

EVENT REPORT

YPF BRAZIL'2024

📍 Pullman Hotel São Paulo Guarulhos, **Brazil** 🇧🇷
November 12-15, 2024



Event Summary



The Young Professional Fellowship Brazil 2024 commenced in the vibrant city of São Paulo, renowned for its rich cultural heritage and progressive social fabric. This fellowship, organized by the Young Professional Fellowship, brought together over 50+ incredible young leaders representing more than 30 countries. These emerging changemakers gathered with a unified vision to collaborate and lead initiatives aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) and to realize meaningful impact within their communities.

Message by the Organizing Committee



The journey of organizing the Young Professional Fellowship Brazil 2024 has been both challenging and deeply rewarding. Our team worked tirelessly to craft a global experience that goes beyond conventional learning, embedding experiential activities like the Model United Nations, leadership simulations, and real-time team challenges. Each detail was thoughtfully designed to ensure that delegates lived through this experience. While our efforts laid the foundation, it was the incredible energy, perspectives, and passion of our

delegates that truly brought this fellowship to life. Witnessing them learn, lead, inspire, and be inspired reaffirmed why this platform exists. We are immensely proud of the community we built together; one of growth, dialogue, and meaningful connection.



Topics of Discussion:

- Empowerment of Youth for Transformative Global Governance
- AI-Powered Solutions-Bridging Gaps and Expanding Youth Opportunities
- Youth Leading the Charge Against Global Inequality
- Simulation: Model United Nations (MUN)

Aims of the Fellowship:

- To equip young changemakers with leadership skills through experiential learning and cross-cultural exchange.
- To encourage meaningful dialogue on global issues such as diplomacy, mental health, and social justice.
- To promote youth-led solutions for peacebuilding and sustainable development

Theme of the Event:

Empowering global youth to lead with empathy and dialogue for a more inclusive and sustainable world.



DAY 1

The day began with the arrival of delegates at the Pullman São Paulo Guarulhos Hotel. Upon registration, participants received their official event merchandise, including YPF-branded kits, program schedules, and identification badges. The registration desk also served as an initial networking hub, setting the tone for collaboration and community-building. Delegates were welcomed with a warm reception and a traditional Brazilian coffee experience. Overall, the welcome coffee allowed participants to begin connecting with their fellows in an informal setting, easing into what would be an intensive and inspirational event ahead.



The formal proceedings began with a welcome ceremony hosted by **Ms. Maria and Ms. Victoria**, the event hosts. They introduced the vision and mission of the Young Professional Fellowship, outlining the organization's key milestones and its dedication to empowering youth across the globe. They also highlighted the goals of YPF Brazil 2024, particularly the need for youth-driven leadership and collective action.



The event officially began with an incredible musical performance by a talented Brazilian artist. The cultural showcase not only energized the room but also celebrated Brazil's artistic legacy, symbolizing the fusion of global youth collaboration with local culture.



Following the performance, **Mr. Muhammad Ahmad**, Vice Chairman Young Professional Fellowship, delivered a powerful keynote speech, expressing sincere gratitude to all strategic partners, including BrazilCham and ABES, for their pivotal support. He underscored the importance of providing platforms for youth voices and advocating for inclusive decision making. Moreover, Mr. Ahmad urged the delegates to take their roles seriously not only as the event participants but also as global ambassadors of change. *"We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children. It is time our youth lead the way toward a sustainable, equitable future"*, he mentioned.



Moving on, the Chief Guest **Dr. Babar Chohan**, Head of Mission from Pakistan to Sao Paulo, delivered a thought-provoking speech. He delved into the complex challenges facing today's world from climate change and sustainable infrastructure to socio-economic inequalities and digital divides. Dr. Chohan emphasized that youth are not only the leaders of tomorrow but are also the agents of change today. In his words,

"The world is in dire need of innovation, resilience, and empathy all of which are deeply embedded in youth. Your actions today will shape the realities of tomorrow." He also acknowledged Brazil's role in promoting global dialogue and congratulated YPF for choosing São Paulo as the venue to host such an influential gathering.



