

YCoP Links

Happy 4th of July!

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:

In the spirit of youth participation, this issue has been compiled by the summer interns at the Education Development Center. We are excited to share these resources, as we believe they demonstrate youth capabilities and initiatives as well as methods for adults to cultivate the potential for youth to help other youth. - Sabrina Cintron and Emily Stiles

Announcements

- New Interagency Youth Working Group (IYWG) Website
- YCoP Links Archives
- Looking for YOUR input and ideas!!!

Ideas for Youth-Adult Partnerships

- Advocates For Youth
- J8 Summit

Youth to Youth Education and Activism

- Y-PEER Peer Education Toolkit
- DoSomething.org
- Youthlink.org
- GlobalYouthConnect.org

Announcements

New IYWG Website: The Interagency Youth Working Group (IYWG) announced a new Web site, "Resources on Youth Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS" - www.youthwg.org - designed for those working with youth in developing countries. The site features guidance on key program areas and best practices, publications grouped by organizations with major youth resources, a database of more than 900 recent resources, research tools, training materials, and web sites for youth. The IYWG network is supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the site is hosted by the INFO Project, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Communication Programs, with content managed by Family Health International. More than 15 organizations collaborated to create the site. For questions or contributions, please e-mail youthwg@fhi.org.

YCoP Links Archives: You can now find past issues of YCoP Links online! They are available on the Equip3 website: <http://www.equip123.net/webarticles/anviewer.asp?a=364>.

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. Specifically, if you know of youth to youth education examples or resources, we would like to develop a larger database that can be shared with the listserve. We would also like to encourage nominations of other youth practitioners or youth leaders to participate in the YCoP Links listserv. Hit "reply" to send information and feedback to YCoP Links.

Ideas for Youth-Adult Partnerships

[“Building Effective Youth-Adult Partnerships”](#) is a document specifically related to health education, but it has important information and broader implications for youth practitioners. The article outlines characteristics of youth development that should be encouraged to help youth make successful contributions to society. It also lists the benefits of youth participation and the elements of effective partnerships. Additionally, the document [“Barriers to Building Effective Youth-Adult Partnerships”](#) discusses the types of attitudes and logistical and organizational impediments to effective youth-adult relations.

http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/transitions/transitions1401_7.htm

http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/transitions/transitions1401_8.htm These are publications of [Advocates for Youth](#), an organization dedicated to relating youth development strategies to reproductive and sexual health both domestically and internationally.

[J8 Summit](#) is a joint project of UNICEF and Morgan Stanley to create a parallel youth version of the G8 Summit. To participate, youth entered their own solutions to four of the G8 agenda items in a competition. In the beginning of June, 64 youth from G8 countries joined by 10 youth from developing countries met in Germany to participate in workshops, exercises and discussions related to the agenda issues. The delegates then created a communiqué that they presented to the G8 leaders. This international summit is an example of an effective program run primarily by adults that gives youth a voice and encourages youth involvement in global issues. Their declaration can be read here:

http://www.j8summit.com/summit/files/Wismar_Declaration_2007_FINAL_ENG.pdf

Youth to Youth Education and Activism

[Y-PEER’s Peer Education Toolkit](#) is a useful reference point for information regarding peer-to-peer education. It was highlighted in YCoP Links #5, and can be found at <http://www.fhi.org/en/Youth/YouthNet/Publications/peerredtoolkit>.

[DoSomething.org](#) is an online community for young people to learn, listen, speak, vote, volunteer, ask, and take action to volunteer and improve the world. The aim is to inspire young people and provide resources to support their initiatives – to date they have distributed \$1,363,645 in grant money directly to youth. The website features a page of “Causes” that lists 30 issues, the relevant facts, related organizations, and specific ways for youth to make a difference. Some examples:

- **Education - “Ready, Set, Teach!”**: Encouraging youth to create their own tutoring programs is an adaptable idea related to peer education. The website provides initial strategies, such as surveying the need of youth in the area or school district, beginning with a small number of participants, and allowing time for the program to be established. It also lists training ideas for tutors and sample tutoring programs.
http://www.dosomething.org/tipsheets/ready_set_teach_start_a_tutoring_program_at_your_school
- **School Violence**: To combat bullying and violence, dosomething.org outlines the steps to hosting an anti-violence art show. This provides a way for youth to encourage their peers to express their concerns and ideas artistically, especially since it can be difficult to talk about violence directly with adults.
http://www.dosomething.org/tipsheet/organize_an_anti_violence_student_art_show

[Global Youth Action Network \(GYAN\)](#) is a youth-led organization that unites the efforts of young people working to improve our world. The Network connects many thousands of organizations in over 190 countries and a growing membership is helping to shape the future direction of GYAN. Launched in 1996, GYAN now has regional teams in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Durban, South Africa, Beirut, Lebanon, and

Manila, Philippines. National Chapters are registered in Mexico City, Accra, Ghana, Paris, France, and a growing number of other countries. GYAN is affiliated to the United Nations Department of Public Information and holds Special Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC). GYAN works to:

- facilitate youth participation and intergenerational partnership in global decision-making
- support collaboration among diverse youth organizations; and to
- provide tools, resources, and recognition for positive youth action.

- **GYAN's 5-Level Model Of Youth Organizing:** GYAN promotes a strategy to fully mobilize young people to reach their collective potential and be engaged as active citizens. Organizations often fit into only one of the 5 categories, but should try to integrate their approach to involve youth in more of the following levels: awareness; action and recognition; networking; collaboration and trust; and participation in decision-making.

<http://www.youthlink.org/gyanv5/5levelmodel.htm>

Global Youth Connect

GYC's mission is to build and support a community of youth who are actively promoting and protecting human rights, and to educate and inspire the next generation to work for peaceful change. The organization believes educated, compassionate and empowered youth are the key to achieving tolerance, peace and justice. Their programs encourage young people to work together to stand up to abuses of human rights. GYC practices a holistic approach to youth education and action which is grounded in a commitment to the principles of human rights, community-building, reconciliation and peaceful resolution of conflicts. <http://www.globalyouthconnect.org>

- **"The Kids Are Alright":** The article outlines the way in which Global Youth Connect brings college-age students and youth face-to-face with daily life in other countries. "By meeting with people their own age in other countries, as well as participating in discussion groups and workshops, GYC delegates better grasp the political and cultural issues that define and often limit societies." The article also discusses GYC's involvement with grassroots organizations that allow youth participants to connect with youth in difficult circumstances abroad.

<http://www.chronogram.com/issue/2006/07/communitynotebook/index.php>

- **Cambodia:** GYC provides documentation regarding the experiences of youth delegations abroad. The Cambodia program, for example, connected youth with several Cambodian organizations, to witness the ongoing efforts for change through education, community outreach, and training. The article describes the idea of workshops as *learning communities* (page 5) as well as the fieldwork activities conducted by the youth.

http://www.globalyouthconnect.org/pdf/cambodia_report2006.pdf

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.
