

YES Insider # 19

June 15, 2004: Inside the Insider

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1. YES Malawi Advisor elected President of Malawi

A founding member of the YES Malawi elected as the new President of Malawi. Dr. Bingu Mutharika, a doctorate in economics, has promised to launch a three million dollars national fund to support small-scale enterprises especially run by youth, women and small-scale businessmen.

The delighted members of the country network congratulated Dr Mutharika on his election and reiterated their hope that Malawi will be a land for the youth, through established youth empowerment programmes.

The YES Malawi had nominated Dr. Mutharika to its Advisory Team in July 2002

To know more about this historical development, visit the YES Malawi page on projects.takingitglobal.org/YES-Malawi

2. UN Habitat times its conference with YES Mexico 2004

The second Safer Cities International Conference on Urban Youth at Risk in Latin America and the Caribbean will be held in Monterrey immediately after the YES Mexico 2004. This decision to time the international conference after the YES Mexico indicates the growing collaboration between the UN Habitat and the YES Campaign.

An official of UN Habitat informs, "The Monterrey conference starts immediately after the closing day of the YES Mexico. These dates, 8-13 October 2004, were chosen to ensure maximum participation and partnership between YES Campaign and the UN HABITAT."

Other multilateral institutions such as the World Bank and UNODC are also exploring potential ways of making their contribution to the conference preparations and coordination that will lead to an Integrated Strategy on Urban Youth at Risk in Latin America and the Caribbean at the end of the Monterrey conference.

It is noteworthy that Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka recently joined the YES Campaign's high profile global Campaign committee, which guides and advises the Campaign towards its mission.

3. YES Tanzania supports a 129 days torch race to spread the message of the YES Campaign in all 149 districts of Tanzania

Hon'ble Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein, the Vice President of Republic of Tanzania, flagged-off a "Uhuru Torch Race" at Kaitaba Stadium in Karega Region of Tanzania. The race carrying YES Campaign message will cover all 149 districts of Tanzania in a 129 days non-stop.

The message shares the 6Es of the YES Campaign – that frame efforts to create the complex ecology of services and will to ensure employment for youth.

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Members of the YES Tanzania excited about this run and expect widespread response and coverage in the media. Kaanaeli Kaale, YES Country Coordinator-Tanzania, says “The government’s plan for promoting the YES Campaign is excellent” She added, “We estimate that over 90 percent of the Tanzanian population will know about YES campaign - as the race involves almost everybody and is getting good media attention”

To know more about the “race” please visit projects.takingitglobal.org/YES-Tanzania

4. Doing Well by Doing Good: High Performance Social Entrepreneurs panel in Boston features Poonam Ahluwalia, Executive Director

Executive Director of the YES Campaign, Ms. Poonam Ahluwalia spoke about the efforts of YES Campaign to bring about a paradigm shift in the youth employment and poverty eradication issues at the prestigious TiECON 2004. Highlighting the achievements of YES Campaign in the past two years, she said that YES believes that problems should be seen as opportunities to grow.

The annual TiECON 2004 Conference was held in Wakefield MA, from June 3 to June 5, 2004. It was well attended by veterans and young start-up entrepreneurs. The event with the central theme of Entrepreneurial Renaissance covered a wide range of topics – from Arming Startups to Building Skills; Creating opportunities to Developing Technology; Expanding Trends to Finding Markets.

Andrew Wolk, President and CEO of Root Cause Institute, Senior Lecturer MIT Sloan School of Management; Sonal Shah: Co-founder Indicorps, Associate Director for Economic and Foreign Policy, Center for American Progress; John Wood, Founder and CEO, Room to Read; David Bornstein: Author of "How to Change the World: Social Entrepreneurs and the Power of New Ideas" also participated.

5. YES-UNIDO Training programme launched in Zambia

The Minister of Youth, Zambia launched the YES-UNIDO training programme in Zambia recently. Kenroy Roach, Global YES Country Networks coordinator, the regional director of the Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP), representatives from COMESA, regional grouping of Southern and Eastern Africa countries, Zambian Energy Department and the local UNIDO project team attended the launch.

