3rd-Global Young Greens Congress

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Table of contents

Table of contents	04
Foreword from Seneglese Young Greens	05
Foreword by Alex, Anna, and Mareike — SC members of prep team	06
Introduction to 3rd Global Young Greens Congress Dakar 2012	07
Who is GYG	07
Global Dialogue – "Getting Connected"	,
Group Dialogue sessions	09
Living Library: Everyone has a story to tell	12
Global Knowledge – "Get Informed"	
Workshops	15
Sexual and Reprodutive Rights Seminar	-5
soxoul and kopi odon to kights sommar	
Global Politics – "Finding Our Voice"	
Regional meetings	18
— Africa	18
— Asia-Pacific	19
— Europe	19
— Americas	20
General Assembly — "Turing up the volume"	21
 Resolutions 	21
Global Green Movement	
Global Greens Congress Summary	24
GYG/GG Collaboration in organising Dakar	25
Future Collaboration with the Global Greens	25

Global Action – "Future Activi- ties of the GYG network"	
Activity plan for the Steering Committee	27
Activity plan for the GYG Gender Working Group	29
Meet the Global Young Greens	
Dakar 2012 Participants	31
Incoming Steering Committee	32
The organising of Dakar 2012 – "Think Global and Act Local"	
Accommodation — Oceanium and Stade Leopold Senghor	35
Food — Women's Group	35
Drummers	35
Beach party	36
Translators	36
Who made the 3rd Congress happen?	36
How to get involved and support GYG	
Global Young Greens Network	40
Local activities	40
Partnering with the Global Young Greens	41
Supporting the Global Young Greens	41
Appendix	
Idea and development of GYG	43
GYG Congress Programme	45
Thank you!	47

Foreword from Senegalese Young Greens

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Foreword by Alex, Anna, and Mareike - SC members of prep team

The world is undergoing rapid ecological, social and economic change and faces increasingly complex and interrelated challenges. As young people, we are the group which will be impacted most by the path decision makers take today. It has never been a more important time in the history of the planet for young people to take an active role in setting the agenda for the future.

As Global Young Greens, guided by our shared principles of ecological sustainability, social justice and peace and non-violence, we have a lot to offer the planet. As a passionate and visionary group of young people with a global vision, it is important that we actively involve ourselves within the Global Greens, the broader youth movement and equally within our communities.

The 3rd Global Young Greens Congress was an important part of this effort, but there is still lots more work to be done.

The coming months and years are when major decisions will be taken at the global level which will directly impact our generations. Let us look back at this event as part of our journey towards making this planet a more ecologically and socially just planet.

Remember, the Global Young Greens is YOU and the YOU are the Global Young Greens.

Anna Kavalenka, Mareike Rehl, Alex Surace Steering Committee and 3rd Congress Organisers

Introduction to 3rd Global Young Greens Congress

Dakar 2012

The Global Young Greens organized its 3rd Congress in Dakar, Senegal, on 26th–29th March as part of the Global Greens Dakar 2012 series of events. The Congress had almost a hundred participants from all over the world - and of course from Senegal and around Africa. It was a space for young greens to learn, discuss, network and develop their green politics.

The Congress aimed to be highly participatory and engaging. Group Dialogue Sessions explored what it means to be green to each of us from different parts of the world - an opportunity to cross cultural boundaries and develop meaningful mutual understanding. A Living Library allowed for more personal dialogue where books were participants of the Congress, available to be borrowed by others and read in depth.

There were also workshops on various green political topics as well as the future functioning of the Global Young Greens network. An important workshop series was held on Sexual and Reproductive Rights which explored the topic and aimed to empower participants to act. The last day of the Congress was devoted to a General Assembly, which elected a new Steering Committee, adopted resolutions and accepted an action plan for the network. **

Who is GYG?

Global Young Greens is a global scale youth network which unites people through web based and face-to-face contact. Individuals and organizations who support the Global Young Greens Statutes and endorse the green principles outlined in the Global Greens Charter are welcome to be involved and support the Global Young Greens network.

Most importantly – GYG is you and you are GYG. For more information on how to get involved please view the relevant section of the Dakar 2012 Congress Documentation or visit our website.

Global Dialogue Getting Comectee

Me

Group Dialogue sessions

The dialogue sessions were an opportunity for participants to develop meaningful connections with each other while exploring important questions that would prepare them for later parts of the Congress. The dialogue sessions involved groups of between 5 and 10 participants and included bilingual English and French speakers to help overcome language barriers and to facilitate cross cultural communication. It was an enriching experience for participants and also uncovered many excellent ideas for the network to work on in the future

Participants explored two important themes:

What does it mean to be Green?

