Youth in Environmental Action

An International Survey



Education, Training and Awareness Series No. 2

International Youth Federation
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
United Nations Environment Programme
1987

Youth in Environmental Action

An International Survey



Education, Training and Awareness Series No. 2

International Youth Federation
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
United Nations Environment Programme
1987

YOUTH IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

An International Survey

Editor
Jan J. Voordouw

Prepared by the International Youth Federation
in collaboration with UNEP and IUCN
as a contribution to International Youth Year

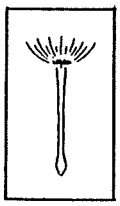
Education, Training and Awareness Series No. 2

1987

The views of the authors expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the participating organizations.

Published by IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, U.K.

This publication by IYF/IUCN/UNEP forms part of the Education, Training and Awareness Series in the IUCN Conservation Library.







(C) 1987. International Youth Federation/International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources/United Nations Environment Programme

Reproduction of this publication for educational and other non-commercial purposes is authorized without prior permission from the copyright holders.

Reproduction for resale or other commercial purposes is prohibited without the prior written permission of the copyright holders.

ISBN 2-88032-919-1

Citation: IYF/IUCN/UNEP (1987). Youth in Environmental Action: An International Survey. Editor J. Voordouw. IUCN Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, U.K.

Cover: Patrick Virolle/James Butler

Cover photo: An open-air exhibition in Kenya to inform the public about wildlife issues. Wildlife Clubs of Kenya/WWF

Available from IYF,
Klostermollevej 48 A, 8660 Skanderborg, Denmark
and
IUCN Publications Services,
219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 ODL, U.K. or
Avenue du Mont-Blanc, 1196 Gland, Switzerland.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACES

Dr. Swaminatham	-	President of the IUCN
Shiraz Wajih	-	Chairman of the IYF
Jan Voordouw	-	Editor

1. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS
   - Youth in Environmental Action
   - Nature of Youth Organizations

2. YOUTH INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNITY ACTION
   - Roles
   - Activities
   - Excursions
   - Practical Conservation Tasks
   - Camps
   - Courses
   - Projects and Surveys
   - Indoor Meetings
   - Publications
   - Youth Organizations as Pressure Groups
   - Youth Environmental Organizations and the World Conservation Strategy

3. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
   - Introduction
   - India - Action at the Grass Roots
   - Thailand - the Young Conservationists
   - Fiji - The Holism of Environmental Action
   - Indonesia - The Benefits of Cooperation
   - Malaysia - Environmental Action by Citizen Groups
   - Sri Lanka - Victory over Pollution

4. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE
   - Introduction
   - The first International Youth Leader Training Courses: The Lueneberger Heide Courses (FRG)
   - Boat Actions for the Wadden Sea and the Baltic Sea
   - Malta - Hunting and Trapping of Birds
   - Youth Environmental Activities in European Socialist Countries
   - The Project on Acid Rain
   - Fältbiologerna - Sweden

TABLE OF CONTENTS (continued)

5. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA
   - Introduction
   - The Latin American Federation of Young Environmentalists (FLAJA)
   - Mexico - Course on Tropical Forests
   - Follow-up Work of FLAJA
   - Developments in South America
   - Case Studies from Central America
   - Environmental Education for Latin American Youth Leaders

6. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA
   - Introduction
   - Some National Youth Organizations in East Africa
   - The Chongololo and Conservation Clubs of Zambia
   - Youth and the Conservation of Nature in Cameroon
   - The Arab Office of Youth and Environment - Egypt
   - Tree Planting and Forest Conservation - Sierra Leone

7. INTEGRATION: THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FEDERATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND CONSERVATION (IYF)
   - Introduction
   - History
   - Structure
   - Working Programme
   - Inter-regional Cooperation
   - Youth Exchange

APPENDICES
1. GUIDELINES FOR ORGANIZERS OF YOUTH LEADER TRAINING COURSES
2. SOME ADDRESSES OF YOUTH GROUPS
3. GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

FOREWORD BY THE PRESIDENT OF IUCN

Since the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment in 1972 we have all become familiar with the need to think holistically about the environment. We are aware that on our fragile planet we must link conservation, peace and the elimination of poverty. We now must combine the age-old conservation ethics with modern interdisciplinary scientific and technological advances. We know that the different sectors of government must work together, and work with the non-governmental organizations, with industry and with the consumers.

But holism in space is perhaps only one side of the coin. We need to think much more about the future and above all, I believe, about young people who will be a part of that future. We have not listened enough to these young people, now more than half the world's population. We too often dismiss what they have to say as ignorant or arrogant, naive or irrelevant. Many of us do not see their contributions as having a bearing on our adult conservation efforts.

All this is changing though. With a certain sense of history, it gives me particular pleasure to introduce this modest volume. It is a simply written story of what young people are actually doing. Not all of them to be sure, not most of them, because young people, like so much of nature, remain unseen by adults preoccupied with a materialistic world. The young people who are directly involved in environmental activities probably number in the millions worldwide.

But despite the valiant efforts of the International Youth Federation (IYF), the task of involving and learning from young people has hardly begun. We are not aware of the enormous resource we have in our young people, and how relatively easy it would be to realize that potential. There are almost 800 million children in school according to Unesco. It would not be difficult to organize at least a part of this huge group in schools into Conservation for Development clubs where young people might not only learn in theory but also carry out vital conservation tasks.

IUCN will stand firmly behind IYF and young people in promoting human fulfillment on a sustainable basis. We made this commitment 30 years ago in Salzburg when we were responsible for the birth of IYF. We recognize that the years since then have not been easy. No childhood, certainly no adolescent period is easy for a parent. We must now recommit ourselves to help again at a time when the threat to mankind, which is even more critical than it has ever been before, requires the greatest cooperation among generations.

M.S. Swaminathan
President, IUCN

PREFACE

With just a cursory glance, one will realize that similar environmental problems assail the different geographic regions of the world, whether as a result of over- or under-development. The methods of tackling the situation vary from one region to another, from country to country, and from community to community. These differences arise primarily because of prevailing socio-economic conditions, but a lack of integration of effort and of communication among organizations and people also contribute.

A separate youth movement for nature, environmentally sound development and action, is a logical result of the fact that all people are young once. Environmental youth movements can be found in almost every part of the world. The reasons for the existence of such "self-governing" movements, run for and by young people, are numerous. Youth likes and needs to work in a setting which offers a high degree of integration of learning, thinking, interacting, teamwork and action. Of course, experience is appreciated in youth organizations, but only as long as it is accessible and available to everybody, understandable for new people, and offers tangible benefits to the group. This is the most important reason for youth groups to establish more or less strictly kept age-limits. It is also why many "adult" organizations find it difficult to understand youth organizations, which they consider to be big groups of "people, with divided and continuously changing leadership".

Studies evaluating the effectiveness of self-governing environmental youth groups show that these groups appear to have extremely high outputs compared with many other youth programmes, especially when the size of the budget is taken into account. Training activities such as developing leadership capabilities; team-work; cooperating with institutions or in a larger organizational framework; integrated learning; and skills in organizational work, are all important in youth environmental organizations.

Youth environmental organizations are composed of young people with fresh ideas, who still think that something can be changed in the world, and who take numerous initiatives, often with lasting results - that's why the conservation movement is so dependent on youth environmental work.

There is an urgent need to increase cooperation at all levels, but this is hampered by a paucity of information regarding the means available to establish cooperation between youth environmental groups themselves, as well as between youth and adult environmental organizations. This book shows some examples of how youth movements work, what their attitudes are, and what they can accomplish. May it be a tool for a joint effort in the battle against the destruction of the earth's resources and for a better future for mankind.

Shiraz A. Wajih
Chairman
International Youth Federation

EDITORIAL

Youth in Environmental Action may be used in various ways. First of all it is intended as an introduction to a wide circle of people involved in conservation issues. It describes how environmental organizations are run, their vital function in the environmental movement, and how they deal with education, training and public action.

The book is also intended as a source and a guide for young environmentalists. The problems are clear, they know what to do, but sometimes they are unaware of how to transform knowledge into action.

The book is in three parts. Chapters 1 and 2 provide a general description of what youth environmental organizations are and what they do. The second part (Chapters 3-6) includes many examples of youth environmental activities in various geographical regions. The third part (Chapter 7) shows how these activities are integrated in a wider forum - IYF.

Since camps are very important activities for youth environmental groups, and as a logical appendix to such a book, a set of basic guidelines for the technical organization of international courses is also included.

The youth environmental activities discussed are only a selection of what actually happens. There are many, many more youth groups doing excellent work in this field. I am especially aware that the regions of Africa, Asia and Latin America are under-represented but deadlines for completion of this book necessitated using information which was already available to me.

Although college-based student environmental groups are successful in the USA and Canada, youth environmental action in these countries is not extensive. Traditionally, young people have not run youth organizations in the field of nature protection so there is an absence of national structures. Consequently, North American youth groups are not much involved in international projects.

It is not easy for somebody who has been a member of only one youth environmental organization to edit such a book on youth environmental action around the world. I am very grateful to all those people who helped with their contributions and comments. First, my sincerest thanks to Dr Mostafa K. Tolba, Executive Director of UNEP and to Dr M.S. Swaminathan, President of IUCN, who made this publication possible. My thanks go also to Sálvano Briceño (IUCN) who assisted in many ways, to David Pitt (IUCN) for his help in the final editing and to Reginald Pape (IYF), who acted as co-editor.

I should also like to acknowledge the contributions of: Angela Fawcett (Panama); Daphne Tuboku-Metzger (Sierra Leone); Derk-Willem Byvanck (Netherlands); Dominic Bwanga (Zambia); Ed Romeijn (Netherlands); Erzebeth Pastor (Hungary); Javier Palomino (Colombia); Jitendra Srivastava (India); Kanchana Abhayapala (Sri Lanka); Karin Eckström (Sweden); Kjersti Rohnebaeck (Norway); Marc Pallemaerts (Belgium); Martin Abma (Netherlands); Miriam Edding (Federal Republic of Germany); Misha Kozeltsev (USSR); Ralph Rozema (Netherlands); Ramadhani Kupaza (Tanzania); Salvu Balzan (Malta); Shiraz Wajih (India); Simona Bouzkova (Czechoslovakia) and V.C. Mohan (Malaysia).

I am fully aware that this is only part of the crowd. There are so many known and unknown authors of reports, leaflets and fact sheets, articles in magazines, etc. that it is impossible to mention them all. One of the most rewarding tasks for me was to go through all the documents in the Archives of IYF, to see what happened and what things were done, even by people who must be over fifty now.

We, IUCN and IYF, regard this book as a beginning and we hope that in order to continue the dialogue you will send comments and additions to IYF.

I would like to dedicate this book to all young environmentalists everywhere, knowing that they do extremely important work, often unknown to all but a few.

Jan J. Voordouw
Editor

1. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Young people are involved in a wide variety of environmental activities within which two broad trends can be discerned. On the one hand, young people participate in environmental activities directed by adults, on the other, they are involved in independent and more self-reliant youth activities. Both movements have specific possibilities and drawbacks. The hierarchical structure and institutionalization of adult organizations are often too constraining. Whilst the independent youth activities may become too diffuse and flexible to be recognized as effective although the "think tank function" of such activities can result in important initiatives.

YOUTH IN ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Young people pursue environmental activities within a wide variety of youth organizations. Scouts, Guides and Pioneer movements have been helping young people to appreciate their environment throughout most of this century. Youth organizations promoting outdoor recreation such as hiking and youth hostelling often include conservation matters in their programmes. Clubs devoted to the observation and conservation of wildlife exist nearly everywhere, either as independent youth organizations or as junior sections of adult societies. Special conservation corps of young volunteers have been formed to undertake practical tasks in managing and restoring the environment. Young people work in community service projects to improve living conditions in health and agriculture. Environmental groups are often formed by students of relevant disciplines attached to universities and colleges. There are also organizations usually associated with schools which provide young people with the opportunity for scientific research.

Some of the groups listed above have only a peripheral interest in environmental conservation while for others it is their main objective. In the latter group we can distinguish two different organizational structures - the more traditional self-governing conservation youth organizations and the specialist environmental action organizations. Amongst students, both types occur with equal frequency.

The common features of self-governing environmental youth organizations are democratic structures with statutes and definite age-limits, a background of observing and studying nature, a basic programme of excursions and camps, and educational and strictly non-commercial activities. In recent times, environmental action has become a very important part of the programme. One particular characteristic of these organizations is that their members develop a commitment to nature and the environment through a close personal contact with, and knowledge of, their surroundings - a relationship which will give them enjoyment throughout their lives.

Organizations concerned with environmental action usually attract as members those people who have an intellectual and moral conviction that action to solve environmental problems will benefit all mankind. In many countries, traditional self-governing youth organizations serve both functions, but specialist environmental groups are being established in increasing numbers. These action groups often have commercial side-lines, e.g. publishing books on the environment or promotional materials. They may also have adult financial support. The revenues enable them to employ staff and engage professional consultants thus increasing the efficiency of their programme. While they would not claim to be democratic in structure, such groups appeal to their members because of their effectiveness in dealing with issues.

All types of independent youth organizations, apart from their considerable service to the community, offer opportunities to young people for developing their initiative, their capacity to assume organizational and leadership responsibilities, and their commitment to teamwork and to the aims of their organization.

NATURE OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Youth environmental organizations are widespread. They are often only loosely linked to other organizations. Youth groups, especially those in larger towns, know how to maintain themselves independently. However, there is also considerable cooperation at regional, national and international levels and coordination in multiple structures, although often characterised by the same flexibility. National self-governing youth organizations unite a wide variety of groups, with diverse working methods, differing approaches and varying degrees of stability. From all this emerges fluid and fluctuating structures.

Young people are non-professionals. The majority are usually involved in school or university work but when they are able to devote some time to nature studies and conservation their commitment and motivation are very high. The limited leisure time available to young people often means that a youth group needs many members involved in organization work. At local level as many as 30 per cent of the members participating in board or committee activities is not uncommon! This percentage is only slightly lower at regional and national levels.

One effect is that very complicated governing structures emerge, with everyone having a task and duties to keep in touch with certain bodies. As a result, youth organizations may be viewed as apparently diffuse and difficult to approach by professional "adult" organizations.

Because all members are young, a hierarchical mode of thinking is avoided. "Officials" can always be approached in an informal way. Help is always appreciated and therefore a large number of members are integrated over the whole range of decision-making and executive activities.

In fact, young people learn from this process to be constructive but sceptical about the governing of organizations. Scepticism is a basic feature of youth organizations: local groups criticise their regional and national bodies; national organizations have the same attitude towards the international federations. The monitoring of other organizations and programmes in the field of environment is sometimes important. Youth organizations always play a critical but constructive role in relation to other organizations, national platforms, steering groups, etc. It should be noted that these activities, partly with and partly without consent of the youth organization, result in many initiatives. One of the most important areas where the impact of youth activities is felt, is in community action, the subject of the next chapter.

2. YOUTH INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNITY ACTION

Young people can and do play vital roles in the community - perhaps the most important level at which environmental activities take place. These roles embrace education, training and public action. Youth community action is distinguished by its integration with nature, through firsthand contact during field trips and camps, and also through close contact with the people of the community itself. Education by "democratic learning" is an essential prerequisite for all forms of action.

Young people can become involved in diverse conservation activities. In particular, youth environmental organizations often link themselves with people campaigning against the exploitation of man and the environment. The surprisingly large number of publications which result from that commitment, frequently produced with great enthusiasm, can contribute significantly to the efforts of like-minded pressure groups advocating a better, safer and more healthy environment.

ROLES

The principal role of out-of-school youth activities is to motivate the individual towards conserving and improving his or her surroundings. An important secondary function is to accomplish tasks left undone by authorities, particularly those which will allow people to have the freedom to enjoy themselves in a safe and healthy environment.

Out-of-school environmental youth activities achieve these objectives by:

- providing practical experience in natural situations.
- performing practical conservation tasks, sometimes in cases or places where authorities will not, do not or cannot afford to carry out activities.
- developing a working knowledge of ecological principles governing the environment.
- identifying appropriate roles promoting community action for the environment.
- developing initiative, responsibility, teamwork and commitment among young people.

Activities can range from nature study to urban environmental action; but the emphasis should always be on enjoyment and appreciation, while allowing young people to accept the maximum responsibility. For the younger child - 6-13 years - activities might include: school clubs, visits to museums and field study centres, environmental games and the like. For the more mature age-group - 14-25 years - less formalized activities, conceived and arranged by young people themselves, are more appropriate: camps for study and practical management work; courses for training and instruction of youth leaders; excursions to study an area, either for its own sake or as part of a project; indoor meetings for study, planning or as social occasions; preparation of public information, e.g. newsletters and bulletins, exhibitions, etc.; and environmental action campaigns on local problems or on wider environmental issues.

Although out-of-school activities can be instrumental in developing a conservation consciousness, they must be considered as supplementary to the environmental education provided at school. Indeed it is desirable that the school give the child an overall understanding of the environmental crisis, the inter-relation between the arms race, poverty and environment, the economics of resources and the ecological balance of the biosphere. Against such a background, environmental action would have a greater chance of success.

ACTIVITIES

Youth movements in general, and youth environmental movements in particular, are often not highly specialized. As a result, enthusiastic initiatives can often be implemented on the premise that: "If you'd like something new in your organization, do it yourself!" A principle which governs all self-governing youth organizations is: everybody educates everybody. Thus during activities knowledge and experience are more or less handed down to others. It is vital that a youth group be open and always willing to reach more people because once the circle closes, the group will decline within a few years.

The general principle of democratic learning (everybody educates everybody), is expressed in many different ways. Often special working groups or study circles are formed (e.g. groups focusing on bird watching, entomology, landscape planning or protection of a certain area). These groups attract resource persons and interested new members, but also have wider duties within the overall youth organization, e.g. in training local groups. In the Danish youth organization "Natur og Ungdom" (Nature and Youth), special camps for new members are organized. Here, experienced members introduce new people to nature studies, environmental protection, the way of working in Natur og Ungdom and of course the group life. In many other organizations, every year a series of introductory camps on special branches of nature studies, environmental protection or general ecology are held. After such training, it is hoped that participants will be able to introduce similar activities into their own local groups. What follows in this chapter are specific examples of these activities.

EXCURSIONS

Excursions are basic to the programme of each naturalist group. They may be simply morning or afternoon walks in the neighbourhood, or longer day excursions to more distant places. The main purpose of an excursion is to observe the environment. If the group is large, it is important to have at least one person who is familiar with the area and who is well-informed about the relevant aspects of natural history. One function of an excursion is to enable the participants to identify different components of the environment and thus learn to build up an ordered picture of the ecosystems. Such an appreciation is aided by the correct equipment (e.g. observing bird-life requires binoculars and an identification book); appropriate clothing and footwear; concern for safety; and respect for the surroundings especially with regard to litter and noise.

Excursions can have many different objectives: to initiate young people in one branch of natural history; to practise ecological field techniques, such as plant transects and surveying; to visit a particular landscape area or nature reserve; to explore new areas of countryside; or to take part in a survey project.

Excursions are of unquestionable value. Those who participate may acquire practical experience of their environment - from the use of public transport to identifying mushrooms or orienteering from a map. They may also grow to appreciate the inter-relationships within their environment - landforms, soil, climate, vegetation, insect and animal life. Above all, excursions combat the increasing alienation of modern man from his natural environment, and may also result in a deeper understanding of certain aspects of society.

PRACTICAL CONSERVATION TASKS

Practical environmental conservation has proved to be a successful form of youth activity and is an integral part of the programme of many youth environmental organizations. The sort of work done includes the clearing of rubbish, construction work, tree planting, shrub clearance, fencing, reserve maintenance, sand dune reclamation, creation of footpaths and nature trails. In European countries "nature survival" is supported by construction of nest boxes for birds and tree maintenance.

These tasks are undertaken mainly for national parks, local authorities and private landowners. This means that the proper tools are provided. The work may be done on a voluntary basis or a small subsidy may be paid.

CAMPS

Traditionally, camps are the main activity of many youth organizations, at local, regional, national and international levels. These are usually held during public holidays and long school vacations, but some may also take place on weekends. Camp sites are usually near areas of natural beauty or ecological importance in order that surveys, observations and practical conservation work may be carried out. Participants can be housed under canvas in the youth organization's own tents, in schools, biological stations, farms and other very cheap accommodation.

COURSES

Courses conducted as out-of-school youth activities can range from elementary courses in field biology and ecology to leader training in methodology in such fields as administration, environmental education and campaigning. Some courses are carried out at the international level and gather youth leaders from a variety of youth and student organizations.

