

REPORT - IASF 2023

IASF or the IUCEE ANNUAL STUDENT FORUM 2023 was a 3-day conference, where students all across the country came together in an attempt to make a change, to make the world a better place. Students across various colleges built models towards sustainable awareness. This conference was backed by 5 Mentors with a motto to devise a creative solution in the form of simple, sustainable and replicable practices that can be implemented across the board. 12 of us from various branches took part in this conference.



Mentors-

Karthik Ponnappa - GOAL 6

He is the co-founder and principle of Smarter Dharma. It is a social enterprise operating spectrum-wide in the field of environmental & social sustainability with focus on behavior change. work on, on-ground implementation, building evidence-based policy interventions and work on influencing behavior change through education. They currently focus on among the fastest and highly consuming sectors of construction, manufacturing and hospitality among others to bring tangible change. The main principle which goes along with their work is how do we deliver sustainable leadership in construction & make this happen.

Akhilesh Anilkumar - GOAL 7

He is an UN India Youth Climate Leader and also the Director and Co-Founder of Bring Back Green Foundation which works on diverse problems related to climate change such as waste reduction & management at large scale events, promoting climate education as a tool to help solve climate change and on topics associated with gender and social justice (which are associated with climate change) such as sustainable menstruation, how climate related incidents such as coastal erosion affect the lives of fishermen communities, etc.

Berjis Driver - GOAL 11

He is an Urban Planner, a descriptive researcher and an aspiring Entrepreneur with more than 2 years' experience in architecture, urban and environmental planning. He is a national youth climate

leader as part of the United Nations India x Purpose, 'We the Change' campaign. He is also a Project Research Associate at IIT Bombay.

Sneha Shahi - GOAL 13

She is a Conservationist and a UNEP - Plastic Tide Turner Ambassador. Driven by the idea of coexistence and aiming to inspire positive actions towards social and environmental issues. Interested in developing resilience, adaptation policies and integrated strategies for climate change mitigation.

Heeta Lakhani - GOAL 15

She is the Founder & Director of the ClimAct Foundation. She has a Master's of Science in Environmental Studies and Resource Management from TERI University, India. She is a firm believer in the power of youth participation in grassroots and international processes and strives to create change-makers who combat the climate crisis with knowledge-based action. Heeta was introduced to the world of the United Nations Climate Change process at COP21 in 2015 and was the Global Focal Point for YOUNGO for 2020-21. She also works on training youth to be effective negotiators in the UN intergovernmental processes through the Youth Negotiators Academy.

Sustainability Development Goals undertaken –

Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation -

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy -

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities -

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 13: Climate Action -

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Goal 15: Life on Land -

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

DAY 1: The event started with the inaugural ceremony. The respective dignitaries gave a speech on Sustainability and its importance that aligned with the mission and vision of the conference. Officially, the event was set forth by Sampada Pachaury, Director and Board member IUCEE Foundation. The conference commenced with a panel discussion involving the 5 mentors. Through this panel discussion we





got to know a little more about each of the mentors, their driven passion and source of motivation to achieve so far in life and also of their works and projects on Climate Action and Sustainability.

The students were then allotted their respective rooms in accordance with the SDGs they were going to work on. They

were briefed about the various SDGs and were given a basic understanding of what Sustainability and a Sustainability awareness model is. Towards the end of DAY 1, student teams were asked to think about the problems that exist with respect to their goal and with the help of SWOT analysis short it down to a specific problem which they will be working on the subsequent days.

DAY 2 : The day started with an energetic walkathon of 5 Km across the beautiful city of Mysore. After the walkathon the students were divided according to their goals.

The teams then started to divulge into their specific problem and come up with an innovative and feasible solution after some mind mapping and brain storming. GOAL 7 had an interactive session with a startup that dealt with Solar Panels and making efficient use of Solar Energy. Overall, it was a very fun filled and informative day where all the students got to learn about various aspects of how to come up with solutions, what are the parameters one needs to look into while coming up with solution such as its accessibility,

affordability, efficiency, bottom-up approach, human centric and most importantly sustainable etc.



Students divided into goals :

Goal 7:

- 1.Shankaramma
- 2.Krish Dhankar
3. Inchara N Aradhya
4. G S Varshini

Goal 11:

1. Mukul R Kulkarni
2. Suraj R S
3. Rakshit C M
4. Prajwal Angadi

Goal 15:

1. Shruthishree S
2. Sahana Vaddi
3. Soundarya Das
4. Vaibhavi Mokashi

DAY 3: The final day was started off with the Sustainability Awareness Model Exhibition, where all the student teams portrayed their innovative ideas and solutions that they had worked upon. It was a marvelous show of knowledge and experience gained by the students throughout the conference



as well as incorporation of the critical reviews and guidance given by the mentors. Students also got to interact with various delegates and experts of the respective domains. The event then came to a closure with a valedictory and award ceremony which was followed by a cultural evening. Shankaramma and her team got the best project award under GOAL 7. Inchara N Aradhya and G S Varshini along with their respective teams got special mention award under GOAL 7. Team of four- Mukul R Kulkarni, Suraj R S, Rakshit C M and Prajwal Angadi were awarded with special mention as well under GOAL 11. Shruthishree S, Sahana Vaddi, Soundarya Das and Vaibhavi Mokashi also received special mention award under GOAL 15.