



✓ *In Today's Bulletin*

BOTSWANA: Football Association Has Launched The Elite Youth League

CONGO: Congo Basin Youth Spotlight Their Work Protecting Fragile Forest

ETHIOPIA: AFIDEP At Policy Dialogue On Youth, Violence And Development

SOUTH AFRICA: Young Volunteers To Empower Communities

ZIMBABWE: The Economic Case For Youth Financial Education

ARGENTINA: IV Global Conference On The Sustained Eradication Of Child Labour, Buenos Aires

BELIZE: Belize Hosts The World Youth Conference 2017

BRAZIL: Brazil To Invest R\$157 Million In Program For Rio's Favela Youth

CANADA: Top Execs Sleep Out And Raise Over \$1 Million For Homeless Youth

ECUADOR: Parliament Of Youth Students Of Salesian Schools

MALAYISA: Youths Most Concerned About Education, Affordable Housing, Transportation, Jobs – Khairy

NEPAL: Youth Look For Those With Development Agenda

PHILIPPINES: Engaging The Youth

SINGAPORE: 180 Young Achievers Receive Awards From President Halimah

THAILAND: APEC 2017: Voices Of The Future Issues Declaration For Youth

ALBANIA: Connecting Youth: The Other Convergence Engine Of Western Balkans

ITALY: Training Seminar On Combating Antigypsyism And Online Hate Speech

SWITZERLAND: Promoting Youth Rights At The UN

UKRAINE: Youth Learnt Innovative Practices Of Democratization And Advocating For Human Rights

UNITED KINGDOM: Youth Representative To Join New UK Development

AUSTRALIA: CITI Broadens Youth Unemployment Scheme

FIIJI: Youth Scheme

GUAM: Youth Surfers Compete

SAMOA: Keep Our Youth Here To Work The Land

VANUATU: Vanuatu Hopes Of Battling Youth Crime On National Ids

AFRICA
AMERICA
ASIA
EUROPE
PACIFIC
INFO

✓ *UPCOMING EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2017*

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
1 December 2017	World AIDS Day	Melaka, Malaysia
3 December 2017	International Volunteers Day for Economic and Social Development	Melaka, Malaysia
5 December 2017	International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development	Melaka, Malaysia
9 December 2017	International Anti- Corruption Day	Melaka, Malaysia
10 December 2017	Human Rights Day	Melaka, Malaysia
18 December 2017	International Migrants Day	Melaka, Malaysia
20 December 2017	International Human Solidarity Day	Melaka, Malaysia



✓ BOTSWANA: FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION HAS LAUNCHED THE ELITE YOUTH LEAGUE

Gaborone, 10 November 2017 - ACCORDING to the BFA official website, the project is the second phase of the association's Youth Development plan.

The Elite Youth League, as a pilot project, will be played firstly in the eastern side of the country where

the BFA centres are mostly located.

The project will move to adopt schools in the western side with time and it will see the return of the Schools of Excellence in 2018 which will be critical.

"We are hopeful that the

players we are grooming will also help us qualify for major development tournaments at under 17 and 20 in the continent between now and 2020 Tokyo Olympics," BFA President Maclean Letshwiti said. Mr Letshwiti, who was speaking at the launch, urged schools and parents to

support and encourage their children to take part in this project.

He said football is a new employer nowadays and has high rate of reducing unemployment in our country.

[The Voice]

✓ CONGO: CONGO BASIN YOUTH SPOTLIGHT THEIR WORK PROTECTING FRAGILE FOREST

Brazzaville, 9 November 2017 – YOUTH groups working in Africa's Congo Basin countries are supporting economic progress in isolated rural communities while protecting the forest, and it is high time their voices were heard, a young woman at the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP23) in Bonn, Germany, said Thursday.

"Young people in the Congo Basin have been

doing things on the ground that often go ignored," explained Marie Tamoifo, President of the Cameroon Green Youth Association (Association de la Jeunesse verte du Cameroun AJVC) and Regional Coordinator of the Youth Network for sustainable management of forest ecosystems in Central Africa (Réseau des jeunes pour la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers d'Afrique centrale - REJEFAC) in an interview with UN News.

REJEFAC brings together youth organizations from 10 Congo Basin countries Burundi, Cameroon, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe and Chad).

Its aim is to promote the effective participation of young environmental actors in decision-making in the Congo Basin and "to contribute to the emergence

in the region of a new type of leadership, more sensitive and open to the requirements of sustainable development."

"[As for] actions on the ground, there are reforestation, awareness and education programmes for young people. It's about strengthening the work that is done by governments," said Ms. Tamoifo

[DRC Daily News]

✓ ETHIOPIA: AFIDEP AT POLICY DIALOGUE ON YOUTH, VIOLENCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Addis Ababa Ethiopia, 6 November 2017 - Ababa, Ethiopia.