During the first dialogue session participants explored what it means to be Green. Although we all share this one planet, do we share the same vision for its future? We live differently, all around the world and come from various backgrounds and cultures. How does this affect our definition of being Green and how can we use this diversity as a source of strength for our movement?

By exploring what being Green means to each of us, by sharing projects we are working on and ideas we have with each other, can we discover what it is that makes us all Greens?

New Strategies for Global Collaboration

During the second dialogue session, participants considered new strategies for global collaboration. Acknowledging that alobal engagement is an important part of promoting our Green principles, the challenge is for us to find ways to continue to collaborate while involving more people. Is technoloav the answer, or are there other ways? This was an opportunity for those who are more experienced with the Global Young Greens to share their insights glongside those with fresh perspectives and ideas.

The key points raised in each dialogue session included:

What does it mean to be Green?

» Supporting Green principles of ecological wisdom, social justice, participatory democracy, nonviolence, sustainability and respect for diversity

» Having a holistic vision - acknowledging the interconnections between environmental, social and economic justice

» To think globally, but most importantly, to act locally within our communities

» To take action and practice our Green ideals and principles in our daily lives, to lead by example with a positive message in our communities » To be Idealistic in our belief that change is possible

» Acknowledging that being Green manifests itself differently in different cultures, locals, regions and countries; context is important

» Respecting future generations, by considering them in our decision making

» Putting people before profit Learning from history and experience with a focus on the future

» A desire for democratic control of institutions which affect our lives » Appreciating that the Greens come from the ecological, feminist, social and global justice movements

Is a philosophy that provides a space for interpretations & conversation on what our world is and what our place is within it

» Being open minded, creative, innovative and inclusive

New Strategies for Global Collaboration

» Travel is expensive and exclusive; we must find other ways to collaborate and involve other Greens

» E-workshops can be used to share experiences and knowledge

» Strengthen the regional levels as they are closer to us and can help build capacity

» Develop a Global Young Green action day to bring people together and promote our vision in our communities

» Online campaigns using social media targeted to specific issues or objectives » Developing internal structures such as working groups focused on issues of interest

» Grow membership to give a sense of common purpose and build our movement

» Share knowledge and experiences using online tools such as wikis

» Allow for dialogue to continue online using forums

» Creating a member directory to decentralise communication and provide opportunities for one on one dialogue using email, telephone or Skype » Ongoing communication within the network and to the public, using newsletters, social media and the website to promote our projects and initiatives

» Fundraising for staff to increase our capacity to organize an implement our own projects and initiatives

» Look for opportunities to collaborate with the Global Greens, to learn from each other and to build capacity within our common Global Green movement

The breadth of discussion and responses highlights how diverse the Global Young Green movement is and how create our vision for the future is.

The coming months and years are an exciting time for the Global Young Greens as we turn our ideas into reality.

Living Library: Everyone has a story to tell

Living is an innovative method designed to promote dialogue, reduce prejudices and encourage understanding. It fitted very well with the congress' aim to actively include the participants. Moreover, it was an illuminating experience to listen to the stories of people from different countries, backgrounds and cultures.

A collection of "human books" was offered on "loan". Facilitated by Living Library librarians, readers "borrowed" the human book for up to 20 minutes for an open conversation. Here are the summaries of some book summaries that made our amazing collection.

"Belonging to two worlds: What it is like"

I am a 19 year old African-American and Senegalese. I belong to two countries: US and Senegal and two cultures: the black (American) culture and Senegalese culture. What is it like? It can be quite challenging because of the language differences, ideological views, cultural practices and morals. However, despite all of that, it is most beautiful and I grateful to be a part of both because I can offer a perspective in international relations that many have.

"Independent woman"

"You are overexposed" he said. "You are travelling and never at home. You meet all these people and many of them probably had sex with you".

"He" was a man I happened to sit next to in the airplane. Back home the story is the same. I have a good job, I travel a lot. I meet with influential people, I have gained a lot of knowledge and I have independent opinions. People think that I cannot make an African wife.



"A gay and a green candidate"

I ran for city councillor election in 2010 and parliament election in 2012 as a Green party candidate in Taiwan. I was known as not only a green politician but also a gay politician. This book tells about this interesting experience.

"The future of Senegal is not on strike"

As a young Senegalese high school student in a public school in Guediwaye, Dakar I am supposed to be the future of our nation, right? But how can I learn if my teachers have been on strike since November? I love to learn. Staying days and weeks without learning and going to school is boring and frustrating!

