



DAGES NEWS

DISTRICT ACTION GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

A globe of the Earth is centered on the image, resting on a sandy surface. Several puddles of water are scattered around the base of the globe, reflecting the sky. The background is a clear, light blue sky.

Global Climate Conference SUSTAINABLE ACTION

4 July 2021

Special Publication ▾

Pages 06 - 07

THE JOURNEY

Pages 08 - 09

BEHIND THE SCENE

Pages 14 - 23

THE CONFERENCE

SPECIAL BONUS! LINK TO THE FULL VIDEO OF THE CONFERENCE

A Special Publication on
Global Climate Conference 2021



PP DR DHILEEPAN NAIR
Organising Chairman,
Global Climate Conference 2021

THE MAKING OF RI DISTRICT 3300'S GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

THE BEGINNING

On 12 July 2020, committee members of DAGES met DGE Dato Bindi together with some of her committee members at an exclusive restaurant in TTDI, KL to discuss ongoing activities of DAGES, future plans and to brainstorm ideas for RY 21-22 and how to usher in Rotary's seventh area of focus, Environment in our District.

One of the ideas discussed was the HugOurTree initiative proposed by Ir Nirinder Johl of RC Bernam Valley and he presented the concept, the proposal for fund raising through green CSR funds from energy and other corporates and tree planting projects by Rotary Clubs in West Malaysia using the funds raised. Other ideas discussed included hosting of a major event to kick-off this initiative and other potential DAGES projects proposed for RY 21-22.

There was much hope and optimism then, that the COVID19 pandemic will end soon and that life will go back to normal by the end of 2020. Projects were planned and proposals prepared, but alas, the pandemic decided to stay put and matters worsened over time and the lockdowns and work from home became routine for most of us.

THE INCEPTION OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CONFERENCE

Later that year, Dr Kong Voon Sin of Rotary Club of Bukit Kiara Sunrise planted an idea with Dato Bindi about holding a Climate Conference to usher in Rotary's seventh area of focus, **Environment**, in our District. The idea blossomed. A chat group was created on 20 November 2020 and an ad-hoc committee (Green Year Committee) was formed by Dr Kong and the date of 4 th July was set for the Conference.

LEADERSHIP



DAGES COMMITTEE BRAINSTORMING MEETING ON 12-7-2020 AT THE RED PENGUIN, TTDI, KL

DAGES was invited on 6 January 2021 to support the ad-hoc committee and on 4 February 2021 Dato Bindi requested DAGES to take the lead in organising the Climate Conference as Dr Kong had just taken a position with the University of Malaya and thus was unable to anchor the organising committee. The work commenced thereon.

EMBRACING THE CHALLENGE

Being clear from the start on what we hope to achieve was important. Going virtual was not our prime choice, but sharing expertise, resources and connection was made easy with technology. The team was handpicked. They were enthusiastic, interested and driven team players. We showcased strong visuals in the form of our promo materials including our DAGES conference website. And we had extraordinary keynote speakers and panelists who set the required tone for the Conference. And the world was with us through Rotary's global network. As for the rest, we just went forth and did it.

This special publication chronicles the journey of ushering Environment as Rotary's 7th Area of Focus.

Thank you for your support.

Dhileepan Nair

DAGES COMMITTEE RY 2021-22

ADVISOR

PDG DR BASKARAN
GOBALA KRISHNAN

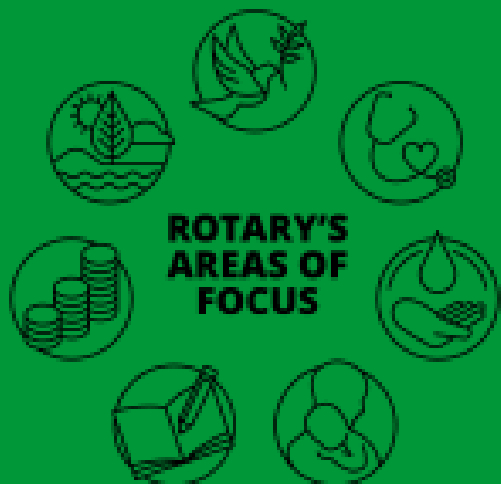
CO-CHAIRMEN

PP DR DHILEEPAN NAIR
PAG BHARAT GORASIA

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RTN ALISON TAN (Asst. Secretary)
PP S SUBRAMANIAM (Treasurer)
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PP SOH YEW AUN
PP ANG SOON GIN
RTN SURESH UNNIKRISHNAN
RTN ALAN CHAN
RTN ANANTHA ARUMUGAM

ROTARY COMMITS TO SUPPORTING THE ENVIRONMENT



Supporting the **environment** becomes Rotary's seventh area of focus, which are categories of service activities supported by global grants. It joins **peacebuilding and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; water, sanitation, and hygiene; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and community economic development.**

Grant applications for projects will be accepted beginning on **1 July 2021**. Gifts and commitments from Rotarians and others will be sought to provide global grant support for the new area of focus.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP (ESRAG)

Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group (ESRAG) assists Rotary clubs, districts and multi-districts in planning, implementing and evaluating service projects, building awareness, and inspiring action. These projects promote environmental sustainability, awareness of climate change, and actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to mitigate climate disruption.

DISTRICT ACTION GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (DAGES)

Formed in RY2018-2019, DAGES creates environmental awareness about issues prevalent in our society and communities, inspires actions, and assists in developing projects and initiatives to address these issues through Interact Clubs, Rotaract Clubs and Rotary Clubs.



ABOUT DAGES

District Action Group on Environmental Sustainability (DAGES) focuses on four areas: **Conservation** which includes zero waste, wildlife protection, and recycle for life; **Signature Parks**; **Love Our Rivers**; and **Plant a Tree**. The following are the committee members in-charge of each focus area. Please contact them for more information about projects, activities or grants.



Suresh Unnikrishnan | suresh.ezybiz@gmail.com

Recycle For Life partners with schools and corporations to measure and reward people for recycling. It is a recycling programme that rewards cash through the use of a smart card. The concept was initiated by Cenviro together with MyKasih Foundation.

**CONSERVATION
- ZERO WASTE,
WILDLIFE
PROTECTION,
RECYCLE FOR
LIFE**



Clement Sinnapar | sb.vclement@gmail.com
S Subramaniam | subrasangamam@gmail.com

Parks and protected public lands are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, produce habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature. The following are our Parks:

- Friendship Park in Kajang
- Rotary Square in Medan Tuanku
- Rotary Peace Park, Bestari Jaya
- Rotary Peace Corner - Taiping Lake Garden

**SIGNATURE
PARKS - PEACE
PARKS AND
FRIENDSHIP
PARKS**



Ar. Lim Fang Keong | limfangkeong@hotmail.com
Looi Kok Kheong | kokklooi@yahoo.com

Our rivers, reservoirs, lakes, and seas are drowning in chemicals, waste, plastic, and other pollutants. One of the initiatives to tackle this is the SeeGEM River Care and Environmental Centre - a collaboration between Rotary Club of Melawati and the local community.

**LOVE OUR
RIVERS**



Nirinder Johl | nirinder@tnb.com.my

Trees combat global warming by absorbing carbon dioxide and producing oxygen, contribute to soil health, retain water, and cool overheated urban areas. One of the projects that is underway is #HugOurTree.

**PLANT A
TREE**

TRIBUTE TO AMAZING TEAMWORK, AND COLLABORATION

A great team definitely makes all the difference. This was especially true when organising this Conference. The key committee members who were brought in when laying the groundwork were not many, but instrumental and effective.

Yasmin Yusof (DAGES Secretary) managed the design for the Webinar Series, Conference materials, and Rotary Eco-Warrior Manifesto which included the brochures, visuals and EDMs. She also assisted in developing the contents for the webinar and conference promotion through social media. Ajit Johl crafted the details of the conference sponsorship and coordinated the website development exercise. Karthi Palanisamy and Samantha Samson anchored the production and event management of the Conference after much persuasion and arm twisting.

On 3 April 2021, a tree planting project was organised by Ir Nirinder with members of Rotary Club of Bernam Valley, volunteers of #HugOurTree, officials from Lembaga Urus Air Selangor (LUAS) and volunteers from DAGES. The event was held at Rotary Peace Park, LUAS ORS Lakes, Bestari Jaya, Kuala Selangor. We had over 30 participants and 50 tree saplings were planted. The event was video recorded by Nirinder's team using a drone and the contents of the recording was edited and made ready for broadcast at the official launching of the HugOurTree initiative at the Conference.

Chiew Teck Wee took the lead role in developing the Rotary Eco Warrior (REW) Manifesto together with the 4-Way Path with inputs from a number of us, including one of our Webinar guest speakers, Rita Dutta - to bring it to its present form and guided the Rotaract team in producing the REW video which was partially shot at Bukit Kiara nature forest. The Rotaract team played a key role in the video production and



The key committee members who were brought in, when laying the groundwork, were not many, but instrumental and effective.

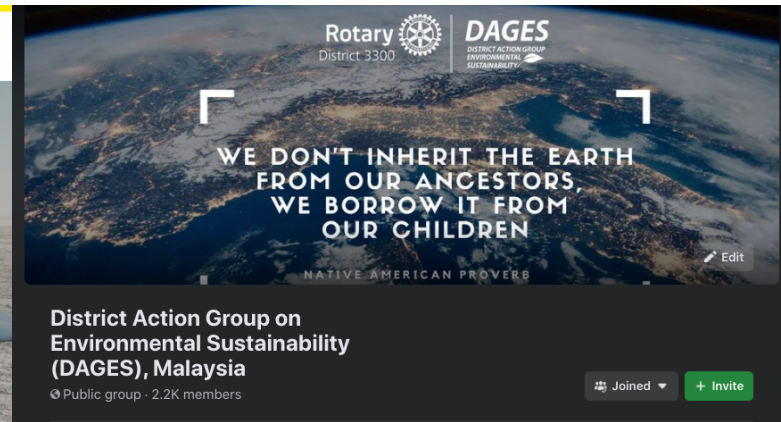
subsequent editing.

