



EARTH
GUARDIANS

2020 IMPACT REPORTS CREWS, REGIONAL DIRECTORS + CAMPAIGNS



3980 Broadway #103-229
Boulder, CO 80304

www.earthguardians.org
reachout@earthguardians.org

GLOBAL IMPACT

CREW & REGIONAL DIRECTOR UPDATES

Earth Guardians crews are the heart of all the work we do. The number of crews continues to grow, as does the geographic reach of their projects, collaboration, and community.

This year, we are especially proud of how EG crews all over the world got creative in response to the many challenges presented by COVID, continuing to positively impact their communities and do important work for people and the planet.

Here are just a few major highlights and accomplishments from our global crews and our amazing team of Regional Directors.

EUROPE

Regional Director: Louka

Growth:

- Expanded to 9 more crews
- Trained 40 youth
- Brought in 76 more youth from the region

Completed Projects:

- Co-organized the annual MoselCleanup in September, with more than 6,000 volunteers and 50 tons of waste collected
- Social media campaigns
- Short videos about the fashion and food industries to educate the community
- River and ocean cleanup
- Signs warning hikers not to pollute nature
- Podcast on climate launched (EG Mannheim)
- Cigarette cleanup
- Community gardens
- Climate education workshop for use in schools

2021 Plans:

- Training crew leaders

AFRICA

Regional Director: Mensa

Growth:

- Expanded to 3 more crews
- Brought in 54 more youth from the region

Completed Projects:

TRAINING: MANUFACTURING FUEL BRIQUETTES FROM AGRICULTURAL WASTE

This training took place in May during the COVID-19 crisis. It saw the participation of 15 young people from the various horizons of the municipality of Lome. This theoretical and practical training lasted for 11 days. The idea pursued in the organization of this training by the leaders of Earth Guardians is to empower young people through the transformation of waste and energy sources.

This initiative intends to support these young people to create a production structure of combustible briquettes for sale as a source of energy. This action is aligned with the policy of reaching Togo's NDCs, adopted by the states at COP 21.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATIONS

With the support and membership fees, EG Africa was able to raise money to donate notebooks, pens, pencils, colored pencils, notebook covers, books, chalk, geometry sets, and rulers that the pupils of the primary school of Dalia need in order to return to school without causing too much worry for the parents. In all, 173 students each received a school kit for the new 2020-2021 school year.

OTHER PROJECTS

- 40,000 trees planted and evaluations done of trees planted last year
- COVID-focused social media campaign
- Study on charcoal consumption in Togo
- Digital training for new crew directors
- Video challenge to celebrate the World Day of Biodiversity

2021 Plans

- (In progress) Organizing a photography exhibition to display the effects of the climate crisis throughout Togo

BRAZIL

Regional Director: Tupa

Growth:

- Expanded to 4 more crews
- Trained 108 youth
- Brought in 56 more youth from the region
- Planted 21 trees and 221 other plants (food, medicinal, and aromatic herbs)

Completed Projects:

ONLINE EDUCATION SYSTEM

Earth Guardians Brazil consolidated an online education system with courses and workshops through the School of Guardians, including responding to the challenges imposed by the new COVID pandemic and social distancing. In addition, it also launched a new website, better structured to meet the needs of those who want to know more and/or join.

PODCAST

EarthCast is a Podcast that emerged with the intention of bringing news about climate and the environment in a simple and objective way.

FIRE WATCH

This project was formed almost at the end of the year after a succession of fires reached the EG-BR region. Objectives include:

- 1) Create and maintain a database, open and collaborative, on the effects of the fires recorded in the region, maintaining permanent monitoring of the current situation of the affected areas.
- 2) Create and submit proposals aimed at preventing future fires.
- 3) To support and disseminate positive actions on environmental education, fire prevention and restoration of affected areas.

URBAN PERMACULTURE: THE GARDEN PROJECT

The Garden Project completed its first 4-year cycle since its inception. The place, which was just a lawn, now has a mini forest with dozens of young fruit trees (many of which have already reached a height higher than the building), an area of agroecological cultivation with more than 200 species of medicinal, aromatic and condiments, which are shared with the local community through exchanges of seedlings and seeds and a seedling nursery.

BRAZIL (CONT.)

2021 Plans:

7K PROJECT

In 2021, EG-BR intends to plant 7,000 trees, in celebration of the team's 7-year anniversary. The planting will preferably be carried out in areas affected by the terrible fires of 2020 and other critical areas, according to an action plan that will be drawn up together with a technical team and partners.

In addition to planting these 7,000 trees, the 7K Project also provides for cultural and socio-environmental actions with the local community in the municipalities of Águas da Prata (SP), São João da Boa Vista (SP), Poços de Caldas (MG) and Andradas (MG))

SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL EXCHANGE: INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF GUARDIANS

Earth Guardians BR is also launching a proposal for international exchange so that young people from other parts of the world can visit the School of Guardians and experience little of this work done by the team in Brazil.

OTHER PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

In addition, EG-BR will maintain all current projects, such as: Guardian School Courses, Urban Permaculture/Guardians' Garden, Water Monitoring, and Burn Monitoring.

