



Youth4Water Plus

Driving the passion and energy of youth for WASH and climate actions!

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"When the well's dry, we know the worth of water." ~ Benjamin Franklin



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Director's Stroke

Greetings from the Youth4Water Plus Campaign! Let me start with thanking you all for the appreciative comments you showered on us for our first newsletter. Your appreciation means the world for us! We are now doubly excited to share the Youth4Water Plus journey through this newsletter.

Trying to pack the numerous, very diverse activities of the Youth4Water Plus cohort into these few pages is a difficult task. But what is impossible, is to distil and put in print, the energy, the enthusiasm, the hard work, the ideation and the passion of the youth engaged in those activities. How does one capture in words, the bursts of laughter, the 'Ahaa moments', the impassioned appeals, the sweat soaked T-Shirts and the mud caked shoes...?

They are imprinted in my mind though – vignettes of hope that keep the fire of enthusiasm burning. I urge you all to feel this feeling for yourself! Participate in our next activity!



As the monsoon flows on with all its beauty, life giving fertility but also its mood swings, it's time to be vigilant. Every drop must be saved, as must every life. Youth4Water Plus is ready – with information, ideas and networks to harness this life giving resource. Let us know how we can help in the good that you wish to do.



“Water is the
driving force of
all nature.”

~ Leonardo da Vinci

With this 2nd volume of the Youth4Water Plus newsletter, I invite you to live our moments of service to the cause of climate change with us and to join us in the effort to create a Climate Secure Odisha. Together, we can make a difference and create a brighter future for our planet. Thank you for your continued support.

Best regards,

Jyoti Sharma

Jyoti Sharma
Program Director, Youth4Water Plus

Youth4Water Plus celebrates Stockholm World Water Week 2023!



artists. Held at Shantikanan, Balasore in collaboration with partners FORCE NGO, Bikash Saathi NGO, Fakir Mohan Art & Crafts School, and event sponsor Suez Power Craft, the competition ignited the imagination of the budding artists. A fusion of art sensibilities and outpouring of artistic expression followed to create forward-thinking art portraying the vital connection between water and progress.

In yet another initiative to enlighten and enthuse Odisha's youth to become global Climate Action Leaders, Youth4Water Plus organised activities aligned with the Stockholm World Water Week 2023 – an annual event organised by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) to address global water challenges. Held from August 20th 2023 to August 24th 2023, its theme this year was "Seeds of Change:- Innovative Solutions for a Water Wise World". The Conference brought together experts, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners from diverse fields for the common goal of urgently tackling the world's water crisis.. It is a platform that fosters dialogue, collaboration, and the exchange of knowledge and experiences in the realm of water management, sustainability, and conservation.

During the Stockholm World Water Week 2023, through multiple activities, Youth4Water Plus created awareness among Odisha youth about the global event and its objectives. Through creatives customised to each of the major social media channels, the Youth4Water Plus team shared

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~ Benjamin Franklin

details of the WWW and invited youth to join virtually in learning from discussions. Meetings with select youth leaders were also held to encourage them to link up with the virtual events at WWW.

The most loved activity, however, was the WWW theme based painting competition for young



Artists used vibrant brush strokes and imaginative perspectives to illustrate innovative approaches that can safeguard water resources and contribute to a sustainable future. Dr. Biswajeet says, "The event not only celebrated artistic creativity but also initiated crucial conversations about the importance of water conservation and the role of innovation in securing our most precious resource."

Through their unique perspectives and powerful artworks, these emerging artists sent a strong message to the world, urging collective action to combat climate change and build a more sustainable future for future generations.



*Art's Call to Nature:
Capturing the Urgency of Climate Change*

Climate & Wash Guardians

#A Nature Trek

Dr Biswajeet Panda, 28, wildlife and human-animal conflict expert from Balasore, Odisha, and Youth4Water Plus Youth Leaders Council member organised a 2-day Nature Trek on the theme 'Managing Wildlife for peaceful co-existence'.



The trek was organised in partnership with organisations like Centre for Rural, Anthropological and Biological Society (CRABS), Bikash Saathi NGO, Utkal University Bhubaneswar, AIPH Bhubaneswar, Fakir Mohan University Balasore, Vidyasagar University - West Bengal, and Calcutta University - West Bengal.

More than 50 enthusiastic youth participated in this Nature Walk at Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary.



Dr. Biswajeet shared information on the reasons for and ways to prevent human animal conflict and conserving rare species of plants and animals. Using insights from his field experience, also guided youth

on wildlife photography, animal rescue, indigenous community livelihoods, their ethnomedical practices and forest dependency.

His unique initiative helped bring youth together to promote sustainability and preserve the wonders of nature for generations to come.

#Menstrual Hygiene Awareness Modules

Muskan Sharma, 22, currently pursuing her master's in Women's Studies at Tata Institute Of Social Sciences, Hyderabad, interned with Youth4WaterPlus in June-July this year. She took up the task of creating MHM training modules for



Image: Muskan Sharma

women and their loved ones. WASH, and the profound impact of climate change. Recognising the significance of the knowledge dissemination, she had designed modules on menstrual hygiene management, enlightening not only women but also their families and friends to serve as pillars of strength.