Usually 24 to 40 people attend such a course. This has proved to be a practical number of participants. Not too many, so it is still possible to learn and know everyone's name and face at least within a few days, with obvious benefits for the running of the course. Not too few either. As the group acquires experience, it can be split up into 4 to 8 smaller groups.

Courses at the international level often run for 7 to 14 days. In each type of course, it is vital to encourage contributions from the participants - whatever the extent of their expertise. This can be done by illustrated lectures to fellow participants, or by mounting an exhibition of the work accomplished during the course for the benefit of the local population and press.

Courses and seminars organized by youth organizations can be combined with "public action". This can be street theatre, a small demonstration, workshops and forum for the public, an alternative "town-trail", an excursion for children, etc. Wherever the activity takes place, it is considered very important to provide information to the people who live nearby. The press too can be mobilized to spread results of the course or seminar to a wider public.

PROJECTS AND SURVEYS

Projects and surveys can form the basic programme of a youth environmental group, or give added value to other activities (meetings, excursions, etc.). But whatever the status of projects and surveys in the programme of the group, usually many members make a contribution.

Examples of local surveys include the analysis of a locality which is changing due to human influence (results of which may be useful in planning inquiries); observation of changing habitat and fauna over a period of years; plotting of bird and animal migration routes; measurements of pollution levels; enquiries among fishermen and others closely associated with the environment; and deforestation in the neighbourhood of the community.

Larger-scale surveys may involve the participation of many local groups, e.g. compiling maps of the breeding distribution of animal species; conducting an opinion poll of views on environmental problems amongst citizens of different counties and countries. Major projects which include diverse ecological considerations, sociological surveys, planning etc. are also possible. These projects may grow into studies at a higher level.

Special training activities can also be organized, e.g. teacher training courses; cooperation/initiation in the establishment of school gardens; nature training in cooperation with other youth organizations; or evening courses for the community on environmental subjects.

INDOOR FACILITIES

A youth group needs the use of a room for special evenings, lectures and general work in the preparation of publications and results of environmental studies, and for storing equipment.

PUBLICATIONS

Low-cost publications, such as a stencilled bulletin containing reports and news of the forthcoming programme, enable the officers to communicate with the members. Depending on finances, more ambitiously printed magazines and yearbooks containing members' articles and photographs can be compiled by the organization's editor. However, the staff will need considerable knowledge of layout and printing techniques.

Youth groups are in fact very good at producing publications. An average national youth environmental organization, with some 35 local groups, can theoretically produce some 60 magazines! One for each local group, one for each district, then one for each working group at national level, other theme groups etc., and of course the national magazine(s).

Another important type of publication is the report of work carried out in a survey. Members will be further encouraged in their work if they see the end-product in print. Many youth organizations are also using their expertise to prepare publications for a wider audience. These may be brochures, slide series, or displays for exhibitions, etc. The materials may be produced in connection with a particular campaign, giving background information to the public and ideas for practical action by youth.

It is very easy to dismiss some youth publications because of the poor quality of the presentation. It must be remembered, however, that they are not produced with the object of replacing either scientific literature or popular magazines, but rather for the practical experiences, information and ideas which they offer, written by youth for youth.

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS AS PRESSURE GROUPS

Youth organizations and groups of concerned citizens undertake actions designed to inform the public about environmental issues, or to seek changes in policies which are believed to have an adverse effect on the environment. Environmental action by pressure groups is growing throughout the world, and with an increasingly professional approach such pressure groups are frequently successful in achieving their aims.

There are certain common practical considerations in planning environmental action by youth. First, the participants have to be organized as an effective force, aware of what they have to do. This phase usually demands a long period of time partly because of the democratic nature of youth environmental organizations.

Unfortunately, an argument presented calmly and logically often makes no impact on the public, the decision makers or the news media. Therefore, youth organizations often use theatrical techniques such as marches and street theatre, etc., as well as information stands and exhibitions.

"Unusual" demonstrations often attract more attention and better serve the cause. The burning of stuffed birds in Malta in a protest against hunting, and the evacuation of the beach and town centre during the Wadden Sea Boat Action as a protest against dangerous oil transport are two dramatic examples.

Considerable publicity can be obtained in other ways as well. Closer contacts with institutions and field study centres may provide the means for educating the public and opportunities for awareness activities. One good example is a project near Sélestat (France) where, as a result of a river clean-up by members of youth organizations, some factories reduced their pollution rates.

Often self-governing youth organizations have relatively easy access to publicity. The fact that the activities are designed and fully run by young people is sometimes already news. Many organizations have influential contacts with newspapers. Sometimes environmental youth organizations work as catalysts resulting in more established organizations becoming actively involved in particular environmental issues.

YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The fact that conservation is central to human welfare and the development process was understood at an early stage by youth environmental organizations. The numerous activities, projects and surveys reflect the perception of the primary aim of conservation as the maintenance of essential ecological processes and life-support systems. This understanding is firmly based on knowledge. By means of out-of-school educational activities and the central place given to nature observation in their programmes, youth environmental organizations provide a significant support to the implementation of the *World Conservation Strategy* (WCS).

The Strategy states that: "Although there has been progress, there is insufficient environmental education." At the local level, youth groups are able to develop educational programmes by young people, to enable young people to use their environmental knowledge to identify conservation needs and to spread awareness. The effects of such local activities have often radiated outwards to the youth conservation movement and the conservation movement in general.

It might be argued that the larger institutions have ignored both the potential and the actual contributions of youth to the WCS. What follows in the next chapters is an outline of some of the youth environmental activities which are going on or have been carried out. Much of this is rather small-scale, even sporadic, but nonetheless should not be disregarded because of that.

Most activities happened without help of even the parent body and many remain unknown to it. Naturally the situation is seen from the perspective of IYF and the examples given are those which IYF was involved in or knew about.

It is hoped that this selection will stimulate the "adult world" to realize the enormous potential which youth has for implementing the principles of the WCS.

3. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

There are bright and dark patches in the Asian and Pacific environment and development scene. Since the Stockholm Conference in 1972, some progress has been made but youth has generally been left out of the movement forward. This is a serious matter, not only because of the numbers of young people in the region, but mostly because of the undeniable impact they could have in furthering the cause of ecodevelopment.

There is little doubt that the fundamental social anomalies related to the environment can only be tackled by those who have a wide perspective of the problems. A generation made aware of these issues during their formative years could well prove the critical mass leading to positive change. In many countries in the region grassroots movements fight for human well-being and for changes in society drawing on a philosophy which recognizes the interconnection between environmental, social, economic and even spiritual matters. Youth and community groups have found common ground in several areas, especially in raising public awareness.

INTRODUCTION

The first Asian regional seminar on Environment and Development, convened by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in 1971, identified many problems of crucial interest to developing countries of the region - health, sanitation, housing, urban improvement as well as the intimate balance between poverty, pollution and resources. In 1976, four years after the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the Asian Subregional Environment Programme (ASEP) was formed.

In spite of all these activities, it would be an exaggeration to say that the environmental situation in the region has improved. In fact, the problems have even increased, partly due to a lack of action-oriented programmes, but also to a fear that excessive environmental concern would retard economic growth. Significantly, there was a lack of sufficiently trained manpower to deal with specific environmental situations.

Youth, despite forming the majority in most of the countries in the region and even though recognized as a vital force, were never really involved in the process, certainly not as part of an organized movement.

An IYF Training Course on Environmental Education in Nairobi in 1974 was the first organized initiative, after which youth participants of the Asia-Pacific Region began activities in their respective countries. Consequently, between 1975 and 1978, eight training courses were arranged by IYF in collaboration with member/sponsored organizations at various places in India, Hong Kong and Sri Lanka.

These training courses alerted young people to the problems and to the important role they can play in building a more harmonious world. They also led to the formation of youth environmental NGOs throughout the region. Group activities ranged from grassroots level awareness programmes, environmental education (both in and out of school), nature camps, and local demonstrations, to campaigns against environmental destruction in developing countries, exploitation, pesticide misuse, and deforestation. The basic aim was always "Environmental Education" to and through youth. The activities continued as more and more youth NGOs emerged and joined the "movement".

The problems addressed were many and varied: the export of tropical hardwood to Japan from Southeast Asia; the question of pine planting operations of the New Zealand company Fletcher Challenge in Fiji; the call for international solidarity against hydropower projects such as Silent Valley (India), Taman Negara (Malaysia), and Franklin-Gordon (Australia). Over the years, the necessity of regional cooperation and coordination became obvious. By 1984, IYF decided to devote what was left of its small resources to convening an Asia-Pacific regional meeting, which was organized in Dacca, Bangladesh. The "Asia-Pacific Youth Environmental Federation", a formal network of Asia-Pacific Youth environmental NGO's was established, consisting of organizations in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Fiji, Australia and New Zealand.

Initially, forests, pesticides and environmental education were recognized as the main areas of joint cooperation. Some well-established organizations like Sahabat Alam Malaysia, the Australian Conservation Foundation, Tishu Koza, the International Organization of Consumer Unions (IOCU), though not formally linked with IYF, are working in close cooperation and helping IYF organizations in the region.

INDIA - ACTION AT THE GRASS ROOTS

As the "State of the Indian Environment" (published by the Centre for Science and the Environment) shows, there are many shortcomings in recognizing the seriousness of the environmental problems in India. What is even more critical is that youth groups in India, by and large, remain too insensitive and unconcerned, especially about where their energy is channelled, until it is too late. In a few pockets of rural India, environmental movements like "Chipko" have attempted to involve youth, and their increasing awareness of their surroundings is encouraging.

The role of many voluntary youth organizations in this field is also commendable. In many cases, they have taken sole responsibility for out-of-school environmental education. Although we describe here examples of a few case-studies of youth voluntary organizations, there are many more doing excellent work.

Kalpavriksha

Kalpavriksha is a youth organization involved in environmental education and action. Based in Delhi, the organization was formed in 1979 by a group of students who were concerned about the visible and rapid deterioration of the environment of Delhi and more generally throughout India. They had become increasingly frustrated by the inaction of decision makers, many of whom expressed concern about the environment in seminar after seminar, yet did nothing about it.

The activities of this group include generating awareness amongst public and youth, investigating specific environmental issues, mobilizing people to take action on these issues and pushing environmental NGOs on controversial matters.

Kalpavriksha has been for the people, especially those at village level. They have checked the media releases and decried the militant methods of conservation adopted by the Forest Department and other government authorities. For example, in the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, some villagers who had taken their cattle to graze in the nature reserve were shot in cold blood. Some of the NGO community accepted this brutal punishment and condemned the villagers for defying the official ban even though they had been grazing their cattle in and around the area for centuries.

In 1982, Kalpavriksha joined a sustained nationwide campaign against the draft Forest Bill 1980, a revision of the existing Forest Act. The major arguments against the Bill were: it deprived poor forest dwellers of their age-old rights to collect forest products in any land declared as "reserved"; it gave wide-ranging powers to forest officials which could be misused; and it lacked any provision against the massive misuse of forests by contractors, industries and

politicians. The campaign was joined by a large number of environmental, civil rights and tribal organizations. Due to sustained pressure, the Bill was withdrawn and a new one drafted, which is yet to be introduced.

There are other examples where public pressure influenced government policy on environmental and civil rights issues, the most famous example being the Silent Valley Project, where Kerala Shastra Sahitya Parisatha (KSSP) and the Society for Environmental Education in Kerala (SEEK) took the leading role. In the Narmada Valley Project, Kalpavriksha took up the cudgels against insensitive "development" activities in the area (mining, commercial forestry and tourism).

Kalpavriksha recognizes youth to be the most important target group for educational programmes, and so it is running nature clubs in Delhi's schools and colleges, where regular activities like group discussions, slide shows, field trips, and quizzes have been started. There are also occasional workshops of two to four days' duration, where groups (from a wide range of institutions) are exposed to environmental issues and their interconnection.

Other activities include publication of newsletters, case-studies, collaboration with other organizations, and conservation of wildlife.

Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group

Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG), founded in 1974 by a few research students of Gorakhpur University, is active in eastern Uttar Pradesh (U.P.). This is one of the poorest areas in India with only 18 per cent literacy, and so GEAG works through grassroots level education using youth as resource persons.

In 1982, GEAG organized a project on environmental education for the youth of eastern U.P. This involved various activities for students (training courses, lectures, seminars, essays and poster competitions) and non-student youth (exhibitions, lectures, and film shows). It resulted in the formation of several local village/community level voluntary youth organizations interested in the right to health, resources and access to information regarding the need for environmental balance and sustainable use of natural resources.

Growing industrialization in the name of development and the callous attitude of industries and authorities have severely increased pollution problems for villagers who benefit little if at all from development. The basic means of livelihood are in fact declining and the villagers are unable to speak out because they are afraid of organized movements and have no political support. As part of a GEAG project, several industries were surveyed, effluents analyzed, impacts studied and the results brought to the notice of authorities and the media. People were stimulated to protect their right to a healthy environment by pressuring industry to "live with" the inhabitants of the region and care for them.

Illiteracy and lack of information add to the difficulties people face. Production of materials in simple and understandable language becomes an important aspect for any education programme. CEAG has accomplished a great deal with the help of the government, NGOs, Unesco and others.

To maintain itself in the mainstream, participate in the movement and have access to information, the group has been attending and organizing ventures to work with the youth of other areas, regions and nations.

Nature Clubs

The Nature Clubs of India (NCI) movement was launched on 1 July 1976 by World Wildlife Fund-India. Starting with about 75 clubs in the schools of Maharashtra and Gujarat, it has spread today to thousands of schools in India. These clubs get a quarterly newsletter and information on nature projects from WWF. Once or twice a year a field trip and camp is held

for NCI members in one of India's remaining natural areas. Nature clubs are above all a good method for in-school environmental education in India.

WWF-India requires a minimum of 15 students in order to register a nature club. Once a sufficient degree of knowledge and awareness is created through films, slide series, nature camps, and lectures, the club can start working on a number of projects which can lead to an exchange of ideas, information and experiences with other clubs.

Tree planting is one particular project which has proved successful in involving students. Digging pits, planting seeds and saplings and carefully nurturing them until they can grow on their own are activities which stimulate a love for nature and an awareness of the useful role of trees in producing oxygen, attracting rain, binding soils, providing shade and reducing pollution.

Conclusion

An evaluation of environmental education for and through youth in India must also acknowledge many problems:

- Organizational structure - most of the members of youth NGOs are students who cannot devote all of their time to environmental activities which leads to serious organizational shortcomings and sometimes lack of follow-up.

- Lack of funds - the NGOs, being small, unrecognized by the bureaucratic hierarchy and unregistered by the authorities, are normally run by the membership only. The fact that an organization remains unregistered seriously restricts activities. Members of an unregistered club cannot obtain funds for such things as office space or travel, nor can they open a bank account or have a post box.

- Lack of information - this can become a serious problem if members expend all their energies in trying to get vital information. NGOs based in remote or rural areas are particularly affected.

THAILAND - THE YOUNG CONSERVATIONISTS

The Young Conservationists Club (YCC) in Thailand was started in April 1975, directly after the first seminar on natural resources conservation which was conducted by the Faculty of Forestry of Kasetsart University. At that time, sixty-four students from 17 high schools organized themselves into the YCC.

Activities since then have included:

- wildlife exhibitions;

- tree planting by all YCC members at the Sra Kaew plantation, run by the Forest Industry Organization;

- a mobile exhibition unit (movies, slides and posters combined with lectures) which has visited more than 50 schools in Bangkok and nearby cities in order to create a better understanding of natural resource conservation among Thai youth at the primary school level;

- a programme for improving parks and various recreation areas with the help of youth volunteers.

Through all its activities the YCC offers its members opportunities to acquire a more advanced knowledge of nature conservation.

The Thai Youth Leader Training Course in Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation

Today Thailand faces environmental problems related in part to shifting cultivation and general over-exploitation of resources. The reduction of forested areas leads to the diminution in number or quality of other related natural resources such as wildlife, water, soil and natural beauty. To combat such problems, the forestry school is attempting to extend knowledge about the conservation of natural resources and the environment, especially among Thai youth.

One of their main activities was a training course, hosted by the Faculty of Forestry, Kasetsart University, Bangkok, from 24-31 October 1982. On the opening day, 110 people were registered, including 30 distinguished guests and Faculty members, 35 forestry students, 43 high school students and two instructors.

The course was divided into lectures and field trips, with group discussions in the evenings. Most of the participants were leading members of their school conservation group. They benefited from the exchange of experiences which led to an improvement of projects in the schools. One important outcome of the course was that printed and instructional materials were distributed not only to the guests and participants, but also to school libraries all over the country.

The objectives of the course were to:

- help Thai youth to understand and be interested in natural resources and environmental conservation;
- give them the methods of assessing and evaluating the environmental quality of ecosystems as a tool in awareness campaigns;
- offer an opportunity for training in leadership in a democratic setting;
- motivate, exchange ideas, and learn about new developments and technology in the field of environmental conservation;
- stimulate youth to spread knowledge acquired at the course among other youth and the general public.

FIJI - THE HOLISM OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

The objectives of Fiji's National Youth Council (FNYC) emphasize human, economic and spiritual development of young people.

The FNYC involves all young people, irrespective of ethnicity or creed. It has established an information centre for national development which provides publications, manages a loan scheme for agricultural purposes and provides youth training through seminars and workshops.

The philosophy of FNYC can be summed up in the observation that material wealth leads to over-consumption of resources. Money should not be the goal of human endeavour or politics, which must rather face squarely the problems of providing for basic needs and fighting poverty.

FNYC believes in starting at the grassroots level. There is a need for education to create awareness of how goods are produced, to show how luxury items and commercial advertising of them are increasingly changing life styles. The organization stresses that there is an alternative consumer society which attaches greater value to friendship and a sharing community.

FNYC has promoted campaigns such as switching off the lights, avoiding electric fires, wearing more clothes in winter, growing edible fruits in gardens, buying non-phosphate detergents and using public transport instead of buying a car. All of which reflect the idea that there are ways of avoiding the over-consumption of natural resources.

INDONESIA - THE BENEFITS OF COOPERATION

Population and human settlements, deforestation, pollution and destruction of flora and fauna are some of the important environmental problems in Indonesia.

Indonesia's forests are in real danger. The destruction is most seriously felt by isolated tribes. Kalimantan's Dayak, Irian's Lasmat and the people of Mentawai Islands have watched their traditional source of livelihood disappear. To protect forests and reclaim critically eroded land, several NGOs have motivated local communities to undertake responsible action, e.g. leguminous contour tree planting has resulted in a nearby river flowing again after ten years.

A number of youth NGOs found throughout the country are united in the Indonesia Environmental Forum - WALHI. One group, for example, has held courses to familiarize farmers with environmental issues, so that they can take necessary measures to stop the offending polluters. The results have been positive. The experience of WALHI shows how the integration of heterogenous groups working together may achieve successful results.

MALAYSIA - ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION BY CITIZEN GROUPS

The concept of cooperation has a long history in the kampongs. Often the community in the kampongs lived and worked together as a big family, sharing cooperatively the water resources and food crops. The natural environment supported and nourished the traditional villages, and also sustained their livelihood and their basic needs. In such a traditional society founded on the collective functioning of its members, the community was all important.

But in recent times, development based on short-term profit has led to a pattern of growth which ignored the basic needs of the people. This has caused hardship to many as well as environmental deterioration, rapid industrialization and urbanization, over-use of natural resources and decreasing environmental quality in the rural and urban areas.

Serious problems such as the rapid depletion of rich natural resources; the pollution of rivers and seas, coastline and beaches; the increasing threat to forest resources and wildlife; the use of hazardous chemicals and pesticides; and the problems of disposal of waste and sewage have accompanied the economic growth strategy pursued in Malaysia. All this has had the effect of causing both social and economic dislocation, increasing disparities between the rural and urban populations, as well as between rich and poor in urban areas. Malaysia's pattern of development has created a double burden of environmental health problems: the infectious diseases of developing societies, and the technological and chemical health problems of developed societies. The consequences have become increasingly disastrous for the poorest sections of communities who rely most on the natural resources for their living.

Awareness of this situation led to the formation of the Consumers' Association of Penang (in 1969) and its sister organization Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) - Friends of the Earth Malaysia (in 1977), two of the most active citizen groups in Malaysia. In close conjunction with young people, these groups have played an important role in reviewing current economic and development policies supporting those policies in particular which will not lead to environmental destruction.

Sahabat Alam Malaysia

Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM) is involved in a wide range of environmental issues, many of which arise from the problems of rapid industrialization and the disruption of traditional lifestyles.

Basic documentation covers over 100 different subjects on development and environment. Much of this research work provides the source material for memoranda to the Government and articles in the press. Many of SAM's press releases are followed up with features and editorials.

