



Third International Conference and POP Festival for Youth-Led Climate Action

A conference to celebrate youth and amplify regional voices

June 5, 2021 - June 10, 2021

World Sustainable Development Forum
WSDF

**THIRD INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE AND
POP FESTIVAL FOR
YOUTH-LED CLIMATE
ACTION, 2021**

A conference to celebrate youth and
amplify regional voices

June 5-10, 2021

[1popmovement](#) [popmovement](#) [pop.movement](#) [the-protect-our-planet-movement](#) [POP Movement](#)

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CLOSING CEREMONY



1 Introduction

At the Protect Our Planet (POP) Movement, we believe that the climate crisis is of most importance to the youth of today. Around 25% of the world's population is in the range of 10-24 years.

Today, the POP Movement is five years old (April 22, 2016) and is connected with 300+ partners, 95+ countries, and 2 million+ youth. The youth today are significantly motivated to work towards their action as well as pressure governments to take concrete action.

The Third International Conference & POP Festival for Youth-led Climate Action was inaugurated on the celebratory occasion of Environment Day 2021. Spanning 6 days from 5th to 10th June, the event witnessed 54 events including discussions, presentations, and workshops.

The sub-theme of this year's conference was to empower and spread actions by the Youth that have been/are being implemented on ground. Considering that Earth's life support systems are predicted to fail in 30 years if we do not act, it is time for action more than planning.

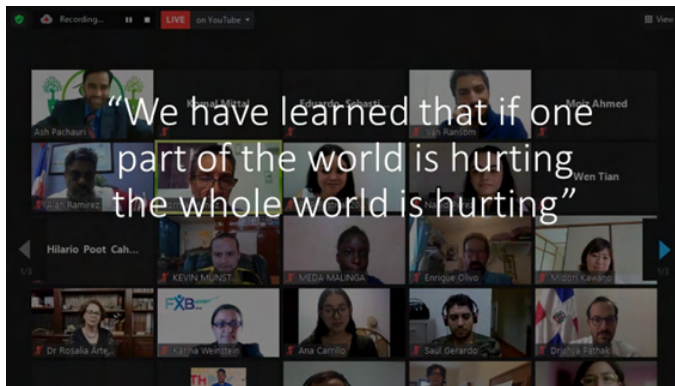
1.1 Opening Ceremony



Dr. Rajendra K. Pachauri The opening ceremony began with a recorded address from our mentor Late Dr. Rajendra K. Pachauri. Dr. Pachauri was an exceptional visionary and mentor for the movement having started it in 2016. Prior to this, he was the chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) between 2002 and 2015. He was also the director- founder of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) of India. He was the Executive director of TERI for 30 years (1981-2016).

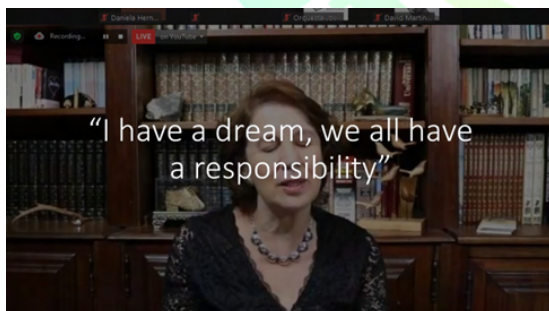
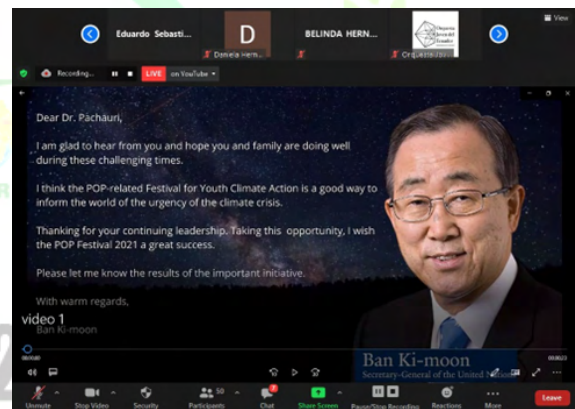
Following the Gandhian philosophy, he emphasized the need for youth-led action. He highlighted that there are over 1.8 billion youth individuals. He called out to this large group to take action in their sphere of influence and create models of change that can be followed by others. As some preliminary actions, he spoke about a reduction in individual carbon footprint (CF), reduction of waste, a change in our diet, and affiliation with the POP movement to spread the mindset.

Dr. Ash Pachauri Following Dr. R.K Pachauri, Dr. Ash Pachauri took the floor. With a PHD in Decision behavior, Dr. Ash has taken up the POP movement from his father with great elegance. He is the senior mentor of the POP movement.



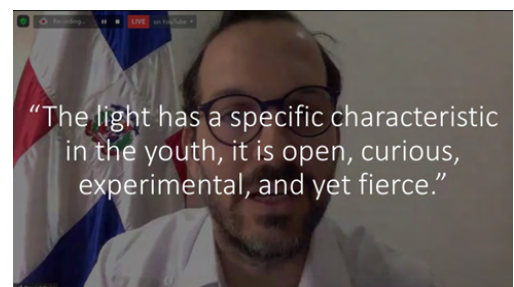
His address at the festival was targeted toward contentedness. In true spirit, he began by thanking the various dignitaries that were at the ceremony to support us. He emphasized on the development of POP over its five years and the connections that have been forged. He also highlights the importance of stakeholders and how the world must come together and act in our local spheres of influence. Like always, his motivational words filled our hearts with warmth and set the tone of the festival!

H. E. Ban Ki-moon is a former Secretary-General of the United Nations. He showed his support for the festival in the form of a message. He urged more people to attend the festival since it is an effective way to spread the urgency of the problem. He was also very enthusiastic and wanted to know the results of the festival. This report is for you sir!



H.E Dra. Rosalia Arteaga is a former Constitutional president of Ecuador. On the lines of Dr. Ash's message, Dra. Rosalia emphasized the role of youth in fighting the climate change crisis. She said that all of us have a responsibility, to nature and to ourselves. She entrusted the youth of the POPM with the task of saving our world.

H.E David Puig is the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic. H.E started by telling us a story. A story of two philosophers who are questioning the source of light even in a pitch dark environment. The story concludes by saying that light comes from within. He then spoke about the impacts of climate change on small islands such as his own country. In tandem with all the other speakers, he also said that



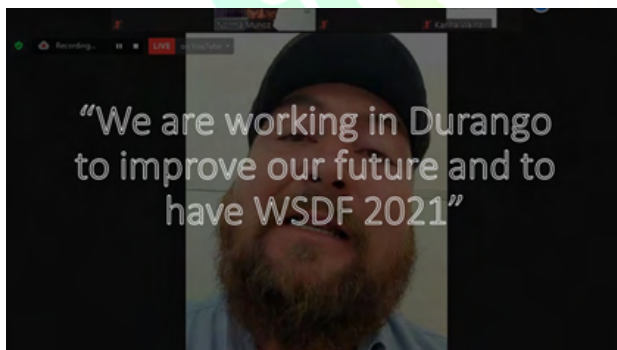
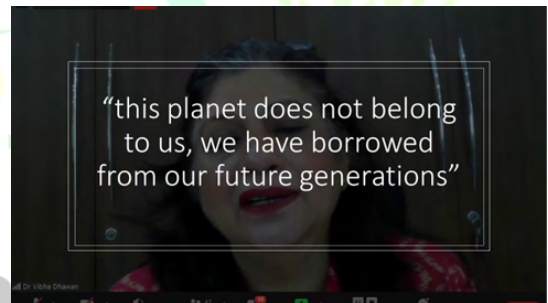


governments are working, but we need the youth to drive the change and that he has hope. He introduced the idea of integration of climate change in school curriculum to build a sense of urgency but also a sense of appreciation for the climate. He concluded by saying that the education system must go through a change, and it must happen fast.



Karina Weinstein FXB Climate Advocates is a group that bridges the gap between youth and government policies. FXB has been working in the USA to empower the youth to ask more questions about climate action. Focusing on the policy goals of the USA, the organization wants to educate the youth and seek details on the government's plans for zero carbon electricity and waste management systems amongst others.

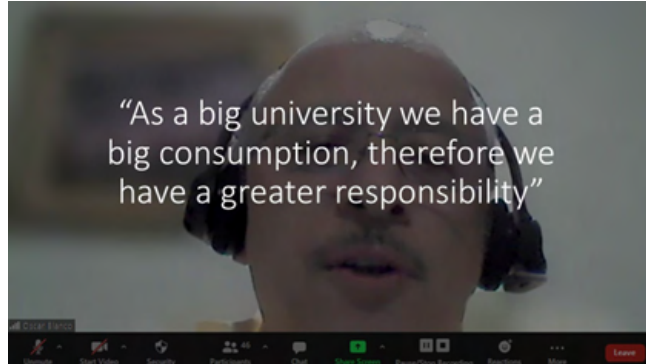
Dr. Vibha Dhawan is a part of the Energy and Resource Institute (TERI). Embodying Dr. R.K. Pachauri's vision, she spoke about youth as agents of change. She gave the example of the no-fire-cracker movement in India. She explained how schools educated students and they led the change of discouraging their parents and friends from using firecrackers.



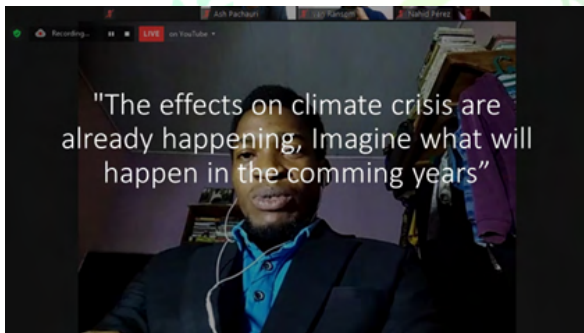
Ing. Alfredo Herrera spoke for Dr. Rosas Alspuro Torres **Enrique Olivo** spoke in name of Dr. Héctor Mayagoitia



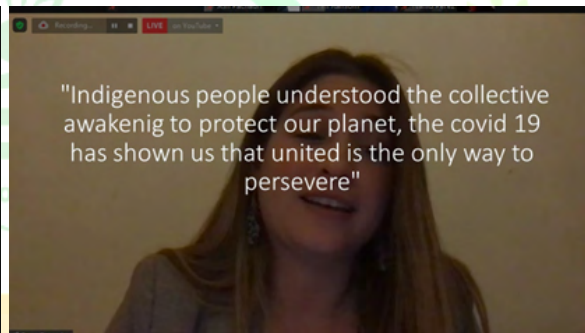
Edgar Martínez played the Piano



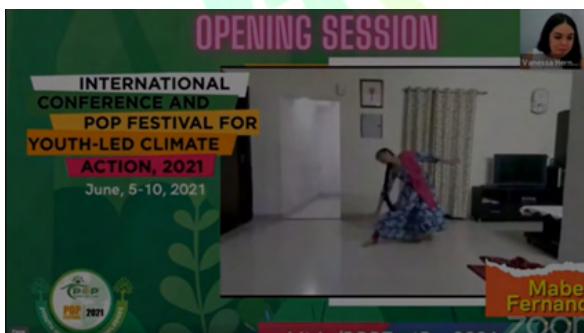
Dr. Oscar Blanco spoke in name of Ruth Padilla Muñoz



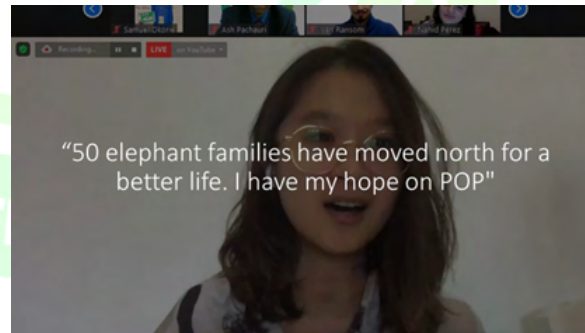
Samuel Okorie share his journey with POP



Sara González spoke about collaboration with indigenous people



Mabel Fernández presented an Indian classical dance



Wen Tian spoke in support of the POP

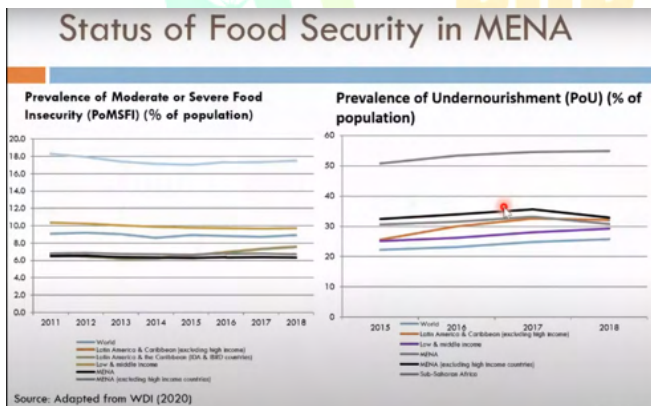
June 5, 2021 Day 01

2.1 Get Off the Bench Workshop



Kerryyn Vaughan, an invaluable partner of the POP Movement, recently led a workshop for youth focused on planning, executing, and scaling climate action projects. The participants were expertly guided through a process that helped them identify and understand their personal motivations for climate action, as well as any potential barriers that may be hindering their progress. This empowering approach encourages young people to take meaningful action towards creating a more sustainable future for all.

2.2 Food Security: A Multi Stakeholder Responsibility in Africa and the Middle East



The session was led by youth against climate action. The session began with Drishya Pathak introducing the panelists the topic which was about food security. The panel discussion aimed to find the gaps with respect to food security and how they can be effectively addressed while also promoting livelihood, social and economic growth, tackling malnutrition and restoring the ecosystem within the MENA (Middle East/North Africa) region.

Dr. Richard Munang, Africa’s regional climate change coordinator, UNEP, a very knowledgeable person, is leading POP’s continental wide strategic and innovative approach to climate action. He talked about how achieving food security in Africa would require going beyond the traditional narrative of increasing food production but would instead require eliminating the inefficiencies that were present and unlocking socio-economic opportunities out of the processes of eliminating these inefficiencies. He also stated that people around the world should not neglect two

words, “value addition”. He also talked about how citizens of a country blame the government for not contributing towards food security while it is the citizens who should be taking actions. He also said that governments never invest in ideas, but they do invest in products.

