



✓ In Today's Bulletin

BOTSWANA: New Botswana President Vows To Target Youth Jobs

MALAWI: Government Encourages Youths To Be Innovative

GHANA: Move Quickly On Review Of The National Youth Policy - Yes

KENYA: Business Opportunities In Kenya For Youth

ZAMBIA: Stakeholders Sign Agreement To Address Skills Gap

ARGENTINA: Undergraduate Advocates For Youth At Empowerment Event

CANADA: Government Of Canada Provides Opportunities For Youth In Skilled

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: First Tui Academy Graduates To Start Work

GUYANA: Applications Invited For Gov't \$70m Youth Innovation Project

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: Shell Helps Youth Cricketers

MALAYSIA: Malaysia Guarantee Job Opportunity And Trainings For Youth

NEPAL: Nepali Organisation Holds Seminar On Youth

PAKISTAN: Global Initiative Pakistan Youth Asked To Opt For Business Career

PHILIPPINES: NGO Partners With BPO To Train Youth

QATAR: Of And Ooredoo To Support Development Programmes For Youth

AMERNIA: Only 35.4% Of Armenian Youth Pursue Profession

AZERBAIJAN: Azercell Declares Further Support Of Youth

CROATIA: 300 Jobs Available For Youth, Says Farquharson

ROMANIA: Young People Set To Make Life-Changing Journey To Romania

SPAIN: Major Youth In Agriculture Showcase For Day One At Denbigh

AUSTRALIA: Citi Broadens Youth Unemployment Scheme

FIJI: Youth Unemployment A Priority For Fiji Govt

SAMOA: Samoa Calls On Older Generation To Listen To Youth Voice

TONGA: Tongan Youth Leader Hands Out Condoms To Raise Awareness

VANUATU: Vanuatu Pin Hopes Of Battling Youth Crime On National Ids

AFRICA
AMERICA
ASIA
EUROPE
PACIFIC
INFO

✓ UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MAY 2018

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
3 May 2018	World Press Freedom Day	Melaka, Malaysia
15 May 2018	International Day of Families	Melaka, Malaysia
17 May 2018	World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	Melaka, Malaysia
21 May 2018	World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development	Melaka, Malaysia
29 May 2018	International Day of UN Peacekeepers	Melaka, Malaysia
31 May 2018	World No-Tobacco Day	Melaka, Malaysia



✓ BOSTWANA: NEW BOTSWANA PRESIDENT VOWS TO TARGET YOUTH JOBS

Gaborone, 2 April 2018 - BOTSWANA's new president, Mokgweetsi Masisi, vowed on Sunday to tackle youth unemployment in one of Africa's most stable countries.

The inauguration ceremony in parliament came after Ian Khama stepped down having completed the constitutional maximum of 10 years in office.

As vice-president Masisi took over automatically and is likely to secure a further five-year term in elections in October 2019 when the ruling Botswana Democratic Party (BDP) is

expected to hold on to power.

The carefully managed handover of power comes a full 18 months ahead of parliamentary elections in 2019.

Masisi takes over a country widely seen as an African success story that has made good use of its lucrative income from diamonds, beef and tourism.

It is rated the least corrupt in Africa by Transparency International.

But it has also struggled with a rising unemployment rate of about 18% and an

HIV epidemic.

"It is because of the peace and tranquility that our leaders have sustained for so long that Botswana have continued to enjoy relative prosperity," Masisi said after taking his oath.

"One of my top priorities as the president of this country will be to address the problem of unemployment, especially among the young people."

He also pledged to improve treatment and prevention of HIV in a country with a 22% infection rate among adults.

Masisi, 55, is a close ally of Khama and a BDP veteran. He is a US-educated former teacher and education minister.

"Despite its small size, Botswana continues to play an important role in the promotion of global issues such as respect for human rights, democracy, good governance [and] the rule of law," Masisi said.

Khama, 65, completed a months-long national farewell tour last week, bidding goodbye to the population of 2.2-million.

[Business Day]

✓ MALAWI: GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGES YOUTHS TO BE INNOVATIVE

Lilongwe, 12 April 2018 - GOVERNMENT through the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism has encouraged youths in Malawi to be innovative using their ideas, skills and talents to establish businesses that can create jobs for them to enhance national development.

The Minister responsible, Henry Mussa made the remarks Tuesday during World Bank Youth Creating Jobs Fair at the Bingu International Convention Centre in Lilongwe.

In an interview, Mussa said youth have different ideas and skills that can help develop the country such as in Agriculture, Information Communication Technology (ICT) and initiatives that are responsive to climate change challenges such as provision of energy through solar system.

"These are important areas in the Third Malawi Growth and Development Strategy

(MGDS) which President Arthur Peter Mutharika launched recently in the country," said Mussa.

He added that the president is pleased to see young people taking such serious responsibility to ensure the country is moving forward. "We cannot allow ourselves as a country to continue being labeled as poor when we have such creativity and ability among our youth. "Some of the youths have already started their businesses with very little capital and they keep growing.

That is the way to go," he assured.

Mussa said youths from rural areas are needed to have right attitude, mindset and determination to create businesses and jobs to raise individual effort for national benefit.

