

**YCoP Links**  
**Issue 23, March 27, 2008**  
**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*: **Education on the Move: Pastoralists, Nomads, and Migrant Children and Youth**

Oxfam estimates that “there are between 25 million and 40 million children of school age living in nomadic or pastoralist households, of whom only between ten per cent and 50 per cent attend school.” These numbers are even more daunting given the difficulty traditional education programs have had in reaching this group. However, many organizations work with these communities on educational interventions designed to address their unique needs. This issue of *YCoP Links* highlights several projects working with this population, and offers a website, literature review and briefing paper as resources for more information on pastoralist, nomadic and migrant children and youth.

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*Announcements:*

**Youth Microenterprise and Livelihoods: State of the Field.**  
**Lessons from the 2007 Global Youth Microenterprise Conference.**  
[www.youthenterpriseconference.org](http://www.youthenterpriseconference.org)

This publication, released by Making Cents International, is a culmination and synthesis of the presentations and discussions that took place at the Global Youth Microenterprise Conference, which was held in Washington, DC on September 10-11, 2007. To download or purchase a copy, please see the above link.

*Projects and Initiatives*

**Roma Education Initiative (REI)**  
<http://www.osi.hu/esp/rei/index.html>

This website brings together sources from the recently completed Roma Education Initiative, a project working for equal access to quality education for Roma children. The site offers a variety of resources resulting from and related to the project. The REI Final Report, National Level External Evaluations, Midterm Report, Report on Equal Access to Quality Education for Roma and a variety of additional resources are available on this site. Details for specific projects are listed by country.

### **Indigenous Laikipiak Maasai Integrated Youth Organization (ILAMAIYO)**

<http://www.ilamaiyo.org>

ILAMAIYO is a community-based organization founded by youth in the Mukogodo region of Kenya. Both in-school and out-of-school Laikipiak Maasai youth participate in educational programs in their pastoralist community, with traveling seminars that address HIV/AIDS, harmful cultural practices, alternative livelihoods and conflict resolution. Since pastoralist girls in particular face significant challenges to educational access, ILAMAIYO's girls' education program currently sponsors more than 30 young women in secondary school, while the organization also works with youth and adults to increase leadership opportunities for females in society.

### **Compassion for Migrant Children (CMC)**

<http://www.cmc-china.org/>

This Chinese NGO provides social and educational programs to the children of Chinese migrant workers who would otherwise not benefit from health care, education and basic services. CMC works in collaboration with local organizations, individuals and companies to provide children with services such as: teacher training, core classes, community learning centers, family counseling, sports, dental care and life skills programs. This NGO is an example of a recent program effort targeting children who are likely to move from location to location.

### **Pastoralist Education Program**

<http://www.iirr.org/news33.html>

The International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR), supported by the Banyan Tree Foundation, is addressing low school enrollment in northern Kenya. This is done by generating alternate education models suitable for pastoralist communities and seeking ways to increase local government capacity in educational service distribution. More than 400 previously out-of-school youth have enrolled in 19 Alternative Basic Education Centers in the region. The Lakole Mobile School, for example, brings transportable education to the heart of the Cherrab desert, eliminating the need for children to cross miles of desert or live away from home in order to attend school.

### *Resources for Practitioners*

#### **Beyond the Mainstream: Education for nomadic and pastoralist girls and boys.**

[http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what\\_we\\_do/issues/education/downloads/edPaper4.pdf](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/what_we_do/issues/education/downloads/edPaper4.pdf)

This 2005 Oxfam briefing paper addresses learner needs, policy issues and recommendations for education in nomadic and pastoralist communities, giving special consideration to the resolution of gender inequities. Alternating examples from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Sudan, Mali, Niger and Ethiopia with discussions of common education barriers for moving populations, the paper closes with good practice suggestions for both government and non-government agencies.

#### **The Education of Nomadic Peoples in East Africa: Djibouti, Eritrea, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Review of Relevant Literature**

[http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001405/140563e.pdf?class=IIEP\\_PDF\\_pubs&page=T28&estat\\_url=](http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001405/140563e.pdf?class=IIEP_PDF_pubs&page=T28&estat_url=)

This literature review explores issues faced by nomadic communities as they attempt to provide their children with better access to learning opportunities. It also addresses

nomads' perceptions of education and examines why so many programs have failed. Recommendations to design more effective policies and programs are offered. This review is a useful source for both policy formulation and practical intervention.

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**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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