



## IYPF NEWS

November 2007

### CONTACTS

#### International Young Professionals Foundation

**IYPF**  
PO Box 4338  
MANUKA ACT 2603  
Australia

**EMAIL**  
iypf@iypf.org

**WEBSITE**  
www.iypf.org

**Article Contributions:**  
Gabrielle Trenbath  
Cameron Neil  
Britt Jacobsen  
Mutahi Michael  
Vijayakumar Ponnuswamy  
Ryan Falconer  
Jessica Kiely  
Miranda Newberry

**Layout:**  
Cameron Neil

**Sub-Editor:**  
Cameron Neil

**Newsletter Editor:**  
Salwa M. AbdulTawwab

## November 2007 Edition: Sustainable Transport & Energy + Sustainable Consumption

Friends, welcome to another edition – our second last for the year and the first since our big birthday celebrations in October. A lot is still happening with IYPF as we progress our strategic plans, bed down our new online membership systems, and work hard on IYPS 2008 preparations amongst many other things. I've you've been thinking about getting involved with IYPF as a volunteer staff member – now is the time!!!

In addition to all this, the IYPF's 2007 Annual General Meeting is approaching. It will be held on 17 December 2007 in Brisbane, Australia. Details are available on our website ([www.iypf.org/membership\\_agm.htm](http://www.iypf.org/membership_agm.htm)), including our audited financial statements for the last financial year. The AGM presentation, minutes and eventually our annual report will also appear there online. All IYPF ordinary (full/paid) members have been sent the voting forms to elect three new directors for 2008 and also to consider motions from the Directors on changes to the IYPF constitution in regards to membership.

In our December newsletter, we'll give you profiles of the director nominees for the IYPF's 2008 Board. I have to say, it will be a tough decision for the member because this year we have 11 outstanding applicants! Reading about the amazing work of other young professionals is certainly one of the great joys of being in my position – it can't help but fill you with hope for the future. I also find it humbling that so many of these YPs choose to not only join IYPF, but seek to play a vital role in the future success of the organisation. I believe our organisation is in good hands and will only have more impact and success in informing, inspiring and equipping young professionals around the globe to change their world for good.

I'll sign off for now and let you get to reading all about the Stand Up events in October, Sustainable Transport & Energy, and Sustainable Consumption. Don't forget 1 December is World AIDS Day. Please ensure you take some time to inform yourselves and others and to take action to help address the HIV & AIDS challenge.

Yours for a better world for all,  
Cameron Neil, CEO

### IN THIS EDITION

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## IYPF NEWS

### IYPF HELPS SET WORLD RECORD FOR STANDING UP AGAINST POVERTY

Hundreds of youth and young professionals stood up face to face around the world and online as part of IYPF Stand Up events, contributing to the total 38.7 million people in 110 countries standing up against poverty globally. This broke last year's record of 23.5 million for the largest number of people to "STAND UP AGAINST POVERTY" in 24 hours.

The "Stand Up and Speak Out" record attempt took place over 16th and 17th October and was jointly organised by the United Nations Millennium Campaign (UNMC) and the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) with a wide range of other partners. The challenge saw millions of people physically and intentionally standing up against poverty, inequality and in support of the Millennium Development Goals. They spoke out to demand a more urgent political response to the growing crisis of global poverty.

United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, who led a stand up action at UN Headquarters in New York, said "Today tens of millions of people are making their voices heard by standing up and speaking out against poverty and for the Millennium Development Goals. They are sending messages that call on their leaders to keep their promises. They are calling for the actions of citizens to be matched by the actions of Governments, in developing and developed countries alike, to demonstrate the political will required to end the scourge of poverty once and for all."

For 24 hours from 9pm GMT on the 16th of October people around the world from all walks of life came together in their schools, streets, market places, in front of government buildings and local councils, in workplaces and houses of worship, at sports and cultural events and at public landmarks to demonstrate their frustration that we still live in a world where 50,000 people die daily from preventable causes. The mass mobilisation provided a platform for global civil society seeking more active involvement in the current aid architecture debate, debt cancellation processes, trade negotiations and public accountability monitoring. The largest numbers of people who took part in this mobilisation came from developing countries.

