

# Go 4 BioDiv

International Youth Forum  
Natural World Heritage Sites  
Nagoya / Japan 2010



## "Our treasures at Risk" – Statements by all participants of the International Youth Forum Go4BioDiv at COP10, Nagoya, Japan

- in English and our native languages -

**Aavaraq**, 25, Ilulissat Icefjord, Greenland: "Take a look at me. Take a look at my friends. Our homelands are suffering the consequences of climate change. We are not just another story in the news. We are the ones who need action now. This is personal!"

in Kalaallisut (Greenlandic):

Qiviariangna

Ikinngutikka qivialaakkit

Silaannap allanngoriarnerata kingunerani nunat angerlarsimaffigut naalliuupput

Tusagassiutigut nutaarsiassaannaanngilagut

Uagut tassaavugut iliususinik pisariaqartitsisut

Uagutsinnut inuttut pingaaruteqaqaaq.

**Andrea**, 22, Galápagos, Ecuador: "Humans need to understand that biodiversity is the unique source of life. It is our responsibility to protect it and take care of it. Our planet requires respect!"

in Spanish: "Los seres humanos necesitan entender que la biodiversidad es la única fuente de vida. Es nuestra responsabilidad protegerla. Nuestro planeta necesita ser respetado."

**Dhritiman**, 28, Manas, India: "Natural World Heritage sites are the treasure house of biodiversity and local people are an integral part of the landscape. If we really want to conserve biodiversity, equity and fair sharing of the resources require to include local communities."

in Assamese:

প্ৰাকৃতিক বিশ্ব ঐতিহক্সেত্রোৱ আমাৰ **সম্পদ** আৰু ওচৰৰ স্থানীয় **সম্পদায়** ইয়াৰ

অবিজ্ঞেন্দ্ৰ অংগ। **সম্পদৰ** সম অংশকাৰিত স্থানীয় বাইজৰ বাবে আমি কাৰিব

লাগিব, তেওঁিয়াহে আমি ইয়াক ভৱিষ্যতৰ বাবে সংৰক্ষণ কাৰিব পাৰিম।

**Marina**, 19, Wadden Sea, Germany: "Just step back for a minute and then think about what your life really depends on!"

in German: "Nimm dir einfach mal kurz Zeit und denke darüber nach, wovon dein Leben wirklich abhängt."

**Shazia**, 25, Nanda Devi, India: "India is a unique country with diverse cultures, traditions and rich biodiversity. We should be more vigilant about the changes in the environment in order to protect this heritage."

in Hindi:

भारत विविध संस्कृतियों, परम्पराओं और समृद्ध जैव विविधता के साथ अद्वितीय देश है/ इस विरासत की रक्षा करने के लिए हमें पर्यावरण में परिवर्तन के बारे में और अधिक सतर्क रहना चाहिए.

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**Fumiko**, 24, Satoyama Initiative, Japan: "Mountains are sacred to our people. Now we see the tree lines moving up and the glaciers rapidly melting. Human lives and species which rely on these landscapes are in peril. Mountains are powerful indicators of climate change."

*in Japanese:*

山は私達全員にとって神聖なものです。今、森林限界線は上昇し、氷河は急速に溶けています。これらのランドスケープをたよりに生きる人間と生物は危機にひんしています。

山は気候変動をはかる有効な指標です。

**Benjamin**, 21, Jungfrau-Aletsch, Switzerland: "We have to think about the world our children will live in. My children won't experience the beautiful great Aletsch Glacier and benefit from its important eco-system services if we cannot stop climate change."

*in Walliserdeutsch:* "Wir sellti isch überleggu in weller Wält ischi chinder wärdund läbu. Mini chinder wärdund nie der Gross Aletsch Gletscher chennu erfahru und va schinum Ökosytem Service profitieru, wenn wer der Klimawandel nid chenne stoppu."

