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**AFRICA**  
**AMERICA**  
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### ✓ UPCOMING EVENTS FOR JULY 2019

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
11 July 2019	<b>World Population Day</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
15 July 2019	<b>World Youth Skills Day</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
18 July 2019	<b>Nelson Mandela International</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
30 July 2019	<b>International Day of Friendship</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
30 July 2019	<b>World Day Against Trafficking in Persons</b>	Melaka, Malaysia



## ✓ BOTSWANA: UNLOCK YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**Gaborone, 5 June 2019** - Government of Botswana has been challenged to invest seriously on the youth, who make over 60% of the population, to promote entrepreneurship amongst the populace and help curb high youth unemployment levels.

The sentiments were made by experts during the public forum facilitated under partnership of Alliance for African Partnership initiative through Michigan State University in collaboration with University of Botswana (UB).

The Public forum, which was held under the theme "Investing on Youth for the Knowledge Economy", emphasised the importance of stimulating entrepreneurship amongst the joblessness plagued Botswana Youth.

June Youatt, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs at

Michigan State University, said harnessing youth entrepreneurship is important in diversifying the economy of the country. She said in the midst of soaring unemployment figures, especially plaguing the graduates, government should consider investing more on the youth to build up entrepreneurs.

"With the country still struggling with serious youth unemployment it is important that entrepreneurship is enhanced and facilitated by government on sectors that accommodate innovation and technology drive as these two aspects are prospects to achieving a knowledge based economy," she said.

During the panel discussion, the Permanent Secretary in Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry (MITI) Peggy Serame was encouraged to ensure that the government pays acute attention to challenges that cripple youth entrepreneurs'

efforts.

Prominent among the challenges that Botswana youth entrepreneurs face is lack of adequate financial backing.

Moreover, poor implementation of youth upliftment schemes or programmes also remains an obstacle to effective youth entrepreneurship. Serame admitted though government formulates good sounding policies on paper intending to empower the youth, the implementation of such initiatives is not convincing.

She said government is drafting the National Entrepreneurship Policy which amongst others will ensure that youth entrepreneurship is fully stimulated, adding that the policy will also speak to leveraging on innovation and technology driven entrepreneurship.

Sport Psychology and Project Leader academic at

Michigan University, Professor Leapetswe Maletse pinpointed sport as an ideal sector that Botswana can leverage on to promote youth entrepreneurship.

Professor Maletse said Botswana youth have huge potential and talent in Sport although there is lack of acute identification of talent from grass root level as per research indicates.

Amongst others, the need for evidence-based research was emphasized so as to come up with solutions that help in curbing youth unemployment as well as new possibilities that Botswana can turn into in its endeavour to diversify the agrarian dominated economy.

*[The Patriot On Sunday]*

## ✓ MALAWI: YOUTH ADVISED TO VENTURE INTO INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES

**Lilongwe, 21 June 2019** - CHITIPA District Youth Officer (DYO), Jessy Mwansambo has encouraged Youth clubs in the district to venture into income generating activities as a long lasting means of financing their outreach programmes.

She was speaking Tuesday during a meeting with members of Titha Kupewa Youth Club who claimed that lack of sponsorship affects their delivery of HIV and AIDS interventions and information to fellow youth.

"I know many youth clubs like Titha Kupewa Youth Club which have wonderful ideas about how the youth can change their behaviors in order to minimize the spread of HIV/AIDS, but they all worry about funding.

"A better option is to find something that will generate money for the groups, like farming, because sponsors are more likely to help people who demonstrate that they can do something to address their challenges on their own," Mwansambo

advised.

She said as an advisory for Youth, she would conduct a monitoring exercise to all youth clubs in the district and provide them with technical guidance so that the groups achieve their goals.

Chairperson for Titha Kupewa Youth Club, Mike Sikwese said the meeting with the DYO was an eye opener on how best they could sustain the group's initiatives.

Titha Kupewa Youth Club has recently intensified its youth outreach activities through music shows and football and netball matches through which they encourage t youth to go for HIV counselling and testing.

*[Malawi News Agency (Lilongwe)]*



✓ **NIGERIA: UN TASKS NIGERIA ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP, JOB CREATION**

Lagos, 21 June 2019 -

WHILE many countries have already harnessed demographic dividend, Nigeria, among other Africa countries, still lag behind, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), has said. UNFPA disclosed that the population of the world has doubled in the last 43 years, moving from 3.6 billion in 1969 to 7.7 billion in 2019.

Speaking at the UNFPA / Private Sector Celebration at 50 in Lagos, recently, UNFPA Representative in Nigeria, Dr. Eugene Kongnyuy, said Nigeria got into the track of possibly harnessing demographic dividend in 2003, following a study by the University of Ibadan, but didn't progress much.

Stressing the need for a change in population structure, Kongnyuy canvassed more investments in health, education, entrepreneurship and job creation, and good governance for Nigeria to finally harness demographic dividend in the coming years.

In a World Population Prospect released by the UN on Monday, the medium-variant projection indicates that the global population could grow to around 8.5 billion in 2030, 9.7 billion in 2050, and 10.9 billion in 2100.

The data also shows that males outnumber females in Nigeria, and the world as a whole, negating the popular belief that women outnumber men in the West African country.

Nigeria is estimated to have 200,964,000 by mid-year 2019, with 99,132,000 million females and 101,832,000 males. Speaking on Nigeria fully harnessing the dividend of democracy, he said: "I believe the government is fully aware, two years ago, the vice president launched the national road map for harnessing demographic dividend in Nigeria.

"In that roadmap, it clearly defines what will be done for Nigeria to harness the dividend. In summary, you have health, maternal and child mortality is drastically reduced, that young people are fully educated, and that there are enough jobs and that they have the skills to create jobs for themselves. In that roadmap there is a clear step that needs to be done and the government has started doing some of them."

