



# YINB



## Y-PEER News Bulletin

Dear Y-PEERS,

If you are interested to know how mach orange and blue people have changed the world in the period of March and April you are on the right way!!!We are pleased to update you with brief news from Y-PEER World.

Therefore, let us start with a big THANKS to all of you for contributing to this number of Y-PEER News Bulletin. Now, is the time for you to enjoy reading YNB Number 9!!!

Prepared by: Magde Nikolovska, Y-PEER Fellow in PETRI, Sofia and Y-PEER Macedonia Focal Point and Malika Ibrahimova, Y-PEER Fellow in PETRI, Sofia and Y-PEER Uzbekistan Focal Point.

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Special thanks to Aleksandar Bodiroza and all Y-PEER Focal Points for their input: Naobil Chemli (Tunisia), Olga Andreeva (Uzbekistan) Fatma Hacıoglu (Turkey), Mustafe Khair (Somalia), Nazar Jumakuliyev (Turkmenistan), Ahmed Malah (Egypt), Parviz Hakimzade (Tajikistan), and Fidan Gafarova (Azerbaijan)



### **What is Y-PEER?**

Y-PEER, or Youth Peer Education Network, is a groundbreaking, comprehensive youth-to-youth peer education initiative pioneered by UNFPA. Y-PEER is a network of organizations and institutions consisting of thousands of young people working in the broad areas of adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

### **Who is Y-PEER?**

Members of Y-PEER are young people, active peer educators, trainers of trainers and youth advocates for young people's sexual and reproductive health. They contribute to and benefit from the resource materials, tools, training programmes and campaigns through the Y-PEER network's web site, electronic communications and face-to-face meetings.

### **Where is Y-PEER?**

The network was launched in Eastern Europe and Central Asia in 2000. Now it has spread to the Arab States (Middle East and North Africa) and some countries in East Africa (Tanzania and Kenya). To date, Y-PEER links more than 5,000 members from 38 countries in these regions.

## Y-PEER NEWS NATIONAL

### 1) Y-PEER Uzbekistan

From March 24 - 29 and March 31 - April 5 Y-PEER Uzbekistan conducted two Advanced Trainings of Trainers in Peer Education in Tashkent,.

Participants included most active youth trainers from 10 regions of Uzbekistan.

The agenda was based on Y-PEER TOT Manual and it also included additional teambuilding exercises, the movie Transit, by MTV and another PSAs. Participants also worked in 4 small groups and they developed 3-min scathes on HIV/AIDS. (I hope some of them will be used in the Radio program!!!) Trainers' Faculty included Aziz Umarov and Olga Andreev, Y-PEER Focal Points for Uzbekistan.

These two trainings are just the beginning of the summer training season in Uzbekistan. We have already planned for two Theater-Based Peer Education Trainings which will be conducted by our theater trainers Davran and Bakhrom.



Best regards,

Olga Andreeva  
Y-PEER Focal Point, Uzbekistan

### 2) Y-PEER Somalia

Dear all,

Somaliland National Y-PEER Network (SYN) started to collaborate with The Somalia Red Crescent Society. This International Organization, which has HIV and AIDS intervention projects, operates throughout the country and has offices and staff in all regions. SRCS has decided to initiate a peer education programme to improve their services for young people. We provided Y-PEER TOT training to 50 SRCS staff (mostly young people) who came from Somaliland, Puntland and Southern Somalia. These 50 TOTs in turn will provide trainings to at least 500 youth. We are now trying our best to have peer educators in all towns and villages who can answer questions from adolescents and youth. In February, we also provided training to the TOTs of SONYO member organizations- organizations under The Somaliland National Youth Umbrella.

Warmest regards,

Mustafe Khaire  
Y-PEER Focal Point, Somalia



### 3) Y-PEER Turkmenistan

After two months of preparation, Y-PEER Turkmenistan launched the project named ITMT (Intensive Three Month Trainings) on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The aim of the project is to raise health awareness



between the students in the 9th and 10th grades, aged 15-17. During the months of April and May it is planned to conduct 15 peer education sessions in each of the 78 schools in Ashgabat. These young people in June will start the outreach activities Each training includes the main sessions such as HIV/AIDS, stigma and discrimination, risky behaviors, STIs and understanding of gender. Each session lasts for a day so the overall training is to be completed in four days. It is anticipated to reach approximately 4700 high-school students. During the outreach planned for June we will conduct short sessions along with condoms and brochures distribution in the parks, cafes and bars where youth gathers.