THE International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are hosting a policy dialogue on youth, violence and development. The objective of the dialogue is to develop and strengthen a research agenda which seeks to encourage collaborative work as well as inform evidence-driven policies that address the challenges facing young people in Africa.

The policy dialogue is taking place from 6-7

Attending the dialogue are various development stakeholders including policymakers, academia, civil society and development agencies.

Representing AFIDEP at the policy dialogue are Dr. Eliya Zulu, the Executive Director, AFIDEP and Eunice Mueni, Knowledge Translation Officer. Dr. Zulu shall be a panelist at a talk show which shall deliberate the youth perspectives on the socio-economic dimensions, costs and consequences of violence.

It is expected that following this session, participants shall identify actions and challenges facing youths in socio-economic policy and programming spaces; and there shall be emphasis on the need for inclusion of youths in development processes, peace-building and violence prevention.

The opening remarks at the dialogue shall be made by H.E. Ambassador, Mr. Phillip Baker, and High Commissioner of Canada in Ethiopia who will outline Canada's priorities for Africa on youth, gender, and inclusive development. Ms Prudence Nonkululeko Ngwenya, Head of the African Union Commission

Youth Division will also make opening remarks and discuss the African Union's priorities on youth, with reference to the 2017 theme, *Harnessing the Demographic Dividend*.

[Addis Neger]



✓ SOUTHAFRICA: YOUNG VOLUNTEERS TO EMPOWER COMMUNITIES

Cape Town, 3 November 2017 - TO help advance youth economic empowerment, Vodacom has given a facelift to Vodacom Change the World by relaunching the programme as an information and communication technology (ICT) and youth volunteerism initiative.

Vodacom Change the World helps create work-experience opportunities for young people, who in turn will use their skills and time to give back to their communities through the non-profit organisations (NPOs) of their choice.

The selected candidates are placed at these NPOs for a year across all nine provinces. Each NPO receives a grant and the volunteer a monthly stipend during the partnership.

On Thursday November 2

at Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand, 20 young professionals were announced as the 2017 intake. They are excited and looking forward to starting their projects and giving back to South Africa's communities.

The Vodacom Change the World programme was introduced in 2011, giving individuals the opportunity to volunteer their time and skills to work for a NPO for 12 months. To date, 111 volunteers have already made a difference through their placement at a range of NPOs.

Takalani Netshitenzhe, chief officer of corporate affairs at Vodacom Group, said: "Statistics released by Statistics South Africa in August this year indicate that youth unemployment is at its highest since 2003, with more than 50% of the youth between the ages of

15 and 24 jobless.

In a contracting economy, the prospects of addressing this challenge of unemployment at a faster pace are dim.

It is against this background that Vodacom revised the volunteer programme in order to contribute to national youth development programmes.

"Through the Change the World programme, the youth are afforded a unique opportunity to do something close to their hearts while imparting their ICT skills to help society.

As the impacts of the fourth industrial revolution are going to be felt hardest by the youth and women in particular, we see this as an opportunity to help bridge the digital divide in communities while preparing young people for a future in a fast-digitising

world.

"In this first youth intake, I am pleased to see that 60% are women and 70% of the ICT projects will focus on education.

Accordingly, through this programme Vodacom is also contributing to the attainment of several interrelated sustainable development goals."

Netshitenzhe said she was confident that on completion of the programme, the 20 youth volunteers would be armed with vital work experience, enhanced skills, self-fulfillment and access to networks that will create more opportunities for them to contribute to economic development in South Africa.

[Brand Voice]

✓ ZIMBABWE: THE ECONOMIC CASE FOR YOUTH FINANCIAL EDUCATION

Harare, 3 November 2017 - BUILDING a financially inclusive ecosystem on a sustainable basis requires the involvement of a key constituency in the economy; the children and youth.

One cannot talk of financial inclusivity without addressing the challenges of involving the young in the discussion and practice of financial inclusion.

Children and youth are both current and future social and economic actors, whose decisions will influence the development of their societies.

The recent global financial crises, in various ways highlighted the importance of promoting social responsibility and developing skills in financial management for all persons, across all nations.

This is especially true for children and youth, who are particularly vulnerable.

Important values of citizenship and skills in managing financial resources at an early age can lessen social and financial vulnerability, thereby, reducing the risk of poverty caused by both lack

and debt burdens later in life.

This discussion is as important for any country as it is for Zimbabwe, which is why key stakeholders in the economy such as banks in Zimbabwe, are not only opening and encouraging discourse on the matter, but exploring tangible ways of making financial inclusion a long-term reality in the country and the region.

It is, however, important to note that there is a vast body of knowledge and experience that has already been built by organisations such as the United Nations Children's Fund and the

Child Youth and Finance International, that have helped devise workable models for rolling out financial inclusion programmes in environments such as ours.

As such, there is no need for financial inclusion practitioners to reinvent the wheel, but they should seek to remodel the tools already developed to suit the local conditions and economic circumstances.



