



YOUTH LEAD^{ing} the World

27-29 November 2012 in 50 locations simultaneously!

Imagine thousands of young people coming together in multiple locations simultaneously, to focus their attention on global sustainability challenges such as energy, food, climate change and water and plan together how they can create fairer futures.

Youth Leading the World (YLTW) is a bold initiative from OzGREEN that seeks to accelerate the shift to fair futures by building a movement of inspired leaders. YLTW begins with an annual 3 day youth leadership congress conducted simultaneously in multiple locations, connected by digital media. Innovative workshop techniques combined with social networking and web2.0 technologies focus attention on 3 ways to make a difference:

- INFORM: learning to live within the limits of one planet;
- INSPIRE: inspiration and social innovation to create change;
- INVOLVE: connecting change makers locally and globally.

OzGREEN piloted Youth Leading Australia in 7 locations in 2009. In 2010 it grew into **Youth Leading the World** (YLTW) in collaboration with over 100 local and regional organisations in 18 regions (13 in Australia and 5 international) and attracting over 60,000 post views on facebook. In 2011 we further expanded to 25 regions, training 90 facilitators to run the program in their own local area. In 2012 we are on track for 50 regions across Australia and globally.

See [YLTW 2012](#) video clip.

Partnerships

Local partner organisations are the key to the success of YLTW, which is delivered in collaboration with community organisations, local government, schools, universities, TAFE colleges, and national youth and environmental organisations. In 2011 OzGREEN trained and supported 90 facilitators to organise and facilitate YLTW in their own region.

YLTW Congress Process: 27-29 November 2012

DAY 1: Global Challenge: Eco footprint; Pulse of the Planet (update on global sustainability challenges including climate change, biodiversity, food, water, energy, economic, wellbeing); coming to terms with the depth of these challenges; visioning our sustainable community;

There is much more going on here than just the process. These students working together and sharing ideas is huge. I have never seen anything like it in all my years of teaching.
Alice Springs Teacher

DAY 2: Be the Change: Creating change brainstorm: one planet living plan; social innovation for sustainability; sharing ideas in locations around Australia, inspiring local change stories; action planning to achieve vision;

DAY 3: Begin it Now: Youth-led Community Forum for government and local businesses, parents, teachers, principals and the public - designed and run by youth. (see [Swan Hill Congress](#))

Facilitator Training: 17-20 September

Local volunteers and professionals are trained in how to facilitate YLTW in a 4 day program that includes skills training in facilitating transformative process, youth participation, web2.0 and social media, strategic questioning and deep listening skills, visioning, setting VIBRANT goals and action planning. The age range for facilitators in 2011 was 12-60 years (school students, Uni and TAFE students, professionals, teachers, mothers, fathers). International and interstate facilitators can participate effectively via Skype and Blackboard Collaborate.



For me as a YLTW facilitator it's knowing I've changed people..that's pretty big. It's been life-changing, eye-opening and changed the way I look at everything.
Chris Rowlands, YLTW Swan Hill

Additional regional facilitator training intensives are planned for 19-20 November for students and other who are unable to attend the September training program.

Outcomes

Participants say the most significant outcomes are:

- Increased understanding of climate change and sustainability (3/10 before to 8/10 after);
- Increased personal confidence and leadership capacity (4/10 before to 9/10 after);
- Increased connections with other change makers locally and globally (2/10 to 9/10);
- Reduction of eco-footprint (range 30-75% in 12 months).

OzGREEN

OzGREEN's mission is to **build a movement of inspired leaders** who are tackling sustainability challenges (such as climate change and water) and becoming leaders of positive social change. We accomplish this by focusing on youth, emerging leaders and "early adopters", strengthening their capacity for leadership and social innovation. Through collaboration and community driven change, we are helping to build the critical mass of people needed to create sustainable, resilient and socially just communities.

For 20 years OzGREEN has been facilitating award-winning transformative learning and leadership programs. OzGREEN is an independent not-for-profit that operates nationally in Australia and overseas in India, East Timor and Central America. OzGREEN programs have involved hundreds of thousands of people who go on to take leadership roles in their schools, communities and workplaces and who shift their own lives to "one planet living".

OzGREEN has won numerous awards, including the Eureka Prize, Banksia Awards, UN Media Peace Awards and Best Practice Case Study for the Australian Association for Environmental Education (NSW). OzGREEN's CEO and Co-Founder Sue Lennox was named as one of Sydney's Top 100 Most Influential People by The Sydney Magazine.

Host YLTW in your region! Contact OzGREEN:

www.ozgreen.org