

Education



Manifesto!

Conference of Youth

#COY11 - PARIS 2015

- February 2016 -

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Position :

Education as a top priority to fight Climate Change.

From Burkina Faso to Indonesia, through China, France, Australia and the United States, representing the different perspectives, needs and realities; we, the youth present at the 11th Conference of Youth in Paris, would like the world leaders to take this message into account for any upcoming decisions; decisions which will impact each and every one of us, as well as the future generations.

This statement captures the voices and visions of thousands of youth from every corner of the world who are strongly represented and have widely contributed to this global call.

Our journeys are different, yet our destination is the same. We come from different backgrounds and from a rich diversity of race, color, religion and belief – yet our voices are united.

Recommendations :

Driven by the same vision, we strongly demand that :

Our governments recognize that education is a diverse process towards creating empowered, aware and active citizens with a strong sense of social and environmental responsibility.

Education enables to uphold the accessibility to the legal right of Education for young people..

Education connects young people to the nature (through Green school programs) and their community.

Education should be accessible and free for all, including minority groups or those facing oppression or discrimination; a special attention for girls, refugees and migrants who deserve the right to learn within their refugee camps.

Curricula should be actions oriented in order to shape change makers. They should be specifics and aligned with the needs of the current job market for each region of the world.

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Education empowers the youth and creates a call to action. We need a system which respects students' choices and support our inherent connection to each other.

Education integrates geopolitics understanding, holistic, interdisciplinary and intercultural reflections and prepares the youth for the complex world.

An education based on constructive thinking, group work skills, love and collaboration, in order to stimulate learning from each other and to reduce conflicts.

Climate change education should be integrated in all curricula and all public information sharing spaces on a formal, non-formal and informal basis. It may be the only way to raise awareness amongst generations, for whom sorting the garbage, reusing the old furniture, not wasting the food, having a responsible consumption will be automatic.

Our governments ensure that all of our current teachers and those who will become teachers in the future have sufficient knowledge about climate change, sustainable development and the environment.

Education integrates the use of a variety of learning techniques, including but not restricted to: e-learning, active, visual, lifestyle-based, context-based, intercultural and adaptive learning. All educations integrate the use of modern and ancestral knowledge. We explicitly recognize the importance of the knowledge of indigenous communities, as well as traditional and community knowledge in education on sustainable development, climate change and the environment.

Disaster and risk reduction trainings are provided to young people who live in areas prone to severe climate change impacts around the world. This should be done through various approaches including, but not limited to : videos, photo exhibitions, adaptation projects competitions, in regions severely affected by climate change such as the small islands threatened to disappear in the next decades.

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Actions :

In order to hold governments accountable for their engagements:

Drawing the attention of the local and international media, in order to create a movement tracking political leaders' promises and decisions.

Using social media channels as a powerful tool to spread information. Encouraging the youth to vote for politicians in favor of climate actions.

Establishing a strong connection between the youth community and lawyers in order to take legal actions against leaders who violate our legal right to quality education.

Lobbying for the creation of a Special envoy on Youth Climate Change Inclusion into the development agenda for each government. He / she should be responsible to make sure our voices are taken into account in every decision affecting our legal right to quality education and life.