



# Delegate Report

## UNFCCC Bonn Climate Summit, SB60

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## Overview

As a delegate representing the Indian Youth Climate Network (IYCN) at SB60, my primary motivation was to bring perspectives from the Asia-Pacific region, specifically India, to the UNFCCC Bonn Climate Summit. The event attracted a diverse cohort of delegates from different parts of the world, covering a wide range of climate-related activities. My agenda focused on propelling advocacy in the space of food systems and agriculture through negotiations, bilateral meetings, and side events.

As this was my first time attending SB60 and any UNFCCC event, my core motivation was to learn from experienced delegates and contribute to making the summit's output more inclusive and diverse. I aimed to gain fruitful outcomes and insights that I could share with IYCN and other youth in my region. The principle of "Think Global, Act Local" guided my approach throughout the summit.

One of the most enriching aspects of attending SB60 was the opportunity to engage with a diverse range of global stakeholders in the climate action space. I had the privilege of meeting and learning from influential figures such as Nina Wetter, Christian Tietz (German Agri Negotiator), Senna Alouka (Togo Agri Negotiator), and Claire Cvitanovich (US Agri Negotiator), as well as members of the Indian delegation. These interactions provided invaluable insights into different countries' approaches to agricultural challenges and climate change. Additionally, I had the chance to engage with various constituencies including Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPO), Farmers, Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organizations (RINGO), and Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (ENGO). This cross-pollination of ideas allowed me to draw parallels between global agricultural issues and those we face in India, broadening my perspective on potential solutions and collaborative approaches. The connections made and knowledge gained from these diverse interactions will undoubtedly inform and enhance our work, allowing us to bring a more nuanced, globally informed approach to our local initiatives.

It was an exciting opportunity to meet colleagues from various national and international organizations and learn from their experiences. I looked forward to taking all these learnings back to India and sharing them with our members to



build more motivation and innovative approaches towards youth action in agriculture and climate change, and to inspire more on-ground projects.

Duration: Week 1 & Week 2 (3rd June-14th June)

Badge: Issued by Indian Youth Climate Network

Recognitions:

- Interviewed by ClimaTalk
- Interviewed by UNFCCC social media

### **Objectives**

My objectives as part of the IYCN delegation for both weeks were the following:

1. Actively track the agriculture negotiations, particularly the Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture.
2. Provide informal inputs to negotiators based on grassroots level activities and knowledge from India and the Asia-Pacific region.
3. Engage with the YOUNGO Food & Agriculture working group to amplify youth voices in agricultural discussions.
4. Connect with organizations I am associated with, such as IAAS, YPARD & IFSA, to strengthen youth involvement in climate and agriculture initiatives.
5. Advocate for and communicate about sustainable food systems and agriculture practices, emphasizing the role of youth in driving change.
6. Learn from experienced members on subjects such as youth engagement, climate policy, and effective advocacy strategies in the UNFCCC space.
7. Build a network for future opportunities and involvement in UNFCCC processes, aiming to enhance IYCN's presence in international climate discussions.
8. Gain insights into the functioning of UNFCCC events and climate negotiations to better prepare IYCN for future participation.
9. Explore ways to integrate global climate action strategies with local agricultural practices in India.



## **Activities: (Direct involvement and inputs)**

(Refer Weekly brief for overall activities)

### **1) Led Bilateral with Plant Based Treaty**

Date: 12/06/2024

Contact Point: Atif Jawed

Engaged in a fruitful bilateral with the global team of Plant Based Treaty to discuss potential collaboration with IAAS. Discussed how shared goals and research can be amplified via partnership. Primary benefit for IAAS is global partner for academia and project funding and benefit for PBT is access to global youth network of agriculture to enhance advocacy efforts and build more projects/research in this space. Core focal areas were sustainable agriculture, plant-based diets in suitable regions and youth action in science and on-ground.

Potential Partnership on the following discussed:

- Plant based menu and digital assessment for consumer preferences (Surveys to understand the needs)
- Exchange of students to work with technical experts from PBT for research/review/conferences etc to increase academia on Plant based diets and sustainable agriculture
- Starting a new project series dedicated to support initiatives or enterprises which promote plant-based diets/food systems or products.







