Youth Climate

**Event Report** 

The vision of the Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute (BUEI) is to 'Ensure the ocean around Bermuda is widely understood, appreciated and protected', and the organization has been committed to developing ocean literacy through its educational programmes since its inception nearly 25 years ago.



With the global attention on the health of the world's oceans, and the direct impact to Bermuda from rising sea levels attributed to global warming, BUEI sought to adopt a holistic approach to further increase ocean literacy and to promote ocean stewardship.

The Youth Climate Summit was created by BUEI to educate, inform, and engage young people on the climate issue. The Summit provided an ideal opportunity to involve multiple generations and stakeholders in discussions and collaboration on the broader environmental issues that ultimately impact ocean ecosystems, locally and globally. It also laid the foundation for a year of youth-led initiatives intended to safeguard those ecosystems.

# **Educate Inform Engage**



The Youth Climate Summit was supported by Bermuda's Ministry of Education who were "really excited about the opportunity to engage our students in a relevant and authentic initiative, and activities that will present many benefits for them. These include acquiring new knowledge and skills; providing them with access to local and international experts; creating opportunities to engage in a national project; and to address a local and global challenge, all whilst enabling them to develop new partnerships and friendships, to list a few."

The Ministry's support made it possible for public school students and educators to access the tools and resources required to fully participate in the Summit. Additional support by CITV, the Bermuda Government's public information station, helped to extend pre-Summit outreach into homes across Bermuda.

# **Educate Inform Engage**





PRE-SUMMIT
ACTIVITIES & OUTCOMES





















- **Focus on representation**
- Daily countdown & engagement
- Clear call to action
- 12 school assemblies & faculty sessions
- 4 weeks of topical documentary screening





### Pre-Summit: Educate & Inform

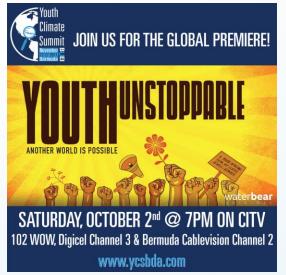
#### **Youth Climate Cinema**

'Youth Unstoppable' global premier via CITV/BUEI partnership. Bermuda was the only country authorized to screen the documentary via public access television during its international release.

YOUTH UNSTOPPABLE – BUEI Onsite Screening Feedback Survey	1	2	3	4	5
1= Not Concerned 5= Very Concerned					
Before you watched Youth Unstoppable, how did you feel before about climate crisis?		2	3	9	14
Now that you have seen Youth Unstoppable, how did you feel before about climate			1	5	22
crisis?					
1= Pessimistic 5= Optimistic					
Before you watched Youth Unstoppable, how did you feel about our power to change	1	6	15	4	2
the future?					
Now that you have seen Youth Unstoppable, how did you feel about our power to		1	3	7	17
change the future?					







It's not about saving the planet.
Nature is powerful-the earth
has survived and will continue
to. Climate change is about
saving people. That changed
my perspective.
14 year old, Homeschooler

One moviegoer, who registered for the Summit after attending one Youth Climate Cinema film block, is now a member of the Youth Climate Advisory Board. (See video clip at left)

### **Pre-Summit Outcomes**

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

- > 189 total registrations received
- > 153 accepted







#### Schools represented

**Berkeley Institute** 

Bermuda College

Bermuda High School (BHS)

**Bermuda Homeschool Network** 

**Cedarbridge Academy** 

Chatmore British International School

**Clearwater Middle School** 

**Dellwood Middle School** 

**Saltus Grammar School** 

**Sands Secondary Middle School** 

**Somersfield Academy** 

**Warwick Academy** 

Whitney Institute Middle School

**Overseas University Students** 

### **Pre-Summit Outcomes**





VIRTUAL SESSIONS
OUTCOMES

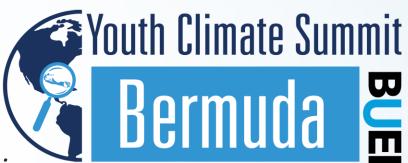






- ☐ Global overview, local impact
- ☐ Youth Advocates share their stories, challenges & successes
- ☐ Facilitated Q&A, daily surveys and polls to maintain engagement

Virtual Sessions: Educate, Inform & Engage



### Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>

#### Climate 101 What's All The Buzz About

What is climate? How does climate change? Why should it matter? What can we be sure of? What is still to be discovered?



