



# Youth4Water Plus

Newsletter | Volume 1

"Thousands have lived without love, not one without water." ~ W. H. Auden



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# Director's Stroke

Dear Readers,

Greetings from Youth4Water Plus campaign! Welcome to this month's newsletter. As we continue to face sustainable development challenges and climate change, we must pay attention to water's vital role in our lives and the environment. I am proud to see the youth actively interested in this critical issue.

Water is an essential resource for life, and access to clean and safe water is a fundamental right. However, we are facing significant challenges related to water scarcity, pollution, and the effects of climate change. We must work together to address these issues and ensure that future generations can access this precious resource.

The Youth4Water Plus campaign is a global network of young professionals and organizations working towards the sustainable management of water resources. We aim to empower young people to take action and engage in water conservation, protection, and management initiatives.



As the youth, we have a crucial role in promoting water conservation and sustainability. We have the energy, creativity, and passion to impact and create a more sustainable future positively.



“WATER IS THE  
DRIVING FORCE OF  
ALL NATURE.”

~ Leonardo da Vinci

Please get involved in the Youth4Water Plus campaign and take action on water-related issues. Join us in promoting water conservation, advocating for sustainable water management practices, and raising awareness about the importance of water resources.

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 at the UN Water Conference 2023!



Many Side Events were organized in this UN Water Conference, 185 Side Events inside the HQ; 165 Outside the HQ and 180 Virtual Side Events.

Youth4Water Plus advocate participated in the United Nations General Assembly, youth constituency events, UNICEF led events and some events organized by Bangladesh, Netherland and Tajikistan water ministry. The Main Topics of Discussion were *United Nations Joint SDG Fund (Water Blue Economy the role of the UN Joint SDG Fund)*; *Enhancing water resiliency in food systems through water stewardship*.

Youth4Water Plus collaborated with partners and UN Water Conference to host 3 virtual side events: *Water and youth's participation in Governance*, the second was *Operationalizing water & climate youth demands: Strategy & Way Forward for implementation of the Water Action Agenda* and *Amrit: Clean water and soul*.

The youth representative from Youth4Water Plus, *Abhishek Mani*, attended the UN Water conference physically for 3 days where he raised his voice for achieving a water-secure future for all. This event is crucial in addressing the challenges that the world faces especially in the context of climate change, biodiversity loss, and disaster risk reduction. Abhishek says, "As young people, we recognize that water is a vital resource that underpins the sustainable development of our planet."

"WHEN THE WELL'S DRY, WE KNOW THE WORTH OF WATER."

~ Benjamin Franklin

The United Nations 2023 Water Conference was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 22–24 March 2023.

The Conference brought together world leaders, civil society, business leaders, young people, scientists, academics, the UN System and others from across different sectors: agriculture, energy, environment and water around a common goal: to urgently tackle the water crisis and set the world back on track to achieving.

"The commitments at this Conference will propel humanity towards the water-secure future every person on the planet needs" noted UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres at the closing ceremony.



Pic: #WaterAction, UN Water Conference

Water scarcity is one of the biggest challenges facing our generation. Youth call on world leaders to take bold action to ensure access to clean and safe water for all. Young people are committed to finding innovative solutions to water challenges. They believe that technology can play a critical role in improving water management and increasing access to safe drinking water. Young people call on governments and industry leaders to invest in research and development to create sustainable, low-cost solutions that can be deployed at scale.

Watch & Learn

<https://bit.ly/Y4WPlusUNWaterConf>

# Climate & Wash Guardians

## # Our Environment needs Help!

Youth Environmental Helper, an NGO from Balasore, had organized plogging activities in various tourist destinations of Balasore and beach cleaning activities at Chandipur sea beach.



Youth Environmental Helper believes in the concept of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. They have helped about 15 local communities to understand the importance of waste segregation and waste management. They also contributed in cleaning and restoring waterbodies around religious places.

Youth Environmental Helper educated more than 200 learners about the benefits of waste segregation, waste management, and how waste can be segregated efficiently at the domestic level.



They also educated communities on how waste management and proper handling of plastic waste can save our environment. With support from Youth4Water Plus, they further understood importance of plogging and that it is one way to mitigate climate change by collecting waste plastic and recycling the same.

## # From Endangered to Thriving: How Community efforts saved the Olive Ridley Turtles?

In a joint effort to protect the endangered *Olive Ridley Turtle* species, the *Sattvic Soul Foundation* and *Youth4Water Plus* organized a "turtle walk" at *Podampeta Beach* in *Ganjam, Odisha*.



