

Youth for Clean Air



SAYEN

South Asia Youth Environment Network



Malé Declaration on Control
and Prevention of Air Pollution
and Its Likely Transboundary
Effects for South Asia



Activities since 4th Regional Stakeholders Meeting

- Networking and Information Servicing
 - Website
 - E-newsletter
 - E-groups



been visited by about 300,000 people in the last three years. Praxiti has been involved in conducting environment education programmes in eco-club schools in Ahmedabad, Ghazni and Guwat districts. Gujarat. NGOs schools involved in Praxiti activities participated in the event.

PROJECT UPDATES

- Youth for Clean Air (YCA)
- Sub-regional Sustainability Development Strategy (SDS) for South Asia – A Youth Perspective

Youth for Clean Air

"Youth for Clean Air" (YCA) is a project conducted by CEE, SAVEN with support from UNEP, as a part of the implementation of the *Male Declaration on Control and Prevention of Air Pollution and its Early Transboundary Effects for South Asia*. The project includes two components:

1. A publication on *Male Declaration* (youth version) and
2. An interactive CD for youth in South Asia.



Activities at the event included workshops for Master Trainers, teachers and students, exhibitions by eco-club members and other invited organisations, competitions such as treasure hunt, painting, essay writing, recitation and quiz for students and educators for the participating teachers. Few other activities conducted include face painting, one-minute games, canvas painting, film screening and a cultural programme by the students and teachers who displayed their talents.

The event saw participation of more than 70 schools from all over Gujarat (around 250 children and 70 teachers), around 25 District Coordinators and around 100 Master Trainers. Students from 40 other schools visited the event.

The event had youth volunteers and reporters supported by the SAVEN who enthusiastically contributed to making this event a success.



"Youth for Clean Air" Document - The process for the publication began with the Inception Workshop attended by selected youth (5 members) from the South Asian Countries. The content outline for the "Youth for Clean Air" document was developed and its structure was finalised. The document was

developed under two sections. Section A contains introduction to Air Pollution, in general, its sources and impacts on various spheres of the environment. Section B focused on the mitigation measures at various levels- as individual, collective efforts, efforts at local, regional, government and global levels. It was decided to follow the same structure for the interactive CD also. Based on the outputs from the Inception Workshop, the content was developed.



The content was shared at the Editorial Workshop with UNEP representative and the youth themselves. The Editorial Workshop was held in Sri Lanka from 21st to 23rd September 2007. About 25 Sri Lankan youth participated in this workshop along with the youth from other South Asian Countries who were a part of the inception workshop. Discussions were held on the content of the document and by the end of the workshop, the document content was finalised.

The document was designed and the draft was shared with the Ministers of all the countries under the *Male Declaration* at the Ninth Regional Stakeholders Meeting held on the 30th of October, 2007 in Male, Maldives. The draft document was appreciated very much and

few suggestions were made, particularly on the Government efforts and global efforts. The comments and suggestions from the Regional Stakeholders meeting were incorporated and the draft was updated.

Currently, the document has been edited and approved by the Ministers of all the Member Countries. Under the Government level efforts, information on India is still awaited. Once the information is obtained, it will be updated and the document will be ready for publication.



YCA Interactive CD The structure of the interactive CD was determined in the inception workshop itself. The CD has been divided into four modules following the format of the YCA printed document - Understanding atmospheric emissions, Sources of atmospheric emissions, Impacts and Measures to reduce atmospheric emissions. The objective of the CD is to provide information to the young people in South Asia so that they have a better understanding of issues related to Air and its pollution. It would support the "Youth for Clean Air" document and

Resource Material Development

- YCA printed publication
- YCA CD



Events

'Halla bol' against pollution



Amdavadi youth: Let's Do It!!!

Gopal Jain

Do you prefer riding a bicycle when you need to travel for a short distance of say half-a-kilometer to a kilometer? Do you believe in carrying your own trendy cloth bag for shopping instead of taking polythene bags from the vegetable vendor? Do you like planting a tree at home, school or office? Are you one of those who use both sides of a paper and keep your home, college and neighbourhood clean and green? These may be small efforts, but can go a long way in making a sea of difference in preserving mother earth. Yes, we as individuals can contribute significantly by bringing about a change in our lifestyle and consumption pattern. There is nothing wrong in possessing a mobile phone, but it is equally important to select one that meets our requirement. One must then use it to its full potential for as long as possible because disposal of any gadget results in electronic waste. The same holds for other goods as well.

Yes, gadgets are important and so are branded goods, but it's up to us to choose those that conserve energy and use minimal resources and result in minimal waste. The good news is that India's average ecological footprint (an estimate comparing human consumption of natural resources with Earth's ecological regeneration capacity) at just 6.8 global hectares (gha) per capita is streets behind US' 9.6 gha and that of the global average of 1.8 gha. This means that while we need to continue our path of development, we also simultaneously need to change our lifestyles and choose actions so that we are effective and efficient in resource consumption and thus, reduce climate change impacts. Just like youth in other parts of the world, now youth of Ahmedabad have taken up an initiative to curb climate change with the "Youth and Climate Change Campaign" jointly organized by The Times of India, Centre for Environment Education (CEE) and South Asian Youth for Environment Network (SAYEN). The campaign, which recognizes that our lifestyles impact climate change, is committed to act responsibly and so can you. Let's all join hands in our, "Efforts for Reducing Climate Change".

(The writer is co-ordinator of youth programmes at CEE)

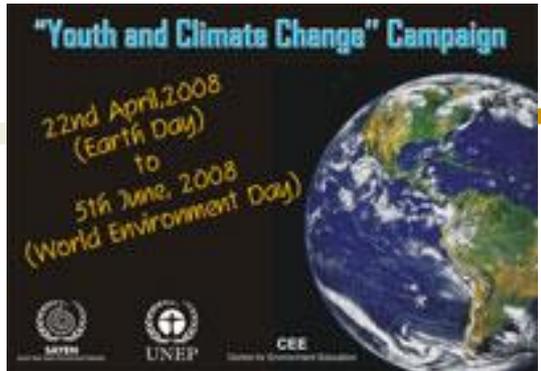
A 'Youth for Climate Change' campaign volunteer working on a poster to be displayed at the IIM crossroads on Wednesday evening

Placards in hand, an army of 40 environment enthusiasts will march to the beats of drums to declare war on the rising vehicular pollution in Apsnu Amdavadi with their 'Halla Bol' campaign. Part of The Times of India, Centre for Environment Education (CEE) and SAYEN (South Asian Youth Environment Network) 'Youth for climate change campaign' the youngsters will set off on a rally from AMA at 5.30 pm to the kittle near IIM to educate people, primarily youngsters, on how a few simple steps can help bring down pollution.

They will also carry out a signature campaign, wherein people will be asked to jot their opinion and ways with which the increasing city pollution could be checked.

These students, who have been handicapped after a series of activities carried out by TOI, CEE and SAYEN over two weeks, have undergone training and put in hours preparing posters and placards packed with eco-friendly messages.

If you have it in you to work for the environment and want to join the 'Youth for climate change' campaign, just write into: youthpower@timesgroup.com



Awareness Activities till December

- Competitions
- Regional Youth Capacity Building on Air Pollution