

ANNUAL REPORT



2011

Overview and Mission



The Human Impacts Institute was created in 2010 in New York City to reassess the common misconception of environment as separate from society. Our organization is founded on the belief that humans are dependent upon, and responsible for, our natural environment.

We believe healthy communities, stable economies, and social equity cannot exist without environmental sustainability. The Human Impacts Institute inspires individuals, institutions, and communities to challenge the environmental status quo and to use innovation and collaboration to build and maintain a healthy environment and healthy communities.

We approach social change through a systems-based approach, combining research, education, community-building, policy-making, networking, and grassroots action. Always an advocate for open-source knowledge sharing, we serve as a facilitator between community members, scientists, business, media, and policy makers to "translate" information between sectors for effective collaboration.

Our goal is to sponsor innovative thinking, while encouraging risk-taking, and maintaining space for the evolution of ideas within the changing needs of communities.

Our mission is to save environmental ecosystems through inspired engagement, leadership, collaboration, knowledge-building, and creative expression. We promote environmental sustainability by educating our community, providing consulting services to schools and businesses, raising awareness through local and global campaigns, and coordinating hands-on projects and workshops for a greener New York City. Using NYC as a laboratory, the Human Impacts Institute connects global communities in resource sharing and environmental awareness.

Review

The Human Impacts Institute Core Programs

Experiential Education: Participants in HII's programs develop leadership skills that will contribute to improving communities' relationship with the environment, inspire people to push for change, and educate people about their human impacts.

- ❖ **Environmental Exploration:** Offer environmental and community education opportunities through environment impact assessments, field investigations, clean-ups, stewardship, and action campaigning.
- ❖ **From Local to Global:** Train people on the ground to communicate local environmental issues to a wider policy arena and to translate environmental policy jargon for the public.
- ❖ **Climate Crew:** HII partners with the Climate Reality Project to organize free climate change education workshops in environmental science and policy.
- ❖ **Community Conversations:** Use HII blogs, workshops, forums, and social media tools to report on current environmental issues.
- ❖ **Growing our Roots:** HII officially partners with Green Points Education for NYC's Million Trees program, a local tree stewardship initiative.
- ❖ **Youth for Environmental Change:** Connect youth to career opportunities related to environmental issues.
- ❖ **EcoPreneurs:** Provide individualized professional development opportunities to incorporate environmental sustainability into professional practices.
- ❖ **Women's Sustainability and Leadership Training:** Foster the leadership of women and girls within the environmental community.
- ❖ **Human Impacts Institute Internships:** Offer an active learning environment for college students and mid-career professionals. HII has had the opportunity to work with 26 interns since 2010.

Collaboration: HII engages individuals, community groups, NGOs, small businesses, corporations, educational institutions, as well as the government.

- ❖ **NYC Climate Coalition:** Local coalition founded & coordinated by HII committed to fostering partnerships for a Carbon Neutral NYC through resource exchanges, networking, partnerships, and joint advocacy.
- ❖ **MobilizeUS!:** National coalition founded & coordinated by HII to engage Americans in supporting healthy communities, good governance, sustainable economies, and the

environment through grassroots action, advocacy, and coalition building. The MobilizeUS! campaign is organizing for strong U.S. leadership at the 2012 Rio+20 Earth Summit.

Creativity Engagement Projects: The Human Impacts Institute partners with individual artists and arts organizations to inspire environmental action through arts and culture. Using the language of the visual arts, dance, music and theatre, we begin dialogues on community-based needs and solutions and engage the public in environmental awareness and positive action.

- ❖ **Human Impacts Salons:** Public series gatherings bringing together community leaders, environmental experts and visual artists, musicians, writers, and performers in a public space to share ideas, culture, inspiration, and to explore potential partnerships.
- ❖ **10 Days of Climate Action:** Inspire community members through public art installations to examine roles in climate change, while providing resources for action. Developed each year by HII.