The starting point of discourse is naturally agreeing on the globally acceptable definitions of social and financial education.

While there is some reluctance to exposing children to financial concepts at too early an age, there are considerable benefits to introducing financial education while young people are still in a process of formulating personal financial behaviours.

Research has shown that there is a direct relationship between the age of learners and behavioural changes. In light of this, financial education that is introduced early in life is more likely to be retained, which, therefore, increases financial knowledge and literacy later in life.

These behaviours such as respect for financial contracts, saving and managing financial resources, productivity and enterprise always prove invaluable in life for the individuals and society at large.

A good financial education package, therefore, addresses the learning needs of children along their entire social development continuum from infancy, through adolescence and young adulthood.

Exposing and connecting children to financial service providers at an early age allows them to recognise the role that such institutions play in society.

By applying the lessons learned through financial education in the classroom

in real life situations, children can take greater control over the development of their financial capability.

Linking youth with financial services providers should include both financial and complementary “non-financial services”, such as mentoring, which ensures that young people are able to “better navigate” the challenges involved with learning to save, managing their own money, starting a business and managing the risks that might prevent them from achieving their goals.

The learning environment in schools lends itself well in growing children in developing their basic skills.

However, such learning should be reinforced with practical activities such as the formation of savings clubs, where children participate and get the hands-on feel of the theoretical training.

In Zimbabwe, one of our member banks is also involved with UNICEF, in promoting the Child Friendly Budget Initiative with junior parliamentarians.

Various other banks in the country are offering child friendly and youth banking products.

Such programmes, aimed at involving the future leaders and economic players in the country make an invaluable contribution to the overall long-term financial inclusion agenda and should be supported.

[News Day]

NEWS



✓ ARGENTINA: IV GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINED ERADICATION OF CHILD LABOUR, BUENOS AIRES

Buenos Aires, 14 November 2017 - SINCE 1997, countries around the world have shared knowledge on policies and good practices, and have committed to eliminate child labour in a series of global conferences held in Oslo (1997), The Hague (2010) and Brasilia (2013).

The IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour will be organized by the Government of Argentina and will be held in Buenos

Aires on 14-16 November 2017.

While significant progress has been made globally in the fight against all forms of child labour between 2000 and 2012,¹ with ILO constituents having increasingly adopted and implemented integrated strategies and coordinated policies to combat child labour the goal that was set to eliminate it in its worst forms by 2016 was not achieved.

Under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the 2030 Agenda, UN Member States, employers' and workers' organizations, as well as civil society organizations, are urged to eliminate child labour by 2025, and forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking by 2030.

In order to contribute to this goal, the ILO launched Alliance 8.7, a global partnership designed to align the efforts of those working towards the

achievement of SDG Target 8.7.

In this framework, it was agreed that the IV Global Conference should cover both the sustained eradication of child labour and the elimination of forced labour and, in this context; it will also address the issue of the quality of youth employment.

[<http://www.ilo.org>]

✓ BELIZE: BELIZE HOSTS THE WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE 2017

Belmopan, 16 November 2017 - THROUGH the 9th, the World Youth Conference (WYC) 2017 was held at The Ramada Belize Princess Hotel in Belize City.

It was the first time that the conference was held in the Caribbean Region and Central America, and Belize was honored to host the prestigious event. The conference included 250 national, regional and international youth leaders under the theme: "Globally Running to 2030, Becoming Sustainably Strong."

The group focused on giving a voice to the youth through a transitional deliberation on how to make the post-2015 development agenda a reality.

This involved four days of panel, roundtable discussions, workshops, and musical and cultural presentations on various community, national and international youth-related issues and sustainable development.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), known as the Global Goals, were the

highlight of the conference, calling on universal action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

The 17 SDG's were developed in 2015 as part of the wider 2030 Agenda for sustainable development based on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) under the United Nations Development Programmer (UNDP).

They provide clear guidelines and targets for all countries to adopt in accordance with their own

priorities and the environmental challenges of the world at large.

The goals also tackle the root causes of poverty and aim to make positive changes for both people and planet. The 17 SDG's are expected to be achieved by all nations by the end of 2030.

However, achieving the SDG's requires the partnership of government, the private sector, civil society, and citizens.

[The Reporter]

✓ BRAZIL: BRAZIL TO INVEST R\$157 MILLION IN PROGRAM FOR RIO'S FAVELA YOUTH

Rio De Janeiro, 14 November 2017 - BRAZIL's federal government launched the Emergency Program for Social Actions in Rio de Janeiro on Monday, announcing investments of R\$157 million to stimulate the participation of young people in sports, cultural and technology activities and keep youngsters away

from crime in some of Rio's poorest favela communities. "When I see the preparation of those who now practice sport and who find in sport a means of social integration, I see that the basic idea is the idea of peace," declared Brazil's President Michel Temer, who along with Rio's

governor Luiz Fernando Pezão and Rio's mayor Marcelo Crivella participated in the ceremony.

