



# INSPIRE



May 2008 No.13

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

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## EDITORIAL

### Is your Government Adequately Investing in Young People?

As a young African do you believe your government is adequately investing in activities of young people? If your response is YES, then I will say 'make great use of the opportunity' but if it's NO, permit me to go further and ask you if you can adequately convince your government/society why there should "waste" their resources on investing in young people? We live in a world where most people want to see convincing arguments before they can embark on any giant long-term project. I recently came across a UNFPA publication; "The Case for Investing in Young People as Part of a National Poverty Reduction Strategy", where I found some very convincing arguments for investing in young people: *Argument 1: Young people should receive a fair share of resources.* The most straightforward argument that can be put to policy makers is a distributional one based on equity — young people's large share of the population in developing countries justifies providing them with their fair share of resources. *Argument 2: Young people are a key focus in the MDGs.* Six of the eight Millennium Development Goals in particular refer to young people because they cover activities in which mostly young people are engaged (MDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 8). Therefore, attaining these goals necessitates countries to adequately invest in their young people. *Argument 3: Young people as a critical stage in the lifecycle.* Adolescence is a dynamic transitional period and offers both challenges and opportunities in which future lives are shaped. Providing young people with the information and services they need will not only provide them with the opportunity to make healthy and responsible decisions, it will also contribute to societal development at a larger scale. *Argument 4: Breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty.* The argument is that investment in human development promotes economic growth, and that this in turn makes it easier for governments and people to invest in their own human development. *Argument 5: Long-term benefit for society: the demographic bonus.* A demographic bonus happens when the number of people in the working ages grows more rapidly than the number of dependents (children under 15 years and older people over 64 years). The achievement of a demographic bonus requires a range of supportive public sector policies, including a comprehensive youth policy as well as health and education policies. If such policies are efficient they should ensure employment options, savings opportunities, better health and more, better and higher education. *Argument 6: Long-term benefit for society: the macro-economic case.* A strong macro-economic argument can be made to support investing more in young people. The argument highlights the connection between improvements to health and education outcomes and better economic growth. *Argument 7: Long-term benefits for society: reduction in the risks of violence and civil disorder.* Young people are both disproportionately responsible for violent crime and are also more likely than other age groups to be the victims of such crime. Investments in education at all levels and job creation for young people could decrease the potential risk of violence and civil disorder.

Fellow readers, I hope with this information you will make a personal commitment to convince your local government representatives to invest in their young people. I therefore implore you to stand up and be counted in the fight against poverty in your various communities. ■ Pochi Tamba (CEO, NAYD International)



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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.

## NAYD MEMBERS

### Necessity is Mother of Invention

The saying goes, but spares me to say curiosity of mankind will destroy him/her. Mankind having danced himself lame from discovery of Industrial Revolution, now man is staring at reality that all is not well – Industrialization is a gift that stings there is environmental pollution, spread of diseases, earth is heating fast, ice is melting, floods here floods there, droughts not spared. So the discovery of using crude oils to meet his basic energy needs like power machines, automobiles, cooking etc was not after all a good idea but a bad idea. Noticing this man has made a U-turn like Kenyans politicians who are talking of having magic of solving his eminent extinct. Is Bio fuels!!!! The fuel of the future; is green, clean, easily available and cost effective. Ghosh!!!! This madness makes me jump out of my skin

In simple terms I am being told that instead of eating my maize/corn for 'Ugali' I should sell them for fuel purposes so what will I eat woioe???

This obscures me not to think of what the environmental implications of all these change of events that biofuels will solve all problems.

Even though they say is only fools who do not change but I need to play foolish until am told what effects of going green are.

I will refuse such answers like  
Using biofuel

- It will reduce global pollution,
- It will encourage greater utilization of land
- Will create job opportunities
- Will reduce global warming
- They are environment-friendly

Let me assume the following remarks recalling my high school biology lessons

Because photosynthesis performed by fuel crops removes greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and can reduce fossil fuel consumption, we are told they are green.

But when the full lifecycle of bio fuels is considered, from land clearing to consumption, the moderate emission savings are outweighed by far greater emissions from deforestation,

burning, peat drainage, and cultivation and soil-carbon losses

Unless we create flying lands where we can plant enough Soya beans, maize, corn etc I foresee the danger of damaging our land and soon food scarcity will fall on us. The land is decreasing in size, and degrading too outcome will be poverty real poverty as we know a hungry person is an angry person. During my Internship at Kenya Agricultural Research Institute-Kenya (KARI) sometimes ago I carried out an experiment of Calorific Value of Food samples such as Maize, beans, potatoes Soya beans, palm oil or groundnuts and I noticed the following:

- Every 1 gram of palm oil generates 33 grams of carbon dioxide emissions -10 times more than petroleum!!!!