SAM concentrates on community participation. The fieldwork staff are actively and closely involved with communities affected by pollution and depleted resources. These include farmers whose crops and lands are destroyed by pests and pollution, fishermen whose livelihoods are threatened because of diminishing fish resources and pollution, estate workers whose health and well-being are affected by the pesticides which they use without any safeguards. SAM helps these people by collecting information, drafting petitions, meeting with government authorities, and giving interviews to the press. SAM also publicizes the problems in newspapers or in its own publications and slides. As a result, the villagers often become more optimistic about solving their own problems. In some cases, the situation is improved as source of the pollutants is removed or compensation is paid, but for most the battle is prolonged. Villagers may continue to keep it up for years with no immediate solution in sight.

SAM conducts education programmes and training services for students at all levels - schools, colleges and universities. Workshops are also held regularly for youth and women's organizations, residents' associations, workers' groups and trade unions.

Teachers and lecturers are encouraged to include environmental issues in their regular curricula. In certain cases, entirely new courses have been introduced, e.g. "Environmental and Natural Resources Law" at the Faculty of Law, University of Malaya.

In early 1985, SAM held a joint seminar with the Curriculum Development Centre to explore the idea of including environmental studies in a new secondary school curriculum to be implemented in a few years' time. SAM's *Environmental Handbook*, published for student research and action, may perhaps become a contribution to formal education.

Other educational projects include the formation of environmental clubs, national poster and essay competitions, film festivals, exhibitions and learning through participation by organizing field trips to communities experiencing environmental problems.

For the public at large, SAM runs weekly and fortnightly columns such as "Earthwatch" and "Environmental Features" in the national daily newspapers.

In tackling environmental issues, SAM's objective is to carry out an intensive and on-going campaign to make the public aware of the many environmental problems which confront the country and the need for a change in development policies which is in line with sound ecological principles, and which will be directed towards the satisfaction of people's basic needs. Included among their concerns are: the re-distribution and proper use of resources, the change to more appropriate lifestyles, and policies which will encourage conservation. People's perceptions and values will obviously have to change as well.

Conclusion

In Malaysia, as elsewhere in Asia, in order to effectively tackle environmental problems, more political will and commitment is needed than has been present in the past.

A serious and comprehensive approach to development should include the following:

- conservation of timber, soil and petroleum resources;
- rehabilitation of fishing grounds and strict enforcement of fishing laws;
- strict enforcement of anti-pollution laws and the introduction of better legislation to cover more aspects of pollution;
- strict enforcement of mining safety regulations;
- introduction of occupational health standards; and

- improvements in water quality and distribution, sanitation and other environmental aspects affecting health in rural areas;

In this context, citizen groups and the environment movement, both involving many youth, have a very important role to play as public pressure groups in articulating public opinion and grievances. Limitations on the groups' effectiveness in opposing certain development plans which are harmful should be taken as a challenge rather than as a discouragement.

A broad mass education approach is important for NGO activities in order to create awareness amongst different groups in the country. Expertise and skills from all fields of knowledge should be mobilized to defend a common cause with a commitment to meet the challenges of the next decade.

SRI LANKA - VICTORY OVER POLLUTION

National Youth Leader Training Course

Parisarika Tharuna Peramuna, the Youth Front of the Sri Lanka Environmental Federation, organized its first National Youth Training Course in May 1985. There were 50 participants (average age 22 years) from all over the country.

The programme covered a wide range of environmental and developmental issues. It was aimed at organizing and training village youths to make the communities in which they live more aware of their environment and conservation needs. Most participants came from rural areas.

Environmental experts gave lectures on subjects such as: developmental education and basic human needs; causes of the environmental crisis; conservation of natural resources in Sri Lanka; and desertification. The need for environmental protection was seen in the context of a broader development process. Sustainable development could not take place without evaluating environmental effects of development strategies. How enviromental problems are linked with the development of the country was explained in several lectures: e.g. agriculture and the environment; industrialization and environmental protection; and environment and the growth of human settlements. The lectures were followed by discussions to emphasize the causes of different environmental problems and to discuss the role that youth organizations could play in environmental protection in rural areas.

Several lectures focussed on the subject of environmental education and awareness programmes and the role of voluntary organizations. A broader discussion took place on: "The need for a coordinated approach for environmental NGO action". During the final session of the Training Course the participants discussed in more detail the ways and means of maintaining contacts and promoting activities.

Meeting the Threats of Pollution

A long-term area of concern for the Sri Lanka Environmental Federation (SLEF) has been environmental conditions around an industrial complex in the north of Colombo. Neighbouring residents had been complaining about the heavy pollution from the factory since the early 1970s. In 1980, youth activists of SLEF submitted to the Government the findings of their own Social Impact Survey, together with a technical report including details of available modern pollution prevention techniques. This resulted in the Government asking the company to show reasons why their business should not be taken over under the Business Undertakings Act.

As a result of SLEF's report to the Government and requests and petitions from local residents, the factory finally came to a standstill in mid-1983. Only the manufacture of printing ink was allowed to continue.
This example shows that even without "proper" legislation, youth environmental organizations are able to get authorities to enforce more stringent measures against environmental pollution.

4. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN EUROPE

The youth movement in Europe, with IYF in the vanguard, has fought many battles for environmental and conservation causes. Many victories have been won, particularly in influencing public opinion and bringing issues like river and sea pollution, acid rain or the evils of hunting onto the political agenda. But the accomplishments have been more than catalytic. The youth of Europe - north, south, east and west - have created networks for cooperation and dialogue, laying firm foundations for later "adult" activities.

For more than half-a-century there has been a tradition of camps in natural surroundings where young people learn together about the environment and each other. This interaction has produced many new environmental initiatives from the Urals to Ireland and from northern Sweden to Malta.

INTRODUCTION

European youth environmental organizations typically tend to be grassroots organizations, drawing on various programmes of a large number of local (and regional) groups. These groups are usually quite small, ranging from five to 100 people. Most of them elect their officials at an annual meeting of their members during which the programme is also prepared. Every group produces local magazines and deals with its own finances apart from possibly transferring to and receiving from the national organization a fixed amount per member. In France, there are more than 400 of these local groups, in Sweden 250 and in the Netherlands about 100.

The approach by the groups to the natural environment and the corresponding activities vary from country to country. But general developments can be discerned. A long tradition of field biology activities has been developed, particularly in Scandinavia, the Benelux countries, West Germany and in Eastern Europe. Weekly excursions and camps during the holidays (throughout the year), preferably in a wilderness area, bring youth into direct contact with nature. Besides binoculars, identification guides and magnifying glasses, members use their imagination. They feel, taste and smell, and carefully investigate anything that they find interesting.

Northwestern Europe

Broader environmental issues arising from the intensified human exploitation of the natural surroundings did not attract the interest of most (nature study oriented) youth groups in northwestern Europe for a long time. During the late 1960s, however, the dramatic results of poor nature management and environmental pollution could no longer be ignored. For instance, during excursions, it was apparent that numerous species were in danger of extinction due to the swift deterioration of their habitats.

The focus widened. In the Scandinavian countries, for example, some groups developed extensive environmental education programmes and public awareness campaigns. This had considerable implications for the structure of the national "umbrella" organizations. Since the complexity of the issues tackled had increased, and the job of influencing public opinion was more difficult, environmental youth organizations began to professionalize and centralize.

Originally, the initiatives of the local groups were only coordinated by the national organizations. Gradually, the national organization took the lead in many activities, acting as a clearinghouse for circulation of data and issuing publications. Some organizations installed paid staff at the national level, like Fältbiologerna (Sweden), Luonto Liitto (Finland) and Natur

og Ungdom (Denmark). Others continued to be run entirely by volunteers, thus they were much more dependent on the active involvement of members. For instance, the oldest youth environment organization in Europe, the Nederlandse Jeugdbond voor Natuurstudie (established in 1920) in the Netherlands, was and still is strongly opposed to any installation of professional staff. Today, approximately 400 of its 1200 members have some kind of specific function within the organization.

An interesting feature of northwest European organizations is the development of the influences typical of a subculture. Sometimes strong traditions appear, in food habits, clothing, enrollment rites for new members, even some kind of personal vocabulary (jargon). On the other hand, strong scepticism and rebellion against these traditions keeps the organization open for everybody. Cultural values are appreciated, e.g. folk dancing, where skills are passed on to new members; the study of traditional architecture and farming; singing of old songs; and, in the Netherlands, wearing wooden shoes.

Southern Europe

Youth environmental groups in Mediterranean countries pay more attention to the social dimensions of ecological problems than northern European organizations. Although most of the groups have a solid local and sub-regional orientation, they have often adopted elaborate means of achieving profound changes in human interaction with nature - global thinking intertwined with local action.

The number of youth groups concerned with the state of the environment in this region has increased steadily in the last 25 years. Numerous independent groups, often specialized in certain environmental issues, also address the wider perspectives of ecological problems.

The Greek organization Neoi kai Periballon set up street activities, theatre plays and exhibitions for school children revolving around the theme: "Today pollution in the air, in the water, on the earth is daily poisoning our health."

In Spain, at least 50 youth groups in Andalusia focus principally on community planning. At a conference in Seville in 1985, the groups issued a joint statement: "We demand that policies safe-guarding cultural and environmental functions of our present societies should be interconnected at the national, intergovernmental and international level, for an adequate integration of the two functions is a fundamental condition for a sound development of our communities. We note that the rapid deterioration of the human cultural heritage and the degeneration of the natural environment have identical causes."

These groups are reluctant to cooperate with other groups at national or even regional levels. In Portugal, Spain, Italy and Greece attempts to establish such infrastructures have been unsuccessful. The youth environmental organizations in the Mediterranean countries have the appropriate networks to create awareness among youth on complex environmental problems, for all these groups have developed mechanisms to inform the general public about environmental issues and to show that there are practical solutions.

Eastern Europe

In Socialist countries, youth environmental activities are channelled mainly through university environmental groups (e.g. in the USSR, Poland, Yugoslavia) and through environmental committees attached to student or youth unions (e.g. in Hungary). The university environmental groups usually focus on a particular environmental issue. Besides students, they often involve young scientists. The environmental committees, representing large numbers of young people, initiate all kinds of youth environmental activities. Moreover, numerous local groups are often attached to schools and are guided by teachers interested in environmental matters.

Environmental student circles have involved students from many disciplines in recent years: apart from biology, the technical disciplines, journalism, economic and sociological sciences are also represented. At the national level, scientific student circles work within youth and student unions.

Until the late 1970s, youth organizations dealt mainly with the protection of nature. Since then, socio-economic problems related to environmental protection have also become important. For example, in Poland the Polski Klub Ekologiszny (PKE), originally composed of students from Krakow, grew rapidly as an environmental action organization. Founded in 1980 as an answer to both the economic and ecological crises in Poland, PKE was successful in pressing the authorities to close down an aluminium smelter in 1982. Today PKE has grown to a national organization with five regional branches and more than 3000 members all over Poland.

THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH LEADER TRAINING COURSES: THE LUENEBURGER HEIDE COURSES (FRG - WEST GERMANY)

Introduction

The history of the Lueneburger Heide Courses is treated in great detail here because it is truly central to the history of IYF. In 1954, at the IUCN General Assembly held in Copenhagen (Denmark), three youth environmental organizations submitted a Resolution requesting the development of international camps and meetings for young people interested in nature conservation and landscape planning. The presidents of these organizations - the DJN (FRG), the NJN (Netherlands) and the SFU (Sweden) - were members at that time of a sub-Commission concerned with nature conservation education for youth. At the end of that IUCN General Assembly the first practical steps were taken to implement this Resolution: The President of the "Verein Naturschutzpark" (FRG) proposed that international study courses be held in the Nature Park Lueneburger Heide. He promised to help financially and to organize other requirements.

Between 1955 and 1968, a Training Course for Youth Leaders was held there annually. The aim was to offer young people opportunities to meet, to obtain a sound knowledge of nature conservation and landscape planning problems in Europe (in later years world ecology was also included) through collaboration and discussion, and in this way to promote future initiatives when participants returned to their own countries.

In the early years, the principal activity was conservation work in the nature reserve. Lectures and excursions were held if time permitted. Later, a programme was gradually built up but work in the protected area had to be stopped as it did not leave sufficient time for the course itself. It was also felt that there should be visits to other places during the course.

Organization of the Courses

The main topics of the courses in later years crystallized around three questions:

- Why nature protection?
- How to protect the environment and natural resources?
- What is the role of young people?

The course itself comprised excursions, lectures by experts, presentations from participants and discussions.

The participants, about 20 to 25 girls and boys aged from 17 to 28 years, came from different European countries. In each course about 8 to 10 nationalities were represented. Conditions for acceptance for the course were that participants already had some experience in nature

conservation and that they were prepared to cooperate actively in the programme. Each participant was requested to give a lecture on the main environmental problems in his/her country of origin.

Without doubt, the Lueneburger Heide offered excellent opportunities for such a course. A broad range of conservation work could be demonstrated there. In a relatively small area, very different landscape types occur. To see a wider range, overnight excursions by bus were arranged.

The course was held between mid-July and late August which is the holiday period for European schools and universities, besides being the tourist season and the time of year that the heath is flowering.

The first evening, the participants introduced themselves then the entire course programme was discussed in detail. At this point and later in the course, the participants had the opportunity to include special requests or ideas.

As in many international meetings, communication between participants created difficulties. The official languages of the course were English and German. Interpreters were not available, but there were always some people who managed both languages so well that a translation could be improvised.

For the course leaders it was important to know at what level individual participants were able to speak a foreign language. The short presentations by participants on the first evening offered a good opportunity to assess fluency. (In such a course, it is important to fight the fear of speaking foreign languages in order to ensure that discussions are not dominated by fluent speakers alone.) Because participants were so deeply involved during the course, international cooperation came easily. Friendships developed and since many course participants continued in the environmental movement "in their adult life", a network of international cooperation was gradually built up.

Ecology

The first week of the course focused on ecological disturbance especially in a heath landscape. (Heath, a secondary vegetation created as a result of centuries of human interference, offers a particularly valuable example because this human influence has to continue in order to preserve the heath.) Excursions provided information about the prehistoric and historic development of the landscape and the origin of the heath lands.

During the rest of the programme, special attention was paid to prehistoric settlements, exploitation methods in the Middle Ages, over-exploitation, the need for heath resources, the relationship of forest-management versus heath-management and all types of field biology. The wider perspective was tackled by considering the relationship between man and nature throughout Northern Germany, Europe and the world.

The course also offered opportunities for practical work such as research into different heath types, erosion caused by excessive tourist pressure, and regeneration of heath after over-use.

The second week of the course included nature management and landscape planning at several sites beginning with a two-day visit to the town of Lueneburg to apply what had already been learned about the close relationship between the town and the heath landscape.

Another visit was to a bird sanctuary, followed by discussion on bird protection. The next site was the nature park Lauenburger Seen, a hilly and forest-rich landscape, very different from the Lueneburger Heide. Participants were able to see contrasts in nature management in the central undisturbed area because tourists were confined to the outer limits of the park.

The last four days were spent close to Hamburg in the nature park Fischbeker Heide, a good example of a site with natural landscape maintained near highly populated areas by means of very careful planning.

The Central Questions

Lectures and discussions considered environmental protection in general besides dealing with the local and German situation. Standards of nature protection vary widely throughout Europe so discussions often generated somewhat different views from different countries while underlining the need for international cooperation.

The role of young people and youth environmental organizations was central to such questions as:

- How to organize nature camps?
- How to work on issues like air and water pollution?
- How to raise awareness about ecological degradation?
- How to reach and mobilize the uninterested youth also?
- How to identify practical conservation tasks which can be executed by our organizations?
- How to make slide presentations, educational programmes, etc.?

Further Developments

Between 1968 and 1974, IYF was unable to organize a training course in the Lueneburger Heide. However, several times DJN (FRG) organized an "international camp" in the area, in cooperation with IYF. (Such a camp is usually fully financed by one youth organization, which makes funding of participants from abroad very difficult.)

IYF decided, in 1974, to set up a new Lueneburger Heide course, with an updated programme aimed at youth leaders in the affiliated organizations. The programme included several new subjects, for instance, more on international organizations and their programmes, Third World environment, and IYF projects. More attention was paid to youth environmental action. Again the 1974 course would not have been possible without the generous support of the Verein Naturschützpark.

A detailed plan on an energy project was prepared ("Energy Production Versus Environment") during the course. It included an action week in 1975, statements, production of materials and an exhibition, an anti-nuclear show, a recycling campaign, a magazine, and children's activities.

In 1975, the International Youth Leader Training Course was held at Hellwege, 30km east of Bremen, because no facilities were available closer to Lueneburger Heide. This site also proved to be very successful.

The programme was divided into three major areas:

1. *Ecology and practical field biology.* The subjects covered were: fundamental ecology and biogeography, energy flows, environmental factors, pollution, ecology and politics. A good deal of field biology work was carried out.

2. *International cooperation.* This included presentations on IYF, IUCN, WWF, UNEP, Unesco and in particular their environmental education activities. North-South cooperation was also an important topic because of what had been learned at the recently-held IYF Asian Workshop on Environmental Education and the East African Youth Course in Environmental Education which IYF also organized.

3. *Environmental strategy.* The aim was to put ecological investigation into use in environmental campaigns and practical conservation work. The Wuenschmoor, a wetland of significant ecological and recreational value, was threatened by the establishment of a military training field in the centre. This area offered the participants a complex environmental problem and possibilities for ecological, political and educational work. At the course an information campaign was developed.

A grant for this course was obtained from the newly-founded European Youth Foundation. After 1975, the International Youth Leader Training Courses changed location: in 1976 in Lillestrøm (Norway), in 1977 in Liv*o* (Denmark), and so on. Currently, IYF-Europe organizes three to four youth leader training courses a year, besides co-organizing numerous inter-organizational camps.

BOAT CAMPAIGNS FOR THE WADDEN SEA AND THE BALTIC SEA

The Wadden Sea Boat Action



For more than 50 years, nature protection camps in the Wadden Sea region have been organized regularly by youth environmental organizations in the Netherlands, West Germany and Denmark.

In 1965, as the threats to the Wadden Sea became more acute with growing industrialization and other human encroachments, a member of the Nederlands Jeugdbond voor Natuurstudie (NJN) launched a public appeal for protection of the Wadden Sea which spurred the creation of the Landelijke Vereinigung tot Behoud van de Waddenzee (LVBW - National Association for the Conservation of the Wadden Sea). This has today become a 35,000-member organization in the forefront of environmental action in the Netherlands, and has been responsible for the shelving of numerous plans for land reclamation and industrial developments in the Wadden Sea region.
Similar concerns were felt in Denmark where, in 1974, two local groups of Natur og Ungdom (NU) combined their efforts for the preservation of 250 seals in the Danish Wadden Sea. As a result of a nationwide campaign, the seals are now legally protected.

At first there was no international coordination of activities. Young conservationists in neighbouring countries were often unaware of each other's efforts. In 1976, IYF began a project on Wadden Sea issues in order to provide an international framework for all Wadden Sea activities of the Dutch, German and Danish youth environmental organizations. The project was also aimed at youth environmental organizations in other countries and the general public.

An international project team was set up to organize international camps, prepare educational materials and improve youth representation in and contacts with other organizations working for the conservation of the Wadden Sea. Between 1976 and 1979, several international camps took place in the endangered areas. Here young people from many countries were able to study the unique ecosystems of the tidal mudflats, salt marshes and dunes, and communicate their concern to the holiday-makers and local residents through public awareness activities.

A larger-scale event became possible when World Wildlife Fund granted financial support to the IYF Wadden Sea Project. The idea of a Wadden Sea Boat Action, germinated in early 1979, received unanimous approval at the IYF General Assembly in August 1979, when the four member organizations concerned decided to become involved.

Coincidentally, the plan for an environmental cruise on the Rhine, which originated as early as 1976 as a proposal of members by the Deutscher Jugendbund fuer Naturbeobachtung (DJN) to the IYF General Assembly, was finalized. The Aktionsgemeinschaft Retten den Rhein was set up in 1979 by DJN members and other German environmentalists to carry out a Rhine Boat Action in the summer of 1980.

Thus, two major public awareness campaigns, similar in form and spirit, each on a vital environmental issue of European concern, were scheduled for the summer of 1980. Using this opportunity to emphasize the link between the pollution of the Rhine and the degradation of the Wadden Sea, it was decided to share the same boat and make the end of the Rhine action coincide with the Wadden Sea campaign in Rotterdam.

The aims of the Wadden Sea Boat Action were:

- To create and stimulate public awareness of the outstanding ecological values and numerous environmental problems in the Wadden Sea region, with special attention to their international dimension.

- To put pressure on the Governments of the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany and of Denmark to take conservation measures and thus establish the necessary international cooperation for management of the area.

