

YCoP Links
Issue 18, December 20, 2007
YCoP: Youth Community of Practice

The Youth Community of Practice (YCoP) global listserv links professionals and practitioners at USAID and its partner organizations to effective youth development ideas, information and best practices to help:

- *Design more effective, sustainable youth programs, and
- *Better integrate youth participation in USAID development projects

In this *Links*: Youth Assessments

Announcements:

Youth Employment Systems Fund (YES) Announces Business Plan Competition

<http://www.yesweb.org/fund/>

YES, the global fund for youth entrepreneurship, recently announced the launch of the ICT Business Plan Competition to support young entrepreneurs ages 18-35. The competition will run until January 18, 2008. Competition winners will be awarded finances and development services to begin their enterprises. See website for competition details and requirements.

Africa-Europe Youth Summit

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/Youth%5CYouth_Summit%5CFinal_Declaration_YouthSummit_en.pdf

The Africa-Europe Youth Summit took place in Lisbon, Portugal on December 5-7, 2007. Over 250 youth representatives from Europe and Africa participated in the event. Topics of discussion included poverty eradication, gender equality, Millennium Development goals, good governance and democracy, peace and conflict, and climate change among others. The final declaration can be viewed at the link above.

Resources for practitioners:

Literacy Assessment for Out-of-School Youth and Adults

<http://literacyonline.org/products/ili/pdf/TR9809.pdf>

This paper from the International Literacy Institute provides a critical view of assessment issues around literacy. It also includes discussions on: cultural dimensions to literacy, international statistics on literacy comparisons, learning, literacy and the achievement of basic life skills, national level versus local level program needs, methodologies for literacy assessment and challenges to the validity of literary assessment tools. The study also includes examples of monitoring learning achievement both in and out of school.

EQUIP3/Youth Trust "Youth Assessment" Webpage

<http://www.equip123.net/webarticles/anmviewer.asp?a=430&z=33>

This webpage includes information on key principles of effective youth assessments, the contribution of youth assessments to strategic planning, and examples of youth assessments and tools. There is also a review of youth assessments conducted outside EQUIP3 activities, and links to other youth assessment resources.

Child Needs Assessment (CAN) Toolkit

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTECD/Resources/CNAToolkit.pdf>

Created by the Task Force for Child Survival and Development at the request of the Early Child Development Team at the World Bank, this toolkit is designed to assess the needs of children living in communities affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The kit provides assistance to organizations working in communities affected by the epidemic and is intended to collect information at a district or city level pertaining to their household, family, and basic needs. Guidance is offered on planning a survey, methods for conducting the survey, performing the survey, data entry and analysis and generation of reports.

Youth Assessment in Angola

<http://www.usaid.gov/ao/youthassessment.pdf>

This USAID publication documents a youth assessment carried out in Angola as part of an effort to inform local stakeholders about the perceptions and needs of youth. The study serves as a demand-and-supply analysis to identify gaps in programming and locate opportunities for development. More specifically, the assessment looks at the educational and employment needs, aspirations and experiences of youth living within a fragile post-conflict nation, and offers options for improvement. An in-depth look at how the assessment was conducted is discussed throughout the document.

Needs Assessment and Programme Planning: A Global Youth Network Training Workshop

http://www.unodc.org/youthnet/youthnet_action_planning_activities_training.html

This training kit, created by United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP) in partnership with drug abuse prevention programs around the globe, functions as a participatory tool to develop, assess and improve youth drug abuse prevention programs. The kit uses concepts such as participation, peer-to-peer learning and cultural sensitivity to establish youth drug prevention programs using youth and community participation. Particular attention is given to how to assess the substance abuse situation in a community and how to develop a prevention response.

Looking for YOUR input: We would like to hear from you! YCoP welcomes ideas, resources, and best practices on effective youth programs and youth participation. We would also like to encourage nominations of other youth practitioners or youth leaders to participate in the YCoP Links listserve. Hit “reply” to send information and feedback to YCoP Links.

To **unsubscribe** from the list, users should send an e-mail to listserv@info.usaid.gov with only “**unsubscribe youthcop**” in the body of the e-mail. (**No signatures please**).

Mission of YCoP: The Youth Community of Practice provides a forum for professionals and practitioners at USAID and its partner organizations to gather, consolidate, archive, disseminate and exchange information, knowledge, ideas and best practices, particularly related to the incorporation of youth participation in USAID development projects. The Youth Community of Practice is an informal body of volunteer members, reached through a global list serve and Washington-based chapter. Both the list serve and DC chapter forums include USAID staff, youth practitioners outside of the Agency, and youth themselves. It is jointly sponsored by the office of education in the bureau of Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT) at USAID and the Education Quality Improvement Program3 (EQUIP3), and implemented by the Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC).

Disclaimer: The information and opinions expressed in the materials provided through YCoP Links or posted by listserv participants is not official U.S. Government information and does not necessarily represent the views or positions of the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Government or EQUIP3. For a copy of the guidelines and/or charter, put the request in the subject line of the email and send to: youthcop@lists.info.usaid.gov. Participants should be aware that the list is public and not private communication. When participants voluntarily disclose personal information on a list serve, that information can be collected and used by others and may result in unsolicited messages from other people.