Kumi Naidoo, Chair of the Global Call to Action Against Poverty said: "The confirmation of the new Guinness record coupled with the political dimension to this year's action, tells us we are a growing movement of people holding our leaders to account for tackling global poverty and inequality. The impressive efforts of our brothers and sisters in developing countries through new lobbying actions like delegations to politicians on this date, shows the poor are watching how resources are allocated and want to have a say how policies are made. It now falls on rich countries to fulfil their side of the bargain too."

The UN Millennium Campaign's Executive Coordinator Eveline Herfkens said: "Together we have broken the incredible record for the largest number of people standing up to demand action on poverty. But the record we really want to break is the world's record of breaking promises and ignoring the poor. We don't want to record numbers of people dying of poverty every year. This is the great issue of our times, let us become great by dealing with it decisively."

#### Related links:

The Stand Up website [www.standagainstopoverty.org](http://www.standagainstopoverty.org)  
UNDP-Millennium Development Goals [www.undp.org/mdg/](http://www.undp.org/mdg/)  
UNDP - MDG Support [www.undp.org/poverty/mdgsupport.htm](http://www.undp.org/poverty/mdgsupport.htm)  
Global Call to Action against Poverty [www.whiteband.org](http://www.whiteband.org)  
End Poverty 2015 [www.endpoverty2015.org](http://www.endpoverty2015.org)  
October 17, World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty  
[www.oct17.org/en](http://www.oct17.org/en)  
"Does Aid Work?-for the MDGs"  
[www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus12.pdf](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus12.pdf)



**STAND UP**  
AGAINST POVERTY. STAND UP FOR THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**CHALLENGED TO SPEAK OUT!**

For 1.1 Billion People Living on Less  
Than \$1/Day  
For the Millennium Development Goals  
For World Leaders to Listen

## IYPF STANDS UP: IYPF STAND UP EVENTS

*Here are details on some of the IYPF Stand Up events held on 17 October 2007. A full write up will be in the December newsletter with more pictures!*

### **Country: England, UK**

What: Fundraising Dinner

[www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=4830586444](http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=4830586444)

The event was a fundraising dinner in London with speakers from IYPF between each course and a discussion at the end on how YPs can help to achieve the MDGs. Sarah-Jo Dawson, IYPF President, read the Stand Up Pledge. Attendees were invited to bring photographs of poverty and Young Professionals helping to fight poverty in the UK. There was a fundraising raffle with eco-friendly prizes and white bands on sale. White banners were made for the event using recycled materials.

### **Country: Cote D'Ivoire**

What: One minute's silence

The event was a one-minute silence with IYPF members and other young professionals from across the country participating.

### **Country: Nigeria**

What: Street Party

[www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=6848702740](http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=6848702740)



In Nigeria IYPF collaborated with Activista Nigeria, the Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS (GYCA), Creating Local Connections-West Africa (CLCWA) and the Youth and Child Labour Elimination Project (YCEP) to take action against poverty through "Calabar city walk against poverty". The event targeted 100 participants aged 15-40, with talk shows at strategic points in the city and stand up activity at the millennium park serving as a wrap up.

### **Country: The Whole World**

Global Online Facebook Event - [www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=4830586444](http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=4830586444)

There was also an online global gathering on Facebook where members or friends of IYPF had their say about Poverty and how Young Professionals can help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

### **Country: Peru**

What: Party

[www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=5257283846](http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=5257283846)

The event was at a restaurant run by young social entrepreneurs. Photos of the recent earthquake disaster in Peru were shown, as well as photos of members of the VIDA organisation working to put up solar powered cookers in the Ica area. Guests also watched a video and received a flyer on "young social entrepreneurs and the MDGs" written by members of IYPF.

### **Country: Australia**

What: Dinner Party with Speakers

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=6569291498](http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=6569291498)

Stand Up:

[www.standagainstopoverty.org/en/node/18022](http://www.standagainstopoverty.org/en/node/18022)

The Canberra event had two guests from IYPF in Africa, who took part in discussions about poverty, politics and empowerment.



**Country: Australia**  
What: Collection Drive

Melbourne IYPF members ran a week long collection drive to take donations of blankets, clothing, toiletries etc to aid Melbourne's homeless. On the evening of the 17th a "Packing Evening" was hosted to pack boxes of goods for distribution to St Vincent De Paul's homeless accommodation services.

