

Youth Advocate Summit 2019

Q&A





Youth Ag Summit

ABOUT THE YOUTH AGVOCATE SUMMIT

What is the Youth Ag Summit?

The Youth Ag Summit is a global forum and biennially organized week-long conference where young leaders collaborate to develop sustainable solutions for food security and global agriculture, and work towards becoming global instruments of change.

What are the YAS objectives?

Our goal is to inspire these bright, young minds to not only think, but to act – becoming advocates and causing real change by implementing what they have learned. Our delegate promise is:

1. To challenge – by broadening their perspective and beliefs
2. To inspire – by giving them new tools and ways to succeed
3. To grow – by exposing them to a global community who cares and supports them

Is the Summit happening under a specific theme?

The overall Youth Ag Summit theme is “Feeding a Hungry Planet”.

Why is this theme so relevant?

The United Nations predict that by 2050, the planet’s population will reach almost 10 billion people. This means we will need to produce more food, with fewer resources and less arable land. Finding solutions to do so sustainably demands visionary thinking, courage and creativity.

How many editions of the Youth Ag Summit have already been organized?

The Summit takes place every two years, with three editions having taken place so far. The first-ever Summit was held in 2015 in Calgary, Canada, together with the youth development and empowerment organization 4-H Canada. The second edition took place in 2015, in Canberra, Australia, in partnership with the Future Farmer Network of Australia (FFN). The most recent Youth Ag Summit took place in Brussels, Belgium in 2017, in cooperation with local young farming organizations Fédération des Jeunes Agriculteurs and Groene Kring.

When and where will the next Youth Ag Summit take place?

The next Summit will take place in **Brasília, Brazil** from **4 to 6 November 2019**.

Who is the partnering organization?

The Youth Ag Summit is an initiative of the Crop Science Division of Bayer. In 2019 the Summit will be co-hosted by two Brazilian organizations: Nuffield Brazil and AIESEC Brazil.



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What are the expected outcomes of the Youth Ag Summit?

There are three areas of action to emerge from the Summit:

- **“3 Little Things”**: Each delegate develops a set of personal objectives which they commit to working towards within their home communities.
- **“YAS Thrive for Change Projects”**: Delegates work on an individual project idea related to the SDGs, developing a concrete implementation plan to make it a reality.

Will one or more winning projects that will be chosen?

The Youth Ag Summit is not about winning a prize. It rather serves as an *idea incubator*, to support participants turn their ideas into reality and equip them with the skills needed to deliver on their projects once the Summit concludes. Delegates are invited to travel to Brazil to gain valuable experience and join a network of like-minded people passionate about the future of our global food system.

What will be the program for the next Summit?

The 2019 Youth Ag Summit program will be announced in autumn 2019. It will include inspiring keynote speeches from experts and global leaders, field trips, and daily sessions for delegates to work on developing their own projects.

How can I find out more?

Check out our website or follow us on social media, using the hashtag #youthagsummit.

Website: youthagsummit.com
Facebook: facebook.com/youthagsummit
Twitter: twitter.com/youthagsummit
Instagram: instagram.com/youthagsummit
YouTube: youtube.com/youthagsummit

PARTICIPANTS

Who can attend the Youth Ag Summit?

100 young leaders aged 18-25, who are interested in agriculture, international development, environmental stewardship, food security, biotechnology or farming, will be selected to participate in the Summit. They are expected to come to the table with an appetite to advocate for agriculture, a concrete project idea, and a desire to make a lasting impact on food security. The delegates will be supported throughout the Summit by external mentors and Youth Ag Summit alumni.



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Who are the mentors?

Mentors are local Bayer employees from participating countries, members of local youth ag-organizations or alumni from previous Youth Ag Summits.

I'm a Youth Ag Summit alumni and I'd like to be an alumni mentor. How can I apply?

A number of "alumni-mentors" will be invited to the 2019 Youth Ag Summit. More information on how to apply for one of these slots will be available soon.

What are the participation conditions for delegates?

Delegates must:

- Be no younger than 18 and no older than 25 years of age on the first day of the Summit (day of the welcome dinner).
- Be legally able to travel internationally.
- Hold a valid passport, with at least six months validity after entry date (one day before the Summit starts). The participant is solely responsible for obtaining any and all necessary travel documents to travel to and from his or her home country. Should the applicant not hold a passport at the time of application, they will need to acquire a passport once selected.
- Have a proficient level of both oral and written English to communicate comfortably.
- Be comfortable with cultural diversity.
- Have a demonstrable passion for agriculture, environmental stewardship, sustainability, food, world hunger, biotechnology, farming and/or animal husbandry.
- Have strong leadership abilities (local leaders/influencers) and communication skills, so they can implement what they learn in their local communities.
- Be able to demonstrate participation in a network of like-minded peers, whether online (e.g. social media) or offline (e.g. youth groups, student societies, business networks).
- Be able to present a concrete, unique project idea to help combat food insecurity.
- NOT be an employee of a Bayer entity or direct family member (e.g. spouse, son or daughter) or live in the same household as a Bayer employee, consultant or jury member.
- NOT have participated as a delegate in any previous edition of the Youth Ag Summit.



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What is the conference language?

The conference will be held in English. Delegates should have a fluent level of written and oral English.

APPLICATION

When can I submit my application?

The application period opens on September 17, 2018 and closes on January 10, 2019 at 11:59pm (GMT).

How can I apply for the Youth Ag Summit?

Applicants need to submit an application through the dedicated tool on our [website](#). This involves completing an application form where you answer several questions about your experience and motivation, and submitting a 3-minute video pitch explaining your specific project idea for “how to feed a hungry planet”.