"We have a huge military force helping to deal with organized crime," said Social Development Minister Osmar Terra

during the announcement ceremony."(But) If we do not change the social structure; we do not improve people's lives, this has a temporary effect," added Terra.

According to officials approximately 50,000 children and youths, from 6-17 years of age, will benefit from the program.



The objective is to reduce violence in these communities, located in the capital and throughout the metropolitan region through activities such as dances, games and courses.

Officials say the investments in sports will help with the purchase of sports equipment, uniforms, hiring of teachers and monitors, improvement of

facilities and food to beneficiaries until December 2018. For education, efforts will be increased to identify children and adolescents who are out of school and bring them back to the classroom.

“When I see the preparation of those who now practice sport and who find in sport a means of social

integration, I see that the basic idea is the idea of peace,” declared.

Brazil’s President Michel Temer, who along with Rio’s governor Luiz Fernando Pezão and Rio’s mayor Marcelo Crivella participated in the ceremony.

Among the ten favela communities contemplated to receive the funds are

Rocinha, Complexo do Alemão, Complexo da Maré, and Complexo do Salgueiro (São Gonçalo). In recent months the people in these communities have reported increased criminal activities and drug gang wars.

[The Rio Times]

✓ CANADA: TOP EXECS SLEEP OUT AND RAISE OVER \$1 MILLION FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

Toronto, 17 November 2017 – Over 70 of Toronto’s business and community leaders slept out last night and raised an astounding more than \$1 million in support of homeless youth who depend on Covenant House Toronto.

With only a sleeping bag and a piece of cardboard, participants in the 6th annual Covenant House Sleep Out: Executive Edition took the grand total to over \$6 million for all Sleep Out events.

Participants included NHL alumnus Paul Coffey; Maureen Jensen, chair and chief executive officer of the Ontario Securities Commission; Doug Mizzi, president, TJX Canada; Ana Dominguez, president, Campbell Company of Canada; and David Bradt, executive director, CIBC Global Markets, who got a small glimpse of the hardships kids can face on the street.

Bruce Rivers, Covenant House Toronto executive director who also slept out,

says that as many as 250 young people depend on the agency’s support every day.

“We are most grateful to the business community for such generous support of what participants describe as a life-changing experience,” Rivers says.

“Spending a chilly and uncomfortable night outside helps to shine a light on the plight of homeless youth and raise the necessary funds to help us give our kids the support they need to build better futures.”

Covenant House Toronto is Canada’s largest agency serving at-risk, homeless and trafficked youth offering a wide range of services and support.

To do all this, the agency relies on donors for more than 80 per cent of its \$27 million annual operating budget. Since opening its doors in 1982, Covenant House has served almost 95,000 young people.

[Covenant House Toronto]

✓ ECUADOR: PARLIAMENT OF YOUTH STUDENTS OF SALESIAN SCHOOLS

CUMBAYÁ, 17 November 2017 – “Youth who Transform Education” was the theme of the Parliament of Young Students of Salesian Schools, which took place from 7 to 9 November in San Patricio, Cumbaya.

Coordinated by the National Youth Directory, the meeting was attended by 58 young students of the Salesian educational centers, and was opened by Fr Marcelo Chávez, President of the National Council for Salesian Education

(CONESA). The objective of this experience was to create a space for reflection and debate on the issues regarding the young students and to provide an experience of democracy wherein young people could exercise their rights to participation and freedom of expression.

[Hoy]



✓ MALAYISA: YOUTHS MOST CONCERNED ABOUT EDUCATION, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, JOBS – KHAIRY

Kuala Lumpur, 9 November 2017 - AFFORDABLE housing, transportation and job opportunities remain of the greatest concern to youths, judging from the topics most discussed \ during the National Transformation 2050 (TN50) dialogues.

Youth and Sports Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said, other than equal education for all, these were the topics raised in every one of the dialogue sessions.

He said, so far, he had received 81,000 aspirations which will be compiled at the end of December into a report in January.

“If the report and its recommendations are approved, then we’ll start to roll out in stages beginning in September next year,” he said.

Khairy was speaking at a

TN50 dialogue session organised by Khazanah Nasional Bhd’s Young Talents today. Also present at the dialogue session was Khazanah Nasional Bhd managing director Tan Sri Azman Mokhtar.

“From the data we have gathered so far, we know that all Malaysians want a globally competitive Malaysia in terms of research and development.

Other than that, they want a good and standardized education system, equality, fair and just treatment, and most commonly, a developed yet compassionate Malaysia in 2050,” he said.

Khairy, who took about 30 aspirations from the crowd, said technological change was inevitable and the country needed to find ways to educate and prepare the children holistically to face

these challenges.