**Country: Ukraine**  
What: Event at Odessa University

[www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=5164629787](http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=5164629787)

An informative forum on the Millennium Development Goals, for the law students of the Odessa National Academy of Law: Faculty of International Legal relations and Legal Journalism.

**Country: Zambia**  
What: Paper Presentation at the National Youth Symposium  
Event Coordinators: Justin Somi;  
[justinsomi200@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:justinsomi200@yahoo.co.uk)

A young professional of 24 years old delivered a paper presentation "Stand up Speak out against poverty" at the National Youth Symposium in the central province, with all nine provinces represented.

## INTRODUCING NEW IYPF STAFF

**Anna McNaughton**  
Melbourne, Australia  
annamcnaughton [at] iypf [dot] org

Anna completed a Bachelor of Arts - Queensland University of Technology Majoring Political Studies and Modern History. Currently she is enrolled in a Bachelor programme on Journalism and Communication. For the short run Anna wants to contribute to the creation, publication and specifically the editorial elements of a regular publication. On the Long Term Anna sees herself as a Media Expert or a Media Liaison or working in Public Relations for Government or a NGO. Anna takes great pleasure in informing people. She enjoys bringing the 'new' and the 'important' to people's lives. She aspires to be well read, well travelled and well educated.



**Pilar Dafonte**

Pilar is a young professional involved in social activities since childhood. Maybe this was the reason why she decided to study Law in order to pursue her activities from a more professional aspect. She is currently working on her Master Thesis on Millennium development Goals and Human Rights focusing on a gender perspective. Her aim is to link these three important factors as a strategy in order to reinforce the MDGs and to reduce the inequalities around the world. Pilar has a passion to photography which she would like to pursue in the future. Maybe one day you'd be seeing her work in an extraordinary exhibition.

**Ailene Valdemoro-Castro**  
Manilla, Philippines  
ailenevaldemoro [at] iypf [dot] org

Ailene Valdemoro-Castro has a Bachelor degree in Anthropology from the University of the Philippines. She also earned a Masters in Business Administration from De La Salle University. Aliene is a new mother who seeks to provide good life for her family. But aside from this, Ailene wishes to continue working with an organization, such as the IYPF that can help her give back to the community and make a difference.





**Lydia Ostertagova**  
Bratislava, Slovakia  
lydiaostertagova [at] iypf [dot] org

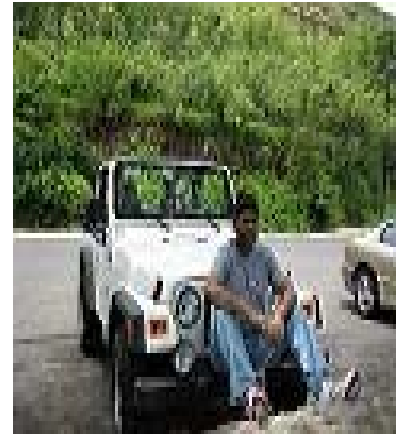
Lydia works for the Youth Council of Slovakia where she is responsible of informing Slovak youths about active participation. Lydia's first voluntary work experience was with the UNICEF. she says it made her realise how one person is really capable of making the world a better place. And she is taking this now as a lead to her actions. Studying International relations offered Lydia vast knowledge on other cultures, politics and the internal problems of many countries. This knowledge was the base for her ideas on how to help the others. Her work is currently concentrated on youth policy. She participated in some regional events like the European Youth week as well as trainings like the Projecto Mayonnaise. On the professional side Lydia worked for IBM where she managed a database that contained around 1200 employees and helped with other Human Resources duties.

## MEMBER ACTIVITIES & PROJECTS

### IYPF MEMBER PROFILES

**Rakesh Kumar Gaur**  
New Delhi, India

Rakesh is the Founder President of Udisha/ India, a conglomeration of Civil Servants, Lawyers, Chartered Accountants, Environmentalists and Social Activists who work on environmental education and prevention of child abuse. He is also the Founder President of Rotary Foundation Alumni Association, in New Delhi, India he was the an Honorary projects director in Caretakers for Environment/ India, a national branch of a Netherland based Organization, for three years he is affiliated with the Indian Rural Youth federation (Bhartiya Gramin Yuvak Samaj) and was Nominated as Non-official Visitor for Children Home under Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Delhi, by the Lt. Governor of Delhi.



