



In Partnership with



AGENTS OF CHANGE

IYCN Agents of Change Application

IYCN's Agents of Change Program (AoC) is now accepting applications to be a part of the Indian and subcontinent youth delegation, and the AoC Grounds team for the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention and fifth Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP15 and COP/MOP5), which will be held at the Bella Center in Copenhagen, Denmark, from December 7-18, 2009.

COP15 will determine the future international policy on climate change, and youth must make their voice heard. Between now and December, youth from across the globe will organize to bring a sense of urgency and rationality to the meeting. The future of international action to prevent runaway climate change is up for debate. If the UNFCCC cannot respond to the urgent conclusions contained in the report of the IPCC, the ability of the international mechanism to respond to global challenges might become irrelevant.

With the adoption of the Bali Action Plan at COP13, the governments of every nation agreed to ensure that the COP15 conference in Copenhagen in 2009 would be absolutely critical for the work of the next many years towards a better climate. This was in response to the increased focus on quick action in the latest report by the IPCC. The fact remains that 2009 represents the last chance to achieve an agreement, if this agreement is to be approved and ratified in time for it to come into force after the Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012.

This is where youth comes in! The IYCN Agents of Change program aims to seek leaders in the Indian subcontinent's youth climate & environmental movement from various organizations and backgrounds. Participation can occur in two ways:

1) **Indian Youth Delegation (IYD):** Participants will have the unique opportunity to represent the Indian youth and the sub-continent at the COP. Delegates will learn to work with each other and the international youth during the run up to the conference whilst educating themselves, on developing policy priorities, acquiring skills in effective lobbying, and engaging the broader youth population in action related to international climate policy.

You will be expected to engage in substantial preparation and fundraising efforts in the months leading up to the conference. Delegates will be required to stay in regular email contact and engage in research and conference calls, which will occur weekly in the weeks prior to COP15. As NGO representatives at the COP, delegates will work side-by-side with government delegates, leaders from international organizations, and fellow members of civil society to call for a just and forward-looking outcome to the COP negotiations.



On average a delegate is expected to commit at least 15 hours a week, and a lot more as we near Copenhagen. This will include keeping up with emails, being on conference calls, and working in sub-groups on issues relating to policy, logistics, media, outreach and fundraising. Delegates would also be required to attend the COP15 retreat to be held in June and September in India.

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2) **Agents of Change Grounds Team:** The grounds team along with the IYD will have to put a firm effort in media outreach by identifying local and national media outlets and working with them in tandem. Constant campaigns in schools and colleges with other NGO's should attract more media attention. In the lead up to COP 15 and during COP 15, you will work towards creating a groundswell in the public, raising awareness over the importance of this deal for India and the world alike. This team is equally critical to the delegation. They will be responsible for reaching out to local NGO's, colleges, schools, faith groups, community groups and capturing their voices and opinions. Finally the grounds team will organize regional and national days of action, a petition campaign and ensure strong outreach to the media.

On average an AoC Grounds team member can expect to commit at least 10 hours a week, and more as the campaign becomes bigger. The grounds team will work with each other as regional and national teams; educate themselves, and acquire skills in effective lobbying and organizing. Their role will include keeping up with emails, being on conference calls, and working in sub-groups on projects in relation to policy, media, outreach and fundraising. Delegates would also be required to attend the COP15 retreat to be held in June in India.

This role and application should not be taken lightly as it is one that we require immense initiative, time commitments, passion and knowledge.

Selection Criteria:

IYCN is committed to selecting a skilled, diverse, and passionate young people. Applicants for the delegation are required to be between the ages of 18 and 26 as of December 2008 and to either (a) be an Indian citizen or (b) study or work in India for more than six months. Applicants who can attend the entire conference, the retreats and undertake IYCN's climate leadership program will be given preference. Applicants for the grounds team do not have age or residential restrictions. Additional selection criteria are as follows:

Commitment to Climate Change Advocacy: Applicants must demonstrate a serious commitment to the aims and values of sustainable development/climate change, and should demonstrate experience working with climate change policy advocacy.

Diversity: Preference will be given to those who can contribute something unique to an Agents of Change delegation. Diversity here goes beyond gender, religion, and ethnicity and is broadly defined in terms of experience and background. If you have a unique background or experience please note it in your application.

Leadership Experience: Preference will be given to those who have experience in leadership roles, such as student or grassroots organizing, event or project planning, or peer-to-peer education. Please describe your leadership experience in your application.

Previous Involvement in organizing: Applicants are not required to have been involved with IYCN. However, those who have been active in climate change organizing and activism will get preference.

Strong media and communication skills

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Application Procedure:

Please respond to the following questions and send your application in the form of a single Word document to agents@iycn.in. Applications must be received by 5:00 pm IST on Friday, June 5th, 2009.

Incomplete applications, or those not compiled into a single document, will not be considered. Applicants will be notified of their selection by 20th June and will be required to confirm their involvement shortly after notification. Please make sure you include all five sections of the application. If you have any questions, contact AoC Coordinator Ruchi Jain at the above address or call her on +919969085224.