Dr. Dina Atef Mandour, an economic and political science enthusiast, shared with the panelists a very detailed presentation about the challenges that the people in the MENA region had to face going about Covid 19 and Food security. She talked about the status, triggers, and policy responses of the MENA region. She also stated that the COVID-19 pandemic had also impacted significantly on food security.

Mr. Nguintchou Dieudonne, who is the executive director at United Voices to serve forest and environment stated his views on non-timber forest products which were a high source of food security. Since he was working with four communities in Cameroon, he said that those four communities could use non-timber products and commercialize them for their own food security and economic value.

2.3 Project Presentations

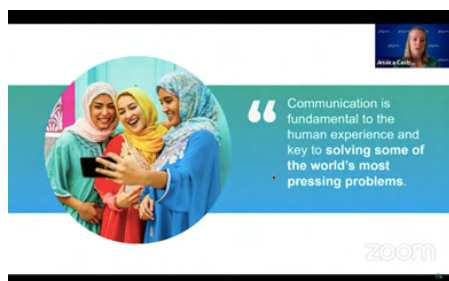


A captivating spectacle was unveiled, where the brilliance of youth in Nigeria and Zululand took center stage. The ethereal air carried whispers of their remarkable projects, akin to artistry woven into the fabric of time. In graceful harmony, posters adorned the walls, each stroke of creativity capturing stories untold. Vibrant colors

breathed life into their visions, painting a vivid tapestry of ingenuity. Videos, like visual symphonies, danced across screens, their captivating narratives cascading through the eyes of eager onlookers. Each frame whispered tales of passion, resilience, and boundless imagination. PowerPoint presentations, like mesmerizing incantations, illuminated the minds of those present. Slides teeming with knowledge and innovation, guiding the audience through a labyrinth of ideas, unlocking doors to new realms of understanding.

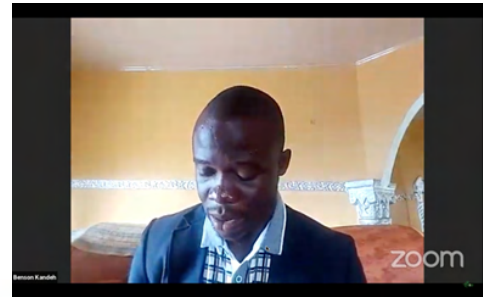
2.4 Water Crisis and Sustainable Solutions

This session discussed the various approaches that can be taken to tackle the water crisis. Communication and connectedness were emphasized, since water is a global commodity, the crisis is also a global problem.



Dr. Jessica Castro spoke about the power of Social Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) and how social norms can be modified to have a wider and more long lasting impact. While she spoke about this as one approach, she also said that there needs to be many approaches at a local and global level. Awareness must always be complimented/ supported by goals and actions on ground.

Benson Kandah spoke about community based action. He said that each community should analyze their problem and the capabilities of their community and country. They should use this to find solutions to solve a bulk of their problems. He also said that they shouldn't sit around wasting their time for government aids from outside their country.



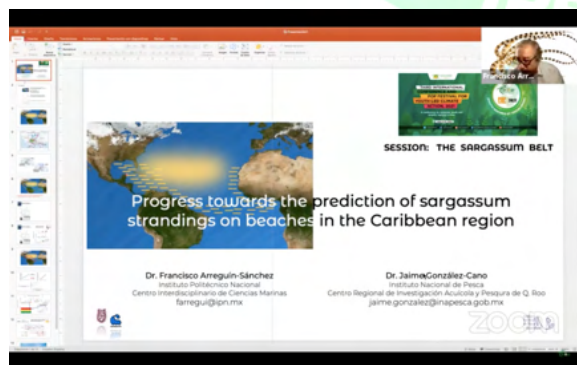
Adding to Benson's point, Mandisa Markhatini said that local action should be in tandem with geopolitical decisions to some level. Water is often a shared resource of many countries, moreover many modern mitigation technologies are only available in other countries. So, while individual action is the way forward, countries and governments should be pushed to collaborate despite their differences.



Jamilla Sealy spoke about the importance of individual action in addition to community action. This is because a reduction of water usage can be done at the very source itself, all of our homes. Thus, she said that raising awareness is important because water needs to be portrayed as a personal responsibility and duty of every citizen of the Earth. It is our responsibility to do something about the problem and save water for ourselves, our children, and grandchildren.

2.5 The Sargassum Belt

Significant progress has been made towards predicting sargassum strandings on Caribbean beaches, with a notable change occurring in 2014-2015. The connection between Brazil and the Caribbean, as well as the one with Africa, remains difficult to predict, with a projection for 2021 indicating it will be far worse than 2020. This is a significant concern for Mexico, where sargassum is projected to have a particularly negative impact.

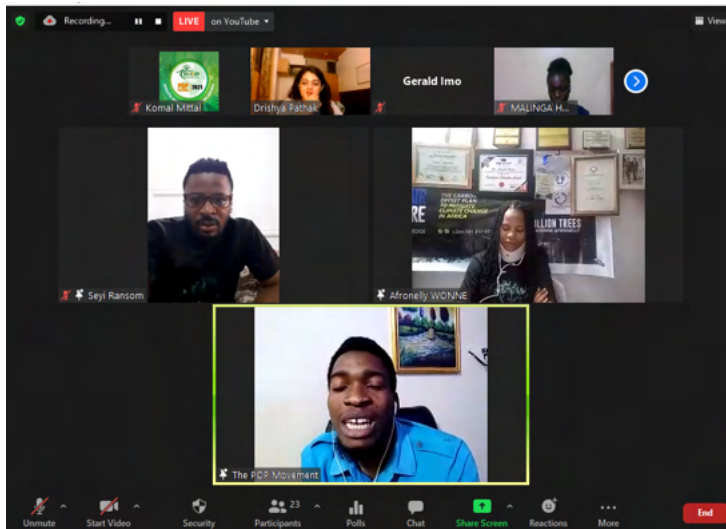


In West Africa, the mangrove population has increased by 30% from 1980 to 2005, and they now cover an area of 200 hectares. Despite their ecological importance, their disappearance could have devastating effects, including erosion and tsunamis. Mangroves are also vital for protecting against natural disasters, and the disappearance of this ecosystem could lead to demographic changes in marine wildlife. To protect these important ecosystems, an ecological approach is necessary, which involves looking at indigenous communities and aiming for sustainable exploitation.

The question of how to include projected activities for ecosystem conservation remains crucial. In Mexico, sargassum is a significant problem for tourism, as people seek beaches with white sand. Additionally, the sea temperature has increased by 10°C, and the government is struggling to address the issue. However, society is

actively involved in finding solutions, and a government-backed project from a resident of Puerto Morelos shows that progress is being made. Ultimately, there is still much to learn, but with a collective effort, it is possible to address these challenges and protect our planet's valuable ecosystems.

2.6 Climate Crisis: Youth Open Dialogue



Zambia is facing various challenges such as food insecurity, immigration issues, and prolonged droughts leading to anomalies. The western and central regions of Uganda are among the areas most affected by droughts, causing a decrease in food security and employment opportunities. The region is known for its rich traditions and is dominated by voodoo, but droughts are affecting all areas of sustainability. Malnutrition is prevalent in rural areas, leading to an increase in prostitution in neighboring countries as a means of survival. The southern region of Zambia is also affected by droughts, resulting in the failure of 3 million children to attend school in 2017.

Floods have devastating effects on countries, including blockages of water, environmental damage to buildings and houses, and transportation issues. Social Quality Development is essential to address these challenges, and regions and society should assist those affected. In Nigeria, poor drainage systems and human activity are causing floods in the south, southwest, and southeast regions, leading to mass displacement of people. The economic power of Victoria Island is also affected by floods, as seen in the recent case of Edo state.

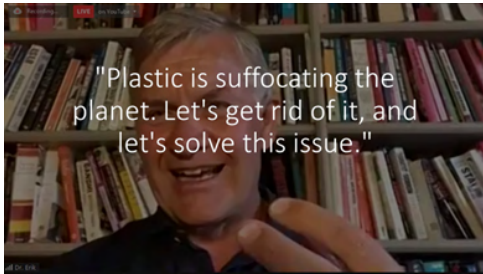
Droughts in the Sahel region have led to insecurity and the recruitment of jobless people by ISIS-backed Boko Haram. Climate change is further exacerbating the income gap in developing countries, with rural farmers being the most affected. In 2021, the cost of living has increased, with 50% of the world's food coming from dry lands, and 40% of this comes from Africa.



To address these challenges, we need to increase awareness through programs for low-income communities susceptible to floods and droughts. Trees play a crucial role in preventing droughts and floods, and planting as many trees as possible is a recommended solution.

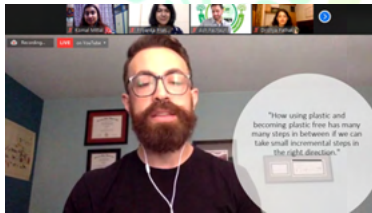
2.7 Microplastics: Impact on Environment & Health

This session saw multiple experts come in and talk about the role of plastic in our daily life. They spoke about the prevalence of microplastics and its harm on the environment as well as humans.



Dr. Erik Solheim based his presentation around the fact that today, we breathe and eat microplastics everyday. Yet, we do not know the impacts of the substance on the human body. This highlighted three main points, that plastic is a problem for animals, the environment, and humans. Yet, our global economy depends on plastic production. This is the dilemma of the century. He goes on to say that we should have four main steps that need to be led and advocated by the youth in cooperation with governments.

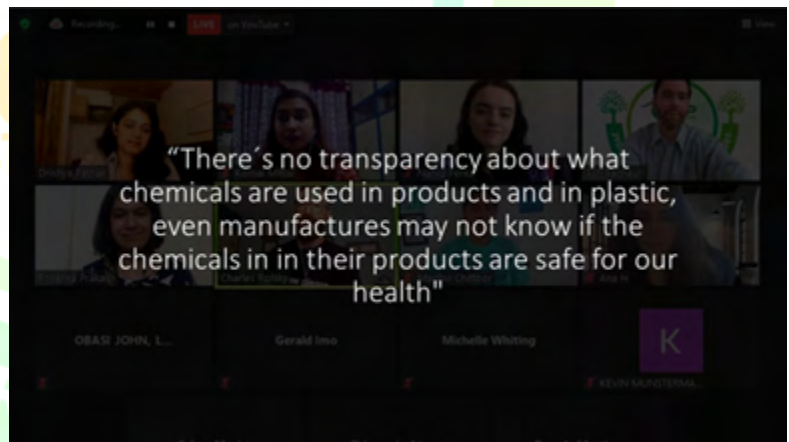
- We should get rid of unnecessary/ easily replaceable plastic items (bags, balloons).
- Experiment with new products that are eco-friendly
- Follow the three R's, especially recycling
- Pressure governments and large corporations that are responsible for plastic manufacturing to change their ways.



On the same lines as Dr. Erik, Charles Rolsky spoke about the enormity of the plastic crisis and emphasized on incremental steps in order to make a change.

Dr. Arlene Blum presented her research on the six classes of plastic and health. There are six classes of chemicals in plastic manufacturing approaches.

1. Highly Fluorinated
2. Antimicrobials
3. Flame Retardants
4. Bisphenols + Phthalates
5. Solvents
6. Metals



Throughout the session, she spoke about the fact that the amount of chemicals in plastic manufacturing is much more than we know about, sometimes even the manufacturer does not know the harmful effects of the chemicals. The six class approach helps avoid the use of certain chemical groups completely. One example is her research in children's pajamas in the USA that used a lot of Flame Retardants, particularly brominated Tris that was likely to cause cancer. Within three months, this was banned from pajamas but was replaced by chlorinated Tris, which is similarly harmful. The six-class approach will help avoid such re- placements and instead encourage proper replacements.

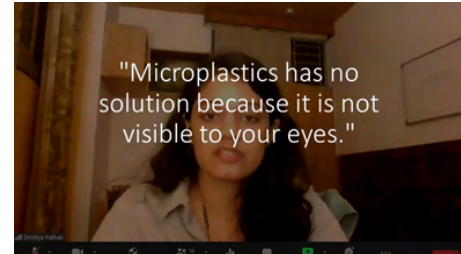


Madhvi Chitoor focused on the fact that we ourselves have caused the plastic pollution crisis, and thus only we have the power to do something about it. She ap- pealed to all the attendees of the session



as well as all of you as readers of this report! We must do something, and we must do it fast.

Drishya Pathak spoke about the impact of plastic on our own lives. Studies have shown a great amount of plastic is consumed by humans on a daily basis. An average of one credit card is eaten by an individual every week. So, not only is the plastic problem a problem for the environment, but a problem for us. Even if we don't change our ways for the environment, we should for ourselves.



2.8 Plastic and the Circular Economy



An enriching theoretical masterclass on plastics, circular economy and myth busting. This workshop is designed to inspire participants to identify needs, opportunities, and barriers for change in their local realities. Through this knowledge-sharing session, we aim to highlight the potential role of plastics in transitioning to a circular economy.

June 6, 2021 Day 02

3.1 Leadership Conversation with Dr. Raghavan Seetharaman

“The more you love, the more you radiate positivity”

Dr. Raghavan Seetharaman, CEO of Doha Bank, is a renowned figure in the banking industry and has received numerous accolades for his contributions to banking, investment, economics, environment, social responsibility, philanthropy, and charity. He has also been recognized by various leading universities with multiple doctorates, including three PhDs. Dr. Seetharaman is frequently invited by international media to share his views on economic matters.

During a one-on-one interview, Dr. Seetharaman was asked about young people and how they can embrace their values despite the challenges they face. He emphasized the importance of keeping a balanced temperament, radiating positive energy, and focusing on the long-term instead of short-term goals. He also urged young people to avoid comparing themselves to others.

When asked about how to convince stakeholders to adopt green economy and banking for sustainability, Dr. Seetharaman highlighted the need for enhancing the green economy to ensure a sustainable future. He also emphasized the importance of social management and the need for people to realize that profit cannot be prioritized over society's well-being.



Regarding youth's ability to bring about sustainable change, Dr. Seetharaman emphasized the importance of collaboration and understanding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He urged young people to focus on enriching society, as this would lead to personal enrichment.

