by 2050.



Kiribati is already experiencing more rainfall which often contaminates freshwater sources and increases the likelihood of children developing life-threatening diarrhea and cholera. Children are very vulnerable to climate change as they are more likely to die because of poor water and sanitation.

In her hometown children are already aware of this issue. A child once said, "There is no way we can live because our land on which we were going to build our gardens is gone. The land is washed away by waves and we do not have enough space for everyone to live on."

When there are floods, or storms children can't go to school which in turn affects their education. She strongly felt that this was unjust for the children and everyone in Kiribati as they had not contributed to climate change and yet were experiencing real suffering because of it.

She humbly asked for support and assistance by talking to our government leaders about this issue and to find helpful ways to reduce the effects of climate change on the world. We need industrialised countries to take the lead in climate change action in reducing green gas emissions.



PALAU PLEDGE (Adapted)


*Children of the Earth,
I take this pledge as a guest
To preserve and protect our beautiful
and unique home
I vow to tread lightly, act kindly
and explore mindfully
I shall not take what is not given
I shall not harm what does not harm me
The only footprints I shall leave
Are those that will wash away.*

Palau has become the first country to update its immigration policy and landing procedures to implement such legislation, aimed at preserving its vibrant culture and the beauty of its natural environment for future generations. It also hopes that other countries will follow suit to protect the planet for children worldwide. When tourists arrive, they will be asked to sign the Pledge to protect our environment for our children.



EARTHLINGS : climate change and child development

Aneeta Pathak



Aneeta Pathak is a passionate activist, traveler, and a firm believer of experiential learning & transformational leadership with more than twenty years of experience. While pursuing her dream career of becoming a Chartered Accountant, she realized that the justice streak in her always plays the most important role in her life. Following her instincts, she began working with the indigenous tribes in the Himalayas, leading her way as a student activist and then working with the Santhal tribes in Jharkhand. She is the founder of Anveshan - Experiential Learning & Unlearning Centre based in Auroville, which has an objective to design sustainable experiential learning & transformational courses for self-development and leadership among the children, youth, and adults of the world based on inner wisdom.



Aneeta Pathak emphasised how real-life learning has come from real-life experiences garnered from nature and the community in which a person has lived. Interestingly, she also added the need to create programs, and bring about a paradigm shift in the entire education system in such a manner that the core of the child emerges.

Ms. Pathak emphasised holistic development to bring out the individual talent of a child. She talked about the perspective shift from a profit-driven economy to a climate friendly economy.

She concluded with two important life lessons:

- *It is also very important to align your inner self and outer actions. So you have to believe in yourself and not what society tells you to believe.*
- *Align your actions with your inherited core values- whether it is generosity, whether it is humility, whether it is perseverance, whether it is courage- these are the universal qualities that each of us inherits.*

climate change and child development (contd.)

Ms. Neha

Neha is a Fellow and Area Convener at the Environmental Education and Awareness (EEA) division at The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). In her two-decade-long career, she has successfully led and executed over 100 projects on environmental education, awareness, and outreach activities spanning across ESD allied areas such as water resources, energy efficiency and conservation, waste water, and its management, climate change, and more. She is also an author of multiple books and manuals, her latest publication, 'Save the Rain', was declared as a National Bestseller and was awarded in the category of Children Books by The Federation of Indian Publishers.



Ms Neha shared how the alteration in climate factors deny children the holistic environment required for their complete development. This jeopardizes the child's fundamental right to survival. Well-being, education, and nutrition are recognized in The Convention of Rights of the Child and also emphasized in the United Nations Civil Development goals.

She reinforced the importance of education on climate change and promoting a climate friendly lifestyle through the method of engaging children with nature, by spending quality time and by playing in a natural environment so that they feel connected to it.

She quotes Kayla by saying that "STUDENTS HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE" and that is what the organization has been doing since 2005, through a series of non-formal initiatives on Green Curricula and Use of distinct Pedagogy on climate change education.

She recommended making small changes from our homes like conserving water and electricity with the idea to build the capacity of the child to value conservation of resources.



Participation of children in COP

Children should ensure their involvement is actively included prior to, during, and after COP, by systematically establishing space and opportunity for their safe and meaningful engagement in all COP talks, panels, and procedures, and by observing pertinent negotiations.

In Processes

- **Ahead**
- **During**
- **Post COP**

1. **Consult Children**
2. **Include children in the planning and designing of the program**
3. **Make it Inclusive**
4. **Ensure Safety of Children**
5. **Ensure Access and Space**
6. **Provide Child-Friendly Information:**
7. **Prepare adequately for the sessions**
8. **Train trainers and adults for interactions with children**
9. **Ensure an Enabling and Respectful Environment:**
10. **Provide post-event data and impact to participants**
11. **Involve children in the Evaluation**
12. **Involve children in regular monitoring and feedback**
13. **Engage children in the documentation and learning and Debriefing**
14. **Include Networks of various child rights organisations and movements**
15. **Involve children in the Advocacy**
16. **Be Transparent with children**
17. **Ensure an enabling and respectful environment**
18. **Involve children in designing the next steps**
19. **Improve the program**

Source: A Cop Fit for Children: How to Support Children's Participation - SAVE THE CHILDREN, 2021

EARTHENWARE : climate change and child protection

A portrait of Dr. Nehaal Mayur, a man with dark hair, wearing a grey suit, white shirt, and a striped tie. He is also wearing a blue lanyard with a badge. He is positioned in front of a green background with large, stylized leaves.

Dr Nehaal Mayur

Dr. Nehaal Mayur is an International Development Expert working on Sustainable Development Goals. His journey includes working from the ground level of implementation to Capacity Building, Research, Need Assessment, and Designing the Framework for Public Policy. He is currently serving as a representative to the United Nations Department for Global Communication for the United Nations Association, Zimbabwe. He is also highly recognized for his esteemed work for Emergency Disaster Zones to Refugee Camps, Committee Negotiations on Social Development, and as an Observer at the United Nations General Assembly.



Dr. Nehaal Mayur started by introducing a rather interesting fact of how 1.2 billion children are directly affected by climate change. He shared how the problem of climate change is faced globally by both developing nations and developed countries. He restated how different countries have different policies to support Children and sometimes even in Manifestoes of political parties or ruling parties they want to develop children and child-friendly cities.

He introduced various ways through which we could contribute to these changes:

- The first point of Intervention being a child leader or a youth advocate for yourself, to begin with, is that every individual has their responsibility to understand the mechanism and pain of others. So first identify who the main stakeholders who are responsible to making sure the children are safe , so that every country and every state and every city has a committee that supports children.*
- If you know your rights only then you can protect yourself and protect others. Since we have a multi-source of information available, let's all use that to our advantage and educate ourselves about the issues faced and our contribution.*



“

CRC - A tool for climate change

Today, 2.2 billion children are growing up facing the impacts of climate change.

CRC is a Powerful Framework for Climate Action because

- 1. 193 Governments have ratified it***
- 2. These nations have obligations under the CRC***
- 3. Hence they can be monitored and held accountable for it***
- 4. Child rights policy can reflect the impact of climate challenges***
- 5. CRC presents a different angle for climate action***

Climate Action can be Integrate Child Rights by

- 1. Measuring and reporting child rights in climate risk assessments:***
- 2. Linking child rights and climate change in development planning:***
- 3. Incorporating climate risks to child rights in donor strategies:***
- 4. Identifying climate risks in CRC reporting:***
- 5. Encouraging children to exercise their Right to Participate in climate action***

Source: Child Rights at Risk: The case for joint action on climate change - UNICEF 2014

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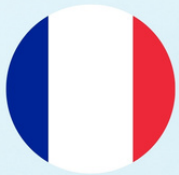


EARTHMOVERS - child participation in the climate action

Jonathan Levy



Jonathan Levy is a teacher and trainer of child professionals. He is educated in Pedagogy and the philosophy of education, and lives and works in France. He provides training in the education, social, Intergovernmental and NGO sectors. He was also the Director of Pedagogy & Advocacy for CRIA: Child Rights in Action. He is a consultant for both UNESCO & UNICEF in pedagogy and children's rights. Above all, he is also a member of the high commission on children's issues created by the French government.



Jonathan believed that for children to be involved in this very important issue, they need to have their rights fully understood. The conditions which will help children to fully engage in their rights in other words to be participants they need to be child rights holders and become full participants and activists and advocates for their rights.

- *The first element is Protection: For children to fully engage they need to feel protected. Protection is not just about protecting in the classical sense of danger but it's about creating a safe environment where children feel fully free to participate. An environment where we have their trust, confidence, where they know we are listening and there is mutual respect must be created.*
- *The second element is Provision - We need to be able to provide the right environment, the right tools, the right methods, the right people, the right attitudes and behavior not only within the convention but also during their schooling years and in their homes and any other environment they are associated with.*
- *The third element which is Participation is to include children's opinion in a decision making process and see it is based on co-construction- both adults and children working together.*



How to ensure genuine child participation

Protect the right to participate

- 1. Legal protection for children and young people's right to participate in decision-making is reflected in the National Constitution and Legislation***
- 2. Explicit inclusion of children and young people's right to participate in decision-making in a cross-sectoral national strategy to implement children's rights***
- 3. An independent children's rights institution is in place and protected by law***
- 4. Existence of mechanisms to enable children to exercise their right to participate safely in judicial and administrative proceedings***
- 5. Child-friendly complaints procedures are in place***

Promote awareness of the right to participate

- 6. Children's right to participate in decision-making is embedded in pre-service training programmes for professionals working with and for children***
- 7. Children are provided with information about their right to participate***

Create spaces for participation

- 8. Children are represented in forums, including through their own organisations, at school, local, regional and national governance levels***
- 9. Child-targeted feedback mechanisms on local services are in place***
- 10. Children are supported to participate in the monitoring of the UNCRC (including in CRC shadow reporting) and other relevant instruments and conventions***

Source: Child Participation Assessment Tool - Council of Europe Children's Rights Division and Youth Department, 2016



child participation in the climate action (contd.)

A circular portrait of Kayla Brittan, a woman with long dark hair and a nose ring, smiling. The portrait is set against a background of green leaves.

Kayla Brittan

Kayla Brittan is the Chief Operating Officer of the award-winning human rights organization, The Justice Desk, which focuses on educating, advocating, and equipping youth, government, civil society, and vulnerable groups across South Central Africa in human rights. The organization is a partner of the World Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates and The Queens Commonwealth Trust. Kayla mentors and trains various non-profit organizations in child safeguarding and the formation of child protection policies – and her work has been commended and used by international donor agencies in both the UK and Ireland.



While addressing the audience Kayla mentioned that young people have to come to the forefront and take action to bring about the change that they wish to see in the world. Through the realization of the power that they hold, this generation is the one that has to do, not wait. Further, she cited examples of young people who have become leaders of today and have worked for the earth's rights and against injustice towards the child.

Ms. Kayla further highlighted the SDG Model which talks about leaving no one behind. She said, "Children play an important role in bringing about local change to making decisions at the UN meetings. We have the largest generation of youth currently and we all can do it together. We are the change-makers who will challenge the climate crisis and become human rights defenders. The best solutions come from children because they think about each other and not only themselves which is incredibly important."

EARTH-SHAKERS : state's responsibility to climate change



Jyoti Raghavan

Ms. Jyoti Raghwan works as Creative Content Head with Explore. She is also part of the Aravalli Bachao Team working towards saving the Aravalli Forest in Haryana. Jyoti is associated with Aravali Bachao Andolan, India. She belongs to Haryana which has the lowest forest cover in the country as the national average of the forest in India is 20% and Haryana has a forest cover of 3.6% which is fast receding. Aravalli forest expands around four states and it has been affected due to illegal mining and encroachments.



It started in 2018 when the government planned to amend the law which protected these forests. The Aravalli Bachao Movement was created to save the forest from this amendment. The children are active in their team where they manage social media, participate in protests, and engage with government representatives.

The landfills standing in between the Aravali forest which is home to many biodiversity and species, affect nearby villages and increase land and water pollution. The villagers have also developed diseases due to the increased pollution. In November 2019, deforestation and paddy burning affected the state which led to school shutdown and a rise in respiratory diseases. She suggested children take simple measures to make that change because it is not one person making big changes but a group of many people making small changes, for example buying fewer chips packets to reduce the carbon footprints, focusing on waste segregation, and decentralized composting.

Jyoti emphasizes that people's participation is important to make it a success therefore the movement is not only creating awareness but focusing on the change in mindset. The movement encourages school-going children to take part in protests and encourages the school administration to organize such visits.



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How Can Governments Combat Climate Change?

● **Carbon taxes-** Governments can use the fees' revenue to fund social initiatives, invest in sustainable energy, or reduce taxes for the general public. For example: In 1991 Sweden was the first country to lower their green gas emission by 27 % by implementing Carbon Taxes

● **Cap and trade-** A government initiative to control (or cap) private-sector greenhouse gas emissions is known as cap and trade. Governments should allocate or sell a defined number of permits under cap and trade systems, each of which represents the right to release a particular amount of greenhouse gases. if a company requires more permits, it has to trade with other companies, so with the carbon tax, the company pays for its own carbon pollution. For example, California in 2013 dropped down its emission by 10%

● **Clean energy standards-** regulations requiring utilities to generate a set amount of their electricity from low-emission energy sources like solar and wind power. Example: Texas generates 20% of its electricity from renewable energy.

● **International agreements-** The Paris Agreement, one of the most important climate agreements in history, requires over 200 countries to set individual objectives to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. Nearly every nation on the planet has signed on, with more than sixty countries (including the world's two largest polluters, the United States and China) pledging to achieve net-zero emissions by 2060. However, the agreement has failed to meet the ambitious goal of reducing global warming by 1.5C.