## 2) Individual Bilateral with Nina Wettern (IKI Fund)

Date: 10/06/2024

Held discussions with Nina Wettern (German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action) who leads the International Climate Initiative (IKI) to understand more about funding youth initiatives, accountability and easier access to funding.

Also, discussed in detail about IYCN activities and structure to find fit in IKI funding initiatives and grants. Potential for associated organizations to apply for small or medium-sized grants during the next application period. Would recommend building a proposal document and reaching out personally to see other funding avenues and personalized support.





### 3) **Bilateral with GAYO (Joshua)**

Date: 07/06/2024

Contact Point: Joshua

Engaged in fruitful discussions with GAYO founder, Joshua to discuss IAAS partnership particularly in the Africa region to boost on-ground support and projects. Potential partnership with GAYO for COP pavilions was also discussed with the main agenda of bringing grassroots perspectives to COP. Core interest areas for GAYO are a) Land, food and emissions and b) Energy-Food Nexus

Showed interest in ITC/Capacity Building because GAYO is increasingly focusing on soft skills, climate action, internship programmes and Youth in Agribusiness (This is where IAAS and its project structure finds a good fit)

IAAS involvement in Africa Climate Innovation Challenge and Youth sustainable conference. IAAS & GAYO partnership for better exposure, visibility and access to youth





#### **4) Discussion with Farmers Constituency**

Date: 13/06/2024

Contact Point: Ester (Philippines)

Engaged in discussions with members of the Farmers Constituency to discuss involvement of Indian youth in the constituency via IYCN and associated partners. Also, potential involvement in ground level activities through IAAS local chapters in India.







## 5) Bilateral with EIT Food

Date: 10/06/2024

Contact Point: Lucy Wallace

Different funding opportunities with EIT food and opportunity to be the youth cohost for COP29 pavilion on 'Action on Food'. Further potential partnerships with future economy forum. The core discussion was to look at solutions to bind the community. IAAS role in conducting online events and capacity building sessions to promote the event (Pre-COP sessions).

## 6) Negotiations with YOUNGO

Date: 03/06/2024 to 14/06/2024

Sessions: 6 in total

Participated with YOUNGO to engage in negotiations and provide inputs to help in making better interventions and advocating for sustainable food systems. Summary attached below. Also, engaged with negotiators outside the negotiation rooms informally to understand the process better and provide my inputs

Also delivered debriefs at Spoked session held every day in the morning before the sessions commenced and provided my inputs in the debrief after the sessions. Primarily focused on tracking the Sharm el-Sheikh joint work on implementation of climate action on agriculture (Brief mentioned below)

## SSJW - SB60 summary

**Recap:** Before Bonn, a divide among parties led to a procedural deadlock over forming a coordination group. Civil society observers, closely monitoring and emphasizing the need for resolution, played a crucial role in the outcome of the negotiations.

**Progress in Bonn:** Eighteen months after launching the SSJW phase, parties finally reached a consensus during the Bonn climate negotiations on a **roadmap** outlining key activities extending to COP31. Final draft available here: <https://unfccc.int/documents/639601>. The roadmap includes:

- Two **workshops** in hybrid format, open to observers. There will be a report on each one. Observers can submit subjects, formats, and speaker suggestions. The first (June 2025) will be on *Systemic and Holistic Approaches to Implementation of Climate Action on Agriculture, Food Systems and Food Security, Understanding, Cooperation, and Integration into Plans*. The second, in June 2026, will be on *Accessing Means of Implementation for Climate Action in Agriculture and Food Security, including Sharing of Best Practices*.
- An annual **synthesis report**. The first will cover everything from 2013 to 2025 (including Koronivia, which was the precursor to the SSJWA).
- An **online portal** for updates, set to launch at COP29, which would be used to share information on best practices and means of implementation. The portal would be open to contributions from relevant international organisations.
- The coordination of the joint work was off the table this time, but will be further discussed and reported on at COP31 in 2026.

**The roadmap aims to:**

1. Integrate resilient, equitable **food systems into national climate plans** (NDCs, NAPs, NBSAPs).
2. **Increase funding** for food systems transformation, with an emphasis on agroecology and support for small-scale producers, particularly in the Global South.
3. Ensure that food systems, agriculture, and food security **remain prominent in future COP agendas**.

