

## FFWPU USA: IAYSP's Billion Trees Project going strong in the Philippines

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Courtesy of IAYSP

More than half a year later, the "Billion Trees Project" organized by IAYSP last spring and summer is still going strong in the Philippines. The [project](#), which brings together volunteers and resources from multiple IAYSP chapters including the U.S., has seen great progress with thousands of tree seeds and saplings planted to combat the effects of climate change across the archipelagic nation.

"We have seen significant and promising growth of mangrove trees we planted with our partners last spring," said Emman Abuton, project lead of the Misamis Occidental province chapter. Abuton inspected the Southern Poblacion neighborhood of the Plaridel municipality where many saplings were planted for Earth Day 2021, stating that, "the growth outcome is very encouraging to see."

From September to November, more saplings were planted with the help of IAYSP members from chapters in San Pablo City, Laguna, Lucena, and Bohol who worked alongside volunteers from YSP USA. The American team contributed donations through an online [fundraiser](#) in order to cover the cost of various saplings, as well as defray transportation and food expenses for volunteers.

"In October, we planted 647 trees at Barangay Ibabang Palale and 300 mangrove seedlings at the designated coastal areas of Barangay," said Abuton. "In November, the IAYSP Rizal chapter planted more than 250 seedlings."

National resource officials determined mahogany, mangrove, bamboo, narra - the national tree of the Philippines - and various fruit trees were the best to plant throughout the country. Abuton credits the project's burgeoning success to the international and local partnerships of IAYSP chapters, in addition to support from several organizations and groups, including the national Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office and the city of Tayabas police force.

The large-scale tree planting initiative gained momentum after the Philippines government passed the "One Billion Trees" bill last year calling for widespread tree planting to address climate change through reducing carbon dioxide and our ecological footprint. Other nations like the Ukraine and New Zealand have adopted similar legislation.

"This project aims to empower the youth to take responsibility for planting their own trees in their area," said a local IAYSP organizer. "It was also created to further the mission of the government to protect, preserve, and restore the forest."

Nearly 26 percent of the Philippines is forested, according to the United Nations. However, only about five percent of the nation's land area is under some form of protection. True Parents, founders of [IAYSP](#), have long advocated environmentalism and, in 2021, during the founders' 27th International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences ([ICUS](#)), scientists examined reforestation measures, among other innovations to ease environmental stressors.

"Proper stewardship and care for the environment is absolutely essential," said True Mother in 2014. "Climate change, rising sea levels, deforestation, desertification, a lack of clean water supply, malnutrition and the rising cost of food products require our immediate attention. God created us to love and care for the Earth and all its blessings."

With that vision, IAYSP continues to empower youth and students to become global citizens through character education and peace projects supporting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Projects like mass tree planting continue to advance the primary goal of a more peaceful world. IAYSP will monitor the growth of the new trees with follow-up visits through May.

You can learn more about the national chapter of IAYSP [here](#), and donate to the Billion Trees Project [here](#).

# YSP Philippines Billion Trees Project



IAYSP USA is organizing this fundraiser to benefit International Association of Youth and Students for Peace Inc. ✓

Help us plant trees in the Philippines and engage youth in all 81 provinces! International Association of Youth and Students for Peace (IAYSP) of the Philippines is helping to support the Philippines' government initiative to plant 1 billion trees in their country. IAYSP Pilipinas has committed to help plant 1 million trees through the organization and IAYSP USA is helping to raise funds and awareness to support them! Collaborating with local mayors, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, other nonprofits and local youth, IAYSP Pilipinas has already planted more than 5,000 trees this spring, and counting.



### How does it work?

IAYSP Pilipinas starts with sending a letter of intent to a local mayor explaining their proposal of why, how and when they want to plant trees. They create an agreement or MOU (memorandum of understanding) to clarify who and what will be provided to help with the project. They have agreements with 12 of the 81 provinces so far. While local governments can provide land to plant the trees, they don't always have the funds to provide the tree saplings. This is where you can help!

The IAYSP team in the Philippines estimates the cost for planting each tree to be \$1-\$4 USD depending on the tree species. This amount also includes the cost of snacks and water for volunteers and transporting volunteers to tree planting sites.

The IAYSP team consults the mayor and a representative of the Environmental Resource Office to determine the best kind of trees to plant based on the environment. Trees being planted include: mahogany, mangrove, bamboo, narra (National Tree of the Philippines), and fruit trees.



\$912 raised of \$5,000 goal

22 donations

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The goal is to raise a total of 1 million PHP (Philippine Peso) which is approximately \$20,520 USD. We are starting with a goal of \$5,000 USD to raise by the end of July.

Not only is this project for tree planting, but for every tree, the goal is [Read more](#)

## Updates (3)

**November 29, 2021** by IAYSP USA, Organizer

The Billion Trees Planting and Growing Project is still continuing strong in the Philippines! From September to November 2021 there have been several tree planting activities and a planting site visit to check on the mangrove saplings planted in April of 2021 for Earth Day. The outcome was very encouraging to see.

