



## NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

A private university in the public service

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to confirm that New York University's Food and Climate Summit meets the criteria set forth in AASHE's STARS Reporting Framework for Innovation credits.

Held in December 2009, the Food and Climate Summit was a partnership between NYU, a not-for-profit organization (Just Food) and a government agency (Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer's office), which created a highly democratic, inclusive, interactive, and transparent opportunity to drive real policy-making for a sustainable food system in New York City.

The Food and Climate Summit showed how a university like NYU could work with *local* partners to solve a *global* issue. Nobel Prize laureate Wangari Maathai and renowned activist Vandana Shiva delivered video messages direct to conference attendees from COP15 in Copenhagen, in order to drive home this "glocal" principle.

A major outcome of the Summit was a set of policy principles, strategies and frameworks which were directly translated into the Manhattan Borough President's 2010 food policy report; these proposals served as source material for New York City Council legislative proposals, and have framed the conversation about food as a potential issue in the NYC Mayor's PlaNYC 2.0. Other cities across the United States have referenced the Summit's approach and products as a model for food policy change within their own constituencies.

The Food and Climate Summit showcased NYU's opportunity to serve as a site for collaboration, conflict resolution, and increased understanding among multiple stakeholders. At the daylong symposium, NYU also "walked the talk" of these principles by securing sustainable dining, waste disposable and other event features to educate attendees and policymakers about the effective strategies that generate real environmental performance result.

The Food and Climate Summit at NYU has helped to advance sustainability throughout the New York City area. It was a truly innovative event that NYU hopes can be replicated both here and at other universities in the future.

Best,

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