The international speakers/panelists were approached through District Governor Dato' Bindi's and other Rotarians' extensive network. For the Malaysian youth panel session, a number of youth activists and professionals were approached. Azrina Abdullah, a new Rotarian from Rotary Club of Ara Damansara stepped in and managed to persuade four youth panelists from the corporate, NGO and university sectors to participate.

Dato' Bindi managed to convince PRIP K R Ravindran to be one of the keynote speakers. Bharat Gorasia played a key role with Yeshey Dorji from the Rotary Club of Thimphu, Bhutan to invite another keynote speaker from Bhutan. That incredible effort in the mountains and valleys of Bhutan was another story to be told on another day.

Rotary has always shown deep investment in environment even before it became the 7th area of focus and having Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) was a must. Through Synergy Rotary Friendship Alliance, we managed to bring in a special invited speaker, Dr Christopher Pullock, ESRAG Chair 18-21 to speak at the Conference.

THE JOURNEY



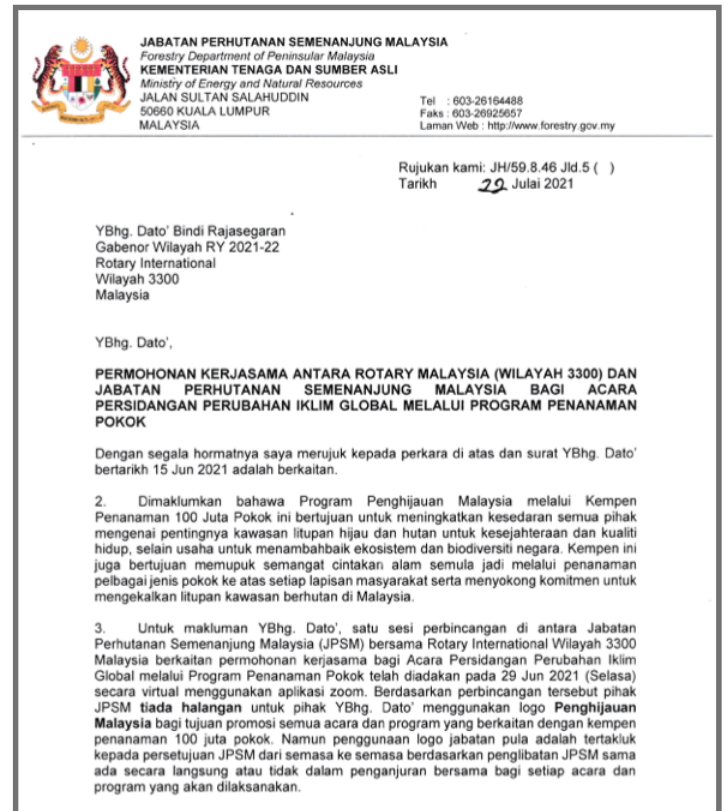
This inaugural edition of Global Climate Conference gathered like-minded individuals and organisations from across the globe, to learn, discuss thoughts, network, share ideas, create new ideas, and to ignite motivation in preserving and protecting the environment.

The Conference expounded on the global challenges brought upon by climate change and invited dialogues and discussions on practices and implementations from around the world. To ensure global participation, the Team explored and extended connections from within Rotary.

Synergy Rotary Friendship Alliance, a friendship alliance comprising 16 clubs from 14 countries came on board. Next to join as an international partner was Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) with more than 1,400 members in 80 countries. Closer to home we had the Global Environment Centre (GEC) supporting our event. DAGES already have a long standing working relationship with GEC on community engagement and biodiversity conservation especially in river care.

Through #HugOurTree, Tenaga Nasional Berhad agreed to Rotary's nationwide tree-planting projects. Forestry Department, Malaysia gave their nod a few weeks before the Conference to be Rotary's partner in tree-planting as part of their 100 Million Tree-Planting Campaign 2020-2025 in the Greening Malaysia Agenda.

As part of the strategic planning in building the momentum and drawing potential participants to the Conference, the DAGES Facebook Group was created on 1 March 2021. The Group grew in popularity, not only amongst Rotarians, but non-Rotarians and NGOs from around the world in a short span of time. It gathered 200 members within 24 hours of launching;



500 members in 6 days; and in 4 months, 2,200 members.

The DAGES FB Group was used as our promotional platform to create awareness and trigger curiosity and thirst for information, thus indirectly prepping our potential audience for the Webinar Series and the Conference.

The cooperation between people and organisations in the process of organising the Conference was what got most work done effectively. It was truly amazing to witness the amazing outcome and results and the relationships that was built and flourished during the journey and after.

Building the momentum leading to the event

01 Design for Webinar and Conference

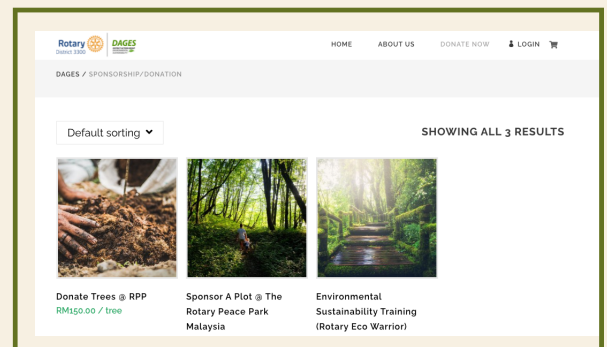
We used the designs as a tool to building a harmonious relationship with our potential participants. Via Canva which avails a free platform and convenience for an NGO, we established a bold design for people to register for the Conference. Inspired by NatGeo, we applied the same concept on all collateral items ie Webinar EDMs, certificates, Conference brochure and website as well as the Zoom background used on the event day.



02 Website Development

In May 2021, our DAGES website was developed by Ajit Johl and his team through MyMerchant.

The initial focus was on the Conference including information on the sponsorship package. It was challenging because apart from attracting potential participants to the Conference, we wanted the website to be our database to establish a link and relationship with participants for future activities and possible collaborations.



[Click here to visit the website](#)



[Click here for the brochure](#)

03 Promotion & Marketing

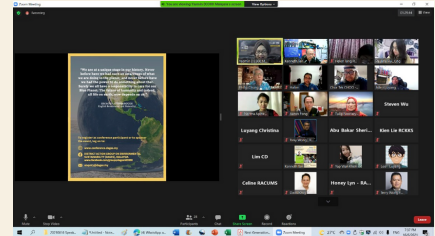
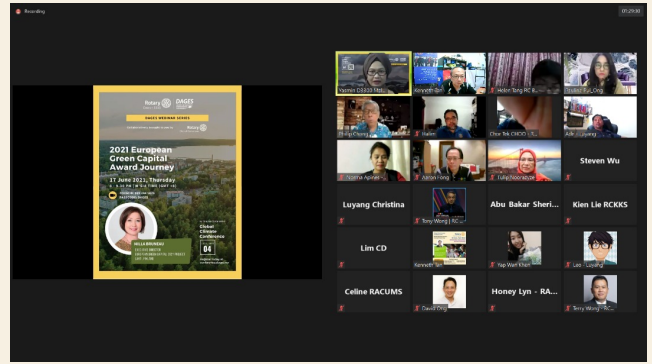
The Conference website was running by the end of May 2021 to accept online registration for the Conference and our Conference Promotion and Marketing team under Pushpa Krishna from Rotary Club of Melawati started their marketing campaign to promote registrations among Rotary Clubs, Rotaract Clubs and Interact Clubs both in our District and internationally.

BEHIND THE SCENE

The Conference was also promoted at our District Training Assembly, District Conference, Rotaract Assembly, our DAGES website, FB page and through talks at various Clubs.

A few members from the team spoke at the club meeting of RC Kuching, Sarawak on 7 June 2021. Also present were members from RC Kuching Central, Kuching Unity City, Kuching South, Kuching Jaya, RC Luyang, RC Bandar Seri Begawan and RC Tawau. On 17 June, the same promo was done at the club meeting of RC Luyang, Kota Kinabalu. Ir Dr Dhileepan Nair spoke at the Rotaract Assembly on 17 June 2021.

Dato' Bindi promoted the Conference through her incoming District Governors' classmate network and her other Rotary networks. We had over 2200 participants who registered for the Conference when the online registration closed on 3rd July 2021.



04 Conference Production

There was much hope and optimism then, that the COVID19 pandemic will end soon and life will go back to normal by the end of 2020. Projects were planned and proposals prepared, but alas, the pandemic decided to stay put and matters worsened over time and the lockdowns and work from home became routine for most of us. The thought of having a hybrid conference vs fully virtual was hovering during the planning.

We sourced quotations from three studio companies and finally selected FTF Creators Studio to undertake the production of the Conference, enhancement of the website, promotions, and other services.

The MCs for the Conference were selected from some of our outstanding Rotarians and this included a new Rotarian Adi Afendi and Siva Kumar Raghavan.

The production team was headed by Karthi Palanisamy who worked magic with the studio company and was ably supported by Samantha Samson. The tech team was headed by Rajj Melambaram and supported by Mahendran Daniel. They resolved many technical hitches along the way, most unseen by us.

The final production broadcasted at the Conference was the result of meticulously arrangement of the various Conference segments, detailed coordination with the MCs, speakers and panelists, final editing of pre-recorded segments and insertion of impactful videos as intermissions.