The plan aimed at a constructive dialogue with tourists, and most of all with local people, who would play a decisive role in building the political will necessary to conserve the Wadden Sea. Contact with young people living in the Wadden Sea area was equally important because their awareness of the ecological uniqueness and specific problems of the area would be crucial in the long run. Finally, it was hoped that the campaign would help to bring together the numerous local and regional conservation groups in the Wadden Sea area. To achieve more tangible conservation results and a greater political influence, both a more global approach and proper coordination of all efforts in the three Wadden Sea countries were necessary. Local environmental groups were therefore involved in all aspects of the preparation and realization of the campaign.

The Netherlands

The Boat Action in the Netherlands was set up in cooperation with five established environmental organizations.

The cargo clipper *Avontuur* arrived in Rotterdam on 11 July, halfway through her six weeks voyage from Basle (Switzerland) down the Rhine and over the Wadden Sea to Esbjerg (Denmark). It was there that the crew and the flag were changed thus establishing the link between the "Save the Rhine Action" and the IYF's Wadden Sea Boat Action. At a joint press conference, which was well attended, the Rhine activists presented the results of their campaign, while the Wadden Sea team introduced their aims and programme.

At a rally which was held to coincide with the press conference, empty bottles were sold to the public together with postcards addressed to the Minister of Environmental Affairs. These postcards, protesting the adverse effects of Rhine pollution on the Wadden Sea, were sealed in bottles after being signed by their sponsors. Five hundred bottles were sold and launched in the mouth of the Rhine near the Hoek van Holland. From this point, it was expected that they would drift ashore on the Wadden Islands. Instructions in each bottle asked the finder to co-sign the card, indicating where and when the bottle had been found and to mail it to the Minister. The postcard said: "Together with the bottle in which this postcard has drifted from the Hoek van Holland, thousands of tonnes of pollutants from the Rhine have reached the Wadden Sea."

Campaign activities in Holland focused on two ports and three islands in the Wadden Sea area. Besides the general programme of films, information desks and the exhibition, several lectures especially aimed at tourists were given. (Unfortunately heavy rains forced the cancellation of many outdoor activities, illustrating that weather is an important factor when preparing a campaign.) The value of the campaign was amply illustrated by the results of an enquiry directed at tourists disembarking from the Texel ferry. It revealed that most of them were unaware of the outstanding features of the region and only one, out of 80 questioned, had ever seen a seal in the wild.

The press coverage was very good. Many articles appeared in 15 different newspapers. There were also broadcasts, telephone interviews and two appearances on the television.

Federal Republic of Germany

Nearly two-thirds of the Wadden Sea is situated in the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG). It remains the most important holiday and recreational area in the country.

The spectacular clipper, decorated with flags, banners and slogans calling for the protection of the Wadden Sea and manned by young people, once again proved to be quite an attraction. In the FRG, five small buses and some cars, which carried 30 extra participants plus all the exhibition and information materials provided the land-based support for the ship. The availability of these vehicles added to the flexibility of the campaign.

The clipper visited at least eight ports. In Emden, particular attention was paid to the Dollarthafen project, a new harbour attached to a new industrial area. Fishermen sympathetic to the campaign accompanied the *Avontuur* into Emden and moored their boats next to the clipper. They displayed their morning's catch on the quay. The pollution-deformed fish deeply impressed passers-by, who took the leaflets eagerly and turned to the posters and stands for more information. In a press conference and a public debate, the Dollarthafen was a hot topic.

Campaigners found many imaginative ways of communicating their message to the public. In Norddeich and Greetsiel, activities in the street and podium discussions focused on current land reclamation projects and the traffic, both of which threaten the Leybucht. Similar activities took place in Husum. Street theatre involving a long green worm "Die Wattwurm" was a success everywhere. In Norderney, some dozen balloons were released as the clipper entered the harbour and in Buesum, the boat was saluted by the firing of an old gun which created enough stir to attract many people. A simulated oil spill was carried out in Wilhelmshaven and Cuxhaven, both important tanker ports. In this particular demonstration, eight people dressed in white protective overalls rushed through the main shopping streets in Wilhelmshaven and over the beach in Cuxhaven, with shovels and buckets, handing out leaflets to the astonished crowd. The leaflets announced a major oil spill nearby and listed emergency safety precautions. Meanwhile danger warnings were sounded repeatedly over the megaphone. The reverse side of the leaflets explained the need to simulate an oil spill - this fiction could become a reality at any time because of intensive tanker traffic. People were clearly unaware of the actual risk.

One important achievement in Germany was the widespread cooperation from fishermen. Only one radio programme was broadcast, but all the public awareness activities (street theatre, exhibitions, slide shows, nature excursions and street walks often accompanied by folk music) were very successful.

Denmark

From Sylt, the boat sailed to its first destination in Denmark: the site of a controversial dike hear Høejer. A film team from a Danish television news show and members of Natur og Ungdom (NU) took over from the DJN members. Few activities took place near Høejer because the authorities had not given permission. However, the symbolic protest against the dike construction received considerable press coverage.

Other public awareness activities took place in Rømø and Fanø. On the last two days campaigners organized a festival. Environmental theme music proved to be a good way of attracting people. Throughout the festival NU and DJN members commented on the campaign, related stories from the campaigns, explained resolutions, and also performed original songs.

Besides these activities, signatures were collected for a petition to be presented to the Danish Government. Three camps were arranged in the Wadden Sea area. Boat Action information stands were set up at the Roskilde Festival, the biggest "pop" festival in Denmark.

The Baltic Sea Boat Action

In the summer of 1983, attention turned to the Baltic Sea. The transboundary nature of environmental problems in the Baltic, the questionable commitment of politicians to environmental causes, the existing exchange of information between scientists and the similarities in the organization and the working methods of the northern European youth movements, all helped crystallize the idea of an international "boat campaign" in the Baltic.

The idea originated in early 1979 in the Scientific Student Group on Oceanography in Szczecin (Poland). Campaign plans began to evolve after an IYF training course in July 1980 in Poland, involving participants from the other Baltic states.

At a preparatory meeting in 1981, organized by the Academic Committee for the Management and Protection of the Human Environment (AKKiOS) in Gdansk, youth organizations from the Baltic area - Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Federal Republic of Germany and Poland - worked out a rough plan for the campaign. It was agreed that the main aim was to publicize the problems connected with Baltic Sea pollution among young people and inhabitants of Baltic coastal areas alike. The campaign would also force politicians to face up to their responsibilities by indicating their commitment publicly and by being prepared to answer questions. Marine biologists would be called on to present the scientific information concerning the condition of the Baltic Sea. Further, by planning and running the campaign, the members of the national youth organizations would have the opportunity of acquiring new competence in many fields.

Throughout 1982, plans for the campaign advanced. Summer camps enabled young environmentalists to explore the Baltic issues, to find the best ways to run the campaign, and to prepare materials. An international training course for youth leaders was held at Kiel (FRG). The course programme covered: ecological study, pollution research, and campaign preparation. Ecological study, intended to establish the principal characteristics of a marine ecosystem, included excursions to investigate beach vegetation, benthos, plankton and several physical and chemical factors. Pollution research dealt with different aspects of eutrophication and toxic pollution of the Baltic, through lectures, visits to a sewage-farm and a sugar-factory, as well as practical investigations and discussions with local politicians.

Three other camps took place. An international camp in Västervik (Sweden) focussed in particular on problems relating to three seal species occurring in the Baltic and oil pollution. Another camp for the Nordic countries at Hysingsvik (Sweden) concerned on marine biology and the pollution of the Baltic Sea. And an international camp at Hailuoto (Finland) dealt with pollution problems of the Baltic Sea in general and with the ecology and pollution of the Gulf of Bothnia, a part of the Baltic with a very low salinity and therefore rather sensitive to pollutants in particular.

A special bi-monthly action newsletter, issued first in September 1981, was instrumental in the coordination of a large group of people. The newsletter, carrying reports of preparations in different countries and of the international preparatory meetings (six in total), ran very well.

A substantial scientific contribution came with the publication of the Baltic Sea Books by youth organizations in Sweden and the Federal Republic of Germany. These books provided a thorough introduction to the subject.



Resrutter

1. Fredricia
2. Odense
3. Nyborg
4. Kalundborg
5. Helsingör
6. Köpenhamn
7. Köge
8. Rönne
9. Stora Karlsö (ev.)
10. Flensburg (7–9/7)
11. Damp (10/7)
12. Eckernförde (11/7)
13. Kiel (12–13/7)
14. Heiligenhafen (14–15/7)
15. Neustadt (16/7)
17. Rostock
18. Visby (24/7)
19. Malmö (1–3/7)
20. Trelleborg (3–4/7)
21. Simrishamn (5–6/7)
22. Åhus (7–8/7)
23. Karlskrona (9–11/7)
24. Kalmar (12–14/7)
25. Västervik (16–17/7)
26. Arkösund (19/20/7)
27. Oxelösund (20–21/7)
28. Nynäshamn (23–24/7)
29. Skellefteå (30/6–2/7)
30. Umeå (3–5/7)
31. Örnsköldsvik (6–8/7)
32. Härnösand (10–12/7)
33. Sundsvall (13–14/7)
34. Hudiksvall (16–17/7)
35. Gävle (19–20/7)
36. Öregrund (22–23/7)
37. Vaxholm (25–27/7)
38. Stockholm (27–30/7)
39. Kotka (19/7)
40. Porvoo (20/7)
41. Helsinki (21/7)
42. Tammisaari (22/7)
43. Turku (24/7)
44. Maarianhamna (26/7)
45. Szczecin

The Action

The Baltic Sea Boat Action was carried out with five boats, from the Federal Republic of Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Poland. Each set out from a different point and in each harbour presented a varied programme, including information stands, beach excursions for tourists and inhabitants, street theatre, public lectures, slide shows, panel discussions, drawing, and music programmes. The campaign was widely covered in the media.

Finally, the boats met in Stockholm, where an international symposium "The Baltic Sea Days" (27-30 July) was attended by approximately 100 participants. The symposium concentrated on the pollution of the Baltic Sea and ended with a debate on "The Future of the Baltic". The "popular" message was brought home to people in the streets of Stockholm which were full of young people performing in various street theatres, puppet plays and other activities.

Experiences and Follow-up of the Boat Actions

Inexperience in arranging such large-scale international activities created problems. There were also difficulties specific to the form of campaign chosen. For example, especially during the Wadden Sea Boat Action, the weather, tides and minor technical breakdowns often resulted in frustrating delays and made the Wadden boat miss some unique opportunities for direct action.

The Baltic campaign sometimes had to cope with lack of interest by the public in political discussions and scientific lectures. Serious debate was also hampered by the ignorance of politicians who, once on the public platform, rarely did more than repeat vague, well-worn Party slogans about environmental protection.

But the achievements far outweighed the failures. The campaigns were successful in drawing people's attention to a specific case of environmental deterioration through: effective outdoor canvassing; leaflet distribution (still the most effective method of making a relatively large number of people reflect at least superficially on a problem); participants' willingness to tackle local politicians directly about their views on environmental problems; and through the assistance of scientists in broadening the participants' own understanding of environmental problems.

Furthermore, the belief that people will protect only what they know and love was borne out by the success of the specially organized excursions and the aquariums and microscopes which were set up. Many people who would merely have been put off by leaflets and demonstrations were won over to the cause of conservation by these methods.

The many conversations with local inhabitants and tourists and the excellent cooperation with fishermen, showed that the majority of the population is greatly interested in the environment and increasingly aware of threats to it. Reaction in the press, however, varied but it showed that an international campaign conducted exclusively by young people can arouse interest. In all countries taking part, the press - ranging from small local papers to national dailies and weeklies - and television did give coverage to the campaigns.

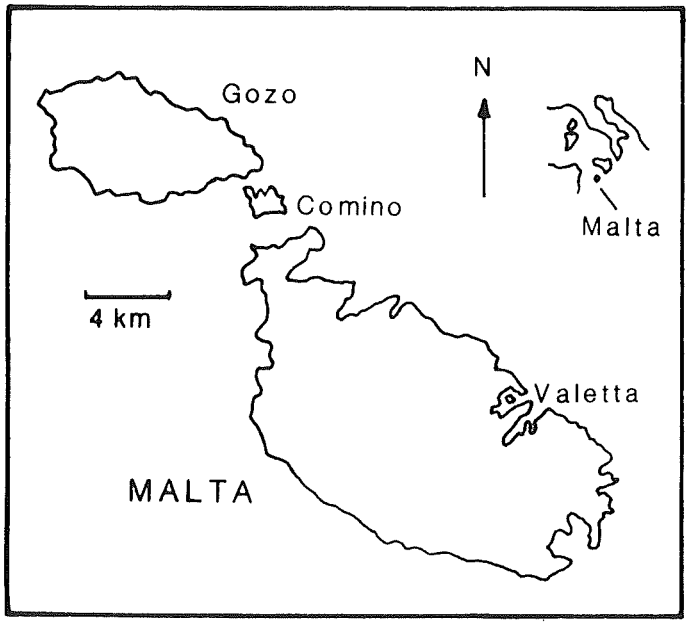
The campaigns originated from an informal IYF project on sea pollution. Many national seminars were organized, articles published in magazines and other varied activities carried out. One follow-up was in Sweden where Fältbiologerna organized a "West Coast Action" in the summer of 1984. The aim was "to spread knowledge among the people and draw their attention to the increasing destruction of the marine environment, especially on the west coast of Sweden". Two ships, one from Strömstad in the north and the other from B#stad in the south, met at Göteborg after calling at about 30 different harbours, using similar methods as in the previous campaigns.

Now it is the turn of the Mediterranean where there are provisional plans to organize a campaign in 1987. Perhaps it will run along similar lines as the previous ones, with boats.

MALTA - HUNTING AND TRAPPING OF BIRDS

The islands which together form the country of Malta are situated in the Central Mediterranean. The major island, Malta, has an area of 250km^2. Gozo (northeast of Malta - area: 64km) and Comino (between Malta and Gozo, area: 2.5km) are the smaller islands. Filfa is a small uninhabited rock 8km southwest of Malta.

Malta is an extremely important stop-over for migrating birds. The bird population includes 346 species, of which 122 are observed regularly, 52 are winter residents, 5 are summer birds and only 13 permanent residents.



Shooting of all kinds of birds seems to be a national sport in Malta. Most of these birds are stuffed and sold. The Maltese Ornithological Society (MOS) is active in trying to enforce bird protection laws in an effort to stop the slaughter of the bird population. MOS-Youth, the independent youth unit, is involved with MOS in government lobbying, the establishment of effective nature reserves, public awareness campaigns and environmental action.

The Ghadira Reserve

Ghadira is a brackish marshland close to the northwest coast of Malta. Unique for its wading birds, it is an ideal place to educate people on bird conservation. MOS saved the area in the late 1960s, after plans were discovered for a road straight through the middle. It proposed making Ghadira a nature reserve, a proposal which met with much opposition from the hunters. It was finally declared a nature reserve in 1978.

In 1980, the marsh area was enlarged, islands made and a protecting ditch, wall and fence constructed. Then thousands of native trees and bushes were planted. In the following year, participants at an IYF-Youth Leader Training Course helped with planting a line of cacti along Ghadira's borders to keep unwanted visitors out.

The IYF-Europe Hunting Project

The IYF hunting project, which focuses on the shooting of migratory birds in Mediterranean countries, dates from a seminar on Wildlife Management and Hunting in Europe held in March 1982. The 30 IYF members present decided on a multi-faceted approach including: a letter campaign directed at the Government of Malta and other European governments; an educational campaign on small carnivores in northwestern Europe; IYF camps devoted to the study of geese and to confronting hunters; demonstrations and distribution of information at hunter fairs; and the screening of IUCN proposals on nature management.

In July 1981, a course on "Field Biology and Nature Conservation" held in Malta, dealt with a broad spectrum of environmental issues in the Mediterranean: nature reserves, land use, planning and agriculture, bird migration, Mediterranean oil pollution, energy crises, and transport problems in Malta.

The Course on Hunting - September 1984

This second course was also held in Malta. Its aims were to:

- to bring together young people from the Mediterranean area and northwestern Europe;
- to actively become involved with the issue of hunting;
- to use fieldwork as a basis of local environmental action and to prepare a booklet about this;
- to become acquainted with different cultures and political structures and, consequently, with the different types of campaigns in Europe; and
- to give moral support to the groups in Sicily and Malta.

Four people - the YEE Coordinator on Hunting and three MOS-Y members - were responsible for the preparation.

The course started in Messina, Sicily, hosted by the Lega Italiana per la Protezione degli Uccelli (LIPU), with an illustrated talk concerning the shooting of birds of prey during the spring migration on both sides of the Straits of Messina. The principal targets were, and still are, migrating honey buzzards. In April 1984, LIPU-Sicily had organized a camp to observe the shooting and protest against the illegal killing because the authorities did not appear willing to control the area.

The course participants visited the area and saw the many hides used by the hunters. At the ferry to Malta, they had their first real-life experience of the lack of law enforcement in Mediterranean countries. The following is quoted from the report:

> About 45 minutes before we had to leave for Malta we noticed a large number of goldfinches in cages. Trade and exportation of finches is prohibited in Italy, so the LIPU members found a policeman who confiscated the birds. On showing the customs officials the import licence for finches, the officials were unable to act because they did not have a printed copy of the relevant law. The boxes and the birds were given back to the owner.

The second part of the course was spent in Malta. A report from fieldwork at Buskett (a so-called bird sanctuary) records the following:

> A shooter was running around our group shouting at us that he would kill us instead of the honey buzzards if we did not remain silent. To scare the incoming birds, we shouted and waved our T-shirts when the birds came into firing range. He also spat at some people and some stones were thrown at us. No one was hurt.

Opposition elsewhere was equally strong. On Saturday, 15 September, MOS-Youth held a public protest. In Maltese law, foreign participation is illegal so the foreigners just observed and questioned the public about the demonstration. The previous evening, however, hunters, trappers and local "conservationists" had called an urgent meeting concerning the protest, condemning vehemently foreign interference. Two placards with slogans opposing MOS and bird protection were found in the street.

In Valetta, MOS-Youth prepared an imaginative street demonstration. Under a streamer forming an effigy of a huge caterpillar, campaigners trekked along the main streets. The caterpillar was headed by a small guitar group singing songs calling for the protection of the countryside and birds and followed by a large mobile replica of a shotgun cartridge covered with spent cartridges gathered by MOS-Youths from Buskett. Slogans on the sides of the caterpillar read - "No to Massacre", "Will this destruction continue?", "Let us Protect Nature" and "Senseless bird killing has not yet stopped".

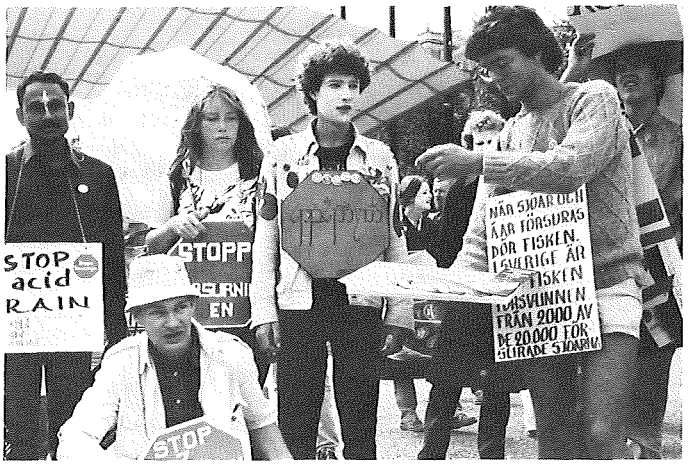


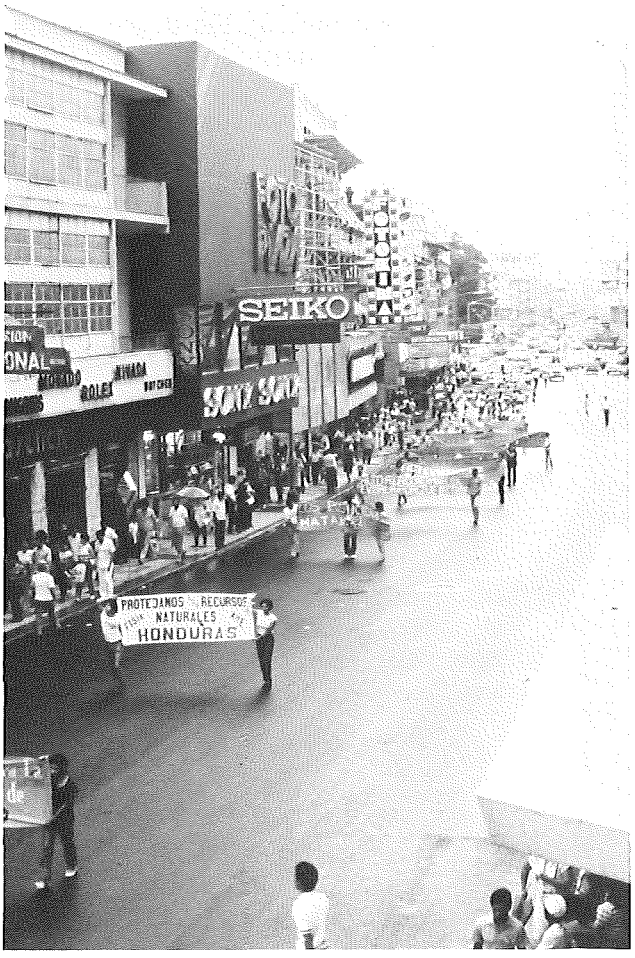
1.

