

# INSPIRE!

The Newsletter of African youths!

November 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

In this edition it's interesting to learn how we African Youths can use Google Earth to fill the development loopholes that exist between Africa and the North, disturbing to be appraised directly by orphans in Burundi and how they struggle to combat illiteracy and eke out a living through the devastating effects of many years of violence and HIV/AIDS, to efforts in promoting living values. The editorial team will be unceasing and painstaking in its efforts to work second after second and minute after minute to enrich the quality of INSPIRE

*Below is a message the INSPIRE editorial team would like to share with all potential parents in Africa and worldwide*

*"Please have  
An HIV/AIDS  
test  
before thinking of  
having a baby"*

### Google Earth and How It Can Help Development Activities.

Google Earth is a FREE map of the world viewable through the internet. You first have to download the software onto your PC from the site <http://earth.google.com> Once the software is loaded the first thing you see is a view of the earth seen from outer space. You can then zoom into any part of the world using the navigation bar or simply type in your home town and Google Earth will take you there automatically. The imagery of the earth you see varies in scale but for many parts of the world it is possible to look at individual houses, cars, waterways, and even trees. The software also allows you see the land in 3 dimensions. This means, for example, that you can view a mountain looking straight down on it or from an oblique angle. In a lot of countries you can also do a search for restaurants, or ask for directions from one town to another. Unfortunately information can be very sparse but the good news is it is getting better day by day.

In the year 2005 in Malawi when I was putting in a proposal for mapping large areas of land to enable assessment of water reservoir positions, water pipe routes and general infrastructure development, the only way to properly define the areas was through Google Earth - no other means were easily available. I already had the software loaded on my laptop and so it was no problem to connect to the internet at a local cyber café and view Malawi in detail. Joining me in the café was the Deputy Director of the Ministry of Irrigation and Water and the Project Manager of a World Bank funded Infrastructure Development Assessment Project (IDAP). Together we agreed areas of mapping by zooming into different parts of Malawi and creating a boundary of the mapping area. These areas were then sent off to various satellite imagery companies for prices. If funding had been awarded for the project it would have enabled the Malawi government to carry out detailed infrastructure development analysis using the very latest imagery.

Google Earth is currently trying to encourage non-governmental organizations (NGO's) to get involved, details at <http://earth.google.com/outreach/index.html>

There are many benefits to becoming a member. Why not have a look, download the software, and play around with the tools, then share what you have learnt on the NAYD YAHOO site. It has been said that one of the major development problems with Africa is that it is an information desert. In my view Google Earth is one potential way of changing that. ■

Paul SHAW

### Kaleidoscope 2007 Conference

NAYD International Regional Director for West Africa, *Thomas Mitchell* attended a youth conference and training program organized by Oxfam Australia from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2007. Mitchell also serving as Action partner for the period of three years (2007-2010), has informed and encouraged other action partners to become part of this African network.

Thomas Mitchell was undergoing some training as regard introduction to Human Rights, Youth Actions on HIV/AIDs, the role of private sector in sustainable development, etc. Mitchell is working harder to promote the image of the *Network of African Youths for Development* (NAYD) to other youth organization in partnering on variety of development programs and projects in Africa.

He also promised to facilitate small workshop for NAYD Liberia staff and members on what he has learnt and achieved from the Oxfam International Youth Partnership program (OIYP 2007-2010) conference and short courses.



*Thomas Mitchell trying (standing) to observe other OIYP action partners during a group discussion at the King's School in Paramatta, Australia*

### Working for the Promotion of Living Values Education in Cameroon (CAPED International)

Based on an earlier training received in values-based Education, the Executive Director of Campus for Peace & Dialogue (CAPED) International, Dr. Walters Samah, took an active part in a series of workshops on values-based education organized in the towns of Yaoundé and Douala (Cameroon) by the Swiss Association for Living Values. As co-trainer/facilitator and member of the local organizing committee, Dr. Samah provided support to a team of experienced LVE trainers that came from the UK, Switzerland, Ghana and Senegal. The first workshop which ran from August 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2007 was meant for English-speaking educators, while the second, from September 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007 was for French-speaking educators. The third workshop (September 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>) which took place at the *Institut Pan-Africain de Développement* (IPD) in Douala was meant for street children and persons working with street children. Each of the three capacity-building workshops had about 50 participants drawn from different parts of Cameroon,

with some coming from other African countries such as Chad, RDC, Ghana and Nigeria.