END-OF-YEAR REFLECTION FROM TEO (EG MEXICO)

"WE ARE HERE TO MOVE FORWARD.

WE ARE NOT GOING TO STOP, WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE GROWING STRIVING TO LEAVE A BETTER PLACE AND A BETTER CONSCIENCE FOR OUR CHILDREN AND THE ENTIRE HUMAN RACE. WE ARE VERY COMMITTED.

MAY FLOWERS AND SONGS RISE ON THIS EARTH WHILE WE ARE ALIVE WE WILL FIGHT FOR THE RIGHTS OF OUR MOTHER EARTH AND WE WILL NOT STOP WE ARE VERY HAPPY AND WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR ALL THE EARTH GUARDIANS WHO ARE UNITING AND WHO WILL CONTINUE TO UNITE."

TEO
REGIONAL DIRECTOR
EARTH GUARDIANS MEXICO

MEXICO

Regional Director: Teo

Growth:

- Expanded to 5 more crews
- Trained 150 youth

Completed Projects:

- Documentary video about conservation efforts surrounding the axolotl, a beautiful fish originally from Mexico that is in danger of extinction
- Music project featuring original music from Earth Guardians México

2021 Plans:

- Continued axolotl conservation efforts
- Tree planting
- Continuing to build the Anáhuac Council, the Council of America of Earth Guardians, which unites crew leads from Mexico, Brazil, and Canada to build a stronger community and increase efficiency and collaboration on projects

INDIA

Regional Director: Anwasha

Growth:

- Added one more crew
- Brought in 70 more youth from the region
- Planted 5,000 trees

Completed Projects:

- Honeybee cultivation training
- Organic gardening
- Creation of 50+ rooftop gardens
- School enrichment programs
- Plantation drives
- COVID awareness camp—distributed masks and art supplies for a communal art project to thousands of people

2021 Plans:

- Taking legal action related to an emerging issue in Delhi
- Expanding crews

UNITED STATES

Crews across the US have prepped for the upcoming election with RevtheVote – a massive campaign designed to engage and encourage youth voter registration.

US crews ALSO teamed up with youth from other organizations to create the #DivestChallenge, encouraging folks to end their relationship with banks that fund fossil fuels.

COWICHAN VALLEY

The Cowichan Valley Crew designed a large mural for the World Bee Day celebration on May 23rd, 2020, and participated in numerous climate strikes and massive clean ups along their coast.

SPEAKERS BUREAU

In 2020, we launched the next generation of the Earth Guardians Speakers Bureau, providing a platform to elevate the voices of our most powerful youth leaders. Youth speakers from the EG Speakers Bureau touched the hearts of tens of thousands of people at over 30 events, both live and virtual, on the topics of youth leadership and activism and the many ways to impact change and engage in climate justice work at Earth Guardians.

To date in 2020, we have placed youth speakers at events across the globe with partner organizations like EarthX, One Percent for the Planet, EarthHacks, Harvard University, European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL), Wake Forest University, the UC system, Temple of Understanding, the Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (PIELC) and the UN initiative Localizing Climate Justice Conference (LCJC), and many more.

STIPENDS + FUNDING

As of September 2020, Earth Guardians has provided stipends to both Youth Council and Regional Directors totaling over \$24,000 for their support on EG projects and campaigns.

DECOLONIZE LEADERSHIP TRAINING

In July, our online Decolonize Youth Leadership Training program set out to address the intersectionality between systematic racism and the environmental crisis with a focus on taking action with our voices, votes, and communities.

In order to unlearn the conditions of our society, we have to connect, create, and heal together, and this training provided a space to process grief, to grow our capacity to feel and understand our stories, and to create a new vision for what's to come.

BY THE NUMBERS



One of the participants reviewed the training, writing:

"THE TRAINING HELPED ME IDENTIFY THE COLONIZATION WITHIN MYSELF. WHETHER IT BE MY STEREOTYPES AGAINST OTHERS OR THE COLONIZATION I'VE DONE TO MYSELF. IT HELPED ME OPEN UP MY FEELINGS THAT I HAD BOTTLED UP INSIDE, IT ALLOWED ME TO ATTACK THOSE FEELINGS AND UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT I AM FEELING IS OK.

THIS HAS LED ME TO LEAD MY EARTH GUARDIANS CREW WITH AN OPEN HEART AND UNDERSTANDING."

—RAKHI K.

EARTH DAY LIVE

Earth Guardians was a lead partner in Earth Day Live, a 3 day livestream celebrating the 50th anniversary of Earth Day held from April 22nd to April 24th, 2020 resulting in 4.8M views, 207 segments curated, 319 local livestreams registered on action network, 400 presenters, many from Earth Guardians, and 500 organizations participated.

STOP THE MONEY PIPELINE

Stop the Money Pipeline is a coalition of 130 organizations from across the country organizing a campaign to target the financial sector's support of the climate crisis. Earth Guardians is one of the only youth-led organizations within the coalition bringing the youth voice to the table. Three Native American Earth Guardian youth sit on the Steering Committee of STMP, and help to guide decision making for the coalition. The coalition uses a variety of tactics including webinars, teach-ins, letter writing, nonviolent direct action, and more.