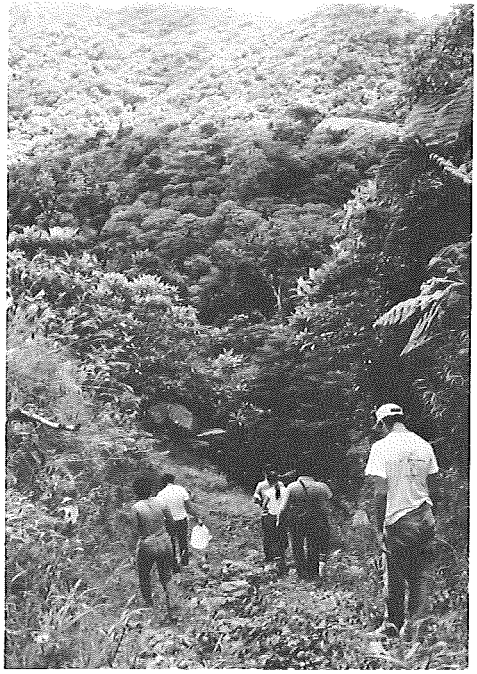
2.

1. A dam being built to protect a bird colony in Netherlands Waddensea.
2. A street demonstration in Panama City about ecological issues.
3. Public awareness campaign on acidification by youth environmental group in Scandinavia suppoted by IYF.

3.







4.



5.

4. In the rain forest of El Copé, Panama, an excursion to study the environment and observ the impact of cattle raising.
5. IYF is strongly committed to the development of appropriate technology as seen here in Uganda.
6. The Avontuur during the Waddensea Boat Campaign
7. Preparing documents at a youth meeting on environment in India.
8. Poaching - an important issue for African youth environmental groups.

6.



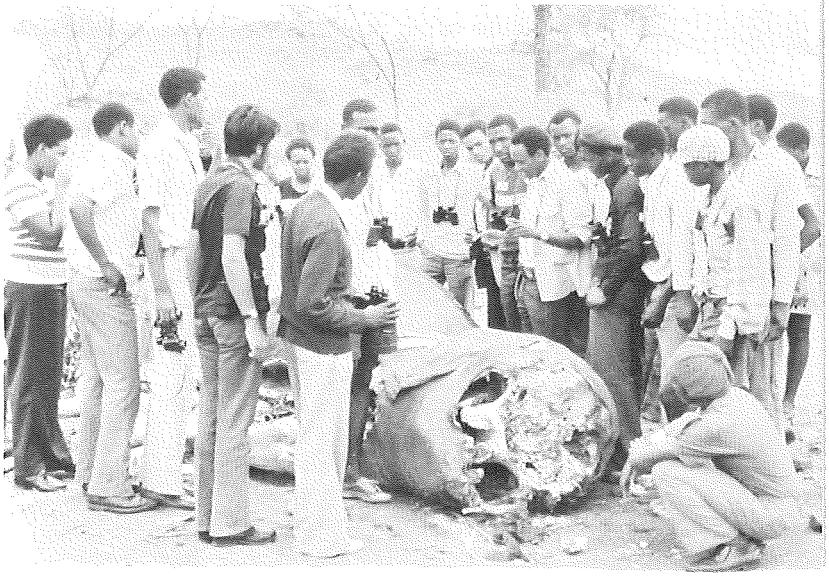


7.

PHOTO CREDITS

1. Ed Romeijn
2. Ralph Rozema
3. Jan Voordouw
4. Jan Voordouw
5. Tony Potterton
6. Rob Zoomer
7. Albert Hensen
8. Wildlife Clubs of Kenya/WWF

8.



Interviews confirmed that many members of the public approved of MOS's attitude to the current shooting problems. During the protest, two groups visited newspaper offices to tell the editors about course participants' experiences of direct confrontations with hunters at Buskett and Tas-Salib.

When MOS-Youth held another protest march at Sliema, events took a different turn. A group of about 90 bird shooters and trappers (among them their President and Legal Adviser) threw eggs and other objects and also physically attacked some of the MOS-Youth protesters. The protest had to be called off as the few available policemen were unable to control the hostile crowd. About 20 people were arrested and 10 people, including the President, Legal Adviser and Council members of the Shooters and Trappers Association were taken to court.

The next day it was thought to be too dangerous to go out. In the afternoon over 300 shots were counted in four hours. Meanwhile course participants prepared letters to newspapers and a resolution to the President of the Republic of Malta. This resolution was sent following a Press Conference attended by representatives from all newspapers and a television crew.

Later Developments

This Training Course contributed greatly to uniting the efforts of MOS with other environmental organizations. One particular example of joint cooperation was over Ghar Il-Friefet, a cave which, apart from housing a colony of lesser mouse-eared bats, contains unique cave fauna and is also of geological importance. It was discovered that buildings were being constructed above the cave enclosing its entrance.

On 3 March 1985, MOS, the Society for the Study and Conservation of Nature, Din L-Art Helwa, Men of the Trees, Society for the Protection and Care of Animals, an archaeological group and university ecological students, together participated in a protest march. As a result, the authorities stopped work on the building above the site and began a study on how to conserve the cave.

At present, there is also considerable opposition to a large-scale plan for 21 "Building Development Areas" expressed first during a Festival for the Environment on World Environment Day 1985 and supported by the Society of Architects.

YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

The Youth Council for Nature Protection of the Moscow State University (MSOP- MGU)

Student Nature Guards form a small movement in the USSR, but their importance is growing rapidly. Today there are about 80 groups throughout the USSR with a total membership of about 5000.

The first "Druzhina Okhrany Prirody" (Nature Guard) was established at the University of Tartu in 1958. Two years later a Nature Guard was organized at the Moscow University (MGU) when ten students of the Faculty of Biology formed a Druzhina directed particularly against poaching. (At present, apart from anti-poaching activities, the programme aims at spreading information, raising awareness, and supporting scientific research.) Coordination of the programme came with the establishment in 1974 of the Youth Council for the Protection of Nature (MSOP). This Council is guided by the Unesco "Man and Biosphere" programme. It also coordinates the activities of the Nature Guard groups nation-wide.

Anti-poaching activities are still an important part of the Druzhina's work. Members can write out warrants and confiscate hunting and fishing equipment. Such work underlines for students the necessity of educating the public that the utilization of hunting resources must be on a scientific basis.

The Druzhinas also play an important part in creating awareness of environmental issues. One of the aims of the Youth Council is: to "inform youth in the university about the scientific and social work in nature protection." (Statutes 1977). MSOP is responsible for a course on environment given in the first year in several Moscow university faculties. Other activities include: a column in the university weekly, lectures, press reports, posters, photographic exhibitions, information stands, and other publicity.

Scientific work has become more and more important in the last decade. The Statutes note the need to "educate students and interested people in developing a cautious and rational attitude concerning the natural resources of the country, using the data of the interdisciplinary research in the MGU - Man and Biosphere project." In the past, MSOP assisted only students and teachers in writing theses and curricula. Nowadays, groups for nature protection and student scientific circles work independently or jointly on projects, in courses, and on expeditions.

The biology group of MSOP writes advisory reports on potential nature resorts. The geography group works mainly on recreation projects, advising on outdoor fireplaces, parking, etc. near nature areas. Other groups focus on air pollution compounds in snow while the soil science group concentrates on problems of preventing erosion.

There are interdisciplinary projects: "Shot" on statistics and the sociology of poaching; "Prognoz" on long-term interactions between society and nature; "Ekopolis" on recycling of urban waste; and "Rayon" on care of natural elements in town. New groups have been founded in the faculties of geology, journalism, history, psychology, philosophy, chemistry, law and economics.

The ultimate aim of the Youth Council is to "transfer the experience of MGU Youth to other higher educational institutes".

The Druzhina groups have multiplied rapidly throughout the USSR. An important catalyst has been the annual seminars held in various venues which have resulted in cooperative research programmes. The "Shot" project mentioned above is an example. At the 1984 seminar in Sverdlovsk, there were 239 participants from 61 groups.

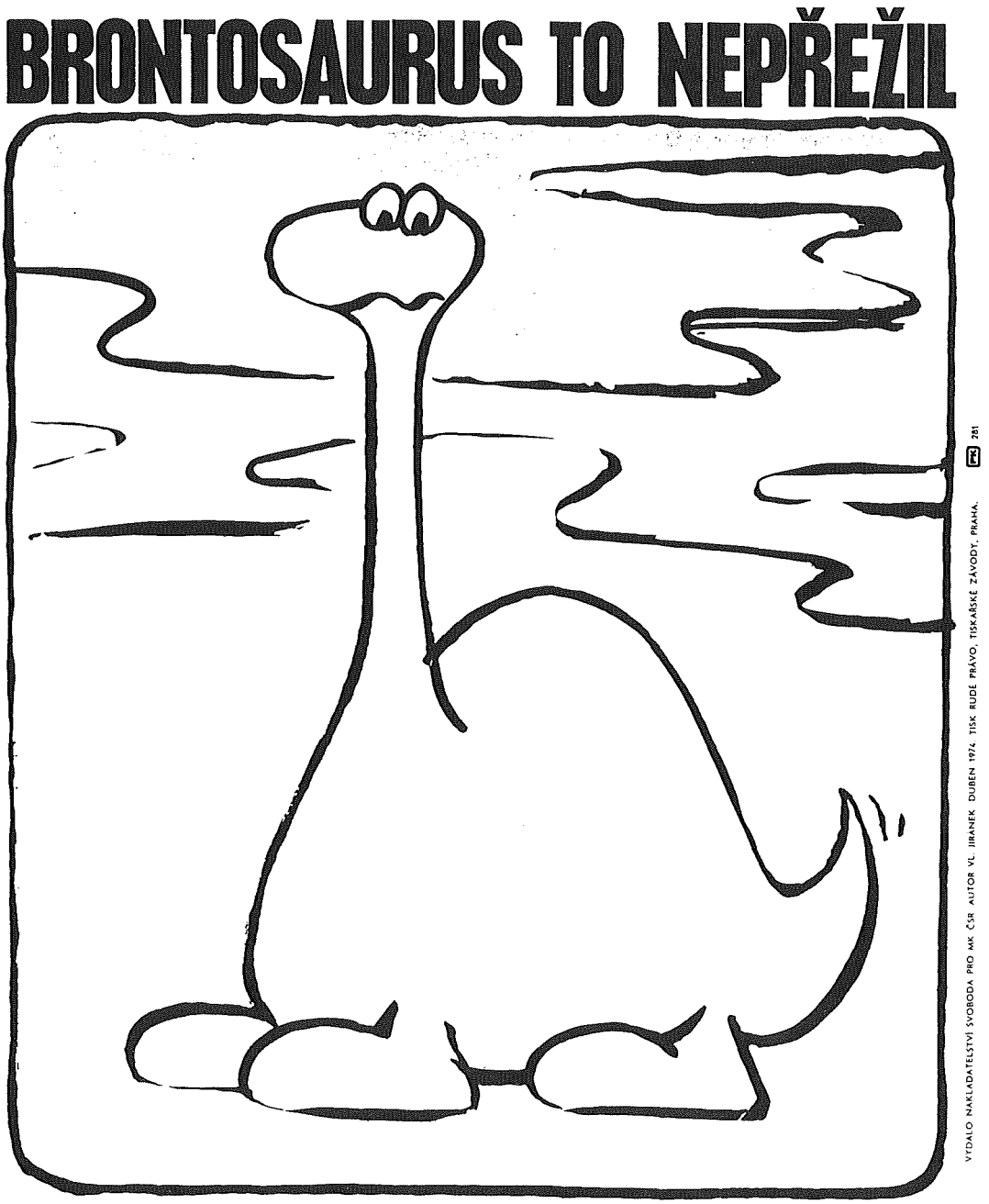
Until now the groups have been run without any governmental support. However, as a first step, a commission representing both government and nature protection activists groups, is investigating possibilities of providing government support for new student nature guard groups.

The "Brontosaurus Movement" - Czechoslovakia

"Brontosaurus has not survived, because he couldn't adapt to a changing environment. Man is able to protect and transform his environment."

This is the slogan of the Brontosaurus Movement born in 1973. Since then the Movement has been working as part of the Czech Organization of the Socialist Union of Youth, a union which coordinates all youth activities in Czechoslovakia. The early campaigns involved new contributions to the traditional celebrations - Bird Day, Flowers Day, Forest Month and many popular natural-science contests. As it grew, the Brontosaurus Movement initiated a national festival for amateur filmmakers on environmental protection entitled "This Concerns You"; a national contest for the best poster on environment - "Town, a place to live in"; a contest to design "Adventure Playgrounds" for children and other projects to improve the human environment - "A Quest for Perfect Projects"; and also regular nationwide meetings and seminars for young nature lovers - "Discourse on Nature".

Today, other activities include "Holidays with Brontosaurus" - 14-day camps for young people, during which they work on the landscape, either managing a protected area or replanting trees. This practical work is complemented by educational and recreational programmes and discussions about conservation and environmental issues. These camps have become very popular.



The Brontosaurus Movement is also active in environmental protection. Some teams of young people systematically monitor rivers by sample-taking and working with the authorities to identify polluters. Others care for the landscape (planting of Youth Union and Young Pioneers Parks, protection of valuable natural sites, laying out "paths of knowledge" - nature trails) and help in the preservation of historic buildings. The Brontosaurus team from Uherské Hradiste, for example, planted willows over large areas to provide spring growth for bees, and catkins for the Easter holidays, thus preventing the annual damage to willows along streams. Elsewhere, children from the north Bohemian town of Liberec have planted 220,000 beech trees to replace conifers affected by air pollution. Youth Union teams in C#slav have turned the parklands around an abandoned castle in Filipov into a recreation area. In Prague, young people have taken care of the historically valuable city fountains and trees lining the streets. In the district of Usté nad Orlicé, Brontosaurus teams check on the use of chemical fertizers and fungicides and in Uherské Hradiste, they have devised effective agro-technical measures against ravens, to eliminate the need for chemicals.

In 1983, "Project Snow" was started in cooperation with the Central Geological Institute. Samples of snow from different parts of the country, taken on one particular day were sent to the Institute for measurement of the pH level and the number of heavy metals in order to obtain data about air pollution.

One of the future projects of the Brontosaurus Movement is to present lectures about environmental care and conservation in secondary schools on the grounds that the main problem in nature protection is a lack of awareness of environmental issues.

East-West International Camp Hungary 1982

The "Environmental Summer Camp", held in July 1982, was a joint initiative of the World Federation of Democratic Youth (WFDY) and the International Youth Federation for Environmental Studies and Conservation (IYF). WFDY is a major youth organization in Socialist Europe with many branches in Socialist and non-Socialist countries, where there is a growing interest in the protection of nature and environment. At the camp, participants from 13 European countries explored subjects of natural history as well as socio-economic questions of nature and environmental protection.

The camp was situated in the city of Szarvas not far from the famous Hortobàgy and the Kiskunsàg National Parks, and was hosted by the National Committee of Hungarian Youth (MIOT).

The programme started with field trips including visits to agricultural and industrial projects. There were also lectures and discussions, slide shows and films. Topics included Hungarian environmental legislation and comparisons with the situation in Western Europe; movements for environmental protection; environmental consequences of economic activity; environmental education in and out of school; environmental studies in higher education; environment and development; and environment and disarmament. Representatives of Unesco and IUCN played an active role in this part of the programme.

One important outcome of the camp was the differences in attitudes towards environment protection which emerged. As one participant noted, the people from the Socialist countries considered nature protection as a problem of economic structure. Once the problems of the supply of goods were solved, "solutions for the environmental problems would be found also".

Many participants from Western Europe, on the contrary, felt that the most important was issue survival. For them the global threat to the environment is far greater than for the Eastern Europeans.

The camp ended with a successful Forum discussion on "Youth, Environment and International Cooperation" followed by a press conference.

Greenway - An Emerging Youth Environmental Network in Eastern Europe

In September 1985, a unique meeting took place. Young environmentalists from Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Rumania met in Tata, in Hungary. Prior to this meeting students from Eastern European countries had participated in many nature expeditions. From this developed the idea of more regular cooperation on local and international levels.

The meeting started with national presentations. In this way the participants could familiarize themselves with the other organizations in their country and also introduce themselves and their activities, successes and problems.

The participants represented quite diverse organizations and institutions: Czechoslovakia - local groups of the Czech Union for Nature Protectors (CSOP) and the Czech Union of Youth (SSM); Poland - the Polish Ecological Club (PKE), their youth section and Commission on International Research Contacts; Hungary - the Nature Protection Club of Budapest (ELTE Természetvédelmi Klub); and Rumania - the Maros Region Society of Biological Science. The

Exchange Officer for Socialist Countries of Youth and Environmental Europe participated as an observer.

As the final press release notes, "We also agreed that official environmental policy has to be improved . . . In order to increase the efficiency of our work, we find it necessary to join already existing networks, for instance the Air Pollution Action Network (AIRPLAN) . . . We find it necessary to strive for the exchange of information and people . . . Because of the specific common issues in Socialist countries, we have decided to organize our own network. We will seek possibilities to include the other Socialist countries (GDR, USSR, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia) by contacting national youth organizations."

Further cooperation includes:

- improving environmental education;
- increasing practical conservation work; and
- finding ways of creating public awareness.

The first issue of a newsletter, called *Greenway* like the newly-founded network, should appear in 1987. This quarterly, published in English and occasionally in Russian, aims to improve local and national environmental activities and serve as a base for international action.

THE PROJECT ON ACID RAIN

In 1976, "Natur og Ungdom" (Nature and Youth - Norway) organized a meeting with youth environmental organizations from the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany, to start an international project on Acid Rain because of the urgent need to increase awareness of the serious effects of air pollution. Activities were intended either to demonstrate ecological principles to young people by informative posters in universities and schools, or to emphasize the importance of international environmental protection and bring it to a broader public by means of leaflets, posters and outdoor campaigns.

The first international street campaign against acid rain took place in the main (pedestrian) shopping street in Hamburg (FRG) in the summer of 1977. 5000 leaflets were distributed, but these ran out after a few hours so great was the demand. The 40 participants, including many young people from the IYF Training Course which had just taken place in Denmark, talked, sang and acted out their concerns about acid precipitation.

Passersby were able to compare intact and acidified fresh water ecosystems in aquaria and to listen in on discussions about the destructive effects of smog from German industries on fresh water ecosystems in Scandinavia.

Another successful campaign took place in 1979 when special postcards focussing on the acid rain problem were printed for the members of IYF. These were to be sent to the Governments of the UK, GDR and FRG.

This simple act of distributing and sending postcards, which involved thousands of young people in an international environmental campaign, proved to be an effective way to inform many people about acid rain.

Postcards, press conferences, discussions - what soon became apparent was the lack of scientific material about the ecological aspects of acidification. So in 1982, IYF, in close cooperation with the recently formed NGO Secretariat on Acid Rain in Sweden, published a special bulletin of *Taraxacum* (the IYF magazine). This theme-issue - "Acid Rain, Dilution is not the Solution to Air Pollution" - provided all the needed information.

Further impetus came from another Swedish group, "Fältbiologerna", which, in cooperation with IYF, organized an international camp on acid rain in Svartedalen, in July 1982. There, a group of 25 young Europeans developed the idea of an international acid rain week.

The first "International Acid Rain Week" was held in early April 1983 with the objectives of informing local groups of youth organizations about acid precipitation and creating large-scale publicity which might indirectly influence responsible decision-makers.

A month later, another protest took place during a public hearing in Brussels, organized by the European Parliament Environmental Committee. IYF representatives were asked to make a statement which was well-received.

In the summer of 1983, a Training Course for Youth Leaders was organized in the Black Forest (FRG). The programme included lectures on the scientific and political background to the problem, field investigations and street campaigns in Freiburg and Strasbourg.

