

**YCoP Links**  
**Issue 9, 27 July 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 and the Millennium Development Goals**

07/07/07 marked the half-way point to the 2015 target of the Millennium Development Goals. For the latest information regarding the progress the world has made, visit the UN's 2007 Report at <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/mdg2007.pdf>. While most trends are in a positive direction, broader and faster action will need to be taken. The role of youth in achieving the MDGs is recognized to be an important one – not only do they have the energy and ideas to create change, but it will directly impact the type of world they inherit. This YCoP Links gathers some useful resources on youth initiatives regarding the MDGs.

**Announcement:** YCoP is under new leadership! Ann Hershkowitz ([AHershkowitz@edc.org](mailto:AHershkowitz@edc.org)), EQUIP3 International Project Coordinator, is the new moderator. Please direct inquiries to her.

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**Youth and the Millennium Development Goals:  
Challenges and Opportunities for Implementation**

<http://www.mdgyouthpaper.org/mdgyouthpaper.pdf>

This report was developed by the Ad Hoc Working Group for Youth, consisting of youth experts and online consultations with youth from across the world (background on this report can be found at: <http://www.takingitglobal.org/themes/mdg/youthinpolicy.html>). The report discusses ways in which youth are and can be involved in contributing to the MDGs as well as ways for governments, the UN, and other organizations to involve and encourage youth participation. Part III and Appendix C provide specific strategies that can be taken to engage youth, followed by extensive resources and references.

**Millennium Development Goals: Youth Action Guide:**

[http://www.millenniumcampaign.org/atf/cf/%7BD15FF017-0467-419B-823E-D6659E0CCD39%7D/EN\\_ACTION\\_GUIDE.PDF](http://www.millenniumcampaign.org/atf/cf/%7BD15FF017-0467-419B-823E-D6659E0CCD39%7D/EN_ACTION_GUIDE.PDF)

A toolkit to assist youth in promoting adherence to the MDGs, this guide is a product of youth associated with the Millennium Campaign, TakingITGlobal, and the Global Youth Action Network. The Youth Action Guide outlines steps related to each specific goal, as well

as broader strategies for raising awareness and pressuring governments. The guide also includes a form that youth can send back to the Millennium Campaign to report their efforts. <http://www.millenniumcampaign.org> is an initiative of the United Nations to inspire people on a national and international level to act in support of the MDGs.

**Global Call to Action Against Poverty: Children and Youth Task Force:**

[http://www.whiteband.org/about-gcap/children-and-youth-task-force/ift\\_cytf\\_report\\_271106.doc/view](http://www.whiteband.org/about-gcap/children-and-youth-task-force/ift_cytf_report_271106.doc/view)

The task force, which met in Nairobi Kenya on the 13th & 14th of September 2006, advocates for the Beirut Declaration's goal to "*ensure young people are partners, not only targets, in development and decision-making.*" The task force is thus connecting youth and youth-serving organizations through a Children and Youth Forum. The report further outlines the initiatives in 2007 (like the Global White Band Day to show solidarity in eliminating poverty) and provides a toolkit for youth activism.

**IMAGE-IN the Millennium Development Goals:**

<http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?typeid=19&catid=531&cid=4420>

IMAGE-IN is a program coordinated by UN-HABITAT to empower youth living in slums, in connection with the Millennium Development Goal 7, Targets 10 and 11 (ensure environmental sustainability by increasing access to safe drinking water and improving the lives of slum dwellers). IMAGE-IN worked with the Mathare Youth Sport Association, whose goal is to link development, sport, environmental activism and art. The project encouraged the youth of Mathare, a slum outside of Nairobi, to use photography to document their conditions and advocate for the MDGs (see

[http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/4420\\_97173\\_Image-in%20summary.pdf](http://www.unhabitat.org/downloads/docs/4420_97173_Image-in%20summary.pdf)).

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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 listserv. 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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