“The changes taking place are not only in Malaysia but around the world. TN50 is a preparation for our future generations, so that we are not left out in terms of facing the world’s future demands.”

Azman said Khazanah Nasional, through Yayasan Khazanah and Khazanah Research Institute (KRI), was currently funding 30 NGOs on various projects to equip youths for 2050.

“We have been with the government on many of their projects including the new economy policy, privatisation of GLCs and now the TN50,” he said, adding that they hope to positively contribute to TN50.

Azman said KRI and the TN50 secretariat, together with another NGO, are

expected to meet over a few of the proposals soon.

The TN50 discourse series, which is the brainchild of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, is aimed at gathering the views and hopes of the people, particularly the youth, to generate a new, 30-year transformation plan for the country that truly reflects the people’s vision.

About 500 youths from seven government linked companies such as Telekom Malaysia, Malaysia Airlines, UEM, Axiata took part in the session today.

[New Straits Times Online]

✓ NEPAL: YOUTH LOOK FOR THOSE WITH DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Kathmandu, 5 November 2017 - THE youth seem to be demanding not just physical infrastructure but investments in the field of information technology, sports and culture which, they say, foster inclusive development in the hills.

According to the District Election Office, the district has around 8,000 new voters for the provincial and federal polls. Some 6,000 of them are believed to be in the age group 18 to 32 years.

“Promises of development in transportation, health and education are not enough.

The leaders should think beyond that,” Kabi Raj Mishra, 20, of the Panchthar district headquarters told the Post.

They expect leaders to promote information technology, among others, for the development of the entire region.

Mishra said he does not back the political ideology or influence of his family as he feels it is due to the traditional mindset that development has simply not taken off in the hills. “But again, one will have to choose between the candidate of either the

Nepali Congress or the left alliance to realise the dream of seeing a prosperous Panchthar,” Mishra said.

Umesh Raphal, 27, of Falgunanda Rural Municipality expects employment generation in the region from elected representatives.

Even as economic indicators of the district do not pale in comparison, Panchthar lags behind in the sectors of health and education.

“Completion of the federal and provincial polls will cement the positions of the

elected representatives at all levels. This is why I’ll be choosing individual candidates over a party or an alliance,” Falgunanda said.

While picking a candidate, Raphal says, he will also look at his or her past track record. “I feel time has come for young voters like me to elect fresh candidates and make them accountable,” he said, adding that most of his friends have been to the foreign soil, mostly the Middle East, for work.



Manju Nembang, 30, too feels that young voters should make conscious choice rather than jumping on the bandwagon.

This will be her third voting experience after the second Constituent Assembly elections and the recently held local polls.

For her, the upcoming polls are not just another election

but an event that would institutionalise the new constitution which will allow the nation as a whole to embark on the path of development.

NC Candidate Bhisma Raj Angdambe, UML leader Basanta Nembang from the left alliance and Prem Lawoti of the Sanghiya Samajbadi Forum Nepal are in the fray.

In the recently held local elections, the left alliance garnered around 40,000 votes in total while the NC settled for around 28,000 votes. The Upendra Yadav-led Forum got 1,400 votes.

Of the seven rural municipalities and one municipality in Panchthar, the NC had won the top posts of three rural

municipalities and the municipality.

The UML won the chair in three rural municipalities while the Maoist Centre had victory at one local federal unit.

[The Kathmandu Post]

✓ PHILIPPINES: ENGAGING THE YOUTH

Manila, 7 November 2017 - WE innovated our regular programs to make them more effective in addressing the specific needs of Makati youth.

We redesigned our program offerings to reflect the nature and needs of the job market and the business sector.

We conceptualized and implemented new innovative programs that changed the landscape of Philippine education delivery.

We championed innovation in education because we understood that our children are different and so the way we deliver education cannot be the same.

We broke down the barriers between the academe and industries because we were cognizant of how the young understand the world that education must lead to a meaningful professional life.

As such, there must be no disconnect between the kind of education they receive to the demands of the workplace they wish to be part of.

Today University of Makati offers more than 30 degree and non-degree programs in

business; education, allied health services, governance and public policy, and caters to over 17,000 students. Our city invested P1.2 billion as annual budget for the university, an amount bigger than the entire budget of most provinces in the Philippines.

We embraced education-for-employment and education-for-development, understanding that investing in our youth is the most valuable investment we can make.

Private institutions must continue to work in research and program development to create opportunities for participation.

The challenge of the private sector is to engage the young in programs where they can further develop their skills, but also create meaningful change in society.

Both public and private institutions must invest in programs that will not only bring together the youth through online platforms but also physically bring them all together to personally exchange ideas and participate in discourse.

The national hero of the

Philippines, Dr. Jose Rizal, has a well-known statement about the youth. He said “the youth is the hope of our nation.”

This is true but I wish to take this further and say that in today’s globalized world, the youth is not only the hope of the future.