The Human Impacts Institute Services

- ❖ **Environmental Consulting:** Services providing Healthy Home/Office packages to individuals and businesses that wish to receive personalized environmental consulting. Consulting areas currently include:
 - Energy saving (heating/AC, water consumption)
 - Food (eating organic, local, and healthy)
 - Green cleaning (living chemical-free, reducing toxins)
 - Overall sustainability (assessment of home and individual impacts)
- ❖ **Employee Engagement Initiatives:** The environmental sustainability program includes:
 - A series of environmental education workshops where participants are provided with the opportunities to engage in educational workshops on (a) water and (b) air quality testing, and to receive (c) sustainability training in homes, schools, and at work.
 - Opportunities for employees to participate in hands-on volunteer programs. Activities include tree stewardship, community beautification, and co-mentoring with local youth.

The Human Impacts Institute 2011 Fundraising Events

The Human Impacts Institute in the Press

350.org

HII Executive Director Speaks at Moving Planet NYC

3BL Media

Climate Supporters with Eco-Events

Climate Week NYC

Five of NYC's Great Green Secrets

NYWSE

Connecting People and Environment

NY Times

Seeking Reality on Climate

Project Highlights

February 2011

Green Careers at Green School
Environmental Leadership Training for Youth
Women, Climate Change, and the New Green Economy
Gender Perspectives on Cancun Accords

March 2011

International launch of the 2011 UNESCO Education for All Global Monitoring Report
Grassroots Speak Out on UN Women
Learning from Local Initiatives -- Women's Low-Carbon Innovations Inform Policy
Living Testimony for the Grassroots: Women and Climate Change
Making a Transition to a Green Economy
Food and water watch NYC opening
Environmental Consulting for High School Students
Water, Trees, Me: A Healthy NYC
Environmental Leadership: Sustainable Youth in Business
The Origins of Food
Engendering Progress with the Manhattan Young Democrats
Climate Change, China, and the WTO: Panel Discussion
Women's Rights as Human Rights Conference and the Tokyo Tribunal

April 2011

Eating Local: Greenmarket Visit
Film, Community Health and Sustainability
YouthCan2011 with Green School
Healthy Food, Healthy Communities
Time and Persons in the Economics of Climate Change
Rio+20 U.S. Mobilizing Call
U.S. State Department Stakeholder Meeting
NY's Climate Action Plan

May 2011

U.N. CSD "Youth Blast"
U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development 19
NY Youth Environmental Leaders (CSD-19)
Tree Stewardship Day
Food Waste to Green Space: Botanic Gardens Visit
Urban Food Production: Farm Visit
UNESCO: Financing Education in Sub-Saharan Africa
Food Advocacy and Waste
Sustainable Diversity Dinner for Youth
Webster "Bridging the Gulf in Diversity" Amsterdam WTC
No Impact Week Experiment

June 2011

No Impact Week Experiment
Strawberry Earth Film Festival
Social Change Salon: No Impact Man Screening
Social Change Salon: Addicted to Risk
Social Change Salon: The Power of Vulnerability
Hii Social Change Salon: Creating Equity and Human Rights
Social Change Salon: The Happy Planet Index
Open Space Planning Meeting in Clinton Hill / Bed-Stuy with DEP Commissioner
Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project: Community Food Council
Supreme Court Rules: NY City Bar Climate Change Program

July 2011

NYC Climate Coalition Strategy Meeting
10 Days of Climate Action Brainstorm Meeting
"The Book of Ice Book Launch with DJ Spooky, Bill McKibben and the Canary Project
Rethink Impact Wine Tasting
MWA's Harbor Education MWA Harbor Education Task Force Meeting
Going Green! Youth Community Activism and Leadership
FREE NYC Workshop: Non-Toxic Cleaning for the Home and Office
July SWIM Public Meeting
Going Green! Youth and Community Greening
Going Green! Youth Leadership and Cooking Oil Recycling

August 2011

EcoWarriors Panel Discussion
Going Green! Youth Environmental Leadership and Cooking Oil Recycling Outreach
Rio+20 Mobilize US! Campaign Charette/Workshop
Going Green! Youth Leadership and Cooking Oil Recycling Outreach
Conference Call Check-in for MobilizeUS (Rio+20 US Engagement)
NYC Climate Coalition Monthly Conference Call
Going Green! Youth Environmental Leadership and Career Development

September 2011

24 Hours of Climate Reality
Free Street Tree Workshop
24 Hours of Climate Reality with Al Gore
Conference Call Check-in for MobilizeUS (Rio+20 US Engagement)
NYC Climate Coalition Monthly Conference Call
10 Days of Climate Action: CLIMATE INNOVATION, SEA LEVEL RISE, CLIMATE AND FOOD, A RESPONSE TO CLIMATE SKEPTICS, CLIMATE AND VULNERABILITY, CLIMATE AND VULNERABILITY, URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECT, CLIMATE GUILT, THINKING ABOUT CLIMATE
Estuary Snapshot Day Training
Moving Planet NYC: Let's Get Off of Oil NOW!