The breakthrough for the acid rain campaign came a year later during the Annual Meeting of Youth and Environment Europe, in Purmerend (Netherlands) when participants read in a newspaper that the West German Parliament would permit the newly-built Buschhaus electricity plant to run until 1987 without any emission controls being installed. "Only a month ago our Parliament decided NOT to give permission," one of the German participants observed.

Three girls and three boys from FRG, present at the meeting, requested ecological asylum at the Embassy of Sweden in The Hague because Sweden is a country which will suffer from the Buschhaus pollution. They had lost their trust in their government's concern for the environment and did not want to remain citizens of their country any longer. Their unique request was intended as a warning to the West German Government and as an expression of solidarity with Sweden.

Other participants at the meeting supported their action by writing press releases, adopting resolutions, writing letters to Ambassadors and visiting several embassies of countries which had signed the Ottawa/Munich Agreement.

Further publicity came from Swedish environmentalists, twenty-five newspapers in the Netherlands, Sweden and Germany, from radio stations in three countries, and from Swedish television.

In July 1985, another Training Course on Acid Rain was organized in Scotland - "European Unity or Acid Future?" This course made clear that the United Kingdom (one of the main producers of acid pollution) also faces effects caused by acidification.

The acid rain issue has now been taken over by more professional groups. But it is clear that the IYF activities during the past ten years have contributed greatly to the recognition by governments of most countries of this threat to man and environment.

Youth environmental organizations are now turning their attention to other issues. Youth and Environment Europe is one of the initiators of an all-European forest campaign in 1986-87 entitled "European Youth Forest Action". It is the first time that so many diverse youth groups have been involved in a campaign on an ecological theme.

Faltbiologerna - Sweden

Fältbiolog in English means field-biologist. Many people will immediately think of butterfly nets, binoculars and early mornings and this is also what Fältbiologerna stands for. But Fältbiologerna also takes an active part in the work for a cleaner environment - campaigning against acid rain, pollution, and the waste of energy and resources.

Active members range in age from 7 to 25 years. Fältbiologerna, created in 1947 as an independent youth organization affiliated to SNF (Swedish Society for the Conservation of

Nature), today has grown to an organization with 12,000 members in 270 local clubs all over the country.

The goals of the organization are outlined below:

> "Fältbiologerna is an independent youth organization of SNF, not tied to any political party or religion. The most important task is to stimulate youngsters to a greater knowledge and understanding of the structure of nature and its function".
>
> "Fältbiologerna must actively work for a society that does not waste its resources. The organization must try to reach its goals through:
>
> - organizing excursions, field biological research, courses, study-circles, meetings, seminars and camps;
> - informing and activating its members concerning man's use and exploitation of nature;
> - editing a magazine for members."

Originally, Fältbiologerna focussed on biological studies, but emphasis changed with the opening of the environmental debate in the late 1960s. Membership has grown from 3000 in 1970 to 13,000 in 1980.

Fältbiologerna's long-term goal is a society that does not waste its resources. To this end, it has campaigned against "no return" bottles, cans and unnecessary packing. It has also expressed opposition to nuclear energy. Specific examples of its activities include:

- protection of the River Vindelälven (1969)
- protection of virgin forests and improved forestry management (1973 and 1983)
- campaigns against waste of resources (1972 and 1977)
- sea pollution campaigns (1983 and 1984)
- national action to prepare the Swedish contribution to the European Youth Forest Action (1986).

These campaigns have often been given good press coverage. Fältbiologerna has also been very active in the referendum on nuclear energy (March 1980); in the acid precipitation public awareness campaigns; and, at present, in a campaign to draw attention to the continuing destruction and degradation of the forests.

The national organization (board and working groups) works towards fulfilling the aims of Fältbiologerna by publishing small books and guides for environmental studies and field biology. There have also been a series of "drives" on limnology (fresh-water biology), small mammals, cryptograms (flowerless plants), and forests.

The national board of Fältbiologerna is elected at the General Assembly each year. The board consists of 9 to 13 members, with an average age of 22 years. All members have considerable experience of local, and often regional, work behind them. Since 1976, Fältbiologerna has rented a large house which serves as the headquarters both of the national organization and the Stockholm region. The national organization, which has four employees, distributes printed matter, information to clubs, districts and schools and provides services to the regions and the national boards. Weekend courses are held at headquarters.

Fältbiologerna also works to improve biology studies in schools. In particular, it has produced a series of pamphlets for teachers.

An "International Working Group" provides a more global perspective through a newsletter on international matters intended for local groups in Sweden and through the collection of field-work equipment for nature conservation workers in Tanzania. One example of this group's work was a seminar on tropical rain forests held in February 1986. Fältbiologerna also supports IYF Training Courses.

A more detailed account of a particular campaign mounted by Fältbiologerna illustrates how effective a well-planned event can be.

Waterfall Day

Northern Sweden is one of the last untouched areas of Europe. It is extremely important for scientific research and for recreation.

In 1985, Vattenfall, a large hydro-electric company, tried to extend its exploitation rights beyond the 80 per cent of the rivers which they already exploited. Because there were serious environmental implications, and because Vattenfall seemed to be a powerful influence in the shaping of Swedish energy policy, Fältbiologerna, together with Youth and Environment Europe, decided on a campaign to demonstrate their opposition to the destruction of the last untouched rivers in Sweden.

The 1985 "Nordic Summer Camp" for young environmentalists from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark, was held in the north of Sweden where some Swedish rivers still flow as they have done for thousands of years without being destroyed by dam building. For many camp participants, it was the first time they had experienced a wild river.

Each year on a Sunday in summer, more than 20,000 people gather in the vicinity of a hydro-electric power plant in the north of Sweden to celebrate "Waterfall Day". On this day, the company releases water from the dam allowing it to run freely into the old river bed. It is a public entertainment underlining to the spectators the "power" of the water, the "power" of the dam and the "power" of the company.

The site of the summer camp was near this dam so camp participants decided to demonstrate against the show. In the early morning of "Waterfall Day", Fältbiologerna wrote with huge, red letters "SAVE OUR RIVERS" on the wall of the dam.

Later as thousands of people were waiting for the water to start streaming, some 15 Fältbiologerna members sat down in the middle of the riverbed thus preventing the show.

Radio, television and newspaper reporters had been invited to the "Waterfall Day" and the coverage was such that by the following morning all of Sweden knew about the demonstration against the exploitation of Swedish rivers.

Accompanying the demonstration, Fältbiologerna demanded that:

- no more rivers be exploited;
- the Swedish energy company should be divided into smaller sections, to decentralize its influence;
- information about the policy on energy improve;
- the Director of Energy be fired, as he was prepared to act against parliamentary decisions about energy and rivers.

The matter still has not been concluded but this is a good example of how young people can use existing "celebrations" to focus attention on the fact that the consequences of harnessing nature can have serious negative results.

5. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN LATIN AMERICA

Although student movements are traditionally strong in Latin America, environmental activities of student groups are relatively new. Until the end of the 1970s, most ecological and conservation work was carried on by outsiders. Since then, however, student environmental groups have grown even in those countries with repressive regimes. Such expansion has taken place in the face of exploitation of natural resources on a massive scale in Latin America. Tropical forests in particular are disappearing at an alarming rate, often without any benefit to the nation or the people, but resulting in widespread erosion, damage to water resources and loss of livelihood. Youth and students form the basis of the hundreds of community groups spread out over the region, raising awareness on these matters and fighting for a better future.

INTRODUCTION

In the past, biology students in Latin America were not very interested in field biology and environmental sciences. For them, "real" biological studies took place only in laboratories. Field biological investigations in many Latin American countries were carried out principally by foreign scientists and students from North America and Europe who collected thousands of birds, animals, insects and plant species and transported them back to the museums and universities in their home countries. Most of them never tried to involve local students in their work or helped build up field biological scientific communities in Latin American countries.

During the 1970s attitudes began to change. Students showed an increasing interest in field work, field biological work groups were formed at several universities, and international contacts were made. They observed the widespread destruction of nature and, in particular, the rapidly declining animal and plant populations. They started to work for the establishment of national parks and protested against water and air pollution but their work was hindered by lack of proper equipment, money for travel and literature about field biology and environmental problems in Spanish. In some countries, such as Guatemala and Chile, the formation of student groups was generally forbidden or was too dangerous.

Today, environmental student groups can be found in all Latin American countries. Besides biologists, students from other faculties have become active in the field of environmental studies. Articles in newspapers about environmental catastrophes in the industrialized countries and the political success of the environmental movement have also created awareness in governmental agencies resulting in environmental education programmes being started in schools.

THE LATIN AMERICAN FEDERATION OF YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALISTS (FLAJA)

From 6-14 July 1981, the first Latin American assembly of young environmentalists took place in Honduras. The 80 participants, all students between 18 and 23 years old, represented some 20 associations from ten Latin American countries. The meeting was a follow-up to the 1980 Costa Rican Youth Leader Training Course in Environmental Education attended by 25 students from Panama, Honduras and Costa Rica.



In Honduras, subjects discussed included the structure and statutes of the newly-formed "Federación Latinoamericana de Jóvenes Ambientalistas" (FLAJA), the Latin American Federation of Young Environmentalists. The general problems of working in youth organizations, political ecology, tropical forest destruction, the misuse of pesticides and the presentation of work by participating organizations were also on the agenda.

MEXICO - COURSE ON TROPICAL FORESTS

The tropical forests of Mexico have long been considered exceptionally rich and extensive. However, it is only recently that we have started to know and understand these complicated systems. Already it may be too late, for the rate of destruction is depressing. More than half of the forests have already been cut down and some scientists (not the most pessimistic ones) have calculated that they will have disappeared in the next 30 years!

The "Youth Leader Training Course on Tropical Forests and Their Conservation" took place in Jalapa, Mexico, from 14-28 June 1982. The meeting was organized by FLAJA, IYF and the Instituto Nacional de Investigación sobre Recursos Bioticos (INIREB).

The main object of this course was to give a general idea of the problems involved in the study, use and conservation of tropical forests. It was attended by 18 environmental youth leaders representing nine conservation groups from Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

The course was divided into three parts. The first, which concentrated on the importance, localization and ecology of tropical regions, especially of rain forests, stressed that these systems are very complicated and exceedingly fragile. It also included a series of lectures on Nutrient Cycling, Population Interactions, and Population Studies of "ramon trees" - *Brosium alicastrum*. This part concluded with a visit to a tropical forest located in el Centenario, where INIREB is trying to establish an ecological reserve.

The second part of the course focussed on the use and management of tropical forests, including the ecological basis of forestry in the tropics, the interaction and impact of man with these ecosystems, some mistakes made in the past and some alternatives to present use. There were two lectures, one on the role of botanical gardens in conservation and the other on the use of the stages of secondary succession.

The third and final part was dedicated to conservation, its concepts, history and the present situation in Mexico and Latin America. Subjects included the principles, planning and management programmes of protected areas. The course concluded with a field study in INIREB's biological station of Morro de la Mancha. During the course the particular situation in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua was discussed. All participants agreed on the usefulness of this course for their conservation activities and on the urgent necessity of further studies and protection of these beautiful, complex and fragile ecosystems for the future.

FOLLOW-UP WORK OF FLAJA

Since the meeting in Honduras, FLAJA has organized four more international seminars for Latin American youth environmental organizations.

Panama (September 1981)	Central American Youth Leader Training Course in Environmental Education
Mexico (June 1982)	Training Course on Tropical Forests and their Conservation

Panama (September 1984)	Seminar about Neotropical Forests their Ecology and Conservation Second General Assembly of FLAJA
Colombia (December 1985)	Seminar about the World Conservation Strategy and Environmental Education in Latin America for Youth Leaders

All six seminars were made possible with grants from the Unesco Man and Biosphere Programme, Unesco Youth Division, Rare Animal Relief Effort, IUCN and WWF.

Close cooperation was established with IYF at this time and FLAJA became its Latin American branch. Members of the Third World Solidarity Group of IYF Europe participated in all activities. On one occasion a representative from the Asian Pacific region of IYF was also present in order to discuss joint projects in rain forest destruction and pesticide exports. Members from environmental youth groups in Peru, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Mexico have now attended IYF seminars on the global environmental crisis in Europe and Asia so contact continues.

The following case studies, ranging from scientific ecology associations to environmental pressure groups, will give an idea of the activities of young people in Latin America.

DEVELOPMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA

Many environmental groups have been formed in the last five years, often by university students. The rapid developments may be compared with the environmental movement in Europe, that started in the mid-1970s. From the many existing groups, here are a few examples:

- "Grupo Ecol¢gico" is the common name for different university groups in Colombia, for example in Bogot@, Medellén, Ibague, Cartagena and Leticia. Apart from general environmental education these groups are working on themes such as rain forest protection, the use of pesticides and marine protection.

- The "Wildlife Rangers Clubs" of Suriname have been formed by groups of students involved in practical conservation activities in national parks. They work in their free time as guards and guides for tourists. An important task every year is the protection of the sand beaches on the coast when the thousands of turtles come to breed.

- "Movimiento Cultural Ecol¢gico" in Arequipa (Peru) is a small university group very concerned about the destruction of Peru's coastal waters, water pollution through mining activities and exploitation activities in the Amazon region. According to them, opportunities to reach the public are still very limited. They lack, for example, the participation of well-known scientists, who could explain the effects of the exploitation of rain forest areas and of industrial mining and domestic pollution of the rivers.

- "Ecotipo" is a students' conservation group at the University in C¢rdoba (Argentina). Their activities include:

  - a cycle of lectures about environmental legislation and protection;
  - environmental impact analysis following field trips to forest reserves and hydro-electric dams;
  - production of audio-visual series about national parks and pollution problems which are shown to primary and secondary students;
  - observation and discussions about collecting and processing rubbish in C¢rdoba City; and
  - the organization of student activities during the annual "Argentina Ecological Congress".

CASE STUDIES FROM CENTRAL AMERICA

Nicaragua - Colectivo Habitat

"Colectivo Habitat" is the association of students in Ecology and Natural Resources at the Central American University in Managua. Its principal concerns are the protection of the environment through long- and short-term projects and the publicizing of ecological problems which might have economic and social effects in Nicaragua. Within its limited resources, Colectivo Habitat is trying to find solutions to these problems in collaboration with other groups and institutes.

During the Somoza regime, the natural resources of the country were over-exploited, causing irreparable damage in some areas. The group is concerned about forest destruction, water pollution problems with Managua's drinking water, pollution in Lake Managua and biological alternatives in agriculture. Every June, an environmental week is organized, with exhibitions, lectures and demonstrations. Four times a year, if financially feasible and no shortage of paper affects the country, the association publishes *Habitat*, a magazine which features nature and scientific articles and environmental news.

The group is also investigating how to use biogas in Nicaragua, holding environmental education lectures every year in around 30 schools in different cities and preparing programmes and articles for radio and newspapers.

Currently, Colectivo Habitat is involved in a project to extend the benefits of aquaculture to rural communities throughout Nicaragua. In 1982, the Central American University established a fishery station near Managua, which is an important site for aquaculture development. Its main purpose is to breed fish which will provide a source of high quality, cheap protein - badly needed to enrich the diet of Nicaragua's rural population. Colectivo Habitat travels around the country to educate the rural population on the use of aquaculture, to test water quality and to install tanks.

Costa Rica - Campaign Against an Oil Pipeline

For a long time there have been plans to build an oil pipeline through the last tropical forest areas of northern Costa Rica from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast. The pipeline would make it easier for the United States of America to transport oil from Alaska to the US east coast and, thus, reduce US dependence on the Panama Canal.

Environmental groups in Costa Rica have been fighting against these plans, which will cause the serious destruction of tropical forests. One of the very active groups in this struggle is the "Asociación de Estudiantes de la Biologéa" (Association of Biology Students) at the University in San José. The organization is very concerned about environmental destruction and has made a survey of the consequences of building the pipeline. They have collected signatures to send to the government, organized symposia in the University and street demonstrations with good press coverage.

Panama - Conservation and Progress

The "Asociación Conservacionista de la Universidad de Panamá", the Conservation Association of the University of Panama (ACUPAN), is an environmental student group, concerned with numerous cases of environmental degradation within Panama. ACUPAN works closely with universities, governmental agencies and institutions in the fields of environmental education and raising awareness of the need for conservation of natural resources. The Association carries out a wide variety of activities: studies of mangrove ecosystems, of sea turtles, of noise levels in town, ecological laboratory investigations, the development of experimental agriculture techniques, and the preparation of "a natural resources month" in Panama.

Activities in national parks and protected areas are particularly important. ACUPAN carries out a lot of practical work and maintains a wide network of national and international contacts

to exchange ecological, cultural and other data. Recently, ACUPAN began work on a project, "Development of conservation priorities for the National Park Chagres", aimed at developing new policies in environmental protection. The National Park Chagres is an important source of water and plays a vital role in the hydrology of the region, which includes the Panama Canal.

The first phase of the project comprises the establishment of an information kiosk in the park, the development of an educational programme targeted at local communities in the area and the initiation of school and community nurseries, using seeds of native plants.

The Student Association of Environmental Conservation of Panama

The Asociación Estudiantil para la Conservación Ambiental en Panamá" (AECAP), founded in 1979, is organized in 16 different groups around the country. The several hundred members are pupils and students, 14 to 25 years old.

Many activities have been organized, such as national nature study camps, international seminars in environmental conservation, conservation weeks with public demonstrations, and films and slide shows about the environmental problems in Panama. The organization receives support from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and World Wildlife Fund-US.

Some regular projects organized by AECAP include:

- Nature Study Camps and excursions in national parks, organized regularly to introduce new members of AECAP to elementary ecology, the enjoyment of nature and camping, and AECAP's history and work.

- Seminars for teachers focussing on environmental problems in Panama. These have resulted in excellent cooperation. Many AECAP groups are based in schools, and teachers play an important role in assisting these groups and in helping start new clubs.

- Public activities during the "Week for the Environment and Natural Resources". These have been very effective in mobilizing public opinion. AECAP has organized street demonstrations, lectures, films and slide shows on World Environment Day.

- An information kiosk run by AECAP in a national park near Panama City, where members sell conservation education material and tropical fruit refreshments.

- A campaign for a new national park in the region of El Cope, one of the last areas of tropical rain forest in Central Panama. This campaign has gained international attention. AECAP has organized several excursions to this area to investigate the rich fauna and flora. The results have been sent to the government together with a proposal to create a new national park but due to governmental changes no decision has yet been reached.

- The "Mobile Festival for Environmental Education". For AECAP this has turned out to be a very effective method of spreading the conservation message to the public, especially in the rural areas. A group of eight AECAP members travel by minibus from village to village. In the evenings they present films and slide shows, sing songs and act plays about the environment in Panama.

Isla Margarita - a Recreational Park in Panama

AECAP and several other student groups are involved in environmental action concerning Isla Margarita, a small peninsula (77ha) on the Caribbean coast of Panama. The areas bordering the peninsula are magnificent. There is a great variety of mangrove and terrestrial vegetation, different types of shores (also piers), and animal species.

The peninsula, situated in the Canal Zone, reverted from a USA military area to the Republic of Panama in 1979. Originally an island, the terrain was connected by a strip of land for easy delivery of military supplies to Fort Randolph, constructed in 1912 to protect the entrance to the Panama Canal.

Isla Margarita is situated only 2.8km from the city of Colón. As a nature reserve, it is of great value to the inhabitants of Colón and the surrounding area since these people do not have many other opportunities for outdoor recreation in the region. More and more people visit the area during weekends for quiet recreation. The area also provides a means of livelihood for many people (fishermen, beekeepers and fruit collectors, for example). However, the US army still occupies the greater part of the island.

Unfortunately, all kinds of ideas to "develop" the area were generated by the Panamanian Government and the Municipality of Colón - building houses, industries, and creating a rubbish tip, among others. Responsibility for the area then was a matter for the State, the Province, the Canal Zone Committee and the town, so the situation was complex.

In June 1984, the Panamanian customs seized 7000 barrels of ethylether (approximately 400,000 litres - more than Panama uses in five years). This ether was apparently illegally imported for the extraction of cocaine. To get rid of it, a very unecological solution was chosen. The ether was poured out, over a period of two months, on the Isla Margarita, causing extensive damage to vegetation and animals. Many people in the nearby town of Colón became ill as well.

The local group of AECAP in Colón has been and is directly involved in the protection of Isla Margarita. The Grupo Pro-Conservación de la Isla Margarita was set up in 1983 and organized public campaigns in Colón. The goal was to have Isla Margarita declared a permanent recreation park. The group and AECAP members cleared the island of rubbish, set up an ecological centre, organized excursions for the public, and began several education and conservation projects.