**Opportunities Ahead:**

- Keep engaging with negotiators ahead of COP29. Workshops will provide key signals and recommendations through submissions, sessions, and reports. The "annual synthesis report" can offer crucial recommendations on NDCs and finance to the UNFCCC.
  - Prepare a joint submission ahead of March 2025.
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## **Overview of negotiations**

*"Finance is the great enabler of climate action"*

- Simon Stiell (UNFCCC Executive Secretary)

### **a. Climate Finance**

Key Issues:

- New collective quantified goal (NCQG) for post-2025 climate finance
- Disagreements on quantum, sources, and recipients of finance

Positions:

- Developing countries (Arab Group, LMDCs, AOSIS): Propose \$1.1-1.3 trillion annually
- US and EU: Resist specific targets, suggest "from a floor of \$100 billion"
- G77 and China: Focus on public funds from developed countries
- Developed countries: Want to include private sector funding, domestic spending, and multilateral development bank reforms

Outcomes:

- 35-page text produced, capturing divergent views
- No consensus reached; issue deferred to COP29

Additional Info:

- Current \$100 billion goal missed in 2020, reportedly met in 2022 (contested by some parties)
- Developing countries call for "arrears" from missed \$100 billion target
- Discussions on expanding "donor base" to include wealthy developing countries like China

### **b. Loss and Damage**

Developments:

- World Bank approved as host for loss and damage fund
- Developing countries push for separate "window" in NCQG for loss and damage

Barriers:

- Developed countries argue loss and damage isn't part of NCQG mandate



Outcomes:

- Third phase of Glasgow Dialogue focused on coordination between loss and damage institutions
- Agreement on terms of reference for review of Warsaw International Mechanism

### **c. Adaptation**

Key Issues:

- UAE-Belém work programme on adaptation indicators
- National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
- Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA) implementation

Developments:

- Discussions on "mapping" existing adaptation indicators
- Debates over role of Adaptation Committee vs. new expert group

Outcomes:

- 7-page "informal note" produced on NAPs
- Compromise on adaptation indicators mapping, with options left open for future talks

Additional Info:

- Developing countries emphasize need for finance to implement and develop NAPs
- Disputes over reflecting "common but differentiated responsibilities" in adaptation framework

### **d. Mitigation**

Key Issues:

- Implementation of global stocktake outcomes
- Mitigation Work Programme (MWP) focus and mandate

Positions:

- Developed countries (EU, EIG, AOSIS): Push for focus on emissions cuts and fossil fuel transition
- LMDCs and African Group: Emphasize finance needs before increasing ambition

Outcomes:



- No agreement on draft conclusions for MWP
- Issues deferred to COP29

#### Additional Info:

- Upcoming February 2025 deadline for new Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- COP presidencies troika (UAE, Azerbaijan, Brazil) commit to updating NDCs soon

### **e. Just Transition**

#### Developments:

- First dialogue of Just Transition Work Programme (JTWP) held June 2-3
- Discussions on incorporating just transitions into NDCs and national plans

#### Barriers:

- G77 and China push for broader approach beyond jobs
- US, EU, Canada, Australia, Japan oppose developing work plan at COP29

#### Outcomes:

- Draft conclusions and informal note produced
- Placeholder for work plan included in square brackets (not agreed)

### **f. Article 6 (Carbon Markets)**

#### Key Developments:

- Agreement to exclude "emissions avoidance" from generating credits until 2028 review
- Movement on confidentiality issues in carbon trading

#### Ongoing Issues:

- Disputes over credit authorization, transparency, and review processes
- Technical details for both Article 6.2 (country-to-country trading) and 6.4 (centralized market) unresolved

#### Outcomes:

- Most issues deferred to COP29
- Azerbaijan presidency prioritizes resolving Article 6 at COP29

### **g. Global Stocktake and Ambition**

#### Developments:

- UAE dialogue on implementing global stocktake outcomes



- Discussions on translating COP28 decisions (e.g., tripling renewables, doubling energy efficiency) into action

#### Barriers:

- Disagreements on focus (emissions cuts vs. finance)
- Concerns about implementation vs. national sovereignty