October 2011

Growing Our Roots Tree Stewardship Day

Free Environmental Workshops at East River State Park
Day in the Life of the Hudson Estuary
Conference Call Check-in for MobilizeUS (Rio+20 US Engagement)
NYC Climate Coalition Monthly Conference Call

November 2011

Intro to NYC Water Quality and Creative Messaging
Free Street Tree Workshop
Road 2 Rio International Strategy Meetings
Clean Waterways=Healthy Community
Occupy! Weekly Earth Summit Workgroup Meeting
Conference Call Check-in for MobilizeUS (Rio+20 US Engagement)
Human Impacts Institute One Year Anniversary Fall Fundraiser

December 2011

Environmental Justice, Water and Advocacy
Street Tree Stewardship with Youth
Conference Call Check-in for MobilizeUS (Rio+20 US Engagement)
Occupy! Weekly Earth Summit Workgroup Meeting
NYC Climate Coalition Strategy Session
CHOOSE REALITY - A Climate Reality Project Presentation
One Drop Day
EcoPreneurs: Cooking Oil Training & Outreach

Our Crew

Staff

Tara DePorte, Executive Director and Founder

Kate Offerdahl, Youth Leadership Coordinator

Alex White, Director of outreach and advocacy

Board of Directors

Tara DePorte, President
Founder and Executive Director, Human Impacts Institute

Amy Braunschweiger, Media and Outreach Advisor
Web Communications Manager, Human Rights Watch

Sally Newman, Law and Advocacy Advisor
Environmental Lawyer, Southern Environmental Law Center

Advisory Board

Eric Axelrod, Environmental Health and National Policy Advisor
Environmental Officer at United States Department of Housing and Urban Development

Liz Gwinn, Creativity and Development Advisor
Communications Director, The Studio Museum in Harlem

Chiara Jovanovic, Business and Development Advisor
Columbia Business School 2011, Former Vice President of Investment
Management Division, Goldman Sachs

Akong Charles Ndika, Sustainability and Research Advisor
Technical Officer, World Health Organization Office

Kate Pielemeier, Local Policy Advisor
Special assistant to Executive Deputy Commissioner, New York City Department of Social
Services in the Office of Community Affairs and Immigrant Services

Anastasia Pinto, Grassroots and Gender Advisor
International Steering Committee, GenderCC-Women for Climate Justice

Member-Partner of the Women's Learning Partnership and Indigenous Research Network of DoCip

Interns and Volunteers

Elisabetta Di Matta, Environmental Education Intern

Jenny Cheng, Climate Change and Coalition Building Intern

Ronald Comstock, Business Environmental Sustainability Intern

Hoa Do, PR and Marketing Intern

Arianne Donar, Climate and Water Educator, Environmental Education

Emily Gilbert, Environmental Leadership Intern

Marc Jourdan, Law and Policy Specialist, Environmental Leadership Intern

Jennifer Kanter, Environmental Outreach Specialist, Climate Change and Coalition Building Intern

Moua Lo, Media and PR Professional, Media consultant

Melissa Mitchell, Environmental Education Intern

Peter Tzannes, Environmental Services and Education Intern

Mugzy Undemir, Climate Change and Coalition Building Intern

Brigette Walsh, Environmental Services Intern

Income

Contracted Services	\$11,040	10%
Foundation Grants	\$7,500	7%
Fundraising Events	\$3,155	3%
In-Kind Donations*	\$86,849	80%
TOTAL	\$108,544	100%

Expenses

Program Personnel	\$11,334	11%
Travel	\$30	<1%
Advertising/Marketing	\$631	1%
Food and Entertainment	\$264	<1%
Other Expenses	\$528	1%
In-Kind Donations*	\$86,849	87%
TOTAL BUDGET	\$99,636	100%

* Programs: 72.3%, Administrative: 26.3%, Fundraising: 1.4%



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