"Become an ecologist, Go Green: an exciting journey"

My personal story can be yours! It is just how a young French student became an ecologist. I will tell about my experiences in India and Canada that made me start thinking about globalisation, cultures and ecology.

"Space camp to Suicide"

This book tells the story about the battle against depression that has been experienced by one of the participants. Why mental health is an important issue for young greens and society in general?

"Independence – Rats have Rights"

Growing up is difficult. But growing up with one parent is even more difficult. This book talks about the topics related to divorce and effects on children, especially how it has influenced me.

The informal "Reader-Book" interaction was a positive and safe way to question and explore notions around race, class, gender, religion, personal feelings - the conversations that we do not dare to have in real life. **



Workshops

On the second day of the Congress, we organized three workshop sessions that dealt with different political issues in the following themes:

O1. Workshop Session I "It's up to you! - Educate yourself"

o2. Workshop Session II "Get up, Stand up! - Creative Politics"

03. Workshop Session III "Spin your global Network! - You're GYG"

As the aim of this congress was to promote and encourage active participation the workshop sessions were designed to leave room for the participants to share their knowledge, ideas and creativity. In many ways it was up to participants whether these sessions would turn out to be a success or not — and in the end, they did!

The first session included workshops on various topics organized by participants, the second session offered space for a creative approach to politics and the third session focused on the future work of GYG.

The following table is a list of the workshops that were organized:

	Title	Speaker
I	Women Cooperative Societies - Learnings from India	Krishna Mohan Rao Adiraj
I	Education and Health for all	Antoine Gomis
I	Humanitarian Intervention? A tool to sustain the Empire or to save lives, or both?	Michael Bloss, Ingrid Nyman
Ι	Mongolia's Nuclear Future: Truth and Lies	Sugar Erdenechimeg
I	Strenghtening Youth Inclusiveness in Coopera- tives as a Tool for Poverty Eradiction	Nyayiti Raymond Enoch
II	Creative Protest	Maraike Rehl, Juliane Goetzke
II	Breaking out, breaking in - Best pratices on how to get more young people into Green politics	Bart Dhondt
II	Drumming	Local Drummers
II	Dancing	Local Drummers and Dancers
III	Expanding the Global Young Greens Network	Yangki Suara
III	GYG Action Plan	Mareike Rehl
III	Exchanging best practises in communica- tions for your organisation	Juliane Goetzke, Michael Bloss
Ш	Make Money	Scott Baker
III	How to engage Young Greens in the Global Youth Work	Ann Bulimu

Sexual and Reproductive Rights Seminar

An important component of the 3rd Global Young Greens Congress was a workshop series on Sexual and Reproductive Rights, held on the 28th of March. The workshop series was initially planned to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, in November 2011. The Gender Working Group subsequently saw an opportunity to bring the important issues of Sexual and Reproductive Rights to Dakar alongside the GYG and GG congresses. With four different workshops, the series aimed to provide information and a space for discussion on the topic as well as to empower young green activists to raise their voices for women's' rights.

The first workshop, Introduction Sexual and Reproductive Rights, presented the legislative background for sexual and reproductive rights and after that let the participants share their values on the rights and debate them. The second workshop plunged more deeply into the topic of sexual violence in conflict situations from the viewpoint of female and male victims as well as perpetrators. The third workshop investigated the gender inequalities in media and provided tools for the participants to raise the issue of sexual and reproductive rights in social media. The last workshop discussed informally the possibilities to work on the topic of gender in the future in the framework of the GYG Gender Working Group, which was revived with new ideas and action plans.

> To view the Gender Working Group's activity plan please check the Global Action section of this report.





Regional meetings

Africa

The African Regional Meeting was co-ordinated by Rose Wachuka and Ann Bulimu both from Kenya. It started by an introduction of the delegates present, an introduction to the formation of GYG and its previous congresses as well as a familiarisation with the statutes of GYG.

Young African Greens keen to have their regional Federation reorganized, discussed and decided that to restructure the Federation of Young African Greens. The federation was constituted in 2007 in Nairobi during the 1st Global Young Greens congress but the same required restructuring. The restructuring of the federation was not without struggle. However, Young African Greens were committed and determined to ensure that the restructuring was and indeed turned out to be very successful. It was resolved that the first point of focus would be to create the cohesion of Young African Greens, then move to organising Green events around the continent as well as collaborate with other regional federation within GYG. Young African Greens are grateful to young members of FEDES for their tireless effort, and for their selfless volunteerism before, during and after the Congress.