Earlier, Head of Sustainability, Access Bank Plc, Omobolanle Victor-Laniyan, urged the private sector in collaboration with government and development partners to recognise the potential of young people and harness their strength towards sustainable development through mentoring and more internship opportunities.

She said if properly funded and harnessed, Nigeria's population, which is more of youth, can facilitate sustainable development, hence the bank's commitment to the growth and development of this segment of the population.

Also speaking, Programme Director, Hacey Health Initiatives, Isaiah Owolabi, called on the government to see demographic dividend as a major opportunity for Nigeria owing to its large youth population size, while urging them to take advantage of it by investing in young people for life time economic return.

"Statistics and facts have shown that when a country invests in young people, there will be increase in productivity and improve healthcare for all. "Also, we need to realise that the rate we are growing, we may not be able to cater for it in the future, so it is important that to grow our population sustainably, we need to watch the fertility and birth rate in the country," Owolabi said.

"We need to get more people educated especially our girls because when girls are educated, pregnancy is being delayed for them to go through school," he added. Owolabi called for multi-sectorial approach to drive policies sustainably that will make Nigeria benefit from its large population size.

"Everybody has to come together to deliver sustainable solutions and drive development that is inclusive that will be find useful in the next 50 years to come," he said.

[Guardian]



## ✓ SOUTH AFRICA: YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT A 'NATIONAL CRISIS', SAYS PRESIDENT

**Cape Town, 16 June 2019** - Youth unemployment in South Africa has become a "national crisis", President Cyril Ramaphosa said today at an event commemorating youth activism during the apartheid era.

Unemployment in Africa's most advanced economy has remained stubbornly high since white minority rule ended 25 years ago, and creating jobs is a major challenge for Ramaphosa as

he aims to reignite an underperforming economy. Unemployment inched up to 27.6% in the first quarter; official data showed in May, underscoring the task faced by Ramaphosa after his ANC party won re-election last month.

An expanded category of unemployment, including people who have stopped looking for work, rose to 38 per cent in the first quarter from 37.0 per cent in the

previous three-month period.

"We are very much alive to the fact that youth unemployment is indeed a national crisis," Ramaphosa told an audience of mainly young people and students on National Youth Day.

The day honours scores of students killed during the 1976 Soweto uprising that helped focus global attention on the brutality of

apartheid.

According to government agency Stats SA, the burden of unemployment is concentrated among the 15-34 age group who account for almost two-thirds of the jobless. Around four out of 10 young people do not have a job.

[Malay Mail]

## ✓ TANZANIA: POLYU PROVIDES TECH-BASED LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME TO YOUTH

**Dodoma, 18 June 2019** - THE first batch of 30 Tanzanian young professionals will attend a one-week programme consisting of expert lectures, field visits in Hong Kong and Shenzhen.

In addition, the professionals will have knowledge sharing sessions, focusing on areas crucial for Tanzania's development, namely: green manufacturing, urban planning, information technology for international trade, tourism, and public health.

The Tanzania Leadership Programme is organised by PolyU's Institute of Advanced Executive Education.

PolyU launched the Belt and Road Cross-Professional Advancement Programme in January 2019, providing a platform for Hong Kong's professionals and Mainland enterprise leaders to exchange knowledge and share experience, as well as to network, explore market opportunities and develop

multilateral collaborations. The University also aims to leverage its expertise to share best practices and experiences with the high-potential future leaders of other Belt and Road countries such as Tanzania.

The opening ceremony of the Programme was officiated by the Ambassador of the United Republic of Tanzania in the People's Republic of China and the Executive Vice President of PolyU.

Addressing the ceremony, the Executive VP stated that PolyU has been playing its role to nurture young talents for the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) since 2014.

The platform was established to leverage PolyU's expertise and international network for capacity building and thereby fostering talent development, knowledge transfer and research development for the sustainable advancement of the Belt and Road countries.

This Programme is one of the institute's initiatives to offer cross-cultural youth

leadership programmes to Tanzania future global leaders.

She added that there were more than 700 students from the Belt and Road countries last year in PolyU, some of them were from Africa.

Apart from academic programmes, PolyU also supports enterprises and professionals to embrace the opportunities arising from the BRI. Since 2014, the University has offered more than 390 consultancy services and executive training to organisations from Belt and Road countries.

Being one of Africa's fastest-growing economies, Tanzania has a strategic role in the BRI.

It was noted that the country is in need the kind of youth with vigour and zeal prevalent in Hong Kong that is required to make a difference and transform it from where it is to a more prosperous nation.

This begins with learning new ideas and new ways and from new experiences.

It was noted that Hong Kong was perfectly fit for this. In particular, the Institute of Advanced Executive Education and the PolyU.

By the end of the Programme, the young professionals, from varied sectors ranging from telecommunications, information technology, marketing, social enterprise, manufacturing, sustainability, finance, tourism to public health, will also work on action plans for specific areas of development in Tanzania.

The Programme will run in a series, each will cater to a cohort of 30 Tanzanian young professionals. PolyU's Institute of Advanced Executive Education is also planning to extend similar training to other Belt and Road countries.

[OpenGov Asia]



## ✓ BERMUDA: ARGUS DONATION TO YOUTH COUNSELLING PROJECT

**Hamilton, 19 June 2019** - THE Argus Group has donated \$15,000 to Family Centre in support of its Youth Development Zone counselling programme.

The YDZ is a community initiative launched in 2011 that offers services to the youth population living in North East Hamilton. Family Centre provides YDZ with child and family counselling and, by end of last September, had worked with 77 families.

In addition to counselling, Family Centre helps to coordinate other services for

YDZ children and their families, including collaboration with Bermuda Police Service, Bermuda Economic Development Corporation, Bermuda Coalition, Workforce Development, Salvation Army, Mirrors, Team Street Safe and a local church representative. According to a press release, these efforts help to ensure that social services are more accessible to residents living in the North East Hamilton area.