The Crisis and Decision Time

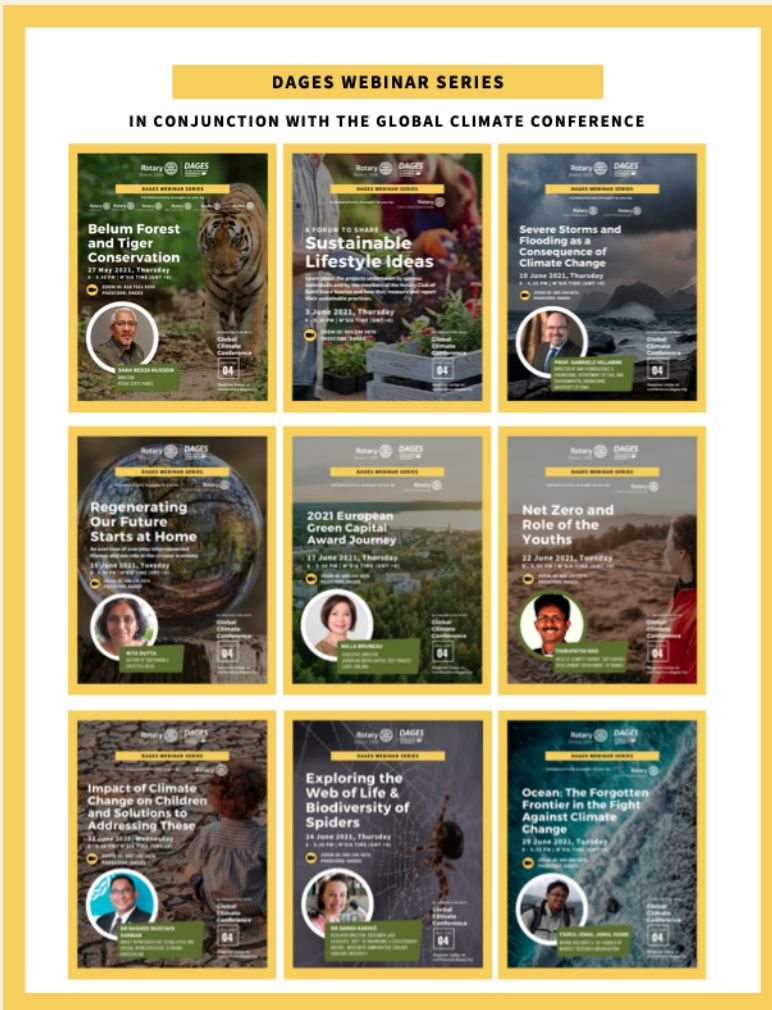
The Conference production team had three options for broadcasting the Conference, either at a venue with live audience or at a venue with the production team, MCs, moderators and panelists or completely on zoom and live broadcast from remote locations.

Option 2 seemed viable and a location for the broadcast was identified in Bukit Gasing, Petaling Jaya and permits were obtained from the relevant authorities. It was an exotic location with three to four studio background options for live broadcasting from the venue.

As the event day approached, covid cases were rapidly rising in Selangor. A crisis loomed for the Conference and the nation. On July 1st 2021, the Government announced that Enhanced Movement Control Order will be imposed in Selangor and parts of Kuala Lumpur from July 3rd 2021.

A crisis meeting was held on the night of 1st July and the Conference production committee decided it was too risky to have the Conference broadcast from the Bukit Gasing venue and the decision was made to broadcast via zoom and live FB/DAGES website with the production team, speakers and panelists at their homes.

SETTING THE STAGE FOR THE CONFERENCE



The Webinar Series were organised by DAGES with our partner Clubs starting in April 2021 to build interest and momentum on environmental topics and the Climate Conference itself. A total of 12 webinars were organised and seven of these webinars featured the five international panelists and two youth speakers.

The Webinars were professionally run by our Rotarians led by Mahendran Daniel and ably supported by KK Looi and other team members. The Webinars attracted a good number of viewers ranging from over 100 to 200 participants for each webinar from Malaysia and overseas. The webinars were hosted by different clubs in Penang, Perak and Klang Valley and our District Officers were invited to officiate these Webinars. The Webinar Series were concluded on 29 June 2021.

PARTICIPATING HOST CLUBS

The following were our partner clubs who have helped in organising the Webinar Series.



“ The Webinar Series have garnered a cumulated zoom participation of more than 1,200 pax with viewership on FB Live and Streaming close to 10,000 from all over the world.

WEBINAR SERIES

Wildlife Protection, Sustainable Lifestyle and Storms & Weather

Shah Redza launched the International Webinar Series by sharing the deep secret of the untouched Belum-Temengor forest covering 15,200 Hectares dotted with hundreds of islands. The forest is home to a wide variety of flora and fauna including 14 of the world's most threatened mammals including the Malayan tiger, Indian elephant, white handed gibbon, Malaysian sun bear and tapir.

Next in the Series was the collaborative effort between the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development (JSC) at Sunway University and the Rotary Club of Bukit Kiara Sunrise (RCBKS). The program was especially designed and implemented as a campaign to educate and empower Rotary Club members and their families to understand the link between personal consumption patterns and global environmental consequences.

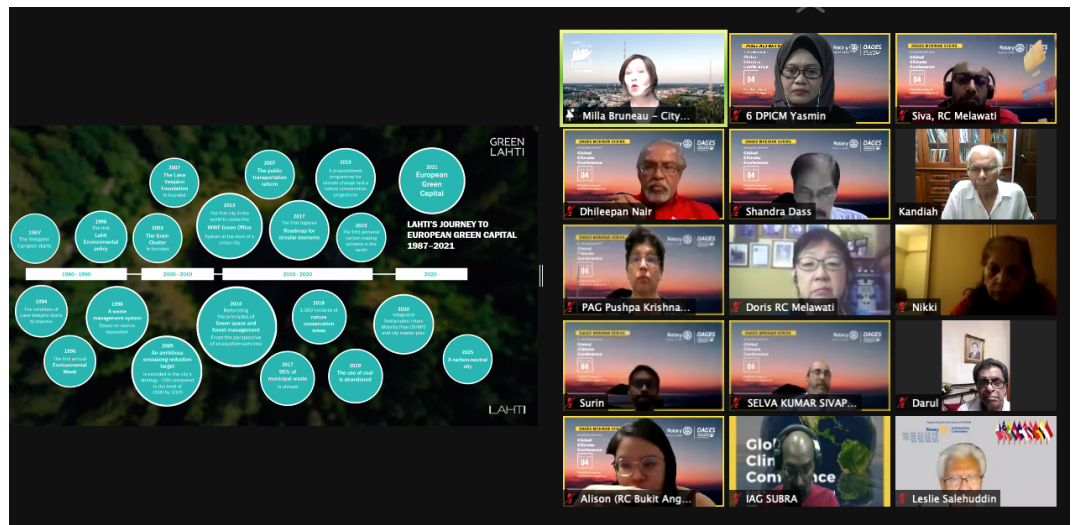
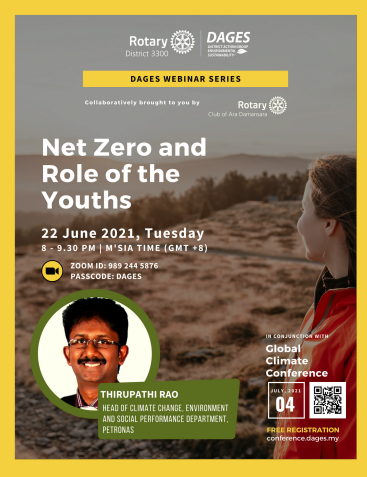
Following that, Professor Gabriele Villarini from the University of Iowa, shared the serious consequences climate change has on storm and rainfall patterns, flooding events, river flow, and water supply. In his true academic fashion, he enthralled the audience with astounding statistics and figures.

WEBINAR SERIES

Reducing Daily Carbon Footprint, Green Capital, and Role of Youths Towards Net Zero

Rita Dutta shared tips and ways on how to make changes to our day-to-day life to lessen carbon footprints like: the miles we travel by car, bus, or train, the energy usage at home, the food we choose for our family. Earlier, she also provided input when the Team developed the Rotary Eco-Warriors Manifesto..

Milla Bruneau, through her outstanding leadership shared the story of how Lahti, Finland earned the European Green Capital Award. Best practice environmental management, good urban planning, and citizens at the heart of the green transformation were the gist of the sharing. People naturally benefit from healthy and enjoyable places to stay, live and work in.



Thirupathi Rao dived straight into the crux of how PETRONAS aspired to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050 as part of its efforts in providing access to affordable, secure and sustainable energy to businesses and society. His talk also discussed potential roles of youths in Malaysia to be part of the energy transition journey.

