

ASIA AND PACIFIC ALLAINCE OF YMCAs
FORUM ON GLOBAL WARMING
18-22 January 2010
YMCA Camp Wainui Park, Christchurch, New Zealand

Rationale

Global Warming has reached a crisis point. The climate is changing .If unaddressed, rising global temperatures will trigger dramatic increases in extreme weather events and cause the oceans to rise, threatening all coastal cities, displacing millions of people, and even destroying thousands of species. . Everyday we hear, see or witness the effects of climate change – decreasing rainfall, spreading desertification, drought, depletion of water resources and food scarcity, increased flooding and rising seas. These changes have affected human, social, and political relationships, the environment and the earth’s resources and our future sustainability. The unfortunate truth is that humankind and their developments are in part guilty of contributing to these conditions.

The quadrennial vision of the APAY ‘Sustainability of life for all’ challenged the YMCA movement to enhance its response on this global issue. To position YMCAs stance on Global Warming and strategise its involvements in addressing this issue, the Asia and Pacific Allaince of YMCAs is fecilitating a forum on Global warming. The forum will be concerned on sharing realities , responses and also discuss the outcomes of the Climate Change Confernece in Copenhagen . It will aslo be concerned on developing framework for environmentally sound and socially responsible concepts, practices and strategies by YMCAs that will contribute to sustainability.

Objectives

The objectives of the forum will be

- a) To share the experiences of different YMCAs , NGOs, Corporates and Civil Society organisations in addressing the challenges of Global Warming at local , National and Gobal levels
- b) To Position YMCAs Stance on Global Warming in Asia Pacific Region
- c) To develop framework for strategies and actions to address the issues of Global Warming
- d) To suggest common agenda for YMCAs in the Region to bring a change for sustainable future .

Pre forum Preparations

The Participants are expected to have pre-consultation at their local / national level with YMCAs / NGOs/ Activists/ Civil Movements/ Corporate in their area who are actively engaged in addressing Global Warming issues. Being the representative nature of participation in the forum, the participants will be advised to fill up a questionnaire (provided by the APAY) enquiring issues, Challenges and responses in their local / national context and also their vision on what the YMCA needs to do.

Methodology

Key inputs as necessary to create a common platform for concerted action; Brainstorming Work Groups, Case stories and Exposure visit (eco tour) for sharing and learning will be used. Forum will use Appreciative Inquiry approach to develop framework for action plan.

Date, Venue, Host

Date : 18- 22 January 2009 (Arrival on 18 January and departure on 22 January 2009)

Venue : YMCA Camp Wainui Park, Christchurch, New Zealand

Host : YMCA Christ Church

Registration and Participation fees

- Registration fee : US\$ 100
- Participation fee : US\$ 250

The participation fee is inclusive of four days Board and lodge at the YMCA Camp Wainui Park and airport transfers. The last date of Registration will be: **31 December 2009**

Targeted Participants: 35

- Key Lay and staff Leaders at the decision-making level of the local and National YMCAs.
- Key National or local YMCAs Programme Executives/Staff who are involved in environmental programmes.
- Youth Volunteers at Local and National level
- YMCA members / associates who are concerned on issues related to Global warming and expertise in action responses

Sharing of Good Practices

The forum will be opportunity for the YMCAs or organizations to share their projects / programs combating climate change and global warming, learning's from their involvements and experience on mitigation for sustainable environment.

The forum encourage the sharing of expertise and case stories from scholars/ Activists / Campaigners on environmental issues who are associated with the YMCA movement at local or national level.

Exposure ~ Eco Tour

This will be an eco tour as part of the exposure to provide opportunity for the participants to see/feel/experience/understand Global Warming and Climate Change issues and the practical responses by organizations for combating ecological issues.

Expected Outcome

01. Shared understanding and awareness on YMCAs role on addressing Global Warming and promoting sustainable environment.
02. Statement that explain the position of YMCA in the issue of Global warming
03. Framework for YMCAs strategies and actions to Global warming
04. Suggested common agenda for unified action by YMCAs in the Region.

Contact details

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TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs
FORUM ON GLOBAL WARMING

	18 JAN/MON	19JAN / TUE	20JAN/ WED	21 JAN/ THU	22 JAN/ FRI	
0730	A R R I V A L	Breakfast				D E P A R T U R E
0830		Theological Reflections / Worship				
0900		Introductions Setting Objectives	Input: Addressing Global warming in a Globalized world	Work Group 2 Developing Framework/ Strategies for YMCAs Action to Global Warming		
1030		Coffee Break				
1100		Keynote Address: Global warming ~ Challenges and opportunities (with special referrence to the outcome of Copenhagen)	Work Group 1 Positioning YMCAs Stance on Global Warming	Brainstorming on Action Planning		
1230		Lunch				
1400		Sharing Good practices	Exposure Visits / Eco tour	Work Group 3 Furthering Actions: Developing Common Agenda for YMCAs		
1600		Tea	Tea Break	Tea break		
1630		Registration	Sharing of Good Practices	Closing Plenary / Adoption of Recommendations		
18.00			Finding Common Threads (Motivation, Objectives, Methodology)			
1900	Welcome Dinner / Inauguration	Dinner	Closing dinner			
Informal Networking / Working Group / Drafting Team Meetings						