Martha Dismont, executive director of Family Centre, stated: "I would like to thank Argus for being a

loyal supporter of the Family Centre year after year. For us to be accessible to the communities that we serve, we rely on generous donations from sponsors. Without them, we couldn't have the impact that we do."

Lauren Bell, executive vice-president of Life and Pensions at the Argus Group, and a member of the Argus Group's Charitable Donations Committee, stated: "Our core values include integrity, fairness, excellence, respect, professionalism and

teamwork. We believe that it is only fair for everyone to have access to professional services like the counselling that Family Centre provides.

"Their YDZ programme involves teamwork with partners throughout the community to ensure families who otherwise would not have access to important services can do so.

*[Royal Gazette]*

## ✓ CANADA: ADDS 106,500 JOBS IN APRIL; YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT LOWEST SINCE 1976

**Ottawa, 10 June 2019** - EMPLOYMENT in Canada rose by approximately 106,500 in April from March, with notable gains in part-time work for youth, according to seasonally adjusted numbers released today by Statistics Canada.

Canada added approximately 73,000 full-time jobs and 33,600 part-time jobs during April. Total employment exceeded 19.0 million, and the unemployment rate edged down to 5.7% from 5.8% in March.

Among youth aged 15 to 24, overall employment rose by 47,000 in April, driven by a 66,000 increase in part-time work. The youth unemployment rate was 10.3%, the lowest rate since comparable data became available in 1976.

Employment gains for all workers age 15 years and older were spread across several industries: wholesale and retail trade; construction; information, culture and recreation; "other services"; public administration; and

agriculture. At the same time, fewer people were employed in professional, scientific and technical services.

The services-producing sector saw employment increase by 66,900 in April, while jobs in the goods-producing increased by 39,700.

Employment in Ontario rose by 47,100 in April, primarily due to gains in part-time work among people aged 15 to 24.

Youth employment in the province has been trending upward since the beginning of 2019. The unemployment rate in the province edged up to 6.0% from 5.9%.

Employment also increased in Quebec, Alberta and Prince Edward Island; it declined in New Brunswick, and was little changed in the other provinces.

*[Staffing Industry Analysts]*

## ✓ GUYANA: YOUTH BRIDGE GAP BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLIMATE AWARENESS

**Georgetown, 1 June 2019** - A group of youngsters in the Caribbean who promote environmental protection in the region is on a drive to empower other youth to address some of the big issues facing their generation.

National Coordinator of Caribbean Youth Environment Network

(CYEN), Kiefer Jackson, says the organisation has been working to gather the youth perspective, build capacity at a grassroots level and fill the gaps that would have been missed by government initiatives or plans.

"The Ministry of Presidency's Office of Climate Change has

recognised the work being done by this chapter of CYEN and has asked us to join with them this year in facilitating their climate change awareness in schools around Guyana," Jackson told IPS.

"We believe this partnership to be one step in the direction of ensuring that young people play an active role in climate action and

ensure non-governmental organisation and government partnership for the betterment of our people."



As far as capacity is concerned, last year, CYEN was approved by YOUNGO, the Children and Youth constituency to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to undertake a Conference of Youth in the countries where CYEN operates. CYEN's website reflects a presence in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Saint Lucia, among others.

Jackson added that the activity was used to assist in further building the current participatory environmental awareness programmes for young citizens of Guyana.

"We have also been engaging in a series of panel discussions, in an effort to inform and educate young people on the Sustainable Development Goals," Jackson said.

"The last talk would have been on Goal 13 (Climate Action). Based on the feedback of these activities, we have recognised that young people in Guyana, have robust and innovative ideas and we have been working on creating a platform for them to showcase their ideas or projects that guarantee the strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change in Guyana."

In addition to facilitating larger scale education and awareness, Jackson believes more attention should be given to ensuring adequate and appropriate infrastructure and housing that can withstand, as far as possible, the perils of climate change.

Guyana is plagued by poorly-maintained drainage and sea defence infrastructure.

The low coastal plain which houses the capital Georgetown, and where a large percentage of the population resides, is below sea level and at high risk of flooding.

"With the effects of climate change becoming even more present through intensifying natural disasters, more should be done to prepare this region for what seems to be inevitable," Jackson said.

In addition to being prone to flooding, Guyana is also affected by drought.

[Stabroek News]

## ✓ JAMAICA: PNPYO CALLS FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP MEETING TO ADDRESS CRIME

**Kingston, 3 June 2019** - THE People's National Party Youth Organisation (PNPYO) is calling for an urgent meeting of youth in leadership to posit ideas towards safer schools and communities across the island.

Expressing grave concern about the nation's approach to creating and maintaining systems of peace and cohesion across the country, the PNPYO in a news release said the wanton murder of the nation's children in various communities must be condemned by all.

"What is the plan? When will stakeholders across the society start treating crime like the urgent priority it is?"

Why have political leaders, clergy, press, industry executives and advocates not met to create a long-term strategy to reverse the collapse of communities?

What we are seeing is not simply a policing problem but the evidence of a fast disintegrating social fabric that is strangling the life out of our children as it unravels.

Are those with the power to act asleep at the wheel?" asked president of the PNP youth arm, Krystal Tomlinson.

Tomlinson's remarks come in the wake of the abduction and murder of two of the nation's children within the last several weeks. They are 7-year-old Shante Skyers and Trisha Morris, 11.

Five men are now in custody in relation to Trisha's murder. Her decomposing body was found in bushes at Woodhall District in Hanover on Tuesday. It appeared she had been sexually molested.

Shante was killed late last

month at Blue Hole in rural St Andrew. Her body was also found in bushes. Two men have been taken into custody in relation to her murder.