The minister added that people in the country are starting businesses, developing their own industries and

manufacturing items that the Malawi economy needs. He said government is very keen to ensure rural youth are well equipped through community colleges that are established in different areas to empower the youth with skills needed for them to be economically independent.

He applauded World Bank, Malawi Revenue Authority, the Reserve Bank of Malawi and FDH Bank for joining the youth and being an important resource for them.

World Bank country director, Greg Toulmin said government, faith-based entities and politicians should recognize the youth for development of the country.

"We are supporting more science-based subjects which this country needs to propel economic growth with public universities in Malawi such as LUANAR, Chancellor College, Polytechnic and Mzuni.

He added that the same project is also supporting TEVETA which also builds other technical skills. He added that some investments may not be seen as targeting the youth but they are of tremendous benefit such as energy, water and digitization projects.

"Without electricity it could be harder to move forward. We are also supporting a project called Digital Malawi; digitization is in the blood of youth the world over and Malawi youth are upping their game as well," he added. He said it is a significant role in development and growth of the country to help youth to realize the importance of taking part in being job creators and not job seekers.

[Malawi News Agency]



✓ GHANA: MOVE QUICKLY ON REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY - YES

Kumasi 12 April 2018 – Youth Empowerment Synergy (YES), an NGO focused on youth development, has called for the government to move quickly on the review of the national youth policy. It's a policy and Advocacy Manager, Obaa Akua Konadu, said this was necessary to provide the opportunity to deepen the involvement of the young people in decisions affecting their welfare and development.

They should have space to actively participate in the development process both at the local and national levels. Obaa Konadu was speaking at a youth policy dialogue held in Kumasi by NGO. It brought together government officials, youth groups, civil society organizations and students. The goal was to strengthen multi stakeholder engagement to make sure that the policy reflected the genuine wishes and aspirations of the Ghanaian

youth. Obaa Konadu underlined the eagerness of her organisation to encourage increased youth participation in public policy decision making “Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) youth action campaign” and “Youth leadership for social change”. Mr. George Orwell Amponsah, the Ashanti Regional Director, National Youth, applauded YES for putting the general good of the country's youth at the

heart of everything it had been doing. He suggested that it widened its activities to cover young people in rural and deprived communities, as well as, those who could not receive formal education to enable them to have inputs into the new national youth policy.

[Ghana News Agency]

✓ KENYA: BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN KENYA FOR YOUTH

Nairobi, 15 April 2018 - THERE are very many profitable business opportunities in Kenya for youths. Most of these opportunities are economical to start while some require significant startup capital.

regardless of their financial status. Presence of business opportunities is not enough in itself but seizing them.

fashionable in our country, given a wide spectrum of opportunities surging up in different sectors of our economy.

Most importantly, there are business opportunities for every Kenyan youth

Identifying a business opportunity is as crucial as seizing it for most parts.

Below is a guide on how you can merit from some of the best paying business opportunities yet untapped.

2018 is a revolutionary year where self-employment is exceedingly becoming

[Tuko.co.ke]

✓ ZAMBIA: STAKEHOLDERS SIGN AGREEMENT TO ADDRESS SKILLS GAP

Lusaka, 8 April 2018 - IT takes a village to raise a child,” an African idiom says. It entails collaborative steps for the common good.

graduates meet the quality expected of them by the industry.

understanding (MoU) to create robust training ecosystems to ensure graduates possess desirable skills and competences. Parties to the agreement include ministries of Higher Education; Labour and Social Security; and Youth and Sport; Zambia Federation of Employers (ZFE); Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority (TEVETA); Youth Bridge Foundation; and World Skills Zambia.

outline for lecturers' industrial exposure and private sector involvement in skills training delivery; a funding mechanism that includes options for private sector incentives and alternative methods of dealing with the issue of the stipend in skills development.

Skills development is one area that requires stakeholders to find ways to increase access to training, narrowing skills gaps and mismatches between training and industry.

Part of the solution to skills gaps and mismatches lies in bringing those in training and users of skills (industry) together to shape the way forward.

Collaborations among stakeholders for improved education and skills are needed for enhanced quality training in adequate quantities.

Other objectives are to develop a robust information system that provides necessary information and feedback to stakeholders to ensure relevance of curriculum, responsive training institutions and a proactive and engaged private sector.

In many cases, educators and players in the industry operate in parallel universes each doing their thing without sharing experiences, skills, knowledge and resources (human and financial resources) to ensure

In view of the above, Government and different industry players signed a memorandum of

The objectives of the agreement are to develop a standardised framework for internships and industrial student attachments; an



The rest of the objectives are the development of awareness campaign strategies for youths participating in internship and student attachment programmes; developing mechanisms that ensure enhanced co-ordination and engagements aimed at reducing levels of fragmentation in skills development initiatives or programmes in the country; and reviewing or amending any policy, laws and institutional measures deemed necessary to enhance skills development.

Each party to the agreement will derive benefits related to their mandates.

The Ministry of Higher Education will benefit from enhanced contribution and involvement of various stakeholders in the provision of technical and vocational education and training, especially from the private sector.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Security's benefits will be through strengthened labour market information and efforts in enhancing employability and productivity of graduates.