#### **Subject Matter Expert**



Dr. Mark Guishard
Director, Bermuda Weather Service



Aaron Crichlow

Bermuda

#### **Youth Advocates**

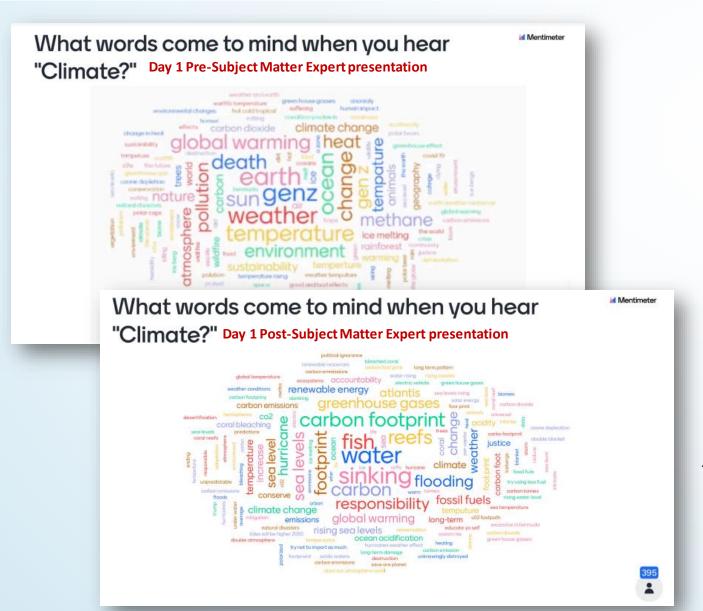


Sonika Poudel
Kathmandu, Nepal



Andrew Fagerheim
New York, USA

# **Monday Virtual Session**





Interactive polls in the virtual sessions sought to capture trends in participants' collective understanding about climate and how we fit into the picture. Including these visual representations of responses, encouraging student reflections and feedback during expert presentations and session themes allowed students to be part of the conversation and connect to the content and people on the screen.

# **Monday Session Outcome**

#### Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>

#### Climate Impacts – Why Should I Care?

How does climate impact the environment around us? Who is impacted the most? Why?



#### **Subject Matter Expert**



Dr. Isabel Rivera-Collazo Assistant Professor University of California

#### **Youth Advocates**



Sumnima Ghimire

Kathmandu, Nepal



Jerome Foster II
Washington, DC. USA

# **Tuesday Virtual Session**

**Post-presentation with Dr. Isabel Rivera-Collazo**, regarding the most interesting connection between climate and impact:

- I had never really thought of non tangible aspects of our lives and not just the planet itself. Virtual participant
- Climate can connect all the way back to 4000 years ago. I didn't think that was possible. To know that our history can determine our lifestyle and we can affect the future. Virtual participant





# **Tuesday Session Outcome**

### Wednesday, November 24th

#### Climate Action - What Can I Do?

What's the difference between Advocacy and Activism? What is Climate Justice? What's the difference between Sustainability and Conservation? How can I make a difference.



#### Time to Choose Your Track!\*

- Conservation
- Sustainability
- Climate Justice

Participants will prioritize their area of focus for Saturday's onsite sessions and the initiatives that will follow!

\*Determines Saturday onsite arrival/registration time.

#### **Subject Matter Expert**



**Kyle Gracey Board Chair, SustainUS** 

#### **Youth Advocate**



Mari "Little Miss Flint' Copney Flint, Michigan USA

# Wednesday Virtual Session



**Sustainability** is the regenerative use of resources that sustains our needs today without compromising the needs of future generations.

**Example:** The Bermuda stepped roof water system and growing produce locally.



Students spent time together in virtual break-out groups prior to selecting their area of focus.



**Climate Justice:** Giving a voice to those most vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change and a say in climate action.

**Example:** Ensuring Bermuda's climate legislation receives full input and approval from the communities most affected, and that the costs of action are fairly shared.

"You messed it up, you fix it!"

**Conservation** is the act of safekeeping existing resources for present and future generations.

**Example:** Protecting water quality; preserving green belts and nature reserves, i.e. the Railway trail, Spittal Pond, and seagrass beds.