After Dr. Babar, **Mr. Manoel Machado**, Former Chairman BrazilCham, applauded YPF's unwavering commitment to youth leadership and global cooperation. In his address, he spoke about BrazilCham's mission to connect nations and communities through trade, education, and innovation. Moreover, he reflected on how youth involvement in policy-making and civil society can lead to transformative societal change. His words, *"Youth must not only be present at the table they must lead the conversation"*, resonated with the delegates present.

Following the speeches, delegates participated in a series of interactive ice-breaking activities. These activities were carefully designed to cultivate trust and a spirit of collaboration among them. Through enjoyable team exercises and goal-setting rounds, participants began forming meaningful connections that would lay the foundation for future partnerships and collective action.



The day's highlight was an informative panel discussion focused on the topic, *"Empowerment of Youth for Transformative Global Governance"*, with the panelists **Ms. Marcia Silva** (Social Development Advocate), **Mr. Witan Silva** (UN Youth Representative), and **Mr. Cristiano Valverde** (Public Policy Strategist). The panelists shared insights on institutional inclusion, youth participation in democratic processes, and policymaking in the context of globalization and climate urgency. In addition, they addressed systemic barriers faced by young leaders and proposed collaborative frameworks to ensure their involvement in shaping national and international agendas. The discussion concluded with a powerful message: *"Transformative governance requires more than participation; it demands youth-led leadership that is authentic, bold, and visionary."*



The closing speech was delivered by **Mr. Thammy Miranda**, City Council Member Sao Paulo. Mr. Miranda spoke passionately about the role of youth in building resilient cities, inclusive societies, and sustainable futures. He shared his own journey in public service and urged delegates to stand for justice and uplift marginalized voices in their communities.



To conclude the evening, delegates were invited to a formal reception dinner, featuring a traditional Brazilian culinary experience. The dinner served as a relaxed, yet vibrant networking opportunity, where participants engaged in cross-cultural conversations, exchanged ideas, and shared reflections on the day's events. The blend of flavors and dialogue created a truly global atmosphere of unity and collaboration.



DAY 2

The second day of the YPF Brazil 2024 built upon the strong foundation laid on Day 1, diving deeper into the themes of innovation and leadership. Delegates, energized from the previous day's networking and exchange, returned with fresh enthusiasm, ready to explore emerging global issues, present their social impact projects, and participate in immersive leadership-building activities. The day was marked by critical conversations around technology, inequality, and youth agency, underscoring the Fellowship's vision of empowering young leaders as catalysts for sustainable global change.



Day 2 commenced with a vibrant cultural performance celebrating the diverse and colorful traditions of Brazil. Local artists took the stage, delivering a captivating musical and dance showcase that highlighted Afro-Brazilian rhythms, indigenous influences, and samba-infused beats. The performance was a celebration of Brazil's cultural identity and a reminder of the role of art and tradition in strengthening the community and collective pride.

Mr. Muhammad Ahmad, Vice Chairman Young Professional Fellowship, returned to the stage to open the second day of the program with a message of continuity and commitment. He thanked the delegates for their enthusiastic engagement and emphasized the growing importance of youth leadership in a rapidly changing world. He stated that in the face of global disruption from climate volatility to economic uncertainty, youth are not just observers; they are doers, thinkers, and builders. He emphasized that this fellowship isn't just a conference; it is a call to action. In addition, he encouraged the participants to view the sessions ahead not only as learning experiences but as platforms to challenge ideas and offer innovative solutions. Mr. Ahmad reminded delegates that the work they do within these walls must be translated into action outside of them.



Following the speech, **Ms. Cristiane Lima**, representative of the British Consulate-General, shared an inspiring narrative on the role of international cooperation and inclusive policy in shaping a better future. Drawing on her diplomatic experience, she highlighted the UK's approach to sustainable development and how global alliances are only meaningful when youth are included in decision-making at every level.

She stated, *"We cannot talk about sustainable governance, climate justice, or technological ethics without the voices of young people. Your creativity, adaptability, and conviction are what the world needs today."* Moreover, Ms. Lima spoke of the importance of gender equality, education access, and ethical innovation. She commended the YPF initiative for amplifying youth voices and bridging international communities through shared purpose.

