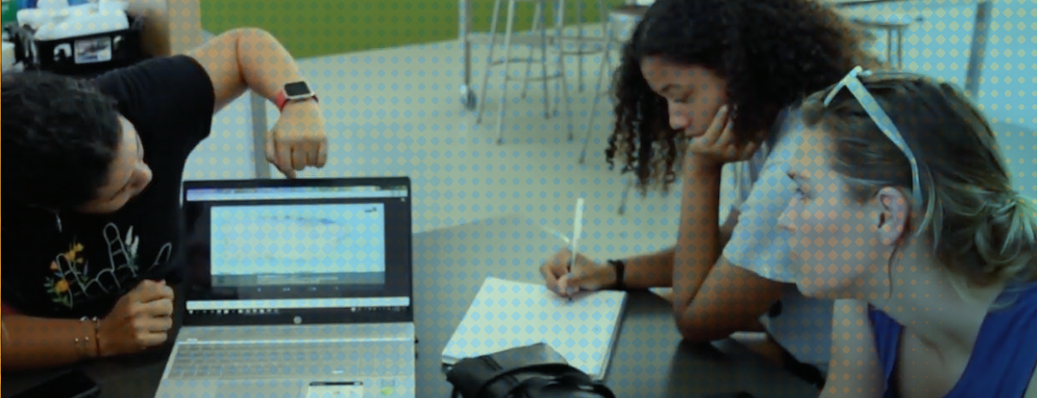




Empower Youth to Build Thriving,
Sustainable Communities

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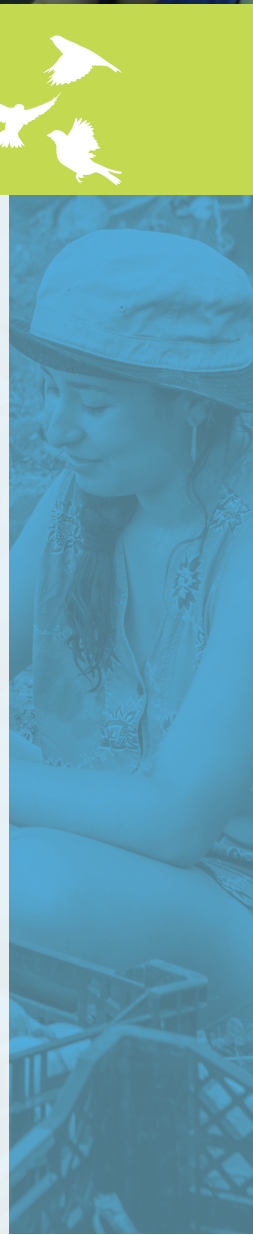
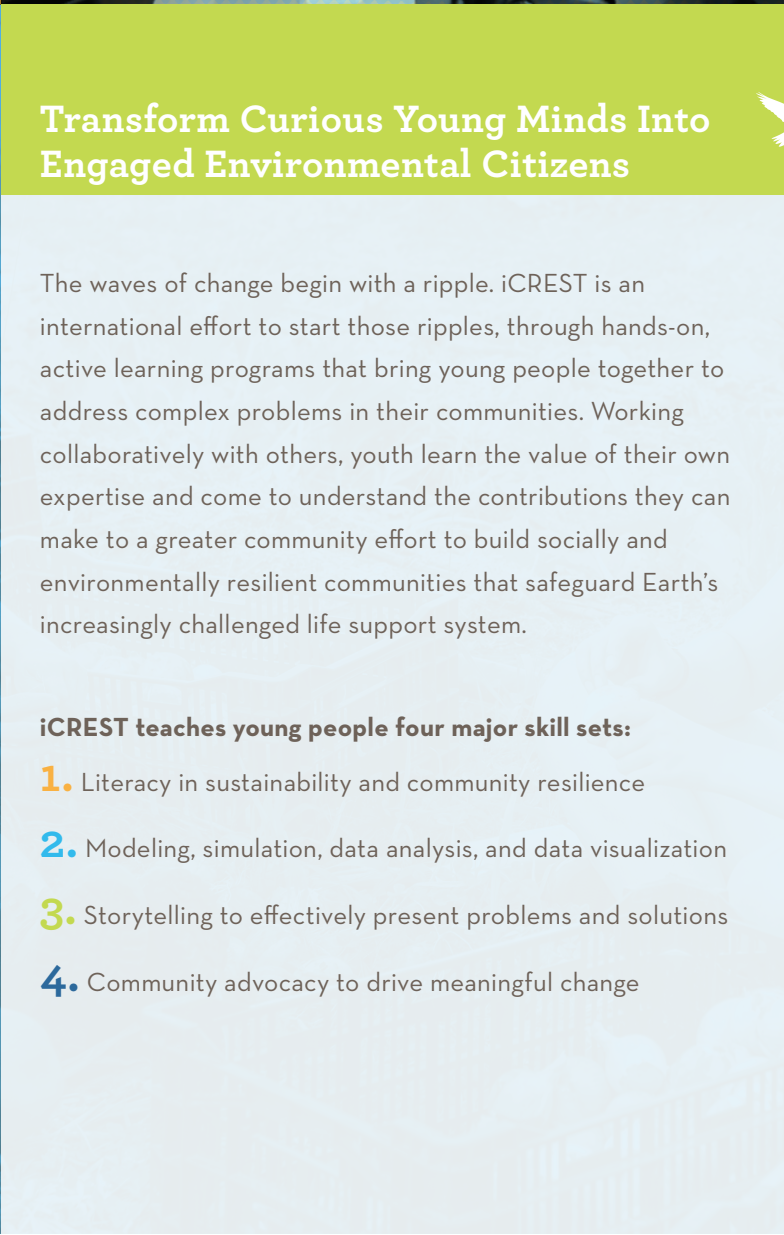
Transform Curious Young Minds Into Engaged Environmental Citizens



