

**CARE ABOUT CLIMATE**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2019**



# REVIEW OF THE YEAR FROM THE CEO

This year Care About Climate had its 5 year anniversary. This organization was started by several students during their graduate and undergraduate careers. It has grown and evolved significantly since then, and we have been able to deepen our impact as well as support amazing climate leaders around the world. We are a truly collaborative and international organization, and I am proud of how far we have come. In these five years we have developed five major programs led by incredible women, onboarded a Chief Operating Officer, and have become a significant player in the international climate movement. This year to me is an inflection point as we start to think about how we can transition from a completely volunteer organization to creating enough financial stability to hire staff.

We have accomplished so much this year from launching EmpoderaClima to rebranding the Online Youth Exchange to ClimAcademy to transforming the networks that we work in such as the US Climate Action Network to be more collaborative and effective when it comes to addressing climate change. These are just a few of our accomplishments. I cannot wait to see where we are in another five years, and for decades to come.

Onward!

Natalie Lucas  
Chief Executive Officer





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# ABOUT CAC

## MISSION

Care About Climate educates, empowers, and unites people around the world to advocate for more effective climate change solutions.

## VISION

A world in which everyone is educated, empowered, engaged, and united to address climate change.

## WHO ARE WE?

We are an all-volunteer organization led primarily by young women under 30. Our team works internationally, equipping people with the tools and information they need to make a difference in their local communities, then amplify those stories to a global stage. Care About Climate and our programs provide a space for organizers to learn the basics of the climate movement, practice analyzing policy, create environmental campaigns, and advocate for their needs at local, country, and global levels. Members of our leadership team come from the United States, Brazil, and Chile; our volunteers and participants come from dozens of countries on all continents (except Antarctica, but we are working on it!). People come to our organization to experiment and create, in order to take on one of the greatest challenges we face, climate change.

### Program Breakdown:

ClimAcademy provides information to young people around climate change and climate action, Participants then apply this work on the ground as Climate Ambassadors. EmpoderaClima develops and publishes resources about gender & climate in three languages, (Portuguese, Spanish, and English) that can be easily accessed for free online. We bring these experiences to the international level through our delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and we unite all these efforts with ClimateSign.org. We are excited to report on them below.



# CLIMACADEMY



*ClimAcademy, formerly known as Online Youth Exchange (OYE), was completely transformed, from webinar and discussion-focused training into a formal, curriculum-based series of courses. We are proud of the connections and positive impacts OYE created as we prepare to accept students for our inaugural year, FY2020. This revitalization has been a great opportunity for our team to revisit the program goals, and ensure that we are meeting our participants' needs.*

*-Sarah Voska and Alvaro Alfaro*

## ONLINE YOUTH EXCHANGE (OYE) 4.0

In FY2019, OYE was operating in its fourth year with China Youth Climate Action Network (CYCAN) and other partners. From the start, we knew that we wanted to hold our students to a higher expectations than in previous years, and target the development of their leadership skills. Participants had the following resources & requirements:

- **Partner:** to talk about OYE training, current events, environmental crises in their region, policy developments, cultural/political differences between countries, etc.
- **Mentor Group:** to reflect on learnings from the program, and talk about regional issues in addressing climate change and pollution.
- **Mentor:** to connect partners, motivate program participants, and facilitate project planning.
- **Webinar Trainings:** once a month, hosted by one of our partner organizations. These trainings were split into themed mini-series', including: UN Climate Negotiation Prep (COP 101), Sustainable Business Practices, and Ecosystem-Based Solutions. Additional webinars each month were participant-led on a topic of their choice.
- **Homework:** due monthly, to develop a project plan for a community project to mitigate or adapt to climate change. The assignments focused on strategy development, and allowed for feedback on ideas. Students worked with a mentor and international partner to refine the plan throughout the year. In June, the Online Youth Exchange graduated 29 participants of the original 135. Our graduation rate is at 21%, a 20% decrease from our 2017-2018 (OYE 3.0) group. We believe this was due to the increased workload and structure to the program. This further grounded our plans to rehabilitate the program into a more standardized series of courses.