Rakesh has two bachelor degrees one in law and the other in mass communication and journalism. He also earned a master of commerce and a diploma in personal management and labour welfare. Rakesh has 26 years of professional experience in Personnel and Civil Administration. He worked in different capacities in many departments under Govt. of NCT of Delhi. He is also experienced in Personnel, Administrative, Financial, and Welfare activities.

He is profoundly knowledgeable of working with cross sections of civil society and has contributed to the efforts of Govt. of NCT of Delhi to bring more transparency and accountability in the working of different departments. Rakesh is now working on formulating a Citizen's Charter, Manuals under Right to Information Act promulgated recently and e-governance as the department has frequent interface with general public and licensees.



**Vijayakumar Ponnuswamy**  
Copenhagen, Denmark

Vijayakumar is from India. He is currently employed at the FORCE Technology Centre in Denmark. He is also a prospective candidate for an Industrial PhD at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU). Earlier, he did his Bachelors in Electronics and Communication engineering (India) and gained a Masters degree in Mechatronics from the Aachen University of Applied Sciences (Germany).

Currently he is the Board Member for 'The Ph.D. Association' at the Technical University of Denmark. He was nominated for DAAD Best Student Prize-2006

(German Academic Exchange Service) from FH Aachen and was also an active member of the 'Association of Indian Students Aachen' during his stay in Germany.

Recently he was interviewed by the International Faculty Services of the DTU, about their introductory session event and it was published at the University's newspaper 'DTU Avisen'. He has joined the IYPF and believes that he can contribute towards the foundation at all his possible level. Among his areas of interest, the Sustainability Development is also one them and willing to share the resources and information he has with.

## MY EXPERIENCE IN KIBERA

*By Mutahi Michael - Kenya*

Kibera the largest slum in Africa is home to over one million people. It captured the attention of both local and international tourists. People there are experiencing a unique lifestyle. The smiles surviving on the faces of children would unleash your imagination of what flourishing future they ought to have in better conditions.

But the main threat to their flourishing dreams is insecurity. Critics say the government does not have proper policies to face crime, addiction, unemployment, and deterioration of health conditions which makes it almost impossible for the Kibera people to achieve any economic progress.

Desperation cause young girls to abandon their studies and get married at an early age. Inadequate education rips boys of decent opportunities of employment, and pushes them towards crime. They meet at joints to play draft, ajua or to drinking. Most joints are usually full by 9 in the morning. To them this seems the only way to face their hardships. But it added early pregnancy and HIV/AIDS to their list of insecurities. The rate of HIV infection in Kibera is alarming especially between girls of 13 – 24 years. Recently the government spoke of plans to upgrade the living conditions, but many still wonder how effective this will be?

**To be continued ...**

## TOP LISTS

### SUSTAINABILITY IS INSIGHT

Sustainability is our challenge to find a balance between our environment, our culture and economies to provide for now and future generations. This can only be achieved through acquiring knowledge and a fundamental understanding of the factors that have lead to climate change and other environmental issues currently affecting our globe. Sustainable Insight is an online store boasting a wide range of books, DVD's and educational resources related to sustainability. Sustainable Insight is a convenient facility for individuals and organisations to source products and materials to guide and teach us about how to live, work and think more sustainability, with leading titles on environmental research and sustainable practices plus an ever growing range of products.



Check it out @ [www.sustainableinsight.com.au](http://www.sustainableinsight.com.au)

### DOES AID WORK? - FOR THE MDGS



This issue of IPC's journal Poverty in Focus presents 12 articles summarising some of the most important recent research results and commentaries on the effectiveness of international development cooperation-aid for short-against the background of high-level promises of rapidly increasing aid including policy conclusions and recommendations for enhancing the impact of aid on the Millennium Development Goals [MDGs]

Available in a PDF format @: [www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus12.pdf](http://www.undp-povertycentre.org/pub/IPCPovertyInFocus12.pdf)

## REPORTING & PROFESSIONAL WRITING

Progress and evaluation reports are cornerstones of effective programmes. So why should they be a headache for readers and writers alike? This Handbook takes readers through the entire reporting process from setting objectives, through data gathering and analysis tools, to planning, drafting, editing and designing the report. Effective reporting doesn't have to be hard work. This self-study programme is full of clear explanations and examples, frequent practical exercises, and an extended case study to fully apply all the tools presented. Although only just released, the Handbook has already been welcomed by development professionals from organisations such as ADRA, UNDP, WHO, the Burnet Institute, IAEA, Family Health International, UNAIDS and the World Bank.

