



Youth Climate Summit & Climate Action Projects

Submitted by The Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute



Description

The Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute (BUEI) Youth Climate Summit (YCS) is a year-long programme that **unites and empowers** our youth in Bermuda by **advancing** their understanding of climate change issues and facilitating climate action through a guided programme structure and project work.

Duration & Involvement

Now in its 2nd year, the initiative runs from November through October and is open to students ages 13-22.

YCS begins with a full week of student engagement to lay the foundation for the year-long programme that follows (see impact report attached). Following the Summit, students work closely with Dr. Rosemarie McMahon developing climate knowledge through hands-on learning experiences, and participant-led project work.

Programme Structure

One Week
Summit
November

YCS Training/Education Project
Support (First 6 Months)



Alumni
Activities

YCS Fact Finding Trips
(On Going)



Youth
Outreach

YCS Climate Action Projects:
Climate Justice, Sustainability & Conservation
(On Going)



2022 Summit



The annual event included an environmental showcase which allowed students to engage with YCS partners and NGOs. YCS alumni had the opportunity to interact with our guest Youth Activists and new students. Closing out the Summit, alumni and new students worked together to plant mangroves at the National Trust.

Post Summit Programme

Students receive coaching in Project Management, Leadership, Stakeholder & Volunteer Engagement, Communication & (now also) Career Development



Field trips to various organisations (e.g. BE Solar) each month for focused learning on sustainability, conservation, and climate justice topics



Project Development & Action



Students developed climate action projects and presented their plans to an audience of peers, NGOs and corporate sponsoring partners. To help students launch their climate action projects, students met with local NGOs to exchange their ideas.



Sustainability – Single Use Plastic Substitution



The Sustainability Track introduced sustainable lunchboxes and held a pre-waste audit at Berkeley Institute.



Climate Justice – LED Energy Project

The Climate Justice Track developed a project to promote energy efficiency. They also attended the Youth Energy Roundtable at the Bermuda Business Development Agency.

Conservation – Beach Clean-Up Project

The Climate Justice Track have worked with KBB and Nonsuch Expeditions on ways to curb plastic waste. Their goal is to encourage youth to clean up beaches.