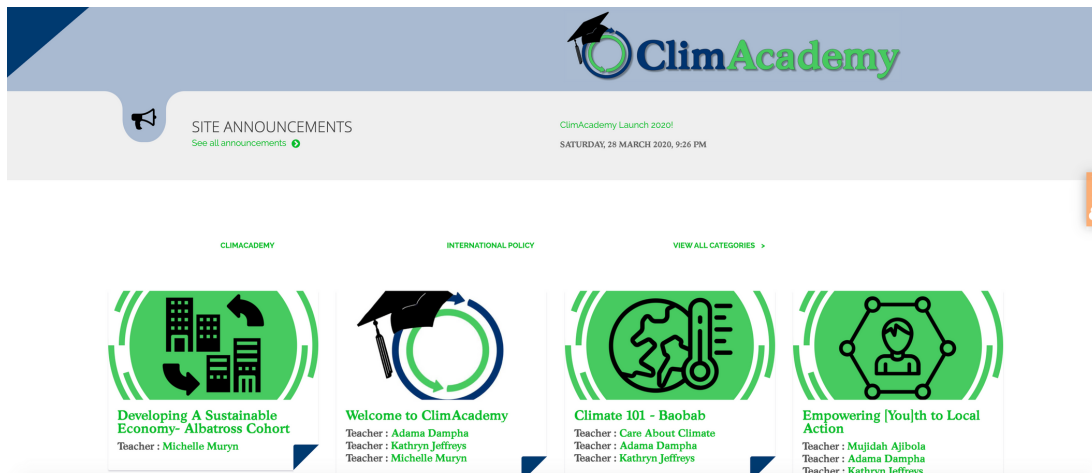
# CLIMACADEMY



In January of 2019 (FY2018), Program Director Sarah Voska and Program Officer Alvaro Alfaro met in New York to put together an outline of what a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) could look like. They designed a progressive learning curriculum that covers the basics of climate science, and advances to teach applied subjects, like developing a climate project. Elements considered during this process included accessibility, scalability, and reputability. The program was designed to be accessible to people in any time zone, with different English language skills and learning paces.

Sarah and Alvaro defined the first four core courses of the program. Course one would consist of Climate Change 101 (understanding the baseline), and that would be broken down into 4 modules: Climate Science, Drivers of Climate Change, Impacts of Climate Change, and Mitigation & Adaptation. The other courses would be designed in 2020 after course one launched.

We chose to host our redesigned program in Moodle, an online education software that met these needs, housing the entire curriculum in one platform. In Moodle, Climate Envoys (students) can access the course on computers or in the mobile app. It features automatic quiz grading, submission review, due date management, and student-teacher communications. Moodle allows us to pursue a pre-prepared learning module that meets our structural and educational standards for learning.



# CLIMACADEMY



Throughout the year, Sarah and Alvaro were also supporting YOUNGO, the Youth Constituency, to plan the Conference of Youth (COY) for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP 25). In the planning, they both received opportunities to present and speak before groups of youth and diplomats. The ClimAcademy team shared the objectives of the program, CAC, and the Climate Sign to international authorities including the UNFCCC COP25 president, COP24 and 25 High Level Champions, the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Ecological Transition of Spain and the Minister of Environment of Norway. In addition to submitting the COY15 policy paper to the High Level champion of COP25, they presented at events including:

- **United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), COP14 in India**, in the main plenary, (Alvaro's intervention here <https://webcast.gov.in/unccdcop14india/>)
- **COY15** - Presented on Strategies for Effective Engagement, giving participants a taste of some of the tools we share in Course 3
- **COY15** - March4Science, discussing what COY 15 was and why it was important
- **COP 25** - Panel "Intergenerational Justice: #TimetoAct" with Adriana Valenzuela and the Spanish Secretary of State for Education, in the launch of the Spain pavilion

Care About Climate demonstrated our leadership skills as the face of COY15. Through this engagement, we gained the recognition of hundreds of youth, particularly in the Global South. Our consistent leadership allowed us to impact policy papers presented to the UNFCCC, both at SB50 and COP25, and ensure that youth voices were heard at the highest environmental level.

# UN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS



Care About Climate’s delegation to COP25 consisted of 9 delegates from 5 countries. The delegation was led by Sydney Welter and Sabina Maniak (COO). COP25 was originally planned to take place in Santiago, Chile in December 2019. At the end of October, Chilean President Sebastian Pinera announced that Chile would no longer be hosting the conference. A few days later, Spain offered to host the climate talks in Madrid, on the same dates as planned--leaving only a few weeks to alter travel plans and logistics. CAC’s delegation leadership recruited additional financial support from donors to cover increased travel & living costs. All activists who planned on attending COP25 with Care About Climate were able to attend the conference in Madrid.