#### Outcomes:

- Parties "take note" of informal note on UAE dialogue, without consensus
- Issues largely deferred to COP29

#### Looking Ahead to COP29:

- Hosted by Azerbaijan, a major fossil fuel producer
- Key priorities: new climate finance goal, Article 6 implementation
- Geopolitical tensions and concerns about host country's human rights record







## **7) Interview with ClimaTalk and UNFCCC**

Gave a short interview with ClimaTalk for their Instagram majorly talking about IYCN and my work on the grassroots level. Will be uploaded on Instagram soon. Recorded another short interview with UNFCCC social media team as well.



## **8) Engagement with negotiators**

This platform also gave me the opportunity to meet some incredibly talented and resilient people from across the world. I had the privilege of meeting people like Nina Wetter, Christian Tietz (German Agri Negotiator), Senna Alouka (Togo Agri Negotiator), Claire Cvitanovich (US Agri Negotiator), all members of the Indian delegation, and numerous people in this space. I also had the opportunity to lead bilaterals for IAAS with Plant Based Treaty, GAYO, CGIAR, YPARD, IFSA, EIT Food, and YOUNGO Food&Agri. Meeting all these amazing people and organizations gave me so many insights into the



different initiatives taking place around the world and it was an amazing learning experience for me. This platform gave me the chance to interact with a diverse number of constituencies such as IPO, Farmers, RINGO and ENGO where I could cross-pollinate ideas and learn from members from across the world and find parallels in the agriculture space.

## **9) Receptions and other events**

Another major aspect of SB was receptions after the conclusion of the negotiations. These platforms gave me an opportunity to interact with numerous people from different originations working on grassroot level initiatives and policy platforms. From NGO's, development agencies, IGO's to youth groups. The networking and knowledge sharing opportunities at such places is priceless and helps with future initiatives.







## **10) Bonn Climate Camp**

The Bonn climate camp provided a safe, inclusive and happening environment for all the youth participants of SB. This was majorly supported by YOUNGO and other local youth organizations. They provided spaces for debriefs, side events, dinner and even for rest. The time I've spent at the Climate Camp is one of the most memorable parts about this trip and I've made numerous friends in this space who have shared goals and synergy which will help me amplify my advocacy efforts.







Figure 10 Youth Climate Action Support Programme Delegation







## 11) Post SB Engagement

One of the most important steps to ensure after an event like SB is continuous engagement with stakeholders and youth organizations to make sure the right step is being take. I've primarily been engaged in two such events after SB to ensure the abovementioned and continue the conversations I started at SB.

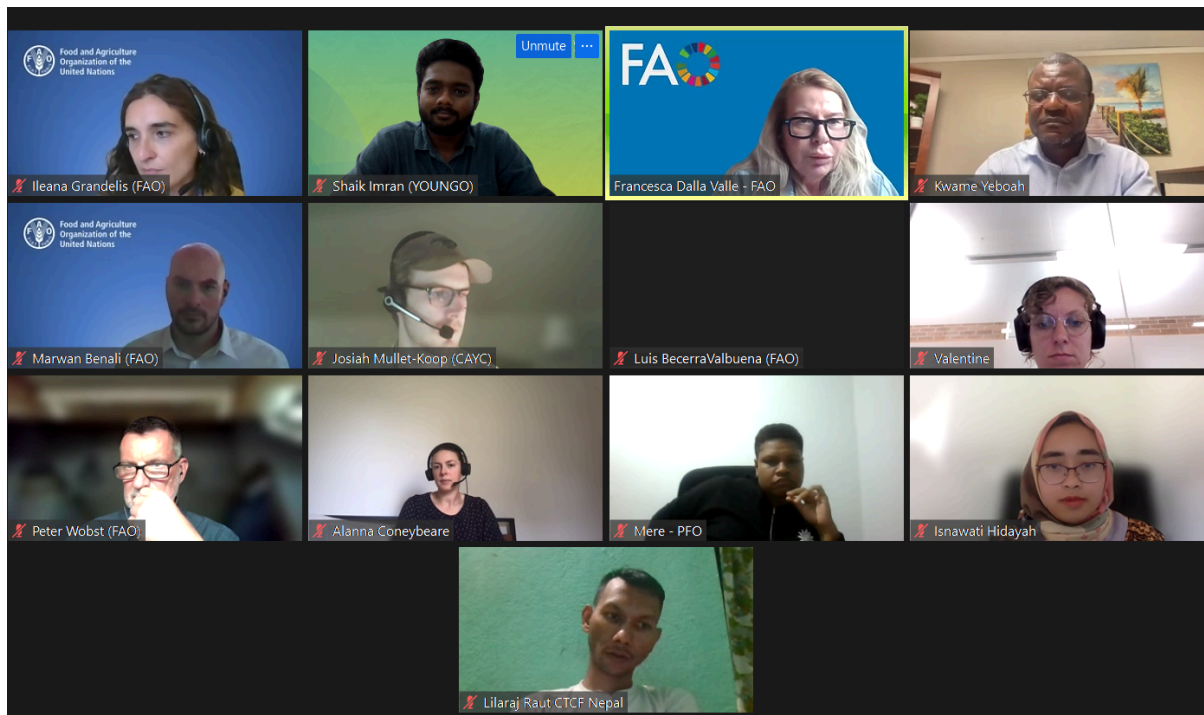
- i) **Speaker for YPARD Webinar on From Groundwork to Global Impact: The Role of Subsidiary Bodies in Climate and Biodiversity Action as part of the Change Makers for Agri Food Series.**

