

INSPIRE!

The Newsletter of African youths!

September 2007



Network of African
Youths for Development

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NAYD NEWS

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*We are hundreds of young Africans impacting positive changes
in thousands of lives in Africa! Joins us!*



"One hand cannot tie a bundle"

NAYD NEWS!

EDITORIAL

MDG's: Are we on Target for 2015?

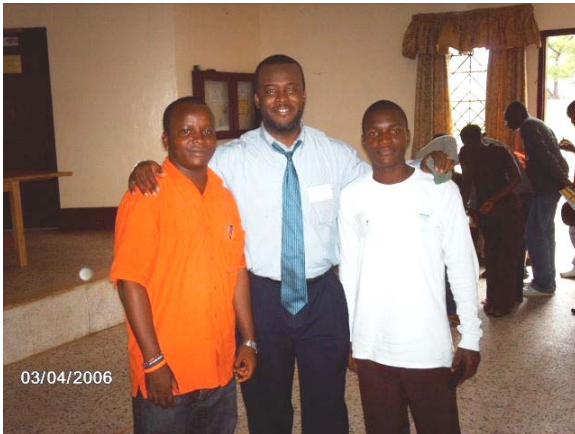
About this time, 7 years ago, 189 countries of the United Nation signed up to the Millennium Development Goals. The UN estimated the cost of meeting the targets to be just 0.3 percent of the global income. Today, half way through the 15 year target period, how much have we done to eradicate extreme poverty, achieve universal primary education, reduce child mortality, and increase maternal health, etc, before 2015? Look objectively round you before attempting and answer. Although the global incidence of extreme poverty declined between 1990 and 2002, in sub-Saharan Africa another 140 million people entered that category. Some 44 percent of the region's population now live in extreme poverty, classed as surviving on less than \$1 a day. In most countries in our continent, the situation is quite bleak. But not entirely hopeless. For instance, in Uganda, the proportion of people living in poverty fell from 56 percent to 36 percent after the government introduced a poverty eradication and Action Plan. In Kenya, the free primary education plan brought education to 1.2 million children in 2002. So the right actions will get us the needed effects, once we set our minds to it. It takes time to train the teachers, nurses and engineers; to build the roads, schools and hospitals; to grow the small and large businesses able to create the jobs and income needed. So we must start now. And we must more than double global development assistance over the next few years. Nothing less will help to achieve the Goals. But more can be achieved if we join the "big" efforts of our governments. That is if you can make it a challenge to better lives around us. That is the main idea we want to share with you in this edition of INSPIRE. We gladly echo Bod Geldof, when he says in "Better World" all of us can make a stand by being an activist, an advocate or a volunteer, by simply supporting charities or changing the way we spend money. That is one way to speed up the progress report of our African countries towards the achievement of the MDGs. ■

Pochi Tamba
CEO, NAYD



NAYD Liberia on a Training Workshop on Volunteerism

In the wake of community development and volunteerism in Liberia, NAYD-Liberia Country Coordinator, Mr. Andrew Kuwon and NAYD Regional Director for West Africa, Thomas P. Mitchell, Jr. was invited to a one-day workshop on August 11, 2007 held at the St. Nagbe United Methodist Church in Liberia. This workshop brought together over 50 participants from difference universities and organizations to learn the importance of volunteerism, Partnering/Networking, etc.



Peal, (left) Thomas (center) and Andrew (Right)

This workshop was also interactive between presenters and participants. This training workshop was organized and hosted by Volunteers in Liberia USA Team in conjunction with VIL-Liberia. Some of the presenters of Volunteers in Liberia USA Team were, Mr. Lenus M. Perkins, who presented on "Volunteerism", Mr. Frederick N. Peal, who presented on "Fundraising", Rev. Rudolph Bropleh, who presented on "Partnering/Networking", etc. These topics were highly interesting and educative for participants. For partnership, NAYD-Liberia is putting some plans together to partner with VIL-Liberia on volunteer initiatives in communities, not only in Montserrado County, but also across the country. ■