On the issue of climate change, Dr. Seetharaman emphasized the need for global policies that reduce the burden on others. He also highlighted the importance of being more inclusive in channeling thoughts towards a green economy for a sustainable future.

Lastly, Dr. Seetharaman emphasized the need for social disclosure by donors to show their contributions towards sustainability and avoid investing in environmentally unfriendly causes.

3.2 Education to Build Climate Resilience and Adaptation

The presentations of three speakers were highlighted in this content, with their respective topics of discussion, important examples and key action points mentioned.



H.E. Fekadu Beyene, the Former Minister of Ethiopia, presented on SDG 13 and discussed integrating climate change education into the country's education system. The aim is to have every school in Ethiopia become a champion for building a climate resilient and green economy by 2030. He listed three tasks to achieve this: incorporating climate change into the school system, promoting behavioral changes among students and teachers, and supporting schools to serve as living laboratories. He also emphasized the importance of youth empowerment and education for building climate resilience and adaptation.

Samuel C. Okorie from the POP Nigeria Initiative presented on climate resilience and climate education. He discussed the need for people to anticipate and prepare for harder events like droughts, floods, and pollution, and the importance of education in promoting sustainable environmental practices. He highlighted the role of climate education in making children more conscious of their environment and advocating for sustainable practices in their society.

Lastly, Funmilola Ademola Aliu from GECCI Nigeria presented on environmental education. She emphasized the importance of planting trees to balance the ecosystem, and stressed the need for education to keep people informed and empowered. She also discussed the importance of finding ways to mitigate and manage various environmental processes such as agriculture, forestry, and fisheries, and ensuring that things are done properly. Overall, the speakers highlighted the importance of education and empowerment in promoting sustainable practices and building climate resilience.

3.3 Blue Circle and Blue Club Workshop



The Blue Circle forum endeavors to unite young people worldwide on a 'virtual' platform to deliberate and generate ideas on crucial measures, solutions, and policies for combating the global plastic and ocean crisis. This year, the forum aimed to emphasize the significance of 'fostering marine crisis awareness and ocean literacy in schools.' During the workshop, the participants and Blue Circle Youth leaders will collaborate closely to formulate strategies for

programs/clubs that can be introduced in schools to enhance ocean awareness and literacy. The proposed outcome is to motivate the attendees to register their schools with the Ervis Foundation, enabling us to work together to launch programs/clubs within their schools.

3.4 Sustainable Cities in the Middle East



The commencing session led to an interesting start where Mrs. Habiba Al Mar'ashi shared her experience, having attended and celebrated the “World Environment Day” just before the session. It set a pleasant environment amongst the audience, while she stated the importance of the question being raised. Without hesitation, she answered it, by stating the correlation between urbanization and sustainable development as they go hand in hand.

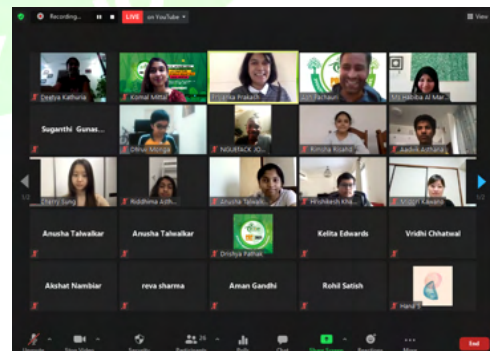
This conversation was taken further as she announced how, “the concepts of sustainability in a built environment of urbanization had gained a lot of attraction and interest, particularly in the last 10-15 years.” Further, she mentioned the strategies and methods in development that were being overlooked at first, as to how they were causing losses. As the disposal of waste can be extremely expensive but if correct measures are taken, there won't be any waste, and ultimately profit. Then, while these points were discussed, the closing statements included the measures that the government took, and eventually, the significance of this entire discussion. It was stated that finally, they are trying to achieve these goals, visions, etc, just to give residents happiness, promoting exclusive economy and prosperity of the society.

This message traveled further as Mr. Neeshad Shafi took the mike, he began with promoting the event. He helped the audience see the whole idea from the roots of the UAE. He started by explaining the story from the 19th century, explaining how urbanization took place and turned into urbanism. How power came to the lands, with opportunities, scope, and investments which were well handled and managed to achieve what we know UAE as. He shared facts like how other countries like Egypt with greater resources weren't able to manage them, there was a lack of political support, etc.



Even today, the carbon dioxide emissions are relatively low, even though UAE is rich in oil and gas, so

how? He shared how domestically it was used very less per capita and mainly supplied to other countries, which explains their emissions. He also talked of smart cities and how they have formed a bridge between the ecosystem of humans and environmental interactions. On the closing note, Dr. Ash Pachaur said, “*The world will open their eyes and look when we have people like us*”, which lifted everyone up for a moment and led us to the Q and As.



3.5 Women Empowerment as a Key to Sustainable Development

This session focused on the importance of decision-making at different levels and examined women's choices and roles with respect to achieving the SDGs, climate goals, energy efficiency, and issues of gender inequality.

Mrs. Madhubala Nath, a said that to promote countries should make sure more choices or should also gain access to She talked about how the if countries don't promote also stated that gender to sustainable development



renowned gender specialist women empowerment, that women should have opportunities and they development resources. world would be impacted women empowerment. She equality is the ultimate key and a bright future.

Dr. Olusola Oresanya, Malaria consortium's country technical director, talked about the importance of women to also take part in events and projects and get their voices heard regarding climate change. She said that less than 30% of women sit in round table conferences in the Global environment facility, which makes it male dominated. She also said that when you are educating a woman, you are educating a nation. She also mentioned how education is the key to women empowerment and that young girls should be encouraged to be educated.

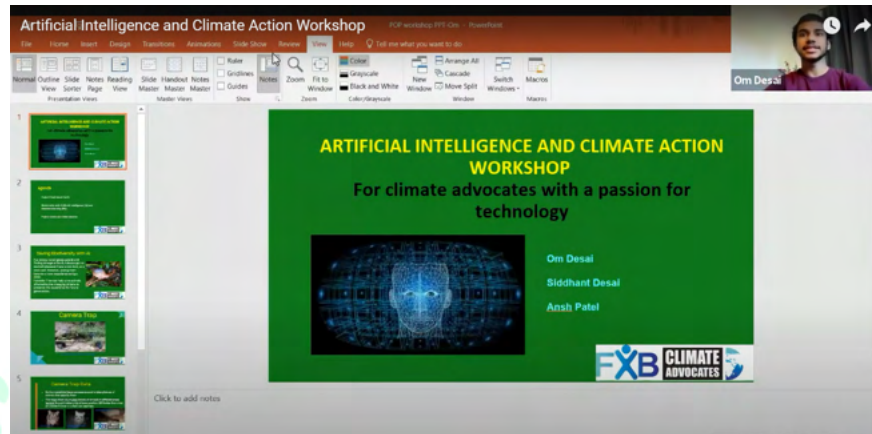
Dr. Norma Patricia Munoz, a renowned biologist also stated that education is the basis of all things and that women are held back due to lesser opportunities in their surroundings. She also had a message for all us people saying that only if we are a part of the problem can we be a part of the solution.

Ms. Shaily Kedia, who works at TERI, India talked about how strong and independent women have started movements at local levels but were not able to progress it to global levels. She also talked in brief about how men can help in attaining gender equality.

Kehkashan Basu is a youth icon who is the founder and president of Green Hope Foundation. She said that women development equates to the nation's development. She also talked about how the developing countries could also benefit greatly by empowering women. She also said that all new policies being implemented should not be bias based on gender. She also gave an inspiring note on how all projects, movements etc. start with a single step.

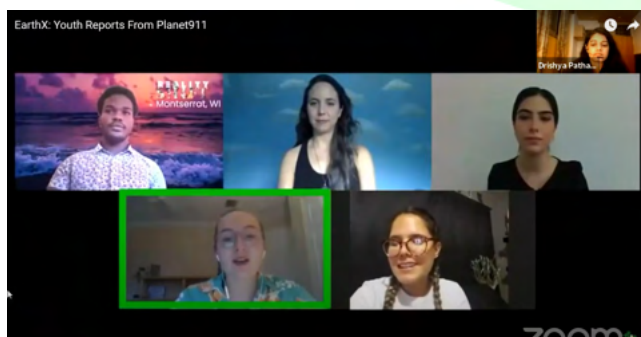
Dr. Saroj Pachauri, a public health specialist shared her thoughts on how men should also be involved in empowering the status of women. She also said that only by bridging the gap of gender equality would we be able to achieve the various SDG's. She stated that only if the women's voices are heard, only then can they be able to make a difference.

3.6 Artificial Intelligence and Climate Action



The Dashboard Earth presents a proportional representation of a country's energy usage in relation to their industrial capacity and affluence. Carbon emissions have historically increased alongside energy usage, largely due to the prevalence of fossil fuels. China has now surpassed the United States in carbon emissions. Camera traps offer a way to estimate population densities of different species, but it is difficult to analyze this data manually. However, Google's Teachable Machine tool can train a machine to identify pictures, sounds, and more. The squirrel vs. bear machine learning model is an example of this technology. Additionally, Project Green utilizes image processing to identify soil fertility and potential areas for planting trees based on vegetation density and color boundaries. APIs for satellite imagery and data, such as Google Earth satellite and the Copernicus project, further assist in addressing critical issues of biodiversity loss and increasing green cover. Microsoft has even provided a grant for a project using AI/ML to detect species richness and forest cover. Moving forward, the use of classification models and neural networks may further help detect changes in forest cover and identify a larger diversity of species and their range of occurrence. The outcome of this session is an overview of the tools used and the impact they have generated through these technologies. A Q&A session followed, exploring the natural progression of the work and potential future advancements.

3.7 Climate Education to Address Various Issues



The session displayed 3 panelists from Peace Boat youth from a Planet911 TV Show episode discussing the content from their show and their current initiatives and projects to protect the oceans and marine ecosystems.

The session began with a video which introduced the audience to Peace Boat, which is an international organization working to promote peace, human rights etc. The main aim of Peace Boat is to protect oceans and marine ecosystems. It is a voyage to different

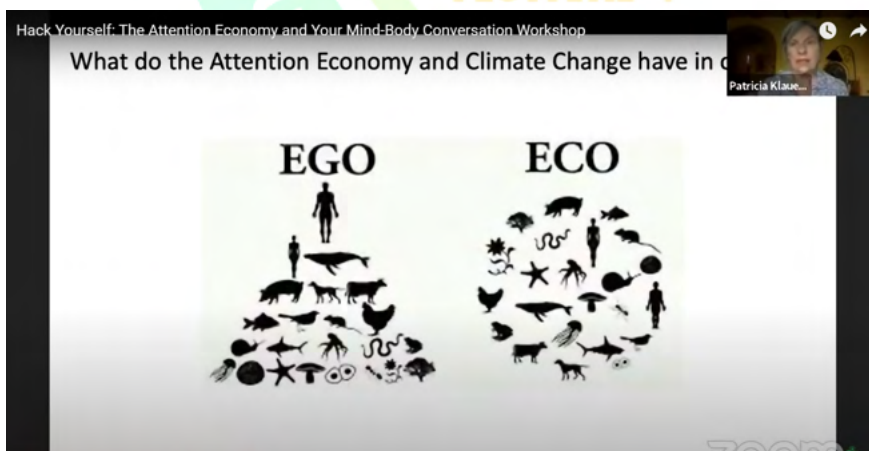
parts of the world on a ship with many youth ambassadors increasing awareness to protect the oceans.

Silvia Bautista Cantu, a youth leader from Mexico expressed her love for the ocean and how she wanted to work towards protecting it even after residing away from the ocean. She talked about her project and campaign which included setting up directories of seafood for every town, encouraging people and especially youth to write articles about climate change and its adverse impact on oceans which would be shared and published by her and lastly creating a network for all Mexican youth enabling the youth to collaborate with one another working to find solutions. She also enlightened the audience by talking about her Peace Boat experience and travelling across the globe spreading awareness about how the marine ecosystems and ocean spaces are being impacted due to climate change.

Khadija Stewart, a youth leader from Trinidad and Tobago also shared her experience on Peace Boat and how she loved collaborating with many other youth ambassadors from other island nations, coming up with solutions to all their problems. The aim of her project was to increase people’s relationship with the ocean. She wanted to raise awareness to the issues that took place at Tobago such as decrease in fish and dead coral reefs. She also talked about the impact of sunscreens, and plastics going into the ocean. Her advice for youth to get involved in saving the oceans was to take part in beach cleanups.

La Tisha, another youth leader from Trinidad and Tobago shared her Peace Boat experience by saying how much she loved meeting different people from different nations. The aim of La Tisha’s project was about changing traditions. She gave an example of how people eat bacon shark sandwiches whenever they go to Maracas beach in Trinidad and how this impacted the sharks in the bay near it. She talked about how sharks were under threat. Ultimately, her goal was to promote sustainable seafood and create behavioral changes among the people. She encouraged the youth to create seafood guides for their own town or city so that people start realizing what marine species are under threat.

3.8 Hack Yourself: The Attention Economy and Your Mind-Body Conversation



An interactive session explored practical tools to become more aware of the conversation between your mind and body. Through this session, we cultivated curiosity, exploration, imagination, and intention and discussed how it relates to the attention economy. This session was particularly useful for young people who face high demands on their attention due to social media, news, school, family, and the added stress of

the pandemic. Let's take a step back, connect with ourselves, and learn how to manage our attention more effectively.



4.1 Doing Profitable Business with Impact



The workshop aimed to empower individuals with the knowledge and skills to become successful entrepreneurs and integrate sustainability and impact into their businesses. Participants learned how to transform their ideas into profitable ventures while addressing environmental and social issues.