The training provided participants notably educators with principles, methods and practical skills and tools to deal with situations in the classroom and in the community. It also gave them the possibility to develop increased awareness of their personal and social values, which would eventually make them to live as role models. *Essentially, Living Values Education helps to bring out the dignity and integrity of the human person as well as enables people to identify their inherent values.* It is part of the global movement for a Culture of Peace (COP) in the framework of the United Nations International Decade for a Culture of Peace and on-Violence for Children of the World. Its activities are supported by UNESCO and other international bodies. With regard to the relevance of Living Values Education in our society, the Director of UNESCO-BREDA Regional Office for Africa declared in 2004 that *“In today’s Africa, ravaged by armed conflict, AIDS and poverty, values education will become a most powerful weapon”* to help people to regain their pride, dignity and art of living together.



*Dr Walters Samah (standing) facilitating a session With caretakers of street children*

During the workshops there were several sessions during which participants “explored, experienced and expressed” inherent qualities such as peace, respect, love, responsibility and honesty. Other reflection activities permitted workshop participants to discover that our local cultures are still imbedded with a rich heritage of positive values like hospitality, cooperation, simplicity and sharing, which could be revitalised. Thanks to the interactive nature of the workshops, participants quickly came to the realization that, the first step in implementing Living Values in the community must start by practicing (living) the values themselves. What they also found remarkable about Living Values Education is the simplicity of its methodology and so many participants expressed readiness and commitment to implement Living Values upon return to their respective places of work.

At the end of these workshops, it was hoped that Cameroon would consider setting up its own national association to henceforth coordinate and support LVE activities in the country. When that would be done, Cameroon would fully become part of the international family of more than 80 countries across the world, where Living Values Education is already in operation.

## The Life of Orphans in Burundi

The war which lasted more than 10 years in Burundi, with HIV/AIDS devastating families are the major causes of the existence of a big number of orphans. Many children lost their parents after the 1993 crisis, an ethnic crisis in which many Tutsi have been killed.

Other children are made orphans by HIV/AIDS and are most of them are HIV positive. The situation of orphans in Burundi is not problematic for many associations have been created since 1993 to help children victims of the war.

Unfortunately, all needy children cannot be sheltered in orphanage. There some who are not accepted just because the limited space. Despite the existence of orphanages, children are yet unsatisfied. They say that nothing can replace their parents. Anniella and kessy are two children living in orphanage. The following is their opinion about their life in orphanage:

**Lyse:** Anniella, when did you start living in an orphanage?

**Aniella:** I was received here in 1993 when the crisis started in Burundi. I was five while I am now nineteen years old.

**Lyse:** have you gone to school?

**Aniella:** Yes of course! And I thank my lord just because many children didn’t continue their studies after their parent’s death.

**Lyse:** and how is life in orphanage like?

**Aniella:** Not too bad. We are fed, educated and given a job when we finish our studies. We thank all those who are helping us.

**Lyse:** I heard that many orphanages are planning to send back many children to their families of origin and help them there. What do you think of this?

**Aniella:** This will be a very good idea if really orphanages are planning to help us in our respective families. In fact as you know it, many families cannot receive extra children because they live in extreme poverty. Sometimes, it is worth living in orphanage than in family. However, it is also good to regain our families of origin because we will be able to secure our inheritance.

**Lyse:** What do you wish to have in your life?

**Aniella:** I wish to have my own family, children and a good job.

**Speaking of Kessy:** He is an HIV positive orphan. His parents died when he was 7 and now he’s 13.

**Lyse:** Kessy, when did you lose your parents?

**Kessy:** I don't remember exactly but...I probably was 7 years old.

**Lyse:** What happened here?

**Kessy:** The FVS which as you know is engaged in the fight of AIDS and an association which helps children victims of AIDS accepted to receive me and my two brothers after an investigation they conducted to be sure that we were victims of AIDS.

