



YES Campaign Global Newsletter

Youth Employment Summit (YES) Inc, August 2007 Issue

Special Edition-YES Alexandria 2007

PRESIDENT PONDERS...

Dear YES family,

Welcome to YES Alexandria 2007! It feels so good to be here – in Alexandria where it all began...our dream, our hope, and our commitment! We meet five years after the launch of the YES Campaign at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) in 2002. We have come a long way – a million youth touched by our program, 400 projects, 84 countries, 122 original publications, 3 global Forums, 2 regional Forums, a YES related program held somewhere in the world every other day!

We have to thank our loving Ismail Serageldin for his steadfast and unwavering support for the YES Campaign and for hosting this special mid-campaign Forum. Special thanks to Dr. Mohsen Youssef, Nayrouz Rizk and Amany Soliman for their Herculean efforts to organize this in a record 4 months. Over 200 delegates representing 70 countries will be participating.

This capacity building Forum is being framed around the YES Fund program which is a Clinton Global Initiative 2006. We will work closely with the YES leaders to build their capacity to participate in the YES Fund. The agenda will centre around three enterprise building sectors: Information and Communications Technologies (ICT); Integrated Rural Businesses; Social Entrepreneurship. The beauty is that all of our 6 Toolkits for these and other sessions have been prepared by young people from YES HQ and YES Egypt. We have truly unleashed the power of our young.

We hope that you will enjoy the coming days with the each other. We are here to exchange effective practices, learn from each other and move forward on our commitment and strengthen our resolve.

Early this month on August 12th the International Youth Day was celebrated and for us at YES everyday is Youth Day. No YES event is ever complete without thanking Janet Whitla who incubated YES at EDC for over 8 years – Janet, we miss you in Alexandria!

In solidarity,

Poonam Ahluwalia

What does one say about the source of one's existence? Dr. Serageldin is the source from which the YES Campaign draws its sustenance...all we can say is – Thank YOU! YES was founded by a group of key leaders under the Chair of Dr. Ismail Serageldin. Dr. Serageldin helped the YES team take a small but powerful idea and move it to the global stage, and he did it in an empowerment mode. He ensured our nimbleness by guiding us through highs and lows and making us unstoppable. He is a quintessential renaissance man – merging poetry, literature, culture, and emerging trends in science and technology for global good. We owe our existence to his incredible generosity and wisdom.

An Egyptian national, Dr. Serageldin is the world renowned Director of the Library of Alexandria; chairs the Board of Directors for each of the BA's affiliated research institutes and museums; and is Distinguished Professor at Wageningen University, Netherlands. He also serves as Chair and Member of a number of advisory committees for academic, research, scientific and international institutions and civil society efforts. He is founder and former chairman of the Global Water Partnership (GWP), (1996-2000) He has published over 50 books and monographs and over 200 papers on a variety of topics including biotechnology, rural development, sustainability, and the value of science to society. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering from Cairo University and a Masters degree and PhD from Harvard University and has received 19 honorary doctorates. Dr. Serageldin has been a YES Campaign Committee member since 2002. His support was crucial to the first ever Youth Employment Summit (YES Alexandria 2002) which gave birth to the YES Campaign 2002-2012.

More information please visit <http://www.serageldin.com>



OUR INSPIRATION...

FEATURE

YES Alexandria 2007

Message from the YES Global Networks Coordinator

Dear YES Leaders,

Welcome to the YES Alexandria Forum 2007! We want to specially thank Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) and the YES Egypt team for the great support we have received to organize this forum. YES Alexandria 2007 intends to build capacities and support for the leaders of the YES Campaign in order to develop strategy and programs for youth employment and entrepreneurship.

The key objectives are:

1. To frame and move ahead with the strategic goals of YES Inc.
2. To train and develop the capacities of YES Coordinators and other participating youth in the three strategic areas.
3. To strengthen the YES networks by building capacity in: Community Building, Program Development, and YES Programs.
4. To build and strengthen institutional capacity by fostering linkages and synergies between the YES Coordinators and YES Inc.

We are confident that after YES Alexandria 2007, the YES Campaign leaders will be ready to move to the next phase at the global, regional and national levels! Welcome to a new era at YES!