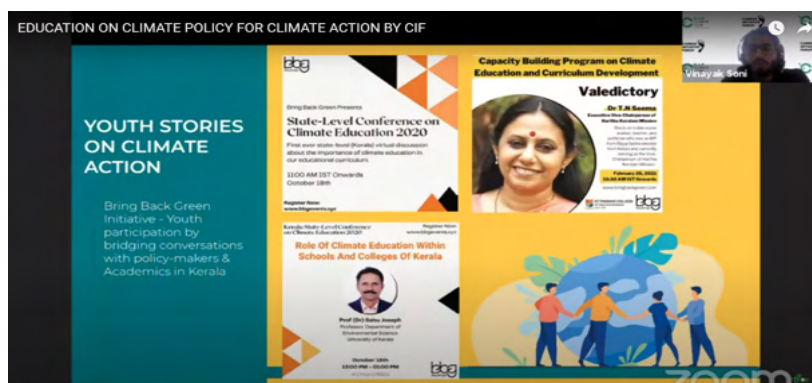
Throughout the workshop, attendees gained a comprehensive understanding of Impact Investment, including its players and the role it plays in our daily lives. The facilitators elucidated the differences between sustainable and impact investment, with real-world examples and unique characteristics of implementation across various sectors.

The session emphasized the importance of youth awareness of this rapidly growing sector and its potential to drive significant change in the world. Attendees left with a clear understanding of Impact Investment and the rationale behind incorporating it into their future professional and personal endeavors.

The workshop culminated in two critical outcomes: first, all attendees possessed a clear understanding of Impact Investment and why it is crucial to integrate into their future lifestyles and professions. Second, participants gained the skills and knowledge necessary to develop and grow successful, sustainable businesses that contributed positively to society and the environment.

4.2 Carbon Initiative Forum

The session commenced with a sudden start, and although the speaker was introduced a little later, it captured our attention by highlighting our role in promoting a staggering 70% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. We were made aware of how policies created by authorities have been manipulating us without our knowledge. The session went on to explore climate policies and our individual roles in spreading awareness about them. The speaker urged us to contribute towards influencing climate policy at a local level, with guidance to achieve this.



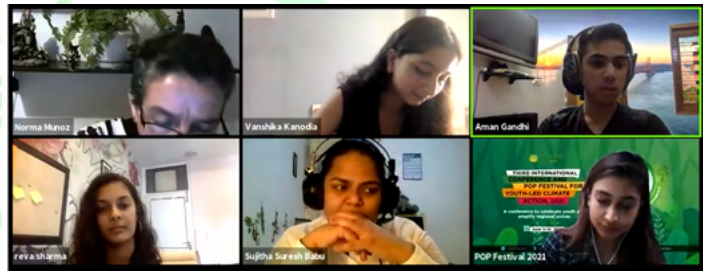
The session also delved into the critical role of education in our society, particularly the need for basic climate literacy to become responsible citizens as we grow. The urgency to prepare today's youth for tackling climate change as their primary existential crisis was

emphasized. It was pointed out that climate change is not taught in schools, and it should be added to the school-based curriculum. Attention was also drawn towards marginalized communities such as women, vulnerable groups, and the poor. The speaker urged that climate change and related policies should be made compulsory in schools and colleges.

The session covered several challenges posed by climate change and how climate action and policies could help us overcome them. The speaker also highlighted initiatives led by Kerala. To conclude, the session ended with a fun and unique climate change bingo activity, which summed up everyone's observations. The activity aimed to assess the audience's level of education, based on the presentation.

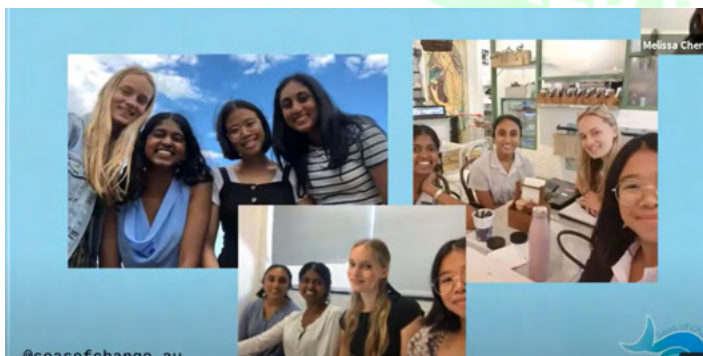
4.3 Asia/Australia/Europe/Russia Project Presentations

In this session, youth from across diverse geographies presented their initiatives in the form of interactive presentations, posters, and workshops. Within the hallowed space of that session, the air shimmered with anticipation, as eager hearts beat in unison with the pulse of innovation. Youthful visionaries stepped forward, adorned in the cloak of inspiration, ready to illuminate the world with their extraordinary initiatives.



4.4 Ocean Project Presentations

The overall theme of the session was how the club has two foundations, The Fountainhead School and Indus International for ocean literacy and are headed by teenagers. Their program was engaged in phases and the first phase had 8 sessions and had discussions on its importance and developed an action plan for the same. The second phase was all about starting various awareness actions campaigns for the marine environment. Also, bringing in speakers impacted a huge difference on the participation level. The session went on about how people can be educated about the protection of water bodies and how small measures should be taken to protect it.



This session was led by Ved and one of his team members where the main topic which was discussed was how to prevent animals from ingesting plastic. The problems regarding the same were discussed. The whole idea of the project is to create a gap until they get rid of plastic. They also plan on using the stimuli to prevent ingestion. Previously the stimulation was studied on Albatross and now it's being studied on Sharks because every animal has a different stimulation.

This session was led by Ayushmaan, a 16 year old and his team member, which was basically about Microplastics. their ideas are still on paper and haven't been executed yet but it will soon. It is an oil and microplastics extraction



system. It is basically an ocean cleaner system to remove oil spills and extract microplastics from oceans with very high efficiency. Dr Arden Warner introduced the paradigm known as the "Electromagnetic Remediation Technology". The concept of polarity was also explained.

Stephaine is the founder of the Seas of Change. It began seven years ago when Stephanie was 10 years old and she saved a Dugong. She's been raising money from fundraising and charity for the marine bodies. The opportunities that have risen is purely because of her passion. It mainly focuses on marine and environmental conservation. A new project 'Ocean View' has been started as well.

4.5 Collapsing Marine Biodiversity and its Implications for the Blue Economy



The workshop aimed to highlight the many ways in which accelerating climate change, overexploitation and mismanagement, and ever-growing marine pollution are transforming marine biodiversity across the world's ocean basins. The workshop discussed the wide-ranging adverse impacts of the ongoing changes in the marine food web on the Blue Economy of nations around the world, and how young people can affect change and contribute towards building a sustainable Blue Economy that protects and preserves our planet's incredibly rich ocean biodiversity.

The session consisted of three panelists all working for the National Maritime Foundation (NMF) who shared a detailed and very interesting presentation about the Marine Ecosystem.

Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan, the Director General at the NMF talked about the dearth of fishes in some of the coastal areas of India and how fishermen were not able to catch fish as they used to. He said that this was primarily because of Overfishing, Pollution of the ocean spaces, Oceanic impacts of climate change and Proliferation of invasive species. He also talked in brief about Phytoplankton (base of the marine food chain) and Zooplankton and their role in the marine food chain. He also talked about Ballast Water Management, which is a method to introduce invasive species in oceans and how it benefits and harms the water bodies.

Pushp Bajaj, a Research Fellow at the NMF talked about the impacts of climate change on the marine environment some of which are Oceanic warming and the acidification of oceans. He also spoke about phytoplankton and how they would be impacted due to climate and human impact on marine ecosystems (oceans) through a series of graphs.



Sarita Fernandez, a Research Associate at the NMF talked in depth about Invasive Species some of which are the Noctiluca Scintillans and White Leg Shrimp and their impact on the oceans. She also talked about how invasive species migrate and get introduced to new environments. She also talked about several other marine invasive species and the challenges that they come with.

The 3 panelists together talked about some of the ways we as individuals can help to protect our oceans and live a bright future.

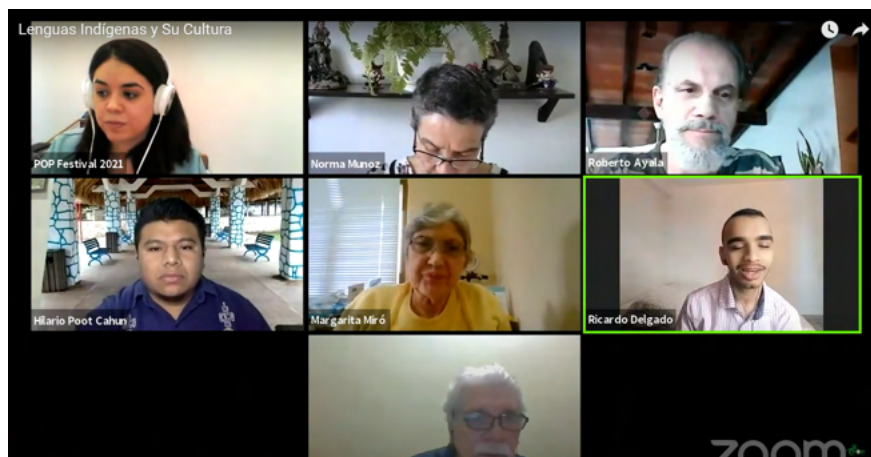
4.6 Impact of Environmental Factors on Human Health



The experts discussed the implications of climate change on health during a conference. Climate change affects health in various ways, including temperature changes, rising sea levels, melting glaciers, and changing meteorological regimes, all of which impact clean air, water, and safe living spaces. Regions with poverty or extreme poverty are particularly vulnerable to climate-related health issues, with malnutrition causing more deaths from 2030 to 2050. The experts suggested

that public policies should focus on solving these issues, and there should be a link between universities and the government to avoid future complications. To mitigate the crisis, everyone must take action, such as using public transport, modifying diets, planting trees, and researching global public health. Additionally, the experts emphasized that social determinants of health are interconnected and that the three pillars of social dynamics—individuals, public, and ecosystem health—need to work together to create meaningful change. The SDGs were created to address these challenges and are interconnected. The experts suggested that public health workers must take the lead in diagnosing the issue and understanding the interconnection between environmental, economic, political, and public involvement factors to find a solution.

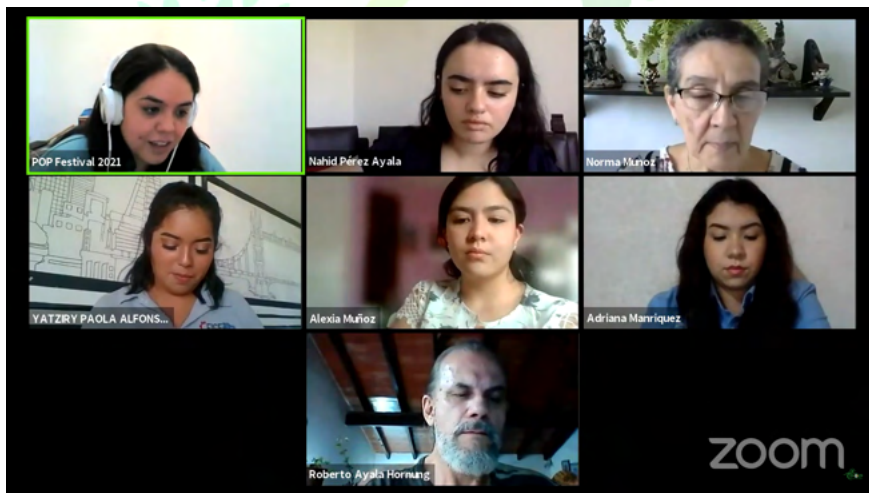
4.7 Indigenous Languages and their Culture



This panel discussion raised awareness and showcased different languages and cultures from different indigenous communities in Latin America. Mtro. Roberto Ayala opened the session by saying that Language is a source of life and spirituality, complexes were

born from the trampling of languages and silence. Mtra. Margarita Miró explained that more than talking about a language, it is necessary to contextualize learning, because languages are the DNA of cultures. Ceferino Kreigi explained how the culture of each ethnic group is transmitted by the knowledge from generation to generation, and that is transmitted by the wise men and women, old men and women, grandfathers and grandmothers. Diego Toj shared this important message *“Do not be ashamed of your roots, your language and your identity. If we lose it, we lose everything”*. The main message Norberto Fandos shared in his video is that society must be more inclusive and multicultural. Hilario Poot spoke about how globalization has made them look down on their culture. He emphasized to us that they must reach more places because language is a means to transmit knowledge. Claudelino Balbuena spoke about how people sometimes do not warn and touch things that they should not touch, such as a river or a tree that for the indigenous people, are important, are sacred and because of that disrespect come the floods, and some consequences that often come for not listening to those who know.

4.8 Environmental Education



The session aimed to raise awareness within the educational community about the importance of caring for and conserving the environment. Silvia Garza highlighted how biodiversity loss is one of the major problems of our time, and how Mexico's environmental education focuses on research and social participation. Dr. Antonio Garza emphasized the profitability of aquaculture as a means of producing food, and stressed the importance of cultivating a culture of awareness among young people

to save the planet from the current crisis.

Ing. Ernesto Polin highlighted the critical role technology plays in environmental preservation. Lic. Mario Gómez spoke about the Secretary of Education of Tamaulipas' mission to instill in students a love for environmental conservation that goes beyond academic pursuits, empowering them to take action to care for our shared home, the earth. Hilario Poot stressed the importance of preserving traditional practices and the value of intergenerational knowledge sharing.

Ana Hanhausen shared her perspective on the main objective of environmental education, which is to provide people of all ages with the tools to learn about environmental issues from an empowered standpoint, allowing them to become part of the solution. Ricardo Delgado discussed the use of media as a tool to educate people based on their needs, while Johan Ramos emphasized the importance of defending the environment as a source of life and working towards its continued protection.



4.9 Project Presentations

In a hallowed gathering, where dreams intermingled with purpose, a session unfolded, unveiling a symphony of climate action projects. From the vibrant tapestry of Latin America, emerged a collective of young souls, driven by a shared passion to forge a greener future.



4.10 Social Technologies and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources

In this informative session, attendees were introduced to various social technologies and techniques for sustainable management of natural resources. Dr. Silvio Calgaro and Dr. Alisson Oliveira presented an innovative social technology that has proven to be highly impactful - biodigesters - in aiding farmers and benefiting the environment. Dr. Silvio emphasized the significance of social technologies in overcoming environmental challenges.