After the speech, a forward-thinking session on, *"AI-Powered Solutions-Bridging Gaps and Expanding Youth Opportunities"*, explored the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI), youth empowerment, and social equity. **Mr. Bernardo Fico**, a leading data strategist, introduced delegates to current trends in AI applications for public service delivery, education, and health. He emphasized the importance of equitable access to AI tools and the need to prevent deepening digital divides.



In addition to that, **Ms. Carolina Martins**, an AI ethicist and youth advocate, discussed the potential of machine learning and automation to drive systemic change, particularly in underserved regions. She highlighted examples of AI-driven platforms enabling remote learning, mental health support, and youth entrepreneurship. According to her, technology must not be a privilege, it must be a right and AI can be a force for inclusion if developed and deployed responsibly. The session concluded with an open Q&A, where delegates asked insightful questions about digital literacy and the future of work.



The next panel was one of the day's most powerful sessions. The discussion on *"Youth Leading the Charge Against Global Inequality"* tackled inequality in its many forms; economic disparity, access to healthcare and education, climate injustice, and systemic discrimination. **Ms. Anna Beserra**, Founder of Sustainable WaterTech Solutions, opened with a passionate call for environmental justice, sharing her journey of creating water purification systems for underserved Brazilian communities. She emphasized that addressing basic needs is the first step toward equality. Moreover, **Ms. Lilyane Andrade**, Youth Advocate and Social Reformer, reflected on her work in urban favelas and the importance of grassroots youth engagement. She stated that inequality is not just numbers on a report; it is lived experience. It is the gap between potential and opportunity. In addition to that, **Mr. Mauricio Prazak**, Legal Expert in Human Rights, added a legal perspective, speaking about institutional accountability and the role of youth in advocacy and legislative reform.



Mr. Guilherme Della Guardia, Public Health Specialist, concluded the panel with a health-focused view, discussing how inequalities in healthcare affect everything from maternal mortality to pandemic response. The session ended with a unified call for systemic transformation, led by youth, backed by evidence, and driven by community voices.



After the informative panel, the delegates enjoyed a relaxed lunch featuring Brazilian cuisine, followed by informal interviews conducted by the YPF Media Team. Participants shared their reflections, personal goals, and hopes for collaboration giving a human face to the global issues being discussed.



A highlight of the afternoon was the Social Projects Presentations session, where selected delegates presented initiatives they have been leading in their home countries. Projects ranged from climate education programs in Kenya, mental health awareness campaigns in Nepal, to digital literacy workshops in rural Indonesia.



This segment was more than a presentation; it was a celebration of youth ingenuity and impact. Delegates received real-time feedback, found project partners, and discussed scalability with peers.

A brief but engaging coffee break allowed for further networking and delegate interviews. Many participants used this time to dive deeper into potential collaborations and build friendships beyond professional interest.



After the break, the delegates took part in interactive leadership simulation games designed to develop strategic thinking, communication, and collaborative problem-solving. These activities placed participants in real-world-inspired crisis scenarios from emergency disaster response to negotiating a global trade policy. Teams had to formulate solutions under pressure, present cohesive arguments, and adapt to shifting variables mirroring the complexities of real leadership roles. The simulations strengthened trust and reinforced the value of collective intelligence.

The day concluded with a short but meaningful closing segment where YPF organizers recapped the highlights, praised delegate engagement, and set the tone for the following day. Delegates then gathered for official group photographs; a symbolic capture of unity, diversity, and shared purpose.



DAY 3

The third and final day of YPF Brazil 2024 was packed with leadership activities and simulations. The *“Diplomat for a Day: A Model United Nations (MUN) Simulation”* allowed the participants to discuss pressing issues currently affecting the international community by acting as the members of the United Nations. Acting as diplomats, delegates debated pressing global issues, negotiated resolutions, and practiced diplomacy, critical thinking, and public speaking. The session provided an authentic glimpse into international policymaking, empowering delegates with practical insights into multilateral diplomacy and global cooperation.



Before the MUN, a pre-simulation training session was conducted by **Leticia Machado Haertel**, International Relations Expert and MUN facilitator. Delegates were briefed on the MUN procedures, role distribution, and expected outcomes. Preparation materials were distributed beforehand, including background guides on the topics, committee roles, and procedural guidelines.



