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(Received 5 February 2007, Revised form accepted 30 March 2007)

Announcement

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANET EARTH STUDENT CONTEST

The United Nations declared 2008 as the International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE) As part of this, the IYPE Corporation is organizing an **IYPE Student Contest.** Students aged 18-22 years are eligible Contestants may approach one of the questions mentioned below in a creative way. This might vary from writing an essay, song or poem, producing a drawing or painting, making a short video film, a cartoon story, a photograph, etc. Students may focus their item of work (drawing from their own, personal perspective, driven by their individual cultural background and education) on one or more of the following topics (1) Groundwater – Towards sustainable use, (2) Hazards – Minimizing risk, maximizing awareness, (3) Earth & Health – Building a safer environment, (4) Climate – The 'stone tape', (5) Earth's esources – Towards sustainable use, (6) Megacities – Going deeper, building safer, (7) Deep Earth – From crust to core, (8) Ocean – Abyss of time, (9) Soil – Earth's living skin and (10) Earth and Life – The origins of diversity

More information about these topics is available from www.esfs.org/downloads.htm Entries should be sent to Prof Harsh K Gupta, Chairman, National Committee on IYPE, National Geophysical Research Institute, Uppal Road, Hyderabad 500 007 (insaiype@gmail.com) to reach him on or before November 15th 2007.

All entries will be evaluated by the National IYPE Committee Evaluation criteria include creativity and originality, vision, empathy with the topic and style of production (design, wording, etc.) The five best will be selected as award-winners. Depending on the availability of funds, the best or all award-winning students will be invited to take a four-day (11-14 February, 2008) trip to Paris, entirely free of charge, and to participate in the Global Launch Event of the International Year of Planet Earth on 12 and 13 February 2008. Four out of all award-winning students will be selected and invited to perform or display and comment upon their work on stage during the Global Launch Event as an introduction to each of the four debates. All Award-winning students will receive an Official Certificate and their works will be posted on the website of the International Year of Planet Earth (www yearofplanetearth org). Also, a publication with a selection of the award-winning works will be published some time after the Global Launch Event and will be sent to all invited students.

For further details, please contact Dr R Shankar, Department of Marine Geology, Mangalore University, Mangalagangotri, **Email:** rshankar_1@yahoo com Details are also available at www.esfs.org/studentcontest.html