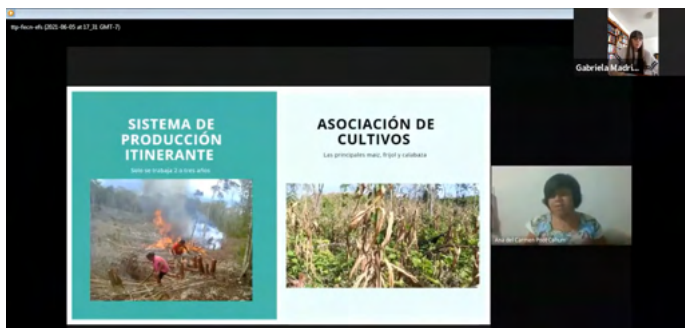


Mtro. Roberto Ayala shared his insights on the sustainable development of beekeeping, highlighting the importance of preserving traditional knowledge while adapting to evolving technology. He noted that conservative communities require more support, and that the assimilation process takes time.

Kevin Morales and Ivan Ransom shared their inspiring project, "Resilience 2020", that involves five applied ecotechnologies - greenhouse,

compost, bio-manager, water collection system, and solar heater - implemented in houses to reduce costs and support the environment. Their project serves as a model for a sustainable and resilient future.

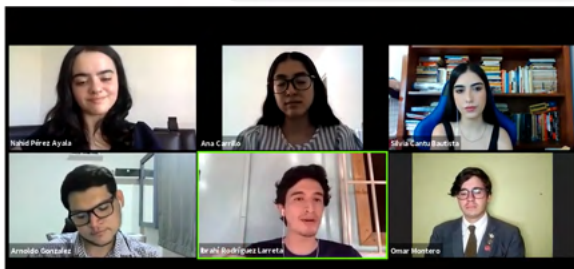
4.11 Food Security and Climate Change



The panel discussion encompassed various subjects including food security, food education, associated crops, crop rotation, and urban gardens. Dr. Norma Muñoz emphasized the crucial role agriculture plays in meeting the needs of a growing world population and

eradicating poverty. She stressed the importance of producing food at a lower cost but in higher quality, with food security meaning having secure access to food with balanced nutrition. Dr. Blanca Gutierrez highlighted the need for sustainable decision-making when purchasing food and being aware of its ecological footprint. She spoke of the importance of food education, which involves knowledge and recognition of the biological body and its relationship with the environment. Ana Poot Cahun discussed the significance of the "Milpa Maya" as a form of food security, where farmers obtain food and have their seeds saved in case of a harvest during the year. Susana Delgado spoke about the purpose of urban gardens to create micro-environments, prioritize production, meet local needs, and use renewable and local resources to benefit the environment inside and outside our homes.

4.12 Youth Panel: Climate Leadership Challenges under the COVID-19 Situation

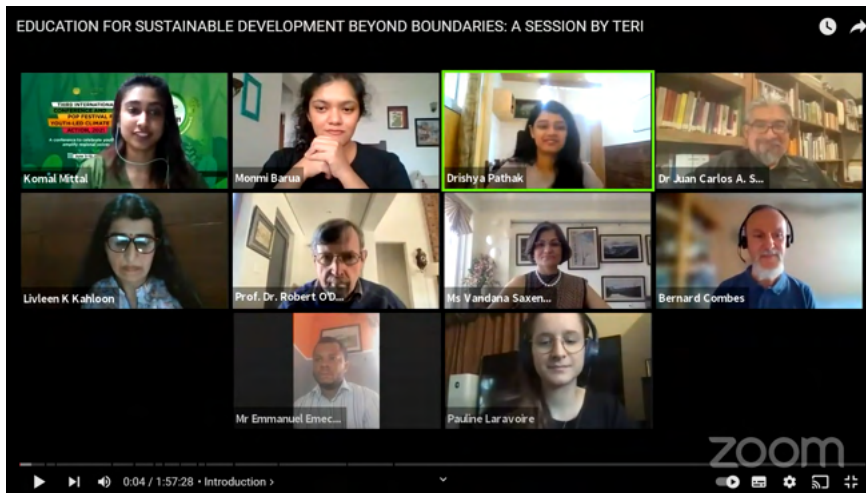


The session was a compelling gathering of Latin American youth, who came together to share their thoughts on the challenges and solutions to the issue of Climate Youth Leadership in the era of COVID-19. A key takeaway from the session was the understanding that youth are not only the future but the present, and they are the ones taking action against climate change. It is essential to listen and assimilate different perspectives without imposing preconceived notions. A collaborative approach is

necessary to ensure that everyone's opinions are heard, and a solution can be reached. Empathy and emotional intelligence are key to understanding why some people may not contribute to environmental protection, and it is essential to motivate them to act. We must break the traditional mold of youth activism and include individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from marginalized communities and indigenous groups, and ensure that there is room for everyone.

June 8, 2021 Day 04

5.1 Education for Sustainable Development Beyond Boundaries



The session in question served as an outstanding platform to address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while showcasing global initiatives that can be localized, allowing for the formation of networks with like-minded organizations and youth. The objectives of this session are multifaceted and include enhancing knowledge about sustainable development issues, promoting ecopreneurship opportunities to tackle

environmental challenges, encouraging collaborative thought processes, fostering networks of interconnected youth with shared vision and responsibilities, as well as adopting and adapting innovative ideas to bring about sustainable change. By prioritizing these goals, we can work towards a more sustainable future that benefits both current and future generations.

5.2 Using the Law to Fix the Climate

The session marked Day 4 of the 3rd international POP conference, which aimed to look at how laws are made and how they are enforced and what we as individuals can contribute to fixing the climate crisis.

Mr. Sam Wilson from 'COP26 and Beyond' introduced the audience to their organization. He also talked briefly about some tips that Barry McLaughlin, a youth climate ambassador from Ireland had come up with on how to implement certain laws by calling politicians.



Mr. William Wilson, an expert environmental and energy barrister is the co-founder of the climate project, 'COP26 and Beyond'. He talked about how laws can be made and implemented by youth. He also spoke about how to keep track of proposals and how to bring in rural voices to create climate related laws. He gave examples of how people

challenged their own state to improve climate and shared his thoughts on how making laws cannot be left to lawyers, but instead would require personal knowledge of climate science as well as our involvement in the same.

5.3 Marine Biodiversity and Threats - Panel Discussion



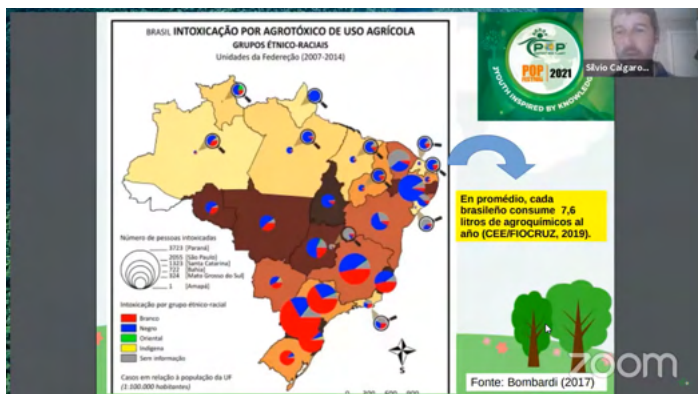
During the panel discussion, the importance of the ocean as the heart of the earth was highlighted. The ocean provides life and fulfills the needs of humans, making it essential that we celebrate **World Ocean Day** together. The panelists shared personal experiences with marine life and how they are connected with the marine industry. It was emphasized that the love for the ocean should be developed within people, despite the fact that many are not exposed to it. On World Ocean Day, the panelists discussed the threats facing marine life, including climate change and other factors that lead

to the degradation of the ocean. All forms of life are at stake, and time is running out. Although every country has a 200 nautical mile boundary with water bodies, most of the damage has been done to coastal areas. It was agreed that both global and local solutions are needed to protect our oceans.

Marisa Lopez spoke about the blue economy, which refers to sustainable ocean activities such as tourism and fishing. It was emphasized that all ocean-related activities should be made more sustainable. Christine stressed the need for everyone to pick up the fight to protect our oceans. Humans have contributed significantly to the disturbed state of the ocean, and rising sea levels continue to threaten coastal communities. The ocean is our blue lungs, and we must all strive to protect it. Uttama pointed out that we are all connected, and we must work to preserve our oceans by talking to government and UN officials for more sustainable methods. Finally, Salma emphasized that one need not be a marine expert to protect our oceans, and small contributions can make a significant difference for a better tomorrow.

5.4 Agrochemicals - Indigenous Health, Mental Health

This session discussed the problems and impact of the advance of the agricultural patch and extractive activities in the territories on the health of indigenous communities in general, especially mental health. Dr. Silvio Calgaro, professor at the Federal University of Sergipe (Campus Sertão), Brazil began the discussion with the advance of extensive agriculture versus traditional agriculture, mentioning Brazil as a country with a high consumption of agrochemicals in the world, consequently, he recounted the efforts to mitigate the problem through obligations for water purification companies to indicate the amount of contaminants in the water.



Pesticides are endocrine disruptors, that is, they affect the human metabolism. This was the topic of discussion of Dr. Alejandro Aarón Peregrina Lucano, professor and researcher of the CUCEI, Mexico, where he highlighted the presence of pesticides in the feces of big cats in Mexico,

which means that pesticides are present in the food chain and everyone is exposed to pesticides directly or indirectly. For his part, Mtro. Roberto Ayala, Director of Research and Postgraduate Studies, Instituto Superior de Bellas Artes commented on suicide as a taboo subject in the indigenous communities of Paraguay because indigenous people are not treated in hospitals, much less diseases caused by pesticides: "Communication and trust of the people is fundamental to establish a relationship with indigenous communities."

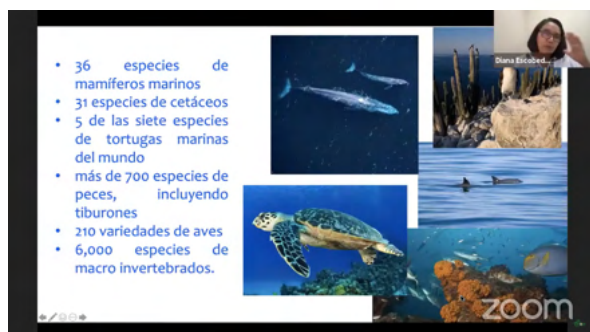
In relation to the activities carried out by the indigenous people, Melina Maldonado belonging to the Mayo-Yoreme Ethnic Group, Ahome Sinaloa, Mexico highlighted her achievements by echoing in her community and forming a team that helps clean the bay, watches over and cares for the turtles; her goal is to clean the drainage of the bay where she lives. The session closed with the intervention of Mr. Luis Betancourt, Researcher of Indigenous and Environmental Rights in the Venezuelan Amazon, where he stressed the importance of communication with the government to avoid mining, stating that contamination has caused different diseases in indigenous communities.

5.5 Project Presentations

This session showcased the climate action projects led by young people from across the Latin America region.



5.6 POP's Result in Mexico



This session showed the different monitoring approaches for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Mexico, including air, water and breast milk matrices. The studies presented can be scientific tools for decision making and for the formulation or revision of public policies in Mexico.

The topic of POPs in the air was addressed by engineer María Dei Apodaca from the Environment and Health Research Unit of the Universidad Autónoma De Occidente. The university has collaborated with the Stockholm Convention initiative since 2017. In addition,

Mexico participated in the sampling of POPs in the air. The engineer highlighted that young people were a



fundamental pillar for the development of her research and urged young people to seek research programs on climate change and environmental protection.

Biologist José de Jesús Huichapan Martínez from the Universidad Autónoma de Occidente developed the topic of POPs in water, mentioning POPs as highly toxic substances, common presence in agrochemicals, easy volatility and persistence to travel long distances. In the particular case of Mexico, between 1 and 10% of agrochemicals sprayed with airplanes reach plants, the rest is dispersed; this poses a great danger to other species and human communities. The active participation of young people in research teams and the construction of networks are key points of action to support communities and other species, he said.

The detection of POPs in ecosystems and wild organisms in the Gulf of California was presented by Dr. Diana Escobedo Urías, Professor-Researcher, IPN-CIIDIR Sinaloa. The Gulf of California faces two insidious threats: it is the main fishery in the country, so many exotic species are affected, and it is the recipient of persistent organic pollutants from the farmlands of Sonora, Sinaloa and Baja California that are reaching the sea and affecting the fauna. To address these threats, he mentioned that his research team will work with the Universidad Autónoma de Occidente in the detection of POPs in the air in Baja California Sur, Sinaloa and Sonora.

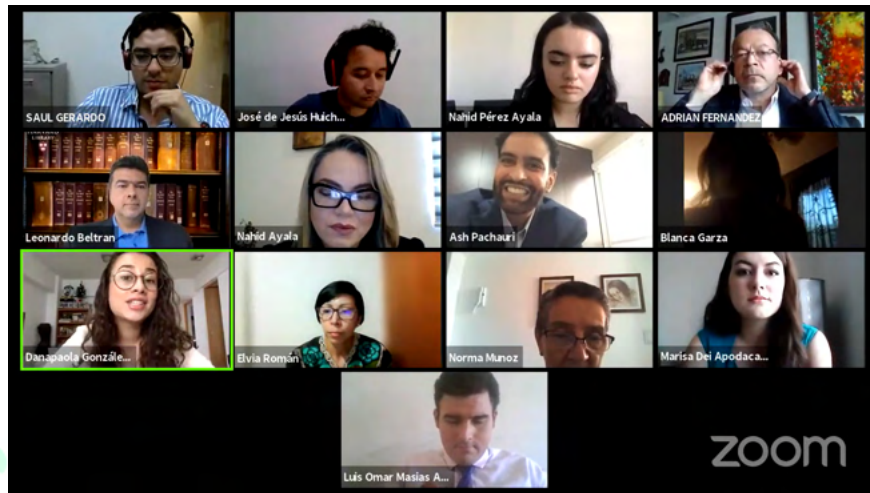
"Climate change intensifies the risk of danger of POPs due to their biomagnification effect" was the affirmation of Dr. Maria del Carmen Martinez Valenzuela, director of outreach and internationalization of the Universidad Autónoma de Occidente during her intervention of POPs in breast milk. Breast milk is an invaluable source of nutrition for babies, but its lipid components give it a high affinity for POPs, which increases the risks to babies. Sinaloa hosted POPs research in the region because of its highly technified and intensive industrial agriculture, which uses enormous amounts of pesticides containing these highly persistent chemicals.