Within the organisation's mission to educate government ITI's students, Muskan assisted in conveying the intricate details of WASH and climate change, showcasing how everyone's dedication can bring about substantial change.

Immersed in the company of industry stalwarts, she absorbed wisdom and formed lasting connections while actively participating in the organisation's path breaking initiatives.

Her this internship experience empowered her to break barriers, expand her horizons, and nurture her passion for creating a better world.



Changing Lives Drop by Drop

Partner's Meet: Co-creating The Way Forward for Youth4Water Plus

5 years in, Youth4Water Plus has transformed into a dynamic platform for young change-makers in Odisha, fostering climate awareness and empowerment. To chart our course for the next 5 years, we hosted an event of Youth4Water Plus Partners' Meet in Bhubaneswar on August 3, 2023.



Facilitated by renowned youth activist and award-winning CEO of the Future Leaders Networks, Ms Heeta Lakhani, a highly regarded young climate educator not only in India but also internationally and has been active at the international level since COP 21 in 2015. The event brought together 35 partners and 10 youth champions from 30 districts of Odisha.



The objective was clear: to envision a dynamic future for the Youth4Water Plus campaign. We reflected on past achievements, assessing what worked and what didn't in engaging with youth and

partners, and discussed key questions:

1. What activities were successful, and what weren't?
2. What do we envision for Youth4Water Plus in the next 5–10 years, and how can we address regional challenges?
3. Resource mobilization and building strengths.
4. Strategies for involvement of greater youth and vulnerable population.
5. Path towards independence from UNICEF and defining the organizational structure.

Our partners applauded our progress in creating environmental awareness and high visibility for climate issues through digital and grassroots initiatives. Collectively, we aspire to deepen youth engagement, enhance leadership roles, and transform Youth4Water Plus into a knowledge hub for climate change solutions.

Lala Niranjan Ray, Project Manager at the TataSTRIVE, envisions Youth4Water Plus as a sought-after platform, while Stalin Nayak, CEO of PanTiss Group of Nonprofits, sees it as a catalyst for systemic change. Together, we look ahead to a future where climate action is at the forefront of youth-led initiatives in Odisha.

Seed Ball Workshop: Sattvic Soul Foundation & UDRA

Youth4Water Plus, in partnership with Sattvic Soul Foundation and UDRA, organized a Seed Ball Workshop on September 1, 2023. This event was aligned with the

Global Seedball Campaign by the Civil 20 Working Group on Sustainable and Resilient Communities, aiming to disperse one million seedballs in fragile ecosystems.

In this initiative, 150 enthusiastic youth from Capital High School were guided and educated by Odisha's Climate Man, Mr. Satyabrata Samal, on creating seed balls. Shri Akash Das Nayak, Chairperson of Mo College, graced the event with his presence and shared valuable insights.



The campaign emphasizes environmentally friendly, low-cost solutions with the potential to significantly enhance the health and resilience of our planet's ecosystems. Our message: Let's unite to make our planet greener, one seedball at a time. Together, we can build a greener, healthier, and more sustainable world for ourselves and generations to come.



Tiny Balls, Big Impact!
#Grow Together #Seed Ball Magic

MyTreeBandhan: Bakul Foundation

As the Monsoon arrives in India, Bhubaneswar's trees become vital for a greener, fresher environment. Bakul Foundation collaborated with 8 schools and colleges for the #MyTreeBandhan campaign.



It is to celebrate an Eco Raksha Bandhan. Participants pledged to be true 'Rakhshaks' (protectors) for environmental sustainability by tying Rakhis to trees.

“A drop of water, if it could write out its history, would explain the universe to us.”

~ Lucy Larcom

This Section is presented in partnership with

- Sattvic Soul Foundation
- Bakul Foundation
- Bharat Scouts and Guides

Tiny Tots promoting SDGs: BSG

Bharat Scouts and Guides, Odisha, organized a climate change awareness event, tree planting, and cleanup drive in Delang, Puri District. Working with Puri District's youth, they promoted SDG 15 and SDG 13.

Let's draw inspiration from these future changemakers to raise awareness, take action, and drive change in our communities.



Clean water. Healthy living.
Clean water. Healthy living.



Diving into Innovation: Where **Water** Meets **Creativity**

Water Warriors Digest

Empowered & Inspired: Young Youth Leaders Council

June 5, 2023 on the auspicious occasion of World Environment Day, Youth4Water Plus announced the formation of the 'Youth Leaders Council'.

The 16 membered Youth Leaders Council is a group of empowered Youth4Water youth who have taken up the mantle of being leaders of Climate Action and WASH in Odisha.

Representing different districts and communities of Odisha (even from neighbor state of West Bengal), the Council members have been active as change leaders in their areas and have multiple skill sets to help learnings to be shared with youth all across Odisha.