Another man, Miguel Williams, was mobbed and killed by irate residents after Shante's schoolbag was found in his possession.

In the meantime, with the recently-announced states of emergency declared across the parishes of St James, Westmoreland and Hanover, the PNPYO argued that the security measure cannot stand on its own and does nothing to empower community-led organisations that it said statistically deliver better and more comprehensive mitigation and prevention results.

"If the prime minister was half as committed to

strengthening the intelligence gathering capabilities of law enforcement and identifying, empowering and integrating community peace building organisations as he is to declaring states of emergency we would be seeing sustained reductions in crime in St James after last year's failed SOE experiment," Tomlinson said.

She asked: "What is the central strategy? What are the local and provincial organisations that are being called upon to support the identification, investigation and prosecution of criminals?"

Tomlinson said the youth arm will be reaching out to various bodies with a view to convene an urgent meeting to chart a way forward.

[Loop News Jamaica]



## ✓ PERU: UNESCO'S MAB PROGRAMME TO ENGAGE YOUTH IN BIOSPHERE RESERVES

**Lima, 27 June 2019** - UNESCO's MAB Programme started with a project that is the first of its kind to actively engage youth in the MAB Programme and its biosphere reserves.

This project, funded by the Flemish government of Belgium, aims to improve the socio-economic development of young people living in biosphere reserves in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region.

The main objective of this project is to establish an overall framework to improve the socio-economic development of young people living in UNESCO biosphere reserves.

The project will work closely with the youth of Latin America and the Caribbean region to identify the main challenges they face.

However, the project is fully cognizant of regional, national and local differences, as well as the fact that youth is not a homogeneous group and includes differences in age, religion, gender and education, among others.

The overall framework should, therefore, be viewed as a guideline for use afterwards in other regions to help them identify and address their main challenges.

A call for 5 projects from different countries was made for young people and youth organizations of the Latin America and the

Caribbean (LAC) region, active in biosphere reserves. Otis Jeffers from Saint Mary's Biosphere Reserve in Saint Kitts & Nevis is one of the selected participants to implement his own youth project.

With 'Bee the Buzz of the Reserve', Otis will promote pollinators for crop production and various products of honey bees.

This activity will teach young people in a practical manner how to produce honey, wax and other bi-products by creating a demonstration unit.

It will contribute to the green economy by giving young people the opportunity to be entrepreneurs in bee-keeping, and will provide employment opportunities.

The other selected projects are:

Strengthening capacities to provide ecotourism services for young people in the Ciénaga Grande de Santa Marta Biosphere Reserve (Colombia).

Integral management of plastic waste generated on the banks of the Napo River through the strengthening of youth groups in the Limoncocha area of Yasuni Biosphere Reserve (Ecuador).

Creation of a radio program to promote effective communication of ecological initiatives and environmental activities oriented towards young people in the Huayabamba river basin (Gran Pajaten

BR - Peru).

The developed local and regional projects by the participants are linked to the core topics of UNESCO's Natural Science Sector. It is important to note that the selected projects are not only on youth, they are also led by young people.

*[Devdiscourse]*

NEWS



### ✓ INDONESIA: YOUTH ACTION IN THE BILATERAL SPACE

**Jakarta, 14 June 2019** - YOUNG Australians and Indonesians are taking up the bilateral cause and becoming the greatest champions of deeper, more meaningful engagement between our neighbouring countries.

Indonesia's millennial cohort receives far more media attention than any other generation in the archipelago. With a staggering 63.4 million Indonesians aged between 20 and 35 years, that's hardly surprising.

For youth action in the Indonesia-Australia relationship, it's a blessing. Australia's population is far smaller and, amidst the competition for influence in Southeast Asia, Indonesia's gaze does not often turn south towards Australia.

If we look at the bigger picture, there is also a signifi-

cant cohort of emerging Indonesian leaders. An estimated 49 million Indonesians are currently aged between 10 and 19-years old.

Engaging a portion of this generation to genuinely participate in the bilateral relationship will ensure the long-term robustness of youth action and involvement in this space.

In practice, this means moving beyond tertiary engagement towards high schools, with a focus on people-to-people relations, language skills and cultural engagement.

In Australia, we now have the first generation entirely educated following a reorientation of the regional order, with an increased emphasis on the importance of Asia-Australia relations.

For young Australian leaders today, the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) defined the era and forced a new reality.

The "Asian Century" former Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating has spruiked for decades has fully matured for today's young Australians.

While this has, thus far, focused on East and occasionally South Asia, the reorientation of Australia's focus towards Jakarta rather than London or Washington is inherently obvious for young Australians after a period book-ended by the GFC and Brexit.

Young people from both countries today benefit from the hard work of our predecessors.

Neither Indonesian nor Australian millennials should need to be convinced

of the potential in the relationship.

However, support is still needed to reap the benefits from self-motivated youth action.

Government-led initiatives are increasingly important in supporting future young leaders. In this respect, the Australian government leads.

For truly transformative youth action, long-term investment is needed over successive generations.

The promotion of people-to-people links enhances intercultural understanding, and successively encourages diplomatic and trade links to the benefit of both countries.

*[Jakarta Post]*

### ✓ MONGOLIA: GOVERNOR URGES YOUTH TO DEVELOP READING HABIT

**Ulaanbaatar, 9 June 2019** - GOVERNOR Acharya Devvrat on Saturday said books were our real friends as they helped us improve our knowledge and understanding. He also expressed concern over the fact that the younger generation is not so keen on reading books and is relying more on modern technology.

Inaugurating an International Book Fair, organised jointly by OKARD NGO, Language and Culture Department and the Himachal Kala Academy at the historic Gaiety Theatre here, he said such book fairs were always

helpful in generating an interest for reading among the younger generation.

