



EARTHDAY.ORG @ COP26



As an Official Observer and Participant to the UNFCCC and Blue Zone pavilion partner, EARTHDAY.ORG was proud to rally governments, NGOs, corporations, unions, and youth behind our demands for climate literacy, climate restoration, technological solutions, and citizen science, as well as other important environmental topics. The need for a comprehensive, inclusive, and equitable response to the environmental and climate crises we face must rise to the forefront of climate action discussions and solutions. The following are just some of the achievements of EARTHDAY.ORG at COP26.

ORGANIZING GLOBAL YOUTH ACTIVIST LEADERS TO SPEAK OUT ON CLIMATE LITERACY

In partnership with dozens of NGOs, youth groups, and environmental organizations, EARTHDAY.ORG supported the creation of the youth-driven **Declaration for Climate Education**. Formally presented to Italy's Minister of Ecological Transition Roberto Cingolani, and paired with a global livestream, this document brought climate education directly into the agenda.



COMING OFF THE SUCCESSFUL YOUTH ENGAGEMENTS AT COP26 AND AT PRE-COP, THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITY (GEF) TURNS TO EDO FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP

The world's largest multilateral trust fund focused on conservation and environmental issues, the GEF, has engaged EDO to develop their youth component, helping with the organization and selection of speakers and moderators for the GEF CSO consultations. Seeking youth-led advocacy and solutions to the planet's environmental crisis, the events will take place in December.

PROVIDING A PLATFORM FOR AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS TO SHARE THEIR PERSPECTIVES

The EDO African Youth Initiative on Climate Change brought together ministers from Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, and Nigeria, as they collectively pushed for their aspirations around climate literacy and education in the region during an intergenerational dialogue at COP26. The ministers emphasized the role of youth in climate action programming and implementation throughout the continent, as well as how youth have proven to be exceptional with NDC development and innovations. Zimbabwean youth, with government assistance, created a youth policy brief on NDCs and will take charge in its implementation. Kenya has ensured youth participation in negotiations with seven youths as part of its negotiation team. The Kenyan minister urged other countries to do so as well. The ministers and youth emphasized that as we call for climate justice, young people need skills and capacity training, civic education, and resources to ensure a just and sustainable transition and progress on NDCs.



SHOWCASING THE NEED FOR CLIMATE RESTORATION

Coming off of EARTHDAY.ORG's 2021 theme, Restore Our Earth, EDO was proud to present several multi-stakeholder cutting-edge conversations on climate and ocean restoration technology, some of the only conversations that took place at COP26 covering these vital planet-saving technologies. EDO brought together major technology leaders, academics, and organizations in this field for timely discussions to lead to the next steps in these critical climate change technology-based solutions.

CONNECTING THE MOVEMENT FOR CLIMATE LITERACY, YOUTH ADVOCACY, GOVERNMENT ACTION

In addition to the formal climate education commitments made by the United Kingdom and Gibraltar that were announced at COP26, EARTHDAY.ORG saw the direct influence of its two-year Climate Literacy Campaign on the official **Conclusions of the Education and Environment Ministers Summit at COP26**. The official text of the document includes specific language to commit to integrate sustainability and climate change “**in formal education systems, including as core curriculum components**, in guidelines, teacher training, examination standards and at multiple levels through institutions.” The official statement also included a commitment to work “**with diverse stakeholders, including young people**, to ensure proposed policies and changes adequately respond to the needs and lived experiences of all communities.”

SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE MARCHING IN THE STREETS OF GLASGOW

Staffers, led by EARTHDAY.ORG President Kathleen Rogers, participated in both the 100,000-person-strong “Global Day of Action for Climate Justice” march, as well as the COP26 Youth March which took place on Youth Empowerment and Education day on November 5th. EARTHDAY.ORG hosted several of the march’s leaders at the Nature+Zone pavilion later that afternoon for a discussion on youth climate advocacy and climate literacy.



ADVANCING CITIZEN SCIENCE AS A SOLUTION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Throughout COP26, EARTHDAY.ORG emphasized in meetings and public forums the important role citizen science (and the Global Earth Challenge platform) must play in solving the climate crisis. In the Blue Zone, EDO presented a panel of government leaders, scientists, and advocates discussing the role of citizen science and activism in the fight against climate change and how citizen science is key for building a movement and creating science-based solutions.

BUILDING THE GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE OF PARTNERS FOR EARTH DAY



In addition to greatly expanding its engagement with youth organizations globally at COP26, EARTHDAY.ORG held discussions and built partnerships with over 20 country ministers and cabinet members spanning Asia, South America, and Europe; high-profile local government leaders such as Mayor Hidalgo of Paris; NGOs; civil society advocates and partners; global labor unions; and business and technology leaders from the private sector.



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