Nazar Jumakuliyev,  
Y-PEER Focal Point, Turkmenistan

### 4) Y-PEER Egypt

#### Youth Advisory Panel in Egypt launched!

On 9-10 April, a group of 13 young people came together to launch the UNFPA/UNICEF Youth Advisory Panel in Egypt with the initiation and initial coordination by Y-PEER Egypt. The first meeting was to orient the panel members with the aim of the panel roles and responsibilities, to provide icebreaking opportunity and team building capacities. The panel constitutes of a wide variety of young people in terms of age (15-24), backgrounds and geographical distribution. The panel will provide feedback on current UNFPA and UNICEF programmes targeting young people as well as ideas for further programming.

### Theater Based Peer Education training in Egypt

Between 18-21 April, Y-PEER Egypt in partnership with Think Twice, a National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), trained 20 young people in using theater based techniques to deliver messages on child rights. The training was funded by UNFPA Egypt.

Ahmed Malah,  
Y-PEER Focal Point, Egypt

### 5) YPEER Tajikistan

#### National TOT in Khorog!

From 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of April, the 7th National TOT, was conducted in Khorog, Badakshan. Twenty-two representatives of the Youth Committee of Badakhshan region participated in the training. The following themes were covered by the agenda: peer education, interactive methods of conducting seminars, skills and qualities of successful trainer, methods of working with volunteers and other themes.



The seminar was conducted by the members of YPEER team in Dushanbe.

#### First National TOT in Theatre-based Peer Education!

From 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of April, Y-PEER Tajikistan organized the first Theater-based Peer Education Training in the camp "Nadezhda", the Varzob region. The activists of YPEER and volunteers of the Youth Committee of Tajikistan were invited to the training. There were 17 participants from all regions of our country.

The program for the training was based on the Theater-based Peer Education Techniques Manual.

Parviz Hakimzade  
Y-PEER Focal Point, Tajikistan

### 6) Y-PEER Azerbaijan

Trainings on reproductive health were organized for disadvantaged communities, facilitated by the local NGO "Hayat" (translated as "Life") whom we approached with request to help us involve active community workers.

Topics covered in the trainings included STIs, HIV/AIDS, gender-based violence as well as family planning.

Young women and girls who came from Fizuli, Aghdam and other regions of Azerbaijan and attended the training were really happy to discover something new through interesting discussions and taking an active part in role plays. It was a real fun!

Here is one of the quotes from the scorecards received as an evaluation of the training:

"I learnt so much about HIV/AIDS and it was so new to me - I can talk about this training forever! I liked it so much and I'm really glad that we have such committed young volunteers who try to make a difference in our community -it's so encouraging!"-

Gulnar

Habibova ,  
"Hayat" NGO.  
Now I'm  
happy to tell  
you that I  
have been  
invited to  
reproductive  
health  
trainings to be



held this summer by Azerbaijan Medical Students Association in collaboration with Y-PEER Turkey.

Another good news is that our Web site won a National Netty Award!

Netty is a National Internet Award that is annually given out to best Web sites. It's the first national professional award in the field of IT.

[www.4uth.az](http://www.4uth.az) , was developed by the United Nations Interns Association IT Coordinator and Y-PEER trainer Maksud Ibrahimov and facilitated by most active UNIA members. It was launched within "Reproductive Health Initiative for Youth in South Caucasus" - joint UNFPA-EC project. This site aims to facilitate communications between youth, promote healthy lifestyle, specifically reproductive health and rights.

Visit us at [www.4uth.az](http://www.4uth.az)

Fidan Gafarova,  
Y-PEER Focal Point Azerbaijan

### 1) Third Y-PEER Theatre-based Peer Education Training of Trainers

The Third Y-PEER Specialized Training in Theater-based Peer Education gathered 30 amazing participants from 27 Y-PEER Countries in Borovets, Bulgaria for a five-day TOT. Among the participants we were privileged to have the Y-PEER Ambassador, Ms. Sofia Jurican, an actress from Serbia, as well as the superior actor Mr. Primoz Ekart from Slovenia, and Professor at the Academy for Drama and Art in Belgrade, Serbia, Ms. Gordana Maric. For this and many other reasons this training was so special!!! A mixture of generations, experiences, talents, cultures, gathered in one place.