In addition, other relevant research topics were presented such as DNA methylation as a potential biomarker for monitoring POPs in agricultural areas by Luis Omar Masias from the Environment and Health Research Unit of the Universidad Autónoma de Occidente (UAdeO); the relationship between POPs and obesity by Dr. Gabriel Castro, member of the Genotography Laboratory of the Universidad Autónoma de Occidente (UAdeO); and the relationship between POPs and obesity by Dr. Gabriel Castro, member of the Genotoxicology Laboratory of the UAdeO and the cellular immobilization of Azotobacter in the degradation of POPs by Dr. Victoria Conde Avila, PhD researcher in biotechnology of the Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla.

5.7 Renewable Energies

Dr. Adrian Fernandez explained how renewable energies are playing a very important role and will be a worldwide key element to significantly reduce emissions. He highlighted that we need to generate energy policies that can allow us to reconcile the regulatory role of the state with the opportunities that the world is embracing, and how we cannot allow Mexico to lose these opportunities.

Mtro. Leonardo Beltrán spoke about how the renewable energies and energy efficiency are the two central elements that we need to be able to have an impact on this environment, where with a more sustainable way of using natural resources through clean energies and with a greater use of the resources we have within our reach, it will be possible to have a planet where we can conserve resources, but also continue to enjoy the satisfactions and benefits of living on a planet that is socially, environmentally and economically responsible.



Dr. Raúl Eric Talán Ramírez explained that energy efficiency is the percentage of useful energy used to accomplish a given action. He also mentioned that energy efficiency plays a strategic role in the field of Carbon Dioxide and can lower 30% of greenhouse gas emissions with energy efficiency efforts in buildings, appliances, lighting and the transportation industry.

The panel ended with a round of questions by Ing. Avelina Calles Fragoso, Ing. Oscar Eduardo Delgado Santana and Ing. Ana Hanhausen on the implementation of renewable energies in Mexico.

5.8 Sustainable Business Management



The objective of this activity was to externalize from the point of view of the experts the importance of sustainable business training institutions that contribute to the diagnosis of causes, evaluations and efforts to sustainable solutions or value-added improvements together with the students who join from volunteering in this type of companies, as well as to highlight from both points of view the skills and attitudes that these institutions form to the kids, being a factor of economic and social development.



In the first intervention, Dr. Manuel Diaz, founder of FUNVIVE in Venezuela, emphasized that sustainable business management must understand that they should not be separated from the government or their environment, nor from their workers, they must take important innovations taking short, medium and long term strategies and take advantage of the crisis as opportunities. Then, Mr. Montiel Calderón, member of CONIGE, referred to his experience generating alliances in the private sector, considering that there is a bad perception of certain sectors where the company is considered as the cause of social and environmental problems. For this reason, it is important to consider the possibilities of generating, through new business models and combined impact, a new type of company to achieve leadership and financial success and at the same time, social progress.

The next intervention was made by Master Miguel Mendivil-Roiz with diplomatic studies at Oxford University, his main considerations were the positioning of business management from different latitudes of the world as a new paradigm of doing business, the concept of circular economy and shared value framed within social responsibility and also, the important progress of the countries in the 2030 agenda and the entry of Mexican companies to the global compact.

With the representation of young members of CONIGE, Mexico the panel continued with the different youth initiatives and perspectives, such as Adriana Arcila, who helps the formation of companies in Yucatan to align with the Sustainable Development Goals and generate value. Felix Hernandez, president of the engineering and business organizing committee of the city of Sinaloa; sustainable innovation and the involvement of the circular economy in companies were the predominant themes. The activities of Debora Martines from the city of Madero for the care of the environment in the student body and volunteering in the cleaning of the Miramar beach and local lagoons were highlighted.

The panel ended with the conclusions of sustainable business management developed during the session. The hope in the current generations is evident, therefore it is vital that the enterprises are involved as strategic actors for sustainable development. In addition, the importance of institutions such as governments and companies to generate alliances to solve environmental problems was emphasized, and were some of the most representative reflections.

June 9, 2021 Day 05

6.1 Government Panel



The session delved into the critical role of governments at different levels in tackling the issue of climate change. It provided a comprehensive overview of the key impacts of government actions and showcased examples of problems and solutions modeled in various cities. Furthermore, the session shared valuable information on organizations that can support young people in taking charge of climate action. The New York City Department

of Transportation's success served as a perfect example for other cities to emulate by having dedicated individuals to think about climate impacts and learning from other cities' models.

However, the session also touched on the challenges of getting the government to address climate change and strategies to move forward with it. Climate change has become a polarizing political issue in the US, making it difficult for people to acknowledge its reality depending on where they live. Transforming our world to address climate change requires a shift in financial and mentalities.

Regarding cross-domain collaboration and policymaking, it depends on how governments are structured. In New York, after Hurricane Sandy, most city agencies have a department of climate resiliency. The session also explored what motivated the speaker to get involved in this work, citing an interest in seeing how nature was brought into the city of Chicago and finding her engagement niche in the climate journey.

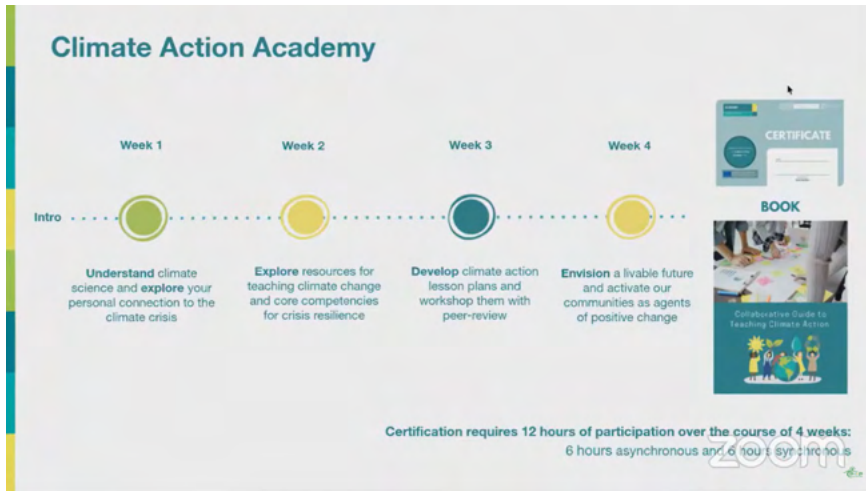
Lastly, the session examined the intersection of environmental justice with the department of transportation's work. Environmental justice communities are often those with legacies of pollution and disinvestment, coinciding with communities that have been redlined. For young people, the speaker provided guidance to give themselves the space to envision the future they desire, one where climate justice has been achieved.

6.2 Youth Advocacy for Climate Education

The session focused on the critical importance of climate education.

Katie Cashman, a climate activist, first talked about her program, '2811', which works towards climate action. She talked about how climate education is very important and the fact that it should be taught in schools. She also

recommended that teachers as well expand their knowledge on the same by learning courses on the same provided by '2811'.



Tracey Ritchie, the director of education at 'Earthday.org' is a climate educator. She talked about Climate literacy and campaigns which can result in schools around the globe having climate education with a strong civic engagement component. She also talked about the various projects that her organization does to promote climate education globally.

Trichia Brown, the director of education at the climate museum talked about parents and how they should also be conversing with their kids about climate change. She also talked about the various programs her organization conducts to teach young students and what the students can benefit from it.

Towards the end of the session, all three panelists talked about the impact and benefit of the pandemic on climate education.

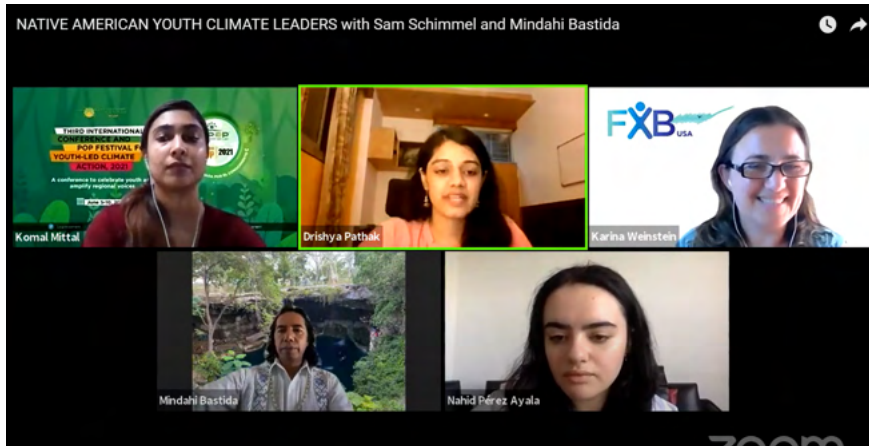
6.3 Innovation Technology Leading Entrepreneurship to take Climate Action



Dream Tank is a platform that provides support for youth with impactful ideas and inspiration. One such innovation is Coral, a company that uses sunscreen to increase the carbonate ions in ocean water, helping corals calcify better. Additionally, a virtual reality game based on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been created to promote climate action. Innovation is a vital aspect of climate action, and community

collaboration is integral to this process. Encouraging youth to ask questions, to be curious, and to identify problems that require solutions is key to fostering innovation. A support system that allows for experimentation and failure is also necessary to enable youth to bring their ideas to fruition. Ultimately, youth solutions for climate action are essential for achieving global impacts.

6.4 Native American Youth Leaders



Sam Schimmel eloquently expresses the impact of climate change on his community's way of life. The sea ice, which sustained their island and culture for tens of thousands of years, is disappearing due to changing weather patterns and shifts in animal migration. This loss of tradition and culture is deeply felt and experienced as soul nostalgia and trauma. Meanwhile, Mindahi Bastida

highlights the devastating consequences of ecocide, as industries pollute and dry up lakes, causing harm not only to ecosystems but also to the people whose lives are intertwined with them. As the concept of natural rights gains traction, it becomes increasingly important to address and prevent ecocide in order to protect both the environment and human communities.

“I don't usually say these these stories but i want to put this in motion because we want to speak with truth otherwise we are not going to heal as human beings” -Mindahi Bastida

6.5 Climate Solution - Keynote Address

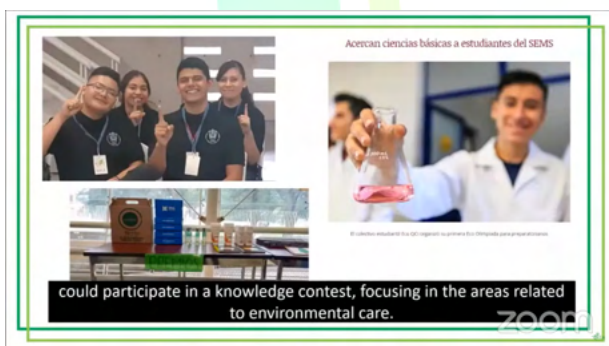
The session commenced by engaging the audience in an opening question, seeking their thoughts on climate change and global warming. After multiple responses, it was revealed that only a meagre 3% were able to talk about potential solutions. The session then transitioned into the presentation of the Drawdown project, which aims to reduce heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere to a level where they no longer increase but rather decrease. The project advocates for the implementation of three "S's" which include reducing sources, supporting and enhancing natural sinks, and society. The speaker emphasized that these solutions are tools of possibility in the face of a seemingly impossible challenge.

Throughout the presentation, the concept of co-benefits was highlighted, emphasizing that every action has a ripple effect on the environment and society. The speaker shared numerous examples of people taking initiatives in various fields such as electricity, agriculture, food, industries, transportation, and building to reduce their carbon emissions. The audience was presented with simple solutions like enhancing efficiency, improving systems, and shifting production. The speaker also suggested using the Drawdown eco-challenge website as a fun and social way for communities to get involved in climate solutions.



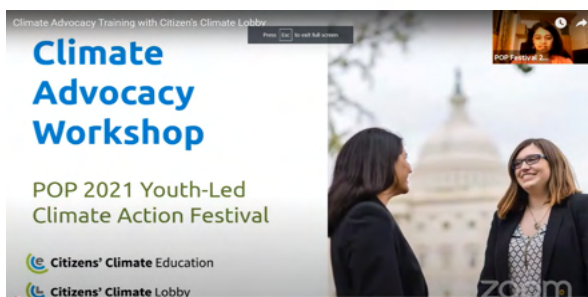
In conclusion, the presentation left a lasting impact on the audience, motivating them to take action towards reducing their carbon footprint. The speaker's use of real-life examples and simple solutions made it easy for the audience to understand the impact of their actions and the benefits of taking action against climate change.

6.6 Project Presentations



This session showcased the grassroots projects and initiatives led by some youth in the United States, Mexico, and Venezuela in the form of interactive and audio-visual presentations and hands-on learning. Through immersive experiences and tactile engagement, they nurtured seeds of knowledge, allowing wisdom to take root and flourish. With each touch, each shared moment, they demonstrated the immense potential that emerges when passion meets action.

6.7 Climate Advocacy Training



The session revolved around the art of climate advocacy and the art of preparation for climate advocacy. Participants were equipped with the tools to articulate their climate story and refine their strategies for effective advocacy. The workshop also emphasized the importance of lobbying and fostering positive relationships as integral components of successful advocacy efforts. Key takeaways included the significance of sharing one's personal climate narrative, maintaining a demeanor of respect and appreciation, and the necessity of actively

listening to others as a means of building strong coalitions.



6.8 Youth Panel: Climate Justice with Global Minded

The aim of the session was for the youth panel to amplify voices showcasing personal experiences about inclusive, just and equitable climate leadership covering many different regions of the world.



The moderator of the session was Summer Benjamin, who is a POP (Protect Our Planet) youth ambassador for the Caribbean. The session began with the address of two Keynote speakers, Ms. Carol Carter from 'Global Minded' who talked briefly about her own organization and Christa Cook from 'Solidarity Engineering', who talked about the effects of climate change. Each of the young panelists were asked questions related to their field of study which were answered informatively.

Ricardo Delgado, a journalist and student from Venezuela talked about how to create a global movement to achieve climate equity by influencing people by social media etc. To start many movements instead of just one. He also said that governments cannot act on climate change because it is a very big problem requiring a lot of money.

Folashade Molade, the CEO of 'Future Savers Sustainable Development' talked about how to bring biodiversity to life and how to implement climate culture in the communities. She also emphasized the fact that youth should be educated about climate from a young age.

