

10 November 2017

The Joint Canadian Youth Press Conference For COP 23 Week 1

Bonn, Germany – Today, young Canadians representing several groups and civil society organizations convened to share their perspectives on the first week of COP23, and comments on specific topic areas both in COP negotiations and back at home.

Among the main talking points were:

- A call upon the Canadian government to express its support in the proposed Ocean Pathway Partnership
- A call for more finances to the Adaptation fund
- The Global South Scholarship- which gave 30 youth from the Global South funding and accreditation to this year's COP- was a success for the Young People's NGO Constituency
- Information on the Youth Climate Lab- an initiative intended to fill gaps in advocacy efforts, namely intranational membership and intergenerational spaces
- The need for more attention to be placed on agriculture and LULUC
- The Canadian Government's shortfalls in climate leadership

Quote List:

"Canada's work to renew its relationship with First Nations, Inuit and Métis is part and parcel to Canada's ability to advance the Platform and subsequently contribute to climate action. Having relationships based on recognition of rights, respect, cooperation and partnership with Indigenous Peoples at home supports Canada's international efforts, as it will showcase that Canada is wholeheartedly committed to enhancing and supporting the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in climate action both at home and internationally in the UNFCCC." **Verna Yam, British Columbia Council for International Cooperation**

"...the only forum where negotiations around agriculture are taking place is in the body that is in charge of scientific and technical advice – the SBSTA. And this is one of my key concerns: the only place where agriculture is actually being discussed is in an "advising" body. I think that it would be much more useful in regards to climate change if some implementation negotiations were to take place and that the implementation policies were not completely left to every country's good will and not-concerted action. This would allow all the work that has been done since the Paris Agreement to be put into joint action so we can start to see some concrete



Youth Delegation to COP 23
United Nations Climate Change Conference
Délégation de la jeunesse à la CdP-23
La conférence des Nations unies sur le changement climatique



results, both in terms of mitigation and adaptation.” **Alix Ruhlmann on agriculture, Environnement Jeunesse.**

... The work of delegates at UNFCCC sessions remains largely uncommunicated (in part due to its complexity) to those working outside the realms of international climate change policy. The work of the UNFCCC will be more effective and influential if we can leverage youth networks to make people more invested in the outcomes of the process. **Dominique Souris, Youth Climate Lab**

“We are at COP 23 to hold the Canadian Government accountable to their international commitments and do their fair share in supporting vulnerable nations. We stand in solidarity with these communities – including people of colour, poor peoples, women and gender non-conforming, and Indigenous peoples – who face disproportionate impacts of climate change. As one of the world’s largest emitters of greenhouses gases, Canada is complicit in climate disaster and extreme weather events that we have seen so frequently this past year. Especially in this political climate, Canada has the duty to step-up on the world stage and prove once and for all that it will and can reach climate targets. We are calling on all levels of government for bold climate action that prioritizes young voices, justice, and community.” –**Tina Oh, Delegate with the Canadian Youth Delegation**

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To view the livestream recording, go

here: <https://unfccc.cloud.streamworld.de/webcast/youngo-the-youth-constituency-press-conference>