Download two sample modules now for free @ [www.reportingskills.org/resources.htm](http://www.reportingskills.org/resources.htm)  
The whole Handbook can be purchased @ [www.reportingskills.org](http://www.reportingskills.org)

## BE YOUR OWN MINI-WORLD BANK

[Kiva.org](http://Kiva.org) is an eBay for micro-finance as described by founder Premal Shah. It lets people lend as little as US\$25 to small businesses from Vietnam to Kenya. It is drawing so much interest from lenders that it's struggling to keep up. "We're providing an online platform for connecting the micro-financing people in the field with someone in Iowa, or someone in London," said Shah. Traffic to the site surged last year after Bangladeshi economist Muhammad Yunus was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize for founding the Grameen Bank. A mention in Bill Clinton's new book 'Giving' has created another wave of interest.



Read more @ [www.abc.net.au/catapult/news/s2048036.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/catapult/news/s2048036.htm)

## GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AND SIMULTANEOUS POLICY

As global problems increasingly outstrip the capacity of national and international governance institutions to solve them, the issue of global governance is rapidly moving up the international political agenda. This book draws on the work of a number of leading evolutionary thinkers to show that both the process of globalisation and the evolution of a binding system of global governance are natural parts of human evolution.



Download for free @ [www.simpol.org/en/books/Books\\_FS.htm](http://www.simpol.org/en/books/Books_FS.htm)

## PARTNER ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

### 4<sup>TH</sup> WORLD YOUTH CONGRESS 2008

Lots of developments took place since the last Congress in Scotland in 2005. The World Bank Report on Development and the Next Generation, the Youth Fund established to promote youth-led initiatives in urban settings the UNIDO regional Youth Employment programme in West African and the YES Fund to promote entrepreneurship. The congress is generating opportunities to young people. Any young person, or organisation, interested in exploring the most effective roles for young people in development should definitely attend in 2008 from 10-21 August.

Applications available @: [www.wyc2008.qc.ca](http://www.wyc2008.qc.ca)

# SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT & ENERGY

## TRANSPORT ENERGY FUTURES

By Ryan Falconer, PhD Candidate  
Perth, Western Australia

Oil is the key source of energy for the global transport task. In particular, many countries rely on oil to fuel domestic motor vehicle fleets. This reliance is pronounced in the car dependent cities of the West, including many in the United States of America (US) and Australia.

There is an impending crisis facing transport sectors that depend on fossil fuels. This crisis will differentially affect those cities that are characterised by high levels of motor vehicle travel. Uncertain global oil supply presents a fundamental challenge to transport sustainability. Because of this, there is an urgent need for transport policy redress.

The focus needs to be on more compact city designs and discouragement of private motor vehicle travel. Technological change, as an alternative, which is commonly considered to offer solutions for transport, presents limited real potential, because it will take a long time for domestic vehicle fleets to be replaced by more efficient/alternative fuel vehicles.



Source: [Cheweb](#)

For decades it has been understood that there is a limited supply of oil. In the 1950s, M. King Hubbert (1956) forecast the peak of oil production in the US. Nevertheless, many years of transport policy and funding, particularly in the US and Australia, have favoured motor vehicle transport and the transport sector remains reliant on fossil fuels (Kenworthy, 2003). Bitumen, which is formed following the refinement of crude, is even relied on to make roads.

Strong measures are now required to limit demand for oil and prioritise sustainable transport modes in the face of a coming transport energy crisis. Many US and Australasian cities have been designed in such a way to make motorised travel the only real transport solution for many trips (Frumkin *et al.*, 2004; Newman and Kenworthy, 1999; Newman and Kenworthy, 2006). Having undergone considerable development in the period post World War II, cities including Atlanta, Los Angeles and Perth are characterised by sprawl and extensive motor-vehicle infrastructure.