From above, if extrapolated, it simply means 100 tons of Palm oil will cause 3300 tons emission of Carbon Dioxide hence are we safe then

- And Tropical forests cleared for sugar cane plantations like Mumias Sugar belts, ethanol emit 50 percent more greenhouse gases than the production and use of the same amount of gasoline.

I hope that Managers at Mumias Sugar Company Kenya will not hear this statement I wish to ask, if we are safe by embracing Bio fuels? ■ **Gibson Nabuteya Amenya - Kenya**

### Save Your Future Association (SYFA=SEE FAR)

SYFA is a non-profit organisation that was founded in 2001 (registered in 2005) by Farmer Tantoh. It is located in Nkambe Central Sub Division of the North West province of Cameroon. SYFA also has a large international network of other organisations including the Tahoe Baikal Institute, Mountain



Afor's compound and the St Rita's Environmental club

Forum, HDRA-UK, ICRAF, WWOOF and HRH the Prince of Wales.

**Mission:** SYFA works with African

Children, Youths

and low-income farmers in rural communities, to promote organic farming techniques and protecting the local environment.

### Objectives of SYFA:

- To sensitize the rural community on sustainable agricultural techniques such as tropical organic farming, through field training of low-income farmers.
- To encourage organic lawn creation and indoor flower gardening with children and youths in the rural community.
- To protect spring water catchments through planting agro forestry trees and educating the rural communities on watershed management issues.
- To create active environmental clubs in primary schools, secondary schools, churches, prisons, and in the villages.
- To promote formal education of the rural children.

**Departments:** SYFA is made up of three departments which include Organic farming, Environmental Education, and SYFA Volunteers.

### The SYFA Volunteers

The SYFA Volunteer Programme is one of the most productive departments of SYFA, consisting of over 15 young volunteers (some university students) who volunteer their time on weekends and during holidays. The program receives support from appreciative community members. Their support usually goes a long way to help these volunteers pay for their school needs, household needs, and medical expenses. Additionally, the volunteers have been able to grow their own flowers to sell to raise money for themselves. Many now have guinea pigs and rabbits bought from the sales of flowers. Many children volunteer to work at the Botanical gardens in exchange for flowers. The older volunteers in turn assist and teach them to plant and care for these plants. Knowledge and skills of agriculture helps these volunteers become future environmental activists. Besides the SYFA Volunteers, SYFA has received and hosted over 10 WWOOF Volunteers (World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms) and Students on internship from Canada, USA and France. They raise their own funds to visit and volunteer practically in all our activities. Long after their visits, the WWOOF Volunteers remain in contact with SYFA and act as ambassadors to the world outside Cameroon.

Since inception, SYFA has helped to improve many local homes in Nkambe and

Administrative buildings through lawns and flower planting. Currently, SYFA is establishing small Botanical Gardens in Nkambe called Chua-Chua Botanical Gardens. Please visit [www.africasyfa.org](http://www.africasyfa.org) for more information. ■  
**Farmer Tantoh (Cameroon)**

### MDGs Awareness

In commemoration of the One Day MDGs Awareness organized by the One World Youth Project (OWYP) and globally implemented by partner organizations around the world, including the Network of African Youths for Development (NAYD-Liberia), was held on April 25, 2008 in the conference room of LIFE, Inc in Liberia.

This One Day OWYP MDGs Awareness was held locally by NAYD-Liberia inviting students to this important celebration. NAYD-Liberia which focuses on goal 2 of the UN Millennium Development Goals, enlighten many students who attended this one day awareness program in commemorating the UN MDGs organized by the One World Youth Project (OWYP), a USA based organization focusing on the MDGs,

headed by Ms Jessica Rimington, President and along side with dedicated project ambassadors



around the world.

Personalities who were invited and attended the one day awareness program, were Mr. George Karyah, General Coordinator of the Liberian Innovation Foundation for Empowerment (LIFE, Inc), Mr. Al King, Regional Representative, Student World Assembly (SWA-Liberia), Mr. Samuel Karyah, Youth Coordinator of LIFE and he served as the Keynote Speaker during MDGs awareness program, Mr. J. Emmanuel Mac Russell Jr., Youth Development Officer, Mr. Samuel Smith, Student of the United Methodist University, Mr. Adolphus Gaymoore, AME Zion University College/member of NAYD-Liberia, and Ms Kula Zodua, Activist for girls and Youth development in Liberia and also member of NAYD-Liberia.

Mr. Thomas Mitchell, Regional Director for NAYD International gave the welcome and

introductory remarks and was answerable to students during the questions and answers section of the MDGs awareness program held by NAYD-Liberia. Mr. Kish Trokon Beadeh of NAYD-Liberia gave the overview of NAYD-Liberia and the One World Youth Project relating to the one day MDGs awareness. We had about 35 students who attended and were all excited about learning all about the UN MDGs.

■ **Thomas Mitchel (NAYD Liberia)**

## OPPORTUNITIES

### Job Opening:

'Administrative Assistant' (G-7 Position), United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi.

Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008

Follow the link below to find out more about the vacancy

([http://www.unep.org/vacancies/default.asp?vac\\_level=GS](http://www.unep.org/vacancies/default.asp?vac_level=GS))

### International Essay Contest:

Organized by the Goi Peace Foundation and UNESCO Sponsored by the Earthrise Society Endorsed by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan Japan Broadcasting Corporation, Nikkei Inc., Tokyo Metropolitan Board of Education Supported by Japan Airlines.

The United Nations has designated 2001-2010 as the "International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World" and 2005-2014 as the "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development." Not only should young people benefit from these global initiatives, but they should be empowered to play a leading role in them. The theme of this year's International Essay Contest is "My project to create positive change in my environment. How can I foster sustainable development in my community?" Young people from around the world are invited to submit their innovative ideas on this theme.

" My project to create positive change in my environment. How can I foster sustainable development in my community?"\*---- Please submit your innovative ideas and concrete plans/projects to address the social, cultural, environmental or economic problems faced by your community.

Entries must be received by \*June 30, 2008\* scheduled for November 2008.

The following awards will be given in the Children's category and Youth category

respectively:

1st Prize: Certificate and prize of 100,000 Yen (approx. US\$840)... 1

entrant

2nd Prize: Certificate and prize of 50,000 Yen (approx. US\$420) ... 2

entrants

3rd Prize: Certificate and gift ... 5 entrants

\* 1st prize winners will be invited to the award ceremony in Tokyo,

Japan. (Travel expenses will be covered by the sponsors.)

For more information visit the following web pages:

Foundation web site ([www.goipeace.or.jp](http://www.goipeace.or.jp) <<http://www.goipeace.or.jp>>) and

UNESCO web site ([www.unesco.org/youth](http://www.unesco.org/youth) <<http://www.unesco.org/youth>>.

## HELP REQUEST

### NAYD International

Contact Person: Pochi Tamba

Tel.: +0023796509761,

Email: [pochitamba@nayd.org](mailto:pochitamba@nayd.org)

NAYD International would like to invite Sponsors to assist its members participate in the 4<sup>th</sup> World Youth Congress from August 10<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> 2008 in Québec, Canada

### Focus (Kenya)

Email: [focusyik@yahoo.com](mailto:focusyik@yahoo.com)

Name: Roman Nyanjui Kariuki

Location: Ruiru, Kenya

Tel: + 254720366493

Help Request: We have seven children joining class one and need help with uniforms, shoes, books and bags.

### Cameroon

Email: [nayd2007@yahoo.com](mailto:nayd2007@yahoo.com)

Name: Atanga Christina

Location: Bambalang, Cameroon

Tel: +23777433749

Help Request: We request support from any person of goodwill in the building of their new Church. The Catholic Community of about 200 persons currently worship in a mud house that is hardly resisting the rains and bad weather. A new church was started years ago (far right) but the villagers are unable to carry the project to fruition.



**NAYD Cameroon**

Email: [naydcameroon@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:forcus20002004@yahoo.com) or

[romankariuki@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**SGAC Cameroon**

Email: [ntiokam2@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ntiokam2@yahoo.co.uk)

Name: Ntiokam Divine

Location: Cameroon

Tel: +23775491933

SGAC - Student Global Aids Campaign -  
Cameroon chapter - is requesting help for  
website registration and hosting, cost around  
\$100 US, to help promote its activities in  
Cameroon

**Sierra Leone**

Email: [sulaiman.burria@gmail.com](mailto:sulaiman.burria@gmail.com)

Name: Sulaiman Burria

Location: Sierra Leone

Tel: +23233790202

Help Request: Hi! I'm a college student in my  
country, and I play basketball on my leisure, and  
as a matter of fact in my own country sports is  
been neglected especially basketball. There are  
many young talented players in the game of



basketball in my country, but cannot cope with the game as a result of the country's negligence to it. we only have precisely two (2) basketball courts in town and all are located in the Westside of the city, and we're on the east side, and we only managed on a half court, and as a result of this my team and other teams in the east finds it difficult in terms of our training and work outs. With my smallest possible knowledge, I think basketball is the best sports in life, because it encourages players of the game to attain higher education and the proof is that the NBA drafts are drawn from colleges. So I think with the available resources to the game in my country it will also encourage youths in eastern side of my town to actively participate in the game and head for higher education. So on behalf of my team and the entire eastern community of my town, I'm seeking assistance to donor organisations to please assist us secure a full basketball court in our locality. We have secured a parcel of land already, but we cannot afford the finance to work on it. Thank you in advance.

### Wisdom from the NAYD Members!

"A man who does no hard work will not appreciate the importance of rest.

**Chi Primus (NAYD-Cameroon)**

### IN THE NEXT EDITION

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

- 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](mailto: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 NA YD?

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 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.

### NAYD TEAM

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