



Jan-Feb 2025



Live Green@NUS

OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE STARTS TODAY
by NUS Sustainability

WHAT NUS DID AT

COP29

Baku
Azerbaijan



NUS was actively involved in the COP29 climate talks which took place at Baku, Azerbaijan from 11 to 22 November last year. Here's a round-up of what we did!



#1 Sealed a Biodiversity Impact Partnership

NUS Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions (CNCS) partnered XPRIZE to promote forest conservation through technology.



#2 Sealed an MoU with C40 Cities

NUS Cities and C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group pledged to help city leaders address the urgent challenges of the climate emergency.



#3 Launched the world's first advanced degrees in sustainable healthcare



NUS Centre for Sustainable Medicine launched a Master of Science and an Executive Fellowship in Sustainable Healthcare to impart skills and knowledge in this rapidly emerging field. The first intake will be this August. Applications close on 7 March 2025.



#4 Moderated and spoke at high-level panels

Several NUS experts spoke or moderated at panels. They included Prof Ben Cashore (**Institute of Environment & Sustainability**), Prof Adrian Law (**Coastal Protection and Flood Resilience Institute**), Ms Danielle Yeow (**Centre for International Law**) and Assoc Prof Nirmal Kishnani (**College of Design and Engineering**) to name a few. **The Bezos Centre for Sustainable Protein at NUS** was discussed at the Supercharging Future Foods panel which featured Prof Huang Dejian (**Faculty of Science**) as a speaker. You can catch a replay of the panels [here](#).



HUNGRY FOR MORE COP GEMS?

THE ROAD FORWARD
Addressing Biodiversity Loss and Climate Change
5 Feb (Wed) 10am - 1pm

The event by **NUS CNCS** reviews the outcomes of the UN Biodiversity and Climate Change Conferences in 2024 and previews COP30 in 2025.

Register [here](#).

COP29 INSIGHTS EXCHANGE
6 Feb (Thu) 9 - 10.40am

Climate change and international environmental law scholars gather at this roundtable by **Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL)** to reflect on the outcomes of COP29, including topics such as the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance.

Register [here](#).



NUS YOUTH @COP 29



NUS students and alumni were part of the Singapore youth delegation who went to COP29 under Climate Youth Development Programme (CYDP)* last November. With the support of RV Climate Cafe interest group at Ridge View Residential College (RVRC), some have organised the **RV Climate Cafe x COP Chats** to share their experiences and insights. Come and hear from them!



RV CLIMATE CAFE X COP CHATS

22 JAN (FRI)
7.30–9PM

@ RVRC Block G Master's Lounge
Register [here](#).

Panelists

Benjamin Long (Year 4 NUS Computer Engineering student, co-founder & CTO of Beep Technologies, Forbes Asia's 30 under 30 list)

Too Fang Ning (NUS Environmental Studies alumna, ESG analyst at Philip Capital management)

Andres Neo (Year 1 NUS Environmental Studies student)

Moderators

Lee Xin Chun (MSc in Sustainable and Green Finance student)

Lei Hong Wei (Year 4 Geography student)

We catch up with two NUS youth delegates on their key COP29 takeaways!

Andres Neo, Year 1 Environmental Studies



I realised that **the way you package environmental stories can make a big difference on the impact you want to achieve.** Hearing youths speak at the Singapore Pavilion, I noticed that stories which are able to tug at the heartstrings of the audience tend to have a greater impact.

I also learnt that **social and economic considerations are crucial to make an environmental issue relatable to the wider public.**

For example, youths in Portugal advocated for a new bus line to expand their public transport, but their message extended beyond reducing carbon emissions. To get people to buy in, they aligned their cause with people's needs by focusing on how the new measure would make the roads less congested and enhance urban liveability, as well as how it could also help reduce transport costs.

I left COP29 inspired to be **a steward of my corner of the world.** I was awed by the resilience of other youths when they spoke about their community's experience with climate change. For instance, extreme weather events have caused frequent disruptions to children's education in Zimbabwe. It is hard to begin climate education there when basic education is lacking, so the youths step in to run educational programs for children on these topics. As climate negotiations are far removed from their daily lives, it is up to these youths to bridge the gap and mobilise their communities for climate action. Their action inspired me to nurture meaningful connection with my community in Singapore so that I can also motivate climate action that is informed by local and global contexts.

On climate finance, my biggest takeaway is that innovative financial mechanisms that bring various stakeholders together are pertinent. Stewardship from governments to develop conducive financial environments can incentivise further flows into climate financing. Although global ambitions for climate finance are lagging, I am optimistic that such developments can be blueprint for effective public-private partnerships for climate finance in the future.

Lee Xin Chun, Masters in Sustainable & Green Finance student





GREEN NUGGETS



DID YOU KNOW?

Animal agriculture contributes 16.5% of global greenhouse emissions, **nearly double that of plant-based food production**. Hence, switching to plant-based meals can significantly reduce your carbon footprint, among other advantages!