● **Adaptation policies-** Adaptation strategies include anything from developing evacuation plans to constructing roads and bridges that can survive increasing sea levels and harsh weather. Some governments have also resorted to novel approaches, such as the creation of public parks that can absorb large amounts of waste.

● **Minimising financial risks of climate change-** Governments have begun establishing strategies to prepare for climate-related economic shocks in order to avert future financial instability. These regulations include requiring banks to declare if climate change has the potential to impact their assets and ensuring that all residents have access to fire insurance.

● **Tech investment-** Should invest more in Renewal, Nuclear, Carbon Capture, and geoengineering.

Source: How Do Governments Combat Climate Change? - Government's responsibility to combat change. Council on Foreign Relations , 2021

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EARTH RIGHTS - the environmental rights of children

A circular portrait of Kevin Cawley, an older man with white hair, a grey beard, and black-rimmed glasses, wearing a light-colored sweater. The portrait is set against a background of green leaves.

Kevin Cawley

Kevin Cawley is currently the Executive Director of the Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue at Iona College in New Rochelle, NY. He is also the editor and publisher of a monthly electronic newsletter on environmental concerns called The Carbon Rangers/Eozoic Times. He takes particular interest in linking to the teachings of Pope Francis in Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home, his encyclical of 2015. Br. Kevin has been serving for the past 15 years at United Nations Headquarters in New York as the Main Representative of Edmund Rice International (ERI).



Kevin focused on how the work with children also leads in interesting directions in terms of legal pathways for children's rights and their environment. He started by summarizing several points about the legal situation that has been developing around the world concerning children's rights and the environment.

Kevin shared various child and environmental issues from the globe to put forward the concern including: 'Juliana versus the United States'; The Climate Protection Act in Germany, The Extension of the White haven Victory Coal Mine in Australia; The Greenhouse Gas Emission case in Portugal and the case in Ireland on cutting emission, where the court recently ruled in favor of the children.

He concluded that the states should ensure that children have access to justice and an effective remedy for a violation due to environmental harm. States need to rebalance the burden of proof and the rules of evidence, to remove barriers to bring complaints of environmental harm involving children. So we're not there yet, we still have work to do.

the environmental rights of children (contd.)



Br Brian Bond

Brian Bond is currently the Director of Edmund Rice International. Before moving to Geneva, Brian had the responsibility of promoting social justice awareness across the Edmund Rice Network in his home Province and the coordination of the Edmund Rice International Volunteer Scheme for Australia and New Zealand.



Br Brian introduced the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child that has been ratified by almost every country in the world. It's a Universal agreement that imposes legal obligations on all countries that have agreed to be bound by it.

He moved on to share some articles of the convention to further enlighten us on our child rights including article 6 - Life survival and development, article 22 - Refugee children, article 28 - Right to education, Article 24- Health, Water, Food, environment, article 27- Food, clothing, a safe home, article 30- Minority culture, language, and religion, article 34- Protection from sexual abuse, article 35- Prevention of sale and trafficking, article 36- protection from exploitation, and article 12- Respect children's views. And emphasizes the importance of how climatic conditions affect child rights.

He concluded with a statement that perhaps many of us are not directly impacted at present in the ways that have been described but if we are to address the climate emergencies the changes that are necessary to be made will impact us. But we may no longer be able to enjoy the same standard of living we enjoy at present or aspire to enjoy in the future. We might have to live more simply with less money to spend.

The question he strongly suggested we ask ourselves is "Am I prepared to pay the price for what needs to be done?"



Ecological rights of children

1. **EDUCATION** - Children should be able to learn by being outside in nature, taking part in projects about the issues affecting the environment locally and across the world.
2. **INFORMATION** - Knowledge and data on the environment should be made available to children in ways that they can understand.
3. **GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY** - Leaders should speak to children and take their experiences and ideas into account when making decisions on the environment
4. **COMPLAINTS** - Grievances should be dealt with quickly and fairly and children should be able to get a response and solution
5. **THE LAST CHILD** - Governments should make sure that children enjoy their rights equally. Some children face extra challenges.
6. **CHILD- IMPACT** - Respect, protect and fulfill children's rights when adopting and implementing environment-related agreements, policies, and actions to address environmental harm.
7. **LAW AND POLICY** - Give formal recognition of the human right to a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment by the UN.
8. **CHILD DEFENDERS** - Providing safe and empowering environment initiatives by young people and children to protect and promote human rights relating to the environment.

Source: Children's Rights and the Environment - Day of General Discussion Report 2016 - Committee on the Rights of the Child

EARTHLINESS : business standards for child rights



Seidel Frederique

Frederique Seidel is a Sociologist, Senior Advisor on Child Rights & Partnership, WCC. She has been a Programme Executive for Child Rights & Partnerships Manager for the World Council of children for 9 years and has 20 years of experience in facilitating consultative processes among international partners. She enjoys rallying different ways of thinking behind joint goals and has Crafted and implemented strategic frameworks for UNICEF and the WCC, including monitoring and evaluation. She shares a passion for child rights, child-friendly communities, environmental protection, and climate change mitigation.



Frederique started by introducing the initiative called Churches' Commitment to Children, 2015 in collaboration with UNICEF which led to the creation of an umbrella having three pillars: Child Protection, Meaningful participation of children and teenagers, and Inter-generational planet justice for and with children. The project involved discussion with many children from countries including India who strongly urged their voices to be lifted with three commitments on Climate justice, for and with children & adolescents. It focuses on the following areas:

- *Ensure Eco-responsibility in all decisions and operations: Consult Children and adolescents allow them to participate in related decision-making.*
- *Promote children/youth to be at the center of plans and programs in the response to the climate crisis.*





Child Rights and Business Principles

Business may have long-term, possibly permanent, repercussions on children. Childhood is a special time of intense physical and psychological growth during which young people's physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being can be permanently influenced for better or worse. During a child's development years, s/he requires adequate nourishment, clean water, and care and compassion.

Businesses should observe the following principles laid down by Save the Children and UNICEF-

- 1. Meet their responsibility to respect children's rights and commit to supporting the human rights of children**
- 2. Contribute to the elimination of child labour, including in all business activities and business relationships**
- 3. Provide decent work for young workers, parents, and caregivers**
- 4. Ensure the protection and safety of children in all business activities and facilities**
- 5. Ensure that products and services are safe, and seek to support children's rights through them**
- 6. Use marketing and advertising that respect and support children's rights**
- 7. Respect and support children's rights in relation to the environment and to land acquisition and use**
- 8. Respect and support children's rights in security arrangements**
- 9. Help protect children affected by emergencies**
- 10. Reinforce community and government efforts to protect and fulfill children's rights**

Source: Children's Rights and Business Principles - UNICEF, UN Global compact, and Save The Children, 2012

EARTH-STARS: children and the COP 26 summit

A circular portrait of Ann Nichols, a woman with short brown hair and glasses, wearing a floral patterned top. The portrait is set against a background of large green leaves.

Ann Nichols

Ann Nichols currently has a role with the Edmund Rice Network in England as a Network Facilitator. She works with schools both in the UK and Ireland as well as globally through EREBB (Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders) on leadership, social justice, and advocacy projects. She is a former linguist, having taught languages in high school for 20 years. She also has been involved in global learning focused on care for the Earth, leading a British Council Connecting Classrooms project with 4 schools on waste reduction and coordinating opportunities for staff and students to be better informed about the climate emergency as well as coordinating actions we can take to combat it.



Ann talked about the COP 26 that brings out the voices from different parts of the world for climate justice and equity. We all have the power to make a difference as youth leaders like Vanessa Nakhate from Uganda, Africa successfully influence many people by presenting hard-hitting facts and statistics with un-matchable passion and conviction at platforms like youth for climate, a pre-COP 26 summit.

Ann suggested that children can do the following

- *Write to your MP*
- *Inform as many people as you can about the Climate Emergency and COP 26*
- *Have an eco group in school that focuses on sustainability*
- *Have meat free days, campaign against food waste*
- *Promote renewable energy providers (home and in school)*
- *Get school to do a carbon footprint / climate emergency survey*
- *Reduce, reuse and recycle*
- *Walk to school, run a stop engine idling scheme*
- *Join recycling schemes like 'Terracycle'*



The declaration on children, youth, and climate action

Is based on -

- ***the heightened climate risks faced by children***
- ***the calls of children and young people for urgent and immediate climate action***
- ***the commitments made in the Paris Agreement***
- ***the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,***
- ***the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and other instruments***
- ***Human Rights Council Resolutions 37/8, 35/20, and 40/1****

We commit to:

1. ***... children's inalienable right to a healthy environment,
... to take steps to enshrine this right where appropriate into national, regional, and global frameworks and/or national policies and legislation;***
2. ***.. enhancing efforts to respect, promote and consider the rights of children and young people in the implementation of the Paris Agreement at all levels...,
including recognition of their specific vulnerabilities, as well as their status as key stakeholders and implementers...***
3. ***Scaling up and accelerating investment in child- and youth-responsive adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and mitigation measures,
cognizant of an urgent need to focus on reaching children most at risk, and advocate for child-sensitive criteria to be mainstreamed in multilateral funds;***
4. ***Strengthening the capacity of children and young people on climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts by establishing and investing in climate change and environmental education...
ensuring that such efforts reach marginalized children and youth;***
5. ***Enhancing the meaningful participation of children and youth in climate change processes..., with a focus on the Global South;***
6. ***Exploring measures to establish an international Commission for Children and Future Generations..
ensure the effective participation of children and youth in decision making on climate change;***
7. ***Adopting institutional and administrative measures, as well as partnerships, at national and international levels to actively pursue the above objectives...
with respect to UNFCCC.. the Paris Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals.***

**** which address the rights of children and young people with respect to environmental harm and climate change, and that a safe climate is a vital element of the right to a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment and is essential to human life and well-being***

Source : Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action - UNICEF



A dense, vibrant background of tropical plants, including large green monstera leaves and bright green fern fronds, creating a lush, jungle-like atmosphere.

FROM THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH

comments of the child delegates

This section is a summary of the data collected during the consultation. The data was collected from 193 countries and 280 child delegates.

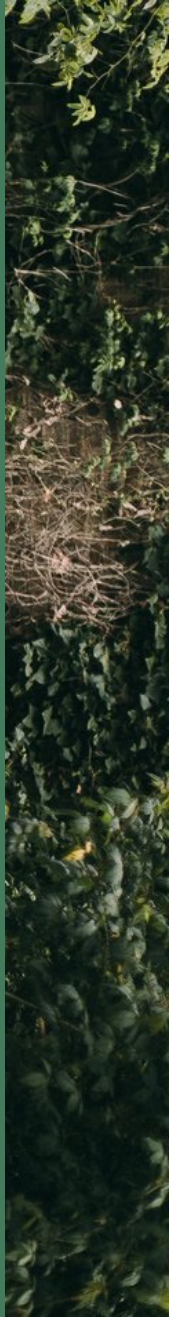
EARTH-QUAKES : climate change and health of Children

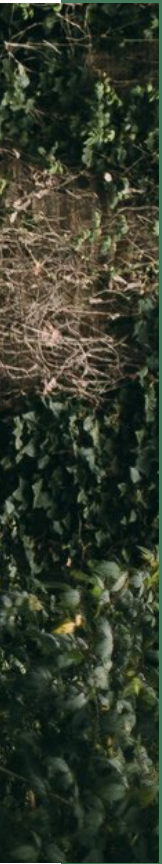
Climate change is a reality. Children are more vulnerable to heatwaves. Extreme weather disasters, such as severe storms, floods, or wildfires, not only endanger children's lives and safety, but they also put them at risk of mental health problems—and can have long-term consequences when they ruin their neighborhoods and schools. Poor air quality as a result of climate change can cause breathing difficulties, particularly in children with asthma. The temperature of the Earth is rising. Glaciers are thawing. The sea level is accelerating as a result of global warming. Weather extremes, both hot and cold, have increased, as have rainfall and drought in various parts of the world. Research states that humans are answerable for this change: the increase in greenhouse gases, primarily from the use of fossil fuels and deforestation, has resulted in the changes we are witnessing. This isn't normal. This is what we did.

Global climate change will have a wide range of consequences for human health. Vulnerable populations, such as children, the elderly, and the destitute, will suffer disproportionately. Climate has an impact on human essential requirements such as food, water, health, and shelter. Climate change may jeopardize these needs through increasing temperatures, sea-level rise, precipitation variations, and more frequent or intense extreme events. Individuals and groups will be impacted differently by climate change. The elderly, the infirm, children and pregnant women, aboriginal and tribal people, and low-income people are all particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Children around the globe have shared their personal concerns during the two-day ERth Summit.

- Phoebe from Australia shares that Climate change affects her Mental health. She is filled with anxiety and fear towards the impending future. The regular Bushfires and floods in Australia have made her scared for life and wonder whether her future will be worth living for.
- Rishika from India shares that Climate change doesn't affect her as much physically as it does mentally. "Just by merely thinking about the consequences and the people suffering saddens me, and I believe that everyone is just as worthy of adequate resources as us."
- Tong Yuchen from Beijing shares that "Several years ago, the smog in Beijing was very serious so that sometimes I could not go to school."
- Gabriel from Mozambique shares that she is worried and said, "The climate change affects me because the hot and cold climate any time of the year causes the death of animals living in the colder regions."





