

THE GREEN AUDIT OF DYSoC

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1. Introduction

The Delhi Youth Summit on Climate (DYSoC) was held on 28th and 29th May, 2008. The objective of the summit was to bring together youth and young professionals in the age group of 16-35 to discuss and comment on the problems related to Delhi's environment and suggest solutions for them. During the course of the summit, two primary concerns for the organizers were waste generation and energy consumption as they wanted an environment friendly event.

The Green Audit of DYSoC is being conducted with an aim to assess the total environmental impact of the various activities during the event. The focus area of the green audit is on:

1. Resource Conservation
2. Waste Management
3. Water Management
4. Energy Conservation

2. Consumption and use during the summit

The conference kit provided to the participants consisted of a plastic folder, a note pad, a pen and a background kit on Delhi's environmental problems. All participants were also provided with a name tag which had a sheet of paper, a plastic cover and a nylon thread. For the purpose of registration, paper and pen were used. During the course of discussions on various themes, chart papers were used to jot down the ideas and suggestions of the participants.

The publicity for the event was primarily done through electronic media and posters. The posters put for display were collected post-summit from the various venues where they had been put up and made into folders thereby reducing waste generation and ensuring maximum usage of paper. Other paper waste generated during the summit was sent to a paper recycling unit.

Food was served on both days on crockery thereby ensuring zero plastic waste. Water was also served on both days in glass tumblers.

Energy consumption was kept minimal by ensuring that the air conditioner remained switched off during lunch and tea session on both days. Also, the lights were generally kept dim and during presentations, they were switched off. Some of the speakers chose to speak without the sound system i.e. mike etc which furthered the cause of energy saving. The laptop and LCD were also kept in off-mode when discussions were taking place or when the speaker was not presenting a PowerPoint.

3. Conclusions and Recommendations

The summit did achieve the goal of minimal resource consumption and waste generation. However, some practical and innovative ideas can help reduce consumption to a greater extent the next time round.

Following are the recommendations:

- Organise the summit at a time when it is feasible to conduct it in open ground
- Use recycled paper folders for the purpose of conference kit
- Avoid the use of plastic for the badges
- Encourage the presenters to speak without any powerpoints
- Use A4 size paper for jotting down ideas and suggestions rather than chart papers
- Aim for a no paper and no plastic summit!