YCoP Links
Issue 89, June 16, 2011
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 Safe Work Conditions: June 12th marked the World Day Against Child Labor 2011, and in addition to events in more than 50 countries, the International Labour Organization (ILO) released a report on children doing hazardous work. The report, which focuses on children under the age of 18, presents the case for a new focus on the global effort to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. There is an overlap between children and youth, highlighting that young people can also be susceptible to the dangers of hazardous working conditions. This issue of YCoP Links addresses the issue of substandard working conditions as they affect young workers worldwide.

Announcements:

100th International Labor Conference Takes Place in Geneva
http://www.ilo.org/ilc/ILCSessions/100thSession/lang--en/index.htm#a2
The World Day Against Child Labor was held June 12th, amid the 100th International Labor Conference in Geneva. The conference has featured discussions on decent work for domestic workers, gender discrimination, migrant workers’ rights, and the implications of globalization for decent work. Five High Level Panels have been held, including Global Youth: Leading Change, Arab Youth: Aspiring for Social Justice, and The Role of Decent Work in a Fairer, Greener and More Sustainable Globalization. The conference ends Friday, June 17th.

Call for Applications: West African Youth Meeting
http://www.ypwc.org/waysd-2011/call-for-applications.html
Young People We Care and international partners are organizing the West African Youth for Sustainable Development Regional Meeting 2011 (WAY-SD) from August 10th-16th to promote youth engagement in sustainable development. The meeting will mobilize youth representatives from West Africa in three locations in Accra, Kumasi & Tamale-Ghana. The role of West African youth in efforts towards sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda will be a primary focus of the meeting. Application documents and information are available for download on the event website.

Projects and Initiatives:

ENTERATE (Nicaragua)
This U.S. Department of Labor-funded project aims to contribute to the elimination of exploitative child and adolescent labor in Nicaragua. The project provides education and training to young people; strengthens the capacity of national institutions to combat child
labor; raises awareness of the importance of education for all children and youth; mobilizes a wide array of actors to improve and expand education infrastructures; supports research and the collection of reliable data on child and youth labor; and ensures the long-term sustainability of these efforts.

**Working Youth Centers (Philippines)**

Working Youth Centers (WYC) are located in rural areas and less urbanized centers in nine regions of the Philippines. WYC's have served more than 41,325 young workers though livelihood projects and supported the work of 1,551 youth organizations. The WYC is a part of the Philippines Medium Term Youth Development Program (PMTYDP), a program implemented by various government agencies and departments. The aim of the program is to strengthen working youth organizations, to increase their level of awareness on issues and matters affecting workers, and to develop their skills to equip them for employment. An important component of the WYC's work is to provide young people with the ability to address concerns related to their employment, including unsatisfactory working conditions.

**Decent Work Pilot Program (Ghana)**

This International Labor Organization (ILO) program in Ghana has provided workplace training in the form of internships as well as on-the-job training to young people ages 13 to 30. An important component of the intervention is to upgrade work and production techniques with a special attention to safety and health issues. The program has provided a framework for the broader ILO Decent Work Country Program for Ghana.

**Programa Juventud y Empleo (Dominican Republic)**

This program is implemented by the Secretaria de Estado de Trabajo (SET) of the Dominican Republic in collaboration with the Instituto Público de Formación Técnico Profesional (INFOTEP). A major focus of this youth employment intervention, aimed at at-risk youth in the poorest areas, is to increase awareness of safety in the workplace. The program’s main components are 1) classroom vocational and life skills training and 2) private sector apprenticeships and internships. The program is expected to be completed this year, with an evaluation available by November 2011.

**Resources for Practitioners**

**Children in Hazardous Work: What We Know, What We Need To Do (June 2011)**

This report reviews the current state of knowledge concerning children in hazardous work and presents the case for a new focus on the issue as part of the wider global effort to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The report highlights recent global trends while comprehensively summarizing the scientific evidence base related to health and well-being of working children.

**International Labor Conference Resolution Concerning Youth Employment (2005)**

The 2005 International Labor Conference adopted a resolution concerning youth employment setting out ILO policy and an overarching framework for the ILO’s work in this area. The resolution is based on an agreement that tackling youth employment requires an integrated approach combining supportive macro-economic policies and targeted measures addressing
labor demand and supply as well as the quantity and quality of employment. The resolution also contains a list of the main international labor standards relating to young 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 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. 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.