

Young Citizens Conferences on Water



by **MILSET**



<http://water.ycc.milset.org>

The Young Citizens Conferences (YCC) are organised by the International Movement for Leisure Activities in Science & Technology (MILSET).



1. Introduction

What is YCC on Water?

The Young Citizens Conferences (YCC) on Water by MILSET is dedicated to express the views and concerns of youth regarding their concerns on water usage, accessibility and others by gathering their voices from every part of the globe encouraging them to enter actively the debate.

We are confident that the open-mindedness of young people combined with a scientific approach will yield important contributions. Our primary goals will be reached through a series of activities following a 3 step methodology: "Observations, Causes and Actions".

The topic has been chosen following the decision of UN to defined 2013 as the International Year on Water Cooperation, stressing on the key role of this primary resource in everyone life.

Interested? Organise a workshop and join the voice of the youth!

Our goals

- Set a **space** where us youth can **express** our concern on water;
- **Be engaged** in the debate that concerns our **future**;
- **Discover** our own personal **responsibilities**;
- **Express** our **concerns** about water through various activities;
- **Present** the final result through a **statement** which can be forwarded to head of states.

MILSET

The International Movement for Leisure Activities in Science & Technology (MILSET) is a non-governmental, non-profit and politically independent youth organisation, which aims at developing scientific culture among young people through the organisation of science-and-technology programs, including Science Fairs, youth congresses, science camps, science contests and experimental activities of high quality; as well as training programs, workshops and knowledge transfer between organisations.

Created in 1987, on the occasion of an International Science Fair for Young Researchers held in Québec; MILSET has been presenting a constant and impressive growth grouping nowadays over 130 organisations from 90 countries dealing with science & technology non-formal and/or extra-curricular education and grouped in five regional platforms: MILSET Africa, MILSET Amlat (Latin America), MILSET Europe, MILSET Noram (North America) and MILSET Asia.

More information at: www.milset.org



2. YCC Workshops

What are they?

Join us by contributing with your own opinions. Share your knowledge about water with us. Organise your own national workshop!

Throughout the year, local, regional and national youth organisations around the world are invited to organise workshops on water to encourage youngsters to discuss their thoughts and put forward suggestions basing themselves on their knowledge and experience.

The debate is designed following the methodology: "Observations, Causes and Actions".

How to organise them?

NGO's, Universities, schools, or any group of youngsters can contribute by organising workshops and submitting their conclusions by e-mail to **ycc@milset.org**. Generally speaking, we define youngsters as people under 30 years of age.

During the discussions, we advise you to follow the YCC methodology: "Observations, Causes, and Actions" to be able to put forward the results of the workshop/s to be included in the global process. Furthermore, it is very important that you carefully follow the steps of result processing in order for your contribution to be accepted.

What are the requirements?

To keep the workshop discussions as efficient and fruitful as possible we invite you to follow the methodology:

- **Observations:** Start by asking the participants to think about water and elements related they have experienced in the past few years. What changes did they notice? Which of them are having the greatest impact on nature and society? What could be the differences with other countries?
- **Causes:** What do the youngsters believe has caused the observations they just described? What causes have the most impact and on what?
- **Actions:** What should be done in order to fight these issues and create a more viable situation? Who is responsible for accomplishing these actions?



How to be a good moderator?

- **Don't** do all the **talking**, moderate it. The youngsters are the ones to do it;
- **Keep** a good **overview** on the discussion, what has been said and at which point you currently are;
- **Develop** the **report** during the discussions;
- **Work** always keeping in mind your **time** limitations;
- **Use** moderating or reporting **tools** like mind maps;
- **Get** the **support** of the youngsters in your tasks.

How to organise a workshop in 4 steps?

1. **Gather** a group of youngsters;
2. **Brainstorm** on observations on water;
3. **Define**, for each of the observations, the cause(s) and possible action(s);
4. **Complete** and **send** the report to ycc@milset.org.

Tips

"If you have a large group, split it for the brainstorming and discussions"

"If you have limited time, choose the 5-10 most important observations to discuss the causes and actions"

"Discuss the causes and actions at the same time; it might be difficult to separate them."

"Invite the participants to prepare the workshop"

We also encourage you to e-mail us with further ideas and inform us about your experiences on what worked well at your workshops! You can also add your activity within the programme by submitting it on the <http://ycc.milset.org>

How to present the results?

After your workshop, we would like you to forward us the output by e-mail to ycc@milset.org. We need you to:

- **Complete** the reporting form annexed
- **Take** some **pictures** and **videos** of the activity
- **Gather** all source **materials** you think are interesting (mind maps, post-its, etc.)
- If possible, **collect information** on participants (name, age, nationality, email, level of education)

We accept contributions anytime but only those received by the end of the year will be included in the final report



3. Practical info

Time period

The activities connected to water are to be held from 1st January 2012 until 31st December 2013. The material remains accessible for the following years however, the results may not be included in the final report.

Website

<http://water.ycc.milset.org>

Coordinating committee

Young Citizens Conferences
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