# **Wednesday Track Selection**

#### **Wednesday Participant Reflection**

"One important thing I learned from today is \_\_\_\_\_\_"

- My voice matters!
- There are many paths that I can take in order to help save the environment.
- Plastics have vast effects on both human and environmental health.
- I don't have to be scientific to have a job that helps our environment.
- We all have important skills that are needed for climate action.
- Young people can be leaders too.



# **Wednesday Session Outcome**

#### **Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>**

#### Climate & Me – How Does My Future Look?

What's in my control here and now? How can I plan for future?



#### **Subject Matter Expert**



Angela A'Zary
Senior Vice President
RenaissanceRe, Bermuda

#### **Youth Advocates**



Fae Sapsford

Bermuda



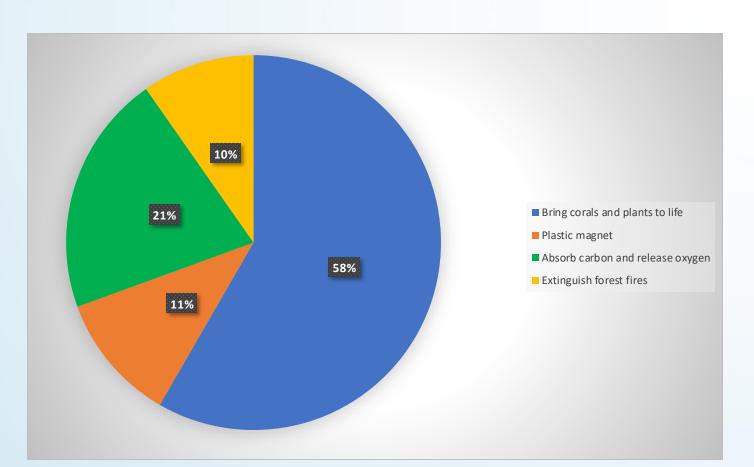
Forbi Perise

'The Plastics Man'

Cameroon

# **Thursday Virtual Session**

#### Which climate action superpower would you want most?





# **Thursday Session Outcome**





BUEI ONSITE
ACTIVITIES & OUTCOMES

#### **Friday ENVIRONMENTAL SHOWCASE 2.5 hours**

**Purpose**: Identify local resources and collaboration opportunities to inform your own action plans.

- ☐ Summit partner introductions
- ☐ Video presentations by local environmental NGOs
- ☐ Face-to-face engagement with international & local
  - organizations
- ☐ Interactive and informative booths
- > 127 Student attendees
- > 20 Faculty in attendance







Greenrock.org









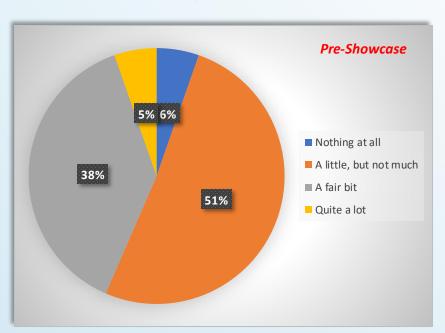
# **Environmental Showcase: Inform & Engage**

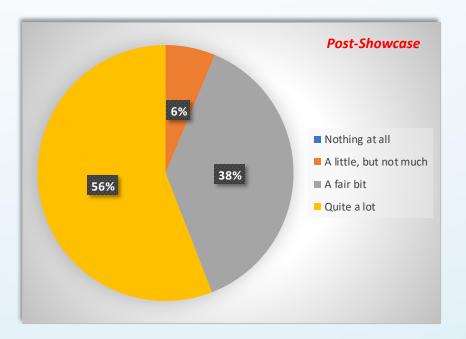
Pre and Post-Showcase survey results measured the impact of the visit with NGO's and partners.



#### **Overall Results**

How much do you feel you know about Bermuda's Current Environmental Projects?