The Youth Leaders Council members were welcomed with badges and t-shirts and took a pledge to lead climate action in Odisha. They also brainstormed to identify the campaigns that Youth4Water Plus can take up on priority in Odisha.

Learn More Here:

<https://youth4water.org/youth-leaders-council/>

Internship Program with Animal Climate and Health Save India

Youth4Water Plus partnered with global campaign The Plant Based Treaty and launched a 4-month internship program on effective climate change advocacy. Based on United Nations SDGs, the course has been designed focusing on the 18+ age group on a transition to a plant-based food system to protect Earth and its biodiversity.



Internship program offered climate education, career pathways, youth empowerment, networking, skill development etc. More than 500 youth participated to bring a sustainable change. Renowned bollywood actress Sada Sayad participated and invited passionate youth to join in this global movement building a better world for ourselves and for our future generations.

Learn More Here:

<https://bit.ly/plantbasedtreatyinternshipreels>

Beach Cleaning Drive: Joining Hands for a Cleaner Coastline

Youth4Water Plus & Environmental Helpers Group took a proactive approach towards environmental conservation

They have participated in beach cleaning activities at Dublagadi and plantation activities leading to a significant positive impact on the local ecosystem and community.

25 youths from Balasore and 7 youths from the local community participated in this activity led by Youth Leader Council member Mr. Puranjay Sahu to protect this environment in a sustainable way.



Learn More Here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ez_d910Praw

Need to get in touch? We've got you covered!



Feel free to contact us using the information below:

- Phone: Dial our helpline at +91-8655078473 or any of the numbers given below to speak with our friendly team.
- Email: Feel free to shoot us email at youth4watercampaign@gmail.com for any inquiries or feedback.

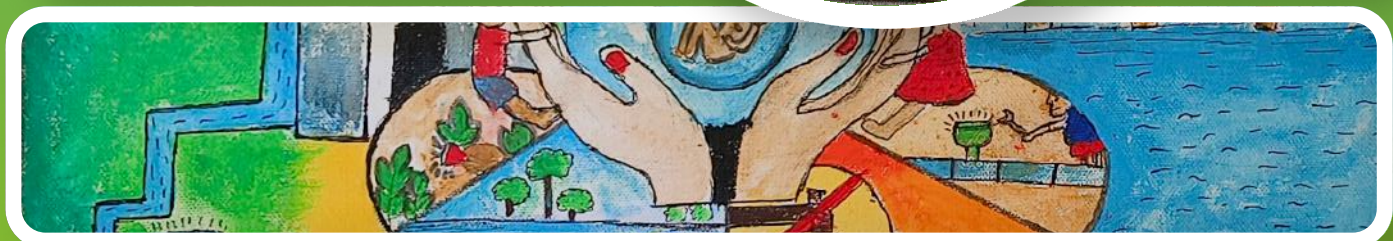
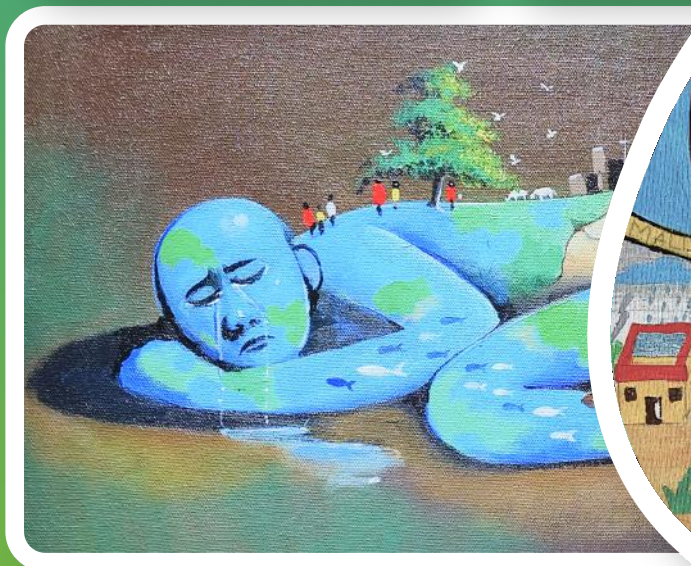
Connect with the Youth4Water Plus team!

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We value your inputs and are here to assist you every step of the way.

Don't hesitate to connect with us. Let's make a difference together!

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In youthful hearts, it brightly gleams,
Youth4Water Plus, the stuff of dreams.
A vibrant platform, voices unite,
To change the world, in climate's fight.

With knowledge deep, they stand so tall,
For waters clean, they give their all.
From digital waves to grassroots ground,
Youth4Water's call resounds.

Through storms and droughts, they take the lead,
Planting seeds for the water they need.
In unity, solutions they find,
In Youth4Water Plus, they're intertwined.

With hope and purpose, they advance,
Enhancing our world's watery expanse.
In Youth4Water Plus, they ignite,
A brighter future, shining so bright.

~ Soumyadip Dewanji

Youth Leaders' Council Member, Youth4Water Plus

presented by Youth4Water Plus

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