



INSPIRE



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



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EDITORIAL

Dear keen readers in this tenth edition of inspire we have very interesting topics that covers the role of women in conflict analysis and resolutions; the very important and positive initiative that a youth group christened Focus in Kenya is carrying towards expunging HIV/AIDS. This edition also looks at the call for an urgent and immediate resolution of Kenya electoral Crisis by African Youths (NAYD). Our help request page offer you the prestigious opportunity to assist youth groups who are short of means in one way or the other in impacting positive changes in the lives of their communities. What are the **three things in life** that are very important to you? Check it out on our Wisdom corner.

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The editors have taken every care to make sure that the contents of this newsletter are as accurate as possible. The authors have ultimate responsibility, however, for the content of individual articles.

Women Participation in Conflict Analysis

The Security Council adopted resolution (S/RES/1325) on women and peace security on 31ST October 2000. The resolution reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace-negotiations, peace-building, peace-keeping, humanitarian response and in post conflict reconstruction and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. Resolution 1325 urges all sectors to increase the participation of women and incorporate gender perspective in all United Nations peace and security efforts. It also calls on all parties to conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse in situations of armed conflict. The resolution provides a number of important operational mandates with implications for member states and entities of the United Nations system.

On 31ST October 2000, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) unanimously adopted Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. Resolution 1325 marks the first time the Security Council addressed the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflict on women, recognized the under-value and under-utilized contributions women make to conflict prevention, peace-keeping, conflict resolution and peace-building and stressed the importance of their equal and full participation as active in peace and security.

UNSCR 1325 goals can be summarized as follows:

Prevention of War

Participation of women at all levels of peace process (prevention, handling and settlement of conflict)

Protection of women and girls in war and crisis regions, especially protection from sexual violence.

UNSCR 1325 offers many suggestions on how to generate a force for changing existing international foreign and security policies. A force for change in the sense that foreign and security policies are no longer to be decided

exclusively by men. A force which makes change in crisis, war and post war situations, women should have the chance, with equal rights to participate at all levels and reach positions of leadership.

In many parts of the world, men are attempting to secure their social supremacy and maintain all leading political and social positions while marginalizing women to the edges of the society. With resolution 1325 for the first time, a tool is available for stopping this extremely undemocratic intervention.

We urge the African Union Committee to formulate a national action plan for the effective implementation of UNSCR 1325, therefore women's political participation in decision-making processes will be secured, effective women's roles in peace-building will be achieved, women's visibility in peace consolidation and conflict prevention will be attained. ■.

Twaweza World AIDS Day Report

It is now 9 years since AIDS was declared a national disaster in Kenya. The disease continues to pose major challenges to all sectors of our economy thus affecting the development achieved in the years.

During World AIDS Day Minister of State for Special Programs Hon John Munyes noted that impressive strides have been witnessed in the HIV/AIDS national response, consequently there has been a decline in the HIV prevalence rate from 14% in the year 2000 to 5.1% in 2007. The Minister encouraged the community members to avoid complacency which may easily reverse the gains that have been realized



However, despite the progress we have made we need to be more vigilant than ever before and also focus on the effects of HIV/AIDS in as much as we fight the scourge we also have to address the effects to achieve a wholesome result, it is due to this that FOCUS a

youth initiative together with other partners organized a campaign dubbed the “**TWAVEZA CAMPAIGN**” meaning “**We Can**” with also a reminder to the community that our children are our responsibility “**Watoto Wetu Jukumu Letu**”

This campaign which took place at the Ruiru Municipal Stadium brought together centers



supporting orphans and primary schools from the region attracting a total of over 500 children all excited and rearing to go

despite the chilly and rainy morning with the main aim of giving the children a platform to air their views.

The day's events started with a walk from the District officer (D.O s) office around Ruiru, which was flagged off by the Area Chief Mr. Ngugi. Who talked about the importance of the community coming in to help the children in the fight against the scourge, he also stressed the importance of having the community members get tested as a way of helping in the prevention. The walk went up to Masaku Market and back to the Stadium where the main event took place.