## COY- CONFERENCE OF YOUTH

Alvaro Alfaro & Sarah Voska served on the COY organizing team with YOUNGO. As the Chilean General Coordinator, Alvaro's responsibilities included international & external relations (with UNFCCC, COP presidency, government, funders, etc), and coordination with the Finance and Communications teams. He communicated with the COP25 Presidency, UNFCCC Secretariat, local government officials, and other domestic and international diplomats to plan the event. Sarah served as COY15 Liaison to the YOUNGO Bottom Lining Team (BLT).

When the conference was moved to Spain, Alvaro and Sarah facilitated calls within the team, the working group, and YOUNGO at large to determine the best course of action. Alvaro connected with local officials and universities in Spain to secure a new venue. At COY, Sarah presented two workshops: one on Strategies for Effective Engagement, and one on our Sign4Change campaign.





# UN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS - WEEK 1

Natalie Lucas (CEO) participated in the USCAN Round Table Discussion with the US Congressional delegation, led by Nancy Pelosi. Natalie advocated for pathways to net zero, including minimizing and offsetting aviation emissions, closing the production and emissions gap, and supporting fast transition to renewables. Natalie noticed that the pressure for increased ambition from civil society is working.

Renata (EmpoderaClima) led a side-event panel, *"Translating Policy into Action: The Role of Young Women from the Global South in Climate Justice"*. This was Care About Climate's first side-event, and was intended as a feminist safe space, where young women shared their victories in climate activism. The panel included 5 young women from 4 countries, and embodied diversity and story-telling, something often lost at high-level negotiations.

Sarah (ClimAcademy) and Renata presented in a side-event titled *"Innovative Partnerships for Bridging the Capacity Building Gap: Lessons from Community, Youth and Education Organizations"*, hosted by the Paris Committee on Capacity Building (PCCB) on the opening day of their Capacity Building Hub. CAC partnered with the Guangdong Harmony Community Foundation and the National University of Singapore to share best practices and programs that provide youth with the education they need to impact climate policy. *An archived livestream of the event can be viewed on the PCCB YouTube page.*

Alvaro (ClimAcademy) was a panelist in an international dialog at the opening of the Spanish National Pavilion, and was interviewed by Spanish National Radio (Radio Nacional de España) regarding climate activism. Care About Climate participated in a march for climate action.



# UN CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS - WEEK 2



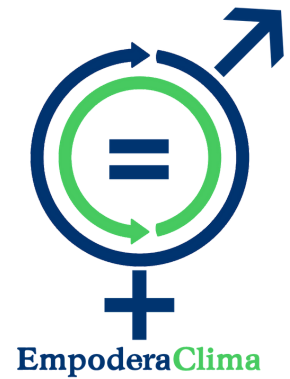
Alvaro was a panelist on the forum “la Agenda de las Agendas SDGs” presenting SDG15, sustainable land use. Sydney was a panelist on the UN panel “Learning for Climate Action: Implementing the Paris Agreement through Education, Training, and Skills Development,” discussing capacity-building for youth climate action and the roles of Universities in climate action, and introducing the SDG Accords’ Climate Emergency Letter.

We hosted a two-day exhibit on Sign4Change, where we displayed photos and letters from around the world on people’s experiences with climate change, elevating the voices of ordinary people to government officials and encouraging them to drastically improve their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The Sign4Change campaign also highlighted the Climate Sign as a tool for unity on climate action. We partnered with international agency Art Partner to display COP-related artworks by young artists at the exhibit. Finally, we delivered Sign4Change letters to the US delegation, urging the US to take ambitious action in their NDC to mitigate the harms of climate change people around the world are facing.

Our delegates focused on climate policy in Latin America, Germany, and the US, with particular emphasis on sustainable cities and land use, renewable energy, climate education and equity. We worked within the Youth NGO (YOUNGO), Demand Climate Justice (DCJ), and Climate Action Network constituencies, contributing to NGOs’ impact on the negotiations. Our delegates participated in a number of civil society actions, including a protest against lack of human rights considerations in the negotiations and a sit-in singalong led by Indigenous youths.