Warm regards,

Dacil Acevedo Riquelme



YES AROUND THE GLOBE

YES AT THE TÄLLBERG FORUM

The Tällberg Forum took place from June 28 – July 1, 2007 in the village of Tällberg, Sweden and was organized by the Tällberg Foundation, an international non-profit organisation in Sweden. The forum chose “Learn to live to learn” as its theme. It aims to further the understanding of change patterns in the world by deepening and expanding knowledge and insights based on humanistic values and a holistic systems approach. The Foundation also aims to help leaders grow as human beings and act with purpose while managing the challenges of global interdependence.

This year’s forum gathered approximately 400 leaders from governments, corporate, civil society, and cooperation agencies around the world. Many leaders and members of the YES Campaign attended the forum.

There was a special session on the YES Campaign in the city of Leskand, where the key stakeholders from the Dalarna region in Sweden participated as part of the pre-forum activities. The President of YES Inc. and leaders of the YES Campaign had special meetings with HM Queen Rania of Jordan, King Gustav of Sweden, Princess Victoria of Sweden and the Princess of Saudi Arabia among others.

YES is especially grateful to Mr. Bo Ekman, founder of the Tällberg Foundation and his team for the great welcome they gave us. Mr. Ekman is a great source of inspiration for all:

Bo Ekman is the chairman of Tällberg Advisors. He was previously chairman and chief executive of the Sifo Management Group. Prior to this, he was on the management board of Volvo. Bo is active today as advisor to board of directors and top managers in the fields of business environment analysis, strategic development, innovation and change management, in Sweden and in the international arena. He lectures and writes frequently on subjects of management and change and is a frequent participant in the public debate on business, social and cultural developments.



YES Egypt develops a long-term Action Plan to Engage Youth

YES Egypt is incubated by the Sustainable Development Association (SDA) in Alexandria, and works hand-in-hand with different stakeholders to help the youth live better lives.

The Global Knowledge Partnership (GKP) helps YES Egypt receive direct cooperation from leading ICT institutions. This year, YES Egypt plans to raise awareness for youth employment through creating a network among students in preparatory schools. Through this network, university students and graduates will provide information on the job market, entrepreneurial opportunities and insights on the challenges facing the younger generation. This project will be launched in September 2007 with the cooperation of the Ministry of Education. In addition, with the support of the World Bank **Public Information Center**, YES Egypt, will launch the International Model of United Nation (AIMUN) with a focus on Sustainable Development in post-conflict countries.

By 2009, YES Egypt plans to launch a program to inform and train young women from excluded areas on ICT opportunities in cooperation with the Anna Lindh Foundation. YES Egypt will host two major projects: (1) In July 2007 - the water campaign (the BIG Jump) and (2) In November 2007 - Cross Road of Cultures will be implemented in Alexandria with youth participants from Spain, the Czech Republic, Turkey, the Netherlands, Tunisia and Egypt.

In 2005, H.E. Mrs. Suzan Mubarak, First Lady of Egypt, was honored with the EuroMed Youth Award from the European Commission, a prize won by SDA. We also specially commend Mr. Haythem Kamel, YES Egypt Leader and his team for their work at SDA.

YES Togo attend a course on “Tackling Youth Employment”

In July 2007, YES Togo members were selected to participate in the National Action Plan of Youth Employment at the International Training Centre at ILO, Turin, Italy.

This course provided a platform for YES Togo members to network on reinforcing and improving the quality and impact of employment, labour market and training policies addressing youth employment problems. As follow up, a policy cycle framework with the three stages of the policy cycle - problem analysis, policy design and policy implementation, and monitoring is being implemented.

The course also helped YES Togo participants understand the importance of social partners at each stage of the policy cycle; gain knowledge about basic labour economic concepts; increase capacity to analyse labour market information (LMI), set policy priority for policy design and understand the requirements for effective policy implementation and monitoring.

YES Togo also participated in a training of trainers program, “Youth and Entrepreneurship”, at the US Embassy in Togo, from 23-26 April 2007. The aim of the workshop was to equip a targeted group of youth with skills and tools to adapt to principles of enterprise, take measured risks, and set up and succeed in business.

YES Colombia: working for youth, inspired by youth

Even in difficult situations, YES Colombia has firm belief that conflict and poverty can't curb the spirit of the young and stop them from surging ahead.

Colombia, a beautiful country, has for many years not only been affected by internal violence but also by the effects of poverty, hunger, and unemployment. In this environment, the YES campaign has collaborated with local, regional and national authorities to adopt youth employment as the mainstay of development.