The presentations through use of theatre, music, dances, and art which were greatly entertaining and very insightful then started at 11am and they were basically done by the children for it was actually meant for them to come up with the issues, which they brought out clearly as their presentations touched on some of the ways HIV/AIDS is spread that really affects the children, these included among others sexual abuse, infection while caring for their sick parents, stigma by the community, ignorance and peer pressure. The children also touched on the importance of involving them in the fight for they are also affected. Thus issues such as education in sexuality decision making, life skills among others came up as a way of equipping them and preventing more infections. They proved that theatre was a very powerful tool for addressing social, cultural and development issues

The event then came to an end with speeches from the guests in attendance and these included

the Area Chief, aspiring M.P. from the region, the director of one of the children centers and a representative teacher from Thiririka Primary and finally the chairman of TWAVEZA partners Mr. Hilary Mabubi who emphasized on the needs of the children which he said were not only food, shelter, and clothing but he instead insisted on the soft issues that most interventions overlook but are very instrumental in the care and support of children, these include emotional, mental, spiritual and social needs he also added that most of these needs didn't necessarily require money but the commitment of the community members. He finally said that this was just a starting point of more activities to come and a very strong indicator that the children can take a leading role in the fight against HIV/AIDS and we as the community can address our own issues if only we are determined and vigilant the event thus ended with a prayer from the pastor of Ruiru Bible Baptist church Rev Christopher Ochieng.

We would thus like to give our sincere thanks to those who supported the event these are Safaricom Foundation who supported us with T-Shirts, C.C.F (CHRSTIAN CHILDRENS FUND) Kenya Weaving the Safety Nets Program who supported us with lunch for the children and Dawaline, Medivet, Lewis Wellington Hospital, B.T.L and Jacaranda FOSSA all who gave in a donation to make the day a success.

We would also like to thank the CACC (Constituency Aids Control Council) office for their support in helping us solicit for support and thanks to the CACC coordinator for the great support she gave us during the preparation for the event.

It is with this in mind that we hope for more support in any oncoming event

Thank you and May God Bless you all. ■
Mabubi Hilary & Roman Nyanjui, Focus Youth Initiative Ruiru Kenya.

Call for Urgent Resolution of Kenya Electoral Crisis

We express our concern at the deteriorating situation in Kenya following what has been widely acknowledged as an impressive election turn-out. We commend the Kenyan people for their dignity and courage but also express our

condolences to the families of those who have lost their lives and to the many that have been injured in the course of needless violence over the last few months. This is a time for Kenyans to be patient, dignified and to look for solutions that are in the best interest of the majority.

We regret the chaos which has caused loss of life, destruction of property and general unrest in the country. The contested outcome has marred the prospects of democracy and peace not only in Kenya but also in Africa. The cloud which hangs over the conclusion of one of the most fiercely-fought elections in Kenya's history is regrettable. We believe that peace should be regained as a matter of urgency so that a free and fair outcome can be reached. We believe that this is not the time for provocative actions, but a time for demonstrating leadership through bringing the contending partners to the table. This crisis can be resolved by the players in disagreement using conciliation and arbitration mechanisms as a matter of urgency to plan a peaceful resolution of the crisis. If necessary, this could be done with the involvement of others such as the African Union and others, such as those who acted as election observers. We urge the contending leaders to act within the spirit of democracy and seek to heal the wounds that have been opened by recent events and to do so in transparent ways. We are aware of the betrayal that many may feel in what they consider to be an electoral injustice. We ask them to engage in the process by seeking explanation and accountability and to be guided by their own sense of civic responsibility. We call on the PNU and ODM leaders to seek conciliation and resolution of the current crisis for the sake of the country. We call for mechanisms for mediation and conciliation to be put in place urgently to give voice to all grievances that have arisen from the present situation in which there can be no winners, only losers. We welcome the mediation processes that have been initiated.

We call for an immediate ending of violence by the security forces and all other parties. Whilst we recognize that the security forces have a role to play in maintaining peace and order, we condemn the disproportionate and excessive use of force by the security forces against unarmed civilians that has been manifested over the last weeks.

We call for an independent transparent review of the whole electoral process and its outcomes so

as to resolve any differences between contesting parties. This should include reviewing the results of the election and all reported irregularities, especially those related to the disparities in the tallying of the final results.

We call for a swift formation of an independent and credible Judicial Commission of Enquiry by endorsing the call by the Electoral Commissioners who have called for one.

We urge the international community to be patient pending the outcome of such a proposed review process. As it is Kenyans who have to live with the consequences of a Mwai Kibaki or Raila Odinga government, the international community can only follow the recommendations of an independent review before declaring the elections free and fair.

We call on those who wish to see a peaceful democratic Kenya, especially in the African Union, to support initiatives that can bring this crisis to a swift conclusion by facilitating dialogue and reconciliation. We are deeply concerned by the gagging of the media, especially as this has only fuelled suspicion and encouraged speculation in an already highly volatile situation. Freedom of expression has been one of our greatest democratic prizes won by Kenyans during the last few years and we cannot afford to go backwards. We call for an immediate and unconditional lifting of the reporting ban so as to ensure that Kenyans are able to keep abreast of what is happening. We commend the Kenyan press for the work they have done to keep information flowing. It is precisely in the time of crisis that a free and independent media is essential to ensure a democracy that is based on information not speculation.