Was invited by YPARD to discuss what role youth and other non-state actors played in the recent SBI conferences, how can their participation be enhanced in future conferences and what value do these actors bring to the SBI processes. I also shared my personal experiences and what I gained from the platform.

The image shows a webinar slide with a white background and a yellow footer. At the top right, there are several logos including YPARD, GLOBAL YOUTH LEADERS, and others. The main title is "On the Ground: Insights and Outcomes from Recent SBI Conferences" in green. Below the title are three circular portraits of speakers: Jenice Achieng (YPARD Kenya), Shaik Imran Hussain Choudhary (International Association of students in Agricultural and related Sciences), and Xiaoshang Deng (YPARD Asia-Pacific). The footer contains the "CHANGEMAKERS for AGRI-FOOD ACTION" logo. On the right side, there is a vertical strip of four video thumbnails showing the speakers in a virtual meeting.



**ii) Youth Consultant for FAO to assist them in their report on “Rural Youth in Agri-Food Systems” on behalf of YOUNGO**



As a youth consultant, my role is to engage with various stakeholders at FAO and guide them in building a inclusive and diverse report on global state of Rural Youth in Agri-Food Systems. My primary goal is to ensure global south perspectives are incorporated into the report and various other socio-economic and market centric indicators are also accounted for to study the migration of rural youth from agriculture



## **Reflections and Recommendations**

Reflecting on youth engagement at SB60 and within the broader UNFCCC process, I have the following observations and recommendations:

**1. Diverse Representation:** While youth presence was notable, there's a need for more diverse representation from developing countries, particularly from grassroots organizations. UNFCCC should consider establishing a dedicated fund to support youth delegates from underrepresented regions, addressing issues with visas and funding that currently limit participation.

**2. Meaningful Participation:** Youth interventions in negotiations were often limited or absent. I would recommend creating more structured opportunities for youth to contribute meaningfully to discussions, perhaps through dedicated youth speaking slots in each negotiation room. This would allow organizations like IYCN/YOUNGO to directly present our on-ground experiences and question gaps in policy and implementation.

**3. Accessibility and Inclusivity:** Future conferences should include better accessibility. This includes making negotiation texts more understandable for youth and children, which can then be taken to the grassroots for discussion. Additionally, improving digital participation options would ensure that youth unable to travel can still meaningfully engage in the process. The SB's this time lacked any digital support.

**4. Capacity Building:** Many youth delegates, especially first-time attendees, struggled with understanding complex UNFCCC processes. I would suggest organizing pre-event training on negotiation procedures, climate policy, and effective advocacy strategies as a pre-SB preparation which is usually done by observer organizations. This would help organizations like IYCN to better prepare our members for participation on an official level.