The Youth and Sport ministry is interested in enhanced employability of the youth through both formal and informal training pathways and through self-employment arising from skills and entrepreneurship training.

ZFE will benefit by taking national apprenticeship and internship programmes to scale. Its members will draw value from improved productivity of young graduates and employees.

TEVETA's benefits will be by having private sector participation in curriculum review, industry taking in learners through internships and workplace learning and exposure through attachment programmes.

When it comes to Youth Bridge Foundation, the collaboration will boost its advocacy for youth rights, especially regarding employment opportunities and budget allocation for education and training.

World Skills Zambia aims to stimulate greater interest in technical skills by young people through the promotion of skills competitions at various levels. The partnership offers access to stakeholders, especially training institutions and the private sector.

The collaborative agreement is anchored at the Private Sector Development, Industrialisation and Job Creation (PSDIJC) office at Cabinet Office.

The agreement emphasizes that parties should do their best in harnessing training in technical, vocational and entrepreneurship, which are pillars for creating wealth and employment from the country's natural resource endowments.

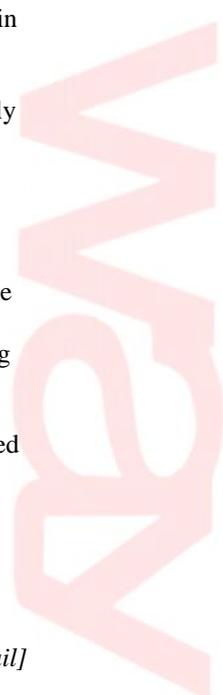
The agreement, inter alia, seeks to align and realign training funds realisable from the skills development levy towards skilling required numbers and quality of skilled persons Zambia needs to attain its visions such as Seventh National Development Plan, Vision 2030 and Vision 2064 and other short and

medium-term national goals. Skills are cardinal in reducing household poverty, generating ideas that help society create wealth and jobs (self and salaried), increase productivity, and produce quality goods and services that are more competitive.

Without sustained funding and strategic investment of proceeds towards training materials and equipment, Zambia's many opportunities would remain the preserve of foreigners and few Zambians who have the ability to critically think and skilfully apply themselves in providing solutions to people's problems.

Thus, the agreement by the above stakeholders offers spaces to discuss emerging issues across players to recreate the common vision. Industry represented by the Federation of Employers will bring out education and training lapses to the attention of mandated parties.

[Zambia Daily Mail]





✓ ARGENTINA: UNDERGRADUATE ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH AT EMPOWERMENT EVENT

Buenos Aires, 18 April 2018 - KIMBERLY

Ramirez Gonzalez has been advocating for youth for four years and she is committed to dedicating the rest of her life to doing so.

The third-year UC Merced student takes the stage April 19 alongside world-renowned entertainers and social activists such as Morgan Freeman, Jennifer Aniston and Selena Gomez at WE Day California Opens a New Window.

The all-day event, held at The Forum in Inglewood, celebrates the power young people have to make a difference by giving them the tools and inspiration to take social action, empower others and transform lives including their own.

It began nine years ago and has turned into a series of 19 stadium-sized events held across the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and the Caribbean.

Event organizers invited Ramirez Gonzalez to share

her personal experiences that led her to create Girls United, a high school program focused on empowering at-risk young women.

The program provides a space for freshmen and sophomore high school girls who are experiencing or have experienced domestic violence, drug abuse, depression, eating disorders or gang affiliation to feel heard and heal.

“I think it is important that people like me a low-income, first-generation woman of color and immigrants’ daughter be given a platform like this to spread the powerful message that ‘you can change the world, no matter where you come from,’” Ramirez Gonzalez said.

This isn’t the first time the sociology major from Napa has spoken to large groups about the importance of youth-led action. She has presented at events including Santa Rosa’s Youth Led Action

Conference and Napa Valley TEDx.

In addition to her civic involvement and academic course work, Ramirez Gonzalez is involved in numerous other areas on campus that feed her passion for helping others.

She works as an office assistant for Housing and Residence Life providing support to first-year and new transfers students, as well as other continuing students who live on campus. She is the community service coordinator for Phi Alpha Delta, the campus’s professional pre-law fraternity and will serve as its president in the fall.

In 2017, she interned with the UC Merced Law Clinic and helped found the new Immigration Law Clinic on campus. Last year, Ramirez Gonzalez was also awarded the prestigious Cultural Vistas Fellowship allowing her to do advocacy work for women’s and children’s rights in Buenos Aires.

She received additional grants that gave her opportunity to travel to seven Latin American countries last year Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia and Costa Rica where she immersed herself in different cultures.

She also represented UC Merced at the University of California Student Association student lobbying conference in Sacramento last month to promote mental health resources and address food and housing insecurities and has also represented the campus at several national conferences.

“We, as youth, have a duty to gently shake the world awake,” Ramirez Gonzalez said. “I hope to empower youth to recognize and utilize their power to organize their own communities, block-by-block especially queer, at-risk and undocumented youth and youth of color.”

[UC Merced University News]

✓ CANADA: GOVERNMENT OF CANADA PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH IN SKILLED

Whitehorse, April 12, 2018 - BUILDING a strong middle class means giving Canada's youth the tools they need to find and keep good jobs.