Children Rights, Biodiversity of Spiders and the Forgotten Frontier

Rotary District 3300 | **DAGES DISTRICT ACTION GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

DAGES WEBINAR SERIES

Collaboratively brought to you by **Rotary Club of Melawati**

Impact of Climate Change on Children and Solutions to Addressing These

23 June 2021, Wednesday
8 - 9.30 PM | M'SIA TIME GMT+8

ZOOM ID: 989 244 5876
PASSCODE: DAGES

DR RASHED MUSTAFA SARWAR
UNICEF REPRESENTATIVE TO MALAYSIA AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

SEONMI CHOI
Climate Change and Environment Regional Advisor, UNICEF EAPRO

ISMAIL INAFIE
Innovation & Sustainability Specialist, UNICEF Malaysia

JASMIN IRISHA
Climate and Environment Consultant, UNICEF Malaysia

SUJAY NATHAN
Climate Change and Environment Consultant, UNICEF EAPRO

IN CONJUNCTION WITH **Global Climate Conference**

JULY 2021 **04**

FREE REGISTRATION conference.dages.my

Rotary District 3300 | **DAGES DISTRICT ACTION GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

DAGES WEBINAR SERIES

Exploring the Web of Life & Biodiversity of Spiders

24 June 2021, Thursday
8 - 9.30 PM | M'SIA TIME (GMT +8)

ZOOM ID: 989 244 5876
PASSCODE: DAGES

DR SARAH KARIKÓ
RESEARCH DIRECTOR, GÖSSÄMER LABS
ASSOCIATE, DEPT. OF ORGANISMIC & EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY, MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

IN CONJUNCTION WITH **Global Climate Conference**

JULY 2021 **04**

FREE REGISTRATION conference.dages.my

Rotary District 3300 | **DAGES DISTRICT ACTION GROUP ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

DAGES WEBINAR SERIES

Collaboratively brought to you by **Rotary Club of Ata-Baharu**

Ocean: The Forgotten Frontier in the Fight Against Climate Change

29 June 2021, Tuesday
8 - 9.30 PM | M'SIA TIME (GMT +8)

ZOOM ID: 989 244 5876
PASSCODE: DAGES

FAIRUL IZMAL JAMAL HISNE
MARINE BIOLOGIST & CO-FOUNDER OF MARECET RESEARCH ORGANISATION

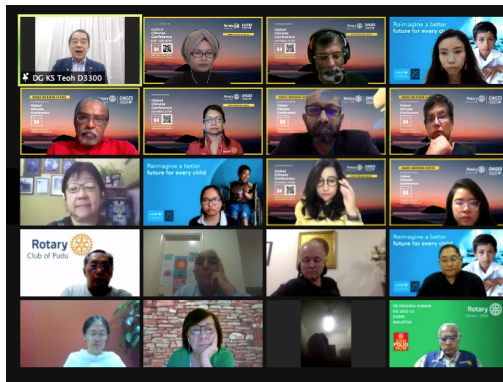
IN CONJUNCTION WITH **Global Climate Conference**

JULY 2021 **04**

Register today at conference.dages.my

Climate change is a direct threat to a child's ability to survive, grow, and thrive. The interactive and powerful dialogue and discussion on youth-led actions in Mongolia and Malaysia with UNICEF's international team of youth and seniors lead by Dr Rashed Mustafa Sarwar who are active on the ground revealed astounding data and statistics on the impact of climate change on children.

Dr Sarah Karikó chronicled her works, the biodiversity of spiders and the interconnectedness among species from her fieldwork in Madagascar and the Teton Mountains. She is not only a scientist but also an artist who interweaved designs and creativity in exploring the Web of Life.



While many subjects involving climate change dealt with terranean matters, Fairul Izmal shared about the Forgotten Frontier - the marine environment - that large area of the planet that is covered by oceans.

He presented facts and data surrounding ocean conservation,

“

There are many ways to be inspired by the natural world. It opens our eyes to the beauty and possibility from even the littlest creatures among us.

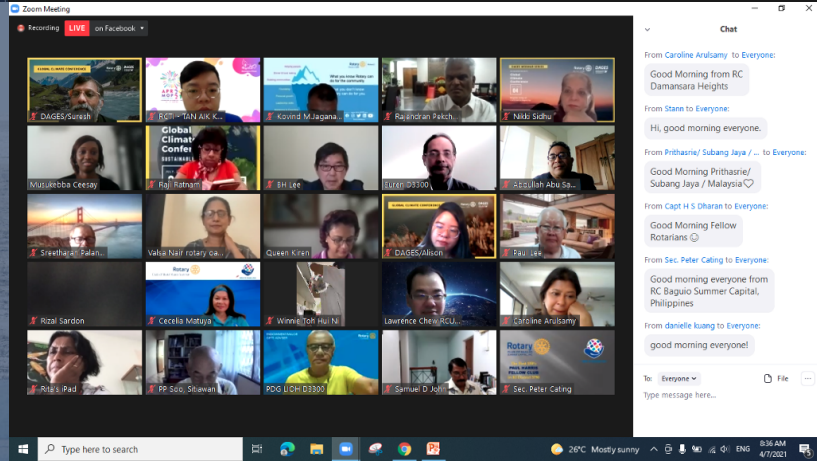
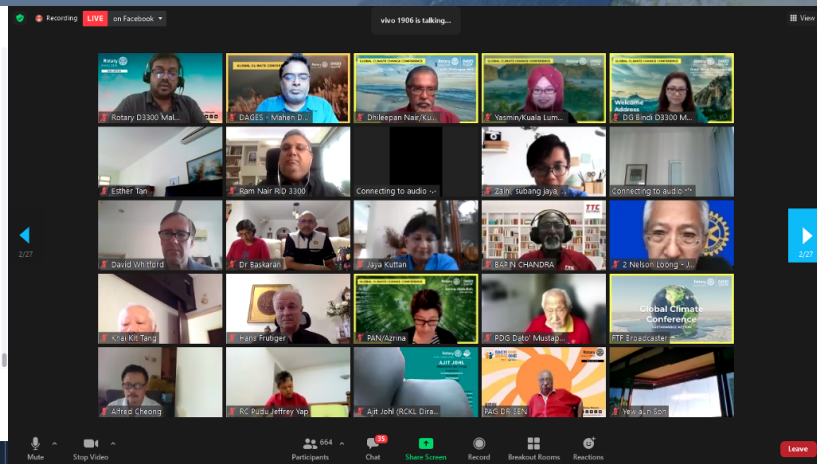
ongoing ocean-related initiatives and the current barriers limiting progress in this area.

THE CONFERENCE

GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION Sustainable Action

4 July 2021
FULLY VIRTUAL

8.30 am to 1.30 pm
Malaysia Time (GMT+8)



The Conference studio tech team commenced operations at 7.30 am on July 4 and the invited speakers and panelists had their audio, visuals and internet connections tested and optimised.

The Conference doors opened on time at 8.30 am and it was exhilarating to see the numbers go up on Zoom. Our live broadcast on FB live and DAGES website started simultaneously. The entire Conference proceeded smoothly, each of the conference episode went well and generally on time.

We had participants tuning in from all over the world regardless of the difference in time zones and from all continents and including from countries such as Fiji, Egypt, Finland, Lebanon, Uganda, Turkey, Honduras, Germany, Bahrain, Afghanistan, China and many more. The Conference recorded a whopping number of 2,228 participants from 46 countries, including Malaysia. The number included Rotarians, Non-Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors and private and public organisations including NGOs related to environment.

The number included Rotarians, Non-Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors and private and public organisations including NGOs related to environment.

Photo credit - <https://www.facebook.com/johnson.vey.5>

Official Conference - <https://conference.dages.my>

The top 10 countries with the highest registration were:

- 1 **India** 77
- 2 **The Philippines** 22
- 3 **Nepal** 20
- 4 **Singapore** 20
- 5 **USA** 13
- 6 **Bhutan** 9
- 7 **Argentina** 7
- 8 **Bangladesh** 6
- 9 **Pakistan** 5
- 10 **Sri Lanka** 5

**Numbers included both Rotarians and Non-Rotarians*

WELCOMING ADDRESS

“

Climate change has become a global environmental issue which dominates the international agenda and one of the most challenging issues for mankind and is at the heart of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

LET'S PLEDGE TO MAKE THE EARTH A GREENER AND HEALTHIER PLACE

BY DATO' BINDI RAJASEGARAN | DISTRICT GOVERNOR DISTRICT 3300

downward spiral. Millions of people worldwide are grappling with these challenges, which require new ways of thinking.

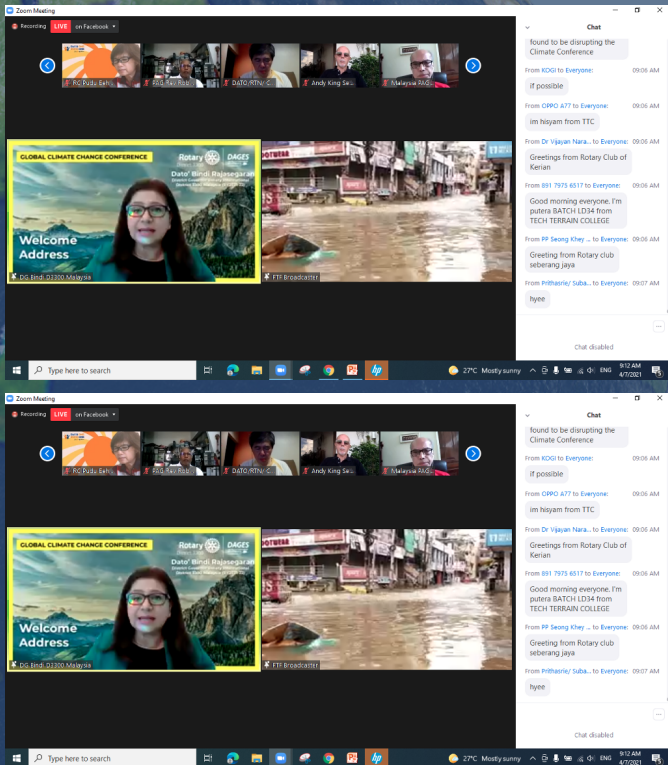
Dato' Bindi said there is no other place that she loves but Malaysia. As a peninsular country, the impact of climate change could pose a serious threat to those living in coastal communities due to the rise of sea level and tidal inundation. Being of tropical climate year through, Malaysia's relatively predictable rainy seasons have changed and these were attributed directly or indirectly to human activities that alter the composition of the global atmosphere and that is in addition to natural climate variability.

Governments of the world are racing to take measures in clean energy initiatives and reducing carbon emissions, greenhouse gas emissions, and methane emissions but we need to see this change happening also in communities and in ourselves.