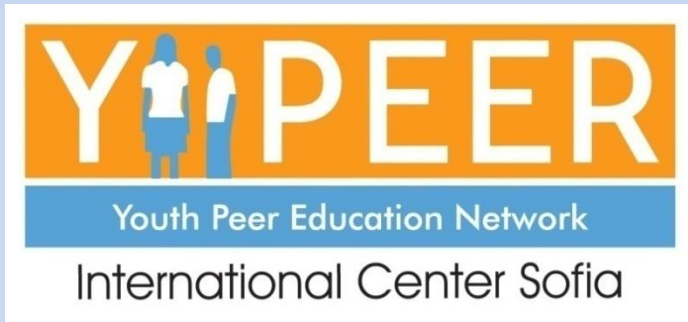
Mr. Ken Hornbeck and Dr. Cydelle Berlin, brilliant as always, were the training faculty of this training, only this time, on our great pleasure, supported by Ms. Ashley Williams and Mr. Christian De Gre (actors from the Nitestar theatre, New York).

Finally, we had an outcome from this training - performing the last show 'On the Edge' at the National Academy of Theater and Drama Education. The play "On the Edge" was introduced by Cydelle and the scenes were acted up brilliantly one after the other by the trainees. This was followed by facilitation sessions that were again led by the trainees with Cydelle's assistance. The audience could easily connect in one way or another to at least one of the scenes as they all covered the main issues of sexuality, STIs, drug abuse, gender, condoms and relationships.

For more information please visit:

[www.youtpeer.net](http://www.youtpeer.net)

### 1) PETRI Sofia-workshops for EMSA Bulgaria



On 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of March PETRI Fellows Ms. Magde Nikolovska and Ms. Jasmina Petkova organized and led workshops for the European Medical Students Association (EMSA) in Bulgaria on the subject of contraception, using the Y-PEER creative approach. The idea for this workshop was initiated at the previous training on which we presented Y-PEER to EMSA and we used creative methods in addressing HIV/AIDS topics with our peers.



Interactive methods and techniques used in Y-PEER attracted the attention of 21 participants of this workshop. We succeeded to involve every participant in the workshop using ice-breakers, different games and discussions.

Improving communications skills was one of our goals in support of this workshop with a reason to emphasize this skill as a fundamental issue in peer education. Each participant had a chance to talk in front of the group and to receive feedback from his/her peers.

We were very proud for raising awareness for peer education and sharing Y-PEER knowledge, methods and techniques even when we are out of our countries.

Magde Nikolovska  
Y-PEER Focal Point, Macedonia

### 2) Y-PEER Fellows' voices

Hi, I am Malika from Uzbekistan. And now I am here in Bulgaria, as a fellow at the International Y-PEER Center.

I was really interested to get to know Bulgarian Y-PEER Network as well as contribute to the Y-PEER international in different capacities. It was great meeting lots of motivated youth and fruitful collaboration happening everywhere. I must say that I really enjoyed my fellowship and that it has been very well organized. Thanks to our organizers!

I think that having international fellowship is really great opportunity for each Y-PEER Focal Point.

While you are a fellow you will be able to work on the development of Y-PEER newsletter, analyzes of the Activity Log submissions, development of YNB, organizing and participation in international trainings and a lot more.

So come on, be one of us!



Malika Ibrahimova

Y-PEER Focal Point, Uzbekistan

## CURRENTLY IN Y-PEER

### 3) Y-PEER Interns' Voices

The Mexico YouthForce is a coalition of youth-led and youth-serving HIV/AIDS organizations that are working to empower young delegates and promote youth participation around HIV/AIDS before, during and after the XVII Mexico City International AIDS Conference. The YouthForce is organized into six subcommittees. Y-PEER is meaningfully represented in the subcommittees: 1) the main conference (Koray Serin) ; 2) the youth pavilion (Ahmed Malah); 3) the youth reception; 4) advocacy (Ahmed Kassem); 5) the pre-conference (Wesam Hassan); and 6) media and communications (Nabil Chemli).

