

YCoP Links
Issue 26, May 8, 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*. Youth Advocacy

In this issue of YCoP Links, we survey resources for issues pertinent to youth advocacy, including youth rights, exploitation, youth voice in education, marketing campaigns, gender equality and youth affected by armed conflict. Also, we take a look at those who advocate for youth, especially when the advocates are youth themselves.

Announcements:

YouthActionNet Call for Fellowship Applications

<http://youthactionnet.org/index.php?fuse=aboutfellowship>

International youth who are project leaders or organization founders and 18-29 years old are invited to apply for YouthActionNet's year-long fellowship program. The program includes a week-long retreat in Washington, DC in November 2008 for skill-building, networking and advocacy training relevant to social entrepreneurs.

Deadline for applications is May 22nd.

International Youth Crime Prevention and Cities Summit 2008

<http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?cid=5641&catid=562&typeid=24&subMenuId=0>

The provincial government of KwaZulu-Natal is working with UN-HABITAT to host the International Youth Crime Prevention and Cities Summit 2008, to take place in Durban from June 17-21st. The Summit will serve as the culmination of a series of regional forums that have looked for new approaches to curb urban youth crime and violence in Latin America and Africa. Through participation in dialogues with local government and police, youth will address how to best utilize youth voice and energy to reduce violence and crime.

Open Society Institute Youth Initiative BarCamp 2008

On June 21-22nd, the Open Society Institute (OSI) will host a BarCamp in Istanbul to empower youth to become more active citizens and increase their desire and ability to influence public life and promote open society ideals. A BarCamp is a gathering of people who share and learn in an open environment through discussions, demonstrations and interaction with attendees. Representatives of youth-driven initiatives and all those who share OSI's vision are encouraged to attend, and participants will become part of the online BarCamp community. There is no fee for attendance, but the deadline for registration is May 20th. To begin registration, please e-mail Anita Karpati at: karpati@osi.hu.

Projects and Initiatives

Glocal Youth Parliament

<http://www.glocalyouth.org/?id=305&lng=en>

The Glocal Youth Parliament (GYP) network currently has representatives in sixty-five cities worldwide, enabling urban youth to share experiences and ideas to better realize their common visions. The network, named for those who think *globally* and act *locally*, partners representatives with local governments and organizations, international institutions, the private sector and each other. Among other initiatives, the Glocal Forum Youth Council Campaign aims to build capacity and facilitate urban youth exchange by establishing new youth councils and enhancing pre-existing ones, with a peer-to-peer council development mentoring program underway in Belgrade, Rome, Amman, Freetown, Reggio-Emilia and Phnom Penh.

Resources for Practitioners

Youth Advocate Program International

<http://www.yapi.org/index.htm>

Youth Advocate Program International (YAPI) advocates by a variety of means, from hosting seminars to lobbying internationally. Its principle advocacy issues include Worst Forms of Child Labor, Youth Justice (youth sentenced as adults), Street Children and Youth Participation. The site offers issue summaries on these and other important youth issues, as well as providing downloads of 45-minute course curriculum kits on topics such as Children Affected by HIV/AIDS, The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Modern Child Slavery and others. Many of the free downloads have accompanying PowerPoint presentations, and though designed for adults, they could be tailored for teen peer-to-peer use.

Bending the Mold: An Action Kit for Transgender Youth

<http://www.nyacyouth.org/docs/Bending%20the%20Mold-final.pdf>

The National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC) offers a variety of advocacy resources for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth and the adults who work with them. Their transgender youth action kit is aimed at transgender youth and their allies, and includes suggestions for school actions and advocacy to improve support and safety for youth regardless of gender identity. The kit is U.S.-based, but tools such as “How to be a trans ally,” “Accessing health care,” and “Your social change toolkit” are relevant for initiating discussions on transgender inclusion in a variety of contexts.

The Guide to Social Change Led by and With Young People

<http://www.commonaction.org/socialchangeguide.pdf>

This CommonAction guide provides an overview of issues relevant to youth-led social change, as well as the actions and tools best utilized in youth-led projects. Topics include criminalization, youth-adult partnerships, participatory action research and home-schooling. Short summaries of issues, actions and resources are accompanied by links to the FreeChild Project site, which explores them in greater detail.

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.