That's why the Honourable Larry Bagnell, Member of Parliament for Yukon, on behalf of the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, announced a new project today that will give youth in Yukon job skills training

and hands-on work experience.

Through the Building Northern Capacity in Environmental Monitoring project, nine post-secondary graduates will gain practical experience in STEM fields and the skilled trades.

For 12 weeks, these graduates will be able to apply their knowledge and learn about the workplace in environmental monitoring, while developing skills that

will benefit their community. The Government of Canada will provide more than \$165,000 in funding for this project through the Career Focus stream of the Youth Employment Strategy.

Career Focus supports projects that help post-secondary graduates transition to the labour market through paid internships, and helps to provide them with the

information and experience they need to make informed career decisions, find a job and/or pursue advanced studies.

This investment builds on a successful project recently completed at Yukon College, called Building Northern Apprentices.

[Canada NewsWire]



✓ DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: FIRST TUI ACADEMY GRADUATES TO START WORK

Santo Domingo, 18 April 2018 - THE first 46 graduates from a Tui work initiative in the Dominican Republic are to be employed at a resort on the Caribbean island.

The youngsters have completed a rigorous training programme equipping them with the skills to work in the tourism industry and will now be employed at a Tui Blue Diamond Resort.

The Tui Academy, created a year ago, is a model developed by Tui Care Foundation and Plan International in partnership with the travel group's Blue Diamond Resorts.

A total of 150 disadvantaged girls and

boys will undertake a one-year vocational training course preparing them for work in the field of tourism over three years.

Youth unemployment in the Dominican Republic is at 35%, out of which 70% are women. The teenage pregnancy rate in the country at 21% is twice the worldwide average.

Students can choose to study housekeeping, bartending or as kitchen assistants.

As well as learning technical skills, the students receive life coaching in their personal development with a focus on gender empowerment.

Young mothers are supported with childcare for

their children under the age of five while training.

Recruitment is now underway for the second group of students with new training sessions due to start next month.

Lucia, an 18-year-old graduate with a young son, said: "This project has created a pathway for me and each of my companions.

"Being a mother does not prevent us from moving forward, because we can succeed and be who we want to be."

Tui Care Foundation programmes and operations executive director Elise Allart said: "We started this project in the Dominican Republic to help address the

high youth unemployment, especially among young women.

"Many of these women are already mothers; some already have several children even though they are only 18 or 19 years old."

Silvio Minier, programme manager of Plan International Dominican Republic, added: "The Tui Academy Dominican Republic aims to empower young people, especially women, from the poorest communities in La Altagracia Province by offering them access to job opportunities and motivating them to make informed decisions about their lives."

[Art Newspaper]

✓ GUYANA: APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR GOV'T \$70M YOUTH INNOVATION PROJECT

Georgetown, 13 April 2018 - THE Department of Youth is once again inviting young people between 14 and 35 years to apply for funding to develop solutions to issues in their communities using Science, Technology, Engineering, Agriculture, Anthropology, Archaeology, Architecture, Arts, Mathematics and Spirituality (STEAMS) under its \$70 million seed capital Youth Innovation Project of Guyana 2018.

Minister of Social Cohesion Dr George Norton, who heads the Department of Culture, Youth and Sport, issued the invitation yesterday at the launch of this year's project at the Racquet Centre on Woolford Avenue, Georgetown. Norton said the government

acknowledges the innovative mind and pioneering spirit of the youth and was giving them the opportunity to develop long-term sustainable projects, in keeping with the vision of a green economy.

The 2018 project is being rolled out under the theme "Aspire, Inspire to Reach," said Director of Youth Melissa Carmichael Haynes.

Information on the project will be available to all regional administrative officers, toshaos and community development officers. Monitors will be assigned to the regions in outreaches to facilitate and advise on project proposals and on the way forward in the application process. Dates for the outreaches

will be posted on the ministry's website. Forms may be uplifted from the ministry and they may also be downloaded from the website on the ministry's Facebook page.

Individuals and teams of no more than 10 people may apply for funding.

The deadline for the submission of applications is June 30th, 2018.

On the 2017 project, Carmichael-Haynes said a total of 21 groups and individuals from 56 applicants were awarded grants in the total sum of \$40 million to develop innovative solutions to solve social and environmental issues in communities and schools, and to improve the lives of

young people themselves. To date, 60% of the projects undertaken are in the implementation stage. Many young people, among others, have started to benefit from the projects, which Carmichael-Haynes said include skills training.

Encouraging young people to get involved, Spencer said instead of looking for jobs they would be able to create their own and even employ others. He employs two people.

[Stabroek News]



✓ TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: SHELL HELPS YOUTH CRICKETERS

Port of Spain, 27 April 2018 - SHELL Trinidad and Tobago brought smiles to the faces of three national under-15 cricketers after the company sponsored them for the national team's visit to Jamaica to play in the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Regional tournament starting tomorrow.

The three players benefiting from their generosity were Nickyle Jalim, Ricardo Chase and Khaleem Mohammed all of whom hail from the Southeast region where Shell operates.