African representatives to the GYG Steering Committee: Nassima Guettal-Algeria, Forget Chinomona-Zimbabwe, Michel Perlo-Senegal and Rose Wachuka-Kenya **

Prepared by Rose Wachuka

Asia-Pacific

The Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting was attended by participants from Australia, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, the Philippines and Taiwan. Alex Surace and Chung-Ming shared their experiences as a Steering Committee during the last two years. They explained the Global Young Greens statutes as not everyone was familiar with them. They also shared information about what's going on in Global Young Greens during the last two years after Berlin Congress in 2010.

Topics discussed during the regional meeting: voting system during the General Assembly to ensure that every region have the voice; strengthening the relationship between Asia Pacific Young Greens Network (APYGN) and Asia Pacific Greens Network (APGN); proposals and amendments for General Assembly and also for Asia Pacific Greens Network meeting during Global Greens Congress and Steering Committee nominations. The incoming Steering Committee from the Asia Pacific includes; Robyn Lewis, Yangki Imade Suara, Alex Surace & Amy Tyler.

Prepared by Yangki Imade Suara

Europe

The European regional meeting was organized by the Federation of Young European Greens FYEG and chaired by the female spokesperson of FYEG, Terry Reintke. The regional meeting familiarized the European delegates with the functioning of the GYG thanks to the introductions by those who had already been involved in the network. During the discussion, the delegates decided on the European positions on the resolutions proposed for the General Assembly, formulated joint amendments and chose the four European candidates for the Steering Committee of GYG. The delegates acted iointly as a federation during the General Assembly as well, deciding together on the issues before voting. **



Americas

The Americas Regional meeting was attended by representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Columbia, United States and Venezuela.

The discussion focused around exploring how the Americas region could strengthen and increase collaboration and partnerships between Green Parties in the countries of the Americas, and increase presence of representatives of the Americas at the Global Young Greens level. Furthermore, some time was spent familiarizing new representatives with GYG structures.

Strategically, the group decided that the next logical mobilization point would be

at Rio+20, and all members agreed to attempt to host a regional meeting concurrent with this event. The Americas also proposed and passed an amendment to the GYG 2012 decision making process that would change plurality from requiring support of ³/₄ of voting regions to of voting regions for a pass, thus improving the effectiveness of the abstain vote.

Although small, the Americas region was very cohesive, and the members were very passionate. The region stands to increase its participation in the Global Greens movement in the coming years. **

Prepared by Scott Baker

General Assembly "Turning up the volume"

The General Assembly is the Global Young Greens highest decision making body. It gives members an opportunity to amend the Statutes of the network, consider resolutions, action plans and to elect a new Steering Committee. The General Assembly took place during the final day of the Congress. Each region actively participated in the process and the following information is a summary of the outcomes.

Resolutions

01. GYG – FYEG Cooperation Agreement

Acknowledges the continuing support offered by FYEG to GYG and provides a mandate to both organizations to continue collaborating between the 3rd and 4th Congress.

02. Membership development initiative for the Steering Committee

Directs the incoming Steering Committee to prioritize membership as their top priority by finalising, documenting and promoting the membership process to the network as their first task.

03. Invitation to all youth wings of Global Greens Member Organizations

Directs the Steering Committee to invite all youth wings of Global Greens Member Organizations to become members of the Global Young Greens. With the aim to expand our network and continue collaborating with the Global Green movement.

04. Global Youth for Sustainable Development in Rio+20

Outlines the Global Young Greens vision for the Rio+20 Forum in terms of Institutional Framework and Green Economy. It details the ecological and social challenges facing the planet and calls on the democratisation of the world economy and the transformation of UNEP into a World Environment Organization, adequately equipped to meet the challenges of the future.

05. Global Democracy and support for a United Nations Parliametary Assembly

Outlines the Global Young Greens support of the establishment and development of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly as a way to increase the democratic involvement of the world's citizens into United Nations processes.

06. Global Young Greens supports the African Revolutions

Outlines the Global Young Greens support for the recent democratic uprisings and revolutions occurring in Africa (and elsewhere) and directs the incoming Steering Committee to expand our Green networks into these areas with the acknowledgement that these movements are a manifestations of Green ideas and values.

07. Global Young Greens and Global Greens -Defining the relationship Provides the mandate to the Steering Committee to explore the relationship with the Global Greens and to present the findings and recommendation to the next Global Young Greens Congress. In between Congresses, the Steering Committee is to continue to cooperate with the Global Greens where it is mutually beneficial. **

Global Greens Charter

There was an opportunity for the Global Young Greens to propose amendments and to participate in the process of the revision of the Global Greens Charter in Dakar.