**Fabian**, 20, Jungfrau-Aletsch, Switzerland: "The day our glaciers are completely gone, we won't have any more water. No water means no agriculture, and no agriculture means nothing to eat."

*in Walliserdeutsch:* "An dem Tag wa di Gletscher gschmolzni sind heiwer keis Wasser meh. Keis Wasser heisst kei Landwirtschaft und kei Landwirtschaft heisst nix z ässu."

**Prudence**, 25, Kahuzi-Biega, Congo DRC: "Life begins with the first tree and will finish when we cut the last one. We need action now to conserve our forests and we also need peace – if not we will lose the last gorillas of our planet."

*in Kiswahili:* "Maisha inaanza na muti na itaisha wakati muti wa mwisho utakatwa tunapenda matendo sasa na amani ili tulinde pori zetu bila ivi tutapoteza ata gorilla ya mwisho kwa dunia"

**Tagashira**, 23, Ogasawara, Japan: "Biodiversity and ecosystems can be better protected by recognizing the importance of human activities."

*in Japanese:*

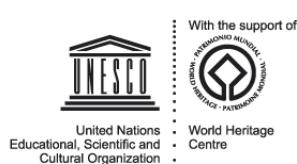
生物多様性と生態系は  
人間の活動の重要性を理解することで守られる。

**Alan**, 24, Sian Ka'an, Mexico: "Not only our mangroves and wetlands will disappear under the rising sea level, but also our cultures and traditional ways of living."

*in Spanish:* "No solo nuestros manglares y humedales desaparecerán debajo del creciente nivel del mar... también nuestras culturas y nuestras formas tradicionales de vivir."

**Anna**, 27, Great Barrier Reef, Australia: "The Great Barrier Reef is already experiencing impacts of climate change, the full effects of which are yet to be known. I urge international decision-makers to take firm action to reverse the trend. The solutions are there. We have the power to change. So what are we waiting for?"

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**Roger**, 28, La Amistad, Costa Rica: "Our World Heritage label is in danger due to mining, hydroelectric and infrastructure projects. This threatens the last refuge for the survival of the great felines of Central America."

*in Spanish:* "La etiqueta de sitio de Patrimonio Mundial peligra por los proyectos mineros, hidroeléctricos y de transporte. Esto pone en riesgo el último reducto de supervivencia para los grandes felinos de Centro América."

**Mikelita**, 28, Elmolo, Lake Turkana, Kenya: "My people fish in Lake Turkana. It is important for our culture to conserve it. Today the lake is at risk through the construction of a dam. Our economy will be destroyed, migration will follow, with the result of conflict or even war."

*in Elmolo:* "Ziwa turkana ni chanzo cha maisha kwa jamii yetu, hali ya ziwa ni mbaya kwa sasa sababu ya ujenzi wa bwawa, viumbe vyote vitaharibiwa na uchumi utachuka kama hatua haitachukuliwa"

**Sudeep**, 28, Sagarmatha, Nepal: "We strongly urge for compliance of international agreements that protect the integrity of indigenous lands. They should be effectively enforced to stop ecologically and culturally destructive practices in their territories!"

*in Nepali:* "Adivasi jananati ko chetra lai samrachan pradan garney antarastriya sandhi samjhauta haru lai palana garna, hamai jor dar mag garda chaun. Paryawaran ra sthaniza sanskriti haru lai hani garney abhyash haru lai rokna pani yi samjhauta haru ko palana garna awashyak chan!"

**Yeny**, 25, Machu Picchu, Perú: "Machu Picchu has outstanding spiritual and natural values. We are putting them at risk if we forget our conservation goals and only think about short-term economic benefits like mass tourism. Let us value our protected areas!"

*in Spanish:* "Machu Picchu posee valores naturales y espirituales increíblemente sobresalientes. Los estamos amenazando con desaparecer si olvidamos nuestras metas de conservación, y si pensamos solo en beneficiarnos a corto plazo con el turismo masivo, podemos perderlo. Por eso, por favor, valoremos nuestras áreas naturales protegidas!"