The Governor visited the stalls at the fair and took keen interest in the books exhibited. He said books were the centre of knowledge and gave us contemplation, knowledge and understanding.

Devvrat congratulated the organisers of the book fair and said it was a matter of pleasure that books of Mongolia, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina had also been introduced to bring novelty to the fair.

Apart from this, it was

praiseworthy that the heritage buildings of Shimla was being painted onto canvases by 10 students of Art College, Chaura Maidan (Shimla), he said.

*[The Tribune]*



### ✓ MYANMAR: YOUTH TAKES ON CLIMATE CHANGE

**Naypyitaw, 21 June 2019** - EVERY year, June 5 marks World Environment Day. As protecting the environment is a global concern, this international day provides an occasion to question what is being done locally to fight climate change and protect our planet.

And as the degradation of the environment will be tougher on future generations, it is no surprise to see the youth raising awareness about the issue both internationally and at home.

“We [Myanmar] are not developed and economically stable enough to focus on the environment,” said a youth activist Aye Ko Htut. Kyaw Ye

Htet, also an activist and organiser of the Yangon Campaign, added that environmental awareness is not taught in Myanmar schools, resulting in a poor understanding of the issue: “People may not understand the technical aspects of climate change, but almost everyone notices the increasing heat last summer.”

According to the Global Climate Risk Index 2019, Myanmar is one of the countries most affected by extreme weather since 1998.

Most notably, the 2008 Cyclone Nargis claimed approximately 140,000 lives and seriously affected the livelihood of 2.4 million people. Although Myanmar might not be a major emitter

of CO2 responsible for climate change, the nation will be among the most affected.

As such, Myanmar’s coasts are at risk. According to the 2017 Assessing Climate Risk report, sea levels might rise from two to four times their current levels by 2080-2089.

“We are entering into an age of extreme weather, where cyclones like Nargis are going to become more frequent, scorching heat will make parts of Myanmar uninhabitable, increased snow melt in the Himalayas will cause flooding on an unprecedented scale, and rising sea levels will inundate coastlines and eventually Yangon as well,” Thant Myint-U, local historian, opined at the

talk on “Myanmar in 2050” which was held on July 8 last year.

Mirroring the words of Greta Thunberg, local activists wonder what the Myanmar of tomorrow would look like if serious steps are not taken now.

With Yangon hypothetically being inundated and cyclones occurring on a more frequent basis Kyaw Ye Htet reasserts that protecting the environment is the responsibility of everyone.

*[Myanmar Times]*

### ✓ PAKISTAN: FINDING JOBS IN PAKISTAN FOR THE YOUTH BULGE

**Islamabad, 14 June 2019** - THEY ask me to give ideas for increasing employment in Pakistan.

The answer they are expecting is build more industry, more industrial parks, build SEZs and seek more FDI. And of course, don’t forget to give everybody a low-quality education and then pray graduates get a job!

Policy in Pakistan has danced to the music of these clichés emanating from donor consulting jobs. The results are there for all to see, galloping debt, declining productivity and repeated IMF programmes.

The only real employment and poverty reduction opportunity that our poor have got is from migration

and sending remittances back to their families.

The Pakistan economy has grown on average at about 5 per cent annually not because of government policy but despite it.

The sectors that policy has favoured, agriculture and education, have shrunk despite subsidies. Growth of the economy and jobs has happened in the services sector: education, finance, telephony and media.

*[Pakistan Today]*



### ✓ QATAR: GENERATION AMAZING INSPIRES YOUTH IN RIO

**Qatar, 19 June 2019** - GENERATION Amazing - a Qatar 2022 legacy programme teamed up with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Flamengo FC to deliver a football development session for impoverished youth in Rio de Janeiro.

The event, which was attended by girls and boys from Campo Grande, Favela do Vidigal and Cidade de Deus, aimed to promote youth empowerment, inclusion and resilience through sport.

Participants have previously benefited from UNODC's Line Up, Live Up programme, which uses sport-based initiatives as a tool to prevent youth violence and crime.

Flamengo legend Evaristo de Macedo and Bora Milutinovic, who coached five different nations at FIFA World Cup finals, were among those who attended the event, which took place on the sidelines of Qatar's participation in the Copa America.

Hassan Al Thawadi, Secretary General of the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy (SC), the organisation responsible for delivering the infrastructure and legacy programmes for Qatar 2022, said: "Generation Amazing and the UNODC are natural partners as both entities seek to positively affect children's lives in areas of the world most in need of assistance.

The event marked a major milestone in terms of beneficiaries for Generation Amazing, which is currently

present in seven countries in the Middle East and Asia: Qatar, Nepal, Pakistan, Jordan, Lebanon, the Philippines and India.

"We are proud to announce that Generation Amazing, in collaboration with its strategic partners, has now reached half a million beneficiaries," said Mushtaq Al Waeli, Senior Advisor to the SC Secretary General and Executive Director of Generation Amazing.

He added: "Reaching 500,000 youth is a major step on our journey to empower and educate the next generation through the inspirational impact of football."

Marco Teixeira, Senior Programme Officer of UNODC's Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration, congratulated Generation Amazing on the scope of its outreach.

Teixeira said: "Youth are placed at the centre of Doha Programme's activities that aim to promote a culture of lawfulness, and to empower young boys and girls to become socially responsible citizens by helping them build life skills to better cope with daily life challenges and move away from involvement in violence, crime or drug use.

In this effort, sport has been an important ally, offering a unique vehicle for non-formal education, skill development and the social integration of young people."

The activation contributed to the Generation Amazing objective of positively impacting 1 million lives

through football outreach and education by 2022.

Generation Amazing has already reached more than 28 disadvantaged communities through its various programmes, including the development of community football pitches and other sporting facilities.

