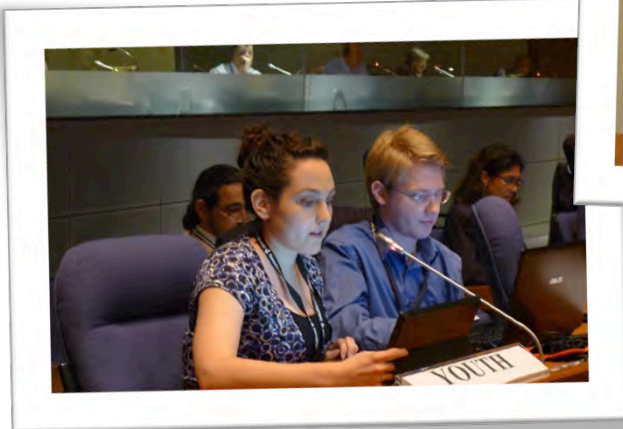




GYBN @ CBD WGRI 5



**Global Youth Biodiversity
Network Delegation's Report
at CBD WGRI 5**



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

Japan Biodiversity Fund



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GYBN TEAM

At WRGI 5 GYBN was represented by:
Global South Focal Point – Melina Sakiyama (Brazil),
Global North Focal Point – Christian Schwarzer
(Germany), Steering Committee Member – Dayna
Noltie (Canada) and Indian Youth Biodiversity
Network representative Swetha Sthothra Bashyam



MAIN GOALS

- ✓ Bring the perspectives of Global Youth into the CBD intersessional process.
- ✓ Ensure that young people participation is guaranteed in the CBD process.
- ✓ Articulate partnerships and collaboration with other stakeholders.
- ✓ Showcase the activities & projects conducted by GYBN members around the world
- ✓ Propose a framework to strengthen youth participation in the CBD process

PREPARATION FOR WGRI 5

- ✓ Collect input from our network regarding the main issues to be discussed during WGRI.
- ✓ Draft interventions with relevant youth perspectives:
- ✓ Coordinate joint GYBN/CBD Alliance side event on Stakeholder participation.
- ✓ Coordinate youth strategy together with GYBN Steering Committee.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

DURING WGRI 5

✓ DAILY STRATEGY MEETINGS



- Daily schedule, task distribution, Coordination and final proofreading of interventions

INTERVENTIONS

✓ INFORMAL DIALOGUE ON SDGs

- We successfully intervened during the open dialogue, emphasizing that biodiversity issues and specially Aichi targets should be mainstreamed into all SDGs, especially on goal 4 – Education – where biodiversity awareness should be included in all curricula.
- We also urged parties to ensure full and effective participation of all stakeholders, including frequently marginalized groups: Youth, Women, Indigenous and local communities.



Video of intervention can be seen at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=NdPUCRQgRhE



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MAIN ACTIVITIES

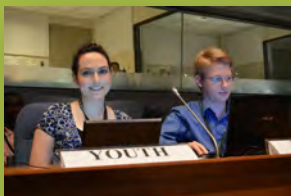
✓ STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT (18th/Jun)

During COP11 in Hyderabad, GYBN successfully included a paragraph in the COP decision on Stakeholder Engagement, where parties acknowledged the importance of youth and were encouraged to involve youth as active stakeholders in all relevant process on biodiversity.

Hoping to build on this decision, GYBN proposed the development of a strategy on youth engagement in order to strengthen youth participation in the CBD. The proposal was rejected by Norway and the EU that due to the impossibility of the parties having financial commitments with a youth strategy at the moment.



▪ After some commotion during the plenary and an informal dialogue between GYBN, Norway, Germany and CBD ES Mr. Dias. GYBN understood the financial implication of the words in the intervention and decided to take a step-by-step approach, preparing the context, before proposing a strategy on Youth.



The video can be seen at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=nFRMX9Zqk4

MAIN ACTIVITIES

✓ COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS (18th/Jun)

GYBN believes that further cooperation among MEAs needs to be addressed, and we voiced our position during the plenary, urging parties to:

- Enhancing cooperation and coordination in the implementation of Biodiversity related conventions across different government institutions
- Effective information sharing mechanisms to improve synergies between different conventions
- Increase support for joint awareness raising initiatives, such as the Rio Conventions Pavilion and establish new joint work programs and communication strategies between conventions.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBvCix6gnaU

✓ CLOSING PLENARY (20th/Jun)

- GYBN stressed the will of young people and their commitment to become active partner of parties and other stakeholders in implementing the Aichi targets and the objectives of the convention. We acknowledged the "Lesson learned" and thanked the support provided by Germany and Japan.



www.youtube.com/watch?v=P8AH2SBmBTY



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MAIN ACTIVITIES

PARTNERSHIPS & NETWORK

✓ **NGOs** : GYBN further developed its partnership with the CBD Alliance, and we also attended their daily coordination meetings, in order to strategize our interventions and contributions coherently. We also networked with many representatives from different NGOs that shared valuable knowledge/ experience with us.

