



1° World - Y.E.S. CONGRESS 2009
Young Earth Scientists for Society

**FIRST WORLD
YOUNG EARTH SCIENTISTS
CONGRESS 2009**

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CONGRESS EVENT SYNOPSIS

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25-28 October 2009
BEIJING – CHINA
China University of Geosciences



中國地質大學
China University of Geosciences

China, November 2008

1. INTRODUCTION

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed January 2007 to December 2009 as the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE). This supports UN sustainable development targets by promoting wise and sustainable use of Earth materials and encouraging better planning and management to reduce risks for the world's inhabitants. Making Earth Science knowledge available for the society and promoting proper education and commitment to young generations of earth-system scientists are the two key focus points of IYPE.

The Y.E.S. Committee aims to organize the First World Congress aimed at young (up to 35yrs) scientists and professionals working in the field of Earth sciences. The congress also will involve young political leaders, representatives of civil society and worldwide organizations. The Congress was first proposed by members of the Italian Geological Society and is strongly supported by the IYPE Committee-Italy, Italian Geological Survey, IYPE Corporation and IUGS.

The Y.E.S. Congress will include dedicated time to a series of roundtable sessions. These will focus on topics of global, scientific, and social significance selected between following themes: Natural resources and Energy: towards sustainable use and development, Earth and health, Environmental Geo-sciences: water and geo-hazards. The roundtables will involve young people who are representatives of different countries, organizations and associations active at national level. There will also be researchers and specialists in their field involved in the congress along with representatives from associations, politics and media in order to make the goal of outreach more effective.

There will also be dedicated Oral (speaker) sessions on both the first and second days of the Conference. These sessions will also be based around the ten main themes and will provide an excellent opportunity for discussion, debate and information transfer.

The aim of each round table will be the exchange of information, case studies and ideas between different countries and sectors. The aim of the discussions being the formulation of a list of shared long term actions. The roundtables will also provide an excellent opportunity for networking and discussion between usually separate sectors.

The Y.E.S. Congress event is scheduled at the end of 2009, at the closing of the three years of the IYPE. The congress is not scheduled in the same period of other international events associated with the International Year of Planet Earth, (at time of press). The attention of IYPE Corporation and its international members will therefore be focused on this event.

The Y.E.S. Congress is an event that, if well proposed and advertised, will have a great international significance and impact in the media. It is the only dedicated event for young scientists from across the globe.

The YES Congress will also be the inaugural event of a worldwide newly formed network of scientists, decision makers and future leaders the YES network.

Goals

The goals of the congress are:

- provide an opportunity for young scientists to present their concerns and solutions regarding earth-science challenges (energy, water, climate change, etc.) to leading politicians, decision makers and media
- encourage dialogue between system earth-scientists and professionals from different geographical regions to generate the basis for future cooperation
- establish a strong network of young professionals and researchers in different disciplines of earth sciences
- establish a network of young geo-scientists, leaders, and policy makers capable of working together to discuss and propose creative solutions to many important earth science questions
- compare earth-science working perspective in different disciplines and countries
- increase the research and professional quality of young scientists and professionals
- update young professionals in their respective disciplines and inform them about best practices
- building a better future for a new generation of geoscientists, both in terms of conceptual matters (the role of the geosciences in solving major problems of the modern society) and in terms of job opportunities

International impact of yes congress 2009

The First World Young Earth Scientists Congress addresses current geosciences challenges directly and will promote the role that younger scientists play in promoting the geosciences.

Young Earth Scientists from 28 Countries are already involved after the first call for the formation of an International Organizing Committee. It is estimated that by the end of 2009 more than 50 Countries will be involved.

Please consider benefits for IYPE aims:

The YES Congress has a wide ranging target audience that includes young representatives from each of the main geological associations and institutions, young researchers from universities, young leaders in politics, administrative bodies, earth scientists, and the general public.

It is considered an important IYPE associated event as it is dedicated to early career delegates and therefore enabling long term actions to be set in place.

The Congress will not be a one off event, but the Inaugural event of a worldwide network of scientists, decisions makers and future leaders: the YES Network.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE 2009 CONGRESS EVENT

2.1. Plenary session or Opening Ceremony of the congress

Time: First day 10:00~12:00 or afternoon

Address: The big room

Participants: All representatives

Form: The opening ceremony will begin at 10:00 on the first day. We will invite senior scientists/political leaders to give speeches, along with several young earth scientists.

The opening ceremony will consist of artistic performances and speeches given by the prominent geosciences scientists and leaders of countries and organizations who have given outstanding contributions to the preparation of the Congress.

A song named “Mother Earth” will be sung by the youth of China.

Plan: The opening ceremony is the official beginning of the Y.E.S. Congress 2009, which will be attended by 300-500 representatives from 30-50 countries from the world. The ceremony will be not only a window to the world, but also a platform for the host country to show its culture and civilization.

Young scientists from all over the world will be invited to submit abstracts for talks, and posters on one of the 10 themes of IYPE and to present their work to the congress plenary session. A scientific council will evaluate and select the speakers. Criteria of selection will be published. Hopefully, educational grants will be awarded to selected young scientists.