And so, participation and inclusion must be our fundamental strategy in engaging the youth.

The world is in no shortage of innovative ideas.

Nourishing youth leaders must mean listening to their ideas. It must mean creating the opportunities for them to realize these ideas.

There must be no waiting time for them to have the means and opportunities to change the world, no turning over of the mantle of leadership.

We must let the youth have a seat at our regional table and engage them in our efforts to cultivate and strengthen our regional communities.

They must be part of the agenda-setting, the development of the mechanisms to address the diverse issues we face, as

well as the collective action needed to effectively achieve our common goals.

More than that, we must be ready to break barriers the same way that digital inclusion has broken down barriers for the youth.

We no longer just pave the way for the youth of today; we must pave it along with them.

I hope and pray that we may all continue to work together to nurture young leaders who will change the world for a better tomorrow.

[Manila Bulletin]



✓ SINGAPORE: 180 YOUNG ACHIEVERS RECEIVE AWARDS FROM PRESIDENT HALIMAH

Singapore, 3 November 2017 - A total of 180 youth leaders received the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) Gold Award from President Halimah Yacob yesterday.

Among the recipients at the 17th NYAA Gold Award ceremony were student leaders (from left) Muhammad Rahmat Yunos, 19, of Institute of Technical Education College Central, Sandy Kee Peng Ping, 22, of Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Priscilla Fong Sue Ting, 18, of the National University of Singapore, and Raghav

Bhardwaj, 19, of United World College (UWC) of South East Asia.

Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat also attended the event held at ITE College East.

In her message to the award recipients, President Halimah said: "The future of Singapore is shaped by our young people. Youths are the hope of our nation.

"A society can only flourish when there is passion, energy and enthusiasm. Young people are abound

with these qualities.

Their perspectives of the world also help unearth limitless possibilities that convey a fresh impetus to the development of our nation."

This year is the 25th anniversary of the NYAA.

Gold award recipients are required to participate in five areas: service, adventurous journey, skills, physical recreation and a residential project that benefits the community.

Mr Bhardwaj, for instance, led a team of his UWC schoolmates to Indonesia to promote sustainability and healthy eating for Bintan's fishing villages.

They repaired damaged fishing boats and repurposed them into miniature edible gardens. Ms Fong raised \$20,000 in funds for people with disabilities through her project.

[The Straits Times]

✓ THAILAND: APEC 2017: VOICES OF THE FUTURE ISSUES DECLARATION FOR YOUTH

Bangkok, 12 November 2017 - THE youth representatives of 17 out of 21 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies adopted a declaration for youth at the closing ceremony of APEC Voices of the Future 2017 in the central province of Quang Nam on Friday.

In the declaration, the delegates said they believe that they will diminish the disparities between economies, accelerate communication, decrease the cost for new startups, and generate more opportunities for young people through a communication platform.

They also proposed developing an online platform through which past delegates can mentor and support future delegates, as well as a database in which previous declarations, proposals and feedback can be accessed.

They further called upon

leaders of member economies to support and consider the recommendations put forth in the annual APEC Voices Youth Declaration.

They additionally appealed to APEC Leaders to provide youth from the Asia Pacific region with opportunities and platforms to voice their concerns on issues relating to education and employment.

To assist human resources development in the digital age, the delegates seek to enhance adaptability, education, and employment through big data and experiences among member economies.

The young delegates believe that educational advancements and equality are essential for sustainable economic development in the Asia-Pacific region.

"Let us work together to foster a new dynamism and a brighter shared future in

the Asia-Pacific region," they said in a statement.

APEC Voices of the Future took place in Da Nang and the neighbouring province of Quang Nam from Monday to Friday on the sidelines of the APEC Economic Leaders' Week, drawing 180 delegates from 17 APEC economies.

[Inquirer.net]



✓ ALBANIA: CONNECTING YOUTH: THE OTHER CONVERGENCE ENGINE OF WESTERN BALKANS

Tirana, 9 November 2017 - THE Cooperation and Development Institute (CDI) in partnership with Hanns Seidel Foundation, organized on the 9th November 2017, the side event "Connecting Youth: the other convergence engine of Western Balkans".

The side event was organized along the Third Tirana Conference on Berlin Process that CDI organizes on 9-10 November in Tirana, bringing attention on the youth of the Western Balkans region and specifically on youth connectivity.

The keynote speech was delivered by the Albanian National Coordinator for the Regional Economic Area, Dr. Milena Harito, who

emphasized the importance of regional connectivity and the cooperation at the political and youth level, being initiated by the Berlin Process.

Regional cooperation is an important tool that can bring youngsters together and increase their personal-development and access to the labour market.

Following, Alida Vracic and Matteo Bonomi from Popolari Think Tank, presented their study "The rise of the underdog? Economy of the Western Balkans".

