

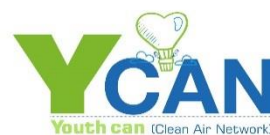


Proceedings of

9/26/2019

Train for Clean Air: Youth

Workshop on Ideas. Impact. Innovation



CLEAN AIR ASIA

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1. Background

The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified climate change as one of the greatest health threats of the 21st century, and air pollution as the single largest environmental health risk. Poor air quality is a serious issue that affects the health of millions of people in India, particularly vulnerable groups such as young children, the elderly and those with existing respiratory conditions. Presently, we deal with a range of challenges such as use of outdated technology in industries, poor fuel quality, lack of adequate monitoring systems etc impacting the quality of air. The need of the hour is to take immediate action to combat air pollution by using clean fuel, developing efficient monitoring systems, developing air action plans, building awareness to bring about behavioural changes, and developing technical and research knowledge database to address air pollution.

Clean Air Asia (CAA) has been extensively engaged in India with a focus on policy research, capacity building, education and outreach and communication for better air quality. As part of public engagement for clean air action, CAA India works with children and youth to engage in fuelling air action by creating a network based on a strong health narrative. CAA's Youth Clean Air Network (YCAN) is passionately working for better air quality through campaigns, surveys, and solutions in multiple cities in India. The objective is to enhance the understanding of the health impacts of poor air quality especially within vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and engage them in contributing towards advancing better air quality. Through active youth engagements, CAA also intends to promote ideation on innovative solutions to improve air quality.

The aim of the event were: **i) Generating interest amongst youth for engaging in clean air action ii) Motivating youth to ideate on innovations and solutions for addressing air pollution and iii) Sensitising youth on the avenues for engagement and mainstreaming clean air action.**

This event stimulated youth engagement in clean air action by initiating the process of identifying 'City Monitors' for mainstreaming clean air action. This was a unique platform for the youth to learn, ideate and contribute towards the larger goal of mitigating air pollution.

2. Inaugural Session

Overview of the Youth Engagements towards solutions

Ms. Prarthana Borah, India Director, Clean Air Asia

Ms. Prarthana Borah initiated by a brief introduction of the Clean Air Asia and its work in Asian countries. She welcomed all the participant mentioning the importance of this workshop and encouraged the youth towards ideation towards the solutions. She discussed about the power of

youth and explicated with the examples of famous international Youth who brought changes with their small changes. She mentioned that using small ideas can bring big solutions.

Launch of Website

Clean Air Asia's School and Children dedicated website "**Clean Air Healthy Children**" www.cleanairhealthychildren.com was launched by Dr. B.C. Sabata, Sr. Scientific Officer, Department of Environment, Govt. of NCT of Delhi. It is an informational platform for sensitization of children, parents and teachers on minimizing hazardous exposure to air pollution. The website also showcases Clean Air Asia's work on air quality assessments in schools, sources of air pollution, related impacts and assisting schools in providing clean air spaces for children. We are presently assessing the PM2.5 levels in outdoor spaces in schools in 3 cities across India and intend to co-relate this with health exposure. We plan to continue our engagement on clean air for schools for better health of children.

Special Address

Dr. B. C. Sabata, Sr. Scientific Officer, Department of Environment, Govt. of NCT of Delhi

Dr. B. C. Sabata explained about the air pollution problem in Delhi and discussed about the need to look after the outdoor as well as indoor air pollution. He encouraged the youths and schools to monitor the air surrounding and look for the solutions measures in reducing the pollution and use alternatives like renewable energy etc. Though the Govt. is taking their initiatives but innovative ideas and actions from youths are crucial for bringing some remarkable change. He mentioned that awareness is already there now, it's the time to take some noticeable action.

3. Setting the Context

Introduction of YCAN

Ms. Prerna Sharma, Education and Outreach Coordinator, Clean Air Asia

Ms. Prerna Sharma introduces the participants with the youth program of CAA i.e. YCAN (Youth for Clean Air Network). She mentioned that CAA's Youth Clean Air Network (YCAN) is passionately working for better air quality through campaigns, surveys, and solutions in multiple cities in India. YCAN aims to contribute to cleaner and safer air in Indian cities through discussion, innovation and collaboration. All the enthusiastic youths are welcome to join YCAN and follow your passion towards bettering the air in their city, in turn, the country and the world.

City Monitor for Clean Air

Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia

Ms. Riya Rahiman introduced the concept of "Monitors for Clean Air Cities", in which Clean Air Asia invites enthusiastic and passionate youth who can monitor their city and would help the Govt. and CAA in implementing the Air action plans. She mentioned that there are some activities which

monitors can perform in their cities like Collection of data on air pollutants, conduct surveys associated with clean air action-traffic surveys, perception surveys etc., maintain regular updates on air pollution-waste, transport, industries, agriculture etc. & organize awareness campaigns and outreach programs.

Screening of the Song- Ruk Jao

“Ruk Jao” song was written and composed by the band Gardish (The Enviros), whose members are from TERI including Dr. Sumit Sharma, Director of Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI. This song is for the awareness towards air pollution, and why it is really important to stop all this now.

Catalysing Clean Air Action

Dr. Sumit Sharma, Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI

Dr. Sumit presented his study representing the threats and health impacts of air pollutions. He mentioned that we all are contributing in killing lakhs of people unintentionally. He discussed about the Source apportionment study of Delhi and mentioned that Biomass is contributing towards the large part of the pollution. He said that there is still hope and Delhi has started to take U-turn slowly and we all need to contribute towards it.