She hoped that at this Conference, participants will get to hear the different perspectives from professionals in varied areas of environment endeavours, who will share their views and solutions in addressing climate change.

"Let's keep the momentum of positive change in consumer behaviour and let's be the catalyst of change and it starts with us.

Let's pledge to make the Earth a greener and healthier place and remember, every little effort helps."



Dato' Bindi Rajasegaran, the District Governor RY21-22 of District 3300 kick-started the morning with her awakening statement that the earth which is 4.5 billion years (give or take 50 million years) was fine except when humans started the industrial revolution some 300 years back and since then humans have done untold damage. Humans' use of resources — forests, water, air, minerals, soil — is far outstripping the earth's ability to replenish them.

She also reiterated that conservation measures are also nothing new, in which they have been in existence since the 19th century or even earlier. For over 120 years, conservation initiatives have been in place but today the situation is worsening, going in a

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

ENVIRONMENT AS ROTARY'S 7TH AREA OF FOCUS

PAST ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
KR RAVINDRAN

“ The Rotary Foundation grants are channeled through six Areas of Focus. On 25 September 2019, I initiated with the Board of Trustees a discussion on why we should not have Environment as a separate Area of Focus.

I submitted that satisfying ourselves that projects which pertain to climate change and the environment being handled via the other six areas of focus, was not nearly adequate.

I was convinced that we could not continue to ignore calls around us of many young people all over the world, who in massive outward displays were beseeching the attention of us adults to climate change.

Some of the first such youth rallies began in Australia, and then spread from there to the Pacific islands to India and Turkey and across Europe, and the US as students kicked off what organizers were calling a Global Climate Strike.

The last straw which thrust me to react was the cutting words of a 16-year-old schoolgirl, Greta Thunberg speaking at the UN when she said “You have stolen my dreams and my childhood with your empty words. Our entire eco systems are collapsing and we are at the beginning of mass extinction. But you (adults) can only talk about money and fairy tales of eternal economic growth”.

Coincidentally about the same time then President Mark Maloney also had similar thoughts and pushed for a seventh Area of Focus on the RI side. The wheels of our respective Boards started moving and ‘Environment’ came into being as an Area of Focus.

Having said that I must quickly point out that It was not as though Rotary was not involved with projects to protect the environment. In fact over the last five years, our Foundation has allocated \$18.4 million in global grant funding to environment-related causes as we support water, sanitation, and hygiene projects.



Chat

mas served as treasurer, director, Foundation trustee committee member, vice chair, and chair; task force member; RI training leader; and district governor. He also chaired the Schools Reawakening project, sponsored by Rotary clubs and districts in Sri Lanka, to rebuild 25 tsunami-devastated schools to benefit 15,000 children. Ravi was instrumental in recommending the inclusion of "Support Our Environment" as Rotary International's seventh area of focus.

From PP Christina Chai Seremb...
gdm to all:stay safe
yes

From Xue Qian Tay to Everyone:
yes

To: Everyone
Type message here...

From a program to saving pollinating monarch butterflies from extinction in the US to a Rotary Peace Fellow helped goat herders earn a decent wage in Mongolia while protecting the grasslands.

I am impressed with your Districts collaborative arrangement with the Selangor State Water Management Department and the launch of your Peace Park – a first in Asia offering recreational facilities for the local community, university students and the general public. Equally compelling is the 4-Way Path Manifesto which you just launched. I also liked how you have defined and illustrated each of the four paths. It is more than just theory.

Rotarians will have a distinct bearing on improving our environment. We will play to our strengths of being in 200 plus countries and geographical areas around the world and take advantage of the connections our members have to the right people. We should use the power of our advocacy to elicit powerful support.

Rally Rotary first, your community next and your country thereafter. We would have become part of the solution. Paraphrasing a Chinese proverb we would have begun our journey of a thousand steps with that one single step.

Even organising this conference shows an understanding of the challenge ahead, a willingness to take that first step, and a passion to get others to follow.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

BHUTAN – CARBON NEGATIVE, LEADERSHIP POSITIVE

BY MR. TASHI JAMTSHO | COUNTRY DIRECTOR OF WORLD WILDLIFE FUND BHUTAN OFFICE

Mr. Tashi Jamtsho is driven by inclusive conservation with focus on green approach and youth engagement. He was instrumental in establishing the Bhutan for Life Initiative – the first project financing for forest protection program in Asia. Bhutan is a haven for environmental conservation. It is home to a vast number of flora and fauna. Even though it is one of the smallest countries in the world and has a small economy, it is a country with the biggest and truest commitment to environmental conservation. Bhutan had pledged to remain carbon neutral to eternity.

Bhutan is a heaven for environmental conservation. It is home to a vast number of flora and faunas. Even though it is one of the smallest countries in the world and has a small economy, it is the smallest country with the biggest and truest commitment to environmental conservation. Bhutan had pledged to remain carbon neutral in times to come.

Mr. Jamtsho emphasised through his four-

chapter narration that humans should act as one as global actions and efforts have big impacts on environmental issues. In Bhutan, the biodiversity is slowly changing.

The wildlife are retreating, the water levels in rivers and below ground are receding and landslides and flash floods are happening more frequently. This might cause a loss in people living in tranquil harmony in centuries to come. Rural areas do not provide the job opportunity in which youths seek and hence they move to the urban areas.

Mr. Jamtsho has made it clear that we should inspire the youth to care for the environment, to use natural resources responsibly and live as one with nature.

We should protect the forest, sustain the rivers, maintain the threatened ecosystem and eventually adapt to the changing climate. He ended his keynote with a question:

"If there is a plant on the ground, will you choose to trample it or pick it up and nurture it with your hands?"



“ Hug the trees like your life depends on it

SPECIAL MESSAGE

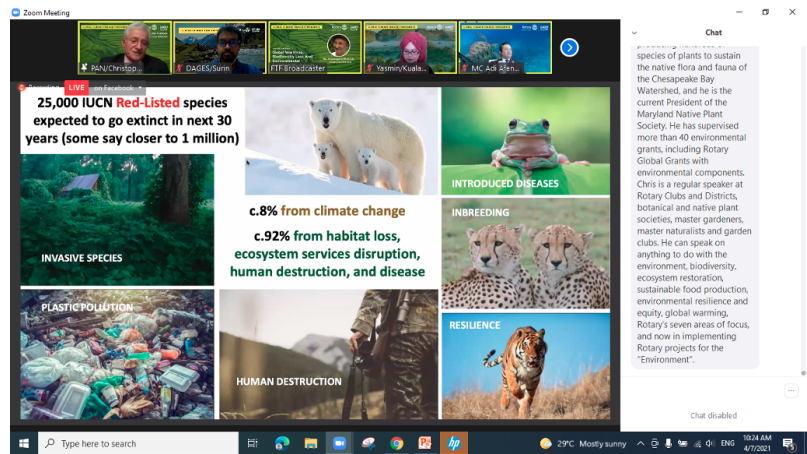
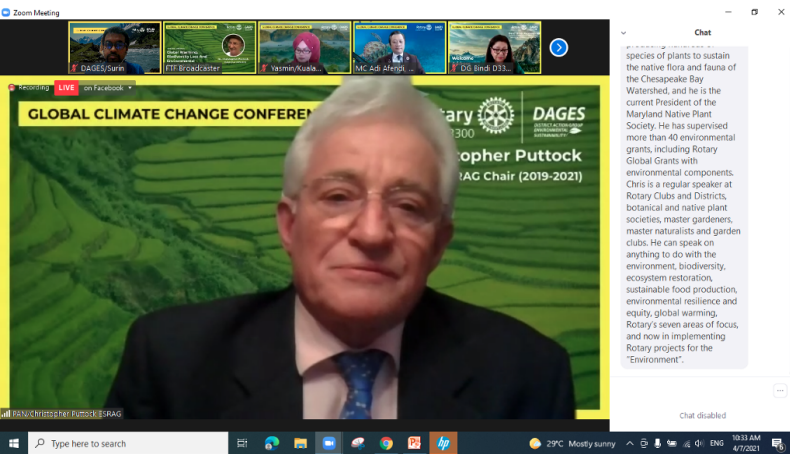
GLOBAL WARMING, BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

BY DR. CHRISTOPHER PUTTOCK | ESRAG CHAIR (2019-2021)

In his presentation, Dr Puttock focuses on the biodiversity loss challenges in Southeast Asia, since it is one of the most species rich places on Earth, coupled with the highest rate of loss of species. The main driver of biodiversity loss in Southeast Asia as well as in the rest of the world, are land-use alterations; forests and natural habitat being converted to monoculture plantations, as well as agricultural and urban expansions.

He continued that world citizens should be provided with the basic education and literacy about saving the earth. Only then can we combat climate change as one. The importance of water and sanitation, disease prevention and treatments are much needed and should be a subject for many to be aware of.

Even as normal citizens, we can help save the earth by just measuring our carbon footprint and rally everyone to do this consistently.



Dr. Puttock mentioned some shocking facts about the world. According to him, fossil fuels consist of 300 million years of stored sunlight and carbon. Humans are burning fossil fuels about 1 million times faster than they were created. 70% of the world's surface was used for agriculture, forests are removed and 15.3 billion trees are cut down each year. 92% of nature is declining from what we do with the land (habitat loss, ecosystem service disruptions, human destruction etc).

This will help bring awareness about the seriousness of climate change and hopefully urge more people to take action in changing their everyday habits for the better.

Dr. Puttock ended his keynote by saying that 'when we take care of nature and energy, climate will take care of itself.