There have been government incentives for suburban growth and funding biases in favour of motor vehicles rather than public transport (Davison, 2004; Laird, 2001). Car dependence, therefore, is linked to oil dependence. As a consequence of oil dependency, oil supply has become big business. Motor and oil companies have long featured prominently in the global *Fortune 500* (Hamer, 1987). In 2004, for example, three oil companies - Exxon Mobil, BP and Royal Dutch Shell Group - were amongst the ten wealthiest companies worldwide. In 2004, Exxon Mobil's market value was US\$283.6b (Au\$365.4b) (Finfacts, 2005). Automobile manufacturers and suppliers have a high representation elsewhere in the list. Together, these companies with an interest in motoring and oil form a powerful international political lobby group.

Just as the oil lobby is international, so too are transport sustainability issues, particularly those tied to oil dependence. We need to be thinking carefully about our transport future, because one that relies on oil for energy is not sustainable. We also need to be thinking about the consequences of rapid motorisation in developing nations, which is likely to perpetuate existing concerns.

## THE OCTOBER WAR

By *Vijayakumar Ponnuswamy*  
Copenhagen, Denmark



The 290th day of the Gregorian calendar year 1973 marked one of the most important turning points in the history of the twentieth century. The world faced a sudden and an unpredicted interruption of the supply of petroleum. The members of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries [OAPEC] announced that they would no longer ship petroleum to nations that had supported Israel in its conflict war with Syria and Egypt, otherwise known as 'The Yom Kippur War'. During the war, the Arab world imposed an oil embargo against the United States, Western Europe, and Japan for their support of Israel. The OAPEC cut production of oil and placed an embargo on shipments of crude oil to the West, with the United States and the Netherlands, specifically targeted.

The effects had severely forced the west to redefine the word 'interdependence', especially on the terms of 'dependence for fossil fuels'. Researches on alternative energy sources, such as, wind and solar energy, quickly attained importance. Years later, due to substantial after-effects, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, located at Switzerland, published the World Conservation Strategy and coined a new term "sustainable development."

The IUCN brought together more than 80 states and international organizations along with nearly 800 NGOs, with about 10,000 experts from the countries around the world inside its organization, which is dedicated to conserve natural resources. Wikipedia defines sustainability as a characteristic of a process or state that can be maintained at a certain level indefinitely. The term, in its environmental usage, would refer to the potential longevity of vital human ecological support systems, such as the planet's climatic system, systems of agriculture, industry, forestry, and fisheries, and human communities in general and the various systems on which they depend. The broad area of sustainable development was then thereby, categorized into many major subsets and, among them, Sustainable Mobility, is an important one. The common definition, as per encyclopaedias, is that "sustainable transportation is about meeting or helping meet the mobility needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet these needs". But colloquially, it is used to describe all forms of transport that which minimizes emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants on earth.

The Brundtland Commission, convened by the United Nations in 1983, chaired by the former Prime Minister of Norway, Ms Gro Harlem Brundtland, submitted its report which deals with sustainable development and the change of politics needed for achieving that. The definition of this term in the report was quite well known and often cited as, "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Directorate-General for Energy and Transport [DG TREN] of the European Commission, operating since the year 2000, has launched a programme which focuses mostly on the urban transport. Among their many main measures, some of them focus on clean fuels and vehicles such as biodiesel, CNG, and hybrid vehicles; intermodal passenger transport; and Transport management. The development and environment are both equally important as two sides of the same coin. Even if one side is defaced, would only make the coin valueless. Jeffrey David Sachs, an American economist, quoted that "There is an urgent need to communicate with the public and help to explain where there is consensus, and where are there doubts about the issues of sustainable development." We must have the responsibility to guard the planet we live and assure our children and grandchildren to have a healthy and sustainable environment in which to live. Shouldn't we?

Full text of the Brundtland Report @ [www.anped.org/media/brundtland-pdf.pdf](http://www.anped.org/media/brundtland-pdf.pdf)  
More on sustainable transport @ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable transport](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_transport)



2006, the world experienced more weather related disasters than in any of the previous three years. Nearly 100 million people were affected'. Another shows America could displace 22 million hectares of tropical forest and Savanna in the next 20 years'

**More statistics on** [www.worldwatch.org/taxonomy/term/39](http://www.worldwatch.org/taxonomy/term/39).

## **WORLD FOOD DAY: 16 OCTOBER**

There's word going around encouraging writings about this year's theme of the World Food Day; the "right to food". Topics could reflect environmental and social justice issues as they relate to food, such as the right to food, hunger, urban agriculture, food miles, water and carbon costs, food security and even issues such as green roofs and vertical spaces for food production, among many more! SustainableCitiesNet.com welcomes any posts you may like to contribute with. Maybe all it will add up to is a handful of op-eds and blog posts, but that's how awareness-raising starts. Such a group effort would represent a statement of solidarity with people and groups internationally working on these issues. You might check with some local agencies to see what the level of food insecurity in your own area to make a connection. Use the day to toot your own horn by telling readers what you and your group are doing to insure that more people in your area have access to nutritious food. Write a futuristic piece about what you'd like your community to look like 13 years from now food-wise, i.e. Your Vision for 2020.