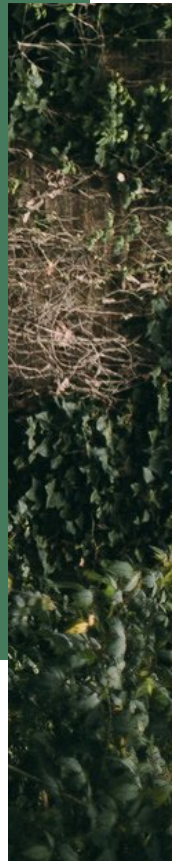
- Miki from Chile expresses her concern that climate change has impacted her. She shares that “I have eczema which is caused by environmental triggers such as air pollution. This leads me to have migraines and nasal irritation, making me miss school at times.”
- Aditi from Canada said: “Climate Change instills a natural barrier between my ambition and my future. I personally am unable to imagine a life drained without the greenery and beauty we are still able to experience in this world today. The prospect is daunting and difficult to swallow. As an individual, climate change affects me in ways which trigger emotion, the immediate need to take action and finally, a sense of undeniable desperation.”
- Srusti from Mozambique states that climate change does affect him- “As an individual, it affects me with health issues, agricultural problems and deforestation.”
- Nina from the United Kingdom shares that “the changing of the weather in the U.K- hotter and wetter makes life uneasy daily. I cannot plan any random activities because the weather changes rapidly everyday.”
- Nathaniel from Australia is filled with fear and anxiety he shares that “we have faced the effects of climate change. Every year, we have summer bushfires which cause destruction to homes and loss of wildlife. Every summer, I fear that my home will be lost. Climate change affects me because I have asthma. My asthma gets worse everyday as the air quality around me is decreasing. As air pollution becomes worse, I have more frequent attacks, making my life harder and more expensive, as I go through more inhalers that I get under insurance.”
- Kwimylla from Maputa feels anxious that the “Climate affects me and everyone, as the temperature is increasing and the chances of getting skin cancer is bigger.
- Akshita from India shares that “Climate change has resulted in the formation of large-scale environmental dangers to human health, such as extreme weather, increased wildfire risk, biodiversity loss, stress on food-producing systems, and the global spread of infectious diseases.”
- Monique from South Africa shared that “With the rapid change of weather conditions I have gone from being a healthy individual to being dependent on my asthma pump.”
- In countries with limited capacity to prevent and manage illness, the risks of climate-sensitive diseases and health repercussions can be substantial. There are numerous examples of climate change-related health consequences on children- Heat stress occurs more frequently and is more severe when temperatures rise.





Heatwaves and wildfires can worsen air quality, causing breathing problems and exacerbating respiratory and cardiovascular disorders. Climate change's effects on agriculture and other food systems have the potential to raise hunger and food-borne illness i.e. malnutrition. The consequences of global climate change on mental health and well-being are an important component of the total climate-related human health implications. Climate change's mental health impacts range from minor stress and distress symptoms to clinical disorders such as anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and many more. Children from low-income nations are particularly vulnerable to the negative health effects of climate change. Urban poor, elderly, small children, traditional communities, subsistence farmers, and coastal inhabitants are among the at-risk categories. Indigenous peoples in several countries, including the United States, Latin and South America, Europe, India and Africa, are already facing threats to their traditional livelihoods. Rising sea levels and harsh weather occurrences pose a threat to aboriginal communities that live on low-lying island nations. Climate change in these locations can have an impact on hunting, fishing, transportation, and other activities.

However, if climate change continues, the consequences for our children as they grow into adults will be severe. They'll dwell in a world where the quality is deteriorating. There will be fewer plant and animal species. As the waters rise, there will be less land available. There will be less food. And people will and are migrating in large numbers in search of a safe and healthy environment to reside. There will be unrest in people as they squabble with the government over scarce resources.





Climate Change and Human Rights

"Climate change, human-induced climate change, is obviously an assault on the ecosystem that we all share, but it also has the added feature of undercutting rights, important rights like the right to health, the right to food, to water and sanitation, to adequate housing, and, in a number of small island States and coastal communities, the very right to self-determination and existence." Flavia Pansieri, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, According to the COP21 declaration, climate change has resulted in eleven Human rights violations.

1. The right to life

"Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person" Article 3 UDHR

1. The right to self-determination

"respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples" Article 1, UN Charter

1. The right to development

promote "conditions of economic and social progress and development". Article 55, UN Charter

1. The right to food

2. The right to health

3. The right to housing

"Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing, and medical care". Article 25(1) UDHR

1. The right to water and sanitation

"The human right to water entitles everyone to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses." General Comment No.15 of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

1. The right to education

"everyone has the right to education" Article 26 UDHR

1. The right to meaningful and informed participation

"States have the rights and the duty to formulate appropriate national development policies that aim at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals. on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development". Declaration on the Rights to Development

1. The right of those most affected by climate change

"all human beings are born equal in dignity and rights". Article 1 UDHR

1. The rights of future generation

"defend(ing) and improve(ing) the human rights for present and future generations has become an imperative goal for mankind" UN Stockholm Declaration on Human Rights

"... in dealing with sustainable development issues, unless you deal with the issues of climate change, life, particularly of the most vulnerable, will continue to be threatened and compromised, and life is already compromised and threatened on most island countries..."

Enele Sosene Sopoaga, Former Prime Minister, Tuvalu.

Source: Understanding Human Rights and Climate Change- OHCHR Submission to COP-21, 2015



EARTH-KIND : personal lifestyle choices

The ecosystem, like the human body, works best when everything in it is in harmony. Unfortunately, not much has been done to restore nature's balance. Resource depletion, pollution, the "throwaway" culture, and the increase of consumerism have all put enormous strain on the ecosystem. Nonetheless, the battle to figure out how to protect the environment is far from over. More children around the world than ever before are taking the initiative to guarantee that the proper steps are made to assist the environment to thrive to live in it.

Children at the Summit came together to join the fight. Here are some lifestyle adjustments they came up regarding what individuals can do to help the environment:

- It is extremely crucial now that in order to experience a large, positive impact on the environment every family has solar panels, electric automobiles, soft plastic recycling, frequent recycling, and compost bins. (p.1) En, T, R, L
- Buy less-buy local. This little act helps in protecting the environment. (p.2) R
- Stop slaughtering animals for clothing, burning plastic, and polluting the environment. (p.3) F, R
- Trees are significant because they provide oxygen to the living world. It is important to plant trees now considering every tree takes a minimum 2-10 years to grow from a seedling to a sapling and finally mature into a tree. So, for every grown tree that is cut, we would have to wait 10 years to be benefited from the growth of another tree. (p.4) A
- A lifestyle change will bring about a significant change. For example: Every individual in some way or the other litters in and around their surroundings-consciously or unconsciously. Hence, practicing the art of discarding rubbish in the right way i.e. dry waste, wet garbage, and plastic if discarded separately will particularly benefit them in keeping the environment cleaner. (p.5) R
- Some of the measures change pollution and consumerism and resource depletion: "Carry Your Bag to the Store." "Produce your own food." "Reduce your energy consumption." "Make repairs of your belongings" and "educate yourself on green alternatives." "Use a Reusable Bottle instead of a Single-Use Bottle." "Electrify your vehicle." (p.1) L, F, En, Ed, T
- Individuals can adjust their lifestyles to reduce their carbon footprint. This includes changes like using renewable energy and use of public transport to commute, more importantly using personal cars more efficiently. (p.1) En, T
- It is important to become politically active—as it is said, "the government should do something," hence it is important to participate in such activities and advocate for it. (p.1) R





- To combat climate change, we must reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon dioxide. We have been increasing greenhouse gas levels by burning fossil fuels and cutting down forests, which naturally remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. We can reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere in two ways: we can cease adding them to the air, or we can boost the Earth's ability to draw them out of the atmosphere. (p.1) En, A,
- Reduce the quantity of pollution that enters the soil, water, and air by being a green consumer- which means to ask these questions before you buy anything-
- Is the item packaged in easily recyclable materials?
- Have the goods lately been manufactured? Locally?
- Is the item eco-friendly in terms of energy or water efficiency? (p.1) L, Ec
- Recycling is as easy as using a bin to place your waste products where they can be taken and recycled in the factory. When you are able to support the recycling process, you'll be in a position to help conserve the environment. You can also help recycle by sorting out the recyclables and the non-recyclables. (p.1) R
- Living peacefully with fundamental requirements is what both humanity and the environment require. This will result in less production and reduced consumption of resources. If companies manufacture based on how much we buy, not what is sufficient for the entire globe. (p.1) L, Ec

"Just by merely thinking about the consequences and the people suffering saddens me, and I believe that everyone is just as worthy of adequate resources as us." - **Rishika 13, India**





10 on 10 - Ways to address climate change

What is the most important shift the world needs to make?

Limiting the use of fossil fuels such as oil, carbon, natural gas in favor of renewable and cleaner energy sources while improving energy efficiency.

How can I change the way industries are operated or subsidized does not appear to be something I can have an impact on... can I?

yes, you can, by exercising your citizen and consumer rights, by divesting funds from polluting activities and avoid investing stocks in fossil fuels, banks that invest in high-emission industries, factories that

What is the best alternative daily action I can take?

Go car-free. Cars pollute the environment more than alternative modes of transportation such as walking, bicycling, or taking public transit.

Isn't renewable energy, on the other hand, too expensive?

Renewable energy sources such as wind and solar are actually getting more affordable all around the world. The International Renewable Energy Agency (Irena) reports that most regularly utilized renewables, such as solar, geothermal, bioenergy, hydropower, and onshore wind, have become cheaper than fossil fuels.

Is it possible that adjusting my diet may make a difference?

The food business, particularly the meat and dairy industries, is one of the most significant contributors to climate change, second only to fossil fuels. If Cattle had its own country it would be the third highest producer of greenhouse emission on our planet behind China and the United States.

What are the consequences of my flying habits?

Planes are powered by fossil fuels. Technology has yet to come up with alternative viable ways of flying. However attempts to fly around the world using solar panels were successful; commercial solar-powered aircraft are still decades away.

Should I go about my buying in a different way?

Almost yes! Everything we buy has a carbon footprint, either in terms of how it is made or how it is delivered. For example, the garment industry accounts for around 3% of worldwide CO2 emissions, owing to the usage of energy in the manufacturing process.

Should I consider the number of children I have (or don't have)?

The first is whether or not you are responsible for children's greenhouse gas emissions, and the second is where these babies are born. Are your parents accountable for your emissions if you are responsible for your children's? And if you aren't, how should we think about the reality that there will be more people with more carbon? This is an ethical and religious dilemma.

But if I eat less meat or fly less, it's just me - does it really make a big difference?

It isn't just you, though! Research states that when one individual makes a sustainable decision, others follow suit. Individuals infer that people like them respect sustainability and feel inspired to act when they observe their neighbors doing environmental action, such as conserving electricity.

What if I can't avoid the flight or reduce my driving time?

If you're unable to make all of the necessary changes, consider offsetting your emissions with a reputable green project - not as a "get out of jail free card,".

Source: Ten Simple Ways to Act on Climate Change 2018- BBC Future, BBC



EARTH-LIKE : environment rights of children



Every child has the right to grow up in a secure environment, to live a healthy life, and to have a bright future. A healthy environment is essential for the physical and emotional well-being of children. They will not be able to mature and become productive members of society if they do not have access to it.

Adults should pay greater attention to what youngsters have to say about climate change. Children must have a voice and be included in policy and legislative formulation. Young people are frequently heard but not heard. Adults regard children as naive and, as a result, do not take what kids say/do seriously. We should be able to receive disease-free water. This is significant because this is the generation that will be left to pick up the pieces and help make the world a better place. Every child has the right to safe drinking water and a healthy environment. Children deserve an education, as well as the opportunity to discover who they are, enjoy life, and gain experience. They have earned the right to get fresh air and play outside. They have earned the right to go outside without wearing a mask due to pollution. They have earned the right to water and good food and nutrition, as well as the right not to go to bed hungry at night.

Children must be kept in a safe environment. Children must have access to information and be able to participate in civic spaces. Children have the right to live in an environment with clean air and water. Children with asthma are more likely to wind up in the hospital if they do not have access to clean air. Children should be able to improve the world without feeling as if they are contradicting the views of others.

Aditi from Canada gives her opinion on a kid's environmental rights, stating, "As a youngster and a member of the present and latest generation, I find it difficult to believe I have a stable future to invest in. With the negligible amount of effort invested in climate change by countries capable of taking action, despite the Paris agreement and public commitments to containing climate decline, it is natural to be fearful of a future we want to have but may not get the chance to experience due to decisions that are entirely beyond our control. What the previous generation did, as well as the lack of acknowledgment and action for what was done, will result in the stealing of a generation's potential. Promises and obligations have been made, but no action has been taken. As a child, I implore you, as adults with considerably greater knowledge and expertise than mine, to pay heed to the reality that you are leading this species on a suicide mission, with us as the primary victim. This is a requirement, not a want. This is not defiance; it is the right to demand what we have spent our time, effort, hopes, and goals on."



“

Governments should provide children with...

EDUCATION

- *learn by being outside in nature*
- *use issues affecting the local or global environment in projects*

INFORMATION

- *on the environment*
- *make it available in ways that children can understand*

RESPECT CHILDREN'S VIEW'S

- *speak to children*
- *take their experiences take their ideas into account*
- *especially when making decisions on the environment*

COMPLAINTS AND REMEDIES

- *should be dealt with quickly and fairly*
- *Children should be able to get a response and solution*

TREAT CHILDREN EQUALLY

- *these rights apply to all children whatever their sex, race, religion or abilities*



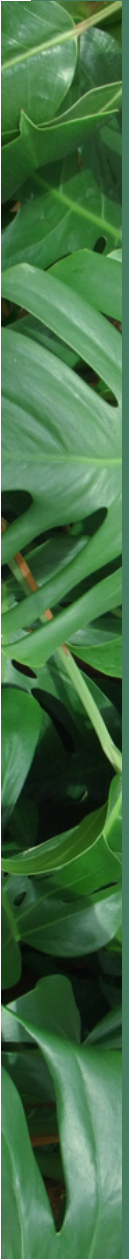
Source: Adapted from the Special Rapporteur's report on Children's Rights and Environment (A/HRC/37/58) 2018

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EARTH STORIES : national climate issues facing children

Climate change is a reality. Children are more vulnerable to heat waves. Extreme weather disasters, such as severe storms, floods, or wildfires, not only endanger children's lives and safety, but they also put them at risk of mental health problems—and can have long-term consequences when they ruin their neighborhoods and schools. Poor air quality as a result of climate change can cause breathing difficulties, particularly in children with asthma. The temperature of the Earth is rising. Glaciers are thawing. The sea level is accelerating as a result of global warming. Weather extremes, both hot and cold, have increased, as have rainfall and drought in various parts of the world. Research states that humans are answerable for this change: the increase in greenhouse gases, primarily from the use of fossil fuels and deforestation, has resulted in the changes we are witnessing. This isn't normal. This is what we did.