Event Structure:

The event featured two committees, with each committee engaging in the structured debates, following the MUN protocols. Delegates delivered opening statements, participated in moderated and unmoderated caucuses, and cast their votes to adopt or reject the resolutions presented. After each Committee, Ms. Haertel conducted a feedback and reflections session.



Below are the details of the manner in which the MUN played out:

- **United Nations Security Council (UNSC):**

Issue: The proposal by Niger and Ireland concerning the securitization of environmental issues. In other words, whether the UNSC will consider topics related to climate change to be under its competence and handled as a matter of international peace and security, potentially in detriment to the General Assembly's authority on the matter.

Represented States: India, Tunisia, Russia, Norway, United Kingdom, Mexico, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Viet Nam, Ireland, France, Estonia, China, USA, Niger, and Kenya.

- **United Nations General Assembly (UNGA):**

Issue: The proposal by the USA to create a Food Aid Matching Program to be run by UNDP. The program would require countries receiving food aid to match it with their own investments in sustainable development projects, such as local agriculture and food infrastructure. The debate centers on whether this approach builds long-term resilience and positive results or imposes an unfair burden on countries in crisis. Delegates are expected to discuss causes of hunger and effects of foreign aid, and bring forward innovative solutions and localized approaches

Participating States: Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, D. R. of the Congo, Egypt, France, Latvia, Morocco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Türkiye, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam.

Outcome: The Resolution was adopted by the General Assembly.



Based on the delegates' feedback, the MUN had a profound impact on their perspective and future engagement with Model United Nations (MUN) activities. Delegates highlighted that the simulation provided a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the roles of international diplomats, deepening their understanding of global issues and the complexities of international decision-making. The structured format, expert facilitation, and challenging yet accessible debates left a lasting impression on them, who described the experience as not only intellectually enriching but also personally empowering.



The simulation also ensured a strong sense of community, with participants expressing gratitude for the opportunity to connect with peers from diverse backgrounds who shared similar interests. Overall, the activity was described as transformative, with many delegates leaving the event motivated to actively engage in global discussions and problem-solving initiatives. As the day drew to a



close, **Mr. Daniel**, the Event Coordinator, addressed the gathering with a heartfelt speech, expressing his gratitude for being part of such a meaningful experience. In addition, he highlighted the critical importance of leadership skills for today's youth, emphasizing how strong leadership can shape resilient communities and drive positive impact. His remarks inspired the delegates to inculcate leadership in their daily actions, to strengthen their agency and support their communities.

As the day drew to a close, the event was honored by the presence of Ambassador **Marta Echarte Baraibar**, Consul General of Uruguay in São Paulo, who delivered a heartfelt closing address. In her speech, Ambassador Baraibar commended the YPF for its outstanding commitment to youth leadership and civic engagement.



Lastly, Ambassador Baraibar then took part in the certification ceremony, personally awarding certificates of participation to the delegates. She congratulated each participant, recognizing their dedication and energy throughout the fellowship. The atmosphere was celebratory and emotional, marking the culmination of an impactful experience.



Key Takeaways:

- Youth are active agents of change today, capable of driving social justice, innovation, and cross-cultural understanding.
- Open conversations on mental health are vital, especially among young people, to break the stigma and create stronger, more empathetic communities.
- Cultural exchange and experiential learning build unity in diversity, helping youth appreciate differences while working together on global challenges.
- Understanding diplomacy and global governance empowers young leaders to engage meaningfully in international conversations and decision-making processes.

Key Achievements:

- Empowered youth from over 140+ countries through thought-provoking sessions and expert insights, equipping them with tools to lead change in their communities and beyond.
- Promoted open conversations on mental health and social justice, helping participants develop emotional resilience, self-awareness, and inclusive perspectives.
- Facilitated immersive cultural exchange sessions, encouraging mutual respect and appreciation of global diversity.
- Delivered hands-on experiential learning activities that boosted critical thinking and real-world problem-solving abilities.
- Ensured a vibrant network of emerging global leaders, united by a shared commitment to peacebuilding and ethical leadership.