The Importance of AIDS Education for Young People



The epidemic of HIV has been steadily spreading for the past two decades and now affects every country worldwide. Each year, more people die, and the number of people living with HIV continues to shoot the roofs – in spite of the fact that we have developed many proven HIV prevention methods. We now know much more how the virus is

transmitted that we did in the initial days of the epidemic, and we know much more about how we can prevent it from being transmitted. One of the vital means of HIV prevention is education – teaching people about HIV: what it is, what it does, and how people can protect themselves. Over half of the world's population is now under 25years old, and they are both the age group most threatened by AIDS – the best hope of combating the epidemic. Education can help to fight HIV, and it must focus on young people.

Two mains reasons exist for the importance of AIDS education to young people. The first is to **prevent them from being infected**. Young people are often chiefly vulnerable to sexually-transmitted diseases, and to HIV infection as a result of drug-uses. Young people (15-24years old) account for half of all new HIV infections throughout the world – more than 6000 become infected with HIV on daily basis. More than one third of the numbers of people living with HIV or AIDS are below 25years old, and almost two-thirds of them are women. In many parts of the world, young people in this group-age are at particularly high risk of HIV infection from unprotected sex, sex between men and drug-use because of the high prevalence rates often found amongst people who engage in these behaviours. Young people are often especially vulnerable to exploitation that may augment their susceptibility in infection. Even if they are not currently engaging in risk behaviours, as they become of age or older, young people may soon be exposed to situations that put them at danger. Indeed, globally most young people become sexually active in their teens. The fact that they are or soon will be at risk of HIV infection makes young people a crucial target for AIDS education.

The second reason why AIDS education for young people is important is that education can reduce stigma and discrimination. People who are infected with HIV around the world often suffer terribly from stigma, in that **people who are HIV+ are somehow thought to be 'dirty', or to have 'brought it on themselves' by immoral practices**. They often suffer discrimination in terms of medical care, housing, and employment. These experiences, aside from being extremely distressing for HIV+ people, can also have the effect of making people reluctant to be tested for HIV, in case they are found to be HIV+. Stigma and discrimination often starts early – as name calling amongst children. AIDS education can help to prevent this, halting stigma and discrimination before they have the opportunity to grow.

AIDS education for the future: Being apprised about the facts and the dangers of HIV and AIDS enables young people to protect themselves and is a crucial tool in the fracas against HIV. There is no cure or vaccine for HIV – prevention is the only way in which we can place any limits on the epidemic. One of the most economical and effective means of

HIV prevention is education – involving young people themselves in the HIV prevention effort. Also parents and guardians who are involved in the education of their children will be able to give additional support, outside classroom (at home). ■

Christian P. TABIFOR
BAPESU

BAPESU Active Participation at Tunza Regional Children's Conference on the Environment in Cameroon

WANKE NANGA Tatiana Aminatou from BAPESU was one of the over 300 children from all over Africa and Norway that were present at the Tunza Regional Children's Conference in



Children and chaperones receiving talks from an expert from The National Forestry School in Mbalmayo (Cameroon) while in forest.

Cameroon that took place from the 30th July – 3rd August 2007. TUNZA is a word in Kiswahili (the common language of most East African countries) that means to “treat with care”. The programme is based on a strategy that aims to provide young people with information and tools on how to “treat Mother Earth with care” and how to Act for a better world.

This conference prepared the children for the Tunza International Children's Conference that will take place in Norway in June 2008. At the conference the children deliberated on a variety of topics concerning Africa. The Conference was organized by UNEP, UNICEF, UNESCO and the Cameroon Conference Committee.