**Lyse:** Do you continue with your studies?

**Kessy:** Yes I continue my studies but I don't know whether I will come to the end because I am not in good health.

**Lyse:** There many children around you. How do you feel Mrs Kessy?

**Kessy:** I feel okay, but I always regret when I remember that I am HIV positive.

**Lyse:** Do you easily get medicines?

**Kessy:** Not yet, but we every HIV positive child will start taking medicines from next year on.

**Lyse:** What kind of message do you have for parents throughout the world?

**Kessy:** *I advise them to make an HIV test before they think of having a baby. To those who are infected, I advise them to take medicines and protect their children.*

Aline NDEMEYE is a supervisor in F.V.S and she confirms that their task is not so easy. I could say that it is not easy to educate children from different age categories. We do our best but sometimes the outcome is not satisfying. We in addition have the problem of funds and it is sometimes difficult to find backers to help us satisfy needs of our children. We are now planning to send back children in their families of origin and help them there.

It is worth mentioning that a good number of orphans are still homeless and that even orphanages are not ready to receive them. ■

Lyse Iradukunda

### Youth Tutoring!!! The Way I See It

**F**amilies, Orphans and Children under Stress (FOCUS) a youth initiative founded in the year 2002 as an urgent response to the HIV/AIDS situation in Ruiru division, Thika district (Kenya). At that time, the number of

children orphaned by HIV/AIDS was alarmingly growing, not to mention their poor living conditions and constant exploitation of their rights by their community. Granted, these problems allied to the orphans certainly warranted intervention, hence Focus's resolution to put up a Day Care Center that sought to counter some – if not all – of these troubles.

Academic difficulties was among the many tribulations that presented themselves since most orphans, with some acting as heads of households, either performed poorly academically or worse still, chose to drop out of school to take care of their younger siblings. At FOCUS, such children on admission after thorough research and field work were re-admitted to school and afterward tuition prescribed to them alongside those vulnerable children who performed inadequately in class. In the year 2005, Simon Kariuki and I, all members of FOCUS were then commissioned to set up and execute a tuition program for all the children at the centre. We were later to be referred to a Peer Tutoring training carried out by Christian Children's Fund (C.C.F) with funding from USAID with the sole purpose of equipping us with the necessary skills to assist the orphaned and the vulnerable children in our community through 'Weaving the Safety Net' program.

Currently, 34 OVC are benefiting directly from the FOCUS tutorial program which has since become a remarkably effective endeavour as better academic results are being realized among the beneficiaries. The tutorial program, carried out 5 times a week, has been of immense help to the children in that we, through the help of C.C.F, have been able to complement the few reading and writing materials they get from their various schools. In addition, the program has been made even more interesting with the introduction of both physical and intellectual game materials for the children.

On the other hand the activity in its entirety has also been of benefit to us, the practitioners, in terms of youth participation. To start with we get to contribute in the designation and making of the policies that govern the program as well as decide on the direction the project should take.

Any how, besides tuition we also offer psychosocial support sessions to the children so as to help them embrace and solve some their own problems. And finally, with all the necessary procedures put in place like constant supply of reading and writing materials for both the child and the tutor as well as transport reimbursement for the volunteer tutors, the project is ultimately bound to meet its objective which is to provide remedial teaching to the orphaned and vulnerable children of the society – or at least *that is the way I the see it.* ■

Okoth Odera (FOCUS)

## NAYD PARTNERS

### News from Peace Child International

Peace Child International is calling on all the youths and friends for development to come celebrate Peace Child's 25th Birthday in America on Friday 30th November to Sunday 2nd December 2007. Peace Child alumni from all over the world are travelling to Washington DC for a weekend of nostalgia, sing-along, photo and video-sharing plus challenging workshops on how to make peace movements that work, and how to rebuild Peace Child across North America. Some very, very special people helped create Peace Child in America.