- **Rafael from Indonesia's** reports that in her country the paddy-fields are gradually dwindling, resulting in food shortages which will lead to hunger among children and others too.
- **Phoebe from Australia** states that their government lacks action on Climate change and they are yet to make a commitment to the Paris Agreement. There are increasing amounts of bush-fires and droughts in Australia. Water security - Australia. In Australia, we face a large amount of natural disasters each year. If climate change continues to grow and worsen, we will face more and more, which will result. in a large loss of life (and wildlife), homes and businesses. Government mismanagement and inaction has resulted in poor water management and Government mismanagement and inaction has resulted in poor water management and protection. We are losing our natural world wonders such as the great barrier reef and we are being hit particularly hard by natural disasters, which would be considerably less severe if we were not experiencing climate change. My concern is that many of our native species are becoming more threatened due to increased occurrences of bush-fires in Australia.
- **Isis from Brazil** reports that "The deforestation in Brazil is really bad."
- **Children from Mozambique** share grave concerns about Climate change in their country- Mozambique is one of Africans most vulnerable countries to climate change. Poverty ,weak institutional development and frequent extreme weather events make Mozambique especially vulnerable. Reduction of Mozambique trans-boundary river flows will decrease the availability of surface water. Air, water , land pollution, the increasing amount of carbon emission is making our life unlivable. There have been a lot of cyclones in our country due to climate change. In Mozambique elsewhere in Africa and Asia, habitat loss is causing humans and wildlife to share increasingly smaller living spaces, agriculture and pollution. In Maputo what concerns us is the pollution and in addition the deforestation which is causing flooding and cyclones. In Mozambique there is not a specific pattern of climate that you can identify, and it is also an industrialised country, so there is a lot of air pollution.

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- Monique is from South Africa. South Africa experiences higher temperatures and a reduction in rainfall is expected as a result of climate change contributing to an increasing number of droughts in the country. South Africa's development is highly dependent on climate sensitive sectors such as agriculture and forestry. My concern is for the youth of my country in South Africa. They have a right to health and safety but cannot receive it with the onset of climate change. South Africa needs to stop pollution. In South Africa, we have experienced daily rolling blackouts as a result of an overwrought power grid. While many South Africans have found alternative methods for the inconsistent electricity, others have been left in the dark. This is particularly disheartening as we rely on electricity in every area of our lives (cooking, warmth, light, laundry, to charge devices). Consequently, the electricity tariffs have increased even more. Perhaps if more energy efficient practices were implemented, it might result in more flexible and dynamic tariffs.
 - Jin is from Japan, he shares that "some young people are enthusiastic about climate change measures, but in other countries, there are few young people who are responding to the situation."
 - Rubí from Peru states that "the acceleration of most glaciers in Peru endangers the water security of the population. There is a loss and deterioration of high Andean ecosystems, soil erosion and increases the acidity of the rock and therefore its runoff and contamination of rivers by heavy metals. Also the loss of diverse ecosystem services such as tourism, risk management, watershed management, and others have added to the problem.
 - Thailand produces an immense amount of food waste, says Sarah. Each year, about 17 million tons of food waste are produced in Thailand alone, which adds up to 8% of greenhouse gas emissions. It produces tons of methane which is more potent than carbon dioxide. This has led to global warming. Air pollution is caused by vehicles emitting diesel fumes, and the burning of agricultural waste generates fine dust. The air quality is so poor in Thailand, especially in Bangkok the capital city, that people had to wear masks regularly even before COVID hit.
 - Alex (name changed) shares that In Zambia the farmers (commercial and small scale) towards the monsoon season begin to prepare the land for farming. Due to the effects of climate change the rains are delayed and farmers go through a major setback that leads to food insecurity. Zambia has poor rains resulting in power outages because of hydro power, poor crop harvest, high poverty levels and illiteracy, high school dropouts and inadequate water supply.



- Marjan from Slovenia, shares that the main climate change issues include temperature change, decrease in rainfall, and the decline in air quality.
- England is faced with lots of CO2 emissions.
- Pakistan faces acute water scarcity, which is driven because of climate change.
- Malaysia is hit by flash floods and storms every year. Countries on the coastal area are hit and destroyed the most due to climate change. The rising levels of sea, due to melting of glaciers is indeed an alarming situation.
- Nigeria experiences frequent Gas flaring, deforestation and industrial pollution.
- The Philippines experienced sudden cold where in fact it's a tropical country.
- Cameroon, one of the concerns with regard to climate change is that of water scarcity and food shortages which lead to the spread of opportunistic diseases resulting in death of people.
- In Bahrain there are two main concerns which are increase in sea levels and high temperature change.
- In the USA, the main concerns regarding climate change are the rising sea levels as well as the severe wildfires near the west coast. In the US, the frequency of natural disasters has risen quite a bit.
- Algeria experiences tremendous Sea Pollution and frequent WildFires (Algeria)
- In The Marshall Islands ice is melting due to global warming. As these islands are just 2-3 meters above sea level any rise in sea level would be a threat to the Marshallese.





Why do local governments need to come on board with Climate change?

Local governments are on the front lines and are in charge of making a variety of decisions that may make or break any worldwide climate change policy. These are at the forefront of the battle against climate change, Public involvement and promoting local action are two important roles that local governments may play in contributing to a global climate deal. At several international climate conferences, it is noteworthy how citizens are kept off from the discussions and decision-making. Local government cooperation and strong local leadership will save costs and enhance policy delivery.

Why local governments are more important in the international discussions

- 1. The buck stops here**
- 2. Local government works at the grassroots, making decisions that could accomplish any international climate change policy.**
- 3. taking immediate action on emissions from transportation, urban biodiversity, urban regeneration, and waste management.**
- 4. Local leaders are more innovative and ambitious**
 - a. Local governments should**
 - i. take immediate action on emissions from transportation**
 - ii. urban biodiversity**
 - iii. urban regeneration**
 - iv. waste management**
- 5. No one is better placed to get the public on board**
 - a. Local Government should initiate**
 - i. public engagement**
 - ii. stimulating local action**
- 6. Strong local leadership can mobilise communities**
 - a. make investment to mobilise communities businesses civil society to reduce the impact of climate change**
- 7. Think local, act global**
 - a. initiate international negotiations**
 - b. Decentralised cooperation**

Source: Five Reasons why Local Government should Influence Climate Change Plans, The Guardian, 2015

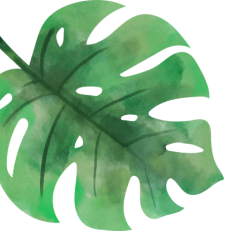
EARTH-LIGHT : eco-friendly ideas known to delegates

With climate change becoming a reality and the future generations bearing the brunt of rising temperatures and other environmental catastrophes worldwide it was important to understand whether the youth had deliberated upon ideas which have inspired them to address climate change.

The children acknowledged the need for governments and citizens to actively participate to address climate change. The participants suggested that the following measures, if taken, were an important tool to mitigate the climate change crisis. These were:

- Subsidizing electric cars (i.1) T
- Mandatory solar panels on buildings (i.2) EN
- Introducing worldwide standards and regulation of industries to ensure that they adhere to climate change regulations. (i.3) Ec
- Investment in public transport to reduce usage of cars was also suggested by almost 40% of the respondents. (i.4) T
- Following a “climatarian diet” was something almost 30% of the respondents advocated as they expressed the harmful effects of rearing sheep and cows specially methane production and water consumption. (i.5) F
- Community education was a key recommendation with many of the respondents talking about making groups and educating their local community on how to adopt climate friendly practices. (i.6) Ed
- An introduction of carbon tax on products was also suggested. (i.7) G
- School education was also emphasized as an important tool for creating awareness about climate change. The use of social media was also seen as an important tool to spread awareness about climate change. (i.8) Ed
- Planting of trees was seen as one of the most effective ways to tackle the climate crisis with almost 60% of the respondents recommending this activity. (i.9) A

The children had a plethora of ideas to mitigate the climate change crisis mentioned above and most of them spoke very passionately about the cause of climate change. Many emphasized how adult decisions lead to consequences for children, this thought has been famously mentioned in the Brundtland Report (1987) which defines sustainability as “meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”



10 Ways to engage with COP 26

- 1. Share the perspectives of those who are living on the front lines of climate change.**
- 2. In the countdown to COP26, attend a local or virtual event.**
- 3. Learn about the commitments that your country has already made.**
- 4. Motivate the next generation of change agents.**
- 5. Encourage your company or university to join the Zero Waste Challenge.**
- 6. Take one easy step to reduce your personal carbon footprint.**
- 7. Use your imagination to create a visual message of hope and action.**
- 8. Encourage your city council to put some trees in the ground.**
- 9. Switch to green energy for a swift win for the environment Stay up to speed on COP26 news.**
- 10. Keep up with the latest COP26 developments.**

Source: Supporting COP26: 10 Practical Things You Can Do in the Countdown to the UN Climate Change Conference- Practical Action, 2021



EARTH-RISE : protect and promote child earth defenders

The youth of today believes in its power to make a difference in the world. Child rights is a much-debated topic and the role of governments, adults and international organizations in ensuring and promoting child rights is an important aspect of ensuring that our children have a safe and secure environment.

The respondents emphasized the role of children in the future of humanity and stated the following:

- The rights of children range from not just having a safe and secure environment to grow and thrive but also the right to have a healthy planet to live and sustain on. (r.1) R
- One child mentioned that the “Environmental crisis is a child rights crisis”. (r.2) R
- Emphasis was laid on the need for a legal framework that embeds and protects children’s best interests. (r.3) R
- It is the right of children to be heard, and have their views considered in matters that affect them. (r.4) R
- The suggestions given for the protection of children included an end to child labor, strict laws to curb child abuse, and making education compulsory for all children. (r.5) R
- Giving children a platform to express their voices just as it is given to adults will ensure that the voice of children is also heard. (r.6) R
- The need for legislation to ensure children get a safe and healthy environment to thrive. (r.7) R
- Almost 50% of the respondents believed that children need to have a clean environment including food, water and shelter to live in. (r.8) R
- Children need to be trusted as they have their own opinion and age is not a criterion for judging the validity of an opinion. (r.9) R

There were some very strong opinions that were expressed as mentioned above with regard to child rights and it was seen as a duty of adults to ensure that the children have a safe and secure environment in which to grow and thrive, and also to have a healthy and sustainable planet to live on.

“Some young people are enthusiastic about climate change measures, but in other countries, there are few young people who are responding to the situation.” - **Jin, Japan**





Environmental protection - A priority for children

Who are the environmental rights activists among children?

- **Any child can be an environmental rights defender. It is not an official title or category and the term can encompass children who are activists, writers, orators, campaigners, organisers and more (United Nations General Assembly, 2019).**

The child's action

- **Children can resist activities of Agribusiness, deforestation, logging, mining, fracking, and the construction of plantations, pipelines, and dams are all examples of activities that frequently endanger the health, lifestyle, and survival of many communities. All these efforts made by children will defend to preserve human and environmental rights and to combat environmental thievery and devastation, as well as the human rights abuses and injustices that result from environmental damage.**
- **Environmental rights activists under the age of 18 can also work with the United Nations (UN). A groundbreaking legal case filed in 2019 by a coalition of 16 child environmental rights advocates from 12 different countries to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) against Germany, France, Brazil, Argentina, and Turkey for failing to fulfill their child rights commitments is one example.**

Environmental defenders' children's rights

- **Children have all human rights, plus extra child rights, such as the right to be protected by adults – and adults' corresponding duty to protect children. Children who fight environmental degradation and its repercussions are frequently exercising some of their most fundamental human and child rights. Their right to participate, to be heard, to freedom of speech, opinion, and assembly, as well as their rights to life, non-discrimination, water, health, and a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment, are also being asserted.**

Rights from international law

- **Children who work as environmental rights defenders exercise many of their most basic human rights, as embodied in key international legal documents such as the Child Rights Convention ('CRC' and its three Optional Protocols) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The rights include-**
 - **their right to participation,**
 - **their rights to a healthy environment,**
 - **to freedom of expression (article 13, CRC),**
 - **freedom of thought, conscience and religion (article 14, CRC),**
 - **freedom of association and peaceful assembly (article 15, CRC),**
 - **privacy (article 16, CRC) and information (article 17, CRC).**
 - **Equally, children working to defend their environment are often invoking their rights to non-discrimination (article 2, CRC), best interests (article 3, CRC) and survival and development (article 6, CRC).**

Source- Child Environmental Rights Defenders. Humanium, May 2021



EARTH UP : 99 days challenge adopted by the delegates

It is important not just to have an opinion but also to have the motivation to act on one's opinion. This summit emphasized the need to act in an environmentally friendly manner and the children were encouraged to express their opinion on what specific commitments they wanted to make for the next 99 days through their actions which would help in climate change.