The aim of this part of the congress is to provide an opportunity for young earth scientists to present their concerns and solutions regarding earth-science challenges to leading politicians, decision makers and media. This will also promote the active participation of young earth scientists in international debate.

2.2. Oral Program – Oral Session

Time: First day from 14:00; Second/third day from 8:30 to 12:30

Address: Ten meeting room (small rooms: five rooms for 60 people and five rooms for 100 people)

The Oral Program will be based on 10 main themes of the IYPE (International Year of the Planet Earth):

- Groundwater –towards sustainable use
- Hazards – minimizing risk, maximizing awareness
- Earth & Health – building a safer environment
- Climate - the “stone tape”
- Resources –” towards sustainable use”
- Megacities – going deeper, building safer
- Deep Earth – from crust to core
- Ocean – abyss of time
- Soils – the living skin of the Earth
- Earth & Life – origins of diversity

Every branch meeting has a president and a committee who will in charge of convening people from the world, selecting of the papers and arranging order of presentations, etc

The speakers can be chosen to act as the representatives of the convener in the branch meeting. The discussion will be open.

The access to the meetings rooms will be open to all registered participants to the Congress.

Oral presentations will be selected based on following general criteria:

- A study on a global solution. These studies could be innovative studies or relevant synthesis and analysis of previous works
- Studies in the local area but which results could be replicated elsewhere
- Studies in the local area which results could be of widespread interest

2.3. Roundtables

Time: Second/third day, from 14:00 to 19:30

Address: Small Meeting Rooms for 50 people

The second and third day will cover 4 different roundtables. The roundtables will discuss selected topics of social and scientific relevance that are capable of encompassing different disciplines all focused on the proposed topic.

The precise topics of the roundtables will be decided by on-line forum debate among those themes selected during the meeting of the International Organizational Committee at Oslo, 10th August 2008:

- Natural resources and Energy: towards sustainable use and development
- Environmental Geo-sciences: water and geo-hazards
- Earth and health
- Young Earth Scientists for Society-Education of Geoscientists

The roundtable will be convened and arranged by the presidents of each roundtable sub group. They may be additional special topics raised by the experts and young people such as worldwide employment of young people in geosciences, establishment of worldwide anti-disasters association, etc.

Certain company representative will able to be a leader of a roundtable event.

Ideally each roundtable will be composed of

- 30 to 50 representatives (maximum) of associations/institutions of different countries
- 20 young political leaders from the scientific community, policy, and civil society.
- Individual earth scientists working in the sector

Each roundtable will be conducted separately from the other. Works of the roundtable discussions will be open to the participants of the congress.

Media will be invited to take part as observatory-members.

Works of the roundtables

Each participant in the roundtable will be invited to prepare a written proposal concerning the topic of the discussion, possibly discussed and reviewed by his affiliated organization.

Guidelines regarding the structure of the proposals will be provided by the Organising committee.

Proposals and documents must be submitted to the organizing committee at least 4 months before of the congress. The documents will then be compiled and a sent out to all participants in order to prepare them for the discussion. A system to collect a selected number of documents prepared by organizations not able to attend the Congress may also be put in place. Roundtables.

Intended results

Each roundtable is expected to:

1. Provide a summary of the ideas/position of every represented association/institution for the specific topic
2. Create a network between participants for future work together
3. Identify problems common to different countries and regional areas
4. Create active strategic short and long-term plans for the specific topic
5. Plan long term strategies realisable through direct long term involvement of participants

Final Aim

- To take into account the age of participants and create a long term plan to face common problems.
- To indicate international strategies that could be carried out directly by participants through involvement their respective institutions. For this purpose each roundtable will compile a short list of 10 actions to be taken.
- To reinforce the concepts and ideas of the Congress to the general public through the media. Ideally, this short list will be signed by the participants of the roundtable as commitment for the future.

2.4. Poster Session

Time: From Second Day to last day, 8:00 to 19: 30

Address: Lobby B

The poster session will be focused on the same 10 topics of the International Year of Planet Earth and eventually on the roundtable topics.

Each poster should present:

- A study on a global solution. These studies could be innovative studies or relevant synthesis and analysis of previous works
- Studies in the local area but which results could be replicated elsewhere
- Studies in the local area which results could be of widespread interest

All participants at the congress will have full access to the posters room throughout the 4 days of the congress.

2.5. Day 4° – Conclusions and face to face

Respected persons at an international level will be invited on the fourth day to witness the closing of the congress. Top level speakers will also address the young earth scientists. These speakers will include world class scientists and high level politicians.

Intended results

- Produce an independent and realistic document, with a global scope and trends for different topic themes
- Identify valid active strategies and positive examples from which actions can be developed
- Validate long term strategies (30 years) for each specific topic that can be developed with the direct involvement of participants

2.5.1 Conclusion of roundtables

Time: morning of the 4th day of the Congress

On the fourth day, each roundtable will finalise a common document containing the list of 10 proposed action points with specific strategies. When the document is approved, each roundtable session will be ended and the final plenary session will begin.