They were provided by top quality cricket kits supplied by Nick's Sporting Goods on behalf of Shell.

Making all this possible was Nneka Mentore the Community Relations and Communications Advisor at Shell T&T.

Parent Carlyle Jalim who spearheaded the effort and who has been himself sponsoring young cricketers said the gesture by Shell was magnanimous.

"We must say thanks to Shell Trinidad for what they have done for young cricketers in this country and especially those in the South Eastern region.

All three young men would have come through the Shell Interzone Cricket series and now they are poised to become national stars, as they head to Jamaica to compete in the West Indies U-15

championships. "Ms. Mentore was very happy to assist she was so proud of the cricketers and was so ready to commit to assisting the Southeast cricketers, this is commendable.

Shell understands their social corporate responsibility and we will always be grateful to them for what they have done."

[Trinidad Guardian]

NEWS



✓ MALAYSIA: MALAYSIA GUARANTEE JOB OPPORTUNITY AND TRAININGS FOR YOUTH

Kuala Lumpur, 10 April 2018 - A new system will be introduced by the Barisan Nasional government to safeguard job opportunities and training for youths.

The Youth Guarantee promised to provide Malaysians under 30-year olds a job or a training opportunity within six months after they registered.

BN pledged that this was not a rhetoric promise as six initiatives namely SL1M (1Malaysia Training Scheme) 2.0; My Apprenticeship; My Internship; National Bootcamp TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training); Employment through

Infrastructure Projects and Social Entrepreneurship Job, will kick-off to implement the system.

Under SL1M 2.0, university students and potential employers will be matched at an earlier stage while the Social Entrepreneurship Job initiative will provide incentives to social entrepreneurs in creating more job opportunities.

Meanwhile, National Bootcamp TVET to increase TVET training grounds via short courses followed by job matching with the industry player.

Youths will have more opportunity to work under the national mega

infrastructure projects once Employment through Infrastructure Projects initiative is executed.

My Internship initiative to help every public university student equipped with high Microsoft Office skill and quality industry training. My Apprenticeship initiative offers a new alternative to school leavers who want to work while training in five major industries. Among other initiatives and targets to be implemented to achieve the promise include:

- More than five millions students to be equipped with skills to face the 4th Industrial Revolution.
- More than one million

youth to have career and training opportunity in TVET industry.

- More than one million university students to get National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PTPTN) loan.

Increase high-skilled jobs by spurring the development of high-tech industries

To repair and upgrade dilapidated schools nationwide within five years.

[New Straits Times Online]

✓ NEPAL: NEPALI ORGANISATION HOLDS SEMINAR ON YOUTH

Kathmandu, 17 April 2018 - THE youth wing of Non-Resident Nepali Association-National Co-ordination Council (NRNA-NCC) recently organised a seminar on youth empowerment in Shalimar Restaurant.

The seminar was chaired by Nabin Pokharel, NRNA-NCC chairperson, and was attended by NRNA-NCC officials and the representatives of various Nepali expatriate organisations.

During the seminar, Rajesh

Kumar Poudel, a Doha-based medical doctor, provided training on health. Facilitators of the seminar namely, Kamalmani Guragain, Sagar Nepal, Kumar Karki Maya KC and Binesh Tamang stressed on the role of the youth in national development.

They incorporated statistical evidence to make their arguments stronger. The participants welcomed the initiative and stressed on the role of the youths in societal and national development.

[Gulf Times]

✓ PAKISTAN: GLOBAL INITIATIVE PAKISTAN YOUTH ASKED TO OPT FOR BUSINESS CAREER

Lahore, 8 April 2018 - ECONOMIC development and sovereignty is the foundation for a strong and stable Pakistan for which the business community can play a vital role.

These views were expressed by the speakers at a conference titled "Do the Undone."

The event was organised by an NGO to encourage the Pakistani youth to adopt the entrepreneurial approach

instead of going for jobs.

The speakers were Qasim Ali Shah, a public speaker and businessman, Mansoor Khan, Arooj Ismail, Hunana Masroor, Shawaz Baloch, a social entrepreneur, Qaiser Malik, motivational speaker, Zenith Irfan, the first woman motorcyclist to travel across Pakistan, Zahra Qureshi and Stacy Huish, a Social entrepreneur from Australia.

They said 2018 would

prove a record-breaking year with regards to economic development.

They said future belonged to the business community.

The youth instead of looking for jobs should strive to become entrepreneurs.

Thorough planning, unshakable willpower and enthusiasm are important when it comes to being a successful businessman,

they added.

[The News International]



✓ PHILIPPINES: NGO PARTNERS WITH BPO TO TRAIN YOUTH

Manila, 23 April 2018 - THE Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) has partnered with a business processing outsourcing (BPO) company based in Davao City to train Internally Displaced Youth (IDY) to become virtual assistants.

During the Kapehan sa Dabaw weekly press conference, VSO Philippines project manager Lyca Sarenas said a weeklong virtual assistant training was conducted in Marawi City for 25 IDYs, aged 18 to early 20s.

Sarenas said their partnership with the Knights of Online Marketers will be an opportunity for young professionals who are interested in online jobs to be linked to potential online employers based abroad. During the weeklong training which was done

during the first week of April, Sarenas said an internet café in Marawi was rented as venue for the said training. As it was difficult to access good internet connection in the area, they found the internet café a viable solution to the dilemma.