The children expressed commitment for the following specific activities as part of their commitment to address climate change in the next 99 days:

- Using public transport instead of private vehicles (c.1) T
- Reducing the use of plastic (c.2) L
- Reducing the intake of meat (c.3) F
- Investing in compost bins (c.4) L
- Recycle as much as possible to reduce the amount of landfill (c.5) R
- Buying local goods (c.6) EC
- Spending consciously (c.7) L
- Plant trees. Control deforestation in the name of development (c.8) A
- Spread awareness about climate change amongst the local community, also use social media to create awareness (c.9) Ed
- Use water consciously and not waste it (c.10) L

The children expressed concern over the degrading environment. Although legislation is in the hands of adults, the children strongly feel that they can also make a difference through their actions and not just wait for adults to act. The specific commitments mentioned above show that the children believed that their actions would make a difference to save mother earth and that they are active participants in the climate change crisis. There was a deep sense of commitment to act and indulge in activities that could avoid or mitigate the climate crisis.

"Several years ago, the smog in Beijing was very serious so that sometimes I could not go to school." - **Tong Yuchen 14, China**



Advocacy Learnings from Child Advocates

Lilly Platt (12) from Netherland started a war to end plastic by collecting pieces of plastic trash. Today, Lilly is a Youth Ambassador for the Plastic Pollution Coalition.

Learning - Real advocacy strategy begins with walking the talk.

Jamie Margolin (19) from US supports young activists with training and resources needed to fight climate change while understanding cross-cutting issues of social justice, Indigenous and LGBT rights and more.

Learning - Intersectionality means seeing the implications of the issue from various angles of exclusion and vulnerabilities.

John Paul Jose (22) from India is climate activist, writer who puts his views on the environmental crisis through an Indian lens on discussions on forests, trees, climate action, sustainable development, water and food security and more.

Learning - He uses research and analysis widely.

Isra Hirsi (18) from USA fights for climate justice and is part of 'Can't Wait', a youth coalition of organisations calling upon the Minnesota government to take action.

Learning - Developing partnership / coalitions and alliances.

Autumn Peltier (17) is an Indigenous "Water Warrior". She participated in the Children's Climate Conference in Sweden, the United Nation Secretary – General's Climate Action Summit and Global Landscape Forum in New York City.

Learning - Holding and Addressing Conferences and Events.

Xiye Bastida (19), is an indigenous climate activist from Mexico. She is on the administration committee of People's Climate Movement at New York, where she brings the voice of youth and climate organizations.

Learning - Working with Children and Young people affected.

Remy Zahiga (24) from Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, He was part of the Save Congo Rainforest Zoom Action. His widely tweeted photograph is of him holding a placard which reads 'Save Congo Flora and Fauna.

Learning - Communications and Campaign.

Kallan Benson (17) from USA co-directs a collaboration art activism initiative, Parachutes of the Planet, which expresses people's concern through community art.

Learning - Using art to advocate for behaviour change among the public.

Leah Namugerwa (17) from Uganda is a member of Fridays For Future. Famine from Climate Change had moved Leah to act. Currently her online petition is demanding Ugandan Plastic Ban.

Learning - He uses social mobilization.

Jerome Foster II (19) from America is a climate activist, author, National Geographic Explorer, Smithsonian Ambassador and founder and editor in Chief of The Climate Reporter.

Learning - He practices Media Advocacy.





***Ralyn 'Lilly' Satidtanasarn (14) is lobbying with leaders about the pollution caused by single-use plastic. This led to persuading a Bangkok supermarket to stop offering plastic bags for one day every week.
Learning - Lobbying potential partners in governance and negotiating with those solidly opposed to the issue.***

***Xiutezcatl Martinez (21) from America is also a hip-hop artist who was one of the 21 young plaintiffs that sued the UN federal government for their inactiveness on climate change.
Learning - Legal Advocacy***

***Licypriya Kangujam (10) from India is the world's youngest climate activist. She engaged with the Asia Ministerial Conference for disaster risk reduction in Ulaanbaatar, Mangolia and COP25 advocating for environmental laws.
Learning - No age limit.***

***Manisha Jeevan (17) practices meditation, mindfulness and somatic practices. She teaches this art to her peers in other schools to help them connect with the universe and evolve as earth pro-activist.
Learning - Mindfulness and heartfulness is essential to be an earth pro-activist***

Source : eCERTING Rights online course - Earth Proactivist PRATYeK www.pratyek.org



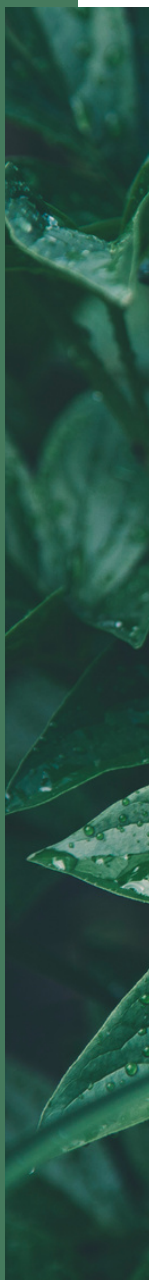
EARTH-ED : ideas to improve the curriculum for environmental advocacy

Environmental education is seen as an important tool to spread awareness about issues such as climate change. Although in some countries environmental education has been made a compulsory subject to be taught in schools, the real question still is whether this is really making a difference in the behavior of children in terms of making them act in a more environmentally friendly manner. The traditional model of environmental education states that imparting knowledge about environmental issues leads to a change in attitude regarding the environment and this in turn makes a person behave in an environmentally friendly manner. However, this knowledge-attitude-behavior model rarely works. There are other factors that affect environmentally friendly behavior especially in children.

In the event the children were asked about methods to strengthen and improve the environmental education curriculum and they expressed some interesting answers which were as follows:

- The environmental education taught in schools needs to be made more interesting. The content should involve interactive videos, site visits and more focus on experiential learning rather than just statistics and information around climate issues. (e.1) ED
- There should be less emphasis on facts and figures about environmental pollution and more discussion on how the youth can make a difference in combating climate change. There should be actionable items such as switching off lights when not in use, messages near washrooms to use water responsibly, switch to reusable bags, ask for drinks without straws, do not leave the house without a refillable bottle, while ordering online use the 'no cutlery' option, order only as much as you want to eat to avoid wastage etc. (e.2) L
- The students advocated for more responsibility to be given to school children and every school should have environmental advocacy groups. (e.3) L,Rt
- Children need to be taught to have an emotional connection with the environment through activities such as planting a sapling and taking care of it and ensuring it thrives. (e.4) Ed

The emphasis on having environmental education as a separate subject in schools was emphasized by most of the participants. They all agreed that it is imperative to know about climate issues but what is more important is to know the actions around how to mitigate climate change.





Embedding Climate Justice into your school

A Checklist to embed sustainability, justice, inclusion, and climate action in schools

School Governance

- 1. Develop a school culture of sustainable development, justice, inclusion, and climate action in schools.***
- 2. Involve everyone in your school community education for sustainable development, justice, inclusion, and climate action.***

Teaching and Learning

- 1. Teach sustainable development, justice, inclusion and climate change in all subject areas.***
- 2. Use your local community as a classroom.***
- 3. Challenge your students to examine sustainable development, justice, inclusion and climate action issues from multiple perspectives.***
- 4. Empower your students to take action on real-life sustainable development, justice, inclusion and climate action issues.***

Campus

- 1. Make your school campus a model of the multiple dimensions of sustainable development, justice, inclusion and climate action.***
- 2. Use your school campus as a teaching tool for developing the knowledge skills and values needed to create a more sustainable, just and inclusive society.***

Community Partnerships

- 1. Build and nurture partnerships with parents, local organisations and businesses and national and international networks.***
- 2. Align your schools sustainable development, justice, inclusion and climate action projects with the needs of your community.***

Coordination

- 1. Create a team including students and adult members of the school community.***
- 2. Develop, implement and assess a whole-school action plan.***

Source : Sustainable and Climate-Friendly Schools - UNESCO



EARTH-CALLS : recommendations to the world leaders

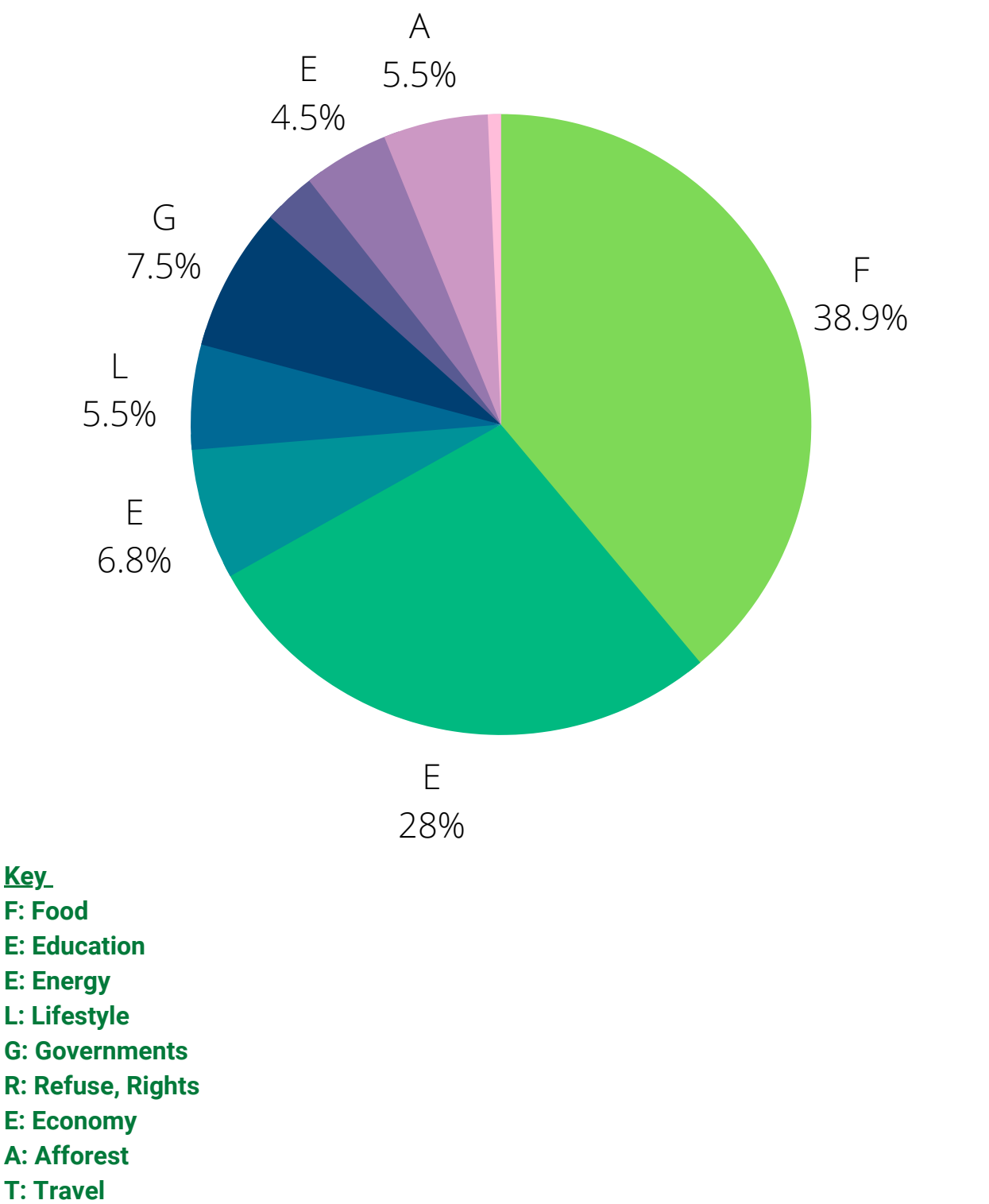
The fight between profits and the planet is far from over. The biggest challenge specially for developing countries is how to manage growth keeping in mind using resources in a manner so that the future generations are not harmed. The students at the event had a lot to say regarding what governments as well as world leaders can do when it comes to Climate change and its reversal. Some of the salient points are as below.

- Leaders need to stop thinking about profits and look at the bigger picture- the very survival of companies will happen only if they work in a sustainable manner. (ex.1) Ed
- Make specific commitments for net zero emissions, detail the processes and procedures for reducing emissions and communicate to the citizens specific goals such as installing solar panels, buying electric cars etc. (e.2) L
- Invest in renewable energy. (ex.3) En
- Poverty, infrastructure and systems to combat erratic weather are some issues that developing countries such as India face. The government needs to focus on these issues with utmost commitment. (ex.4) G
- Pass strict laws to protect the forests. (ex.5) A
- The United Nations need to have more power to be able to tax nations going over designated carbon emissions levels. (ex.6) G
- Leaders and governments should not just talk but act! (ex.7) Ex
- Redirect the mindset of people into a circular economy. (ex.8) Ed
- Impose strict fines on industries that pollute. (ex.9) R
- As members of the NINEISMINE campaign we believe that investing in promises is absolutely necessary. (ex.10) B
- Work with scientists and invest in research to come up with solutions (e.x11) Ed, B

The children of today want to play an active role in the protection of mother earth. They know that they are restricted in terms of not being able to pass laws and regulations themselves however they are convinced that they are important influencer's when it comes to governments and world leaders. The voice of the children can no longer be ignored. They are the future custodians of this planet and what they feel, and think are important markers for future development. They are the leaders of tomorrow, the consumers of tomorrow. Hence it is important that they be heard seriously for decisions and future legislation.A

THE ERth CHARTER ASKS PRIORITISED

PERCENTAGE POINTS RECEIVED BY EACH RECOMMENDATION



- Please note that the "Rights" recommendation was not put to a vote because of technical glitches

Nine Areas to mitigate climate change

Project Drawdown is a climate change mitigation project

It is the compilation of the "most substantive solutions to global warming".[2]

**Compiled by a team of more than 200 scholars, scientists, policymakers, business leaders, and activists
It contains only technologically viable, existing solutions**

Nine Areas

where immediate action is needed to limit catastrophic climate change.