The following amendment was proposed specifically by the Global Young Greens to the plenary of the Global Greens and is a demonstration of the importance of engaging youth in with the Global Green movement. Global Young Greens amendment to Artcle 2.10 of the Global Greens Charter

The amendment was accepted by the plenary of the Global Greens

"The greens understand that the current form of financialized neoliberal capitalism aids the rich and is crisis prone. It contributed to growing inequality and dispossession of poor people." More broadly, Global Young Greens participated in workshops and breakout groups during the Global Greens Congress to submit additional amendments and provide feedback on suggested changes. Many of the amendments which the Global Young Greens were interested in seeing included in the Global Greens Charter were included through negotiation in the spirit of consensus. **



Global Greens Congress Summary

Around 600 Greens from 76 countries attended Dakar 2012, the third ever Global Greens Congress - and the first in Africa. Meeting in the Senegalese capital of Dakar between 29 March to 1 April, delegates tackled issues such as solidarity, democracy, biodiversity, climate change and the future of the Global Greens movement, and adopted a series of resolutions to pave the way to a stronger and even more cohesive green politics worldwide.

In response to the Rio+20 Summit, Greens emphasized the imperative to move quickly towards a Green economy globally, and on dimate change, pushed for the adoption of international instruments to curb impacts of air and sea transport on climate.

Solidarity towards world populations like Tibetans and Syrians was unanimous, reminding how the issue of a democratic society and respect for human rights are central to green politics. The Global Greens also addressed the issue of Bhopal in a workshop, which resulted in a resolution accepted unanimously asking for the full accountability of Dow Chemical for the 1984 gas leak, one of the world's worst ever industrial catastrophes.

The Global Greens Charter was also discussed and amended, including opposition to war crimes and sexualized violence.

"Africa is becoming an engine for democracy, both sustainable and green. The Arab spring has been for instance an open call for fundamental changes in politics and society, and an historical opportunity for the entire region. Women have been instrumental in this change: they were in the streets, taking an active role and trying to bring about change to their society", said Haidar El Ali, President of FEDES (Fédération Démocratique des Ecologistes du Sénégal), the Green Party of Senegal.

Before the beginning of the Congress, the four Green Federations and Networks – Africa, Asia-Pacific, Europe and the Americas - each held their own meetings to discuss internal business and how they would relate to the proposed resolutions of the Congress. In addition, the Global Young Greens met on-site and elected new Steering Committee members and made their own proposed amendments to the resolutions.

The next Global Greens Congress will be held somewhere in Europe, sometime between the end of 2016 and early 2017. Previous Global Greens Congresses were held in Brazil (2008) and Australia (2001). Before the Global Greens existed, a non-delegated planetary meeting of Greens was held in Brazil in 1992; in conjunction with the UN Conference on Environment and Development, of which Rio+20 Summit was the next step. \circledast

GYG / GG Collaboration in organising Dakar 2012

Dakar 2012 was the first project that the Global Young Greens and Global Greens formally collaborated on. By working together we were able to host two successful Congresses and demonstrate how important and necessary intergenerational cooperation is.

Strengths to cooperation

By working together the Global Young Greens were able to benefit from knowledge, experience and expertise from the Global Greens .This benefited the Global Young Greens and also members of the preparation team; who will hopefully move on to other roles within the Global Green movement and take this experience with them.

Challenges to cooperation

The major challenge was that the relationship between the Global Young Greens and Global Greens continues to be informal and undefined which meant both organizations were continually charting new territory. There were at times communication issues with decisions being made up until the beginning of the Congresses

Opportunities for next time

For the future, starting cooperation earlier in the planning stage could help minimize miscommunication and misunderstanding. Having the relationship between the two organizations better defined will also help. «

Future Collabortion with the Global Greens

In between Congresses there will be opportunities for the Global Young Greens and Global Greens to partner in joint projects. The easiest way to identify these opportunities is for the organizations to continue to engage in open dialogue.

One significant opportunity to be explored further is the contribution that the Global

Young Greens, as a youth led organization, can bring to the Global Green movement. There are numerous grants and opportunities open to organizations of this type that the Global Greens themselves cannot access.

Additionally, the Greens of the future are of course young today. Finding a way for the Global Young Greens to engage with this next generation and provide opportunities for development will help build capacity for the Global Greens in the future. The challenge is to find the specific projects to bring these ideas to fruition.

Global Action uture tivities he GYG network"

Activity plan for the Steering Committee

Each chapter of the Congress contributed to the following list of priorities for the Steering Committee and broader network. This is an ongoing process so if you have other ideas please share them on our discussion list or email the Steering Committee directly at **info@globalyounggreens.org**

01. Membership

Increase membership by developing a clear membership process and specifically inviting all youth wings of Global Green member organisations.