*[The Peninsula Qatar]*





### ✓ BAHAMAS: HIGHLIGHTS VALUE OF TIME AT YOUTH SUMMER EMPLOYMENT LAUNCH

**Nassau, 28 June 2019** – MINISTER of Youth, Sports and Culture, the Hon. Lanisha Rolle addressed the Launch of the National Youth Summer Employment Programme last Thursday, at the Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium to the theme, ‘This is Your Time, Don’t Waste It.’

The Ministry is providing employment for four weeks during the month of July for 1,500 students engaged in

New Providence and on each major Family Island.

The Ministry also provides summer camps for youngsters up to early teens that enable them to learn valuable skills in safe, productive environments.

Encouraging the youth employees in the summer work programme, Minister Rolle advised that they take the valuable opportunity to learn new things, make new

acquaintances, impress future employers and learn the procedures of the workplace.

It’s also a chance to earn a few dollars to prepare for back-to-school, she said.

She left the youngsters with a little wisdom, originally put forward by Harvey Mackay, on the value of time, stating: “time is free, but it is priceless; you can’t own it, but you can use it;

you can’t keep it, but you can spend it; and once you’ve lost it, you cannot get it back.”

She welcomed and congratulated them, and also wished them the best experience.

*[EyeWitness News]*

### ✓ BERMUDA: CONFERENCE SEEKS TO ATTRACT YOUNG PEOPLE TO CAPTIVE INDUSTRY

**Hamilton, 10 June 2019** - THIS year’s Bermuda Captive Conference has an increased focus on engaging young professionals looking to transition into the insurance industry, particularly captives, as part of its community outreach programme.

The conference has partnered with Bermuda’s Department of Workforce Development, Bermuda College, and local high schools to connect job-seekers and students to industry mentors.

Two interactive session on Monday afternoon, moderated by conference keynote Tripp Crosby of YouTube fame and local comedian Nadanja Bailey, feature young professionals exploring how captives work.

“A lot of people in our community have lost jobs,” noted Leslie Robinson, head of the conference’s community outreach committee.

“So, our focus this year is

on youth and also adult learners who are looking to transition into the insurance industry.

Captives have been around for close to 60 years they’re a mainstay of the Bermuda market.

We want to raise awareness about jobs offered in this industry, including those among service providers he lawyers, accountants, auditors, actuaries, and compliance experts.”

Bermuda is home to nearly 740 captives, supporting primarily Fortune 500 corporations in the US and generating over \$55 billion in annual gross written premiums.

Over the past few years, the conference explores community partnership initiatives to help give back to Bermuda. Last year, palliative care charity Friends of Hospice, was selected at the inaugural beneficiary.

This year, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Bermuda,

which provides supportive mentorship for at-risk children and teens on the island, has been chosen as the beneficiary charity for this conference.

“Community outreach is an increasingly important part of our conference, and we’re delighted Big Brothers Big Sisters Bermuda is our 2019 designated charity,” said Mike Parrish, chair of the conference.

“We’ll support them with a donation of \$5,000 and we have also welcomed them to attend our event, set up a booth in exhibitor area, fundraise, and generally highlight the valuable work they do.

We see this as a way for the industry to give back to Bermuda.”

Beginning over 40 years ago, BBBS Bermuda is a mentoring programme dedicated to helping children and youth, many from single-parent homes, realise their potential.

It matches those between the ages of five and 18 with adult mentors a positive role model and friend. The programme currently helps more than 100 young people.

*[The Royal Gazette]*



### ✓ BARBADOS: TOO FEW LEADERS FOR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

**Bridgetown, 12 June 2019** -

At a time when wide-spread youth ill-discipline and deviance have become a national talking point, recognised youth para-military organisations, which have served as character builders for generations, are suffering from a crisis of leadership.

According to Commandant of the Barbados Cadet Corps Lieutenant Colonel Errol Brathwaite while enthusiasm levels are still high, enrollment numbers in the school's cadets programme are less than desirable.

In fact, Brathwaite contends that unless the leadership issue is addressed, more of these organisations will eventually become non-existent at some schools.

For example, Barbados TODAY understands that the Combermere Cadet Corps, which was regarded as one the leading school cadet programmes, only has 17 students enlisted.

“The enthusiasm is still there, and it is there now even more than it has ever been, but the main challenge is that of leadership.

We don't have enough adults making themselves available to lead, not only in the cadets but all youth organizations.

We need to make a greater request for adult leadership.

Right now, in the boys scouts, it is a huge challenge.

We just don't have enough

persons coming forward to provide leadership and guidance to our young people,” he said, noting that the deficiency was especially pronounced among the male leadership.

He added, “Back in the days from 1904 you had cadet companies like Combermere, Lodge School and Harrison College and you had leaders there, persons on staff, who were there on the ground to guide those youngsters.

Right now, we are seeing scouts disappearing from a number of schools and they have disappeared because there are no leaders.”

Pointing to the fact that the increase in violent crime is largely perpetrated by young people, Brathwaite appealed to Barbadians' sense of civic duty, noting that involvement in these youth organisations can go a long way in addressing the social ills currently impacting the country.

Look at what is happening in our nation, across the region and across the world and see that young people are crying out for positivity and role models.

We as adults need to provide the opportunity for them to be guided if we want to build a strong society and strong communities.

If this is what we truly want, then we must do something to ensure that our people understand and appreciate positivity, he said, adding that “this enormous responsibility cannot be left to a few but

rather all hands must be put to the plough.

Brathwaite, who is also the principal of the Ellerslie Secondary School, made it clear that even though the need for leadership was great; his organisation had no intention of lowering its selection criteria for those charged with the responsibility of guiding young minds.

“We have gone through the process of expanding and we will continue to expand but if there are no leaders available then we are going to continue to have this impact on the ability to raise larger numbers across schools.