- 1. Electricity (away from fossil fuels to solar energy/wind power/geothermal power and efficiency enhancements such as LED lighting)**
- 2. Food, Agriculture, and Land Use (addressing waste, plant-rich diets, better agricultural practices)**
- 3. Industry (Addressing refrigerants, improving efficiency, improving materials and reducing waste, composting)**
- 4. Transportation (building compact cities, active transport, and electric vehicles)**
- 5. Buildings (energy efficiency, clean energy, addressing refrigerants, green roof)**
- 6. Health and Education (family planning, reproductive health, education)**
- 7. Land Sinks (Carbon sinks to protect forests, conserve wilderness, restore ecosystems, Land Trusts)**
- 8. Coastal and Ocean Sinks (Carbon sinks to protect and restore ecosystems, shift agricultural practices)**
- 9. Engineered Sinks (remove carbon from the atmosphere, biochar production)**

Source : Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming Paul Hawken, 2017



EARTH-WARD : the way forward

67% of the children in this age group stated that they were willing to be a part of an environmental group. 83% of the children also stated that they were willing to encourage other children to join platforms that promote environmental awareness and protection.

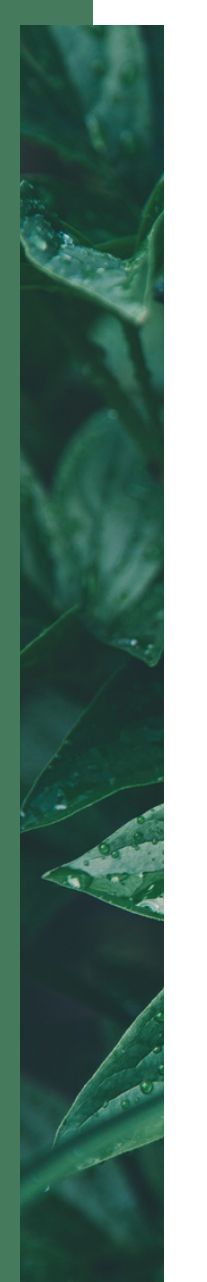

The idea of the ERth Summit was to use the energy around COP 26 to gather young people across the world to begin conversations around climate change on an ongoing basis. The immediate outcome of this would be to establish Sustainable Saturdays where young people will meet on a Saturday each month in a focussed manner to continue the discussion on climate change, empowering them to be Climate Pro Activist into the future. On the Sustainable Saturday of February the delegates of the first earth summit would be required to present to the forum their feedback on their '99 day challenge.' They will also be encouraged to engage with local communities of vulnerable children affected by climate change, in their neighbourhood, and bring these voices along with them to the ongoing conversations on climate change.

Some of these children would be identified from local NGO's working with vulnerable communities in their countries and their neighbourhoods. Having engaged and immersed themselves into local issues, these young people would be part of new engagements, they would also encourage other students and friends on an ongoing basis as local parliaments and local environment groups talking about issues of children. These groups would then use the children parliament's model to send representatives to the national level. The ERth Summit therefore turned into a forum where it's open for young to young people to come into the network without having ongoing engagements at the grassroots with local groups. Earth Parliaments, however, would have the precondition of engagement at local level with neighbourhood communities.


We would encourage young advocates to engage with regional climate weeks in 2022. In February march for example the asia pacific candidates would be encouraged to join the same. To build the momentum of the COP 26, we are also organising an event "NO COP OUT" on 13th November 2021, where we are inviting some of the environment experts and representatives who presented at the COP 26, to join us and share with the ERth summit delegates and new participants the key policy asks based on 'Our ERth Charter' while suggesting some other innovative ideas and learnings. This would be our first Sustainable Saturday. Moving forward, we also envision working towards the similar process for the next year ERth Summit, in the lineup to YOUTH4CLIMATE, COY 17 and COP 27, scheduled in Egypt in 2022.



From The Citizens Of The 22nd Century



*The world today is barren and bare
You'll wrote on Earth's walls "beware"
But did you'll even dare To calm her flare?
Are you'll that selfish?
Or did you'll just not care
That your daughters and sons would be filled with despair?
At the luscious world that was once to be
Today, her beauty has hit rock bottom
Well...at least there is one
One would think that your greed had eroded the skies
But no, you'll were kind enough to leave us land
No water, crops, greenery or other 'pleasures' of life
Just Land!
I thought the barbarians died centuries ago,
But I guess I was wrong
Barbaric people lived until quite recently...100 years ago to be exact!!
The way your generation acted was outrageous,
And the part that hardens my heart the most is that none of you'll are even
facing the consequences!
Do you want to know why I am lucky?
It's because I am fortunate to be in the lakhs that are alive worldwide today.
Luck in your era may have been a life of gold, but today it's simply a clean
breath that fills your body and pumps your heart
We have realised the consequences of your actions, but have you?*



- Tricia Vernekar, 13, India

OUR ERth CHARTER

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CHILD EARTH
PRO-ACTIVISTS TO COP26

APPROXIMATELY 1 BILLION CHILDREN ARE AT AN EXTREMELY
HIGH RISK OF THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CRISIS. - UNICEF

LET EARTHKIND FEEL, AGAIN!

FOOD

- Eat less meat
- Practice sustainable animal farming
- Grow some food
- Go Vegan! Go Vegan!

EDUCATION

- On Climate Science And Conservation
- Engage Local Communities
- Use Varied Media
- Liven And Deepen Env't. Education In Schools
- Invest In Green Research

ENERGY

- Promote Renewable Energy
- Invest In Renewable Energy
- Eliminate Fossil fuels
- Save Energy

LIFESTYLE

- Simplify
- Grow Local Buy Local, Buy Less, Buy Eco-wise
- Choose Eco Friendly Options
- Do No Harm, Live Peacefully

GOVERNMENTS

- Stricter Green Laws
- Think Earth Not Profit
- Introduce a Carbon Tax
- UN Must 'Tax' Rogue Nations
- Focus On 'Poor Nations'
- Priorities Vulnerable Communities

REFUSE

- Reuse, Reduce, Recycle –
- Better Still 'Refuse'
- Promote Responsible Consumption
- Strict Industrial Waste Management
- Eco-friendly Waste Disposal

ECONOMY

- Structure Growth Around Sustainability Rather Than GDP
- Promote a Circular Economy
- Control Unfettered Capitalism And Excess Materialism
- Control Corporate Greed

AFFOREST

- Protect Green Cover At Any Cost.
- Encourage Afforestation
- Check Deforestation In The Name Of Development

TRAVEL

- Encourage Carbon Free Public Transport
- Restrict Private Vehicles
- Promote Walking And Cycling
- Subsidize Eco Friendly Vehicles

MAKE EARTHKIND GREAT, AGAIN!

RIGHTS

- To a Healthy Planet
- To Thrive
- To The Principle Of Best Interest
- To Protection
- To Express Opinions
- To Advocacy

DON'T JUST FEEL GREAT... BE GREAT!

BUDGET

- Invest in our present!
Invest in our future!

EXECUTE

- We have the money and the science.
Do we have the will?

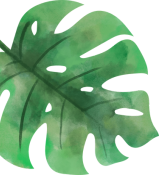
In the lead up to COP-26,
193 child earth pro-activists
from 55 nations,
engaged online with 12 experts
during a 4-day consultation and evolved
these 12, asks to the world leaders
assembling in Glasgow...
with just 1 goal..
Climate Action ... Now!!

*"Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great,
you can be that generation" — Nelson Mandela.*



SALT OF THE EARTH

appendix



EARTH-SONG : compilation of recommendations

F - Food
E - Education
E - Energy
L - Lifestyles

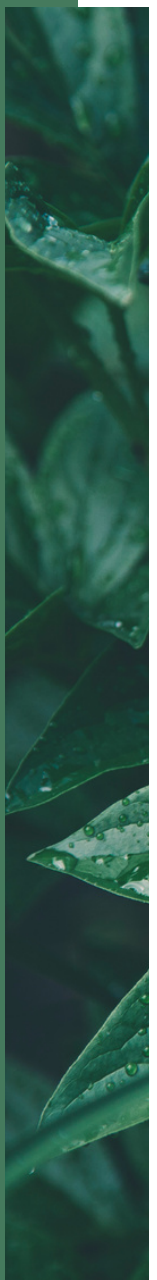
G - Governance
R - Refuse
R- Rights
E - Economy
A - Afforestation
T - Travel

B - Budget
E - Execute

KEY - to the aspects of children's sharings compiled
The PRICE of Eco Justice

P - Personal Choices
R - Rights of Children
I - Ideas and Possibilities
C - Commitment into the future
E - Education and curriculum
E - Execution by governments

"The war for freedom will never really be won because the price of freedom is constant vigilance over ourselves and over our Government." Eleanor Roosevelt





FOOD



- Following a “climatarian diet” was something almost 30% of the respondents advocated as they expressed the harmful effects of rearing sheep and cows specially methane production and water consumption. (i.5) F
- Reducing the intake of meat (c.3) F
- These are the ones that made me think of the phrases “Carry Your Bag to the Store.” “Produce your own food.” “Reduce your energy consumption.” “Make repairs of your belongings” and “educate yourself on green alternatives.” “Use a Reusable Bottle instead of a Single-Use Bottle.” “Electrify your vehicle.” (p.1) L, F, En, Ed, T

Eat Less Meat
Practice Sustainable Animal Farming
Grow Some Food
Go Vegan! Go Vegan!





EDUCATION



- Community education was a key recommendation with many of the respondents talking about making groups and educating their local community on how to adopt climate friendly practices. (i.6) Ed
- School education was also emphasized as an important tool for creating awareness about climate change. The use of social media was also seen as an important tool to spread awareness about climate change. (i.8) Ed
- Spread awareness about climate change amongst the local community, also use social media to create awareness (c.9) Ed
- The environmental education taught in schools needs to be made more interesting. The content should involve interactive videos, site visits and more focus on experiential learning rather than just statistics and information around climate issues. (ed.1) Ed
- Children need to be taught to have an emotional connection with the environment through activities such as planting a sapling and taking care of it and ensuring it thrives. (ed.4) Ed
- The students advocated for more responsibility to be given to school children and every school should have environmental advocacy groups. (e.3) Ed, Rt
- Work with scientists and invest in research to come up with solutions (ex.11). Ed, B
- These are the ones that made me think of the phrases "Carry Your Bag to the Store." "Produce your own food." "Reduce your energy consumption." "Make repairs of your belongings" and "educate yourself on green alternatives." "Use a Reusable Bottle instead of a Single-Use Bottle." "Electrify your vehicle." (p.1) L, F, En, Ed, T

On Climate Science And Conversation

Engage Local Communities

Use Varied Media

Liven And Deepen Environmental Education In Schools


Invest in Green Research





ENERGY



- Invest in renewable energy. (ex.3) En, B
 - It is an extremely crucial time now that to experience a large positive impact on the environment every family had solar panels, electric automobiles, soft plastic recycling, frequent recycling, and compost bins. (p.1) En, T, R, L
 - These are the ones that made me think of the phrases "Carry Your Bag to the Store." "Produce your own food." "Reduce your energy consumption." "Make repairs of your belongings" and "educate yourself on green alternatives." "Use a Reusable Bottle instead of a Single-Use Bottle." "Electrify your vehicle." (p.1) L, F, En, Ed, T
 - Individuals can adjust their lifestyles to reduce their carbon footprint. This includes changes like using renewable energy and use of public transport to commute, more importantly using personal cars more efficiently. (p.1) En, T
 - To combat climate change, we must reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon dioxide. We have been increasing greenhouse gas levels by burning fossil fuels and cutting down forests, which naturally remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. We can reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere in two ways: we can cease adding them to the air, or we can boost the Earth's ability to draw them out of the atmosphere. (p.1) En, A,
- 

Promote Renewable Energy

Invest In Renewable Energy


Eliminate Fossil fuels

Save Energy





LIFESTYLE

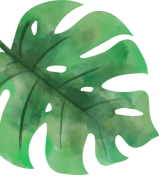
- Make specific commitments for net zero emissions, detail the processes and procedures for reducing emissions and communicate to the citizens specific goals such as installing solar panels, buying electric cars etc. (ex.2) L, Ex
 - There should be less emphasis on facts and figures about environmental pollution and more discussion on how the youth can make a difference in combating climate change. There should be actionable items such as switching off lights when not in use, messages near washrooms to use water responsibly, switch to reusable bags, ask for drinks without straws, do not leave the house without a refillable bottle, while ordering online use the 'no cutlery' option, order only as much as you want to eat to avoid wastage etc. (ex.2) L, Rt
 - It is an extremely crucial time now that to experience a large positive impact on the environment .Every family should have solar panels, electric automobiles, soft plastic recycling, frequent recycling, and compost bins. (p.1) En, T, R, L
 - These are the ones that made me think of the phrases "Carry Your Bag to the Store." "Produce your own food." "Reduce your energy consumption." "Make repairs of your belongings" and "educate yourself on green alternatives." "Use a Reusable Bottle instead of a Single-Use Bottle." "Electrify your vehicle." (p.1) L, F, En, Ed, T
 - Reduce the quantity of pollution that enters the soil, water, and air by being a green consumer- which mean ask these questions before you buy anything-
 - Is the item packaged in easily recyclable materials?
 - Have the goods lately been manufactured? Locally?
 - Is the item eco-friendly in terms of energy or water usage? (p.1) L, Ec
 - Living peacefully with fundamental requirements is what both humanity and the environment require. This will result in less production and reduced consumption of resources. If companies manufactured, based on how much we buy, not what is sufficient for the entire globe. (p.1) L, Ec
 - Buy less-buy local, helps in protecting the environment. (p.2) R, L
- 