In late 1984, a new environmental group was founded in Colón to focus especially on the conservation of marine resources. It is the Asociación Tecnica Pro-Desarrollo de la Pesca Artesanal, para la Conservación y Restablecimiento de Recursos Marinos - APROREMAR - (the Technical Association for the Development of Small-Scale Fisheries and the Conservation and Restoration of Marine Resources). This youth group has also organized several information campaigns, carried out ecological studies on flora and fauna and has been involved in the establishment of the Ecological Centre at Isla Margarita, which is particularly concerned with the traditional use of natural resources. Recently, the municipality of Colón donated 20 hectares at Isla Margarita to APROREMAR.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FOR LATIN AMERICAN YOUTH LEADERS

During a Workshop on Environmental Education, organized by the Federación Latino-Americana de Jóvenes Ambientalistas (FLAJA), and hosted by the Grupo Ecológico de Acción Ambiental (Medellén), youth leaders from several Latin American countries met to exchange experiences in the field of environmental education and to discuss possibilities for future cooperation.

The programme included presentations by representatives of IUCN and WWF as well as lectures by university experts in the field of environmental education. It was felt that a network of Latin American youth was needed because international cooperation by youth environmental groups in Latin America is still new, and has to be encouraged by a regular exchange of information, by means of a newsletter for instance, and through international courses.

6. YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA

Youth environmental activities in Africa differ according to the region. In East Africa and Central Africa, Wildlife Clubs predominate. These clubs have a decentralized structure, with numerous local groups which are often connected to a school. They involve students from primary as well as secondary schools in matters like forest conservation, erosion control and nature park management. Wildlife Clubs also organize nature expeditions and education programmes for young people as well as for the entire community.

In North Africa and French-speaking West Africa, environmental work is mainly in the hands of university student groups. They have done much to create public awareness and influence decision makers - notably about the dangers of desertification and deforestation.

INTRODUCTION

Language and cultural differences have made international cooperation between African youth environmental groups difficult, however, there have been several attempts to create an African umbrella organization.

The "East African Course on Environmental Conservation" in 1974 and the "African Youth Leader Training Course on Environmental Conservation Education" in 1979 brought together young environmentalists from 13 countries to discuss the environmental, social and economic problems of Africa. Both courses were hosted by the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya.

African Youth Seminar on Environment

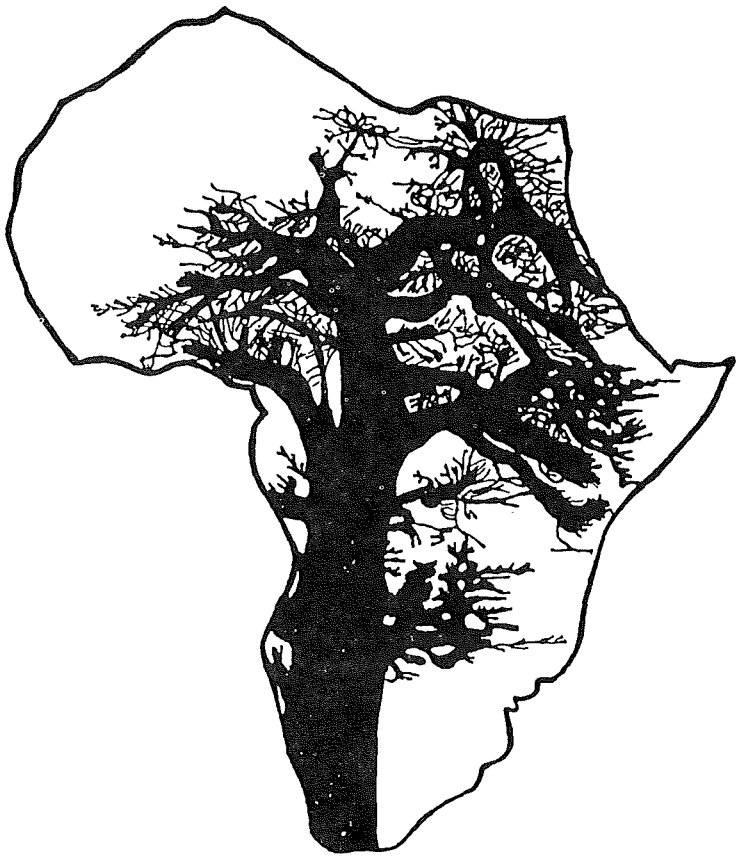
In 1981, during the African Youth Seminar on Environment, hosted by the Arab Office for Youth and Environment (Egypt), several youth environmental organizations came together to form an African youth federation to establish cooperation between African youth in the field of environmental conservation.

The discussions focused on the following topics:

- the impact of technology transfer;
- wildlife in Africa;
- the World Conservation Strategy;
- the energy crisis, new and renewable sources of energy;
- water, desertification and food production; and
- the coordination of youth environmental activities in Africa.

A major outcome of this seminar was the decision to set up a federation, to be known as "African Youth for Environment" (AYE), which would be a non-governmental organization with membership open to national youth non-governmental organizations in Africa.

The main objectives of AYE include those of coordination, creation of public awareness, promotion of environmental education, initiation of field activities and dissemination of information.



AFRICAN YOUTH SEMINAR

ON ENVIRONMENT

CAIRO ,15/20 JUNE 1981.

After the meeting, communication remained a problem and cultural differences between African countries where French, English or Arabic was spoken required new approaches. At the regional level, however, cooperation has increased, especially between Wildlife Clubs in East Africa through the participation of members at each other's youth leader training courses.

SOME NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS IN EAST AFRICA

Malihai Clubs of Tanzania (MCT)

"Mali" means wealth and "hai" means living. "Malihai" then means living natural wealth.

Tanzania is a major country for wildlife. Recognizing the importance of this resource, the Tanzania National Parks Service supervised the formation of MCT in late 1979. Since then Tanzanians have become very aware of wildlife, an awareness shared by young people and it is not surprising to find that MCT now has a strong national youth organization.

Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK)

This is the most prominent of youth conservation groups in this region, and perhaps in Africa as a whole. Founded in 1968, WCK have involved thousands of young Kenyans of various ages and in various disciplines. They have made remarkable contributions to conservation in the country, the most notable being that they have effectively brought wildlife awareness to the public and pressured for a national ban on hunting. Kenya stands out as one of the leading nations in conservation and WCK has played a vital role in this.

Wildlife Clubs of Malawi (WCM)

These clubs are run in some 35 secondary schools and colleges in the country and more clubs are being formed. WCM are coordinated through the office of the Environmental Officer in Blantyre. They are very active both in regional and international cooperation.

THE CHONGOLOLO AND CONSERVATION CLUBS OF ZAMBIA

During a seminar in 1981, 80 teachers and leaders from Chongololo and Conservation Clubs gathered to give their views on the importance of the wise use of natural resources and environmental education as a means of achieving conservation in practice. Delegates heard how the boundless waters of the Zambesi could be poisoned by the indiscriminate use of insecticides and fertilizers, and how the life of the Zambesi River could be destroyed by dams and hydro-electric schemes on the river.

The Chongololo Clubs were established in 1972 as the youth branch of the Wildlife Conservation Society. Seminars and youth leader training courses are an essential part of the education programme that started first in primary schools and extended, in 1980, into secondary schools. There are now four sections: Chongololo Clubs, Conservation Clubs, Chongololo Club of the Air and the Field Education Unit.

Chongololo Clubs

There are 950 registered Chongololo Clubs involving more than 35,000 young Zambians in the age group 7-14. More than two-thirds of the clubs are found in rural areas. They have built up a reputation for being a truly national movement for these environmentally conscious young people. Many children have found out that "it is not fun if it is not Chongololo".

The name "Chongololo" is a Nyanja word for millepede. It was chosen because:

- it showed that the concern is not only for game animals but also for small animals;
- it is a useful creature which eats dead leaves and improves the soils;
- it is found all over Zambia and it is known to everyone; and
- it is important to have a character like this when dealing with children. It can be identified by all and makes the conservation message personal.

Conservation Clubs

Conservation Clubs are essentially senior Chongololo Clubs, catering for students in secondary schools and higher educational institutions in the age group 15-23 years. Conservation Clubs were launched in 1980 to satisfy an increasing demand for a follow-up programme to Chongololo Clubs. There are about 145 registered clubs with a total membership of more than 5000 students. Conservation Clubs work hand-in-hand with the Chongololo Clubs, bringing young people of different age groups together who have the same interest in their environment and nature protection.

Chongololo Club of the Air - CCOA

This club is based on a weekly thirty-minute radio programme on conservation which is presented by the Wildlife Conservation Society of Zambia (WCSZ). The radio programme is broadcast during the peak hour on Sunday, thus ensuring a wide audience. During 1983, some competitions were held for members which drew an overwhelming response from a big and receptive audience.

Field Education Unit - FEU

There is no doubt that this is a very important part of the entire programme of public awareness for the conservation of the environment. The FEU conducts training courses for club leaders at district and regional levels. District training courses last for three days and cover agriculture, forestry, fisheries, natural resources and wildlife. Regional courses are a follow-up of district courses. They run for five days and cover appropriate technology, club management, conservation, ecology, pollution and wildlife management. Other topics include land-use, nutrition, population studies and integrated rural development. Government officials are invited to give lectures at the courses, thus creating and fostering a working relationship between their clubs and the government departments in their area.

The Wildlife Conservation Society was able, during 1983, to further consolidate its efforts in environmental education through the various programmes described above. Club activities were enhanced by the four regional and thirty district action committees formed by the FEU. The action committees are made up of club leaders. They play a supervisory role in club activities in their localities and form a bridge between the Society and the clubs. They are autonomous but working within the framework of WCSZ policy on environmental conservation.

YOUTH AND THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE IN CAMEROON

Cameroon has extensive tropical rain forest (an estimated area of 230,000km^2, about 45 per cent of the total area of the country. This tropical rain forest was, until a decade ago, intact and was reckoned as one of the natural treasures.

In the wake of industrial and agricultural development, expansion, coupled with demographic growth that has taken place in recent years, the area of tropical rain forest has rapidly decreased.

For the "Association des Clubs des Amis de la Nature" (ACAN) - the Association of Friends of Nature Clubs - which was established in 1975 at the "Ecole pour la formation de spécialistes de la faune" in Garoua, the tropical rain forest has always been an issue of primary concern. ACAN's main objective is environmental education in secondary schools and at the University of Yaoundé. At present, ACAN has more than 3000 members.

The Friends of Nature organizes regular excursions to provide possibilities for members to study natural areas and to meet with experts who, as decision-makers, influence the management of the environment. Besides excursions to nature reserves there are visits to industrial areas and discussions to evaluate the impact of industry on the environment. ACAN organizes theme programmes for students including film projections on nature conservation, pesticides, air and water pollution.

Campaigns

ACAN has launched a number of campaigns. It has appealed to the government to stop signing contracts with foreign countries exploiting timber and has tried to alert people to the dangers if the present rate of forest destruction continues: a destruction which will lead to the advance of the desert, soil degradation, erosion, and the disappearance of plant and animal species. It has also stressed the importance of creating new national parks in the tropical rain forest during these public awareness activities.

Youth Leader Training Course

A Youth Leader Training Course in 1984 brought together 28 participants at the National School for Water and Forest Resources at Mbalmayo in the southern rain forest region. The course highlighted the economic, ecological and social aspects of the exploitation of forest resources and the role of youth organizations in forest conservation. Working groups prepared presentations and discussions for the meeting on themes such as the management of the tropical forests, the protection of threatened animal species, agricultural production and its adverse effects on the environment, and the role of youth in environmental protection. During the final session, participants adopted resolutions with specific recommendations for political action.

A long-term benefit of the course was that youth groups in many parts of Cameroon became involved in educational activities on tropical rain forests at the local level.

THE ARAB OFFICE OF YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT - EGYPT

The Arab Office of Youth and Environment (AOYE) was established in 1978 to create environmental awareness among Egyptian youth. The 300 members are represented by a board of ten elected members. Its main function is to plan, manage and organize different activities and coordinate international communications with other youth groups. AOYE headquarters are in Cairo.

At present, there are six Youth and Environment committees in six different governorates in both Upper and Lower Egypt representing about 900 members ranging in age from 18 to 30. The activities of these committees in universities, local youth centres and secondary schools, involves creating environmental awareness in different localities.

Activities

The following shows the range of AOYE activities:

- The environmental education programme for secondary school students. This was carried out in 19 different secondary schools in Cairo. The programme included a series of lectures, seminars, scientific visits and environmental film presentations. Youth environmental groups were formed in these secondary schools and now work actively on environmental projects.

- Environmental youth camps - to give youth a chance to study and become familiar with the Egyptian environment. The aim of these camps, which vary from two to six days, is to enable participants to gain experience in dealing with environmental problems.

- Scientific reports - results of scientific work on different environmental issues are published.

- Members' Training Courses - to provide members with information about important environmental subjects such as solar energy and its uses, biostatistics and monitoring pollution levels.

- Youth Leaders' Training Courses - a project in cooperation with Unesco - where six training courses are held in six different governorates in Egypt. The participants attend courses on how to form a youth environmental group and how to develop and protect their local community.

- Maintenance of the "Green Trees Programme" in Cairo to protect and recultivate the green areas and parks. Nine hundred young people formed the "Friends of Trees" groups which joined this project.

- Research work and field studies - recently the AOYE prepared a questionnaire on environmental protection among the public in Egypt.

- Field work to conserve the environment - these activities are mainly undertaken by the local groups and committees.

TREE PLANTING AND FOREST CONSERVATION - SIERRA LEONE

The great tropical forest belt that stretches across the middle of Africa reaches its western outpost in Sierra Leone. Two hundred years ago, 75 per cent of the country was covered by high forest. Today, forests cover only three per cent of the land. Indiscriminate tree-felling and shifting cultivation have combined to cause almost unparalleled devastation - soil erosion, river siltation, floods in the wet season and drying up of freshwater streams in the dry season.

Little reforestation has taken place in Sierra Leone. For a number of years the Sierra Leone Environment and Nature Association (SLENCA) has been campaigning to save the remaining forest through environmental educational projects informing young people and the general public of the importance of forest conservation. In 1968, SLENCA started a combined tree-planting and education project. The planting, using indigenous species, is done by school children and young people who will be responsible for the care of the trees until they are well established. The project will not only have an immediate effect on the natural environment, but will help ensure the further protection of existing forests by illustrating how trees can be planted for people's needs.

7. INTEGRATION: THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FEDERATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND CONSERVATION (IYF)

Youth activities for the environment are typically decentralized. That is one reason why they are so little known by a wider public. But there is a basic need for creating links between separate groups, nationally and internationally. Despite the slenderness of resources, the IYF has attempted this task over the last 30 years, basically by arranging and supporting meetings and training courses and by stimulating exchanges of young environmentalists. Despite the effort, much remains to be done to give the international youth movement its just and proper place as a major actor on the world environmental stage.

INTRODUCTION

The previous chapters describe youth involved in environmental activities at local, national and international levels. At the global level, however, there is only one environmental organization run for and by young people. This is the International Youth Federation for Environmental Studies and Conservation (IYF) which has an age-limit of 30 years. IYF has functioned for 30 years as a broad forum for promoting international cooperation between youth environmental organizations. The Federation is the advocate for the interests of youth environmental groups which mostly lack the basic bureaucracy and experience to deal with official institutions. IYF has consultative status with Unesco and UNEP, and is a cooperating organization represented on the Council of IUCN.

HISTORY

IYF was founded in Salzburg, Austria, in 1956 under the name "International Youth Federation for Nature Studies and Conservation" by ten self-governing youth environmental organizations in Northwestern Europe with sponsorship of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). According to its Statutes, IYF shall "seek to organize and encourage all that might increase the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of nature and the awareness of environmental problems among young people throughout the world. This is in order to promote the commitment of youth to the principles of environmental conservation and to stimulate young people's voluntary action for the protection and enhancement of the environment and for the rational use of the Earth's resources."

In the first 15 years, IYF's activities were mainly restricted to Northwestern and Eastern Europe, although contacts with young environmentalists in other countries existed. IYF started to broaden its geographical scope in the 1970s. The Federation played an important role in the preparation and setting up of a world youth forum during the UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, 1972. In the preceding year, IYF co-organized the International Youth Conference "Youth and Environmental Action" which was held in Canada.

In 1975 the real expansion commenced with Youth Leader Training Courses in India and Hong Kong. In East Africa, a regional office was set up briefly to organize the Youth Leader Training Course in Kenya in 1979.

In the second half of the 1970s and early 1980s as youth environmental activities at the international level grew rapidly in Asia and the Pacific, Africa, Latin America and the Socialist countries, it became apparent that there was a strong need for regional programmes. This led to the idea of changing the IYF structure from a worldwide central organization to a federation of regionally independent organizations. In 1983, the regionalization of IYF was completed.

Today, IYF comprises:

- The Asia/Pacific Youth Environmenal Federation (APYEF),
- African Youth for Environment (AYE),
- The Latin American Federation of Young Environmentalists (FLAJA),
- Youth and Environment Europe (YEE).

STRUCTURE

In 1986, IYF unites altogether over 400,000 young environmentalists in some 120 youth environmental organizations. The role of the worldwide federation is to promote and integrate the activities and ideas of the regional youth environmental federations.

A world secretariat is responsible for information dissemination and the publishing of the magazine *Taraxacum.* The IYF Executive Board consists of four regional representatives (elected by the regional federations) and a treasurer (elected at the biennial General Assembly of IYF). Until now, all work has been done on a voluntary basis.

IYF POLICY STATEMENT

We see the natural environment in the context of the total environment, social as well as natural. It follows from this that we do not divorce the study and conservation of nature from social and political awareness and action. As environmental problems recognize no frontiers, we act together.

We recognize as important aspects of the environmental crises:

- the senseless drain on human and natural resources in wasteful technology, such as military armaments;
- the unequal distribution of wealth between industrialized and less-developed countries and between different sectors of the community within each country;
- the existence of economic systems governed solely by the profit motive and aimed at growth through induced overconsumption of natural resources;
- the increasing centralization of society and economy, preventing people from determining their own way of life and participating in environmental decision-making;
- overpopulation;
- the alienation of man from the natural environment;
- pollution;
- the degradation of ecosystems;
- the scarcity of natural resources.

We resolve to promote, in the context of a long-term perspective, the conservation and proper disposition of the world's resources, and the creation of better living conditions in harmony with the environment. In particular, we will work to involve young people, especially those in our member organizations, in environmental activities and to bring them into contact with nature; to create public awareness and knowledge of environmental problems.

WORKING PROGRAMME

IYF has organized many International Youth Leader Training Courses since its founding. Themes have varied from "Environmental Education", "Strategy and Action", to many environmental and ecological topics. These courses have turned out to be the best way to involve and motivate young people for international environmental work. Nowadays, there is an annual programme of courses for each region.

For many years, IYF has proclaimed a special "Yearly Theme", which receives particular attention, for example through special action guides, and which promotes cooperation with other international or regional conservation organizations. Besides these "Themes", IYF coordinates several ecological and environmental projects aimed at an integration of activities of different youth environmental organizations in a special field and at the promotion of these themes to other youth groups. In recent years, "Yearly Themes" and projects have included:

> Appropriate Technology, Technology Transfer, Energy, Traffic and Transport, Conservation of Wildlife and Natural Habitats, Red Area Book on Threatened Landscapes and Biotopes in Europe, Agriculture and Environment, Whaling, Phosphates and Water Pollution.

Since 1981, IYF has concentrated on:

> Environment and Development, Tropical Forests, Pesticide Exports from Industrialized Countries to Developing Countries, Hunting, Marine Pollution, and Acid Rain.

In connection with these topics, courses, seminars and international public campaigns were organized.Publications form another important field of IYF. Besides the magazine *Taraxacum* (planned to be issued four times a year if financially feasible), IYF also produces occasional booklets such as "Lessons from Bhopal" and "Environment and War". Other types of publications include: reports of Training Courses and other important youth environmental activities, and slide shows covering, for example, Tropical Rain Forest issues, Boat Actions, Acid Rain, and the Chipko Movement.

INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION

Apart from international cooperation within a region (continent), it is extremely important for many projects that inter-regional contacts are well developed. This should not be the task only of IYF offices or the Executive Board. Direct strong working relationships between people and between youth environmental groups appear to be very fruitful and necessary.

Over the last few years, IYF has tried hard to promote inter-regional cooperation. The South-South exchange of knowledge, activities and experiences was encouraged in various ways, mainly through projects and visits of representatives to activities in other regions. Unfortunately, it is extremely difficult to find financial support for South-South exchange and cooperation.