**Na**, 26, Wulingyuan, China: "Tourism not only brings happiness to people but it is also a journey of exploring nature and life. Eco-tourism is a good way to live in a harmonious world."

*in Chinese:*

旅游不只带给人类快乐，同时也是对自然和生命的探索，而生态旅游则为人类提供了一个更好的方式去实现人类与自然的和谐共处。

**Tavite**, 23, Lapita Pottery, Tonga: "We need to connect to our past if we want to be able to value our cultural heritage and our natural assets and conserve them for the future."

*in Tongan:* "Oku fiemau ke tau 'ilo ho tau kuohili kae malava ke tau mahu'inga'ia hotau tukufakaholo, pea pehe ki he mahu'inga 'ö natula, pea ke tau pukepuke pea ohi ia kihe kaha'u."

**Rosa**, 20, Machu Picchu, Perú: "To promote traditional local practices that respect nature, we have to help our young people become proud of their culture. Local knowledge can be reinforced by integrating it into the school curricula and by fostering encounters between the young and the community elders."

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With the support of  
United Nations  
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UNESCO - AGENCIA MUNDIAL DEL  
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筑波大学  
University of Tsukuba



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On behalf of  
Federal Ministry  
for Economic Cooperation  
and Development

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*in Quechua:* "Astawan Pachamamanchista munacunanchispaq wayna sipaskunata sonqonta kicharinanchis aswanta llaqtanta ñawpaqman purichinankupaq. Aylluq yachayninkunata mat'isun yachaywasikunapi, hinallataq huñurikunanku parlanankupaq waynakuna machupayakunawan ama llaqtaq yachayninkuna chusaqman tukupunampaq."

**Kayo**, 23, Yakushima, Japan: "Let us give more time to our children to go out and enjoy nature and feel its spirit."

*in Japanese:*

私たちの子どもをもっと外に連れていきましょう。そして、自然の中で遊び、その生命を感じましょう

**Kien**, 30, Phong Nha-Ke Bang, Vietnam: "To invest in our children's learning about nature and in nature is a big step for our future."

*in Vietnamese:* "Đầu tư giáo dục cho các thanh thiếu niên về thiên nhiên và trải nghiệm thiên nhiên sẽ tạo nên một bước tiến lớn cho tương lai của chúng ta."

**Saningo**, 23, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania: "The erosion of traditional cultures leads to a degradation of the natural environment. Whoever feels truly concerned about nature conservation should support the continuity of traditional knowledge and cultural values."

*in Kiswahili:* "Mmomonyoko wa maadili na tamaduni zetu imesababisha uharibifu wa mazingira tunamoishi. Ni wakati wa kila mtu anayehisi kuguswa na tatizo hili kusimama kwa nafasi yake kutetea mazingira pamoja na tamaduni zetu."

**Jenn**, 25, Chipewyan Métis, Nahanni, Canada: "I would like to honour all those indigenous and local peoples who were displaced or adversely affected by conservation initiatives all over the world. Many protected areas are on traditional homelands. Historical mistakes should be acknowledged as a way of moving forward."

**Qivioq**, 29, Ilulissat Icefjord, Greenland: "To protect the land, it is necessary to respect, indigenous peoples and cultures. Only then, we can become equal partners, in reaching our common goal: conserving nature."

*in Kalaallisut (Greenlandic):* „Nunap paariniarnerani pingaarluinnarpooq nunap inoqqaavi kulttuuriilu ataqqissalugit. Aatsaat ataqqeqatigiinnermi naliigliittumik suleqatiginiuteqartoqarsinnaavoq, anguniagarlu angungusinnaallutigu: pinnortitap illorsornera!“

**Candice**, 27, Cape Floral, South Africa: "The time to embrace conscious action to save our biodiversity and very existence is now! You cannot drink sand and saying sorry won't fill the glass. So ask yourself: What do you value?"