Opening the conference was the Representative of the Prime Minister, Jules Doret Ndongo, Secretary General at the Prime Minister's Office. While underscoring the huge importance the government gives in protecting the environment, Jules Doret Ndongo emphasised the role of children in any durable development. He said the conference is welcomed as it will help children know how to preserve the ecosystem through their activities. Talking on the theme of the conference which is

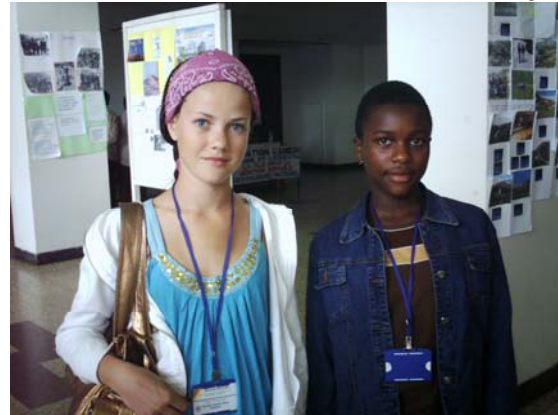
"Practice what you preach", Dr Strike Mkandla, a representative of UNEP said the theme is suitable at this stage in world development. To Dr. Strike the theme is an important maxim not just for children but for everyone as there are vital adjustments required in the lifestyle of everybody towards environmental protection. Topics for discussion at the conference Centre on areas in which action is urgently needed to ameliorate the environment. The main themes of discussion at the conference were: *Climate change and food security; Forest and biodiversity (including a visit to a forest), and Survival of the Great Apes; Water (clean water and*



N. Daniel (Rwanda), Anne Kari Aas (Young Agenda 21 - Norway), Christian Tabifor (Cameroon) at Billion Tree planting Ceremony

sanitation, situation in slums and other poor areas due to the lack of water and sanitation); Waste management and recycling; Dry lands and deserts (including information on the Billion Tree Campaign).

At the end of the conference the following outcomes were reached at. - each child delegate



Wanke Nanga T. Aminatou (right) from Cameroon with her new friend and delegate (Norway) at the Conference Center - Yaoundé

committed to plant at least 10 trees per year and 10 trees each before the Tunza International Children's Conference that will take place in Norway in June 2008 - each child should raise environmental awareness in their local areas or communities through stories, drama and dances. To respect the commitment taken in Yaoundé

WANKE N. Tatiana Aminatou has with her friends at BAPESU scheduled a Tree Planting Campaign to take place in September 2007 in Bambui Community (NW-Cameroon). ■

The Role of Justice in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

The violation of human rights of many people particularly in the developing countries has continued unabated as a result of lack of or inadequate justice meted out to the perpetrators. This situation of lack of/inadequate justice has undoubtedly helped to fuel lots of conflicts in Africa since the perpetrators know they can do anything and get away with it.

While some people may advocate for truth and reconciliation commissions for the resolution of serious long-term human rights violations, these commissions tend to be very lenient with the perpetrators in the name of 'promoting peace'. I believe strongly, that justice is an integral part of any reconciliation process.

Justice does not only bring hope to the victims but relieves the perpetrator from a serious burden that could potentially be some sort of life imprisonment without parole. When justice is applied correctly and fairly, the final result (often long term) is a 'lighter' heart for both the victims and perpetrators.

The establishment of courts mainly concerned with human rights issues in all the continents just goes a long way to elucidate the important and necessity of justice in the promotion and protection of human rights. Through these courts lots of violators of human rights have been summoned and brought to book such as Milosovic and his allies of the former Yugoslavia and Charles Taylor of Liberia. Also, many have escaped this 'dragnet' such as the former president Chad (Habrie), the leader of the LRA of Uganda (Joseph Kone) and some perpetrators of the Rwanda genocide. I believe it is just a matter of time better these fellows answer to their alleged human rights violations in a court of law. My last word is that, justice is an integral part in the promotion and protection of human rights and at no time should it be sacrificed for something; be it peace or reconciliation. Justice is the only weapon the poor, underprivileged and often abused victims have. Trading with justice will be like trading with survival. To live this dream we have to be the surrogate voices for the victims of these heinous crimes. ■ **CHI Primus C.**
Coordinator, ICCHRA-Cameroon & NAYD-Cameroon.

NAYD PARTNERS

African Youth Foundation (AYF)

The African Youth Foundation (AYF) is a non-profit development organization based in Bonn, Germany. It was established in 2000 to aid young



African people in the Diaspora and in Africa, as well as Europeans with African descent, to undertake projects which will enable them obtain skills necessary for their future livelihoods.