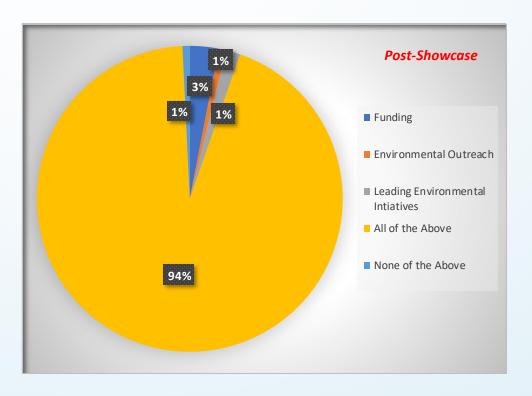




#### **Overall Results**

What role do businesses play in tackling environmental issues?

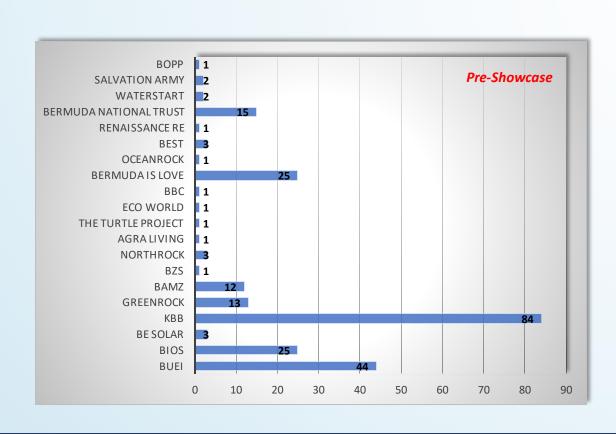


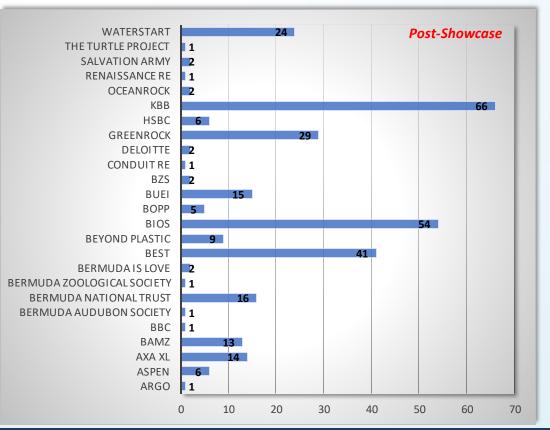


#### **Overall Results**

What are some local Environmental Organisations that you know of?







**Post-Summit Survey Responses** 

# What did you most enjoy about the Environmental Showcase on Friday?



I thought it was cool because I was able to meet the different

sponsors. It was good to know so many people cared about the

14 year-old Berkeley Institute

climate.

I really liked meeting all the local activists and organizations so i am aware of what people in Bermuda are doing as well as being able to get involved with them.

I enjoyed talking to the people there and learning about what is currently being done in Bermuda and different organization's plans for the future.

I enjoyed that I was able to talk to the sponsors and hear the changes they are pushing in their workplace environment. I was also able to register for some things.

Talking to organisations about what they are doing be become more sustainable and how they aim to reach net zero.

I enjoyed the way we were able to collaborate with the partners, some made a game and we won prizes.

How we were given little things to help reduce our carbon footprint in Bermuda.

I liked seeing the different companies and what they had to offer in innovation.

Everyone was super nice, and they were all curious about what i had to say.

I enjoyed learning about the different organizations in Bermuda that are making an effort to change Bermuda positively.

I like the mini stalls of the organizations and how they explained their cause and how they're going on about it.

Meeting with vendors, establishing what opportunities were available for students, schools etc; free giveaways; any body always likes a free gift!

I enjoyed that we where able to go around and learn what organizations are out there and I liked the fact that we were actually able to sign up and "BE A PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER" and help contribute to help save our planet. 17 year-old, Cedarbridge Academy

I attended the NGO/Corporate fair on the Friday with my students and it was very professionally presented. I was super impressed with the videos from the NGOs and the opportunities for interactions with key stakeholders was invaluable for students. Bermuda College Instructor

# Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup> Purpose: Propose your own solutions

- Summit Participants join their fellow trackmembers
- Review what they've heard throughout the week
- Voice their vision for their future
- Identify climate actions and initiatives they can undertake to help secure their vision.
- Establish Youth Climate Advisory Board
  - > 90 Participants in attendance





# **Saturday Session: Engage**

What Climate
Action do you
want Bermuda to
undertake?

What climate initiative would you carry out with your peers?

