



COY10

Conference Of Youth



Background

The Conference Of Youth on Climate Change - COY brings together young people from around the world, interested in actions against climate change and sustainable lifestyles. It is a space promoted by YOUNGO to promote the exchange of experiences, lessons learned and good practices in order to strengthen the global youth climate movement and engage the next generation in the development of action on climate change within the framework of international cooperation.

Main Objective

Establish an information, coordination and organization of the world's youth to build a Youth Climate Agenda towards COP20 and COP21.

Purpose

Strengthen the global youth climate movement and engage the next generation in the development of action on climate change within the framework of international cooperation.

Organizing group

Brahma Kumaris worked with organizers since COY9 in Warsaw Poland and became an official partner for this event. The Organizing COY10 Group is a team of youth organizations and volunteers who worked with enthusiasm and responsibility in the realization of COY that strengthened the Youth Climate Movement and engaged the next generation in the development of actions to combat climate change within the framework of international cooperation.

Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative



Brahma Kumaris Involvement

The Brahma Kumaris (BK) role in this conference has been as a result of relationships formed with key members of the organising team at the COP19 (Conference of Parties, Climate Change, Meeting 19) in Warsaw, Poland in November 2013. On this occasion, the BK is an official partner of COY playing a significant role in supporting both physical and spiritual aspects of this event. Because of their efforts, the BK has become an accepted part of the climate network community.





Brahma Kumaris Activities Before COY10

- BK offered a special leadership workshop for the organizing team
- The BK meditation centre was available for the organisation of COY meetings. Good food and meditation sessions were also offered.
- BK was responsible for co-ordinating some of the working teams.
- BK supported the core planning team throughout the year in other ways.

Brahma Kumaris Activities During COY10

- Coordinating the initiative of Regional Climate Ambassadors
- Facilitating workshops and presenting a side event.
- Facilitation of meditations, particularly in the opening ceremony
- Using the space offered to promote sustainable lifestyle projects.
- Meeting many interesting and influential people throughout the 3 days.
- Networked throughout the 3 days forging several connections that we will look to follow up with.



Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative



Day 1 - Key Highlights

- The Changemaker workshop (see below).
- Meditation by Juan of Brahma Kumaris just before the Andean traditional ceremony
- Rocio of Brahma Kumaris coordinated the national inscriptions welcoming the participants at the entry of the University where the event took place.
- Christiana Figueres Secretary of the UNFCCC mentioned at the opening ceremony the importance of becoming aware of things that start on the individual level
- Brahma Kumaris had a fruitful meeting with the Latin American Youth Climate Network: Clic.

Changemaker - Workshop

The workshop structure was for the youth participants to experience themselves as agents of change and to learn ways to sustain that inner change through optimism, awareness of thoughts and creativity. The group was very interactive and they enjoyed the media. They also appreciated the fact that seeing things with a different perspective as the BK proposed was an alternative way of change, always essential in this kind of meetings. Some of the participants were very happy to have experienced the internal power to change.



Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative



Day 2 - Key Highlights

- Hybrid outdoor / indoor Eco Shanti side event
- BK met with the new organiser team for COY11, offering them the BK cooperation for the organisation of the next event
- Rocio of BK facilitated the national Peruvian working groups
- BK had a discussion with the YOUNGO UNFCCC Focal Point organisers.
- BK had a significant meeting with the COY10 Regional Climate Ambassadors

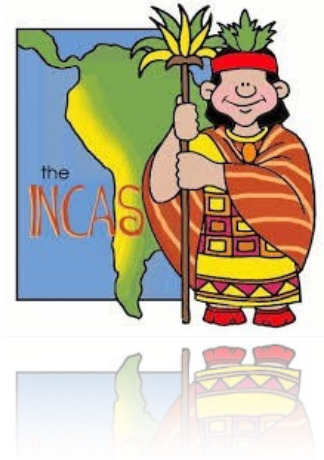


Eco Shanti -Side Event

During this beautiful side event, the BK explored the link between spirituality and the environment. The session was in two parts.

The first part was indoors where participants discovered the link between consciousness and the current environmental crisis through a small video and a group dialogue.

The second part was a set of experiences where participants felt the deep connection that we have with mother earth. This was one of the most spiritual moments of the event and it was confirmed when a dove came inside the circle inside a beautiful atmosphere of peace and silence.



Brahma Kumaris Environment Initiative



Day 3- Key Highlights

- In the discussion for the Youth Declaration, during the closing plenary, Juan of BK gave a meditation commentary at a time when the participants were on the brink of breaking the negotiations of the declarations. It was thought that this meditation greatly facilitated the positive outcome of the event.
- BK met with the Youth Representatives from the Ecuador government Secretary of Good Life.
- BK showed the BK Environment Initiative projects at the COY Fair
- The first declaration of youth was attained.

Igniting Hope -Workshop

In this workshop, participants explored different ways to ignite hope in their lives. They also had the chance to recognize the values that were valuable to them and how to use them to create positive change. They also rediscovered how to use their own light when difficult situations confronted their purpose in life. Some of the participants expressed how purity, love and peace were fundamental in creating change and keeping a vision of hope; where a better world is possible.



The core BK COY10 Team
Juan, Rocio & Christophe