**5. Post SB Engagement:** Redefine participation to extend beyond physical presence at conferences. Implement a year-round youth engagement program that includes regular consultations, statement submissions, and bilateral meetings. This ongoing discussion would make youth participation and suggestions more impactful and sustainable.



**6. Intergenerational Dialogue:** While there were some opportunities for youth to engage with senior negotiators and policymakers, these were mostly informal and unofficial. I would suggest organizing regular, formal intergenerational dialogue sessions during the conference to bridge the gap between youth perspectives and high-level discussions.

**7. Synergy and Collaboration:** More youth involvement helps find synergy with other partners and allows for joint statements, which can be more impactful in starting conversations within parties. UNFCCC should facilitate more networking opportunities for youth organizations.

**8. Focus on Implementation:** Many youth delegates expressed frustration with the gap between negotiations and on-the-ground action. We should focus on creating more opportunities for youth to be involved in the implementation and monitoring of climate commitments, especially in the context of food systems and agriculture.

**9. Grassroots Representation:** Youth organizations like IYCN bring valuable insights from grassroots level activities. We provide access to data showing specific problem areas and potential solutions that are working on the ground. UNFCCC should create more platforms for presenting these implementable and scalable projects.

**10. Diverse Perspectives in Policy:** Youth and non-state actors bring diverse and inclusive perspectives to the negotiation process, especially in areas like food systems and agriculture where issues are geographically diverse. UNFCCC should establish mechanisms to ensure these perspectives are reflected in final policy documents.

### **Learnings**

a) Significance of youth-led organizations like IYCN on the global platform for action and advocacy in food systems and climate change.

b) Importance of engaging with diverse stakeholders to amplify the voice of young people and grassroots communities in climate negotiations.





- c) Critical role of grassroots level perspectives in shaping policy decisions and the need to bridge the gap between local realities and global policies.
- d) Power of collaboration and synergy among youth delegates from different countries in achieving shared climate action goals.
- e) Necessity of effective time management and task delegation to maximize impact during intense and fast-paced international events like SB60.
- f) Value of leadership and problem-solving skills, especially in navigating challenges and unexpected situations in a global forum.
- g) Importance of identifying common ground with diverse organizations to create meaningful partnerships for climate action and sustainable agriculture.
- h) Understanding the interconnectedness of various climate issues and the need for holistic approaches in addressing food systems and agriculture.
- i) Realizing the potential of youth to influence global climate negotiations and the importance of being well-prepared and informed.
- j) Recognizing the power of storytelling in advocacy, especially in bringing grassroots agricultural experiences to the global stage.

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Indian Youth Climate Network for providing me with this incredible opportunity to represent IYCN at SB60 and the team involved who were working behind the scenes to facilitate active communication and guidance. Their guidance and trust in my abilities have been instrumental in making this experience possible and enriching.

My heartfelt thanks go to the German Federal Government, GIZ, Klimadelegation e.V., and LAYCS for organizing the Youth Climate Action Support Programme, which enabled my participation in this crucial global forum. Their commitment to empowering youth voices in climate action is truly commendable. The amazing support and capacity building by Toby, Clara and Alicia really helped in on the ground.

I am deeply grateful to all the negotiators, delegates, and representatives from various organizations who took the time to share their knowledge and experiences with me. These interactions have broadened my perspective and deepened my understanding of global climate action and sustainable agriculture.



Special recognition goes to the YOUNGO Food & Agriculture working group for their collaboration and for providing a platform to amplify youth voices in agricultural discussions. The spirit of cooperation and shared purpose I witnessed at SB60 has been truly inspiring.

I would also like to acknowledge the countless farmers and grassroots activists back home in India whose stories and resilience I carried with me to Bonn. Their experiences and challenges have been the driving force behind my advocacy efforts.

Lastly, I extend my appreciation my fellow youth delegates from around the world. The passion, and dedication I witnessed have reinforced my belief in the power of youth to drive meaningful change. I would also like to thank Vikrant Srivastava for his valuable insights and guidance during the on-ground programme and Mehak Sudan for opening new opportunities and dialogue with new stakeholders

This experience has strengthened my commitment to climate action and sustainable agriculture. I look forward to translating these learnings into meaningful action in our country and beyond.