A common misconception about plant-based diets is that they lack proteins. In fact, some plant foods are **packed with protein**. These include soy products such as tofu and tempeh (which is made from fermented soybeans), and legumes such as lentils and chickpeas.

Keen to get started on a plant-based diet?

Here are 4 tips from NUS SAVE (Students' Association for Visions of the Earth)!

1 Start small

Begin with one plant-based meal per week, such as "Meatless Mondays".

2 Stock your pantry

Keep staples like chickpeas, lentils, tofu, and fresh veggies on hand for quick meals.

3 Experiment with Flavours

Dive into global cuisines for inspiration. Spice mixes like garam masala or ingredients like soy sauce can make your dishes exciting.

4 Cook Together

Join workshops or cook with friends to make the transition fun and social.

NUS SAVE shares 2 recipes from its recent plant-based cooking workshop co-organised with NUS VEGE (Vision of Equality for a Greener Earth)!

Curried Okra & Eggplant



A comforting Indian-inspired curry that bursts flavor.

Ingredients

- 1 small onion - cut in small chunks
- 2 teaspoons fresh ginger, minced; 1 teaspoon garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons oil; 2 teaspoons black mustard seeds
- 8 ounces tiny tomatoes
- 2 cups okra
- 2 cups eggplant
- 1/2 - 3/4 cup of broth
- 1 can chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 1 teaspoon garam masala
- Sea salt/fresh ground pepper
- 1/4 cup chopped cilantro to garnish

Instructions

1. Cook okra (lady's fingers) and tomatoes until softened, then add eggplant. Cook until eggplant tender, about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
2. De-glaze the pan with broth and mix in chickpeas and garam masala. Cook an additional 4-5 minutes to evaporate the liquid.
3. Garnish with cilantro and serve with basmati rice or flatbread.

This article is contributed by NUS SAVE.

Tempeh Adobo & Kang Kong



Adobo, a classic Filipino dish, gets a vegan twist.

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons canola oil
- 2 packs tempeh, steamed then thinly sliced
- 6-8 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup soy sauce (or more to taste)
- 2-3 pinches ground black pepper
- 1 bunch sweet basil (or dried bay leaves)
- 1 bunch kang kong (water spinach), cut into 1-2 inch length

Instructions

1. Fry tempeh on both sides until golden brown.
2. Add garlic and cook for another 2-3 mins.
3. Mix in soy sauce, basil, and black pepper. Cover and simmer for 10 mins. Adjust seasoning to taste.
4. Add kang kong and mix well. Lower heat and simmer until vegetable wilts. Add more soy sauce and pepper to taste.
5. Pour a bit more cooking oil for a richer taste. Turn off heat and serve with rice!



GET INVOLVED



22 JAN (WED)

6 – 7PM

Virtual Info Session on new NUS MSc in Sustainable Healthcare

By NUS Centre for Sustainable Medicine

Are you a healthcare professional looking to elevate your career, or a recent graduate passionate about sustainable healthcare? Then this session is for you!

Free. [Register.](#)

23 JAN (THU)

6.30 – 8.30PM

Lecture on Transforming the World, One City at a Time

By NUS Cities and Institute of Real Estate & Urban Studies

Yao Chingyu, Director-General of the Secretariat of New Taipei City Government, delves into her city's approach to aligning local initiatives with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Free. [Register.](#)

24 JAN (FRI)

7.15 – 10PM

Mandai Night Walk

By NUS Life Sciences Society's Environmental Interest Group (EVBig)

Join this exciting evening trek where you will have the chance to connect with like-minded people and encounter unique nocturnal creatures.

Free. [Register.](#)

5 FEB (WED)

2.30 – 6PM

Green Connect 2025

By Bachelor of Environmental Studies (BES) Student Committee and EVBig

Calling all NUS students! Take part in this green career fair to discover opportunities in the environmental sector and connect with green industry leaders!

[Pending registration details. Stay updated \[here.\]\(#\)](#)

8 FEB (SAT) RVRC Symposium 2025: Living and Learning for a Shared Future



9AM – 2.30PM

Free. [Register](#)*

The annual student-led symposium at Ridge View Residential College (RVRC) is back this year with another dynamic showcase of exemplary student projects and a colourful tapestry of the co-curricular activities! This year's keynote speaker is Preston Wong, co-founder of the treasure app. Look forward to half a day of networking, reflection and learning, focusing on the themes of sustainability education and workplace readiness!

*Participants of the NUS120 Charity Walk are welcome to join the symposium from 11:15am onwards, when the main presentations begin.

13 FEB (THU)

1 – 2PM



Environmental Courts and Tribunals in Asia-Pacific: Book Launch webinar

By Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law

Authors of a new book will share their analysis and insights on environmental courts and tribunals, a topic which have had limited data and academic analysis to date.

Free. [Register.](#)

18 – 19 FEB (TUE – WED)

9AM – 6PM

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Symposium 2025

By Centre for International Law

Join the discussions centred around the BBNJ Agreement which aims to conserve and sustainably use marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Free. [Register.](#)

If you have sustainability events to publicise, [email us.](#)