



NEWSLETTER

GLOBAL CULTURE EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Learning about while learning with.

The Global Culture Education Initiative (GCEI) serves as a platform for students grades 6-12 from around the world to collaborate, innovate, and take action to create a sustainable future.

1ST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The first Regional meeting of the GCEI schools, India was hosted by Hopetown Girls School, Dehradun on the 13th of April 2024.

Ms. Maya Norula, Principal of Hopetown Girls School, welcomed the gathering. This was followed by the Keynote Speaker, Ms. Ridhima Pandey, all of 16, and an environmental activist of repute. She talked about her life as an environmental activist, and, much to the curiosity of all the students present, of how she juggled academics and activism and how she has been severely trolled for all that she does. It was evident that she was quite an inspiration to all who heard her speak!

The next part of the day was devoted to each school showcasing all the work they had been doing with the GCEI. Very interesting presentations were made by the schools, in

the form of PPTs or even street plays! Poems written about the GCEI were recited. The Tibetan Homes Foundation School, though present as an Observer School, also made a presentation about 'Water' and 'Energy'. The final segment of the day was devoted to making posters which focused on Solutions to our environmental issues. The advisors from each school and Ms. Pandey and her father were the judges and the prize was a gift hamper!

Some photos of the day are available [here](#).

It was a day of fun-filled learning, friendships, sharing of ideas and just having a good time! The GCEI students are already looking forward to the next Conference!



INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

Throughout these first months of the year, three International Meetings have been held (Feb. 1, Ap. 18). In them, students have shared their findings, experiences, concerns, and possible solutions to the challenges identified in their communities, regarding this year's Area of Service: Energy. We have also had the presence of members of the GCEI Board and the Advisory Group, and even a guest speaker, Ridhima Pandey, a 16-year-old environmental activist from India.

The recordings of the International Meetings are available in the following links:

[Feb. 1st](#)

[Ap. 18th](#)

WEBSITE



Over the last few months, our website has been updated so that it reflects the work of GCEI in a current and real way. New tabs have been created, new texts have been written and new sections have been included to provide greater clarity in the information.

Although it is not finished yet, we will have a new website during the month of May.



PARTNERSHIP WITH SOLVE CLIMATE 2030

We are overjoyed to announce that GCEI and Solve Climate 2030 have sealed a partnership that includes all our schools and future ones.

Solve Climate By 2030 is a coordinated climate education initiative across OSUN and beyond. It organizes educators to dedicate the first Wednesday of April each year during the 2020s as a day for global, coordinated education on climate solutions. The project creates and promotes templates for educational initiatives, highlighting ambitious local and regional climate solutions, and ways in which students and other citizens can engage with communities to support these solutions. In addition, Solve Climate is preparing an online practicum course, Social Media for Climate Activism, for students at all OSUN institutions. The course will explore the theory and practice of social media, with student projects undertaken in support of building engagement with Solve Climate.

This partnership will allow for collaboration options, greater visibility, and belonging to a global community of educators for climate solutions. For more information about Solve Climate 2030 click [here](#).

BOARD MEETINGS

The main organizational structure of the organization, its Board, has participated in 3 meetings to make a report on the general management of GCEI's different instances, review the economic situation and its needs, and discuss possible strategies to improve and continue with the objectives set, as well as other tasks to be carried out to resolve the challenges identified.

Other decisions have also been made regarding the updating of the website, the creation of a new group of schools for Cohort II, the writing of the Fundraising Package and the Recruitment Package, among others.



FUNDRAISING PACKAGE

Throughout these months, the GCEI team has developed a Fundraising Package that includes the main constituent aspects of the organization, with the aim of being shared with potential donors, other foundations, grant applications, among others.

The structure of this written material allows different versions with interchangeable sections for greater flexibility and better use. It includes information related to GCEI's strategic goals, its impact, our projects, our needs, and more.

We hope that the information presented there will open the possibility for GCEI to reach more people interested in supporting our cause and raise funds that allow gradual growth and new schools joining our program each school year.

NEW SCHOOL FOR COHORT I



At GCEI, we are honored to welcome the Tibetan Homes Foundation (THF) to our Cohort I. The Tibetan Homes Foundation (THF) is a charitable institute dedicated to working for the care of orphans, semi orphan, and destitute Tibetan refugee children. The core objective of THF is to impart to the children modern education combined with Tibetan language, cultural values and traditions.

It will be a pleasure for us to be able to give the THF a different approach to international mindedness and environmental stewardship.

For more information about the THF, visit its website [here](#).

● PREPARATION FOR COHORT II ●

At GCEI we are very excited about preparing Cohort II that will begin in September 2024. Our goal is to unite 10 schools distributed in the USA, Africa, Europe, South America, and Asia and start this path with a new group of students to empower them to be catalysts for change.

So far, two schools have confirmed their decision to join our program: Vallis Longus (Portugal), and Tumaini Open School (Tanzania). And we are currently in conversations with other schools in the US, India, Colombia and Kenia to enlarge our GCEI global network.

As part of this process, the GCEI team has created a Recruitment Package that contains a description of the program's pedagogical process, the role of the School Advisor and the students, the types of meetings that take place throughout the year, among others. Likewise, a procedure has been developed to recruit schools that will allow for greater clarity and efficiency.

For more information about our new schools, go to [TumainiOpenSchool](#) and [VallisLongus](#).



FUNDRAISING

GCEI just concluded its third annual Spring international schools cohort session. Students from eight schools from India, Tanzania, Liberia, and the United States joined together in presenting actions taken by their individual schools in addressing the environmental challenges confronting their local communities. Through this process the students identify local problems and share in their solutions while developing global perspectives as they learn from one another. To support this global student interaction GCEI receives donations from individuals and organizations supportive of our mission to promote global citizenship and environmental stewardship among young learners throughout the world. All of us involved with GCEI are grateful for the generosity of others who appreciate the value of a global network of young learners dedicated to creating a sustainable future for the inhabitants of this beautiful planet.

GCEI T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST



We are launching our GCEI T-Shirt Design Contest to have a T-shirt for our students at the beginning of the school year 2024-25. All the GCEIers have been invited to participate and send their designs before July 15th.

The official guidelines for the designs can be found [here](#).

GOALS FOR SECOND QUARTER 2024

MAY AUG

- Finish our website
- Launch our Instagram account
- Close the yearly process with Cohort I
- Recruit 8 new schools for Cohort II
- Build one or more partnerships with other organizations
- Fundraise to cover the financial needs for 2024-2025

GCEI is a rapidly growing organization with the goal of a complete unscale in its participating members, fundraising endowments and marketing strategies by 2024. This will help GCEI fulfill its mission, actualize its vision, appreciate its value, and become a core facilitator of environmental awareness for grades 6-12 students.