Their findings suggested that there is a gap between the youth of the Western Balkans and economics, where the youth in the region fails to access economic information, understand it or contribute

to economic policies of their own countries. Thus, the research greatly contributes to the socio-economic development debate of the region and to the promotion of a simplified communication of economics issues to the public.

Director of CDI Krisela Hackaj, and Milica Skiljevic and Dafina Peci respectively from the National Youth Councils of Serbia and Albania, both partners of this platform, presented the online platform of Western Balkans Youth Cooperation Platform (WBYPC) run by CDI and aiming to contribute to the needs in increasing access to youth data and knowledge, networking and youth

related activities and events related.

WBYPC is a tool for youth organizations, informal movements or young individuals to register, find partners in the region, suggest project ideas, get notifications for project calls related to WB6 youth or get notified for project ideas.

Illustrations on the main functionalities of the platform were made, and youngsters were encouraged to provide suggestions on how the platform could better serve the growing needs for youth exchanges in the region.

[Western Balkans Youth Cooperation Platform]

✓ ITALY: TRAINING SEMINAR ON COMBATING ANTIGYPSYISM AND ONLINE HATE SPEECH

Rome, 13 November 2017 - THE Youth Department of the Council of Europe in partnership with the National Office Against Discrimination of Italy and local partners are launching a call for Italian participants for a training seminar on

combating antigypsyism and online hate speech which scheduled to be held in November in Rome, Italy.

The training seminar will bring together young people, youth activists, educators, youth leaders

working with Roma youth and others to raise their competences and develop proposals to effectively address discrimination, antigypsyism and online hate speech in the Italian context.

The seminar is organised under the framework of the Roma Youth Action Plan of the Council of Europe and the National Roma Platform of the Roma Integration Strategy in Italy.

[La Stampa]

✓ SWITZERLAND: PROMOTING YOUTH RIGHTS AT THE UN

Geneva, 8 November 2017 - BRINGING together representatives of ten youth organisations, the event aimed to give young people tools to access their rights and develop their capacity to fight for them. The participants met with government representatives, UN and civil society stakeholders to advocate for

youth rights. The capacity building focused on international human rights mechanisms and instruments including the Universal Periodic Review and the Special Procedures, as well as the Treaty Bodies, which are responsible for monitoring States' implementation of international human rights

treaties.[1] The training was provided by the International Service for Human Rights (ISHR), the Centre for Civil and Political Rights (CCPR Centre) and UPR Info, organisations with experience in supporting civil society engagement in UN human rights processes.

The Participants met with representatives of nine Permanent Missions (Austria, Estonia, Ireland, Finland, FYR Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Portugal and Romania) to raise two key messages.



The need for a greater focus on youth in existing instruments, for example through youth-specific recommendations. Advancing the youth rights

agenda via dedicated tools and procedures specifically focused on young people.

Furthermore, participants met with a representative of

the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR), as well as YWCA World and IIMA Human Rights Office, two Geneva-based organisations.

[Le Matin]

✓ UKRAINE: YOUTH LEARNT INNOVATIVE PRACTICES OF DEMOCRATIZATION AND ADVOCATING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Kiev, 7 November 2017 - YOUNG people from different regions of Ukraine learned to apply innovative approaches to carrying out local initiatives during intense study visits to Zakarpattia and to Chernihiv, held this weekend.

While in Zakarpattia, youth learnt best practices of democratization, and participants of the study visit to Chernihiv gained a unique insight into the core problematic human rights issues in Ukraine.

Local activists from the cities of Uzhorod and Perechyn, Zakarpatska oblast, discussed recent trends in civil society development in the field of democratization.

Journalists from the online media “Panorama” shared their experience of creating independent media and raising funds for its support. Sharing their experience, representatives of the Zakarpattia Youth Council and staff from Oblast library inspired participants to create projects in cooperation with NGO partner organizations.

Also, the youth learned directly from the founders about the innovative on-line project “Vynohradiv. Transparent Government”, which provides access to digitized records of decisions of councils (rural and urban) within the district since 1991.

Representatives of the Mukachevo City Council briefed on a unique system of e-tickets, combining both public transportation and Mukachevo dweller’s map with many discounts on visiting local museums, castles, festivals.

In Chernihiv, representatives from the NGO “MART” introduced the participants to the Human Rights Based-Approach (HRBA) in the activities of civil society organizations and initiative groups. Youth lively discussed burning human rights issues in their local communities, trying to find innovative solutions.

According to U-Report polls, 94% of respondents agreed that the opinion of young people and children should be taken into account in decision making.

These study visits were aimed at equipping young leaders with the knowledge and skills to build fruitful cooperation with local authorities and partner with civil society organizations, influencing policy- and decision-making in their regions.

[<http://www.ua.undp.org>]

✓ UNITED KINGDOM: YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE TO JOIN NEW UK DEVELOPMENT

London, 3 November 2017 - RESTLESS Development has welcomed the UK Labour Party’s inclusion of a youth representative on its new International Development Task Force.