THE CONFERENCE

LAUNCHING OF REW MANIFESTO & #HUGOURTREE

"YOU TOO CAN BE AN ECO WARRIOR BY ADOPTING SIMPLE ACTIVITIES LIKE BYOB WHEN SHOPPING OR TREE HUGGING."

REW & 4-WAY PATH

BY YASMIN YUSOF | SECRETARY, DISTRICT ACTION GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Rotary Eco-Warriors (REW), the Universal Sustainable Actions Manifesto of Change and the 4-Way Path To Support The Environment are the initiatives undertaken by Rotary International District 3300 Malaysia in line with Environment being Rotary's 7th Area of Focus. The efforts were collaboratively conceived and initiated by the District 3300 Rotary community.

Rotary 4-Way Path To Support The Environment is the Eco-Pledge to guide us in mitigating environmental impacts and climate change by making continuous changes in our lifestyle and daily activities, the same way we have embraced the Rotary 4-Way Test as our ethical guide for personal and professional relationships.

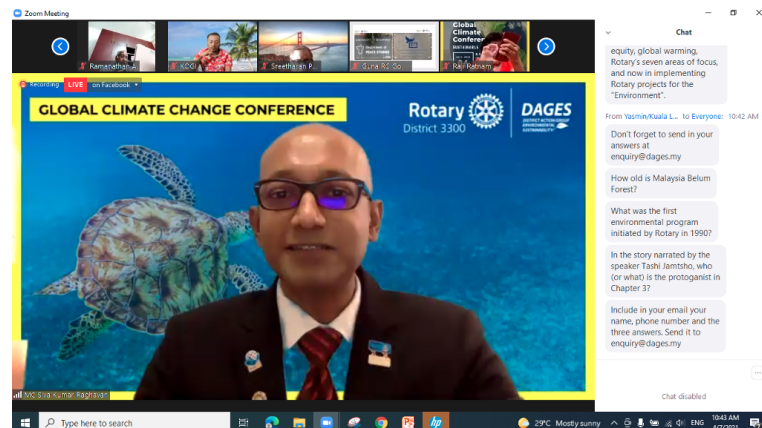
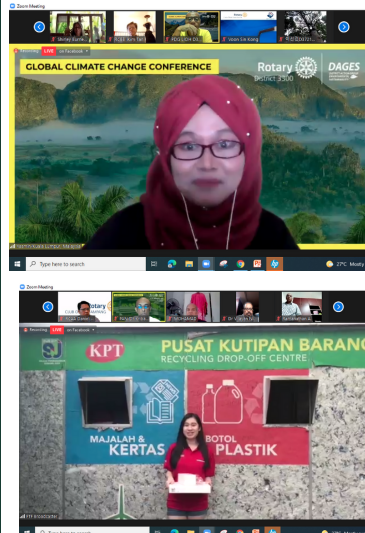
NATIONWIDE TREE-PLANTING CAMPAIGN

BY SIVA KUMAR RAGHAVAN | MASTER OF CEREMONIES

#HugOurTree is a tree-planting NGO in partnership with the District Action Group on Environmental Sustainability (DAGES) in alignment with Rotary's 7th Area of Focus - the Environment.

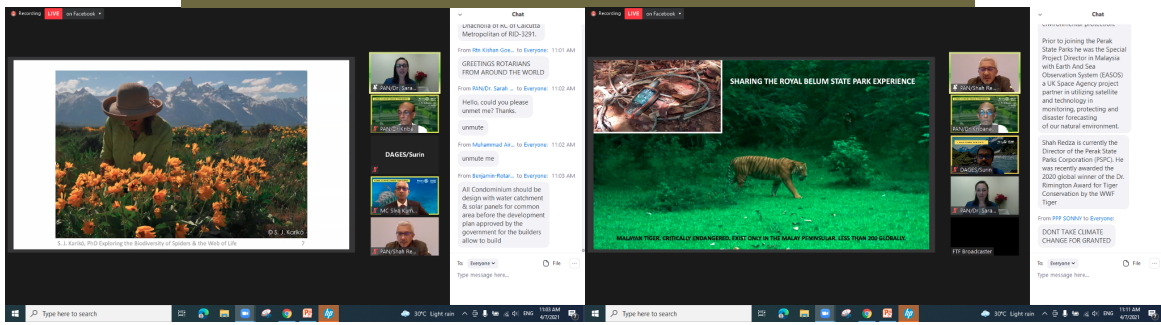
The Rotary Peace Park Malaysia@Off River Storage, Bestari Jaya, in collaboration with the Lembaga Urus Air Selangor (LUAS) is a long-term project focusing on afforestation, environmental conservation and education, water resource protection and socio-economic development of rural communities.

Through this game-changing initiative comprising the Rotary District 3300, DAGES, LUAS, Yayasan Kelab Kelab Rotary Malaysia, Rotary Clubs, Interactors and Rotaractors, #HugOurTree will be the bridge in mobilising nationwide tree-planting activity and supporting Malaysia's 10-Million-Tree-Planting Campaign 2020 to 2025



THE CONFERENCE

INTERNATIONAL FORUM



INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS AND SUSTAINABLE ACTIONS

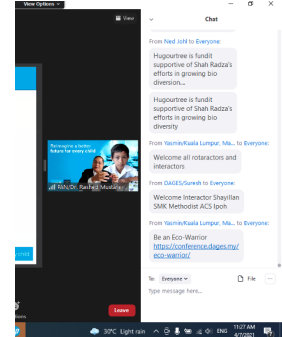
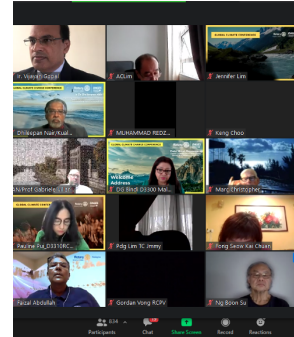
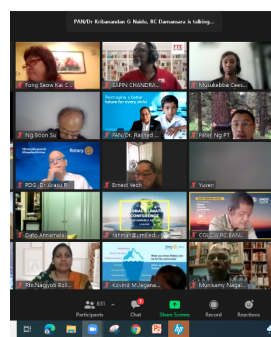
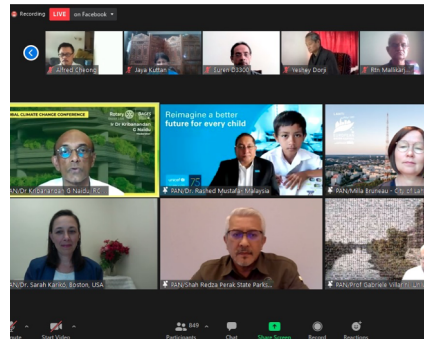
MODERATED BY IR DR KRIBANANDAN G NAIDU

At the International Forum, Shah Redza talked about how there was no longer predictability in terms of weather. Previously, decades ago, indigenous people were able to track weather patterns but such tracking methods are impossible now. They are being cut off from aid and clean water with weather patterns change. The weather plays an important role in global climate. He shared that Sungai Perak is the biggest source of water for the state of Perak. It has 10 huge raw water sources. Thousands of km of water for agriculture irrigation. The river has such a huge significance and people forget the source of the water comes from the forest. Should there be no forest, the river will dry up.

"The forest is an asset that needs to be looked at beyond wildlife." Shah Redza continued. "It is a complex web; from spiders to ants to tigers, if you remove just one small thing from the ecosystem, everything falls apart."

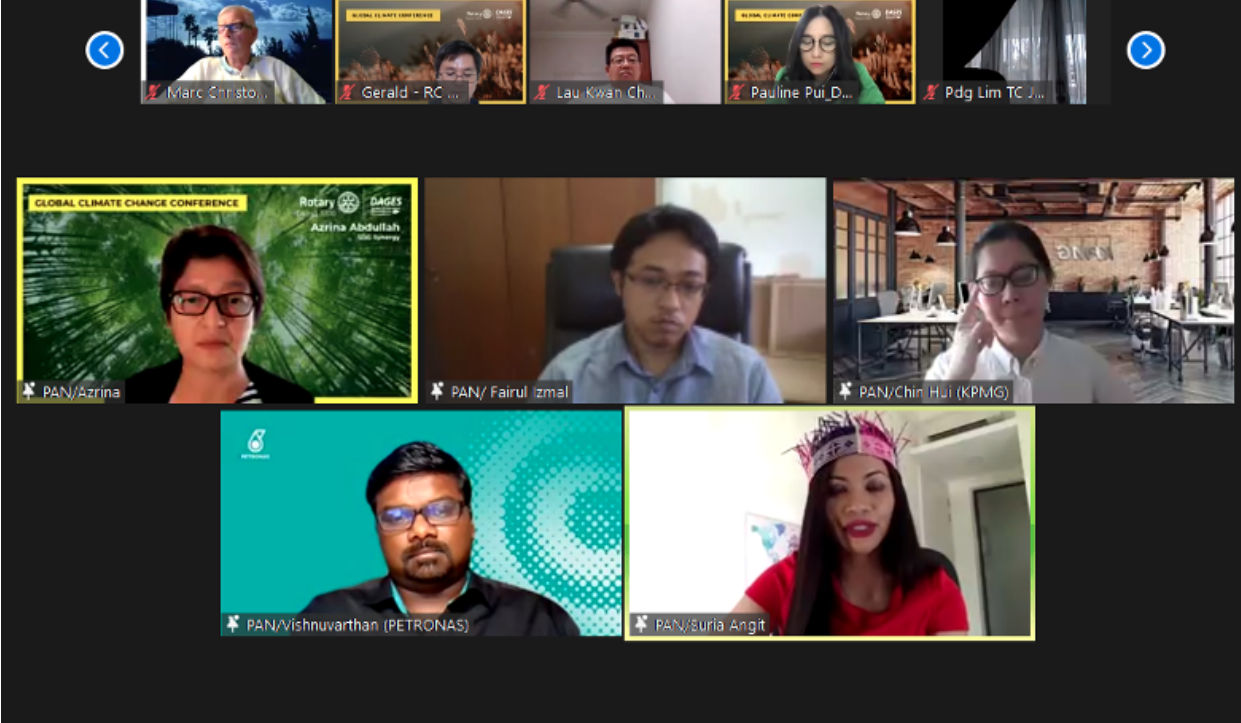
His remarks were reiterated by Prof Gabriele Villarini and Dr Sarah Kariko on their presentations about weather patterns/flooding and biodiversity protection respectively.