YES Colombia plans to reach out to women and the youth through programs like Rural Opportunities, Productive Alliances and Rural Social Housing. It is envisaged that 2,500 rural youth will be encouraged to open bank accounts and 2,500 micro-enterprises will be set up. YES campaign has linked with the [Colombia Entrepreneurs](#) Corporation (C.E.C.) website to promote entrepreneurship opportunities for the Colombian youth. A database of young entrepreneurs' organizations across the country is being prepared.

YES Nepal: Building a base with the active participation of the people

Regional and local consultations were held, across Nepal, on youth employment and focused on the YES and the YEN goals. These consultations led to the production of the Youth Employment Policy and Action Plan.

This network has completed its consultation process on youth employment in three regions. The consultations focused on YEN and the YES Campaign. YES Nepal is now formulating its Youth Employment Policy and Action Plan. The outcome of this initiative is of interest to the ILO as it sets the background for Nepal to apply for YEN membership. YES Nepal has also submitted the “Youth Chapter” for the next three years.

YES Romania and the Federation of Rural Tourism PATRONATE

The Alliance between the two offers the possibility to develop a wide network on Youth employment.

YES Romania signed an agreement with the Federation of Rural Tourism PATRONATE to help youth develop skills, receive career information, find good jobs and remain employed. The partnership has resulted in a project for 200 young people, from the mining sector in Maramures, who have been affected by the closure of mine exploration. These youth will be employed in the tourism sector. Courses on self esteem, leadership, entrepreneurship, project management, communication, shall also be provided to improve employability. The partnership shall also provide training in traditional jobs. Presently, the rural youth are working closely with career counselors who help them decide the kind of job they want and gain the requisite skills.



YES India Network and the Tsunami Initiative

In 2005, the Tsunami destroyed infrastructure and basic services for thousands in Asia and simultaneously put at risk the life of future generations. However, all is not lost and hope emerges with initiatives such as the one led by YES India and the private sector.

YES India has collaborated with Vision Apparel on a Garment Training Program and with GE on a Livelihood Training Program for Tsunami affected people. A public private partnership program, on organic farming, has been created by YES India and World Corps India. This network will sign an MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with IEC Technologies (ISO 2001 certified) as technical partner for job oriented training programs especially for Tsunami affected youth and families. YES India plans to train over 5, 000 youth within a year.

Mr. Suresh Bhandari, Water and Sanitation YES India Sectoral Coordinator, is involved in a public private partnership program that seeks to create livelihood for the youth, women and weaker sections, make the city and municipality cleaner, and reduce the expenses of the local government. Suresh has helped more than 75,000 households and created direct and indirect employment for around 1000 people. YES Academy, based in Hyderabad, will be functional within a few months. YES Nagaland State Network (India) has started district consultation to reach out to every youth in the state. At the end of this, the network will prepare a strategic paper to include the interests of the Naga youth.

YES Paraguay Launches the Young Entrepreneur Contest “Mobilizing the Youth Social Capital”

The National Network for Youth Employability and Entrepreneurship –YES Paraguay- has defined, for 2007-2008, one of its key strategic actions as the promotion of eco-entrepreneurship culture, cooperative values, social responsibility, integrity and volunteerism. To achieve this, it has launched the second edition of the Young Entrepreneur Contest.

The contest is being organized by National Inter-institutional Committee composed of public and private institutions, cooperation agencies and partners of YES Paraguay. It was launched on August 1st and is open to youth (15-30 years) and youth organizations from Paraguay. There are three main categories for the contest: (a) business innovation initiatives (individual or associative ones); (b) eco-entrepreneurship initiatives; (c) initiatives that promote values and principles of cooperation, social responsibility, transparency and volunteerism. The applications for the contest will be received till August 30th and after a selection process winners will be chosen and awards given on September 27th. The Young Entrepreneur Contest has received support from the Canada Fund, the UNDP and the Peace Corps in Paraguay.

Elmy Sotelo Saldaña: a YES Leader engaged in local development

A brief on YES Bolivia's new Country Leader.

Bolivia has a new leader, Elmy Sotelo Saldaña, a Licenciante in Agriculture Economy from the NUR University. At just 31 years, he is an expert on local development; planning, evaluation and monitoring of programs; and social projects. His expertise also includes facilitation of workshops, learning methodologies and work with social organizations in volunteerism and youth leadership. Elmy is the Executive Director of Fundacion Full Equipo, YES Bolivia's host agency, and monitoring, planning and evaluation consultant for MISEREOR, Germany. He is also the Project Director of the district representation of the Rotaract Bolivia Clubs .