✓ **PARTIES** : GYBN also met with party delegates from Colombia, South Korea, Germany, Norway, India, Japan, Oman and South Africa. We were able to further showcase our network and work on potential future collaborations.

✓ **CBD Secretariat** : GYBN worked closely with the CBD NGO focal points and discussed potential youth actions with Mr. Dias



MAIN ACTIVITIES

✓ JOINT SIDE-EVENT WITH CBD ALLIANCE

The side event focused on how engagement by youth, civil society organizations as well as indigenous peoples and local communities adds value to the CBD-process. It looked at ways and platforms for stakeholders to contribute to the process and present ideas on how stakeholder engagement could be further improved. It also provided insights about obstacles and problems that limits stakeholder participation in the CBD.

Speakers:

“GYBN experiences, obstacles and the way ahead: Lessons learned” – Melina Sakiyama and Christian Schwarzer

“CBD Alliance: Coordinating NGOs in the CBD” - Nele Marien (CBD Alliance coordinator)

“Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in the CBD-Process” - Yolanda Terán

“Women’s Caucus in the CBD” - Simone Lovera (Global Forest Coalition)

“Youth Engagement on Biodiversity in India” - Swetha Stotra Bhashyam (Zoo Outreach Organization)

“Youth Engagement on Biodiversity in Ghana” - David Oppong Meyde (Abibimman Foundation)

“Role of Science Community” - Ricarda Steinbrecher (EcoNexus)

“20 years of Stakeholder Participation in the CBD” – Christine von Weiszäcker (ECOROPA)



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ACHIEVEMENTS

TEAM BUILDING

GYBN was able to coordinate all of its activities effectively, strengthening partnerships and starting new collaborations. The presence of GYBN Focal Points were extremely important to coordinate the delegation and catalyze the communication channels with other delegates and organizations in a transparent, coherent and smooth manner.

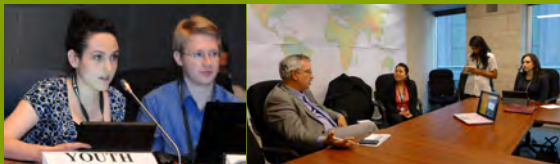
Focal Points were also important to share their experiences and knowledge in managing and coordinating a youth delegation with the other team members.



BRINGING YOUTH VOICE

GYBN was able to catch the attention of delegates, successfully showcasing the potential that youth can bring to the CBD process. After our failed attempt to insert a text on a stakeholder engagement strategy for youth. We discussed the possibility with delegates and proposed a text during SBSTTA 18 on youth engagement in the mainstreaming process of GBO4.

GYBN members were also able to contribute to the discussions on many issues giving 4 interventions during WGRI and 4 interventions during SBSTTA.



ACHIEVEMENTS

OUTREACH



GYBN was actively updating our community on our activities during WGRI and SBSTTA.



During the two weeks of WGRI-5 and SBSTTA-18 our Social Media outreach activities generated 15.157 views and reached over 8.000 people



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ABOUT



GYBN is an international network of youth organizations and individuals from all over the world whose common goal is to prevent the loss of biodiversity.

We aim to represent the voice of global youth in the CBD, raise awareness of the values of biodiversity, and connects individuals and youth organizations in order to build a global coalition to conserve biodiversity.

We are committed to bring youth perspectives into the political process; empowering young people to take action. Officially recognized and supported by the CBD Secretariat, GYBN seeks to inspire future leaders and mobilize Global Youth to build momentum for change and push society towards the conservation of biodiversity and life in harmony with nature.

GYBN has 50 member organizations from 30 countries, representing a total of more than 340.000 members worldwide.



JOIN GYBN

For Individuals: <http://bit.ly/gybn-indv>

For Organizations: <http://bit.ly/gybn-orgs>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/thegybn

Webpage: www.gybn.org

Contact: gybnsteeringcommittee@gmail.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Melina Sakiyama is a Brazilian biologist currently serving as Global South Focal Point. She is passionate about empowering young people aiming for biodiversity conservation and bridging the gap between science and policy. Contact her at melina.sakiyama@gmail.com



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

GYBN



Would like to express utmost gratitude to the Japan Biodiversity Fund that enabled the development of this very positive and extremely fruitful initiative.

We are also extremely grateful to the CBD Secretariat for its continuous support and belief in our commitments with special mention to Mr. Neil Pratt and Ms. Chantal Robichaud for all their effort in supporting us.

We also would like to thank the German Ministry of Environment and the Japan ministry of Environment for providing GYBN with support during its first steps.

Finally, we would like to thank the GYBN Steering Committee for its coordination work and all GYBN members that are active all around the world ensuring we will have life on Earth into the Future!



Thank you very much!

GYBN Team
Jun 2015



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