The task force will advise Labour on the party’s approach to international development, producing a paper that sets out a strategic approach to tackling global poverty, inequality and climate change.

Valerie Brese, who volunteered with Restless Development on the

International Citizen Service (ICS) programme, will take on the role of youth representative.

The group forms a key strand of the party’s ambition to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Valerie studied Social Policy with Government at the London School of Economics and has been a social researcher for the Childhood Trust.

Her ICS placement was in Tanzania, where she worked across issues of sexual and reproductive

health and rights, as well as livelihoods, employability and civic participation.

Since returning to the UK, she has been a strong advocate for youth empowerment and currently works for LSE Residential Services. She said: “We have nearly one billion young people all across the globe entering the job market in the next 10 years. Young people need jobs.

We have teachers, doctors, entrepreneurs, youth activists and academic professors ready and eager

to work.

They want to build their nation for a better future.

This is just one of many issues that I want to raise with the Labour Party. I hope to push young people to the very front of Labour’s agenda and ensure that young people are included in every aspect of their vision.”



Catriona Currie, Senior Campaigns Manager at Restless Development, added: “It’s fantastic to see the Labour Party take this important step towards ensuring young people are at the heart of their international development strategy.

Restless Development will continue to work with the UK Labour party and all other political parties to ensure that young people have the power to lead their own development.”

Chaired by Shadow Secretary of State for International Development Kate Osamor, the task force will meet regularly between now and March 2018, at which point the final paper will be published.

[Restlessdevelopment.org]

NEWS



✓ AUSTRALIA: CITI BROADENS YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT SCHEME

Canberra, 5 September 2017 - 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.

[The Sydney Morning Herald]

✓ FIJI: YOUTH SCHEME

Suva, 19 November 2017 - THE Fiji Labour Party will put in place a national youth service scheme that its party leader Mahendra Chaudhry said would be able to provide more employment opportunities for youths.

"Our manifesto, we have been proposing the creation of national youth service scheme. And that is very important because you've got to find a way of keeping

this people employed in some capacity," Mr Chaudhry said.

"They just can't be idle because that is going to be disastrous. You've got to keep them engaged, keep them employed until a time they are able to gain maturity to keep them out of trouble."

He said the country needed a strategy similar to the one mentioned as it would

ensure the utilisation of youths in all areas especially in trade.

"The national youth services scheme will take in youths between the ages of 18 and 23, for a three-year period, give them a stipend on which they can live and provide them necessary training to be able to enter the employment market.

"This will not cost too much, we have to invest in our youths, we have to do something for these people who cannot enter university or do not have any

inclination for academic studies but are skilful in other trades."

[The Fiji Times Online]

✓ GUAM: YOUTH SURFERS COMPETE

Hagåtña, 15 November 2017 - THE Guam Hui Nalu Ocean Club held the Billabong Manahak Jr. Surf Competition, sponsored by DNA Evolution, at the

Onward Beach Resort . More than 75 youths competed in five divisions, including Noa Bay Aguilar. At the award ceremony, Guahan Napu Vice

President Steve Shimizu and sergeant-at-arms Jude Baker presented Joe and Hidemi Villatora with a plaque of recognition and appreciation for their years

of support and effort in developing youth surfing on Guam.

[Pacific Daily News]

✓ SAMOA: KEEP OUR YOUTH HERE TO WORK THE LAND

Apia, 16 November 2017 - DESPITE the challenges, Samoa is no doubt still the land of milk and honey.

Talking to the Village Voice team yesterday, Ulisese T. Ioane, he is grateful to be living in Samoa.

But he said we needed to invest in our resources by having young people work

on what we have.

Mr. Ioane said he did not support the idea of our people sending strong young men to work in overseas countries when they could just stay in Samoa and work on our land instead.

He says people are not patient which is why they

always apply for overseas jobs instead of here.

Mr. Ioane says when we work our plantations, it takes five to six months until harvest, which is usually a long period of time and a lot of us need to make money to make it through to the next day.

"It is understandable that it is our nature as human

beings that we get impatient and we would end up looking for other ways to earn a living," he said.

The 57-year-old said we would benefit if we worked our land.



“You can still work our land and earn a living but at the same time you will be able to still spend time with your loved ones instead of going overseas to work where you

will be able to receive easy cash but you would not be able to see your family,” he said.

Mr. Ioane said he used to live in Sala'ilua, Savaii,

where he used to work in the plantation but despite moving to Vaitele-Fou, he is still able to make a living from his plantation.

[Samoa Observer]



VANUATU: VANUATU HOPES OF BATTLING YOUTH CRIME ON NATIONAL IDS

Port Vila, 18 September

2017 - 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 misbehaviour can be attributed to young people having easy access to alcohol.

[Radio New Zealand]

NEWS

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>