Karla Yareny Coello Hernández: young woman, social fighter and entrepreneur

This new YES Honduras Country Leader shares deep solidarity with the youth.

Karla has worked with deprived children and youth since she was just a teenager. She has also participated in various events and trainings. In addition to YES Honduras, Karla has been part of the founding team of International Volunteerism Association in Honduras (VIDES in Spanish); the intercultural program American Field Service (AFS) and the Program Intergenerational of Development Foment of Teenagers and Youth of UNPFA Honduras. She has a Bachelors in Sciences and Letters, a title in Industrial Engineering and Systems oriented to Quality Systems and a Diploma in Human Relations and Leadership.

Chrysta Holmes Olson: giving to the media

This YES USA leader has her commitment to people on top priority.

With an interest in film, visual arts, anthropology, environmental and political activism, writing, traveling, youth employment and international initiatives, Chrysta is a young woman with a deep consciousness of what is happening around her. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Film and Anthropology from Barnard College, Columbia University and has been working as producer and asst. producer . From July 2007, Chrysta joins YES as one of the leaders of the YES USA team. She is also a Board Member of Global Tribe and has been volunteer at the *Democratic National Convention, Youth for Kerry Presidential*



Campaign, *The Millennium World Peace Summit*, "Faces of Faith", and has been awarded scholarship to participate in events such as the Millennium Young People's Congress.

Billy Nthelebovu: promoting entrepreneurship in South Africa

YES South Africa's new country leader promotes entrepreneurship for the youth.

Billy Nthelebovu has a personal vision which is, "To see young people being sensitized about entrepreneurship and being able to seize economic opportunities presented them in their countries". He has a Masters in Business Administration, which he uses to facilitate quality entrepreneurship programs among the young. Billy has spent eight years doing professional youth work and has been instrumental in the establishment of many youth organizations. His work experience spans projects and organizations that work for and with the youth. Since 2007, he has been Program Coordinator for a Regional Entrepreneurship Program for the Youth Development Network (YDN) in Southern Africa.



MEDIA MIRROR...

Poonam Ahluwalia: YES! I can do it!

An excerpt from an interview with Shweta Taneja, from Femina, an Indian women's magazine.

LEAP OF FAITH

"I always wanted to work towards eradicating poverty," says Poonam, clad casually in an ethnic block printed skirt and *kurti*. "I got married and my husband wanted to do his MBA in the US, so we shifted there and began to raise our two children" It was after a gap of about 10 years that she got back to her dream of working on poverty eradication. Her first project at EDC was on global workforce development where Best Practices were being shared with diverse stakeholder. "That is when the dichotomy struck me. The young are not interested in the past or the present. They are looking at the future. They know their needs. They don't need charity or answers or possible solutions. They need resources and ideas to make their plans come true." She realized that Best practices were not going to be the answer and 'Next Practices' needed to be co-created.



WE'RE GOING GLOBAL

She decided to support young people around the world by creating a global movement for youth employment. Ironically, this was the lowest point in her life. "Since I didn't know how to go about it, people did not take me seriously and tried to pull my ideas down...In spite of this, I kept at it because I am a fool – rushing in where the angels fear to tread! I am a believer and I have immense hope." The first YES Summit took place in 2002 in Alexandria, Egypt and launched the 10 year Campaign.



This is an empowerment campaign where we align youth with their government's policies, development partners goals and the commitment of their countries diverse stakeholders. We introduce youth to leaders and practitioners, in their countries and then support them with tools, effective practices and encourage innovation. It's a model which says, 'Get inspired, have a vision, find a partner, work together, and learn from each other'. High on her dreams, Poonam reminisces, "I didn't know where I was going. Things happened. That's what got us here." And 'here' is just the start. To read the full article go to http://www.yesweb.org/news/download/Femina_YES_President.pdf

YES Kenya involved in the National Youth Convention III

An opportunity for Kenyan youth to work on their future

From August 1-12, 2007, YES Kenya organized a meeting, under the leadership of Emmanuel Dennis, where young Kenyans adopted resolutions to realize the agreed upon youth agenda over the next ten years. For more information write to YES Kenya Country Leader, Mr. Emmanuel Dennis at emmanuel.dennis@gmail.com