02. Communication

Strengthening our internal and external communication to ensure members (organizations & individuals), partners, stakeholders and those interested in the Global Young Greens are kept up to date with the work of the Steering Committee as well as regional and Global Young Green news.

Investigate new ways of sharing

knowledge and best practice using web based technology.

03. Online Campaigns

Explore opportunities for creating online campaigns that can bring the Global Young Greens network together and support local community activism.

04. Increasing our engagement with the global youth movement

Increase the Global Young Greens engagement in the global youth movement through platforms such as the International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organisations (ICMYO). Build relationships with International Youth NGOs (INGYOs) and Regional Youth Platforms (RYPs) to develop common advocacy agendas in international processes such as Rio+20, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the post 2015 Development Agenda and yet to be defined processes.

05. Strengthening the regions

Offer assistance and support to member organizations and those involved with developing Young Green movements at the regional level. This could



include sharing best practice, experiences or with developing organizational structures as a step towards developing regional Federations of the Global Young Greens.

06. Preparing the next Global Young Greens Congress

Considering opportunities which arise to hold the next Global Young Greens Congress and being responsible with the selection of a preparation team.

07. Global Young Greens & Global Greens

Opening dialogue between the Global Young Greens and the

Global Greens to define our relationship. The Steering Committee will prepare a report to be presented at the next GYG Congress. This report will outline various options for defining the relationship and will be developed in consultation with the network.

08. Working Groups

Supporting members to develop new working groups as a central method of creating opportunities for collaboration. To facilitate this, the Steering Committee will oversee working groups to maintain consistency. Working Groups will be given opportunities to be involved in future Congresses and offered assistance where possible in organising other events and initiatives in between.

09. Cooperating with the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG)

Working with the FYEG to implement the GYG-FYEG Cooperation Agreement. Through the implementation of this agreement the Global Young Greens Steering Committee can benefit from the experience of FYEG and share their methods of organizing with other regions within the network. **

Activity plan for the GYG Gender Working Group

The fourth workshop of the Sexual and Reproductive Rights workshop series planned several activities for the GYG gender working group, with the aim of reactivating the work of the group after the Congress. These are some of the plans:

01.

Organising local seminars on gender issues

02.

Organising side events for GYG Congresses similar to the Sexual and Reproductive Rights workshop series

03.

Organising Skype conferences for discussion and structuring the work

04.

Organising online workshops with an online platform for discussing topics and enabling conversation without the need to be online at the same time

05.

Using the mailing list and Facebook group for communication

06.

Writing articles of gender situation in each country to be shared on the GYG website

07.

Writing blog posts to the FYEG gender working group blog or starting a new blog about gender issues

The workshop participants chose Juliane Goetzke and Teo Abaishvili as the coordinators of the working group until the work can be started. When the working group is functional, the group will elect coordinators amongst themselves. **



Dakar 2012 Participants

There were almost 100 participants at the Global Young Greens Congress from all around the world. Due to successful fundraising we were able to ensure regional balance with many participants being supported from low income countries. There was also a significant Senegalese contingent, ensuring that the connection between the global and the local was maintained.

The ages of participants ranged from 12 to the early 30s. This provided an opportunity to engage in intragenerational dialogue both within the Congress and later with the Global Greens more broadly.

Each participant brought their own interesting perspectives and experiences to the Congress. The richness of diversity was self-evident and a testament to our embrace of diversity.

Africa

Incoming Steering Committee



- 01 Forget Chinomona Zimbabwe
- 02 Nassima Guettal Algeria
- 03 Michel Perlo Senegal
- 04 **Rose Wachuka** Kenya

Asia-Pacific



- 01 **Robyn Lewis** Australia
- 02 Yangki Imade Suara Indonesia
- 03 Alex Surace Australia

.

04 **Amy Tyler** Australia





Dakar 2012 was also an opportunity for our network to demonstrate our green principles and values in the way the event was organized. An important part of being a Global Young Green is to not only think a certain way but to embody our common values and to lead by example in our actions.

This section explores the various logistical aspects of the congress and shares some concluding thoughts from the Dakar 2012 preparation team.

Accommodation – Oceanium and Stade Leopold Senghor

Those who arrived early were welcomed as guests at Oceanium — a dive centre and hostel run by Haidar El Ali, President of FEDES (Fédération Démocratique des Ecologistes du Sénégal), the Green Party of Senegal and now Environment Minister of Senegal. Situated just behind the Presidential Palace, we had front row seats to the Senegalese elections as they unfolded just prior to the beginning of the Congress.