Simplify

Grow Local Buy Local, Buy Less, Buy Eco-wise

Choose Eco Friendly Options

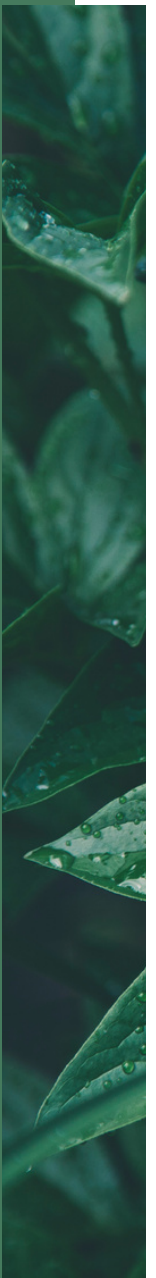
Do No Harm, Live Peacefully



GOVERNMENTS


- Poverty, infrastructure and systems to combat erratic weather are some issues that developing countries such as India face. The government needs to focus on these issues with utmost commitment. (ex.4) G
- The United Nations need to have more power to be able to tax nations going over designated carbon emissions levels. (ex.6) G
- An introduction of carbon tax on products was also suggested. (i.7) G
- Leaders need to stop thinking profits and look at the bigger picture- the very survival of companies will happen only if they work in a sustainable manner. (ex.1) G, Ex

Stricter Green Laws
Think Earth Not Profit
Introduce A Carbon Tax
UN Must 'Tax' Rogue Nations
Focus On 'Poor Nations'
Priorities Vulnerable Communities





RIGHTS

- The rights of children range from not just having a safe and secure environment to grow and thrive but also the right to have a healthy planet to live and sustain on. (r.1) Rt
 - One child mentioned “Environmental crisis is a child rights crisis”. (r.2) Rt
 - Emphasis was laid on the need for a legal framework that embeds and protects children’s best interests. (r.3) Rt
 - It is the right of children to be heard, and have their views considered in matters that affect them. (r.4) Rt
 - The suggestions given for protection of children included an end to child labor, strict laws to curb child abuse, and making education compulsory for all children. (r.5) Rt
 - Giving children a platform to express their voice just as it is given to adults will ensure that the voice of children is also heard. (r..6) Rt
 - The need for legislation to ensure children get a safe and healthy environment to thrive. (r.7) Rt
 - Almost 50% of the respondents believed that children need to have a clean environment including food, water and shelter to live in. (r.8) Rt
 - Children need to be trusted as they have their own opinion and age is not a criterion for judging the validity of an opinion. (r..9) Rt
 - It is important to become politically active—as it is said, "the government should do something," hence it is important to participate in such activities and advocate for it. (p.1) Rt
 - The students advocated for more responsibility to be given to school children and every school should have environmental advocacy groups. (e.3) L,Rt
 - There should be less emphasis on facts and figures about environmental pollution and more discussion on how the youth can make a difference in combating climate change. There should be actionable items such as switching off lights when not in use, messages near washrooms to use water responsibly, switch to reusable bags, ask for drinks without straws, do not leave the house without a refillable bottle, while ordering online use the ‘no cutlery’ option, order only as much as you want to eat to avoid wastage etc. (ex.2) L, Rt
- 




***To a Healthy Planet
To Thrive
To the Principle Of Best Interest
To Protection To Express Opinions
To Advocacy***





REFUSE

- Recycle as much as possible to reduce the amount of landfill (c.5) R
 - Buy less-buy local, it helps in protecting the environment. (p.2) R, L
 - Stop slaughtering animals for clothing, burning plastic, and polluting the environment. (p.3) F, R
 - Lifestyle change will bring about a significant change, for example every individual in some way or the other litter in and around their surroundings- consciously or unconsciously hence, practicing the art of discarding rubbish in the right way i.e. dry waste, wet garbage and plastic be discarded separately will particularly benefit in keeping the environment cleaner. (p.1) R
 - Recycling is as easy as using a bin to place your waste products where they can be taken and recycled in the factory. When you are able to support the recycling process, you'll be in a position to help conserve the environment. You can also help recycle by sorting out the recyclables and the non-recyclables. (p.1) R
 - Impose strict fines on industries that pollute. (ex.1) R
 - It is extremely crucial time now that to experience a large positive impact on the environment every family had solar panels, electric automobiles, soft plastic recycling, frequent recycling, and compost bins. (p.1) En, T, R, L
- 

Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

– Better Still 'Refuse'

Promote Responsible Consumption


Strict Industrial Waste management

Eco-Friendly Waste Disposal





ECONOMY

- Introduce worldwide standards and regulate industries to ensure that they adhere to climate change regulations. (i.3) Ec
 - Buying local goods (c.6) Ec
 - Redirect the mindset of people into circular economy. (e.8) Ec
 - Leaders need to stop thinking of profits and look at the bigger picture- the very survival of companies will happen only if they work in a sustainable manner. (ex.1) G, Ex
- 

Structure Growth Around Sustainability Rather Than GDP
Promote A Circular Economy
Control Unfettered Capitalism And Excess Materialism
Control Corporate Greed





AFFORESTATION



- To combat climate change, we must reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as carbon dioxide. We have been increasing greenhouse gas levels by burning fossil fuels and cutting down forests, which naturally remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. We can reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere in two ways: we can cease adding them to the air, or we can boost the Earth's ability to draw them out of the atmosphere. (p.1) En, A,
- Trees are significant because they provide oxygen to the living world. It is important to plant trees now considering every tree takes a minimum 2-10 years of seedling, sapling and maturing, so for every grown tree that is cut, we would have to wait 10 years to be benefited from it. (p.1) A
- Planting of trees was seen as one of the most effective ways to tackle the climate crisis with almost 60% of the respondents recommending this activity. (i.9) A
- Pass strict laws to protect the forests. (ex.5) A
- Plant trees. Control deforestation in the name of development (c.8) A

Protect Green Cover At Any Cost.

Encourage Afforestation


Check Deforestation In The Name Of Development





TRAVEL



- Individuals can adjust their lifestyles to reduce their carbon footprint. This includes changes like using renewable energy and use of public transport to commute, more importantly using personal cars more efficiently. (p.1) En, T
 - Subsidizing electric cars (i.1) T
 - Investment in public transport to reduce usage of cars was also suggested by almost 40% of the respondents. (i.4) T, B
 - Using public transport instead of private vehicles (c.1) T
 - It is an extremely crucial time now that to experience a large positive impact on the environment every family had solar panels, electric automobiles, soft plastic recycling, frequent recycling, and compost bins. (p.1) En, T, R, L
 - These are the ones that made me think of the phrases "Carry Your Bag to the Store." "Produce your own food." "Reduce your energy consumption." "Make repairs of your belongings" and "educate yourself on green alternatives." "Use a Reusable Bottle instead of a Single-Use Bottle." "Electrify your vehicle." (p.1) L, F, En, Ed, T
- 

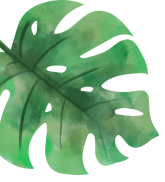
Encourage Carbon Free Public Transport

Restrict Private Vehicles

Promote Walking And Cycling

Subsidize Eco-Friendly Vehicles

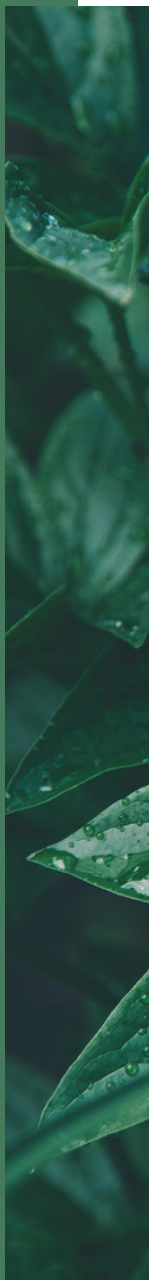


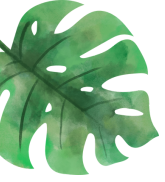


BUDGET

- As members of the NINEISMINE campaign we believe that investing in promises is absolutely necessary. (e.10) B
- Investment in public transport to reduce usage of cars was also suggested by almost 40% of the respondents. (i.4) T, B
- Work with scientists and invest in research to come up with solutions (ex.11). Ed, B
- Invest in renewable energy. (ex.3) En

Invest In Our Present!
Invest In Our Future!





EXECUTE

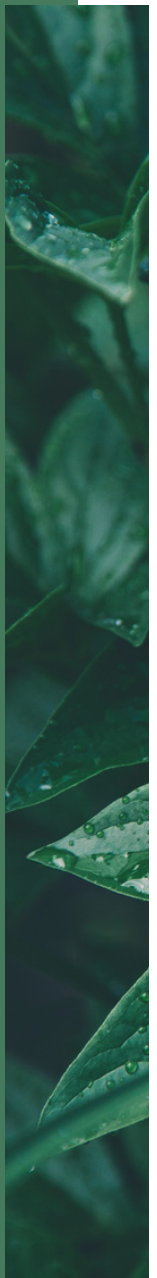
- Leaders and governments should not just talk but act! (ex.7) Ex

We Have The Money And The Science. Do We Have The Will?

“Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great, you can be that generation”
Nelson Mandela.

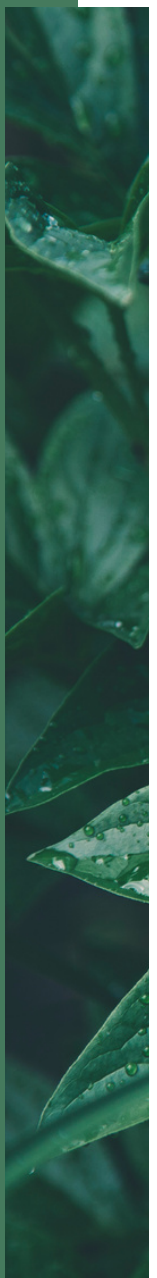
KEY - to the aspects of children’s sharings compiled
The PRICE(Square) of Eco Justice
Personal Choices
Rights of Children
Ideas and Possibilities
Commitment into the future
Education and curriculum
Execution by governments

“The war for freedom will never really be won because the price of freedom is constant vigilance over ourselves and over our Government.” Eleanor Roosevelt

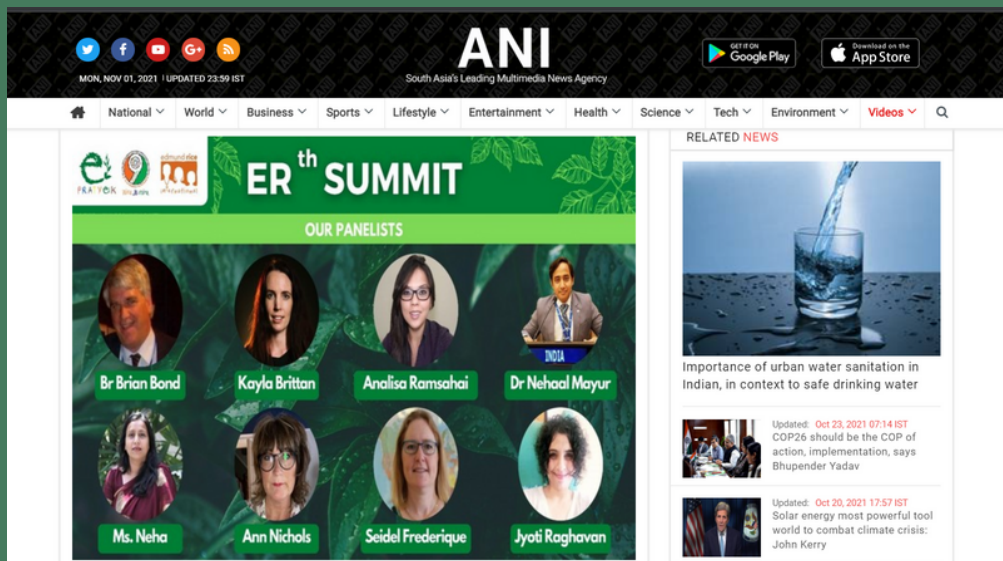


EARTH-LINES : info boxes used

1. COP Meeting Opener – Listening to the earth world
2. Children At Risk – UNICEF
3. However This time is different! – Ted Countdown 2021
4. The ERth Summit Process in Short - PRATYeK
5. Key thematic areas of the ERth Summit - PRATYeK
6. Climate Change and Child Rights – UN Special Rapporteur
7. Palao Pledge – Government of Palao
8. Participation of Children in COP – Save the Children
9. CRC – A Tool for Climate Change – UNICEF
10. How to Ensure Genuine Child Participation - Council of Europe
11. How can governments Combat Climate Change – World 101
12. Ecological rights of children – CRC Committee
13. Child Rights and Business Principles – Save the Children
14. The Declaration on Children, youth and climate Action – UNICEF
15. Climate Change and Human Rights – UNICEF
16. 10 on 10 ways to address climate change – BBC Future
17. Governments should provide children with... – UN Special Rapporteur
18. Why do Local governments need to come on board with climate change
- The Guardian
19. 10 ways to engage with COP 26 – Practical Action
20. Environmental Protection – A priority for children – Humanium
21. Advocacy Learnings from Child Advocates – PRATYeK
22. Embedding Climate Justice into your School- UNESCO
23. The ERth Charter ASKS Prioritized – PRATYeK
24. Nine Areas To Mitigate Climate Change – Drawdown
25. From The Citizens of the 22nd Century - Tricia



EARTH NEWS : coverage of the event



ERth Summit culminates with discussion on children civil, political, economic rights related to climate change

New Delhi [India], October 4 (ANI): On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, child Earth Pro-Activists' from 52 countries including Australia, UK, Mozambique, Chile, Peru, Canada, Bahrain, USA, Nepal, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and many more came under one virtual roof on the culmination day of ERth Summit to honour the 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.


The summit concluded by marking ideas that were related to the civil, political, economic rights of children in relation to climate change and the earth as a whole. Ms Deirdre Boyd, United Nations Resident Coordinator, India, presided over the culmination ceremony.