The walk, led by *Satyabrata Samal*, the Director & Founder of *Sattvic Soul Foundation* popularly known as the '*Climate Man of Odisha*', aimed to safeguard the eggs and new hatchlings of the *Olive Ridley Turtles*, which are currently listed as endangered on the *IUCN Red List*.

“WATER IS LIFE, AND  
CLEAN WATER  
MEANS HEALTH.”

~ Audrey Hepburn

*Podampeta Beach*, situated near the mouth of the *Rushikulya River*, is considered one of the most important sites for *Olive Ridley Sea turtles* nesting in India.

The walk was conducted to raise awareness about the importance of protecting the nesting grounds of these magnificent creatures.

The *Olive Ridley Turtle* is the smallest and most abundant of all sea turtles found across the world and is known to inhabit the warm waters of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

Despite their abundance, they face numerous threats, including habitat loss, poaching, and accidental capture in fishing nets.

The *turtle walk* saw volunteers from *Sattvic Soul Foundation* and *Youth4Water Plus* come together to patrol the beach, monitoring the nesting sites of *Olive Ridley Turtles* and protecting the eggs and hatchlings from predators. The initiative highlights the importance of community-led conservation efforts in protecting our environment and the biodiversity that sustains it.



Overall, the *turtle walk* was a success and serves as an example of how collaboration and community engagement can help protect endangered species and their habitats. The efforts of the *Sattvic Soul Foundation* and *Youth4Water Plus* are a testament to the power of collective action in creating positive change for our planet's biodiversity.

Learn More Here:

<https://bit.ly/Turtle-Walk>

# Changing Lives Drop by Drop

## # PanTISS Foundation & PAGA

Youth4Water Plus partnered with PanTISS Foundation and PAGA to engage more than 150 youth for Y2O Youth Choupals in remote tribal villages Nagada (Jajpur district), Mangalajodi, (Khurda district) and Kudupakia (Kandhamal district).



The youth shared their experiences of extreme climate events, poor plastic waste management, youth livelihoods vs marine diversity, sanitation around water bodies, wetlands and in villages, forest fires and climate migration. They discussed on how to sensitize communities, fight forest fires and also demonstrated their action orientation through a plogging activity to collect and recycle waste.

Watch the Videos Here:

<https://bit.ly/Y2OYouthChoupal>

## # Sattvic Soul Foundation

A Factsheet on Wetlands of Odisha was launched on 8th February at Bhubaneswar to create awareness about the importance of wetlands as a measure to mitigate climate change. More than 1000 youth joined the event in-person and online.

Also, at Satkosia Wildlife Sanctuary, plogging activity and Wetland Walk

was organised in which youth participated to understand more about the wetland flora and fauna and to contribute to keeping that habitat clean.

To celebrate World Water Day 2023 and the upcoming UN Water Conference, 250 youth took part in beach cleaning drive at Gopalpur beach, Ganjam district on 22nd March 2023 to raise awareness on the importance of saving water and having cleaner beaches.



Youth celebrity and popular anchor, Abhishek Mohanty, joined the youth. His impromptu yoga session on the beach to promote overall wellness was a big hit with the youth. The message was: *Let's continue to work towards a healthier and more sustainable future!*

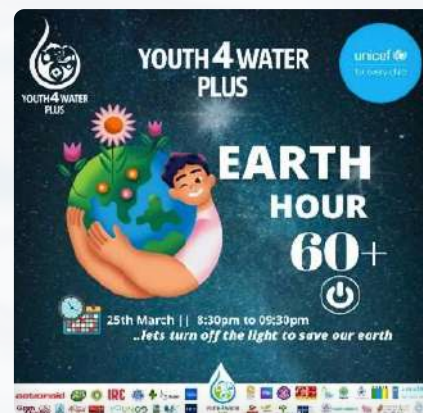
Link to the Tweet:

<https://bit.ly/TweetUNinIndia>

## # 35 Y4W+ Partners - Earth Hour - Switching off Lights

Youth4Water Plus with its Thirty-five partners celebrated Earth Hour by switching off non-essential electric lights for one hour from 8:30 PM to 9:30 PM.

Youth shared their videos on social media to encourage others to celebrate Earth Hour.



Link to the Videos Here:

<https://bit.ly/EarthHourY4WPlus>

## # Self-Watering Plants Initiative by 10000 youth of Odisha

The event was organised on theme, 'Empowering Youth: Sustainable Self-Watering Plants for a Greener Future.'



10,000 youth, from all parts of Odisha including tribal areas, joined.

They remodeled used plastic bottles into self-watering pots and planted saplings in them thus turning plastic waste into environmental conservation asset.