The organization's mandate is to promote youth education for Africans in the Diaspora as well as Europeans with African descent. Gender equality is also another chapter in AYF's mandate with a view to mobilizing and developing the talents of the youth to contribute meaningfully to national and global development. A concept which motivate the youth to begin their own enterprises particularly in the informal sectors, other than migrating to other countries. The Organization specialises in training business and entrepreneurial skills through the help of Local Business Institutions. AYF promotes self awareness, researches development conditions in African countries, analyses favourable conditions for development and participation of the youth in a full social and secured life.

The main activities of AYF are the promotion of youth education through workshops and seminars, vocational and leadership training courses in African countries; provision of books and financial assistance to encourage the youngsters to complete their education; publication of books, journals, guides, surveys, studies, newsletters; conferences, expert group meetings, lectures etc. The African Youth Foundation is also offering programmes on "E-Education and Management Training". These courses are a combination of basic computer literacy courses and management online learning. It has been developed and will be conducted in close collaboration with the Job & Joy Institute in Bonn, Germany. They warmly invite you to join them. Invest in their projects so as to assist the youth in Africa and the Diaspora. The living conditions of the youth in Africa hold promises for all of us, which will guide us towards a world of peace and harmony.

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EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

An appeal for a website

BAPESU (Benevolent Association for the Protection of the Environment and the Socially Underprivileged) is highly appealing for the donation of a website (domain registration and hosting) from kind individuals, organizations, companies/business etc... This will make us achieve our mission with efficacy and efficiency. If you or someone would like to help BAPESU, please contact us at donate2bapesu@gmail.com Tel. +237 7749 13 45 Fax: +237 3347 11 86 ■

Call for Participation: International Conference on empowerment of women through adult education, September 29-30, 2007, INDIA

This Conference seeks to explore research and practice on adult education for women that encourage their intellectual growth towards self-actualization, and validate through researched documentation such adult education experiments that are being conducted globally for women's empowerment.

Adult Education refers to ..."the entire body of organized educational processes, whatever the content, level and method, whether formal or otherwise, whether they prolong or replace initial education in schools, colleges and universities as well as in apprenticeship, whereby persons regarded as adult by the society to which they belong develop their abilities, enrich their knowledge, improve their technical or professional qualifications or turn them in a new direction and bring about changes in their attitudes or behaviour in the twofold perspective of full personal development and participation in balanced and independent social, economic and cultural development..."

[UNESCO Charter, Recommendation on the Development of Adult Education, published in Canada (Ottawa: Canadian Commission for UNESCO, 1980 [1976])]

The Objectives of the two-day Conference are as follows:

- * To explore the phenomenon of dropouts/exclusion of large sections of the population from education systems in spite of the universal acceptance of the significance of education by developed and developing countries.
- * To explore the impact of Gandhian thought and practice on Adult Education for women
- * To understand and evaluate various Adult Education/Adult Literacy Programmes and global experiments in the field.
- * To study how adult education leads to the

empowerment of women and how empowerment of women leads to the enhancement of adult education programmes.

To initiate dialogue into various aspects of Adult Education Programmes for Women and to test their efficiency in actual situations.

Participants Profile: Academics, Researchers, Administrators Government and non-Government agencies engaged in the areas of adult education and women's empowerment. The Conference aims to bring academicians, practitioners and experts in the fields of adult education and the empowerment of women to share their experiences and expertise with the Participants. For further information (and the registration form), please visit: <http://www.chmwsc-inconf.org/>

Job Opening: Gender Based Violence Manager, ETHIOPIA

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) is one of the largest humanitarian agencies in the world, providing relief, rehabilitation and post-conflict reconstruction support to victims of oppression and violent conflict. IRC has worked for over seven decades and today is involved in over 25 conflict zones in the world. They address both the immediate, life saving needs of conflict affected people in an emergency and the reconstruction needs in post conflict societies.

The International Rescue Committee currently seeks a Gender Based Violence (GBV) Manager for its st1: country regionw:st="on"Ethiopia</st1:country regionw:st="on" program, based in Jijiga.