Right now, these organisations are standing strong because the adults we have are very dedicated, but they are stretched. So, you might have a person leading at multiple organisations and schools,” he stressed.

*[Barbados Today]*





### ✓ DOMINICA: GOVT MINISTER CALLS ON ADULTS TO STOP CONFUSING OUR YOUTH

**Roseau, 19 June 2019** - MINISTER of Ecclesiastical Affairs, Family & Gender Affairs, Catherine Daniel has called on adults to exhibit exemplary behavior at all times to prevent the youth from losing faith in them.

She made that statement while speaking at a National Consultation held at the Goodwill Parish Hall on Wednesday.

“Let me take the opportunity as a member of the adult group to impress upon us adults the need to exhibit exemplary behavior at all times, so that the youth do not lose faith in us,” Daniel said.

According to her,

sometimes, adults show youth conflicting behaviours.

“In church we behave one way; in the society, we behave one way and so we confuse our youth,” Daniel remarked. “And that is why, sometimes, we find them not wanting to come to the churches, because they are so confused.”

She continued, “We do not want to discourage them or lead them astray by the very people that they look up to for inspiration. So, let’s be straight in what we are doing.”

The minister exhorted adults never to give youth reasons to look upon them with shame or disgust

“because you have failed to live up to the standards expected of you as a parent, pastor, teacher, mentor, parliamentary representative or whatever leader you are supposed to be.”

Daniel urged the youth to find inspiration from their elders.

“But most importantly, be self-motivated, scrupulous and ambitious; set high goals and pursue excellence,” she advised. “Tell yourselves I will never be a burden on society. I will rather be a catalyst for the good of society where the peace, safety and well-being of citizens takes prominence.”

The minister also

encouraged leaders in society to combine their efforts, to arrest the erosion of values and escalation of negative behaviors such as immorality, lawlessness, violence and different forms of abuse, among other things, which are plaguing society today.

“And for this we too have to do self-introspection and see whether we are adding to this or whether we are making a difference to create a just and fair society,” she noted.

*[Dominica News Online]*

### ✓ JAMAICA: YOUTH LEADERS ATTEND DIASPORA CONFERENCE

**Kingston, 23 June 2019** - Fifty exceptional youth leaders were invited to the 8th Biennial Diaspora Conference, held at the Jamaica Conference Centre, in Downtown Kingston, from June 16-20.

State Minister in the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information, Hon. Alando Terrelonge, who spoke on June 17 at the event, pointed out that the conference gave the young people an opportunity to network, to see the global picture of where Jamaica is, and where we are going.

The youth leaders represented organisations, such as Equality Jamaica; Youth for Change; National Youth Council; Youth Parliament; Jamaica Union of Tertiary Students; Students Council; Prefects Association;

Caymanas Police Youth Club; Southborough Youth Club; Hampton Gardens Youth Club, and Newlands Youth Club.

“This is the kind of youth engagement we need in Jamaica,” the State Minister said, emphasising that youth involvement is vital to Jamaica, especially in preventing brain drain.

“We must create opportunities for our young people,” Mr. Terrelonge said, noting that Jamaica is going in the right direction in this, as in the last three years there has been a trending down of the youth unemployment with the rate now at 19.7 per cent, with various programmes focusing on the issue, including the Housing, Opportunity, Production and Employment (HOPE)

programme; the Career Advancement Programme (CAP) and the Technology Advancement Programme (TAP).

Additionally, he cited the HEART Trust’s mobile training Unit, which is traversing the island certifying young people.

He explained that the Unit invites persons with a particular skill, such as hairdressing, barbering, masonry, tiling to come and demonstrate their skill, and receive certification on the same day.

The State Minister also listed several outlets for youth engagement by the Government, including the Youth Advisory Council, which meets with several Ministers on various matters to ensure that proper

policies are affected; meetings with the Students’ Council; and Youth Empowerment Officers working with community-based youth clubs.

*[Government of Jamaica, Jamaica Information Service]*



### ✓ AUSTRALIA: NEW VIC REPORT HIGHLIGHTS ISSUES IN YOUTH CUSTODY EDUCATION

**Canberra, 21 June 2019** - A new study has found that learning time for young Victorians in custody is often “wasted” due to security concerns.

According to the researchers, class groups in youth justice centres are based on minimising the potential for conflict, not on learning needs.

“Young people are housed in units and all kinds of assessments are done to determine which unit they live in and then it’s the unit

group that becomes a class that is taught,” lead researcher Dr Julie White told EducationHQ.

“So the issue we raised [was] ‘is that the best way to group students for learning?’”

The report also identified issues regarding the access to education of girls and young women, students with health and disability needs, young adults on remand and young people from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Another key issue identified by the researchers is the reintegration of young adults into the education system after leaving custody.

White stressed that the study’s purpose was not to evaluate the quality of education inside custody, which she said is “excellent”, but to identify key areas where it could be improved even further.

“Particularly at Parkville College, it’s a very specialised, expert form of

teaching and they do an extraordinary job and so recognising that is important I think,” she said.

Victoria University said that the study has important implications for a \$288 million youth justice facility which is set to open near Werribee in 2021.

*[EducationHQ Australia]*

### ✓ FIJI: NORTHERN YOUTH GROUP SUPPORTS 4MILLION TREES INITIATIVE

**Suva, 5 June 2019** - A 14-MEMBER youth group in the Northern Division has come out in full support of the 4Million Trees in 4 Years Initiative undertaken by the Ministry of Forestry.

The group is concerned with the drastic impact climate change has had on their crops and livestock.

Valawavere Youth Club consists of both men and women who are farmers carrying out integrated farming approach that includes livestock and crops.

Most of the members reside at Droca Settlement at Nasaroroqawa in Bua, Vanua Levu, and they mainly grow watermelon on a large scale.

