

Tomorrow's Leaders on Shaping our Future

Contribution of the
Youth Encounter on Sustainability (YES)
to the Dialogue on Science

ETHsustainability
Center for Sustainability at ETH Zurich



ACADEMIA ENGELBERG

Dialogue on Science

ETH sustainability

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



- Established in 2003 to strengthen the endeavours of the ETH Zurich in Sustainable Development
- Focus areas: Education, Dialogue, Services
- Core activity:
 - Youth Encounter on Sustainability (YES)
 - Commenced in 2000 on the platform of the Alliance for Global Sustainability (AGS)

Youth Encounter on Sustainability (YES)



- 40 Masters and PhD level students, 25 countries
- Renowned international faculty, facilitators and guest speakers
- Innovative pedagogical approach – cognitive, experiential and emotional learning
- Intensive 2 week academic program incorporating: lectures, workshops, group work, field trips, group discussions, final project and presentation, cultural and social program, creative and artistic activities

Youth Encounter on Sustainability (YES)



- Goals of the course:
 - to sensitize students to the complexities of sustainable development
 - to prepare future leaders to address these challenges
 - to analyze solutions from a multicultural and multidisciplinary perspective
 - to shape a network for ongoing activities
 - to create a framework of international understanding, equity and a sense of belonging between students
 - ENGAGE participants

Outcomes



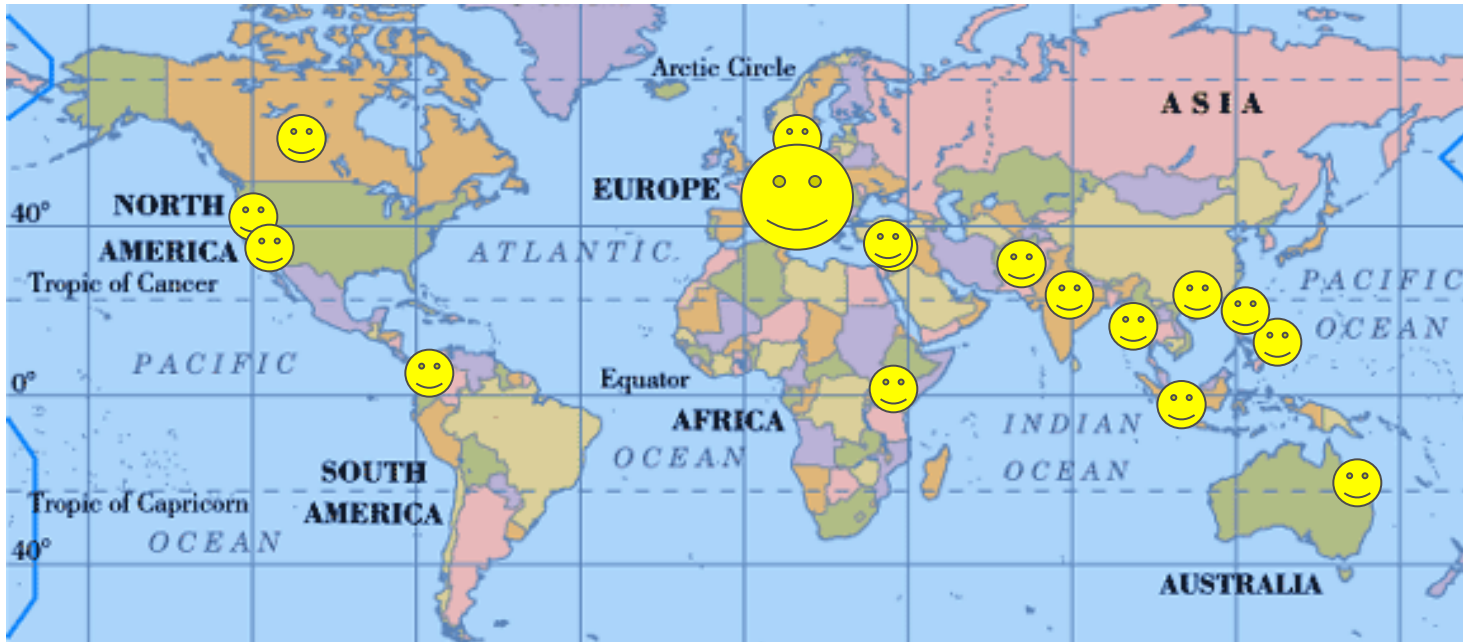
- 12 International Courses in Braunwald, Switzerland
- Regional courses in Central and Eastern Europe (Slovakia) and Latin America (Costa Rica)
- Planned expansion to Asia, Africa and MEast
- To date over 650 students from 85 different countries have been trained in the program

YES ALUMNI NETWORK

- Involved in follow up research initiatives and local / regional projects

3rd Dialogue on Science 2004

YES Alumni Participation



- 18 multi-disciplinary students, academics & young professionals from YES Alumni Network
- 15 different countries on 6 continents

3rd Dialogue on Science 2004

YES Alumni Participation



- 3 day preconference to the third dialogue on science „Will Climate Change the World?“
- Task: to propose concrete projects that address climate change mitigation through the net reduction of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions
- International Student Initiative for Action on Climate Change (ISIACC)
- Action Plan containing three projects:
Energy, Mobility and Forests



Latin American Forest Policies Research and Influence Project



VISION

„A mobilization of students that contributes to climate change mitigation by influencing public policy to reduce the net GHG emissions by proposing alternatives for the management, conservation and sustainable development of forests“



Project Rationale



- Role of Forests in Climate Change Mitigation
 - Carbon sink
 - 20% of global GHG emissions due to deforestation (IPCC)
 - Conservation, afforestation, reforestation and forest management

- Regional focus: Latin America

- Important role of Public Policy