#### Others

1. Finally the time has come for the new version of our website to be online. Key features of the summer update are the new Peace Child World Wide section which makes it easier to find information about your country. More over, we "spiced up" the design and made the browsing easier. Now, you can also find more information on PCI specific projects like e-volunteering, and Faith in Europe and Co-Management. We hope you will enjoy the site and are looking forward to seeing you on.
2. You want to support Peace Child but you don't know how? We are looking for online volunteers to help us by sharing their skills on translation, marketing, graphic design, research, mentoring, campaigning, lobbying, fundraising, advocating, etc.,
3. Between the 28th May and 2nd June 2007 Peace Child took part in a Festival of Youth-led Development called the Global Village Project (GVP) with actions in 17 countries all around the world. Organized by United Games and local Partners, the week was to support young people all around the world doing action projects and helping them to see that they are not alone with their problems and goals.
4. Fifteen "Be the Change" (BTC) Projects were funded in March 2007. The next application deadline for funding projects is 31st October 2007,
5. Our Action Toolkit - compiled by the delegates at the Congress and based on the experiences of those who know better than anyone. The booklet is filled with the wisdom of active youth leaders and workers who have been out there and done it, successfully starting youth-led projects that prove that we can 'Be the Change'
6. Our monthly newsletter is available online, too. Here you can read the current version of "e-bulletin. ■

## EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Website Request

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](mailto:donate2bapesu@gmail.com)  
Tel. +237 7749 13 45 Fax: +237 3347 11 86. ■

### Request for a website

This is humble request! FOCUS KENYA does not have a website we will be very happy and grateful if someone will help us to develop one, so as to enable us spread wings to different part of the world. If you would like to know more about FOCUS make a donation, have an exchange program or volunteer contact us through: [forcus20002004@yahoo.com](mailto:forcus20002004@yahoo.com) or [romankariuki@yahoo.com](mailto:romankariuki@yahoo.com)  
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**Job Opportunities at UNEP employment website, 'Library Assistant' (G-5 Position)**, Division of Communications and Public Information in Nairobi. The deadline for this vacancy expires on **23/11/2007**.

**'Administrative Assistant' (G-5 Position)**, Division of Regional Cooperation in Nairobi. The deadline for this vacancy expires on **24/11/2007**.

**'Computer Information Systems Assistant' (G-6 Position)**, Division of Early Warning and Assessment in Nairobi. The deadline for this vacancy expires on **25/11/2007**.

**'Administrative Assistant' (G-6 Position)**, Division of Communications and Public Information in Nairobi. The deadline for this vacancy expires on **23/11/2007**.

Follow the link below to find out more about the vacancies  
[http://www.unep.org/vacancies/default.asp?vac\\_level=GS](http://www.unep.org/vacancies/default.asp?vac_level=GS)

### Wisdom from the NAYD Members!

"Before the world finds a place for you, find a place for yourself in the world"

**Christian P. Tabifor**

"To open a shop is easy; to keep it open is an art"

**Christian P. Tabifor**

### IN THE NEXT EDITION

*In the Eight edition of INSPIRE you'll find the following topics and issues amongst others*

\* African leaders' role in embezzlement and capital flight.  
Are Europeans pro or opposing parties?

- Also watch out for more news on how African youths are impacting change on the continent.

- Discover the new offices of NAYD in countries across the continent alongside cute new slots for your fun and information.

\*The editorial team greatly apologises for not publishing in this edition as promised. But promise that it will appear in INSPIRE 8

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### WaTcH OuT

OUR NEXT LAYOUT AND DESIGN OF INSPIRE WILL HAVE HUGE INNOVATIONS TO GIVE A NEW EYELIFT FOR OUR READERS. THIS IS ALSO A SIGN INDICATIVE OF CHANGE THAT WE YOUTHS ARE AFTER FOR OUR DEAR CONTINENT AFRICA.

## 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](mailto: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.

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