“These kinds of training will help provide livelihood opportunities for the younger people.

It will also serve as an alternative option and a long-term support for those who are interested in other things.

Of course, there may be others who are not interested in say, weaving or other livelihood programs, so we are giving them this alternative option as well,” said Sarenas.

After the training, she said they are going to follow

through with the individual participants should they need assistance with the employment and to see how effective the trainings are in matching them with potential employers.

VSO Philippines and Knights of Online Marketers will only serve as bridges between the IDYs and the employers abroad.

With the online nature of being a virtual assistant, Sarenas said it would be easier for the IDYs to get revenues as they can start working in Marawi City and would need not go away, as long as there is good internet connection. When asked if they plan to conduct a second batch of virtual assistants training, Sarenas said they will observe how this pilot batch goes and hopefully with its success, they are going to conduct another session.

The 25 IDYs who participated in the program were all residents of Marawi City and the others are still living in evacuation centers.

According to VSO Philippines head of programs Arlene Mahinay, these types of trainings are there way of reaching out to the internally displaced people after the Marawi siege especially with the youth and the women given that they are the most vulnerable to exploitation in the midst of displacements.

As the virtual assistant training just completed two weeks ago, VSO Philippines and Knights of Online Marketers is still in the process of linking the trainees with potential employers.

[Sun. Star]

✓ QATAR: QF AND OOREDOO TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FOR YOUTH

Doha, 23 April 2018 - QATAR Foundation (QF) and Ooredoo Group have signed a pioneering Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that will see the two entities work together to benefit young people and communities around the world.

The two organizations will support development programmess for young people and offer workshops and initiatives to drive youth enterprise in the Middle East, North Africa, and Southeast Asia.

Together, QF and Ooredoo Group will deploy QF’s research and development

resources and Ooredoo’s international network of young consumers to develop original content and new digital experiences, with a particular focus on the next generation.

There will be a particular focus on engaging and deploying young Qatari leaders aiming to make a global impact.

As part of the agreement, Ooredoo Group will offer internships to QF university students, providing appropriately qualified students with exciting opportunities in relevant departments at Ooredoo Group.

Together, the entities will

also champion a range of business and entrepreneurship competitions, workshops, and events driven or initiated by young people.

Additionally, there will be arrangements made to provide the Ooredoo community with access to QF institutions to engage in volunteer opportunities, while encouraging Education City students to actively participate.

The MoU will see relevant Ooredoo executive committee members and other official spokespeople participate in future speaking engagements across QF campuses and schools.

The partnership will also allow for the provision of support to better understand Ooredoo markets and customers, as well as leverage expertise to assist Ooredoo with policy development.

[Telecompaper]



✓ AMERNIA: ONLY 35.4% OF ARMENIAN YOUTH PURSUE PROFESSION

Yerevan, 12 April 2018 - GENERATION of Independence: Research Among Young People” found out that Armenia’s youth today is “vulnerable and incomplete”.

The study was carried out by the Armenian branch of Friedrich Ebert Foundation in cooperation with Faculty of Sociology of YSU.

They surveyed 1200 people aged 14-29 from Yerevan and 10 marzes of Armenia.

According to the research, young Armenians have uncertainty in public life, and social activity is more characteristic for the males.

The youth don’t trust state agencies and display minimal political involvement.

“We initiated the research to understand young people in Armenia, as they are the sector of society that starts changes, moves forward and succeeds.

Our goal was to stress the importance of young people’s role in the society and political decision making,” Director of the FES South Caucasus Office Julia Blazius told the press today.

She noted that the research outlined main problems and

stressed certain points in education and employment.

The research discovered that one of serious problems is lack of financial resources for acquiring professional education. 24.3% of young people in Armenia don’t want to continue their education for that reason exactly.

On the other hand, professional knowledge doesn’t guarantee a job, and only 35.4% of the youth pursue their respective profession.

Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Armenia Karine

Harutyunyan attached importance to such researches.

“They raise awareness in the ministry about young people’s problems, help us plan the efforts and make targeted decisions,” Deputy Minister said.

According to her, those problems aren’t new, and the research contains important issues and stresses, such as lack of state funding for higher education and resulting low quality of education, etc.

[Armenian Weekly]

✓ AZERBAIJAN: AZERCELL DECLARES FURTHER SUPPORT OF YOUTH

Baku, 25 April 2018 - AZERCELL CEO Vahid Mursaliyev met with the students who had obtained the title of Azercell scholars.

The operator reports that Mursaliyev stated at the meeting that in addition to monthly stipend from Azercell, the program will also provide the students an opportunity to enrich their knowledge about telecommunications, participate in Azercell’s

corporate events and social activities, receive various trainings, as well as take internship at the company. “Azercell has supported the youth and students since the company started its business activity. A number of student programs, internships and other projects have been carried out so far.

We also concluded cooperation agreements with the universities you study in. All these steps are

aimed to develop our education”, he stated.