We urge the international media community to support the Kenyan press during this time and continue promoting the right for a free and independent press especially during such a period. We call on all peace loving people to join us in calling for a swift conclusion to the crisis so that Kenya can return to normality and people can continue their lives without fear and anxiety.

■ **Michael Muchomba, NAYD country coordinator Kenya**



OPPORTUNITIES

Job Opportunity

Global Journalists Needed by SAWA.

SAWA Global is a Vancouver-based NGO that provides an online community to profile videos on extraordinary projects from the poorest regions of the world, and connects citizens of all nations to act for global change. They aim to find and promote unsung heroes from the poorest regions, and provide stories of hope for solving the world's critical challenges. For more information on becoming a 'Global Journalist' for this project, or to submit your video, visit www.sawaglobal.com.

HELP REQUEST

NAYD International

Contact Person: Pochi Tamba
Tel.: +0023796509761,
Email: pochitamba@nayd.org
NAYD International would like to invite SPONSORS to assist NAYD members participate in the 4th World Youth Congress in Canada 2008.

NAYD Cameroon

Email : naydcameroon@yahoo.com
Contact Person: Chi Primus
Help Request: Funding to support 2 initiatives 'Poverty reduction strategies and young people' 'Young people and the preservation of community water catchments'

BAPESU

Email: donate2bapesu@gmail.com
Tel. +237 77 49 13 45 Fax: +237 3347 11 86
Contact Person: Christian P. Tabifor
Help Request: Benevolent Association for the Protection of the Environment and the Socially Underprivileged "BAPESU" is urgently 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.

Youth Voice Fm International

Email: yofsor@hotmail.com
Contact Person: Anyanwu Chisomaga
Location: Imo State, Nigeria
Tel: +2348064322750

Help Request: I want the voice of youths in my community to be heard, I want development partners to come and collaborate with me and other youths to establish a youth based FM radio station in my community. We are now eleven in number ready to turn our ideas into sustainable innovations. One of our team members have volunteered to give his room for the studio of YOUTH VOICE FM INTERNATIONAL. So far we need equipment to help in transmitting our voice to the public. This project will provide employment, campaign against the spread of AIDS, give opportunities for youths to know the current activities going on such as : youth conferences, scholarships, internship, entertainment and promote the Millennium Development Goals MDGS. We need these materials to start working: micro phones: CD players: a computer set: transmitter and tape recorders.

Focus Kenya

Email: forcus20002004@yahoo.com or romankariuki@yahoo.com
Tel. +2540723725942, +2540720366493
Ruiru Kiambu Road Next To Hega Centre
P.O Box 27 00232, Ruiru - Kenya
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.

Email: jude4prosperity@yahoo.com
Contact Person: Jude Chijioko
Help Request: I am intending to set up a cassava processing factory in a community that produces cassava. I would require assistance in the area of preparing the project business plan, especially the SWOT analysis, profit and loss statement, etc. I will also appreciate assistance as regards sourcing of equipment and machineries, and other technical advice.

Focus Youth Centre in Ruiru Kenya

Email: romankariuki@yahoo.com
Contact Person: ROMAN NYANJUI KARIUKI,
Focus Youth Centre in Ruiru Kenya
Help Request: Hi I am a young person running an orphan and vulnerable children centre in Ruiru, KENYA, together with my youth team. We use art to address topical social issues and raise funds to support the centre. We are not able



to raise enough money to offer quality care to these little angels. I am requesting if there are any organisations, individuals or companies that can come to our rescue. We will be more than glad to work with them. If any information is needed about our organisation it can be provided.

Wisdom from the NAYD Members!

THREE THINGS IN LIFE

"Three things in life once gone never come back....."

1. Words 2. Opportunity 3. Time.

Three things in life are never sure

1. Dreams 2. success 3. fortune.

Three things in life that make you a great person:

1. Hard work 2. Sincerity 3. Success..

Three things in life are most valuable..

1. Love 2. Self respect 3. Friends,

Three things in life must not be lost....

1. Peace 2. Hope 3. Honesty,

Three things in life that destroy a person...

1. Greed 2. Pride 3. Anger..

Christian P. Tabifor

IN THE NEXT EDITION

In the eleventh edition of INSPIRE which is a special edition on Kenya you'll find the following topics and issues amongst others

- Post electoral violence in Kenya

- How African youths could be ambassadors of peace

- A report on how BAPESU is impacting change in the lives of young farmers in Cameroon through its seedling project.

- More and more news on how African youths are impacting changes in the lives of people all over Africa.

- Events, opportunities and resources.

For inquiries, please write to

nayd2007@yahoo.com

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 we shall 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 your voice 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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