We do not accept handwritten applications and all applications must be submitted in English. You will find more information and directions in our application guidelines in the online tool as well.

What topics should I address in the video pitch?

- *Who are you?* Introduce yourself, including your name, age and your country of origin.
- *Why are you interested in agriculture, or passionate about food security?*
- *What is your (big or small) project idea for “feeding a hungry planet”? How can you contribute?* The more details, the better. Sketches, samples, prototypes — it all helps us get as excited as you are. Make sure to link your idea to (one of) the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and explain why it contributes to this/these goal(s).
- *How did you get to this project idea?* Tell us how you got the idea, and how much you’ve accomplished so far. Sharing the project’s history helps us understand the kind of work you do, and how you go about it.
- *What is your master plan and how does your schedule look like? What will your project look like in the future?* Tell us about your rough timeline.
- *Why do you care?* Tell us why you’re passionate about your project and committed to making it happen.
- Finally, imagine you have already been accepted to join the Youth Ag Summit: *How would you use this opportunity to make a change in your local community and how would you measure the impact?*



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I don't have video editing skills, will this affect my application?

First and foremost, your application will be assessed on what you can bring to the Youth Ag Summit as a delegate, not on how creative your video looks – so there's no need to worry if you don't have any video editing experience. That said, feel free to get creative and have fun making it! This is your chance to showcase your achievements, and to highlight what you can bring to Brazil.

How do I submit the video pitch?

The video should be uploaded as a private video on YouTube, then submitted by providing the private link in the application form when prompted. If it is not possible to access YouTube in your country you may upload your video directly in the application tool.

How long should my video pitch be?

The video can be anywhere from 0 to 3 minutes long. Submitting a video longer than 3 minutes may be counted against you. The video does not need to be of professional quality, and the style and content are entirely up to you. However, make sure to address the topics mentioned in our application guidelines, as not to do so could adversely affect your application.

Do I need to finish the whole application at once?

No, you can sign into the application tool as often as you like to enter and update the requested information before submitting. Just make sure that you finalize and submit your application by 11:59pm (GMT) on January 10, 2019. We strongly recommend against waiting until the last minute to submit your application in case of any technical problems. Once you have submitted your application, it is no longer possible to change any part of it.

Do you accept applications from any country?

Yes, as long as you are proficient in English and can obtain a valid passport and visa prior to traveling to Brazil.

I'm currently living or studying in another country. From which country should I apply?

You should apply as a participant from your home country or the country for which you hold a valid ID/passport.

What will happen to the data I provide in the application?

All data from unsuccessful applicants will be deleted following the selection announcement. If during the application process, you have agreed to receive the Youth Ag Summit newsletter, we will keep your name and email address for this purpose. All data from successful applicants will be handled in accordance with our privacy policy.



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I applied for the last Youth Ag Summit but was not selected. Can I apply again?

Yes, previously unsuccessful applicants are welcome to apply for the 2019 Youth Ag Summit if they are still between the ages of 18-25.

Who do I contact if I have questions or problems with my application?

For any problems during the application process, please email us at info@youthagsummit.com. Please note that we will not be able to provide updates on the progress of your application until the final selection has been made.

SELECTION

How are Youth Ag Summit participants selected?

We establish a selection committee in every country. This includes up to five jury members from Bayer, a local youth ag-organization, university or other partners and organizations. The selection is based on specific criteria and a scoring system, with each country selecting its own final delegates.

When will I know if I have been selected?

You will be notified via e-mail in spring 2019 if you have been selected. For this reason, please apply using an email address which you will still have access to next year. We will also inform unsuccessful applicants around the same time. Please note, that we cannot provide individual updates on the status of your application during the evaluation period.

Which costs will be covered?

The costs for attending the Summit are covered by the Youth Ag Summit organizers. These include: flight tickets, transportation, accommodation, and catering. Any other travel costs unrelated to Youth Ag Summit activities will not be covered.

What documents do I need to enter Brazil?

You need a passport. If you already have a passport or if you are applying for a new passport, make sure that it will remain valid for at least six months after November 4, 2019. You are solely responsible for obtaining any and all necessary travel documents to travel to and from Brazil from your home country. If you also need a visa, Bayer will assist you with the visa application.

What should I do if I need special assistance to attend?

Please let us know in advance if you have a particular disability or have any medical needs that would require assistance, by emailing us at info@youthagsummit.com. We will do our utmost to accommodate your specific needs at the Youth Ag Summit.



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ABOUT BAYER

Why is Bayer committed to educate young people about agriculture and science?

As a research-driven company, Bayer is committed to driving societal acceptance of technology, as well as fostering a future talent pipeline of scientists. Agricultural education and youth empowerment are key to achieving these ambitions.

What are the objectives of Bayer to host this event?

- To connect and support young leaders who will champion sustainable agriculture and food security.
- To bridge the understanding gap between those who produce our food and those who consume it.
- To inspire the next generation to develop their interest – and perhaps pursue careers – in science and agriculture.
To promote special education programs locally and to collaborate with global youth groups and research institutes.

Does Bayer always partner with different youth ag-organizations for this event?

For each edition of the Youth Ag Summit, Bayer partners with local and global youth or agricultural organizations. This offers delegates a wider set of perspectives, as well as ensuring the Summit is relevant and grounded in local know-how.

Is the YAS a continuous event?

The Summit is part of the Bayer Agricultural Education Program: a holistic, long-term approach to encourage young people aged 18 to 28 to learn about sustainable agriculture. The program aims to inspire the next generation to learn more about modern agriculture and find solutions to global food security.

