

## "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

Happy Holidays!!!

### Publications

#### *Youth in Community-Driven Development*

This World Bank Youth Development Note describes and gives examples of *Youth in Community-Driven Development* (CDD). CDD approaches present effective means to involve young people in local development decision-making, giving them voice and influencing power, with benefits for themselves and their communities. Sections include: *Potential to build skills and capacities; Entry points for engaging youth; and Principles for working with youth.* Good "References and Recommending Reading."  
[http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCDD/News%20and%20Events/21023971/C\\_Y\\_YDN\\_5\\_Youth\\_CDD.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCDD/News%20and%20Events/21023971/C_Y_YDN_5_Youth_CDD.pdf)

#### **Youth Grantmaking and Youth Advisory Committees**

Youthgrantmakers.org is part of the Michigan Community Foundation's Youth Project which promotes and provides technical support to Youth Advisory Committees at local community foundations that provide small grants to other young people for projects of community benefit. Youth Advisory Committees (YAC) decide policy, communications, invite and assess proposals and decide what to support and how to organize follow-up and monitoring. Each YAC is supported by a host organization that provides capacity building and support. Website provides excellent tools such as Youth Grantmaking Manual and a Brochure on effective Youth Advisory Committees.  
[www.youthgrantmakers.org](http://www.youthgrantmakers.org)

#### **Youth Monitors**

In the Community-Based Urban Development Project in Nigeria, youth NGOs are employed as project monitors to oversee the quality of work and level of community participation. They work together with the participating communities to ensure that the beneficiaries are receiving the infrastructure and services agreed to in the project designs. The youth NGO's also act as advocates on behalf of the community, making sure local people are well represented in all project meetings and decisions. In addition to benefiting the community, participating youth gain technical construction-supervision skills as well as leadership and problem solving skills that build their employability.  
Summary from World Bank Youth Development Note above. Source: World Bank 2003. "Nigeria Community-Based Urban Development Project." Project Appraisal Document. Washington, D.C.

#### *The Impact of Armed Conflict on Male Youth in Mindanao, Philippines*

This 2006 World Bank Paper shows that despite growing up in an environment shaped by violence, young males in Mindanao continue to hope for change for a better life. Although popular perception is that young males are militarized, a large majority are not but instead they yearn for opportunities to

educate and equip themselves with skills to which their peers in other parts of the country have access. The study recommends interventions in education, livelihoods and labor markets. Paper #3, Conflict Prevention & Reconstruction /July 2006. [www.worldbank.org /conflict](http://www.worldbank.org/conflict).

## From the Library

### *Youth and Conflict: a Brief Review of Available Literature*

This EQUIP3 /Youth Trust comprehensive review of youth and conflict by Marc Sommers sets the context for this topic: the definitions, debates and potentials; programmatic responses under five themes and six primary program areas; and concluding comments both promising trends and glaring deficits. The final section is 10 pages of relevant references and a supplementary bibliography. This thoughtful analysis of youth and conflict literature and the programs described is an important document for anyone interested in or working with youth and conflict issues and activities. <http://www.equip123.net/docs/e3-YouthandConflictLitReview.pdf>

### Youth Evaluators

#### *Beyond Consultation: in support of more meaningful adolescent participation*

The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children initiated a series of four action-oriented participatory studies with youth adolescents affected by armed conflict in Kosovo and Northern Uganda. The youth were surprised to be asked to participate, even more to be asked to design and conduct the studies, and demonstrated to adult counterparts both their capacity and competence in completing the studies. Author Jane Lowicki writes, "Opportunities for building young people's capacity through their deeper involvement are often missed, ultimately affecting the sustainability and relevance of programs." One of the seven cited lessons learned: Involving young people in research and assessment work places them in a position to advocate on their own behalf and enter community discussions using information and knowledge gained, adding legitimacy to their contributions. *Forced Migration Review* #15, page 33, 2002, <http://fmo.qeh.ox.ac.uk/fmo/index.asp>

### Adolescent Programming in Conflict and Post-conflict Situations

This 2003 UNICEF publication offers nine case studies highlighting examples of programming that encourages youth participation in community development and peace-building during crisis. They tell the story of sustainable success, showing how participation can contribute to the fulfillment of a rights-based agenda and suggesting ways to provide a framework for young people to create better, more peaceful societies. They are also intended to raise questions and begin to address the gap in guidance on adolescent participation in program activities during situations of conflict and post-conflict. Case studies include: **Albania, Angola, Colombia, Indonesia, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Northern Uganda, Sierre Leone**. UNICEF, Office of Emergency Operations [opesen@unicef.org](mailto:opesen@unicef.org), [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org).

**Reader comments, suggested resources, and publications are welcome. Hit "reply" to send comments 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).

**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](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.