The stipend winners currently study in Baku State University, Azerbaijan State Economic University, ADA University, Public Administration Academy under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Khazar University, Gafqaz University, Ganja State University, Nakhchivan State University, Baku High Oil School, State Oil and Industry University,

Azerbaijan Technical University, Mingachevir State University, Azerbaijan University of Architecture and Construction and Ganja Agrarian University. Azercell has conducted the Student Bursary Program annually since 2008. Over 130 students from various universities in Azerbaijan have benefited from the Program.

[Azerbaijan Business Center]

✓ CROATIA: 300 JOBS AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH, SAYS FARQUHARSON

Zagreb, 10 April 2018 - NEARLY 300 jobs are expected to be made available to young persons in the country during the third and fourth quarters of this year.

This was revealed by Labour Director Robert Farquharson during an interview with The Bahama Journal over the weekend.

The Department of Statistics Labour Survey revealed that while there was a decline in the unemployment rate among youth (15-24) (From 25.1 percent to 24.1 percent) it was still considerably higher than any other age group.

“Department of Labour in conjunction with the

Ministry of National Security has embarked on the Citizens Security and Justice Program and the employability aspect of that program is about to kick in during the third and fourth quarter of 2017,” Mr. Farquharson said.

“This will involve the training and employment of 200-300 young people between the ages of 16-29.

We expect it to have a direct impact on those numbers.

“It’s a four-year program and over the four years we are expected to train about 1,600 persons and have all these persons employed.”



The Citizens Security and Justice Program was launched in May 2016 by the previous administration.

The Progressive Liberal Party quickly moved to capitalize on the survey results, with PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts saying Friday that the statistics from 2012 to 2017 show

that 39,505 jobs were added to the economy, 7,770 of which were added in the final six months of the Christie administration.

“Regardless of what is said about the PLP government under Mr. Christie, those are the objective numbers and the unvarnished facts,” Mr. Roberts said.

The program focuses on non-violent conflict resolution, youth employment training, the strengthening of the Public Employment Services, the continuation of the successful work of the Swift Justice Initiative, and the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders. The program, funded by a

\$20 million loan from the Inter-American Bank (IDB), represents the “single largest investment in a coordinated and comprehensive policy to address crime” in The Bahamas.

[Novosti]

✓ ROMANIA: YOUNG PEOPLE SET TO MAKE LIFE-CHANGING JOURNEY TO ROMANIA

Bucharest, 12 April 2018 - A GROUP of young people from North Belfast are gearing up for a potentially life-changing trip to Romania.

Twenty youths, aged between 15 and 18, who are part of the Romania Project in the New Lodge area, are to travel to the country in just a few weeks.

The New Lodge Youth Project, as part of Ashton Community Trust, started back in 2015 and enabled young people to get involved in an extensive programme which involved personal development,

supporting young people with disabilities at the 174 Trust, volunteering to help Belfast’s homeless and intergenerational work with the local elderly.

Youth worker Sean McMullan, who is in charge of the project, said the project was much more than just a trip abroad. “The young people learn so much throughout the year within the programme which benefits them whilst out in Romania,” he said.

“The young people volunteer weekly in the 174 Trust with young people with disability, taking part

in homeless work and also learning a lot about themselves.

“Whilst in Romania the young people work in a local disability centre, orphanages, family homes and engage with young people their age to experience the culture of a young person living in Romania.

“The young people are a credit to us at the youth centre, to themselves and to their families as well. The Romania Project experience is one that is life-changing and it is a privilege to be a part of this experience with all of these dedicated young

people.

“Whilst already making a big impact in their community I know that these young people will be great role models for other young people in their youth centre and community for a long time to come.”

The project has won two awards for positive change and continues to impact positively on young people’s lives in the New Lodge district.

[Belfast Media Group]

✓ SPAIN: MAJOR YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE SHOWCASE FOR DAY ONE AT DENBIGH

Madrid, 4 April 2018 - THE village is to be the venue for students who are currently engaged in agriculture studies from Manchester, St Ann and St Catherine, to apply for the Rio tinto alcan scholarship fund, which is managed by the development bank of Spain and the applicable programme executed by the Spain 4-h clubs.

Youth in agriculture day on Saturday is to involve close to 200 youth between the ages of 18 and 35 years, competing in events including agricultural jingle, business model/

plan, agri-animation, agro-processing and the agri-quiz competitions.

Under the theme, ‘youth farmers: budding nation builders,’ the village will be open daily throughout the show, between the hours of 9:00 am and 6:00 pm. The village is one of the main focuses of the national youth in agriculture programme that is led by the Spain 4-h clubs, the youth training arm of the ministry of industry, commerce, agriculture and fisheries.

The 4-h clubs have been at

the helm of the youth in agriculture programme since 2008, when it was mandated by the government to lead the multi-agency planning committee which is geared at, among other things, stimulating youth involvement in agriculture, and preserving fostering national food security.

[ABC]



✓ AUSTRALIA: CITI BROADENS YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT SCHEME

Canberra, 5 April 2018 - CITI Australia plans to help 1800 young people find jobs by spending an extra \$1.5 million on its Pathway to Progress program, which runs globally but kicked off locally in 2015.

