

## YCoP Links

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

### Announcements

**Inviting new members:** As a member of this YCoP you can invite or nominate a colleague or friend to become a member. To join or nominate someone, please send the person's name and e-mail address to Lisa Austin (laustin@edc.org) or Chuck Wattles (cwattles@edc.org).

### *Youth Conservation Corps (YCC): Employment and Environment*

This issue of World Bank Youth Development Note profiles Youth Conservation Corps interventions in developed and developing country contexts and offers some guiding principles on effective program design. Engaging young people in environmental service projects is an innovative way of achieving several priority objectives through one single intervention. Well-designed Youth Conservation Corps can provide youth with skills that enhance their employability, protect or restore critical eco-systems, and create a pro-conservation citizenry. Good "References and Recommending Reading."

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTCY/Publications/21030315/YDN6YouthConservationCorps.pdf>

### Examples of YCCs and Related Youth Service Associations

#### Philippines

The Palawan Conservation Corps (PCC) is dedicated to preventing environmental degradation by empowering out-of-school youth towards self-sufficiency with marketable skills and restoring critical ecosystems. This residential program is free for young men and women 18-24 who lack resources to attend public education and it provides skills training and certification in agriculture, forestry management and appropriate technology. See <http://www.pccphilippines.netfirms.com> for details.

#### Russia

The Great Baikal Trail association (GBT) has implemented a YCC model to protect Russia's Lake Baikal, the world's oldest and deepest lake situated in south-east Siberia. GBT sustains its programs by providing foreign tourists with the opportunity to work side by side with Russian youth volunteers and play an active role in the preservation of Lake Baikal. Foreign tourists pay a fee to volunteer working on construction and maintenance projects. In exchange, these "eco-service" tourists are provided with accommodations, meals and are organized into groups to work on specific segments of the trail. See [http://www.greatbaikaltrail.ru/index\\_en.html](http://www.greatbaikaltrail.ru/index_en.html)

#### EarthCorps

EarthCorps restores parks and open spaces while providing leadership and community service experiences for young people from the United States and around the world. EarthCorps leads 10,000 annually in urban, suburban and wilderness areas and partners with over one hundred organizations worldwide. The website has examples of EarthCorps' environmental restoration, work

corps programs, and school-based and summer youth programs where young people learn about their environment, engage in community service and develop their leadership skills.

<http://www.earthcorps.org/international.php>

### **National Association of Service and Conservation Corps (NASCC)**

NASCC is the U.S. voice for the nation's 108 Service and Conservation Corps that annually enroll 23,000 young men and women who contribute more than 12.9 million service hours per year. While the U.S. model may need adaptation to fit other country environments, the website has many valuable program models, resources and success stories, and links to other related organizations.

<http://www.nascc.org>

### **International Association of National Youth Service (IANYS)**

A global conference on national youth service in the United States in 1992 led to others (in Nigeria in 1994, Papua New Guinea in 1996, the United Kingdom in 1998, Israel in 2000, Argentina in 2002 and Ghana in 2004, and led to the formation of an international organization concerned with promoting excellence in NYS around the world: the International Association for National Youth Service. IANYS aims to stimulate and facilitate the exchange of information about national youth service (NYS), and to help realize the promise of national youth service. <http://www.ianys.utas.edu.au/index.html>

**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.