Audrey E. Codera, YES Philippine Leader, responsible for the project selected by the Global Junior Challenge

Audrey's vision is that "The youth are no longer JUST the future. The youth are the PRESENT", and she shows the power of this statement through her work. With *YouthWorks Inc.*, she applied through the Philippine YEN (PYEN), for the international award promoted by the [Digital World Foundation](#). The award recognizes best practices in the use of new technologies in the education and training of youngsters. This project will be awarded in Rome in October 2007. YouthWorks Inc. provides uncollateralized loans and support to underprivileged youth entrepreneurs at the grassroots level. Initial loans averaging \$200 each were provided to three youth. After a year, these youth started repayment at a modest interest rate of 9 percent per annum and today their micro-enterprises have become family ventures. Audrey will also be awarded the YouthActionNet Fellowship in November 2007 for her work at the Philippine Youth Employment Network and YouthWorks Inc. Congratulations Audrey for your personal and institutional achievements! For more information please write to our YES Philippines Leader, Audrey Codera at aecodera@gmail.com



Audrey Codera is a graduate of the University of Asia and the Pacific's Institute of Political Economy Program (Philippines). She has been involved with YES since 2003, and with Business in Development Network (BID Challenge) and has been an Echoing Green Finalist

Omar Mansoor, YES Afghanistan Leader, elected as President of a major umbrella ICT association

Omar Mansoor has been elected as President of the National Information Communication Technology Association of Afghanistan (NICTAA).

The NICTAA is the first ever national level ICT alliance and umbrella association in the country bringing together the ICT Private Sector, Professionals and Academia. Its mandate covers strengthening policy and regulatory efforts, and developing human capacity, advocacy and industries. NICTAA will represent the non-government Afghan ICT sector and provide technical and legal support to members. NICTAA will also support initiatives such as civic education, democracy, e-commerce, human rights, and ethics in business. The association shall promote free market principles, attract new investments in the ICT sector, and represent Afghanistan in international ICT forums. For more information, contact, Mr. Omar Mansoor, YES Afghanistan Leader at omar.ansari@acsa.org.af



YES Campaign shares its practical experiences on youth employment.

Massachusetts Youth Development State Collaboration Project

Collaborates on and promotes care for youth in difficult situations and provision of national leadership for their empowerment and development.

From Desert to Garden: Reconnecting Disconnected Youth

Engages youth in meaningful community-oriented activities and facilitates pre-employment training in combination with intensive basic skills instruction.

Lebanon Community Development Project

Provide a reliable and effective instrument to improve the living conditions and the economic status of disadvantaged communities.

Youth Microenterprise Conference:

Making Cents International and the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) invite young people to help create effective youth entrepreneurship and business leadership programs that affect them. For more information, please visit: www.ymeconference.org or contact Whitney Harrelson (+1 202-783-4090; whitney@makingcents.com) or Jessica Parra (+1 202 458 3107; americasyouth@mybiz.net).

'Emerging People, Emerging Markets, Emerging Technologies'

The Youth Forum on Young Social Entrepreneurs will gather around 100 social entrepreneurs from around the globe

The Global Knowledge Partnership is the organiser of the [3rd Global Knowledge Conference \(GK3\)](#), an event on 'Emerging People, Emerging Markets, Emerging Technologies' that will take place from 11-13 December 2007 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Over 2000 participants from corporates, civil society, governments and international organizations are expected to participate.

UN Habitat Safer Cities International Conference "The State of the Security in the Cities of the World", Monterrey, Mexico

YES will be present at the Universal Forum of Cultures 2007, organised by both the Nueva Leon Government and UN Habitat.

From October 1st-5th, this Conference will take place in the Parque Fundidora in Monterrey, Mexico. It will be an opportunity to share worldwide experiences and strategies for the prevention of violence, urban safety, citizens participation in security strategies, youth at risk and social policies for crime prevention among others. More information on the conference at www.monterreyforum2007.org

USEFUL PRACTICES...

UP COMING EVENTS



Youth Microenterprise Conference
Strategies for the Entrepreneurial Spirit

This event will be held from September 10th & 11th 2007 in Washington, DC.

Organised by _____



Languages: Español | English | Français

Monterrey 2007 Forum

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This newsletter can also be viewed online at www.yesweb.org

• Spanish version also available •

Disclosure:

The information and articles regarding YES Networks are provided by the YES Country Leaders who are responsible for the accuracy of the content.

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