**Bread for the World has a good summary of world hunger facts:**

<http://www.bread.org/learn/hunger-basics/hunger-facts-international.html>

**Information from the FAO's Right to Food website can also be found at:**

<http://www.fao.org/righttofood/>

## **CLIMATE AND POPULATION STRIP FERTILE LAND**

Scientists say to keep up with the growth in human population; more food will have to be produced worldwide over the next 50 years than has been during the past 10,000 years combined. But in many countries a combination of poor farming practices and deforestation will be exacerbated by climate change to steadily degrade soil fertility, leaving vast areas unsuitable for crops or grazing. Competition over sparse resources may lead to conflicts and environmental destruction, the scientists fear. The warnings came as researchers from around the world convened at a UN-backed forum in Iceland on sustainable development to address the organisation's millennium development goals to halve hunger and extreme poverty by 2015. The researchers used the meeting to call on countries to impose strict farming guidelines to ensure that soils are not degraded so badly they cannot recover.

Read more on the following link:

[www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2007/aug/31/climatechange.food](http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2007/aug/31/climatechange.food)

## **TIG PANORAMA ON CONSUMERISM AND POLLUTION**

Sometimes we buy new goods without paying attention to whether we really need them or not. We don't look at how long they might last, which country they come from or the environmental consequences of manufacturing these goods and how they are disposed. Creating new goods means new factories that need to be built whose operations can create many things that are harmful to our environment.

**See how TIG members expressed artistically what Consumerism and Pollution means to them @**

<http://en.takingitglobal.org/express/gallery/artwork/index.html?type=tig&collectionID=1073>

## IYPF COMMUNITIES

### GLOBAL TRADE AND POOR NATIONS

The focus on a spectrum of poor nations across different regions provides some guidelines regarding the likely impacts of a global trade reform, agreed upon under the auspices of the World Trade Organization, as well as the impact of such reforms on economic development. This study combines information on trade policy at the product level with income and consumption data at the household level, thus capturing effects both on the macro level and in individual households where development policies ideally should improve day-to-day life. This uniformity of research approach across the country studies allows a deeper and a more robust comparison of results.

More info about the book @ [www.brookings.edu/press/books/globaltradeandpoornations.htm](http://www.brookings.edu/press/books/globaltradeandpoornations.htm).

## OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES

### FIRST INTERNATIONAL CARBON-FARMING CONFERENCE

The world's first conference on "Carbon Farming" will be staged in Australia on 16 and 17 November. Speakers include leading soil scientists and primary producers who have started "carbon farming" already. Overseas experts have declared it a historical event of international importance. As part of the event, the "Carbon Cockie of the Year" will be named. There will also be an exhibition of 'carbon farming' products and services.

Details of the event can be seen @ [carbonfarming.blogspot.com](http://carbonfarming.blogspot.com)

### CALLING ON SCIENCE ENTHUSIASTS

If you're between 13 and 26, and you study or work in science or engineering, if you care to address the world's toughest challenges, Citizen Science of SustainUS holds an annual paper competition based upon the agenda of the upcoming UN Commission on Sustainable Development [UNCSD]. The purpose of the competition is to make technical aspects of those topics relevant and understandable to the general public and influence sound public policy. The competition winners will: have their work published in the journal Citizen Science, and present to activists and policy-makers at the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, held 5-16 May 2008 in New York City, as a member of the youth delegation. This year's UNCSD discussion and Citizen Science paper topics are Africa, Agriculture, Desertification, Drought, Land, and Rural Development This is the first year the UNCSD will discuss these topics; therefore, background research will be a priority, giving young scientists a premier opportunity to apply their knowledge to the policy arena. Papers will be accepted in three categories which are Middle school students, high school students, as well as undergraduate and graduate students.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until January 1, 2008