What would this accomplish?

### YOUR TURN YOUR VOICE



## YOUR TURN YOUR VOICE

### SIGN UP FOR YOUTH CLIMATE ADVISORY BOARD

Place a post-it with your full name on it in the space below:

#### **Youth Climate Advisory Board**

Each track appointed 3 delegates to serve as active advocates and ambassadors for the Youth Climate Projects.

- Keep other Board members informed on their respective project group activities
- Share information from the Board with their project group
- Communicate your project group's needs, issues, or concerns to the Board

### A YEAR OF ACTION

#### **Youth Climate Advisory Board members**



# Youth Leadership

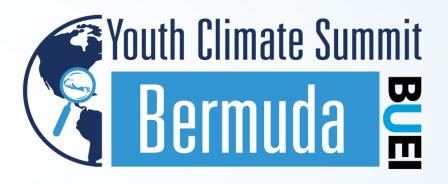


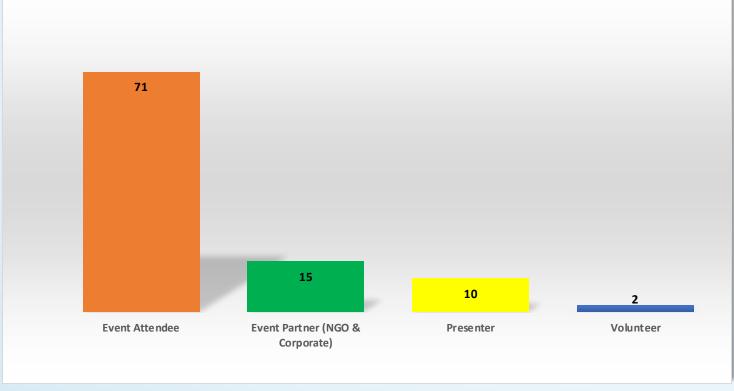


Post-Summit Feedback

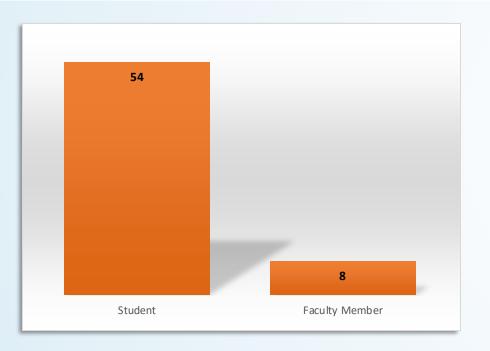
#### How did you participate in the Youth Climate Summit?