The main Congress accommodation was the main sports stadium in Dakar called Stade Leopold Senghor. Participants shared dormitory rooms together, creating an immersive atmosphere throughout the Congress. The stadium was also in use by Senegalese athletes at the same time we were there, providing an opportunity to engage locals at the same time. **

Food Women's Group

We were fortunate to have a local women's group prepare our food while at Stade Leopold Senghor. The food accommodated participants' dietary requirements and was a way for the Congress to support local social groups. By organising a local women's group to cater for us we made a visible connection with the Gender Seminar which ran throughout the Congress.

Drummers

Although we could not organize big parties each night we were able to invite local drummers and dancers to Stade Leopold Senghor one evening for a more intimate celebration. Sharing dance moves and celebrating together was a great way to experience one aspect of Senegalese culture.



Beach-Party

Even though we covered an impressive range of topics at the Congress we made sure to enjoy ourselves as well. We enjoyed Senegal's beach with a night of dancing and music. Some locals passing by came and enjoyed the evening as well, it was a lot of fun and a great way to connect with the landscape of Dakar. **

Translators

Throughout the Congress a committed group of volunteers tirelessly offered to translate between English and French speakers. Often without much warning participants gladly gave their time and effort to translate formal plenary sessions and more informal group discussions. Without their help we would not have been able to achieve as much as we did. **

Who made the 3rd Congress happen?

A very motivated prep team consisting of 10 international young greens started in May 2011 to organize the third congress. In spring 2011, after agreeing with the Global Greens to organize our next congress together, Dakar 2012 was born. An international prep team was mobilized, the programme was developed, accommodation organized, local logistics put in place and fundraising efforts were accomplished. It was through hard work and dedication that the prep team was able to organize the congress, fundraise travel for many participants from the Global South and bring together around 100 global young greens to Dakar.


The efforts of the prep team continued in Dakar and it is fair to say that without their dedication and personal commitment the congress would not have been a success. Just as the congress was an awesome opportunity for participants, the journey to organize the event was equally inspiring for the prep team who embraced the opportunity to develop new skills and networks for their future green activism.

The prep team would like to thank everyone involved with Dakar 2012! To all those amazing helpers and participants, your enthusiasm and active involvement during our time in Dakar made all this hard work worthwhile. "This Congress was an important step in GYG's development. We seized the opportunity for cross cultural and intergenerational dialogue while energising our network for the coming years. The challenge before us is to continue our efforts to strengthen our global network while advocating for change at the local level." Alex

"Congress in Dakar was a life-altering experience for me. Working together with an amazing international prep team, discussing, planning and finally seeing it happening – it was a really empower-

ing feeling. It is great to see young people from all over the world so inspired, active and motivated to work with each other to make a change. We love GYG!" Anna

"The congress preparations were challenging but when the first participants arrived in Dakar, I thought wow I am a part of such an amazing event." Mareike

"The Congress has been a vibrant and multicultural melting pot of ideas! It provided a great platform that helped us understand the bigger picture behind the environmental problems we face at the local and global levels, and tackle them better. Holding the Congress in Senegal, which is facing pressing environmental challenges such as in the fisheries' sector, was itself a strong illustration of the need to think globally and act locally." Steffi "The GYG connects people from all over the world. All of us have different backgrounds, different experiences, different lives. But nonetheless we are unified in our willingness to change the world. We have a positive attitude towards life, we want to be active and spread our positive energy in order to motivate other people, too. We are part of a global youth movement!" Sarah

"It really felt different. Organising a global event like this and in such a special environment was a challenging and enriching experience for all of us." Pau

"The GYG enables global cooperation for the young green movement. As the world is getting smaller, global connections will get more and more important. We're still at the beginning, but I'm happy to see that the work has started." Meria

Hou to get involved support GI

Here you can find information about how you can get involved and support the Global Young Greens.



Global Young Greens Network

The easiest way to stay in touch with the Global Young Greens network is to follow us online on the following link. There is lots of information relating to how you can participate as an individual or organisation.

Remember GYG is a network for you to use. Take advantage of it and share stories and the details of the work you are involved in, you are sure to find others to engage with. But first you need to make your own work visible to the network! **

Local activities

If you are interested in getting more involved on a more practical level, then joining and participating in a local organisation which is part of the Global Young Greens network may be interesting for you.

Steering Committee email info@globalyounggreens.org

Global Young Greens network www.globalyounggreens.org

Partnering with the Global Young Greens

We would also love to hear from individuals or groups that would like to partner with us in projects. They could range from applying for grants or projects together, or developing new initiatives or campaigns. Share your thoughts and let's figure it out together!