The money will be distributed to various organisations as grants to help them to run employment initiatives, with the Brotherhood of

Saint Laurence, Foundation for Young Australians and The Smith Family among recipients.

Through the program, some Citi employees also voluntarily act as mentors, coaches and role models to young people.

Australia's youth unemployment rate is around 13 per cent - based on 15 to 24-year-olds compared to the general

unemployment rate of 5.6 per cent.

Launching the program, Treasurer Scott Morrison said mentors are vital to helping more unemployed young Australians find jobs and remain employed.

Mr Morrison stressed the importance of mentors while launching the expansion of a program run by global financial services group Citi to help disadvantaged young people

find work.

Mr Morrison said growing the economy will help bring that figure down.

"We are seeing the economy grow, we are seeing improved signs coming through, particularly most recently," he said.

[Sydney Morning Herald]

✓ FIJI: YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT A PRIORITY FOR FIJI GOVT

Suva, 14 April 2018 - THE Fiji government says the priority of its National Employment Policy is to address youth unemployment.

According to the Ministry of Employment, the current national unemployment rate

is 5.5 per cent, while the youth unemployment rate is 18.1 per cent.

The FBC reports the Deputy Secretary for Employment Viliame Baledrokadroka saying the unemployment among 15 to 24 year olds is a major issue.

Mr Baledrokadroka said the policy would provide new opportunities for skills upgrading, leading to productive employment for young people.

[Radio New Zealand]

✓ SAMOA: SAMOA CALLS ON OLDER GENERATION TO LISTEN TO YOUTH VOICE

Apia, 16 April 2018 - SAMOA's deputy prime minister has called on the older generation to listen to the voices of the youth and support their initiatives as they will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Speaking at the opening of Youth Week in Apia, Fiamē Naomi Mata'afa acknowledged many young people's achievements and contributions to Samoa's development.

Youth make up 64-percent

of Samoa's population.

She also encouraged the youth to utilize their talents and skills to develop their families, villages and the country and acknowledged those who have excelled in sports on the world stage.

Fiamē made particular reference to Samoa's recent gold medal won at last month's Commonwealth Youth Games rugby sevens tournament.

[Radio New Zealand]

✓ TONGA: TONGAN YOUTH LEADER HANDS OUT CONDOMS TO RAISE AWARENESS

Nuku'alofa, 14 April 2018 - A Tongan advocate for sex education has been handing out condoms around Tonga to start the discussion on safe sex practices.

Ministry of Health figures show a high rate of teenage pregnancies this year, of around 30 births per 1000 girls.

Joshua Sefesi holds sessions with men to educate them

on equality and safe sexual practices and informs women about the support available to them.

Mr Sefesi said Tonga is a conservative and religious nation, which makes the topic of safe sex taboo.

"The issues especially the consequences are that the youth need someone to reach out for them and talk about all these issues be-

cause it all leads down to decision making."

Joshua Sefesi is Tonga's 2018 Queen's Young Leader winner, recognised for his voluntary work on safe sex awareness.

[Radio New Zealand]



✓ VANUATU: VANUATU PIN HOPES OF BATTLING YOUTH CRIME ON NATIONAL IDS

Port Vila, 13 April 2018 -

Vanuatu is cracking down on underage drinking and youth crime by introducing national identification cards.

The minister for Internal Affairs Alfred Maoh says the number of violent incidents and criminal activities in and around Port Vila has increased.

Mr Maoh told Koro Vaka'uta a lot of the crime and misbehavior can be attributed to young people having easy access to alcohol.

[Radio New Zealand]

NEW

PRESIDENT



RT. HON. DATUK SERI IR. IDRIS HARON (Malaysia)

VICE PRESIDENTS



MR. HUSSEIN
AL-AHMED (Yemen)



MR. MOHAMED
ALWANE (Libya)



MR. MUNKHBAT
AYUSH (Mongolia)



MR. PREYE KETEBU
BROWN (Nigeria)



MR. BENEDICE
LOUIS (Botswana)

SECRETARY GENERAL



MISS EDIOLA PASHOLLARI (Albania)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



MR. SESUN JEE
(Korea)



MISS BLAGICA PETROVA
(The FYR of Macedonia)



MR. MUESEE KAZAPUA
(Namibia)



MISS SIMONE PHILIP
(Trinidad and Tobago)



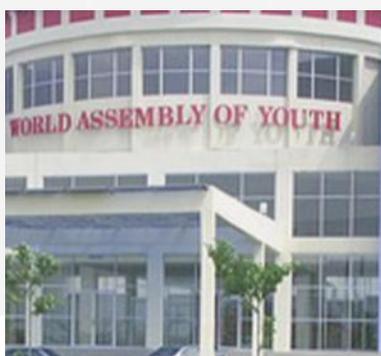
MR. BELMAMI ABDEL
JALAL (Morocco)



MISS LEYLA ISRAFILOVA
(Azerbaijan)



MR. MOESTAPA M. RADJA
(Indonesia)



World Assembly of Youth
World Youth Complex
Jalan Lebu Ayer Keroh
Ayer Keroh 75450
Melaka, MALAYSIA

Phone: +606 2322711/1871
Fax: +606 2327271
E-mail: office@way.org.my
Website: <http://www.way.org.my>