The waves of change begin with a ripple. iCREST is an international effort to start those ripples, through hands-on, active learning programs that bring young people together to address complex problems in their communities. Working collaboratively with others, youth learn the value of their own expertise and come to understand the contributions they can make to a greater community effort to build socially and environmentally resilient communities that safeguard Earth's increasingly challenged life support system.

iCREST teaches young people four major skill sets:

- 1.** Literacy in sustainability and community resilience
- 2.** Modeling, simulation, data analysis, and data visualization
- 3.** Storytelling to effectively present problems and solutions
- 4.** Community advocacy to drive meaningful change



Teach Young People to Change the World, Together



iCREST connects youth to their communities and the world through a series of global project-based learning experiences that emphasize systems thinking, problem solving and sustainability advocacy.

Through partnerships with local environmental initiatives, iCREST's highly interactive and hands-on programs empower young people to protect Earth's life support system. Each program provides youth with the education and experience to become informed and civically engaged adults capable of collaborating across generational, social and cultural differences for the greater good.

In iCREST programs, young people learn to:



Identify and address persistent sustainability issues that challenge the communities in which they live.



Use tools like SageModeler to analyze geographic, environmental, social, and other data to determine the resilience and sustainability of their communities; model potential solutions; and present evidence-based recommendations to advocate for change.



Recognize the interdependencies of society and the environment.



Balance differing opinions and perspectives with the needs of the community to safeguard the systems on which it depends.



Create engaging stories that connect with stakeholders and inspire passion and action.



Effectively communicate and advocate for sustainable paths for their communities.



Using Science and Systems Thinking to Better Understand and Protect our Future

iCREST is an educational initiative of the International Centre for Earth Simulation (ICES), a Swiss foundation embracing resilience, sustainability, ecology, and comprehensive modeling. The goal of ICES is to integrate today's vast pools of knowledge to develop next-generation modeling, simulation and visualizations that aid in understanding the medium- and long-term future of Earth.

ICES is a project for the common good that provides more powerful scientific and decision resources for our current and future policy makers, especially relating to the effects of climate change, extreme weather, resource depletion, freshwater availability, food insecurity, public health and safety, and earthquake, tsunami, landslide, volcanic, and other natural hazard reduction and mitigation.

Recognizing that all these challenges are often interconnected and linked to many societal processes, ICES takes a systems thinking approach, explicitly recognizing interactions and feedback to identify root causes.

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