In September the IAYSP-San Pablo City, Laguna Chapter and IASYP-Lucena Chapter worked together and conducted a tree planting Project in Barangay Lawaguin, Nagcarlan, Laguna.

In the month of October with the theme "Seed of Hope, Tree for Tomorrow" the IAYSP-Lucena Chapter planted a total of 647 trees at Barangay Ibabang Palale on the 15th and the IAYSP-Bohol Chapter organized another planting project at Basdacu, Loon, Bohol on the 24th, planting 300 mangrove seedlings at the designated coastal areas of the said barangay.

For November the IAYSP-Rizal Chapter in partnership with International Peace Leadership College conducted a Tree Planting Activity at Fresno Agro Forestry and Eco Tourists Campsite on November 6th with 18 participants and more than 250 seedlings planted. The IAYSP- Lucena and San Pablo Chapters were also busy on November 6th, working together and in partnership with several organizations and groups, including officials of Barangay Ibabang Palale, SK Chairpersons of Barangay Palale, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines National Police Tayabas, Community on Environment and Natural Resources Tayabas, and many more.

Also in November, the IAYSP-Misamis Occidental Chapter conducted a tree brushing activity on November 16th in Sitio Kanowan, Barangay in preparation for a tree planting activity held on November 25th in partnership with the City Environmental and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) of Oroquieta City. This project aims to empower the youth to take responsibility for planting their own tree in their area. It was also created to further the mission of the government to protect, preserve and restore the forest.

IAYSP USA was able to send donations from the GoFundMe fundraiser for the Billion Trees Planting and Growing Project in the Philippines and everyone from IAYSP Pilipinas wants to thank all the donors for their generous contributions!



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IAYSP USA  
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## Comments (5)



john devilleres donated **\$19**  
treeszxc xD

3 mos



john devilleres donated **\$100**  
I donated because I loved trees!

4 mos



john devilleres donated **\$50**  
more trees!!!

4 mos



john devilleres donated **\$30**  
30 trees

4 mos



Jeffrey Silerio donated **\$40**  
Best of luck! ^,^

6 mos

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2021/08/12

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2021/04/17

"Youth means fire. Without the youth, there can be no hope for the future" Now more...

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2020/11/12

The IAYSP-Philippinas, in partnership with Universal Peace Federation-Bicol, HJ-Youth...

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### LATEST NEWS



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2021/11/27

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2021/11/27

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### Become a Member / Support Us !

**International Association of Youth and Students for Peace (IAYSP)** is a non-profit organization. Our goal is to be able to host and coordinate events and activities youth and students can participate in for little to no cost.

When you become a member, You can join a network of peace makers from around the world striving to better communities and bring about sustainable peace together.



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## Supporting SDGs

IAYSP promotes projects supporting the United Nations in two ways. First, service projects are directly linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This connection is both by design and in the project reports. Secondly, many international days, such as the International Youth Day, the International Day of Peace, and the World Interfaith Harmony Week, are celebrated by our chapters throughout the world.

[Supporting SDGs Project](#)

[UN international Days](#)



# About ICUS

## International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences (ICUS)

The ICUS series, originally started in 1972, was developed as an international academic forum dedicated to the multidisciplinary exchange of views on significant issues of worldwide concern. This series strove to draw scientists and their work together centering on absolute values that would benefit all people around the globe.

After a hiatus of 17 years, ICUS was restarted in 2017 through the sponsorship of HJIFUS. The new series focuses on the pressing environmental problems of today and strives to promote innovative solutions and ensure their implementation to solve these problems.

A distinct feature of the ICUS endeavor is its openness to expressions of widely differing views, recognizing the value of respectful dialogue and healthy debates. This approach allows for the exploration of a variety of solutions.

The Twenty-Sixth Conference on the Unity of the Sciences (**ICUS XXVI**) was convened in Seoul, Korea, February 3 – 5, 2020.



*Proper stewardship and care for the environment is absolutely essential at this time. Climate change, rising sea levels, deforestation, desertification, a lack of clean water supply, malnutrition and the rising cost of food products require our immediate attention. God created us*



*to love and care for the Earth and all its blessings.*

*— Rev. Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, August 10, 2014, Hilton Hotel, Seoul,  
Korea*

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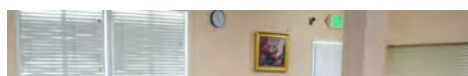
"While we may identify with a particular nationality, ethnicity, religion, or culture, we should affirm our common humanity, a value that transcends our individual backgrounds."

*Sun Jin Moon, IAYSP Thailand Inaugural Address*

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# Peace Design Seminar

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Do you know what the 17 Sustainable Development Goals are? In 2015 the member states of the United Nations created goals to address poverty, environmental issues, and how to ensure prosperity in all aspects for the people of the world. Each of these 17 areas have a specific goal to achieve by 2030 and it's up to each of us to learn and be aware of what they are in order to help with these global goals.

[Find Out More →](#)



International Association of Youth and Students for Peace supports the Sustainable Development Goals

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