Responsibilities:

- Establish GBV community based response and prevention programs in Kebre Bayah and Teferi Ber refugee camps. Oversee the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the GBV program in Shimelba camp to ensure that the program is implemented according to schedule and budget and that project objectives are met. Responsible for all aspects of project management ensuring that project resources are used effectively and transparently.
- Provide ongoing supervision, leadership, training and technical support and guidance to national staff. Establish capacity building plans with project staff to ensure a sustainable transfer of skills in which response staff practices adhere to best-practice principles when working with survivors and that all staff use participatory approaches to working with the community in addressing beliefs and practices that condone or perpetuate violence against women.

- Ensure that the project undertakes continuous monitoring and evaluation so that activities are appropriate and based on a clear understanding of the problems, causes, contributing factors, and issues in individual settings.
- Collect, analyze and disseminate project data and information for problem analysis, planning and evaluation with all stakeholders.
- Develop and maintain effective working relationships with relevant stakeholders including community leaders and other implementing partners.
- Ensure good project monitoring and evaluation to demonstrate project impact. Ensure that all internal (IRC) and external (donor/partner/government) reporting requirements are met and that reports are of a high quality and submitted on time.
- Prepare monthly and donor reports, draft proposals, concept papers and document lessons learned.

For further information and application, please visit:
<http://ircjobs.org>

[First International Development Conference \(IDC 2007\)](#) Location: Toronto, Canada
 Date: 15 - 18 November 2007
 Organised by: CEFARD

Description: International Development Conference's (IDC 2007) agenda is to provide a platform for debating and showcasing some past successes and failures of development activities and projects in various disciplines especially agriculture and other development sectors in many parts of the world as relates to the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations. The possible way forward will be discussed, as we are daily fast approaching the 2015 deadline that all goals and targets should have been met.

This international conference will be of interest to all involved and interested in agriculture. Environmentalists, social workers, development practitioners and those that champion the cause of sustainable development in their various vocations will also find this conference as a variable platform for cross fertilization of ideas on development as a big issue in these present times.

Registration Fee

CEFARD Members: US\$150

Non-Members: US\$250

Students: US\$100

For further information please contact A. Doherty.

Email: info@cefard.org Tel: +1 416-679-1125

Wisdom from the NAYD Members!

"Count the garden by the flowers, never by the leaves that fall. Count your life with smiles and not the tears that roll"

MUNU Thaddeus

"Evil prospers because good men fail to act."

Chi Primus

"A leader is he who tells his people what they must hear, not what they want to hear"

Chi Primus

About NAYD

What is NAYD?

NAYD is the Network of African youths for Development. It began in 2006 and today involves close to 40 youth-led projects in about 20 African countries.

How can you join NAYD?

You are welcome to join NAYD and support the activities of its members. Write to nayd2007@yahoo.com for more information.

Have something to say!

Great! Write to us at the above mentioned email and shall will put your article on the newsletter.

We invite you to tell the world through our **INSPIRE**: whatever you want to share on development. Are you part of an organisation helping people to be positive? Are you dreaming of a better Africa? Join us and make yourself heard! Send us a mail.

Specifically, the objectives NAYD as outlined in its constitution are:

- To promote and encourage the work done by young Africans in effecting positive change on the continent.
- To facilitate exchange between youths involved in development, by creating a network of exchange.
- To further the networks formed by and for young Africans for the development of the continent.
- To promote recognition of, mobilise and enhance the capacity of Young Africans internationally and provide them with leadership skills to take action against poverty.

To achieve its vision, NAYD works with associations and groups of youths across the African continent and beyond to educate, inform and inspire others to use their power, privilege, skills and abilities to create a better world for current and future generations.

NAYD TEAM

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Next month in INSPIRE!

In the sixth edition of INSPIRE, watch out for more news on how African youths are impacting change on the continent.

And discover the new offices of NAYD in countries across the continent. Alongside cute new slots for your fun and information.

For inquiries, please write to
nayd@yahoo.com