Registered with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the group requested the ministry’s Manager North Walter Matalau to link them up with the Ministry of Forestry because

they intended to support the 4Million Trees in 4Years Initiative.

Upon their request, Mr Matalau was able to secure two hours of the Minister of Forestry Osea Naiqamu’s time on Thursday, May 30, while he was on a tour of the Northern Division.

Mr Matalau said the group consisted of Hindu, Muslim and iTaukei youths residing in Droca Settlement.

“The Valawavere Youth Club is a very active group and since its inception in 2016, they have grown from strength to strength and they have set a pace for other youth groups not only in the Northern Division but in Fiji as a whole,” Mr Matalau said.

Valawavere youth member Amzad Ali, 29, said he was happy Mr Naiqamu took the time to visit the youth members.

“Most of us are cash crop farmers growing

watermelon and long beans in large-scale and we supply to Savusavu and also to Suva,” Mr Ali said.

“Watermelon takes three months to harvest and in one harvest, I used to earn about \$8000 but today we are facing a lot of challenges, especially the changing weather patterns.”

Mr Ali said what used to be fertile soil was now replaced with dry and hard soil not good enough to plant crops or even graze the livestock.

*[Fiji Times]*



### ✓ GUAM: GTA COMMITS \$100K TO GNTF

**Hagåtña, 21 June 2019** - THE Guam National Tennis Federation received a \$100,000 boost from GTA Teleguam toward the construction and development of a designated tennis center.

The Guam National Tennis Center, a world-class facility which will feature six sponsored courts, is part of the federation's vision toward developing and elevating the level of tennis play on island.

The \$100,000 commitment will allow GTA to sponsor the court specifically for U12 athletes.

"GNTF is overwhelmed by the generosity of the Guam community to make the dream a reality," said Torgun Smith, president of GNTF.

"We thank GTA for stepping up as a court sponsor. GTA is a proactive advocate for all youth development and

environmental efforts, said Laura Cepeda, the company's client relations executive.

"We are proud to partake in a larger community effort to provide the adequate resources needed to develop the skills for the sport and push the limits of competition," Cepeda said.

The Guam National Tennis Center is expected to occupy 5 acres, a monumental milestone for the island and the tennis

community.

GNTF is a nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to advance, encourage, and promote all levels of tennis on Guam for youth and adults, both recreational and competitive.

*[The Guam Daily Post]*

### ✓ NEW ZEALAND: LAUNCHES NEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FACILITY

**Wellington, 21 June 2019** - New Zealand Defence Minister Ron Mark and Associate Minister for Social Development Peeni Henare opened the new Youth Development Facility at Whenuapai Air Base on Friday.

The new facility will host 640 young people each year, who will take part in the Limited Service Volunteer (LSV) program.

LSV is a residential

six-week program run jointly by NZDF and MSD aimed at helping turn the lives of at risk young people around and move them into employment.

"The new facility opened today is a huge step forward for LSV. Not only is it modern and fit for purpose, it will help meet the increased demand for the program which the government has doubled in size to 1,600 students by the year 2020. This increase in numbers was a key

initiative in the Coalition agreement," said Mark. Associate Minister for Social Development Peeni Henare said the LSV program is one of the ministry's key work readiness and development programs for young people.

"The new facility and the one soon to be opened in Wellington will enable more young people to access a proven program that leads to meaningful and

sustainable employment," said Henare.

The new facility will also help train students at the Ministry of Education's Service Academies as well as members of the various Cadet Units in Auckland.

*[Xinhua]*

### ✓ SOLOMON ISLAND: A CHANCE TO "STEP UP" TO SUPPORT GIRLS' EDUCATION

**Honiara, 11 June 2019** - A group of adolescent girls in Solomon Islands huddle around a piece of butcher's paper. They are considering their answers to a question put to them as part of a research project: What makes it so hard for girls and young women in Solomon Islands to finish high school?

The spur for the research is as stark as it is shocking. Fewer than one in ten adolescent girls (7%) in Solomon Islands graduate from high school one of the lowest rates in the world.

The youth-led research, undertaken by Plan International Australia working with 60 adolescent girls across three locations, has revealed the key barriers that are holding girls in the Solomon Islands back.

Key among these are school fees, discrimination against girls who become pregnant, and deeply entrenched gender inequality.

The research also reveals the intersecting and unique barriers faced by girls with disabilities.

But ultimately, what the final two reports provide is compelling evidence that a generation of girls are missing out on education. The research was ground-breaking in the use of a "photo voice" methodology, a first in the Solomons. This saw the girls conduct 164 peer surveys to test their answers to the research question, and create, take and caption photos that depict the barriers they identified to girls finishing high school and the change they want to see.

The number one barrier

identified was school fees. Since 2009, under the Fee Free Basic Education policy, the government only applies fees for senior secondary schooling (years 10-12).

As a result, there is a cliff face drop off in the number of girls accessing senior secondary education.



The girls surveyed across all locations were extremely aware that their education was a financial burden for their families.

*[The Interpreter]*

The latest Solomon Islands Poverty Profile reveals two out of three households struggle to afford school fees.

The situation is most challenging for families living in certain provinces, with significantly higher poverty incidence and prevalence, such in the Makira and Guadalcanal provinces as well as in Honiara where the majority of secondary schools are located.

Gender inequality was another major barrier; in particular the traditional roles girls and young women are expected to perform.

While boys' education is valued, girls are expected to take care of domestic chores, look after siblings, and eventually become a wife and mother.

This research indicates that adolescent girls spend 75% more time than boys on household chores, which is significantly higher than the global average. Girls undertake 15–20 hours of chores each week, whereas boys are more likely to complete just a few hours, one to six.

Social stigma around pre-marital relationships and pregnancy is another factor.

The research indicates two in five adolescent girls drop out due to pregnancy or child, early and forced marriage, again much higher than the global average.

NEWS

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