Supporting the Global Young Greens

If you or your organization is interested in supporting the Global Young Greens we would love to hear from you. Even if you are not sure what this support could look like please contact the Steering Committee to start a conversation with us.

You may be interested in supporting the organizing or travel of participants at a future congress, or perhaps have other ideas of inkind support.



Idea and development of GYG

Why do we need a network of Global Young Greens?

We want to empower young people and create a space for them to be active. We want to include everybody - green individuals and organisations - and create strong links with each other in order to promote Green principles on our shared planet. **

What does it mean to be Global, Young and Green?

Technically it's simple: in our statutes it says that everybody below the age of 35 is young. We are global because we come from all over the world – all five continents are represented in Global Young Greens (GYG). And being green? Well, that is what we want to discuss together – the Global Greens (GG) statutes is also a good starting point.

The Global Greens and the Global Young Greens.

The Global Greens (GG) is a network of green political parties and movements. The Global Young Greens (GYG) is focused on mobilising young areens who are interested in being part of this movement. Both organizations are independent of each other: however there are overlaps between them which makes cooperation important. Young people have new ideas and need to have input into the future of the areen movement, GYG helps facilitate this important role. 🏶



The Global Greens and the Global Young Greens.

The 2001 Global Conference in Canberra, Australia was a starting point for the foundation for the Global Greens structure. One week earlier, over 400 young greens met in Sydney to have the first GYG conference ever. They were supported by the GG. This Conference was a milestone event for the GYG providing the means to establish a cohesive, international youth network. Besides, it was a great opportunity to establish GG - GYG cooperation.

The official founding congress of the Global Young Greens was held from **January 16–20, 2007 in Nairobi, Kenya**. In 2005 members of the Federation of Young European Greens (FYEG), campus Greens USA, and many different young green groups and individuals began email discussions on organising a global conference for youth. The GYG became an NGO registered in Belgium, and the network needed formalised structures. Nairobi was chosen as a spot where 156 young people from different countries and continents gathered to deal with the formal establishment of GYG.

After the side event at the GG Congress in San Paulo in early 2008 where around 60 young people gathered, the second GYG Congress took place from August 8–13, 2010 in Berlin. The Congress was a true success. Over 100 delegates from 48 nations participated in the Congress which lasted for 6 days and included dozens of workshops, several high-level panel debates as well as alternative approaches to exchanging ideas and learning from each other.

The third GYG Congress in Dakar was an amazing opportunity to meet together again, develop our cooperation with Global Greens and make GYG stronger! **

GYG Congress Programme

This congress aimed to be participatory and create opportunities for delegates to get to know each other on a personal level. The following sections report back on various sessions which helped us achieve this.

	Monday, 26th of March	
	Arrival	
14:00 - 19:00	Registration is open, getting to know each other	
19:00 - 20:00	Dinner	
20:00 - 22:00	Socializing games	

		Monday, 26th of March
	09:00 - 11:00	Welcome Plenary
	11:30 - 13:00	Dialogue Session I What does it mean to be Green?
	13:00 - 14:30	Lunch
	14:30 - 15:00	Dialogue Session II New Strategies for Global Cooperation
	15:30 - 16:30	Dialogue Session III
	17:00 - 20:30	Regional Meetings
Î	20:30 - 22:00	Dinner

	Wednesday, 28th March
09:00 - 09:30	Plenary announcements
09:00 - 11:00	Workshop session I / Gender Session I - Women Cooperative Societies – Learning from India - Education and Health for all - Humanitarian Intervention? A tool to sustain the Empire or to save lives, or both? - Mongolia's Nuclear Future: Truths and Lies - Strengthening Youth Inclusiveness in Cooperatives as a Tool for Poverty Eradication
11:30 - 13:00	Workshop session II / Gender Session II - Creative Protest - Breaking out, breaking in — best practices on how to get more young people in Green politics - Drumming workshop - Dancing workshop
14:30 - 16:00	Workshop session III / Gender Session III - Expanding Global Young Greens Network - GYG action Plan - Exchanging best practices in communications for your organization - Make Money - How to engage Young Greens in the Global Youth Work
16:30 - 18:30	Living Library / Gender Session IV
18:30 - 20:30	Socializing
20:30 - 23:00	Beach Party

Thursday, 29th March				
09:00 - 09:30	Plenary Announcements			
09:30 - 13:00	General Assembly			
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch			
14:30 - 18:00	General Assembly			
18:00 - 21:00	Welcome Dinner with Global Greens			





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