4. Youth Dialogue

Panel Discussion - Action on Air Pollution: Role of youth

Chair- Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia

Panelists-

- Dr Sameer Arbat, Pulmonologist, MD, FCCP USA
- Mr. Martand Shardul, Network Coordinator, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth & Fellow at TERI
- Mr. Inder Sandhu, Director, Peedu’s People
- Ms. Akanksha Priyadarshini, Co-Founder, Phoenix Robotix Pvt. Ltd.
- Mr. Tamseel Hussain, Co-Founder, People Like Us Create

Remarks by the Chair

Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia

Ms. Riya discussed about the role of youth and action that is the need of the hour for the betterment of our city. She briefly introduced the panelists and communicated with them on different issues.

Risk communication and interventions to reduce exposure and minimize health impacts

Dr Sameer Arbat, Pulmonologist, MD, FCCP USA

Dr. Sameer mentioned in his presentation that the best way of the intervention is to educate of awareness and sensitization. He explained the difference between the Awareness and sensitization to the Youth participants. He also explained about the indoor and outdoor air pollution and their health effects. He mentioned people are suffering from lung diseases without even smoking cigarettes and that's because of the air pollution.

Technological solutions

Ms. Akanksha Priyadarshini, Co-Founder, Phoenix Robotix Pvt. Ltd.

She mentioned how an entrepreneur and people with Engineering background can help combat air pollution and air pollution is decreasing the life span of the peoples. She discussed about the city Raurkela, Orrissa which is neither much populated nor it has much vehicles but still 60 % people were Ashtmatic and reason behind that found out to be the steel plant. She gave the message to act smartly and use technologies, so that it make you develop as well as doesn't harm your environment.

Action through youth networks

Mr. Martand Shardul, Network Coordinator, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth & Fellow at TERI

Air pollution is the issue of political debate and it is the time now to act. He suggested that youth can bring change by connecting, collaborating and looking for solutions together. All the streams like health, technology, medical should work together to deal with this problem and take it on the priority. Youth should look for ideation like look for best alternatives and how to use them. He mentioned that we have technologies but the need is to bring it to those who can't afford these. It is a collaborative and shared responsibility which all of us have and we have to fulfil it with passion.

Engaging youth for action

Mr. Inder Sandhu, Director, Peedu's People

Mr. Sandhu talked about the campaign he did with two youngsters in Chandigarh and made it a honking-free city and these two volunteers now believes that yes, they can make the change. He suggests that when you are asking young people to create change, give them the low-hanging fruit first. He informed the participants about the design hackathon, in which engineering students are invited to create solutions for sustainable and air pollution hacks with engineering and technological solutions. Youth should believe in ability to change, just follow any of the initiative or solutions and you will get support to bring change.

Role of social media

Mr. Tamseel Hussain, Co-Founder, People Like Us Create

Mr. Tamseel elaborated the story on how a simple story made with mobile can bring a change and force the stakeholders or the authorities or the public even to take the action. He asked the audience that which story is most effective- a positive story or a story which tells how screwed we are? He mentioned that a story should inspire others to take action and give hope to others. Also, he gave the message that a story whatever is shared on the social media should be cross checked with respect to its credibility before posting it to avoid criticism and create positivity.

5. Breakout Session

Moderated by: Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia

The participants were asked to divide in groups and work on a solution based activity. The groups were asked to identify the most critical source of pollutant in their city and to prepare a city level strategy for addressing the problem. The activity was focused on innovative solutions towards solving the major problem of the pollution in their cities. All the groups worked together for 45 minutes and then presented their solutions. All the teams performed very well and out of all the groups, Ved Shakti was awarded as the winner.

6. Concluding Session

Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia.

Ms. Riya announced the winner of the breakout activity and awarded the team with the prizes. All the participants were encouraged to fill the feedback form, as the screening for the “Monitors for Clean Air Cities” and to become a volunteer for YCAN.

The workshop ended with the Group picture of the participants, speakers & panelists.



Annexure- 1

Train for Clean Air: Youth **Workshop on Ideas. Impact. Innovation**

26th September, 2019

Seminar 2, India International Centre, New Delhi

9:30 AM to 2:00 PM

Tentative Agenda

Time	Sessions	
9:30-10:00	Registration	
10:00-10:10	Opening Remarks	Ms. Prarthana Borah, India Director, Clean Air Asia
10:10-10:20	Introduction of Y-CAN	Ms. Prerna Sharma, Education & Outreach Coordinator, Clean Air Asia
	Setting the Context	Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia
10:20-10:30	Special Address	Dr. B.C. Sabata, Senior Scientific Officer, Department of Environment, Govt. of Delhi
10:30-10:50	Keynote Address	-Screening of Ruk Jao - Air Pollution Song -Catalysing clean air action- Dr. Sumit Sharma, Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, TERI
	'Clean Air Healthy Children'-Website Launch	
10:50-11:00	Tea Break	
11:00- 12:15	Youth Dialogue	Panel Discussion-Action on Air Pollution: Role of youth Chair: Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk communication and interventions to reduce exposure and minimize health impacts-Dr Sameer Arbat, Pulmonologist, MD, FCCP USA • Action through youth networks- Mr. Martand Shardul, Network Coordinator, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth & Fellow at TERI • Engaging youth for action-Mr. Inder Sandhu, Director, Peedu's People • Technological solutions- Ms. Akanksha Priyadarshini, Co-Founder, Phoenix Robotix Pvt. Ltd. • Role of social media-Mr. Tamseel Hussain, Co-Founder, People Like Us Create <p style="text-align: right;">Q & A</p>
12:15-01:45	Break out session facilitated by panellists	
01:45-02:00	Concluding Session	Closing Remarks and Reflections on break out session by Ms. Riya Rahiman, India Program Manager, Clean Air Asia
02:00 onwards	Lunch	



Annexure- 2

Panelist Profiles