Stephanie Evans, the founder and director of 'Seas of Change Australia' spoke about how important it is to include indigenous knowledge in environmental action to help in ocean conservation.

Veer Ojas, the founder of 'Climate Action India' talked about the approach that the youth took to advocate for the conservation of the Aravalli Hills in India by campaigning and raising their voices.

Zoe Rivera from Mexico talked about how vulnerable populations, indigenous people, and minorities have more participation in action against climate change. He spoke about respecting their rights and making sure that they recognize their rights themselves. He also talked about the benefits of youth and governments working together.



June 10, 2021 Day 06

7.1 Mindful Zen Yoga Workshop for Mental Health and Peace



This workshop focused on building mental health and finding peace within ourselves. It involved a 15-minute lecture on yoga and mindfulness, 20-minute yoga practice, 5-minute relaxation, and 40-minute Zazen practice. Through this session, the participants learned how to build inner peace and take care of oneself mentally and physically through yoga and zazen practice; and experience how to apply the learned

knowledge in practice and gain it as a living skill. During the workshop, Ms. Midori quoted Ms. Ekaterina Zagladina as saying *“Everything that happens around us is a reflection of our inner state, to make this world a better place. To make this world a better place, each one of us has to know how to build and grow our inner peace first. Only then, we can build peace outside.”*

7.2 Leadership Conversation with Diels Ludo: The bio-economy and the circular economy

“We do not want to go to a one, uniform world, but we must move to a sustainable, diversified world.”



Prof. Diels Ludo, Professor Emeritus at the University of Antwerp, and Senior Advisor, VITO, joined a conversation with Honorary POP Ocean Mentor, Ana Hanhausen and other POP youth leaders focusing on the bio-economy and the circular economy, as part of “POP Climate Leadership Conversations: A Tribute to Chief Mentor” on June 10, 2021.

Prof. Ludo discussed leadership in the field of bio-economy and circular economy, emphasizing the importance of inspiring people to move towards sustainability. Vanshika, a youth member, raised concerns about water scarcity, and Prof. Ludo stressed the need for circular usage of water resources. Samuel, POP Mentor asked about the integration of biomaterials into everyday life, and Prof. Ludo explained the difference between



bioeconomy and bio-based economy, and the need for circular carbon usage. Gloria, a youth member, asked how the combination of bio-economy and circular economy could help reduce stress on the planet, and Prof. Ludo emphasized the importance of circularity and managing waste. Finally, Meda, POP Mentor asked about Prof. Ludo's expectations for the COP, and he stressed the need for concrete action, including investment. Prof. Ludo concluded by emphasizing the need for citizen involvement in demanding climate-neutral products.

7.3 Impact Investment Workshop

During the workshop, the participants learned about impact investment, its players, and the role it plays in our daily life; understand the difference between sustainable and impact investment, learned about its implementation in all sectors, including its unique characteristics and practical examples; and understood the reasons why the youth should be well aware of this amazing and explosively growing sector. During the session, it was stated that there is over



\$800billion in the market place over the world. On this Ben mentioned that *“Expectation that there are returns - it is not philanthropy. For the business, we should measure social and environmental impact along with financial returns. If we work with SDGs, check the targets for that particular goal and check that the enterprise satisfies at least one of those targets. With that, it is still possible to achieve SDGs in the next 9 years.”*

Impact investment looks for innovation, disruption and scalability. Some of the examples were provided during the workshop 1) Choba choba - organic chocolate and farmers are co-owners, sustainable agriculture; 2) International biomass solutions - protein for animal and human feed, large carbon sequestration and carbon credits, zero waste, circular economy, no pesticides or herbicides; 3) Project NEV house - turns plastic waste into affordable and accessible houses, assembled in 3-5 days, 100% off the grid; 4) M-KOPA - solar panels that replace kerosene fuel for energy needs of rural Kenyans and Uganda; and Project CircLeg - prosthetic limb, affordable, targets people in developing countries, recycled plastic waste, customizable.

The workshop ends with a saying by Svetlana *“Charity is giving, philanthropy is doing”*.

7.4 Launch of Pre-Youth Climate Aid Forum

The session served as a curtain raiser in building up the pre-COP and Youth Climate AID Forum. The session focused on the biggest areas on carbon emission and what measures could be taken. It highlights the voices of youth in policy-making for net zero carbon emission. In this session, Ragnild "Rags" Jacobsson and Lars Jacobsson seek





climate testimonials from youth. Members of the POP Movement family collaborated with Ragnild and Lars to share their climate stories in short video clips, highlighting the many ways in which climate change has impacted people around the world.

Prachi Sevgaonkar, a young activist shares her story and journey while developing her app, “Cool the Globe.” She is a Media Professional, Communicator and the founder of Cool The Globe – An app and a movement for climate action. Prachi has helped several sustainable initiatives & businesses craft a communication strategy. She has been mobilizing global citizens to fight climate change through technology, innovation and grassroots action. From this was born Cool The Globe app to help citizens reduce their own Greenhouse Gas Emissions to a target. Prachi spent months covering stories of youth, farmers, waste-picker communities and citizen groups to understand the impact of climate change in day to day lives of people. She firmly believes that when ordinary citizens come together, miracles can happen! Her app is a wonderful example of small changes making a big difference. Users can set targets to reduce their emissions and see how changes in their day-to-day lives can have a positive impact.

Sam Oozevaseuk Schimmel, has grown up in both Alaska and Washington state. He is an advocate for Alaska Native youth. He shares his climate story with the group. He explains that climate change has touched his community directly, through melted sea ice and changed migration patterns that are disrupting the ability to practice subsistence hunting and fishing.

Seyi Akinwumi Ransom is a Social entrepreneur, and works as a clean energy and climate change activist in Nigeria. His zeal for a sustainable environment that can produce a clean and renewable sources of energy lead to his passion for climate change activism, it's his opinion that every child has the right to a cleaner source of power and shouldn't be exposed to dangerous fumes and smokes which has resulted to millions of children suffering from respiratory diseases in Nigeria. He also believes that children need to be empowered and protected from climate change. The extent of the climate crisis in Nigeria and the alarming fact that only a few are aware of climate change. He resolved that climate education is the only way out to spread the light of hope to those who need it the most. During the conversation, Seyi Ransom shares his experience as a farmer and explains that the impacts of climate change, such as drought, can create conflict because people are concerned about the already limited natural resources.

7.5 Climate Refugees - A conversation

For most of human history, people have lived within a surprisingly narrow range of temperatures, in the places where the climate supported abundant food production. But as the planet warms, that band is suddenly shifting north. According to [a pathbreaking recent study in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#), the planet could see a greater temperature increase in the next 50 years than it did in the last 6,000 years combined. By 2070, the kind of extremely hot zones, like in the Sahara, that now cover less than 1 percent of the earth's land surface could cover nearly a fifth of the land, potentially placing one of every three people alive outside the climate niche where humans have thrived for thousands of years. Many will dig in, suffering through heat, hunger and political chaos, but others will be forced to move on.



Since at least 2014, a [growing number](#) of asylum-seekers from [Central America](#) have arrived on the U.S.-Mexico border. While the response from the Obama administration [raised genuine protection concerns](#), the Trump administration has taken the draconian and unwelcoming approach of [dismantling](#) the U.S. asylum system by [restricting grounds](#) for asylum, [separating families](#),



and illegally [blocking access to ports of entry](#). The current administration has also adopted the “Remain in Mexico” [policy](#) and so-called [safe third country](#) agreements, which forces asylum-seekers to remain in dangerous situations.

Many individuals coming to the United States from Central America are fleeing [violence, poverty, and corruption](#). But [climate change](#) is emerging as both a direct and an indirect driver of migration that complicates existing vulnerabilities. Persistent drought, fluctuating temperatures, and unpredictable rainfall have reduced crop yields throughout the [Northern Triangle](#)—a region that comprises El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala—challenging [livelihoods](#) and [access to food](#) in agriculturally dependent communities. By [denying](#) the reality of climate change and taking a hard-line approach to migration, the Trump administration has shown its unwillingness to address the root causes of migration in the Americas.

Sidewalk School works to promote the rights and look at the populations which are displaced both internally and cross borders as result of climate change. Coming from a background in refugee protection, the 1951 refugee convention is for those who are traditionally international refugees and those who do need the parameters to be protected. Those who have left their countries and who are at the international borders and seeking protection on the basis of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, and membership in a particular group. There are five grounds under which one can seek protection in international law for prosecution and climate change is nowhere in those five grounds and we are there and have a fair bit of problem which brings me to an incredibly inspiring person on the panel.

People who are fleeing their countries due to climate change are not covered under international law; they are not eligible for asylum. This is a gap in international law that must be addressed.

Founding the Sidewalk School

In Trump's administration he administered a policy called migrant protection program (MPP). In the beginning sidewalk school started with 700 students to help educate them. Sidewalk school offers five days of schooling to people facing displacement in the Matamoros Tent city, a refugee camp in the border zone between the US and Mexico. They work to lessen the disparity between children who have and children that do not have a state. To do this, they align themselves with community support networks to provide education opportunities and assistance necessary to this end. They work with families where they are at in the case of Tennessee. They provide emergency assistance when necessary and to speak and when they are able to ensure children live in an environment conducive to learning. The Sidewalk School was founded in August 2019 in response to the need for educational opportunities for those facing displacement in the Matamoros Tent City, a refugee camp that formed along the US and Mexico border. In this short amount of time, the Sidewalk School has provided schooling to over 400 students and employs asylum seekers as teachers and staff. Two years later, Sidewalk serves asylum seeker needs from education, health support, legal referrals to border accompaniments and more. Along the way, through the community members Sidewalk supports, Felicia has learned a lot about traditional areas of asylum, but also increasing forces of displacement like climate change that is driving people to US borders.

Displacement and Need

People are facing displacement in the Matamoros Tent City for months, some remaining there for over a year as they await the verdict of their asylum application to the United States. As they await this lengthy process, children and young adults are growing up without access to education, which is absolutely not okay. The Sidewalk School for Asylum Seekers recognizes the importance of education, and stands by the belief that all people deserve access to education opportunities. The Sidewalk School for Asylum Seekers offers school five days of the week, during which children receive a lunch that includes fruit and no processed sugar (the refugee camp lacks dental care and the teeth of many children in our school are rotting). Currently, they employ eleven teachers, each of whom are asylum



seekers themselves. This is because of the immense amount of skill and experience each teacher brings to the classroom, and because they recognize the importance of developing community within the classroom.

“Climate change is reinforcing underlying vulnerabilities and grievances that may have existed for decades, but which are now leading to people having no other choice but to move,” Andrew Harper, special advisor on climate action for the UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Agency, said in an interview.

President Joe Biden and his administration have faced pressure from across the political spectrum to stem the flow of migration at the U.S. southern border.

Sidewalk School conducts coordination activities on both sides of the Mexico and the US border. They listen to cases one-by-one; seven days a week of those people who have disparities and special medical needs. *“There are people whose lives are affected by hurricanes and drought and now there is nothing left to go back in place. The streets are gone, there is no business left, and people do not have places to go back”* said Felicia.

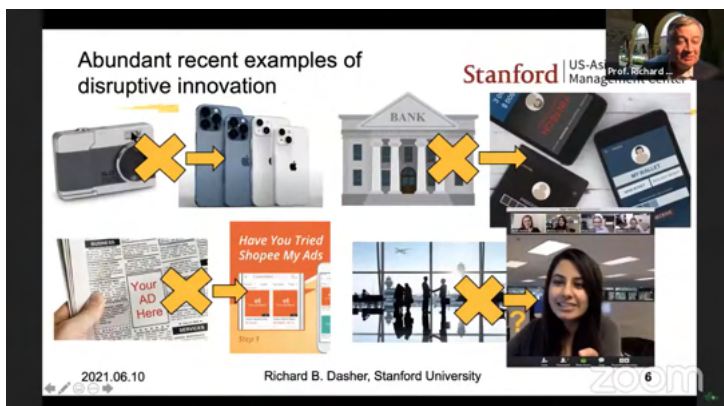
We, as a part of Sidewalk try to help as much as possible but the US administration under Biden prefers to keep COVID out which means if you are black, you are not allowed to cross the border. If a person does that, h/she will be imported back to the country immediately. There is a temporary protection sanction within the US that allows people to save from natural disasters. One of the conditions that require is to be in the US to seek that protection and is only given to the people who are within the boundaries of the US.

Disasters don't just happen in isolation, they are compounding due to economic factors, global health crisis, pandemic, high rates of poverty and many others, Amali Tower, Climate Refugees

Seeking asylum at an international border refers to people fleeing conflict or persecution due to reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, and membership in a particular social group. Climate change is not one of these protected grounds, and yet, in our work, we do see that climate change is a concern for many of the people fleeing their countries. There has been a risk factor for climate change for many years. If you are crossing the Texas border, you will be prisoned for a year or year and a half to cross illegally. In such cases, Sidewalk filters out cases to help people. There are people who send us videos about their situation in crisis and the future of their families is at stake considered as special cases. The fact is that climate problems such as hurricanes, cyclones are not considered special cases. Most people seem to be arriving and seemingly why, because of damage from floods in Honduras from Eta & Iota, telling us *“there's nothing left there”*; Gabi sending her whole salary to her family because of the effects of the hurricanes in Honduras even though she has a 5 year old son to provide for in Mexico; Haitians telling you they're still fleeing the effects of hurricanes from 11 years ago.

There are situations in which people have to flee and as borders continue to be closed. The conditions of xenophobia exist. People get more desperate and inclined to travel further and are ready to take up the dangerous journeys to cross the borders. It is a global problem and by closing the borders, we are blocking the generic rights of protection to asylum seekers who need space. This is a universal problem and everyone has the right to migrate and seek protection, said Amali.

7.6 Climate Careers



Professor Richard B. Dasher from Stanford University talked to us about climate careers. The session explores how young people can identify climate careers in diverse fields utilizing their skills and passions. It highlights people who have dedicated their lives to



climate careers as well as showcases strategies to expose young people to how they can intertwine their passion for climate action into their career choices. He mentioned four main points: every career is a climate career, climate action and disruptive innovation, disruptive innovation and entrepreneurship, and becoming an agent of change. The first point he talked about was the fact that every career is a climate career. There are many different types of careers, but they can all be climate careers. Some jobs directly address climate change, some jobs enable climate change, some jobs adhere to green principles, and others provide the financial resources to address climate change on their own. Though some careers are more directly affiliated to climate action, you can make a change in all careers.