**Battsetseg**, 26, Orkhon Valley, Mongolia: "If we are serious about the protection of our World Heritage sites, governments should provide adequate resources in recognition of their universal value."

*in Mongolian:* Дэлхийн өвийн үнэ цэнэ үнэхээр чухал юм бол ягаад түүний хадгалалт, хамгаалалтанд шаардлагатай хөрөнгө санхүүг гаргаж, ил тод зарцуулдаггүй юм бэ?!

**Pascal**, 28, Kahuzi-Biega, Congo DRC: "We ask for more financial resources for the integration of the local population to safeguard biodiversity."

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*in French:* "Nous demandons plus de ressources financières pour l'intégration de la population locale au sauvegarde de la biodiversité."

**Unur**, 28, Orkhon Valley, Mongolia: "The economic value of nature services shall be considered in political decisions. Developed countries should be fair enough to pay for the environmental benefits they get from the valuable nature in developing countries and for the consequences of climate change from which the developing countries are suffering the most."

*in Mongolian:* Улс төрийн шийдвэрт байгалийн нийгэм, эдийн засагт үзүүлдэг бодит үнэ цэнийг тусгай! Ур амьсгалын өөрчлөлтөнд хамгийн ихээр өртөж буй ядуу буурай, хөгжин буй орнуудад үзүүлэх олон улсын техникийн тусламж болон нөхөн төлбөрийг бодьоор нэмэгдүүлье!

**Sven**, 28, Wadden Sea, Germany: "Do we need to put a price tag to every species and ecosystem before we are able to value and conserve them?"

*in German:* "Müssen wir erst ein Preisschild auf jede Tier- und Pflanzenart oder Ökosystem kleben, damit wir ihren Wert erkennen und sie schützen können?"

**Yen**, 26, Phong Nha-Ke Bang, Vietnam: "We are finally seeing a change in traditional conservation concepts that excluded people. The value of indigenous knowledge and stewardship in the protection of biodiversity must be recognized."

*in Vietnamese:* "Chúng ta đang thấy có sự thay đổi trong quan điểm về bảo tồn theo lối truyền thống mà đã loại trừ yêu tố con người. Những giá trị về nhận thức và vai trò của người dân bản địa trong công tác bảo tồn đa dạng sinh học cần được nhìn nhận."

**El Hacen**, 30, Banc D'Arguin, Mauritania: "Is it fair to ask me to protect when you are destroying? To ask me to not seek a better life when you are living one? To ask me for help when you are doing nothing?"

*in Arabic:*

أمن العدل أن تطلب مني أن أحمي و أنت تخرّب ؟  
أن لا أسعى لحياة أفضل و أنت تعيش واحدة ؟  
أن تطلب مني يد العون و أنت لا تحرك ساكنا ؟

**Li**, 26, Wulingyuan, China: "If we give nature what it wants, it will give us what we need."

*in Chinese:*

如果我们给自然它想要的，它就会给我们想要的。

**Josiane**, 25, Dja Faunal Reserve, Cameroon: "Hand in hand, all over the world – Let us act as fences and umbrellas covering our natural treasures against heavy rains of threats!"

*in French:* "Tenons nous main dans la main, à travers le monde entier - Formons des barrières et des parapluies sur nos trésors naturels pour les protéger contre ces fortes pluies de menaces."

**Vladi**, 28, Beech Forests, Slovakia: "Don't wait until others do something to protect our Mother Earth. Negative changes are already happening. Get involved and act now!"

*in Slovak:* "Nečakajme kým tí druhí urobia niečo pre ochranu našej Matky Zeme. Negatívne zmeny sa už dejú. Pridajte sa k nam a konajme teraz!"

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UNESCO, AIXHI, MURDOCH, ICOMOS,  
INTERPARIS, PATRIMONIO, MUSEUMS  
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World Heritage Centre

筑波大学  
University of Tsukuba



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On behalf of  
Federal Ministry  
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