# EMPODERACLIMA



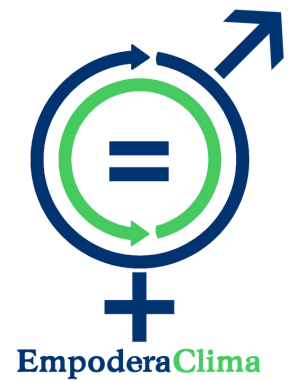
EmpoderaClima (*Empower for Climate*), our newest program, launched on Earth Day 2019.\* EmpoderaClima is an online, multi-lingual educational platform created to highlight the special vulnerability girls and women face from the climate crisis in the Global South. With content in English, Spanish, and Portuguese, EmpoderaClima serves as a resource on gender and climate justice to students, researchers, activists and passionate youth in the developing world - who usually do not have access to some of these materials in their native languages. Many individuals are not educated on how women and youth are disproportionately affected by climate change, especially in poorer areas in developing countries.

EmpoderaClima aims to accessibly bridge this educational gap so that the voices of women can be heard and acknowledged. We do this by creating and translating high-quality content, such as podcasts, videos, and research documents that are accessible for free on a public database. In our first year, EmpoderaClima compiled over 100 pieces of content in English, Portuguese, and Spanish, and written 20+ articles about specific issues surrounding the broader topic of women's empowerment and climate change. EmpoderaClima believes education is the best tool for change, because knowledge empowers people to be the changemakers they aspire to be. In its first year, EmpoderaClima has had quite a few important achievements and landmarks:

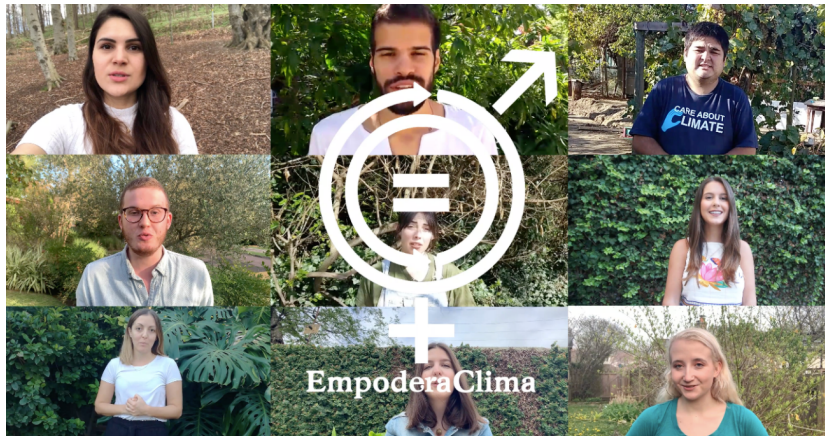


\*The launch video can be seen on our YouTube channel, or here: [https://youtu.be/rRDl82Y1G\\_Q](https://youtu.be/rRDl82Y1G_Q).

# EMPODERACLIMA



EmpoderaClima is led by Renata Koch Alvarenga, Álvaro Alfaro, and Hugo Bordas. The team currently consists of 8 youth in Brazil, Argentina, Ireland, the United States, France, and Sweden, who focus on translations, research, and writing.



## EVENTS

- **Global Landscapes Forum and Youth in Landscapes (YIL) Workshop, Bonn** - At the YIL workshop, "A Just Future: Social Justice in a Changing Climate", Renata presented EmpoderaClima to all attendees. Renata was also the Master of Ceremonies of GLF Bonn 2019, bringing EmpoderaClima and Care About Climate to a global stage.
- **ACE Symposium and High-Level Event by the UNFCCC** - At the United Nations Climate Change High-Level Event on ACE, Renata delivered a speech on behalf of EmpoderaClima to negotiators and attendees, and urged gender-responsive solutions in climate policy
- **UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP25)** - Renata and Shannon Greene attended COP25 with Care About Climate's greater delegation. There, EmpoderaClima focused on creating publicly accessible content, including daily recaps of the negotiations around gender and human rights, especially for the renewed Gender Action Plan. Renata and Shannon engaged with the UNFCCC Women & Gender Constituency through events, marches, press conferences, and daily meetings. EmpoderaClima also hosted an official COP25 Side Event\*, "Translating Policy into Action: the Role of Young women for Climate Justice". This event was one of only 9 side events on gender and climate at COP25, and the only one specifically focused on young women.