The next point Professor Richard addressed was that climate action requires disruptive innovation. He said that, generally, unless we are unhappy with the present, we don't want to change. But climate action requires change. It requires us to change our lives so that we live more sustainably. We need to adopt new lifestyles to preserve the future of humanity, and this is often led by entrepreneurs. An example he gave of a recent disruptive innovation was iPhones. They changed our lives as we know it. People started to use iPhones instead of many things such as cameras, cellphones, flashlights, etc.

Related to the last point, the next point that Professor Richard spoke about was the relationship between disruptive innovation and entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurs, start up companies, and young people are great sources of disruptive change. Startups and entrepreneurs are not tied to existing business requirements and old ideas. They can see new possibilities and make change without burdens. Start up companies often lead to disruptive innovation because they have high execution risk and high market risk. An innovation can become disruptive in many ways. It may or may not start out by intentionally targeting old industries. Disruptive startups often succeed by building new value networks, and then gradually becoming attractive to existing mainstream markets. Disruptive innovation is often completed at large firms, because it becomes attractive to mainstream markets.

The last point that Professor Richard focused on was becoming an agent of change. He told us about some important things that entrepreneurs should remember, and reminded us that entrepreneurs don't need to have a start up to be a success. They can make a change in any career. Some points that Professor Richard told us about being an agent of change was to keep self motivated by one's mission, to understand your context, to use problem solving skills, and to not only communicate your vision, but also let others take ownership of it. He finished the session by reiterating his points and reminding us that we can make a change in any career.

7.7 Youth Leadership Conversation

“Whatever you do, make sure you hold the hand of someone older and hold the hand of someone younger.”



Xiye Bastida, Youth Leader at [Fridays for Future](#) and the co-founder of the [Re-Earth Initiative](#), joined a conversation with [Honorary POP Ocean Mentor, Ana Hanhausen](#) and other POP youth leaders focusing on youth leadership, as part of “[POP Climate Leadership Conversations: A Tribute to Our Chief Mentor](#)” on June 10, 2021. This conversation was also a part of the [POP Festival 2021](#).

Bastida discussed various topics related to climate leadership and activism in a conversation with members of the POP

Movement. She emphasized the importance of intergenerational dialogue, staying true to values, approaching climate action with stubborn optimism, incentivizing communities to take action, and addressing gender dynamics in climate activism. She also shared her thoughts on the lack of political leadership and the need to communicate demands to those in power using clear language. Lastly, she emphasized that everyone's skills are needed to fight the climate crisis, and that taking care of the Earth must be made part of our children's culture.

“It’s very easy for us to just alienate people who haven’t done their best to protect the earth, when in reality it is them who have power right now and power in these leadership positions. But we can challenge that, and we can ask more from them, and we can become those people in those leadership positions”.

7.8 Future of Youth Climate Advocacy



In this panel, four high school students reflected on their climate advocacy and the critical components to effective climate action. The session focused on youth advocacy for climate action. Professor Micheal Mann, a Distinguished Professor of Atmospheric Science at Penn State, with joint appointments in the Department of Geosciences, the Earth and Environmental Systems Institute (EESI) and the director of the Penn State Earth System Science Center (ESSC). During the conversation, Professor Mann provided a deep insight into projections, problems and future action for climate issues and influential youth climate leaders shared their stories, projects plans of action and advocacy. Professor mentioned climate change as an issue of ethics. In the past it was focused on economics or science and the youth led movements have refocused the conversation to the main issue: ethics. Young voices have changed the conversation and spoken truth to power and demanded change. Professor Mann said that the impacts of one degree warming has been catastrophic, because that’s where we may be headed. He mentioned that reducing individual carbon footprint is not enough, we have to involve the policy-makers. Having said this, the Eco-eaters approach led them to create a plan to stop single-use plastic by providing them with financial incentive and advertising. Mann pointed out that countries like Russia, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela are some examples of bad actors that have to be held accountable. Countries feel the pressure of other forces and the people of their nation.

“Every tool at our disposal should be used to make sure our countries and governments are acting on our behalf instead of as a rubber stamp for polluters”- Professor Michael Mann

8 Conclusion

8.1 Closing Ceremony



The closing and award ceremony at the 2021 International Conference and POP Festival for Youth-Led Climate Action, held from June 5-10, 2021, was an unforgettable event filled with inspiring moments. From the opening remarks by our dear mentor Komal Mittal to the heartfelt speeches by esteemed guests and participants, it was a celebration of youth leadership and a call to action for a sustainable future.

Komal Mittal reminded us that the POP Festival is a platform dedicated to empowering youth to lead and take action. Dr. Ash Pachauri expressed gratitude for the hard work put in by the POP members and emphasized the importance of embracing hope and working together to create a better world. The festival brought together people from all corners of the globe, with numerous sessions, workshops, and partners joining forces for a common cause.

Salomón Chertorivski Woldenberg, a Mexican politician, paid tribute to the legacy of Dr. R.K. Pachauri, recognizing the impact he had on saving our planet. Jordan Sanchez, a UNEP Ambassador, poet, and musician, moved us with his words about the urgency of addressing climate change and the importance of taking small steps to make a difference.

Mila Popovich highlighted the significance of connecting youth, science, and art in driving change, while Kanchan Srivastava urged all participants to believe in the success of their actions and embrace sustainable alternatives. Meda Hope, representing Africa, reminded us of the importance of self-care and persistence in causing impactful change.

Anika Variyambath from India captivated us with her mesmerizing dance performance, showcasing the undeniable talent within the POP Movement. Wanjira Mithai emphasized the crucial role of youth in building a better future and the need for ecosystem restoration.

Throughout the event, the importance of renewable energy, protecting nature, producing better and more efficient food, reducing waste, and restoring our environment was emphasized. Each speaker brought their unique perspective



and insights, leaving us with a profound understanding of our individual responsibilities and the power of collective action.

As Zainab Yusufzai shared, we must "*be the change we want to see in the world.*" These words, echoing the sentiment of our dear Dr. Pachauri, remind us of the strength and determination within the POP family to create the change we desire.

This event not only filled us with a sense of hope but also provided us with opportunities to invest in a sustainable and green future. It reminded us that the future is now, and it is our responsibility to take meaningful action in our respective countries.

Together, we can make a difference. Let us continue to work hand in hand, driven by passion and conviction, to build a better world for generations to come.

8.2 Awards

During the closing session, the POP Movement recognized [*POP Stars 2021*] participants and projects that excel in different areas during the ceremony. An international evaluation committee with extensive experience in a range of climate-related subjects evaluated all the awardees, and each awardee received six months of mentorship by the POP Movement. The award categories include the Outstanding Project Award, which was applicable to different regions, such as the USA, Mexico, Latin America, and the Caribbean, Africa, and the Middle East, and globally. The Special Recognition and Certificate of Appreciation was applicable to the same regions and includes categories such as water conservation and land conservation, amongst others. The Champion Participant Award was a special category awarded to attendees who joined the most sessions and meaningfully participated during the festival event.

8.3 Acknowledgements

On behalf of the POP (Protect Our Planet) Movement, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to everyone involved in making the festival a resounding success. This event would not have been possible without the dedication and efforts of numerous individuals who worked tirelessly behind the scenes.

To the planning and organizing committee, thank you for your meticulous planning, attention to detail, and unwavering commitment to creating an impactful and meaningful experience. Your vision and hard work laid the foundation for an event that inspired and empowered youth leaders from around the world.

We extend our gratitude to the facilitating committee for their invaluable contributions in ensuring smooth operations throughout the festival. Your dedication to coordinating various sessions, workshops, and activities played a crucial role in fostering engagement and facilitating enriching discussions.

A special word of appreciation goes out to the note-takers who diligently documented key insights, ideas, and discussions. Your meticulousness and dedication in capturing the essence of

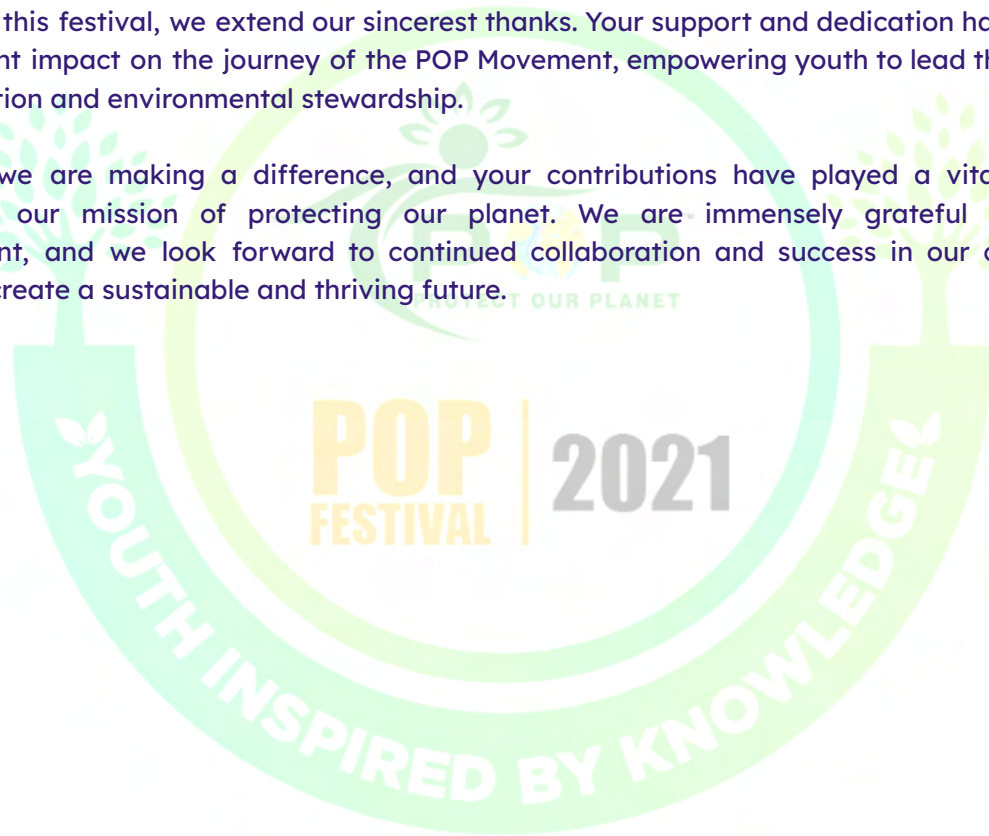


each session will contribute to the creation of a comprehensive report that will serve as a valuable resource for future reference and reflection.

We would also like to acknowledge and extend our gratitude to Ved Sanyal and Devansh Upadhyay and other mentees and mentors who have been instrumental in preparing the report for the festival. Your commitment to excellence, knowledge-sharing, and collaboration has enriched the content and ensured its accuracy and relevance.

To each and every individual who has contributed their time, energy, and expertise to the success of this festival, we extend our sincerest thanks. Your support and dedication have made a significant impact on the journey of the POP Movement, empowering youth to lead the way in climate action and environmental stewardship.

Together, we are making a difference, and your contributions have played a vital role in advancing our mission of protecting our planet. We are immensely grateful for your commitment, and we look forward to continued collaboration and success in our collective efforts to create a sustainable and thriving future.





Appendix: Festival Video links

Day	Name	YouTube Link
Day 1	Opening Ceremony	Click Here
	Get off the Bench Workshop	Click Here
	Food Security: A Multi Stakeholder Responsibility in Africa and the Middle East	Click Here
	Project Presentations	Click Here
	Water Crisis and Sustainable Solutions	Click Here
	The Sargassum Belt	Click Here
	Climate Crisis: Youth Open Dialogue	Click Here
	Microplastics: Impact on Environment & Health	Click Here
	Plastic and the Circular Economy	Click Here
Day 2	Leadership Conversation with Dr. Raghavan Seetharaman	Click Here
	Education to Build Climate Resilience and Adaptation	Click Here
	Blue Circle and Blue Club Workshop	Click Here
	Sustainable Cities in the Middle East	Click Here
	Women Empowerment as a Key to Sustainable Development	Click Here
	Artificial Intelligence and Climate Action	Click Here
	Climate Education to Address Various Issues	Click Here
	Hack Yourself: The Attention Economy and Your Mind-Body Conversation	Click Here
Day 3	Doing Profitable Business with Impact	Click Here
	Carbon Initiative Forum	Click Here
	Project Presentations	Click Here
	Ocean Project Presentations	Click Here
	National Maritime Foundation	Click Here
	Impact of Environmental Factors on Human Health	Click Here



	Indigenous Languages and their Culture	Click Here
	Environmental Education	Click Here
	Project Presentations	Click Here
	Social Technologies and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources	Click Here
	Food Security and Climate Change	Click Here
	Youth Panel: Climate Leadership Challenges under the COVID-19 Situation	Click Here
Day 4	Education for Sustainable Development Beyond Boundaries	Click Here
	Using the Law to Fix the Climate	Click Here
	Marine Biodiversity and Threats - Panel Discussion	Click Here
	Agrochemicals - Indigenous Health, Mental Health	Click Here
	Project Presentations	Click Here
	POP's Result in Mexico	Click Here
	Renewable Energies	Click Here
	Sustainable Business Management	Click Here
Day 5	Government Panel	Click Here
	Youth Advocacy for Climate Education	Click Here
	Innovation & Technology Leading Entrepreneurship to take Climate Action	Click Here
	Native American Youth Leaders	Click Here
	Climate Solution - Keynote Address	Click Here
	Project Presentations	Click Here
	Climate Advocacy Training	Click Here
	Youth Panel: Climate Justice with Global Minded	Click Here
Day 6	Mindful Zen & Yoga Workshop for Mental Health and Peace	Click Here
	Leadership Conversation with Diels Ludo	Click Here
	Impact Investment Workshop	Click Here



Launch of Pre-Youth Climate Aid Forum	Click Here
Climate Refugees - A conversation	Click Here
Climate Careers	Click Here
Youth Leadership Conversation	Click Here
Future of Youth Climate Advocacy	Click Here
Closing Ceremony	Click Here

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND POP FESTIVAL FOR YOUTH-LED CLIMATE ACTION 2021

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