Link to the Video Here:

<https://bit.ly/Self-Watering-Plant>

### # Tata STRIVE & Government ITI

Enabled participation from 59 ITIs in Odisha, in Youth4Water Plus activities. Also, youth of ITI Balasore created a learning video, "Plant a Tree: Lets learn from ITI Learners", which demonstrated the efficient use of water & how to prepare a self-watering planter.



Watch the Video Here:

<https://bit.ly/ITI-Video>

### # ActionAid India & Sattvic Soul Foundation

Youth4Water Plus Panel Discussion was organised on "Parivartan ki baat, Climate Man ke sath".

With Satyabrata Samal, Climate Man of Odisha, the panelists including climate activist, *Rojalin Pradhan*; researcher on Elephant Ecology, *Dr Biswajeet Panda*, and Climate expert, *Pragayna Paramita Nayak*, discussed how youth are impacted by climate change and how they can contribute towards a Climate Secure society.



Watch the Video Here:

<https://bit.ly/ParivartanKiBaat>

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



Olly  
Meets  
Jolly

# Water Warriors Digest

## # Empowering the Next Gen: Introducing Youth4Water Plus, A Campaign Redefined

Olly's Land at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, became the stage for a momentous occasion on January 25th, 2023, as the official mascot and logo for the UNICEF-led Youth4Water Plus campaign were revealed. The event welcomed esteemed guests, including *Dr. Dilip Tirkey*, President of Hockey India, as the Chief Guest, and *Dr. Gyana Das*, Executive Director of Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA), as the Guest of Honour.



The logo and mascot, named 'Jolly', were unveiled to the public, drawing inspiration from the concept of 'Jal se Jolly'. The dignitaries commended UNICEF and its partners for their timely efforts in raising awareness among youth about water conservation, sanitation, and climate action.

During the event, 'Jolly', a young Odia girl, dressed in the iconic blue jersey of Team India and clutching a hockey stick, joined Olly the turtle for a cheerful selfie. Jolly symbolizes the passionate mission of a young Odia girl, advocating for water, sanitation & environmental causes.

Learn More Here:

<https://bit.ly/Youth4Water Plus>

## # Youth Unite for Water: UNICEF India representative Ms. Cynthia McCaffrey engages with Inspiring Odisha Youth Changemakers

Youth4Water Plus in collaboration with UNICEF conducted a session on February 17th, 2023, focused on transforming ideas into action for WASH and climate concerns. The event featured esteemed UNICEF India Representative *Ms. Cynthia McCaffrey*, alongside *Hyun Hee Ban*, Chief of Social Policy.



Attended by 20 passionate youth from diverse backgrounds in Odisha, including urban, rural, and indigenous communities, the session became a platform for sharing stories and fostering innovation.

“A DROP OF WATER, IF IT COULD WRITE OUT ITS HISTORY, WOULD EXPLAIN THE UNIVERSE TO US.”

~ Lucy Larcom

Youth participants enthusiastically expressed their personal journey with Youth4Water Plus and outlined

their plans to make a meaningful impact on WASH and climate change issues. Their dedication and energy are set to empower their communities, igniting positive change in the realms of WASH & Environmental well-being.



Learn More Here:

<https://bit.ly/Y4WCynthiaMcCaffrey>

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



Feel free to contact us using the information below:

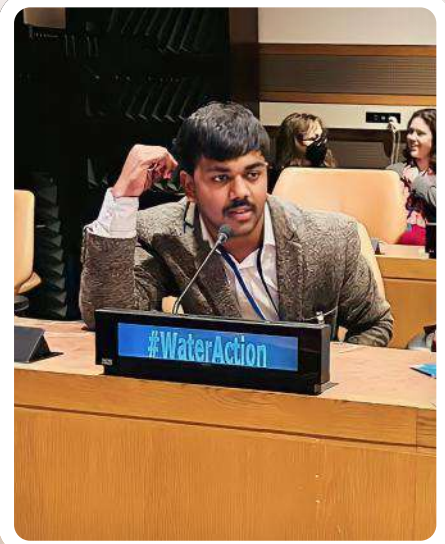
- Phone: Dial our helpline at +91-8655078473 or any of the numbers given below to speak with our friendly team.
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We value your inputs and are here to assist you every step of the way.

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





 “Drying rivers, gives us shivers  
Disappearing lakes are heartaches  
Which season is this? Am I the reason for this?  
Can we unite & ignite a new world order?  
In this chaos can we please bring some order?  
More than shouting slogans or posing a phase  
Extending our arms & changing our ways  
Let’s strive to make our world’s greener & plush  
Let’s join hands for Youth4Water Plus”

Sanjogita Mishra  
Head of Operations  
Tata Community Initiatives Trust

*presented by* Youth4Water Plus

*In Association with*