Milla Bruneau took it further by reiterating on the importance of good leadership. It has to do with a lot of wise and smart women and men leading the city. The political will 'When there is



a will, there is a way' is a significant selling point in future and she was bullish about having more younger people to come to Lahti, Finland. There must be an overall strategy that is implemented onto everyone in the city - a collaborative action, that everybody has to be involved in. Of course, this idea is not fully realistic, as the idea is much simpler than the actual conduction of the act, this is why leadership and communication skills are very important.

Dr Rashed Mustafa Sarwar, highlighted the impact of climate change for communities and children in coastal and flood prone areas.



Climate Change and Actions in Malaysia

MODERATED BY AZRINA ABDULLAH

“ In all fields related to Orang Asli, the policies are made by outsiders. Bigger corporations should make efforts to meet the Orang Asli as they aren't just subjects.

The Youth Plenary convened four youth leaders from Malaysia discussing marine environment, Orang Asli, financial systems and corporate balancing.

Fairul Izmal, a marine biologist who specializes in conducting environmental related studies; Suria Angit, an Assistant Professor at the University of Nottingham Malaysia who is part of an indigenous community; and Poh Chin Hui and Vishnuvarthan Muniandi both representing the corporate sectors - KPMG Management and Risk Consulting Sdn Bhd and PETRONAS respectively.

Fairul believed that the planet is very dependent on the health of our ocean. "If the ocean is not healthy, its capabilities to regulate the climate reduces". Ocean provides 50% of our global oxygen. He mentioned that we, as humans, must acknowledge the fact that the ocean and our land environment is all interlinked.

Suria examined the power dynamics between the mainstream societies and Orang Asli communities. Where climate change is concerned, Orang Asli would always be at the receiving end. In all fields related to Orang Asli, the policies are made by outsiders. Bigger corporations should make efforts to meet the Orang Asli as they aren't just subjects.

Poh shared about how the financial system is being prepared to support the low carbon emission system in Malaysia.

Vishnu opined that more ambitious targets are needed. As people become more understanding of the seriousness, then there will be more of a push from the youths since they will be the ones who are mainly affected. Another key factor is for companies is to find the balance between the bottom line and environmental sustainability.

THE CONFERENCE



THE CONFERENCE

major tasks at hand

BY IR DR DHILEEPAN NAIR | ORGANISING CHAIR, GLOBAL CLIMATE CONFERENCE AND CO-CHAIR, DISTRICT ACTION GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

We had excellent participation with 1600 participants logging in through Zoom at various times and another 600 participants logging in through FB live and DAGES website.

The reviews and feedback on the Climate Conference have been very good especially from our international participants with many requesting that it be held on an annual basis with different environmental topics. That is being considered and the major tasks at hand for DAGES and Rotary Clubs are to implement

“

Our success won't be measured by us, it'll be measured by our future generations and always remember, the survival of the 9 million species on our planet depends on a single species, us humans.

and put into practice our Eco-Warrior Manifesto and 4-Way Path and to develop projects and activities to support our environment.

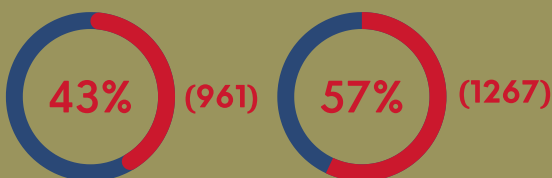
The organising committee wishes to thank all our supporters and sponsors who made this Global Climate Conference successful and a special appreciation to all others in our Rotary family who hosted our webinars, participated in the Conference and Webinars, promoted the Conference and supported us in so many ways.

We signed off at exactly 1.30pm.



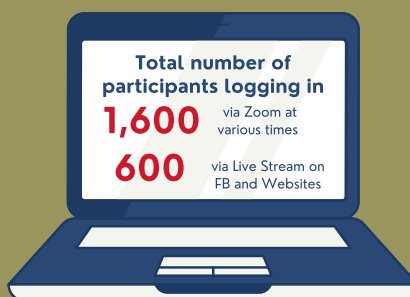
Supported by Our Regional and Global Partners

Official Conference - <https://conference.dages.my>



Percentage of participants registered amongst non-Rotarians worldwide

Percentage of participants registered in Rotary (Rotarians, Rotaractors and Interactors) worldwide



Rotary District 3300 TOP CLUBS with Highest Percentage List

MALAYSIA

- 1 RC Bandar Bukit Tinggi 100% (5)
- 2 RC Bernam Valley 100% (11)
- 3 RC Bukit Jalil 100% (26)
- 4 RC Lake Gardens 92% (12)
- 5 RC Melawati 83% (34)
- 6 RC Bangsar 82% (28)
- 7 RC Sitiawan 76% (28)
- 8 RC Teluk Intan 72% (21)
- 9 RC Greentown 68% (12)
- 10 RC Kajang 68% (13)

THE PILLARS

“

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships."

- Michael Jordan

MAIN WORKING COMMITTEE



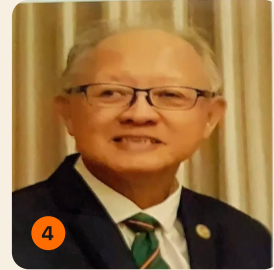
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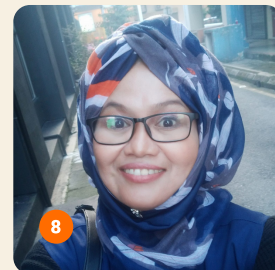
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6



7



8

1 Dato' Bindi Rajasegaran
District Governor RY 21-22, District 3300,
Malaysia

2 Ir Dr Dhileepan Nair
Co-Chair, District Action Group on
Environment Sustainability

3 Bharat Gorasia
Co-Chair, District Action Group on
Environment Sustainability

4 Dr Kong Voon Sin
Rotary Club of Bukit Kiara Sunrise

5 Karthi Palanisamy
Rotary Club of Central Damansara

6 Ir Nirinder Singh Johl
Rotary Club of Bernam Valley

7 Samantha Ann Samson
Rotary Club of Mont Kiara Gateway

8 Yasmin Yusof
Rotary Club of Melawati

THE PILLARS

CONFERENCE EMCEES & MODERATORS

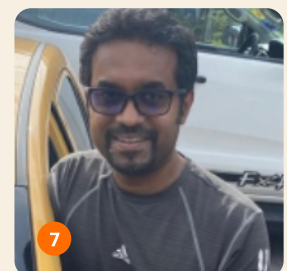
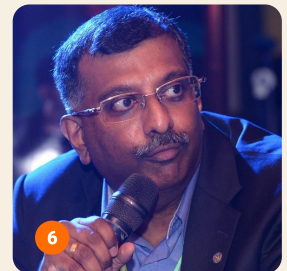
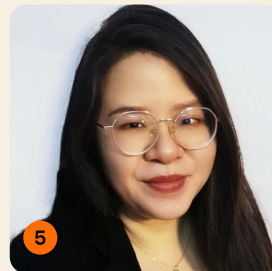
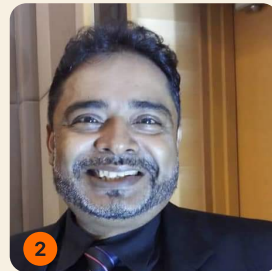
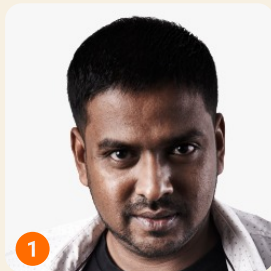


- 1 **Ir Dr Kribanandan G N**
Rotary Club of Damansara
- 2 **Azrina Abdullah**
Rotary Club of Ara Damansara
- 3 **Adi Afendi**
Rotary Club of KL DiRaja
- 4 **Siva Kumar Raghavan**
Rotary Club of Melawati



WEBINAR & CONFERENCE TECH-TEAM

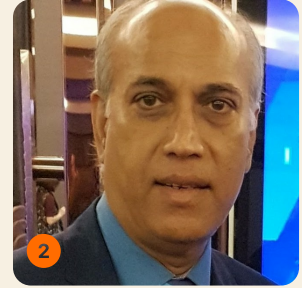
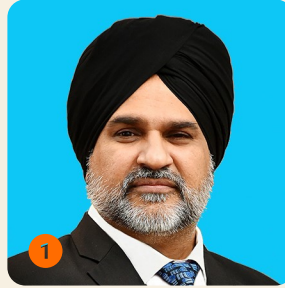
- 1 **Rajj Melambaran**
Rotary Club of Subang
- 2 **Mahendran J Daniel**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 3 **KK Looi**
Rotary Club of Bandar Utama
- 4 **Danielle Kuang**
Rotary Club of Bukit Kiara Sunrise
- 5 **Alison Tan**
Rotary Club of Bukit Angkasa
- 6 **Suresh Unnikrishnan**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 7 **Surindran Ramasamy**
Rotary Club of Melawati