Following the launch was the highly successful four-day training programme. Says a beaming Francis Chinguta, entrepreneurship coordinator of the YES Campaign, “The launch was highly successful and the training programme was even more successful. The trainees are very happy both with the presentations and presenters.”

The overall objective of the UNIDO project is to harness the potential of renewable energy technologies through youth entrepreneurship development and contribute to the Zambian Government's objective of providing electricity and reliable energy services to rural areas, and improving their standard of living through income generation activities.

UNIDO is also collaborating for a renewable energy project in India, through the YES Academy launched at the Hyderabad YES Regional Forum 2003 in India last year.

For more details about the YES Renewable energy project, please write to Francis Chinguta at francis@yesweb.org

6. YES Campaign makes presentation at World Bank HIV/AIDS event in South Africa

On June 2, 2004 the World Bank held a country innovation day called “HIV/AIDS: Turning Ideas Into Action” on for the finalists of the Development Marketplace Innovation competition in South Africa. This

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included a panel discussion on HIV/AIDS and youth livelihoods where Kenroy Roach, YES Networks Coordinator, made a presentation. In addition Wendy Santis, is adapting the publication “HIV/AIDS and Employment: Protecting Young People and Involving Them in Work-Related Solutions” for the African context. Both Kenroy and Wendy work for YES Campaign’s parent organization Education Development Center, Inc.

YES Campaign and its South African partner Youth Development Network (YDN) also set up a kiosk at the development marketplace where they distributed promotional material about these two youth initiatives and the YES Mexico Summit 2004.

For more details, please get in touch with Kenroy Roach at kenroy@yesweb.org

7. YES Country Networks in Eastern and Central Europe get activated

YES Country Networks across Eastern and Central Europe are getting more and more involved with the activities of the YES Campaign. The Country Coordinators are working hard to outreach and engage the diverse stakeholders of their societies.

Some of the activities of the YES Networks are briefly mentioned here. YES-Macedonia organized meetings with UNDP office in Skopje; Members of YES Russia participated in a workshop for psychologists and social workers about multicultural adaptation, which is a relatively new management challenge for Russian companies. YES Country Coordinator-Russia shared information about the global YES Campaign and the Mexico Summit and urged members to register for the same.

Members of YES-Azerbaijan founded a Youth Employment Coalition- comprising diverse stakeholders. The Ministry of Economic Development, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Energy along with international donor organizations have agreed to join the coalition. The Members of the coalition are working for hosting a major presentation soon.

YES Azerbaijan is also in the final stages of signing an agreement with the UNDP for a joint project.

Members of YES Georgia participated in conferences on "Renewable Energy for New Georgia" and "Regional Development Strategy" organized by the Ministry of Fuel and Energy, Georgia.

To know more the development of the Eastern Europe and Baltic region, get in touch with Mr. Nugzar Meladze
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8. UN Habitat hosts Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on strategies for creating urban youth employment solutions for youth in Africa

The Expert Group Meeting (EGM) organized by the UN Habitat was attended by the partners from UN, World Bank, Civil Society Organizations and youth representatives. The meeting was vibrant with discussions on generating employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for youth in the urban areas of Africa. Many effective practices were presented at the meeting, and the discussions were focused on strategic action to promote youth employment and entrepreneurship. Some of the suggestions from the meeting were:

- Strengthening the efforts of the government to promote youth entrepreneurship.
- Exploring the opportunities for youth in labor intensive public works.
- How to enhance youth participation in municipal administration and services.

Puneetha Palkurthi from the YES Campaign participated in this meeting and presented a draft discussion paper on "Youth Unemployment: An Opportunity for Creation and Innovation in Social Enterprise

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Development." The YES Network coordinators from Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, and Somalia participated in the Youth Round Table Discussion and contributed substantively to the proceedings. One of the major outcomes of the meeting will be a strategy paper that will soon be presented in YES Insider.

**** If you have a story, event or project which you think is of interest to YES Global Alliance members please email the details to Anshuman Atroley, Media and Communications Coordinator, YES Campaign at anshuman@yesweb.org ****

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Discussion Group Archive
<http://www.edc.org/hypermail/yes/>