CHASE DIVESTMENT CAMPAIGN

This pledge targets young people who do not already have bank accounts with a focus on getting young people to commit to not bank at JPMorgan Chase because they are the #1 fossil fuel supporting bank in the world. To date, 1,500 have pledged and divested from Chase.

From May-August 2020, Earth Guardians youth developed a social media campaign engaging thousands of youth from across the globe in making videos and signs about what they are divesting from and what they are investing in. Former Exxon CEO, Lee Raymond, has been demoted as lead independent director at Chase, five of the six largest US banks have committed to stop funding Arctic drilling projects, and main targets Chase, Liberty Mutual and BlackRock have all passed new (albeit insufficient) climate policies since the Stop the Money Pipeline coalition came together just six months ago.

REVOLUTIONIZE THE VOTE

Earth Guardians created and partnered with voter registration and turnout organizations such as Rock the Vote, Future Coalition, Hip Hop Caucus, Seeding Sovereignty, Seventh Generation and We Stand United to support 65 million young people to register and turn out to vote in this upcoming Nov 2020 election.

More information about this major campaign can be found in the separate Revolutionize The Vote Impact Report or starting on page 14 of the full Impact Report.

DIVEST + DEFUND / INVEST + ENVISION

In the spring of 2020, Earth Guardians Youth Council members launched a campaign to educate others across the globe around the importance of youth divesting from destruction and investing in a livable and equitable future.

This campaign included a number of creative facets. EG Youth Council members created a guide/toolkit to help others easily understand the importance in divesting from banks that fund the climate crisis while also offering alternatives for banking. This dialogue asset kit also guides young people in how to talk to adults in their lives about the importance of divestment.

Additionally, during this campaign, BIPOC EG youth across the country produced a video that equates the COVID-19 crisis to the climate crisis, showing parallels and how they both reveal the same weaknesses and disparities in the system at large. This video was produced by Porcupine Productions, aired on the 3-day Earth Day livestream in April, and is now being used in a documentary on COVID that will most likely be streamed on HBO.

Finally, the EG Youth Council put a call out via social media asking people across the world to make short videos or signs/photos declaring what they are divesting from in their own lives and what they are investing in instead. This was not just a call for financial divestment, but divestment at large, including practices that promote racism, toxic waste, the fashion industry, the pharmaceutical industry, mainstream agriculture, and more. In these videos and photos, the youth not only declared what they are divesting from, but also included what alternatives they will be investing in, ranging from farmers markets and herbalism to thrift stores and solar energy!

GEORGIA PEACHES FOR PROGRESS COALITION MEMBER

Earth Guardians is a coalition member of the Georgia Peaches for Progress campaign along with many national and local Georgia organizations.

We are currently helping to connect local on-the-ground organizations with large pieces of art as well as banners to drop and wheat paste onto the sides of buildings during and before planned events (Peaches for Progress) that will be encouraging folks in many different districts of Georgia to vote in the national special election senate races coming up on Jan 5th.

COVID-19 + PPE FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

Earth Guardians has partnered up with [shift7](#) to help provide PPE and winter gear to Native American tribes across the U.S. Shift7 has been working since March to assist Native communities with access to PPE donations for COVID. Federal and state government entities have not been able to provide these supplies to most tribes since the beginning of COVID, and we have been told by several tribes that now they have stopped completely. To date, shift7 has facilitated the donation of nearly 585,000 items across more than 300 tribes among 22 states—primarily masks, gowns, gloves, face shields, and hand sanitizer. They have also recently partnered with National Indian Health Board in this effort.

This fall, Earth Guardians and shift7 are bringing together a coalition of companies—including Patagonia, Seventh Generation, 1% for the Planet, and many others—to make donations of masks, PPE, and winter gear to Tribal Nations across the United States who are feeling some of the worst impacts of the COVID-19 crisis.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT LIBRARY

In preparation for the 2020 elections, Earth Guardians Youth Council members built a civic engagement library to demystify the world of politics for other youth. The civic engagement library is a resource to help our community members navigate the sometimes confusing and inaccessible processes of voter registration, ballot initiatives, letter writing, lobbying, researching candidates, polling locations, and much more.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

In 2020, EG built an online Community Resource Center as a unifying platform for our global crews to stay connected, learn, engage, and focus collective efforts on impact and solutions. The platform provides each crew member a unique individual profile where they can access different groups, resources, trainings, and connections with other crew members and EG staff. Not only is it a way to educate oneself in the areas of activism, climate change, communication, and even social justice issues, but it's also a means for youth and EG to stay connected through a social media platform. Much of the content on the platform has been led and designed by EG youth.

Earth Guardians plans to design and populate the Community Resource Center with relevant trainings and resources that meet the demands of the climate and environmental crisis while also encouraging more youth crew members to sign up and use the platform as we aim for thousands of global EG crew members within the next few years.