The Mexico YouthForce is providing youth various relevant opportunities to be involved and make their voice heard.



The media and communications subcommittee is implementing a range of media activities that will generate increased coverage of youth HIV/AIDS issues. The committee will select and train youth journalists and youth spokespeople to give interviews and speak at press conferences.

A team of youth journalists will also cover the Conference through writing, blogging, podcasting, photography and video, and bringing youth issues to the forefront of the conference agenda and offer a youth perspective on the important events, announcements and presentations through their reporting.

A photo and video contest is also organized to involve youth who are not attending the conference.

For more details visit conference youth website [www.youthaids2008.org](http://www.youthaids2008.org)

Nabil Chemli  
Y-PEER Focal Point Tunisia

## Y-PEER PARTNERS

### 1) Staying Alive News

#### GET LIPPY: PREVENT HIV!

After the success of last year's *Spray to Change* campaign, MTV Staying Alive and The Body Shop have once again joined forces to raise awareness of HIV and AIDS. This year's campaign, *Move Your Lips*, aims to increase awareness by getting people to talk about the issue and share knowledge.

The Body Shop has produced a gorgeous Guarana Lip Butter which will be sold in stores worldwide. An amount from every sale will go directly to the Staying Alive Foundation.

For more details visit [www.moveyourlips.com](http://www.moveyourlips.com)

The campaign was successfully launched by the superstar Estell.

You can also join the *Move Your Lips* Cause on Facebook, which aims to raise awareness and donations for the Foundation. Join today, and you could win an amazing 3 day trip to London or New York Check it out.



#### KELLY ROWLAND JOINS THE FIGHT!

The R&B singer-songwriter Kelly Rowland has been appointed as the official 2008 Ambassador for the MTV Staying Alive Foundation. The multi-platinum selling artist and Destiny's Child alumna is to be the public face of Staying Alive in June 2008, dedicating herself to raising the profile of the foundation.

## Y-PEER PARTNERS

### STAYING ALIVE FOUNDATION AWARDS UPDATE

The Staying Alive Foundation has received more than 400 innovative proposals from 91 countries for the first round of this year's grants giving. The winners will be announced in the next issue of YNB. Best of luck to all the Y-PEERs who applied!

### DIGITAL NEWS

The Staying Alive Campaign added one new language – Arabic – to its digital property [www.staying-alive.org](http://www.staying-alive.org) - making it available in a total of 13 languages. The website is a place where young people can share their life experiences, as well as access crucial sexual and reproductive health resources. Thanks to Ahmed Malah and Basheer Rahmoun (Y-PEER Egypt and Syria) for their help and valuable feedback.

Do not hesitate to check it out and forward it to your National Network: [www.staying-alive.org](http://www.staying-alive.org)

Nabil Chemli  
Y-PEER Focal Point Tunisia

### 2) YouAct News



A study session under the title "Improving the Health of Young People in Europe Towards a Sexual Health Strategy, is being organized by YouAct in Strasbourg on July 6-12. This is a great opportunity to learn more on SRHR and interact with other youth activists.

Study Session is organized in cooperation with The Council of Europe's Directorate of Youth and Sport for more information on Council of Europe visit [www.coe.int](http://www.coe.int) <<http://www.coe.int/>> .

Fatma Hacıogly  
Y-PEER Focal Point Turkey

## EVENTS IN FOCUS

Two amazing opportunities for those attending and not attending the the upcoming International AIDS Conference 2008:

- 1.Youth journalist job description, (for those attending the conference.)
- 2.Photography contest

More details and updates are available in the Mexico YouthForce website: [www.youthaids2008.org](http://www.youthaids2008.org)

### ICASA 2008

The ICASA 2008 Secretariat has responded to a call from young people to extend the deadline for the submission of abstracts and scholarship. This is a great opportunity for us as young people and we need to take full advantage of it.

Pls send your written abstracts with heading: **ABSTRACT REVIEW + NAME** to [icasa2008@youthaidcoalition.org](mailto:icasa2008@youthaidcoalition.org) before sending to the ICASA secretariat. Your abstract would be reviewed for you.

Pls remember the deadline is 20th June 2008. This is an opportunity for us all to be a part of ICASA 2008 to discuss HIV/AIDS on our continent.

Hope to see your abstracts soon!!!