She marvelled the work done by PRATYeK | NINEISMINE and stated "Climate change is no longer a threat 100 years away, it is already here. Children and young people are not just victims. You are the future to bring change". She added, "Being yourself doesn't mean your voice cannot be heard."

The forum witnessed multiple panellists from across the globe who spoke on various thematic areas affiliated with environmental challenges and the earth rights of the child.

This platform was created for children to place their opinions and the challenges they face as current citizens of their respective countries and to find creative solutions for local to global climate emergencies.

The organisers of this event, PRATYeK and Edmund Rice intend to engage with all the participants in future, thereby making this initiative a long-term process for advocacy on the 'Environmental Rights of Children'. This summit aimed to foster dialogue at an international scale, providing an opportunity to showcase youth-led climate action around the world.



Post these three days of interactive discussion, a collaborative list of recommended solutions have been prepared which will be submitted to COP 26 (scheduled to be held in Glasgow, November 2021) for their consideration and to inform and influence these proceedings.

The report will be further presented to various ministries of the government of India, offices of international diplomatic convoys, media houses, and other duty-bearers.

Addressing the summit's subject of discussion, the panellists shared their thoughts on the topic. "This is an extremely timely discussion ahead of COP26. Your leadership in climate action is vital", said Peadar O'Hubain, from the Embassy of Ireland, New Delhi.

"I was amazed at your experience and moved by confidence. Your voice is being heard and your voice is making a difference. If our leaders don't take you seriously, they will regret as you'll soon become voters and they'll be out of power", said Tino D'Abreu from ERI Geneva that jointly organised the event. John Mullan added, "The cry of the poor and the cry of the Earth, we need to keep listening to these two."

Steve Rocha, Director of PRATYeK and National Convenor of the NINEISMINE campaign said, "This ERth summit has been a wonderful launch of a process towards amplifying the voices of child-advocates who may be disenfranchised but certainly not disempowered. VOTE is an acronym for Voice Of The Empowered. This engaging summit and its upcoming processes will lead up to the COP-26 and later to UN documents underlining the environmental rights of the children."

Explaining further, he added, "Through this platform, these budding earth pro-activists have claimed their 'vote' as the voice of the earth, the voice of the endangered (species), the voice of the excluded (communities), and the voice of every last child."

While hosting the summit, Neha Jain, a 17-year-old Earth pro-activist, said, "It's high time we make a shift from being egocentric to being ecocentric. It's time we act. From deliberating with children across 50+ nations to interacting with global leaders, this summit has truly empowered me and made me believe that impossible is possible potentially converting an event into a process that could turn into a movement, a youth-led revolution demanding climate action."

The forum panellists included Ms Aneeta Pathak, founder of Anveshan - Experiential Learning and Unlearning Centre based in Auroville, Mr Jonathan Levy, child Participation expert from CRIA France, Br. Kevin Cawley, the Executive Director of the Thomas Berry Forum for Ecological Dialogue New York, Ms Seidel Frederique, a Sociologist, Senior Advisor on Child Rights & Partnership, Switzerland, Br Brian Bond, the Director of Edmund Rice International, Geneva, Analisa Ramsahai, a steering group member for the Laudato Si Generation, Indonesia.

Other panel members were, Jyoti Raghavan from Aravalli Bachao in Haryana, Dr Nehaal Mayur, an International Development Expert and a Global Citizen based in the USA, Ms Ann Nichols from the Edmund Rice Network UK, Ms Kayla Brittan, a Child Safeguarding Champion from The Justice Desk, South Africa, Toshy Tataua from Edmund Rice Centre Australia a citizen of Kiribati a nation soon to be vanquished by climate change and Ms Neha, a fellow and area Convenor at the Environmental Education and Awareness division at TERI, India. (ANI)

Source : <https://aninews.in/news/environment/erth-summit-culminates-with-discussion-on-children-civil-political-economic-rights-related-to-climate-change20211004220158/>

The ERth Summit was covered in the following countries

1. India Gazette
2. China National News
3. Nepal National
4. Nigeria Sun
5. Brazil Sun
6. Arizona Herald
7. South East Asia Post
8. Philippines times
9. Singapore star
10. Argentina star
11. Greek Herald
12. Israel Herald
13. The UK news
14. Caribbean Herald
15. Florida Statesman
16. Japan Herald
17. Haiti Sun
18. Canada Standard
19. Iran Herald
20. Irish Sun
21. Taiwan Sun
22. Iraq Sun
23. North Korea Times
24. Pakistan Telegraph
25. Jamaican Times
26. Sierra Leone Times
27. Mexico Star
28. The US News
29. Trinidad Times
30. Russia Herald

EARTH CALLS : slogans of the young at climate protests

1. Striking for our future
2. We'll be less activists if you will be less shit
3. Don't be a fossil fool
4. Save the world
5. Breathing is killing me
6. Don't go breaking my Earth
7. Make love not Emission
8. I want to worry about my A- levels... not sea levels
9. There is no planet B
10. Activism is learning
11. Denial is not a policy
12. Schools have to be parliament when parliament is a schoolyard
13. I'm missing my science class for this
14. Wake up take action now
15. This can't wait till I'm bigger
16. Make earth great again
17. If you don't act like adults, we will!!
18. I am missing my school for my planet
19. Like the sea we rise
20. We Have To Rise our thoughts not the sea levels
21. The solution to global warming is not to fix the world it is to fix ourselves
22. Evidence over ignorance
23. Stop denying our earth is dying
24. Warning! Warming!
25. We Raced to the moon. Lets race to clean energy
26. The climate is changing, why aren't we?
27. The only equation you should remember is... Earth > Money
28. We're not environmentalists. We are air breathers.



EARTH-SENSE : meaning of earth words and phrases used

Earth's Core - the innermost geologic layer of the planet Earth.

What On Earth? - An exclamation used to emphasize surprise, shock, anger, disgust, etc. Just what on earth is going on here? Aw, what on earth!

Earthbound - Restricted to the earth.

Earth Summit - The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit.

Down to Earth - means being open and honest.

Earthworm - a burrowing annelid worm that lives in the soil, important in aerating and draining the soil and in burying organic matter.

Earthlings - a word used by aliens to refer to an inhabitant of the earth.

Earthenware - Pottery is made from a porous clay that is fired at relatively low temperatures. Faience, delft, and majolica are examples of earthenware.

Earthmovers - a machine (such as a bulldozer) for excavating, pushing, or transporting large quantities of earth (as in roadbuilding).

Earthshakers - something outstanding in merit, importance, or stature.

Earth Rights - Rights related to the environment.

Earthliness - the quality or state of being earthly; worldliness; grossness; perishableness.

Earth stars - any of a genus (*Geastrum*) of globose basidiomycetous fungi with an outer peridium that splits into the shape of a star.

From the ends of the Earth - from the most remote places in the world —used figuratively to suggest no limit to an effort.

Earthquakes - A sudden violent shaking of the ground, typically causing great destruction, as a result of movements within the earth's crust or volcanic action.

Earth-kind - Plants with an Earth-Kind Index value of 8 or higher are considered to be extremely resource efficient and are generally heat tolerant, drought tolerant, pest tolerant, with minimal soil or fertility requirements for the selected region.

Earthlike - having the same colour as earth. 2. resembling the earth. the presence of earthlike planets.

Earth Stories - Stories related to the earth.

Earthlight - the faint illumination of the part of the moon not illuminated by sunlight, as during a crescent phase, caused by the reflection of light from the earth.

Earthrise - the rising of the earth above the horizon of the moon as seen from lunar orbit.

Earth up - to cover (part of a plant, esp the stem) with soil in order to protect from frost, light, etc.

Earthed - connect (an electrical device) with the ground.

Earth calls - In the new system, called Earth Calling, passengers can charge air-to-ground calls and ground-to-air calls to their home accounts.

Earth Angels - Being an Earth Angel means that you're called at the soul level to help others, spread kindness, have compassion and make a difference on Earth by bringing the light and love of the higher spiritual realms into physical reality.

Earthward - towards the ground or the earth.

Earthnut - the hard external covering in which the kernel of a nut is enclosed

Salt of the Earth- Very good and honest person or group of people.

Earth songs - Songs related to the Earth.

Earth News - News related to the Earth.

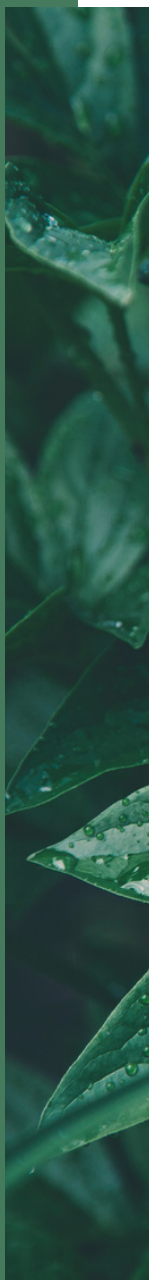
Earthset - the apparent setting of the earth below the lunar horizon, as seen from a satellite or similar spacecraft emerging from the far side of the moon.

Earthing - the process in which the instantaneous discharge of the electrical energy takes place by transferring charges directly to the earth through low resistance wire.

Earthshots - satellite pictures and data for the earth.

Earth Sense - this is not a recognised word but one that could contrast the word nonsense and one that refers to our ecological sensibilities and behaviour

Please note that in the document hyphens have been used for effect to draw out the meaning of each word in the context of the articles. These may not be therefore grammatically correct. This list follows the universal conventions.



EARTH-SHOTS : abbreviations used



ANI -	Asian News International
BBC -	British Broadcasting Corporation
COP -	Conference of Parties
CRC -	Children in Reviewing child
EEA -	Environmental Education Awareness
ERI -	Edmund Rice International
ERth -	Earth Rights
ESD -	Education for Sustainable Development
GDP -	Gross Domestic Product
IPCC -	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change
MP -	Member of Parliament
OHCHR -	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PRATYeK -	Presence and Right-Relations for Advocacy and Training of the Young in Earth-Rights and Kids-rights
SDG -	Sustainable Development Goal
SEC -	Scottish Events Campus
TERI -	The Energy and Resources Institute
UDHR -	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UNCRC -	The United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNESCO -	The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFCCC -	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WCC -	World Council of Churches
WHO -	World Health Organisation
WWF -	World Wildlife Fund, Inc.
BE -	Budget, Execute
FEEL -	Food, Education, Energy, Lifestyle
GREAT -	Governments, Refuse, Rights, Economy, Afforest, Travel,
PRICE -	Personal Choices, Rights of Children, Ideas and possibilities, Commitment into the future, Education and curriculum, Execution by governments

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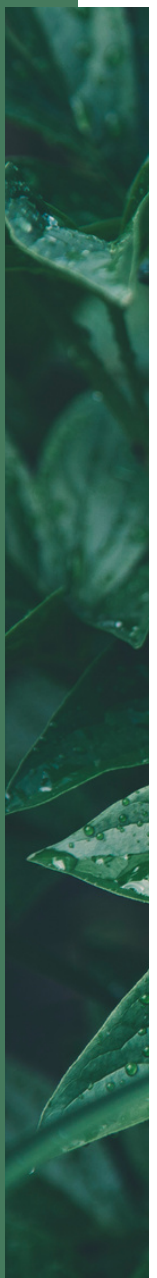
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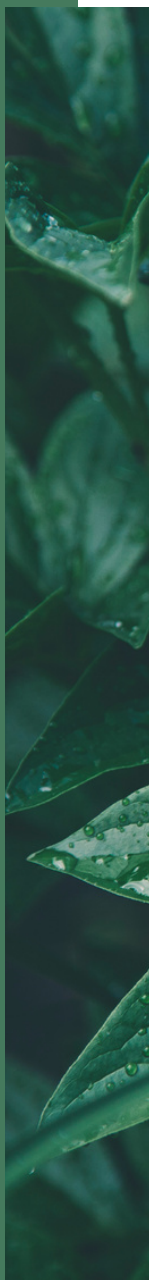


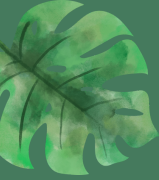
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"As a youngster and a member of the present and latest generation, I find it difficult to believe I have a stable future to invest in. With the negligible amount of effort invested in climate change by countries capable of taking action, despite the Paris agreement and public commitments to containing climate decline, it is natural to be fearful of a future we want to have but may not get the chance to experience due to decisions that are entirely beyond our control. What the previous generation did, as well as the lack of acknowledgment and action for what was done, will result in the stealing of a generation's potential. Promises and obligations have been made, but no action has been taken. As a child, I implore you, as adults with considerably greater knowledge and expertise than mine, to pay heed to the reality that you are leading this species on a suicide mission, with us as the primary victim. This is a requirement, not a want. This is not defiance; it is the right to demand what we have spent our time, effort, hopes, and goals on."

"Aditi (15) Delegate of the ERth Summit representing Canada"



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**"WE MAY NOT BE VOTERS,
BUT IF VOTE IS AN ACRONYM FOR
VOICE OF THE EMPOWERED,
THEN WE CHOOSE TO BE THAT AND THE
VOICE OF THE EARTH,
VOICE OF THE ENDANGERED (SPECIES),
VOICE OF THE EXCLUDED (CHILDREN).
WE WILL VOTE WITH OUR VOICES.
WE WILL VOTE WITH OUR FEET."**

**PRIYA - 17 (F) PRIME MINISTER, NATIONAL INCLUSIVE
CHILDREN'S PARLIAMENT, INDIA**

***In the lead up to
COP-26,
193 child earth
pro-activists
from 52 nations,
engaged online
with 12 experts
during a 4-day
consultation and
evolved
these 12 asks to
the world leaders
assembling in
Glasgow..
with just 1 goal...
Climate Action ...
NOW!!***



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