An important role in IYF's North-South cooperation is played by the "Third World Solidarity Group" in Europe. This group was set up in 1982 within the framework of IYF's Environment and Development Project. The group of about 25 people, drawn from all over Europe, aims to provide education on Environment and Development in Europe, and support to youth environmental groups in developing countries. Too many people in Europe are unfortunately still closing their eyes to the development problems in the Third World and the global environment crisis, which is so often linked with the unequal distribution of wealth and power between industrialized and developing countries.

Objectives of the Third World Solidarity Group of the IYF Europe are to:

- support the activities of youth environmental organizations in Asia, Africa and Latin America with financial aid, materials and information;

- expand information campaigns in youth environmental organizations in Europe about environment and development issues and about specific activities of youth environmental groups in developing countries;
- build up a network of action groups for environment and development within youth environmental groups; and
- organize public campaigns in Europe on these issues and join related campaigns.

Since 1982, the Third World Solidarity Group has organized several workshops, set up national working groups in about six countries, done fundraising, organized postcard campaigns, produced photographic slide series and other illustrative material, and organized several lecture tours. Nowadays these activities are more frequently at a national level, and also in cooperation with other organizations which has increased their effectiveness.

YOUTH EXCHANGE

For youth, it is very important and useful to be able to meet young people of other nationalities, in order to exchange experiences, skills and knowledge directly. Participation of one or more foreigners in various national activities benefits everyone greatly. Exchange of young environmentalists has always been promoted by IYF and a great deal of experience has been gained in both East-West exchange in Europe and North-South exchange more recently.

East-West Exchange

Each year, young environmentalists from Eastern Europe visit camps and attend seminars in Western Europe, often combining this with informal visits to some local groups or other environmental organizations. Exchange visits occur in the opposite direction as well. For Eastern Europeans this is the only way to participate in Western European activities. Western Europeans on exchange in Eastern Europe are not subject to the currency regulations which, therefore, makes it possible for many young people who would not have the means to meet the daily currency exchange requirement to participate in activities.

The exchange programmes are coordinated by IYF. Among international youth organizations IYF is unique in developing these types of programmes, which have now been running for more than 20 years.

North-South Exchange

Young environmentalists from Europe travel to developing countries regularly on a personal basis (study, holiday etc.). IYF seeks their assistance in spreading information when they are travelling.

The IYF programme focusses on young environmentalists from developing countries coming to Europe. Each year about two people are able to visit youth environmental groups in Europe, in conjunction with many other activities - visits to other environmental, agricultural or Third World organizations and funding agencies; public lectures, courses and camps.

A specific annual activity is the "Christmas Tour". Each winter since 1981, a lecture tour has been organized for the general assemblies of youth environmental organizations in eight countries in Europe. The lecture tour is carried out by a team of people drawn from different backgrounds. The Christmas Tour reaches many young environmentalists attending the general assemblies and assists IYF in organizing projects.

"Public Action Tours" are often connected to other events. In the summer of 1983, after the IYF General Assembly at Stockholm (Sweden), environmental public action tours took place. The tours visited Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium. The tours included demonstrations, street theatre, lectures, and information booths. They were carried out by young environmentalists from the developing countries Malaysia, India, Bangladesh, Peru, Mexico, Panama and Zambia, in cooperation with Europeans.

APPENDIX 1

GUIDELINES FOR ORGANIZERS OF YOUTH LEADER TRAINING COURSES

1. INTRODUCTION

The manual, *World Conservation Strategy: A Programme for Youth*, focusses on planning youth environmental projects. The guidelines in this Appendix provide technical information for organizing training courses for leaders of youth environmental organizations. The concept of "Youth Leader Training Courses" (YLTC) as used here covers meetings:

- where representatives of youth environmental organizations train themselves in various fields of environmental education;
- with participants from different countries;
- based on one or a small number of practical themes;
- aimed at follow-up in many different youth environmental groups, mainly at national and local level.

Organizers of YLTCs are bound to encounter problems, anticipated or unexpected. These guidelines outline how to ensure that the YLTC organized by your group will be a successful one. Only the general framework is presented here. It needs many additions depending on the particular situation in your country. This is shown in the activities described in this book.

2. PREPARATIONS

For international camps to be successful, a better and more timely preparation is needed than for national camps because the latter often follow established practices and participants can easily develop a working scheme of unwritten rules. International camps by comparison gather people from very different backgrounds and the expectations of organizers and participants are generally much higher than for national camps. Those who organize an international camp need a clear idea of:

- the reason for the camp;
- the objectives to be reached;
- the results which can be expected;
- whom to invite;
- how to link the objectives and outputs with the best programme, at the best possible place with regard to financial/logistic conditions; and
- how to use the available resources to their best advantage.

Topics dealt with here are:

A A Concept Proposal for the YLTC
B Fund Raising
C Practical Preparations
D Promotion
E Selection of Participants

A. A Concept Proposal for the YLTC

This is needed not only to provide a clear overview for yourself, but also to inform others officially and for use in fund raising. It must include:

- title, date, venue, duration and language(s);
- executing organization(s) and project leader - as much data as possible, for example, name, full address, telephone/telex number;

- synopsis of the country, venue, main event and issues - remember that participants from other countries often have little knowledge of your country;
- objectives, central themes, a programme outline and working methods;
- proposed number of participants, from which countries, and your plans for recruiting them;
- budget details - including indications of which costs may be covered by participants, funding at local or national level, and what part has to be covered by international fund raising.

The concept proposal should be ready in time - preferably more than a year in advance. The absolute minimum is six months in advance. It has to be sent to the IYF office and regional co-ordinator. You should include with the proposal as much information as you can which might be of use. For example:

- magazines, reports of former activities, research work and any additional information;
- possibilities for exchange programmes;
- requests for resource material.

B. Fund Raising

Fund raising may be carried out at local, national and international levels. You yourself will be aware of the best possibilities AT THE LOCAL LEVEL. A tip: besides money, you should try to get as much as possible in "kind". For instance, the following commodities might be obtained free or at a reduced price:

- accommodation;
- vehicles, audio-visual and field equipment;
- documentation;
- lecturers (nearly always);
- group reduction on travel, or even free seats from your national airline.

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL, you may approach:

- Ministry of Education (especially when a school or university is involved in the preparations);
- Ministry dealing with Youth Affairs (most often the Ministry of Culture);
- Ministry dealing with Environment or Natural Resources (especially on scientific themes at the course, which are of interest to them);
- Private funders, or other organizations;
- National Committees for Unesco;
- WWF National Organizations.

National fund raising is time-consuming, requiring about six months' work (although indications may be obtained much earlier).

INTERNATIONAL FUND RAISING should really be initiated preferably at least a year in advance. Most often it has to be incorporated into programmes, to be submitted to IUCN, WWF, Unesco, UNEP or other organizations so try to send the concept proposal as soon as possible and keep IYF informed about all changes which may occur.

C Practical Preparations

Practical preparations are complex. The following should be considered as a minimum.

You have already chosen a leadership team. Note that the themes as covered in the YLTC, have direct consequences for members of this team. Put agreements on the division of responsibilities on paper and circulate that document, together with names and addresses (to IYF and to the collaborating organizations/institutions). This might save much time and

irritation! As mentioned in the concept proposal, one leader is necessary, but direct contact on aspects of the YLTC with the people concerned is often much more efficient.

Programme Development
(about six months in advance)

You have outlined the themes and working methods. If you choose a subject and describe the issue you want to deal with, you should be clear about the goals you would like to reach. These goals relate very much to the organizing team/institutions to be involved, the course site and accommodation and transport facilities required.

The programme should be an integration of study (lectures), evaluation (discussion) and practical activities (field trips, environmental campaigns). Try to make a logical and dynamic programme. Make sure that new ideas and new inputs can always be incorporated if useful.

It is necessary to give some thought to the follow-up at this stage. Read again the objectives of the YLTC (concept) and take care that each element has received enough attention in the programme, enough to deliver a good result.

Technical Arrangements

This includes accommodation, people who will be responsible for shopping/preparing food, helping participants arrange their travel, giving help in obtaining visas when necessary, official invitations, etc. Make sure that you don't forget to alert the media beforehand.

Background Papers

In the first mailing, you should send applicants as much technical information as possible immediately after receiving their applications. Namely:

- The address and telephone numbers of your organization and that of the course leader responsible for dealing with the affairs of foreign participants.
- The type of accommodation being offered, addresses and phone numbers. What participants should take into account in your country: for example, the climate and food. Travel description, (map!) to venue, and/or place and date to meet at a station or airport.
- The price of the course, the method of payment, and details of what the price includes. (The easiest way is cash at the camp.)
- The equipment which will be supplied and suggestions of what else could be useful to bring along (binoculars, etc).
- The draft timetable and programme.

The second mailing includes the "real" background information:

- (information on) visa and currency exchange rules;
- working language and languages provided by interpreters;
- deadline for confirmation of participation;
- some notes about your organization and similar organizations in your country;
- your country - history, political system, and environmental matters.
- neighbourhood of the camp;
- relevant field biological and environmental problems;
- some books/dictionaries which might be of use;
- preliminary list of participants. (Possibilities of travelling together?)

This list may seem too detailed, but it is prepared from the point of view of a foreigner who is not experienced in international travel, nor in the use of foreign languages.

The first batch of background papers should be prepared early enough, because finding authors, translators, and getting permission to use existing articles tends to take a long time. The first packet of technical information must be ready, at the latest, six weeks before the course commences. Remember mailing times and possible earlier departures of participants from home. To receive the information only days before you have to leave is frustrating and discouraging.

D Promotion

It is very important that others get to know about the YLTC. The target group especially has to be reached in an efficient way. The best promotion can be made by means of the magazines of youth environmental groups of the IYF regions, and all other magazines you can think of which are read by representatives of youth environmental groups. Do remember to start early and repeat your announcement several times. Even if you are not absolutely certain that the YLTC will take place, it is still useful to let people know of possible plans, because they will keep the event in mind and promote it by word-of-mouth.

Early announcements allow organizations to look for the most suitable representatives and allow participants to combine attendance at the course with holidays and other travel/meetings etc.

The Camplist is a European list of YLTCs, international camps, seminars and possibilities for youth exchange. It is published annually by the European region of IYF. *The Camplist* has proved to be extremely important. It ensures continuity in promotion, gives a unique overview of the activities mentioned above, and provides a wide choice for potential participants.

The fact that most of the YLTCs, camps, etc., in Europe take place in summer means that *The Camplist* can be produced once a year in March/April. *The Camplist* urges the host-organization to submit information on time. The deadline is early January.

"Lists of courses/camps, etc" should be initiated in each region. A List improves effective spreading of information. Because the List is issued regularly once or twice a year, it is also expected regularly. Consequently, YLTCs become regular events thus establishing a kind of continuity.

Announcements can also be made by circulars, posters, etc., sent to organizations which might provide participants. In general, recruitment does not cause problems if started early enough.

E Selection of Participants

When too many applications are received, you have to select the best group of people. Remember that selection has already been made before you receive the applications because the invited organizations have chosen the most suitable individuals. You should try to make sure that:

- the countries which the course aims at are represented by an equal number of people if possible;
- participants are spread over as many groups as possible;
- a group of participants combines people who are more or less experienced in YLTC-themes and those who are inexperienced but promising; (Such a combination could be representatives of groups which are working on the subjects of the YLTC and representatives of groups where things have yet to start.)
- there is an even balance between the sexes;
- individuals not linked to any group are sometimes favoured. (An active interest in the course might mean that the participant will return home to begin a new environmental group.)

3. THE EVENT ITSELF

The YLTC has started. Each course is different. Only some general tips are listed here, the rest you have to think about yourself.

- Remember that one of the purposes of the YLTC is a very simple one: to bring young environmentalists from different countries and different organizations together. They will exchange ideas and experiences and stimulate each other in many ways. For this reason it is important that the programme is not too overloaded, that there is enough "rest" time to meet each other.

- Presentations from the participants should deal not only with YLTC subjects but should also include a general presentation of their country's main environmental problems, the environmental organizations and their own organization (specific activities).

- At unexpected moments during a course, very good ideas are often suggested. It is useful to list these "elements of an environmental strategy" perhaps on a big sheet of paper.

- Make an exhibition of the materials brought by the participants. This benefits the public, the press and also yourself. Include material from the big organizations and institutions (Unesco, UNEP, FAO, WWF, IUCN, IYF, national institutions, etc.).

- Short presentations on practical activities of the organizations mentioned under d. should be encouraged, preferably by representatives, but otherwise by one of the course leaders.

- Do reserve enough time and opportunities for more "theoretical" discussions on youth strategies, evaluation of activities, etc. Discussions on international cooperation demand time!

- Don't forget to contact the press and media during the course.

- Make the programme as clear as possible. Each evening present the programme for the next day and write it on a big sheet of paper fixed on a wall. This makes it much easier for everybody to be fully aware of last-minute changes.

- It is efficient, effective and time-saving for each participant to be responsible for reporting on a part of the programme. The written report should be delivered before the YLTC ends. In this way it is possible to submit the final report very shortly after the course.

4. THE FOLLOW-UP

Many results of the YLTC will be difficult to trace. The trained participants will go home with more knowledge of environmental activities in other countries, and with a list of people who can be contacted in the future. Each trained participant can introduce new elements in his/her group's programme, or maybe start a new group.

Effective Reporting

At the international level, the early publication of the proceedings has many advantages and is more effective than waiting for some time to produce a very nice-looking report. When submitted promptly, the course participants can make the best use of the material by publicizing results in their magazine, making references to the report, remembering which agreements were made and following them up.

Settlements with the funding agencies are also speeded up, and this may mean that requests for new funds are viewed more favourably.

Sometimes it is useful to produce an "internal" and "external" report. The internal report is complete, contains all contributions, ideas and proposals, lists and materials used, etc. It is to be sent to the participants and collaborating organizations.

The external report is in fact a summary, somewhat like a brochure, stating the main activities and conclusions of the course. It is especially useful to distribute to a large variety of groups and institutions. So it is wise to print a sufficient number of copies to use as promotional material for several years.

Projects

Often the YLTC is not only an event in itself, but a part of a long-term programme; the YLTC is placed within a sequence of activities, e.g. around an environmental theme like forests, environmental education, environment and agriculture.

It is highly recommended that a core-group of people should be put together to lead the project. Some participants of the YLTC should be members of this core-group which will have considerable responsibility: the smooth-running of the international cooperation will be dependent on them because dynamic projects and stimulating activities make for international cooperation.

Some tasks could be to draft proposals for:

- another YLTC;
- a publication on the issue;
- an international campaign;
- materials: slide series, posters, stickers; and.
- media contacts.

Such a core-group should be international and work mainly through correspondence, because costs for the follow-up can be only a fraction of costs for the YLTC itself.

Continuity

Try to secure continuity in the activities in the region, the YLTCs and projects. A good flow of information is most important because others must know what the course participants would like to do. IYF can be of great help.
Try to design new activities in cooperation with IYF (office and regional coordinator). See also the remarks under "Concept Proposal" (par. 2A). Communicating ideas for activities is always useful.

APPENDIX 2

SOME ADDRESSES OF YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

ALGEMEEN CHRISTELIJKE JEUGDBOND VOOR NATUURSTUDIE EN NATUURBESCHERMING (ACJN)
Driebergseweg 16 c, 3708 JB Zeist, The Netherlands

ARAB OFFICE OF YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT (AOYE)
P.O. Box 49, Manial El Roda, Cairo, Egypt

AFRICAN YOUTH FOR ENVIRONMENT (AYE)
(This federation is being reorganised at present)

APROREMAR
Apartado Postal 2, Colón, Panama

ASIA-PACIFIC YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL FEDERATION (APYEF)
M-101, Saket, New Delhi - 110017, India

ASOCIACION CONSERVACIONISTA DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE PANAMA (ACUPAN)
Apartado Postal 6-7534, El Dorado, Panama

ASOCIACION ESTUDIANTIL PARA LA CONSERVACION AMBIENTAL EN PANAMA (AECAP)
Apartado Postal 2797, Balboa, Panama

ASSOCIATION DES CLUBS DES AMIS DE LA NATURE DU CAMEROUN (ACAN)
B.P. 271, Garoua, Cameroun

BRONTOSAURUS MOVEMENT
SSM- International Department, Nam Maxima Gorkeho 2,
11000 Prague 1, Czechoslovakia

COLECTIVO HABITAT
Universidad Centro-Americano, Escuela de Ecologéa y Recursos Naturales, Apartado 69, Managua, Nicaragua

CONSERVATION AND CHONGOLOLO CLUBS OF ZAMBIA
P.O. BOx 255, Lusaka, Zambia

DEUTSCHER JUGENDBUND FUR NATURBEOBACHTUNG (DJN)
Forstmannstr. 10 a, 2 Hamburg 60, Federal Republic of Germany

ECOTIPO
Centro de Ecologéa y Recursos Naturales Renovables, Universidad Nacional de Córdoba, C.C. 395, 5000 Córdoba, Argentina

ELTE TERMESZETVEDELMI KLUB
Egyetem tér 1-3, 1053 Budapest, Hungary

FIJI NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL (FNYC)
Box 961, 208 Waimanu Road, Suva, Fiji

FALTBIOLOGERNA
Box 6022, 19106 Sollentuna, Sweden

FEDERACION LATINO-AMERICANA DE JOVENES AMBIENTALISTAS (FLAJA)
c/o ACUPAN, Apartado 6-7534, El Dorado, Panama

GRUPO ECOLOGICO DE ACCION AMBIENTAL (GEAG)
Apartado Aereo 413, Medellén, Colombia

GORAKHPUR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP (GEAG
1, Roongta Bldg, Cinema Road, Gorakhpur - 273001, India

INDONESIAN ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM (WALHI)
P.O. Box 456, Jakarta Pussat, Indonesia

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FEDERATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND CONSERVATION (IYF)
Headquarters and Office for the Asian-Pacific Region:

M-101, Saket, New Delhi - 110017, India
Office for the European Region:

Klostermollevej 48 A, 8660 Skanderborg, Denmark

KALPAVRIKSHA
1, Court Road, New Delhi - 110054, India

LUONTO LIITTO
Peramiehenkatu 11 A B, 00150 Helsinki, Finland

MALIHAI CLUBS OF TANZANIA (MCT)
P.O. Box 3134, Arusha, Tanzania

MALTA ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY YOUNG MEMBERS SECTION (MOS-Y)
P.O. Box 498, Valetta, Malta

NATUR OG UNGDOM (NU-DK)
Kompagnistraede 34, 3. Sal, 1208 Kobenhavn K, Denmark

NATURE CLUBS OF INDIA
c/o WWF-India, Godrej & Boyce Mfg.Co., Private Ltd.,
Lalbaug, Parel, Bombay 400012, India

NEDERLANDSE JEUGDBOND VOOR NATUURSTUDIE
Schaep en Burgh, Noordereinde 60, 's-Graveland, The Netherlands

POLSKI KLUB EKOLOGICZNY
Palac "Pod Baranami", Rynek Glowny 27, 31-010 Krakow, Poland

SAHABAT ALAM MALAYSIA (SAM)
37 Lorong Birch, Penang, Malaysia

SIERRA LEONE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURE CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (SLENCA)
P.M.B. 376, Freetown, Sierra Leone

SRI LANKA ENVIRONMENTAL FEDERATION - YOUTH FRONT (SLEF)
G-2/5 Andersons Flats, 215 Park Road, Colombo - 5, Sri Lanka

WILDLIFE CLUBS OF KENYA (WCK)
P.O. Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya

WILDLIFE CLUBS OF MALAWI (WCM)
P.O. Box 619, Blantyre, Malawi

WILDLIFE RANGERS CLUB OF SURINAME (WRCS)
c/o STINASU, P.O. Box 436, Paramaribo, Suriname

YOUNG CONSERVATIONISTS CLUB (YCC)
Kasetsart University, Bangkhen Campus, Bangkok 9, Thailand

YOUTH AND ENVIRONMENT EUROPE (YEE)
Klostermollevej 48 A, 8660 Skanderborg, Denmark

YOUTH COUNCIL FOR PROTECTION OF NATURE (MSOP-MGU)
Moscow State University, Economics Department, Moscow, USSR

APPENDIX 3

GLOSSARY OF SOME ABBREVIATIONS USED

AIRPLAN	Air Pollution Action Network
APPEN	Asia-Pacific People's Environment Network
APYEF	Asia-Pacific Youth Environmental Federation
AYE	African Youth for Environment
FLAJA	Federación Latino-americana de Jovenes Ambientalistas (Latin-American Federation of Young Environmentalists)
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
IYF	International Youth Federation for Environmental Studies and Conservation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation
WCS	World Conservation Strategy
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature (formerly World Wildlife Fund)
YEE	Youth and Environment Europe