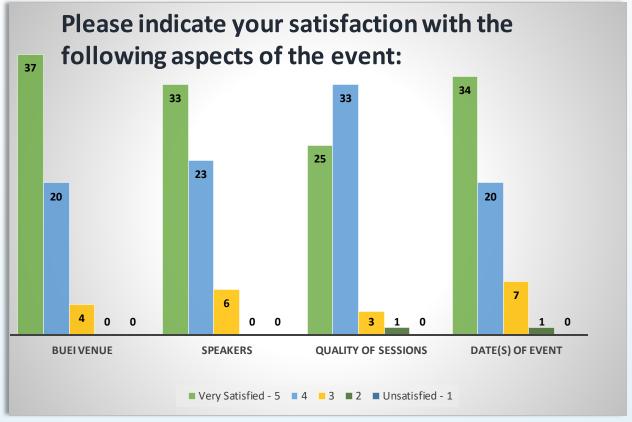




# **Post Summit Feedback – Respondents**

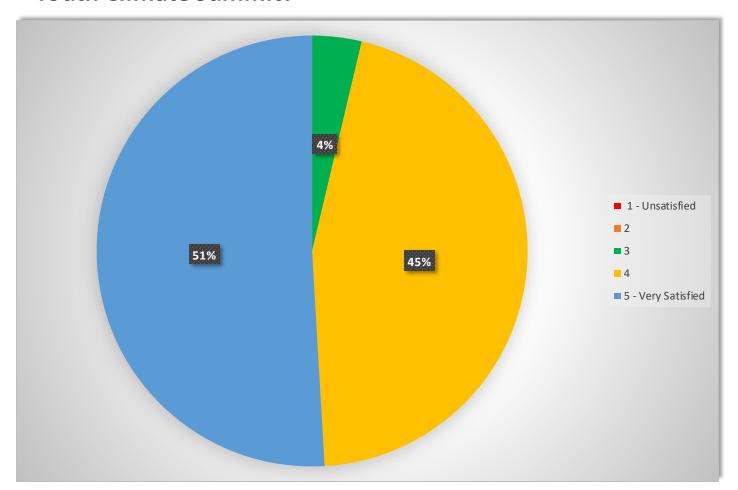


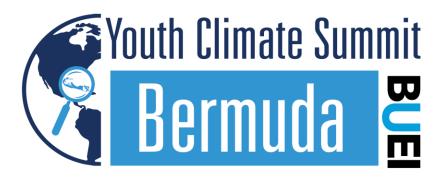




### Post Summit Feedback - Attendees

# What is your level of satisfaction for the Youth Climate Summit?

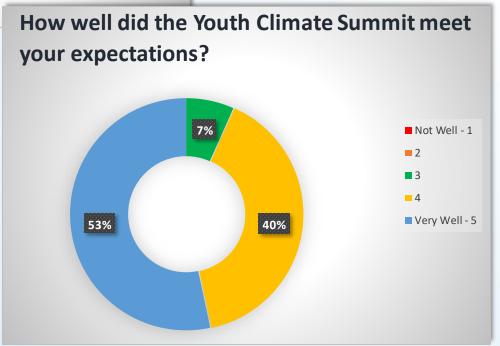


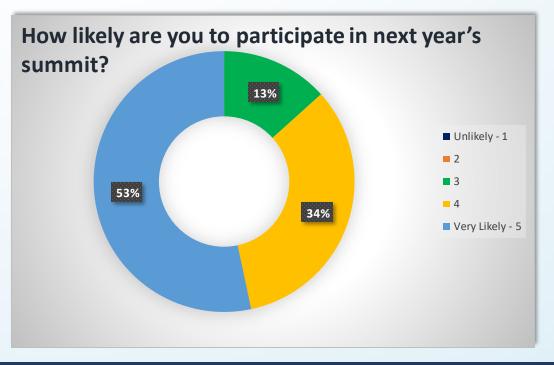


### Post Summit Feedback - Overall









### Post Summit Feedback - NGOs & Partners





Partner Overview



BUEI sought to partner with organizations who share a similar vision for Bermuda – where the Island's youth and young adults have a strong connection to the environment and imagine themselves as future business owners, community leaders and environmental advocates.

### **Partner Selection**



We extend our sincere thanks to all Summit Partners for providing the necessary funding to underpin the Summit's success, for their thoughtful input throughout the event's development stages, and for their generous sharing of time and resources to engage with participants.

### **Thank You**

#### **Transformational Founding Partners**

Our Transformational Founding Partners are committed to realizing the vision of the Youth Climate Summit and the Youth Climate Advisory Board.



They are interested in supporting young people pursuing transformative solutions to systemic problems.

They want to build trust, equity and diversity by equally contributing a range of resources beyond financial contributions, including knowledge, expertise, connections, credibility, and people.





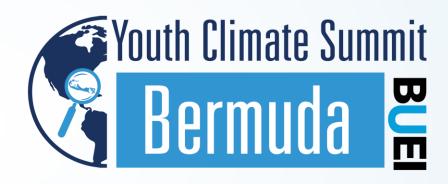


# **Transformational Founding Partners**

#### **Visionary Partners**

#### : having or marked by foresight and imagination

Visionary Partners support endeavors that promote thinking about the future in a creative and imaginative way.







#### **Inspire Partners**

: to make someone <u>feel</u> that they <u>want</u> to do something and can do it

Inspired Partners recognize the need to excite and encourage to build confidence that leads to action.









# **Visionary & Inspire Partners**

#### **Motivate Partners**

: to make someone want to do something well

**KPMG** PACT

**Neuberger Berman** Bermuda Tourism Authority



#### **Advocate Partners**

:a person or organization who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause or policy.

ABIR BeSolar

Bermuda Stock Exchange Lindo's Family Foods

Belco

Bermuda Development Agency

**Hamilton Princess Hotel** 

**WaterBear** 

### **Motivate & Advocate Partners**