Full instructions @ [http://docs.google.com/View?docid=ddzjrfcf\\_13d6hk27](http://docs.google.com/View?docid=ddzjrfcf_13d6hk27)

Questions or requests may be directed to [Miranda.Newberry@SustainUS.org](mailto:Miranda.Newberry@SustainUS.org)

All Paper Submissions may be sent to [CitizenScience@SustainUS.org](mailto:CitizenScience@SustainUS.org)

# ABOUT IYPF

## WHAT IS THE IYPF?

The International Young Professionals Foundation (IYPF) is a not-for-profit organisation based in Australia that has been mobilising young professionals to take action on social and sustainability issues since it was founded in October 2001.

The IYPF's vision is *"a global community of young professionals creating a better world current and future generations through local and global action"*. The IYPF sets out to achieve this by informing, inspiring and equipping young professionals as sustainability practitioners and social change agents. Young professionals are those aged 18 – 40, typically in the early stages of their careers.

To achieve its vision, the IYPF's mission has it working with existing young professional social entrepreneurs and change agents, as well as reaching out to educate, inform and inspire others to use their power, privilege, skills and abilities to create a better world for current and future generations.

## WHAT DO WE DO?

We build and resource a global network of young professionals who are creating a better world for current and future generations through local and global action. We do this through 5 key activities:

1. Facilitating conversations and information sharing between young professionals that informs and inspires them to take action on important local and global issues through online communities, newsletters, blogs, publications, and presentations.

See [www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm](http://www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm) and [www.iypf.org/news.htm](http://www.iypf.org/news.htm)

2. Running projects that facilitate youth and young professional led social change, e.g. the Blueprint Project ([www.iyps.org/blueprint](http://www.iyps.org/blueprint)) to nurture youth entrepreneurship; the Youth & Sustainable Consumption project ([www.iypf.org/IYPF-projects.htm#YouthSC](http://www.iypf.org/IYPF-projects.htm#YouthSC)) to develop young sustainability leaders

3. Assisting young professionals to start and run successful community projects ([www.iypf.org/member-projects.htm](http://www.iypf.org/member-projects.htm)) and local events

4. Convening regular international summits of young professionals, the next one being in Manchester, UK in August 2008 [www.iyps.org](http://www.iyps.org).

5. Growing and managing a Member Activities Fund to support young professional led projects, events and organisations and assist young professionals in their development as community leaders (starting in 2007)

## How You Can Help

### Join our team

[www.iypf.org/employment.htm](http://www.iypf.org/employment.htm)

If you are interested in developing yourself professionally through volunteering your time to assist the IYPF achieve its vision, contact IYPF's Human Resources Officer, Britt Jacobsen, on [brittjacobsen@iypf.org](mailto:brittjacobsen@iypf.org).

### Become a member

[www.iypf.org/membership.htm](http://www.iypf.org/membership.htm)

Become a member and help IYPF develop a worldwide network of young professionals who catalyse positive change in their lives, communities, organisations, and ultimately the world. Review the information online for benefits and how to join.

### Spread the word

Use information from our website, including introductory PowerPoint presentations on the IYPF, IYPF membership application forms and information, and this and past newsletters, to encourage others to become members. Get people to sign up to receive the newsletter for free each month through the website.

### Help others become members

[www.iypf.org/payments.htm#donations](http://www.iypf.org/payments.htm#donations)

The IYPF maintains a Membership Donations Trust fund to assist young professionals who wish to be IYPF members but who cannot afford the full fees.

### Share opportunities and resources

[www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm](http://www.iypf.org/IYPF-campaigns.htm)

Join your regional online community and share development opportunities, sustainability, and social change resources with other young professionals. You can also join topical communities on sustainability and social change issues, including globalisation, fresh water, poverty eradication, HIV & AIDS, Downshifting, Education and ICTs.

### Support

[www.iypf.org/member-projects.htm](http://www.iypf.org/member-projects.htm)

IYPF has a number of endorsed projects and supports its members to turn their ideas into successful projects and ventures. The IYPF regularly receives new project proposals and there are always opportunities for young professionals to get involved.

## Got something to say?

We're always searching for passionate and dedicated writers to contribute news of events, resources, articles and stories relevant to young professionals who are creating a better world for current and future generations.

Contact us at [newsletter@iypf.org](mailto:newsletter@iypf.org)