During plenary session, the Organizing Committee will read the results of each roundtable and will state them as a commitment by the international community of young earth scientists for the future years.

2.5.2 Face to face for YES and Senior Earth Scientists

Time: afternoon of the 4th day of the Congress

Aim:

- To provide a valuable chance for the YES to communicate face to face with the most famous and authoritative experts in the field of Geosciences
- To inspire the YES to contribute to the Geosciences
- To facilitate the communication and integration of the earth science worldwide

Form: Question-answer; interview; dialogue

2.6. Video Production

The congress will be audio and video-recorded. The recordings will be accessible through internet. Two different videos, a 3-5 minute and a 15-30 minute clip, will act as a synthesis of the congress. If possible, the video will be produced in various languages. The two videos will be diffused using media to communicate worldwide results of the congress.

2.7. Audience target and participants of the congress

- Young representatives of each main geological association and institution.
Each main geological association, society, private company and institution of different countries will be invited to send and support the participation of a young earth scientist to roundtable discussions. It is expected that each representative will report results to respective affiliation, councils and colleagues, also by means of local initiatives.
- Young researchers from Universities.
Main Universities worldwide will be encouraged to support the participation of at least one young graduate to roundtables and discussions. It is expected that each representative will report results to the respective University and his colleagues, also through local initiatives.
- Young leaders in politics, and administrative bodies.
Main parties, administrative bodies, civil society associations will be encouraged to send a representative who will officially report results to the respective affiliation.
- Young earth scientists.
All young earth scientists interested in taking part of the works are welcomed to apply. Young earth scientists may participate as observers of the congress or as official participants in the roundtables. Application for official active participation in roundtables will be evaluated case by case. Few travel grants will be available for selected candidates.
- Media.
Media representatives will be invited to follow through the works of the congress and roundtables as externals.
- General public.
All discussions will be opened to the public. A way to permit the public to interact with roundtables will be developed.
- Senior earth scientist.
The committee responsible for each roundtable could invite a certain number of top level experienced speakers.

The general goal is to gather about 30 to 50 young earth-scientists and about 20 decision makers and representatives from government institutions, science, and policy people for each round table.

2.8. Commercial exhibitions and YES Business Expo

The venue of the Congress has a large lobby where **exhibitions and Poster** can be displayed. The commercial exhibitions will run through the Congress from the first day.

We offer a big lobby for them to hold the exhibitions and Poster in the same place about 500 cm². The commercial exhibitions will run through the Congress from the first day. China University of Geosciences (Beijing) is the cradle of young earth scientists in China. After more than 50 years as institution, we have earned a reputation as academy as an academy for the study of geology. With a motto as “Work Hard, Keep Modest, Flexibly Unit, and Pursue Progress”, we are working to be the leader of geology education in China. Our alumni include many excellent earth scientists from within our country, and even from around the world. Our and educated a lot of excellent earth scientists for our country even the world. Our hope is to inspire young people to pursue an education in the geosciences, not only to better understand the earth, but to learn how to protect it. The Young Earth Scientists Congress will exclusively bring young scientists from different part of the world to discuss the future of geosciences and the challenges of the world today. The congress will establish strong networks of young professors and researchers and will be a great benefit to the development of the earth sciences.

The companies can:

- Set up booths for exhibition and communication, including networking and recruitment
- Display advertising material and posters
- Distribute appropriate organization promotional materials to all participants of the Congress during 2009 Congress
- A booths is a place for academic communication and display of international reputation. It will offer a chance to young earth scientists to network with research organisations and companies, whilst also benefitting the former by providing a networking and recruitment opportunity.

The companies who want to come to this congress must pay according to different specifications as follows,

Address	Specification(M ²)	Fees (RMB)	Type
Lobby of Science and Research Building	5×4	50,000(6,000Euro)	International Company
	4×3	40,000(5,000Euro)	International Company
	3×3	30,000(3,500Euro)	International Company, commonweal organization
	3×3	free	commonweal organization selected by IOC

Program at a Glance

	Before	Sat. 24 Oct.	Sun. 25 Oct.	Mon. 26 Oct.	Tues. 27 Oct.	Wed. 28 Oct.	Post	
8 : 00	Pre-meeting Field Trips		Registration				Post-meeting Field Trips	
8 : 30								
9 : 00								
9 : 30					Oral session -	Oral session -		Roundtables conclusion
10 : 00					Theme report (topics 4,5,6,7)	Theme report (topics 8,9,10)		
10 : 30			Opening Ceremony					
11 : 00								
11 : 30								
12 : 00								
12 : 30			Break	Break	Break	Break		
13 : 00			Registration					Face to face
13 : 30								
14 : 00								
14 : 30				Oral session - Theme report (topic1,2,3,□)	Roundtable (topic A,B,C,D in parallel)	Roundtable (topic A,B,C,D in parallel)		
15 : 00								
15 : 30								
16 : 00								
16 : 30								
17 : 00			Ice- breaking pre- congress meeting					
17 : 30								
18 : 00								
18 : 30								
19 : 00					Closing Ceremony - reception			
19 : 30								