\*A video recording can be seen on our YouTube channel, here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=933lo2lpHJE>

# CLIMATE AMBASSADORS



Climate Ambassadors

Climate Ambassadors helps youth to develop organizing skills by designing and leading climate action projects. In this program's original form, individuals were paired with a mentor to implement their project; over time, we have realized that our Ambassadors require more structured training and support to be as impactful as possible. As we transformed OYE into ClimAcademy, it became clear that there was a natural connection between the educational platform and Climate Ambassadors program.

We have been working on re-visioning Climate Ambassadors, and once ClimAcademy launches, all Ambassadors will first complete *Course 3: How to Design a Climate Project*, and as they develop their projects, they will participate concurrently in *Course 4: Monitoring and Evaluating a Project to Determine Impact*. These courses will provide key structure and resources that will help our Ambassadors find success in working with their mentors to execute their climate works. We are so excited to re-launch Climate Ambassadors in the coming year.

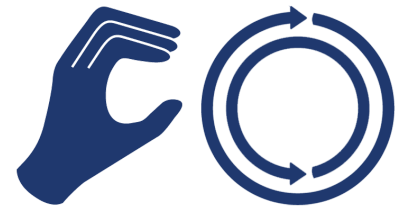


Climate Solutions Day at the St. Louis Zoo

Youth March for Climate Action:  
Nepalese Youth Action Network



# CLIMATE SIGN



#CLIMATESIGN

The Climate Sign continues to unite our programs and the climate movement at large. We developed the Sign4Change campaign in the lead-up to COP25; our delegation collected letters and Climate Sign photos from youth around the world, to present to negotiators at COP25. Sign4Change helped bring individual's voices into the international arena, even if they could not attend themselves. Our team received several dozen submissions, and delivered them to negotiators at the conference.



# ADDITIONAL PROJECTS

- **Asset Mapping-** Care About Climate, in Partnership with the People's Justice Council, Georgia WAND, Sustaining Way, and the Southeastern Climate and Energy Network, continues to build out an Asset Map for the United States Climate Action Network. This will be a digital map of organizations throughout the US connected to a database of resources (marketing, organizational development, community engagement, etc) that network members can access. This project will lower barriers for grassroots organizations, allowing for quick, affordable access to resources nationally.
- **Renewable Energy Access in Rural Communities, specifically for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC)-** This learning collaborative is a partnership between Agricultural Missions, United Methodist Women, and Partnership for Southern Equity. Starting in 2020, our group will be learning about barriers, models, and policies that are either inhibiting or helping rural communities of color gain access to renewable energy.



US Climate Action Network Building Power from the Grassroots Up Action Team Meeting

# FINANCES

## Care About Climate, Inc

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

March 2019 - February 2020

	<b>TOTAL</b>
▼ Revenue	
▼ Contributions (deleted)	13,281.12
Permanently Restricted Contributions (deleted)	10,990.77
<b>Total Contributions (deleted)</b>	<b>24,271.89</b>
Membership Due	80.73
Restricted Revenue	1,473.00
Unrestricted Revenue	389.59
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$26,215.21</b>
GROSS PROFIT	<b>\$26,215.21</b>
▼ Expenditures	
Advertising (deleted)	628.06
Bank Charges	31.51
Marketing Materials (deleted)	409.24
Office/General Administrative Expenditures	1,883.68
Other General and Admin Expenses (deleted)	302.91
PayPal Fees	79.55
▼ Program Expenditures (deleted)	91.59
Conference Fees (deleted)	155.00
<b>Total Program Expenditures (deleted)</b>	<b>246.59</b>
Shipping and delivery expense (deleted)	238.12
Travel	12,505.65
Uncategorized Expenditure	34.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$16,359.31</b>
NET OPERATING REVENUE	<b>\$9,855.90</b>
NET REVENUE	<b>\$9,855.90</b>

Accrual basis Tuesday, December 29, 2020 11:45 AM GMT-05:00



# BOARD AND EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

## Board of Directors



Nick Jones, Chair



David Ebertz, Vice Chair



Jen Thomas, Secretary



Jack Turner, Treasurer



Emily Piontek, Director



Sara Feld, Director

## Executive Leadership



Natalie Lucas, CEO



Sabina Maniak, COO