This is the first application round, where 15 delegates and half of the grounds team will be selected. The second application round will open up later in the year, where we will select 5 additional delegates and the second half of the grounds team. The selection will involve a panelist from different organisations supporting to see an Indian youth delegation to Copenhagen.

Part I: Basic information:

Name:

School and/or place of employment:

Address:

Degree or Major (if applicable):

Phone number:

Date of birth:

E-mail address:

Languages spoken (in order of proficiency):

How did you find out about this program?

Part II: Personal Statement:

Please provide a personal statement answering whether you're applying to be an Indian Youth Delegate or on the Agents of Change Grounds Team. Detailing your interest in COP15 and your prior experiences that make you a good candidate for this program. Please limit your response to 500 words or less. It may help to consider the following questions:

- Are you applying to be an Indian Youth Delegate or on the Agents of Change Grounds Team? And why are you suited for this?
- If applying to be an Indian Youth delegate, would you be willing to work for the AoC Grounds team if you weren't selected as a delegate?
- What does Climate Change mean to you? How has your previous work with sustainability, social justice and climate issues prepared you for COP15?
- What is your main goal in participating in the desired program?
- How do you wish to translate what you learn into action back in India/in your communities?

Part III: Creating political change in COP15

Please provide a statement on how we can create political change in the lead up to COP15. Please limit your response to 500 words or less. It may help to consider the following questions:

- What is your idea of how Copenhagen negotiations affect India?
- How can youth bring about effective change in our own country and the world leading up COP15?
- What are your campaign ideas in the lead up to Copenhagen that you would be willing to implement in your region?
- What has your experience been in direct action i.e. protests, sit-ins?
- What forms of direct action are you willing to participate in India and internationally?

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Part IV: International Climate Policy

(Compulsory for Indian Youth Delegate applicants):

Choose between the following and answer policy question: In 500 words or less, outline a policy recommendation in your own words that you would want to make at COP15 on one of the following issues:

- Clean Development and the CDM
- Financial Architecture (aka Finance Mechanisms)
- Adaptation (finance & implementation)
- Long Term Cooperative Action (LCA)
- Land-use and land-use change and forestry (LuLuCF)
- Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries (REDD)
- Technology Transfer and the diffusion of renewable energy technologies
- Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) for India
- National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPAs) for India

In preparing your personal statement and policy recommendation, you may find it helpful to visit the additional background resources at <http://iycn.in> and the following websites:

MoEF: http://envfor.nic.in/divisions/ccd/Addressing_CC_09-10-07.pdf

General Information about COP: <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

COP15 Website: www.cop15.dk

COP14 Youtube Channel: http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=COP14&page=1

IYCN Blog COP14 blogs: <http://www.whatswiththecclimate.org/tag/poznan/>

Policy submissions from last year: http://unfccc.int/parties_and_observers/ngo/items/3689.php

Part V: Working Groups

Please indicate your area of interest in the respective working groups: Indicate your first three preferences and elaborate on each. (Overall answer limited to 100 words).

- 1) Policy and research
- 2) Media: Eg: documentation, blogging
- 3) Communications : Eg: press releases, traditional media
- 4) Political Strategy : Eg: Planning on effective lobbying & campaigns
- 5) International Networking: Evolving an International Youth Caucus
- 6) Outreach : Eg: Strategising direct and indirect actions and stunts.

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Part VI: References

Please indicate the contacts details of three referees who you are directly associated with you and would be answerable for all your assets and work profile.

Name:-

Address:-

Residence Number/Mobile Number:-

Occupation:-

Relationship to you:-

Area of association (Teacher, Employer, etc.) :-

Part VII: Logistics and Availability

(Indian Youth Delegation Applicants only)

Delegates are strongly encouraged to attend the entire conference (December 7-18 2009), and to arrive in Copenhagen by 30th November'09, because a pre-conference training and Conference of the Youth will be scheduled. Participants will receive assistance arranging travel to Copenhagen. If selected, what is your availability? We recognize that flexibility of school and work schedules is difficult to anticipate, but we are looking for people who will make every effort to be available for the length of the conference.



Would you be willing to commit to:

- 1) Attending two retreats to be held in June and September respectively.
- 2) Planning and implementation of National and regional campaigns – grounds team
- 3) Dedicating 15 hours every week initially, and more in the lead up to the COP?
- 4) Will you be available for entire COP15

Part VIII: Background

Within the text of your Word document, please include a one-page resume outlining unique skills and credentials. In preparing your personal statement and policy recommendation, you may find it helpful to visit the additional background resources at <http://iycn.in> and the following websites:

Thank you for your interest in Agents of Change! Please keep in mind that this is a highly competitive program and that not all who qualify will be selected. Agents of Change is just one of many ways to get involved with IYCN. Please see <http://iycn.in> for more information on the many opportunities IYCN has to offer and the previous agents of change program.



Pictures from
IYCN's Agents
of Change in
2008!