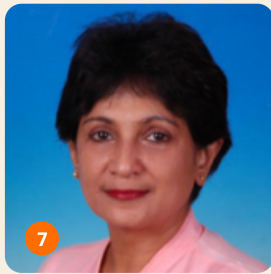
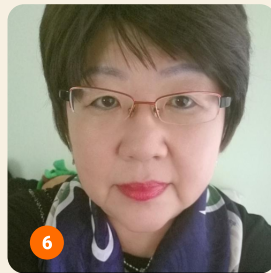
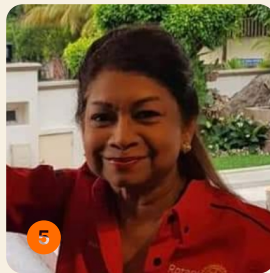
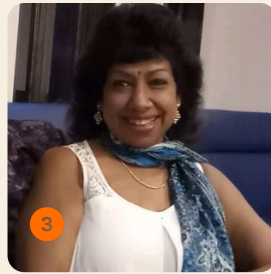
THE PILLARS

FUND RAISING AND SPECIAL TASK TEAM

- 1 Ajit Johl**
Rotary Club of KL DiRaja
- 2 Sudhaharan Nair**
Rotary Club of Melawati (Project Treasurer)
- 3 Yeshey Dorji**
Rotary Club of Thimphu, Bhutan
- 4 Chiew Teck Wee**
Rotary Club of Ara Damansara



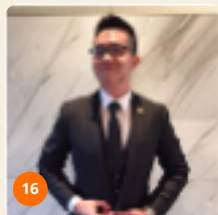
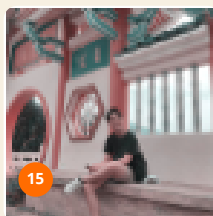
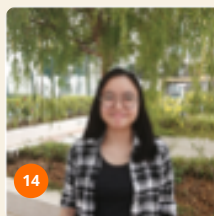
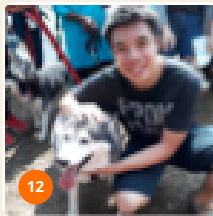
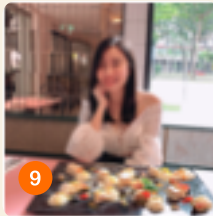
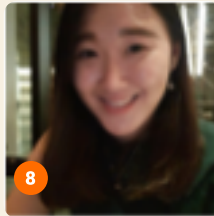
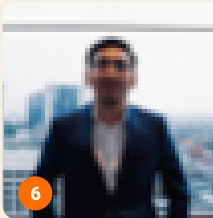
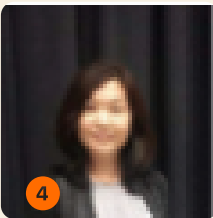
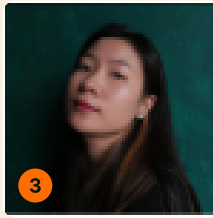
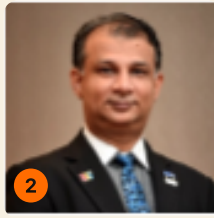
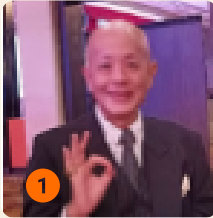
CONFERENCE PROMOTION AND REGISTRATION TEAM



- 1 Pushpa Krishna**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 2 Sunthar Raj**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 3 Raji Ratnam**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 4 Ooi Soo Kang**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 5 Shanti Jayaram**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 6 Doris Chang**
Rotary Club of Melawati
- 7 Jayaletchumi Kuttan**
Rotary Club of Teluk Intan
- 8 Danny Ngooi Ming Loong**
Rotary Club of Sitiawan

THE PILLARS

GREEN YEAR GROUP COMMITTEE



- 1 **Arthur Yeong**
Rotary Club of Kinta
- 2 **Neeraj Chhabra**
Rotary Club of KL DiRaja
- 3 **Lo Wei Ching**
Rotaract Club of Kelana Jaya
- 4 **Patrician Aw Yeang**
Rotary Club of Bukit Kiara Sunrise
- 5 **Cecilia Matuya**
Rotary Club of Bukit Kiara Sunrise
- 6 **Joshua Tang Khye Wen**
Rotaract Club of Ampang
- 7 **Jayden Gan Zhi Hsien**
Rotaract Club of Ampang
- 8 **Low Li Qun**
Rotaract Club of Ampang
- 9 **Liang Ju Yen**
Rotaract Club of Bangsar
- 10 **Sashivan Kangasothy**
Rotaract Club of Bangsar
- 11 **Terrence Hugo Tan**
Rotaract Club of Bukit Bintang
- 12 **Ng Loong Foo**
Rotaract Club of Kelana Jaya
- 13 **Rakeish a/l Ragunathan**
Rotaract Club of Klang Central
- 14 **Britney Loh Pui Yuin**
Rotaract Club of Manipal International University
- 15 **Ryan Lien Kar Sheng**
Rotaract Club of Taylor's Lakeside Campus
- 16 **Diong Han Wen**
Rotaract Club of Petaling Jaya



The Questions

- 1 How old is Malaysia Belum Forest? **130 million years old**
- 2 What was the first environmental program initiated by Rotary in 1990?
Preserve Planet Earth (PPE)
- 3 In the story narrated by the speaker Tashi Jamtsho, who (or what) is the protagonist in Chapter 3? **Planet Earth**

The Prizes



REW
T-Shirt



Water
Tumbler



Tree-Planting
Certificate

We would like to express our appreciation to all 64 participants who had submitted their answers.

Unfortunately, none responded correctly for the three questions.

APPRECIATION

Collaboratively brought to you by

Rotary
District 3300



Rotaract



Interact



DAGES
DISTRICT ACTION GROUP
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION

Global
Climate
Conference
SUSTAINABLE ACTION

JULY, 2021

04

CONFERENCE PARTNERS

Synergy Rotary Friendship Alliance (Asia) | Environmental Sustainable Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) | Global Environment Centre | Tenaga Nasional Berhad | Forestry Department, Malaysia | #HugOurTree

SPONSORS

Tech Terrain College | Rotary Club of Bukit Kiara Sunrise | CI International Certification Sdn Bhd (The Socotec Group) | International Friends of DAGES

SPEAKERS, PANELISTS & MODERATORS

K R Ravindran | Tashi Jamtsho | Dr Christopher Puttock | Shah Redza Hussein | Professor Gabrielle Villarini | Milla Bruneau | Dr Rashed Mustafa Sarwar | Dr Sarah Karikó | Fairul Izmal Jamal Hisne | Poh Chin Hui | Vishnuvarthan Muniandi | Dr Suria Selasih Angit | Thirupathi Rao | Rita Dutta | Ir Dr Kribanandan G Naidu | Azrina Abdullah

INTERACTORS

Interact Club of SMK St Mark, Butterworth | Interact Club of SMK Convent, Bukit Mertajam | Interact Club of SMK (P) Taman Petaling | Interact Club of SMK Methodist (ACS) IPOH | Interact Club of SMJK Dindings | Interact Club of SJK (T) Kajang | Interact Club of SMJK Heng Ee | Interact Club of SMK Taman Yarl | Interact Club of SMK Seri Sentosa | Interact Club of Maple Leaf Kingsley International School

ROTARACTORS

Rotaract Club of AIMST University | Rotaract Club of UTP (RACUTP) | Rotaract Club of Bangsar | Rotaract Club of SENTRAL College Penang | Rotaract Club of Sunway University | Rotaract Club of Manipal International University | Rotaract Club of Kelana Jaya | Rotaract Club of Klang Central | Rotaract Club of Petaling Jaya | Rotaract Club of Pudu

POST-CONFERENCE

WALKING THE TALK

Manifesto / 4-Way Path

How do we now start to ensure all 87 clubs in District 3300 adopt the Manifesto and be the Manifesto?

Action Plan: To develop the strategies, the narrative and followed by real adoption including making the adoption part of the citation

Partnership with #HugOurTree (HOTs) NGO

How can clubs adopt the project and leverage from HOTs?

Action plan: To draw a nationwide mobilisation plan maximising collaborating with partners ie Tenaga Nasional Berhad and Forestry Department, Malaysia

Partnership with local and regional partners

How do we work with the local and regional stakeholders in advancing Rotary's environmental sustainability agenda?

Action plan: To develop the strategies, the narrative and the values of the partnership for all concerned

Partnership with overseas counterparts like Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) and other cause-based environment clubs within Rotary network

How can clubs leverage on the synergy of Rotary network especially in undertaking global grants projects?

Action plan: To work closely with international partners and earmark projects that could be undertaken collaboratively

“

Rotarians believe that caring about the environment emphasizes our ultimate mission, and we should give it the importance it deserves. As a humanitarian organization, we're obligated to talk about it. We need to have that conversation. We need to mobilize opinion.

Past Rotary International
President KR Ravindran

ROTARY 4-WAY PATH

TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT

Rotary 4-Way Path To Support The Environment was launched during the Global Climate Conference on 4 July 2021, as Environment became the 7th Area of Focus for Rotary.

Initiated by Rotary International District 3300 Malaysia, through District Action Group on Environmental Sustainability (DAGES), everyone can become a Rotary Eco-Warrior and embrace the Rotary 4-Way Path To Support The Environment, in the same way we have adopted the Rotary 4-Way Test.

Rotary 4-Way Path To Support The Environment can be used to guide us in mitigating environmental impacts and climate change by making small but continuous and significant changes in our lifestyle and daily activities.



In all the things we do, we shall...

LIVE SUSTAINABLY

AVOID SINGLE USE PLASTICS

RECYCLE, REUSE, REDUCE, REPURPOSE

CONSERVE WATER, ENERGY & RESOURCES

Collaboratively brought to you by



Sign up and get
your Manifesto

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