

"YCoP Links"

The **Youth Community of Practice (YCoP)** global listserve 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**

Upcoming Events

*UMZI WETHU: RESPONDING TO THE AIDS ORPHAN CRISIS THROUGH ECOTOURISM,
DECEMBER 4, 12:30 TO 1:30 PM*

World Wildlife Fund, 1250 24th Street, NW, Conference rooms 2004A & B
Join Andrew Muir, Director of the Wilderness Society of South Africa (WFSA) for a brown bag discussion of their program, the Umzi Wethu Training Academy for Displaced Youth, that links conservation and social intervention in the HIV/AIDS crisis severely impacting South Africa's young people. For more information on Umzi Wethu and WFSA, contact: Julie Dunn at Julie@wild.org, phone: 703-864-7770.

*Panel Discussion on the Role of Young Men in Reducing Gender Violence,
December 7, 2006, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm*

USAID Information Center, Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Mezzanine Level, Room M 17

The panel will highlight programs that work to strengthen the ability of young men to prevent violence against women and form relationships that are based on mutual respect instead of power and violence. Leah Friej, Centre for Development and Population Activities, will focus on a life skills program for adolescent boys in India and Egypt. Nicole Cheetham, Advocates for Youth will provide an overview of strategies for involving young men in reproductive health programs with illustrative examples from international and domestic reproductive health programs. Alejandra Bonifaz, Education Development Center, Inc./EQUIP3, will describe how a cross-sectoral youth project in Jamaica is using the "3 E's" approach, which focuses on education, example, and encouragement, to foster positive gender attitudes among young men in an inner city community with high rates of violence. Contact Julie Hanson Swanson at juswanson@usaid.gov for more information.

Recent Publications

Educating for Active Citizenship: Service-Learning, School-based Service, and Youth Civic Engagement

A report by the Corporation for National and Community Service (in USA) outlines recent findings from a 'Youth Volunteering and Civic Engagement Survey' on the prevalence, key elements and impact of service-learning in the US. The survey, conducted between January and March 2005, gathered information from 3,178 American youth between the ages of 12

and 18 on their volunteering habits and experiences with school-based service projects, as well as information related to positive youth development. [Spring, Kimberly and others. Corporation for National and Community Service. 2006.]

http://servicelearning.org/lib_svcs/lib_cat/index.php?library_id=6642
http://www.nationalservice.gov/pdf/06_0323_SL_briefing.pdf

Acting with and for Youth

A report on the week-long conference on youth organized at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on August 16-17, 2006, held in conjunction with the International Youth Day on August 12th, and dedicated to 'fighting poverty together.' Activities ranged from exhibitions to participative discussions on youth participation within UNESCO in governance, programming, policy development, advocacy and monitoring functions to roundtables on youth involvement in fighting poverty and preserving and promoting world heritage sites.

http://portal.unesco.org/en/file_download.php/40cebd25bf78aa7737e058679d7f7299Report_Youth_Week_final.doc

Innovative Practices of Youth Participation in Media

UNESCO's recently released study highlights how young people, working with a range of media materials, produce innovative content through dialogue and discussions. Media included newspaper and magazine, radio, television and video, the Internet, and personal digital assistants. The report includes case studies from Ghana, Haiti, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Mozambique, Nigeria, Somalia, South Africa, Vietnam, and Zambia.

[Sanjay Asthana. October 2006.]

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/22831/11593413569UNESCO_Innovative_practices.pdf/UNESCO%2BInnovative%2Bpractices.pdf

Youth and Violent Conflict: Society and Development in Crisis?

UNDP's recent report explores the intersection between youth and violent conflict, with a view to enhancing policy and offering programming guidance. It identifies key issues, questions and dilemmas related to youth and violent conflict, explores how issues of youth and violent conflict are currently addressed in key policy frameworks, and offers an overview of current programs put in place by UNDP and other key international actors.

http://www.undp.org/bcpr/whats_new/UNDP_Youth_PN.pdf

Youth in Africa, Partners in Peace and Development in Post-Conflict Countries

The UN Special Adviser on Africa and its Department of Economic and Social Development convened an expert group meeting on this topic in Windhoek, Namibia from 14 to 16 November 2006 where the following papers were presented:

The Creation of Job/Work Opportunities and Income Generating Activities for Youth in Post-Conflict Countries. Francis Chigunta, Department of Development Studies, University of Zambia.

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/namibia_chigunta.pdf

Reintegration of Youth into Society in the Aftermath of War. Alcinda Honwana, Professor of International Development, The Open University.

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/namibia_honwana.pdf

Youth in Post-Conflict Africa: Community-Based Rehabilitation, Rebuilding and Reconstruction of Society. Dr. Melsome M. Nelson-Richards, Department of Sociology, State University of New York at Oswego.

http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/namibia_mnrichards.pdf

National Youth Leadership Council: Y-RISE: The Service-Learning and HIV/AIDS Initiative

NYLC's recent report offers findings from a gathering of public health and education leaders, and of youth affected by HIV and AIDS. It includes information on youth leadership in HIV/AIDS prevention and NYLC's *Y-RISE* initiative - Youth Replicating Innovative Strategies and Excellence in HIV/AIDS prevention - designed to: mobilize young people in the fight against AIDS. (Richard J. Kraft, Ph.D., University of Colorado-Boulder, 2004) http://www.nylc.org/inaction_init_downloads.cfm?oid=3696

From the Library

World Development Report 2007: Development and the Next Generation

The report outlines demographic trends, looks at five youth transitions and prescribes three strategic directions for reforms - investment in opportunities, capacity-building programs and second chances. The five transitions comprise: education (learning for work and life), livelihoods (going to work), health (growing up healthy), parenthood (forming families), and civic engagement (exercising citizenship).

The report highlights the demographic trend of a youth bulge, with 1.5 billion youth aged 12-24, 1.3 billion of whom are in the developing world (out of a global population of about 6.3 billion for 2004 according to the World Bank's World Development Indicators 2006). This bulge presents both challenges and opportunities. The challenges consist of fiscal and economic risks, as well as social and political risks, associated with the costs of education, unemployment, and health (HIV/AIDS). The opportunities arise as a result of the 'demographic dividend,' whereby the bulge represents both a window of falling dependency rates and an expanded workforce to generate income to spend on, among other things, human capital formation.

<http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/EXTWDR2007/0,,menuPK:1489865~pagePK:64167702~piPK:64167676~theSitePK:1489834,00.html>

Reader comments, suggested resources, and publications are welcome. Hit "reply" to send comments to [YCoP Links](#).

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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).

Disclosure

The information and opinions expressed in materials posted by Youth CoP listserv participants are not necessarily those of the USAID or EQUIP3. USAID and EQUIP3 make no representations or warranties regarding such posted materials. 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.