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 Displacement**; The worst flooding in Pakistan’s history has affected as many as 20 million people, according to the International Rescue Committee. One-fifth of the country remains underwater, and millions of people have been forced from their homes. This devastating event has highlighted the plight of people displaced by natural disasters and other emergencies. Displaced populations have little access to safe water, food, shelter, schooling and employment opportunities. The situation is especially bleak for young people, who are particularly vulnerable to exploitation and recruitment by militias. This issue of *YCoP Links* focuses on the unique challenges faced by displaced youth — whether internally or internationally — and the programs, organizations and initiatives that target them.

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**Announcements:**

**Making Cents International’s Global Youth Enterprise & Livelihoods Development Conference**
[www.youthenterpriseconference.org/registration.asp](http://www.youthenterpriseconference.org/registration.asp)

The Global Youth Enterprise & Livelihoods Development Conference provides a demand-driven and participatory learning space where members of all sectors can share information on programs, methodologies, strategies and tools; network to build partnerships; gain new technical capacity; and help build the youth enterprise, employment and livelihoods development field. The conference will take place in Washington, D.C., on September 14th to 16th.

**Conference on Refugees in the Northeastern States of India**

This conference, organized by the Public Interest and Legal Support Center (PILSARC), will explore the issues facing refugees in Northeastern India in the context of India state policy on refugees and international law. The event will be held September 4th in New Delhi.

**Mind the Gap: International Conference on Youth Work and Youth Studies**
[http://www.strath.ac.uk/mg2010/](http://www.strath.ac.uk/mg2010/)

This sixth international conference examines research, theories and practices that contribute to youth work and our understandings of young people in the 21st century with parallel sessions, symposia and discussions about possible collaborations. The conference will be held September 7th to 9th at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland.
ECLAC Releases System of Indicators
http://www.iberostat.org
With the support of OIJ (Iberoamerican Youth Organization), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has just finished establishing a system of indicators to monitor the social and economic situation of youth in the Spanish-speaking countries of Latin America. This dataset and accompanying relevant documents, organization listing and multimedia resources are a wealth of information for policymakers, researchers, journalists, youth leaders and others on diverse subjects from various countries.

Projects and Initiatives:

Women’s Refugee Commission: Displaced Youth Initiative
http://womensrefugeecommission.org/programs/protection/49-youth/79-untapped-potential-displaced-youth-
The Women’s Refugee Commission’s research and advocacy initiative Tapping the Potential of Displaced Youth aims to increase attention and support for comprehensive education and job training programs that help prepare young women and men for life during and after displacement. As a part of this project, the Women’s Refugee Commission has formed a global Youth Advisory Group (YAG), comprised of young people from conflict-affected countries to help guide and inform the initiative. Other components of the initiative are displaced youth-related resources such as fact sheets and reports, a project focusing on refugee girls, and a survey on education in emergencies.

Documentary Project for Refugee Youth
http://www.global-action.org/refugee/about.html
The Documentary Project for Refugee Youth, directed by Raeshma Razvi, is a collaboration between refugee youth, Global Action Project, the International Rescue Committee and other community organizations and artists in New York City. The Project engages in multimedia documentary work — interviews, photography, journal-writing and video — to create meaningful products about the refugee condition of displacement, desire for connection and need for home.

Children Beyond Our Borders
http://www.chbob.org
Children Beyond Our Borders raises awareness about and advocates for internally displaced children and youth in Latin America. The organization’s mentoring program, I Like Me, and vocational training program, New Horizons, aim to cultivate professional, technological and entrepreneurial skills and provide mentoring opportunities while engaging caretakers, community members and government.

Resources for Practitioners:

Living in Limbo: Iraqi Young Men and Women in Jordan (2009)
As part of a global, multi-year research and advocacy project focused on strengthening educational and job training programs for displaced, conflict-affected young people, the Women's Refugee Commission undertook a field mission to Jordan to look at the education and skills-building needs and opportunities of young Iraqi men and women. This report discusses the project’s findings and recommendations, which included the easing of restrictions on
young refugees’ right to work, continuing international support for Iraqi refugees, and adapting lessons learned from other livelihood programs.

**Still at Risk: Internally Displaced Children’s Rights in North-West Pakistan (2010)**

This Internal Displacement/Norwegian Refugee Council publication investigates the internal displacement of Pakistani children and youth in recent years and the challenges in creating access to education, shelter and other services. The report recommends that the Pakistani government pass legislation protecting the rights of displaced children, that militant groups allow humanitarian access to displaced people, and that donor agencies continue to provide funding for the protection of displaced people.

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 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 listserv and Washington-based chapter. Both the listserv 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 Program (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.