

THE FLASH

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This quarter has been full of action and activities for us. Majority of our network members were engaged into many activities considering that our activity year was ending in September 12th.

Four of our network group members in Makueni district received funds from the National Aids Control Council, which amounted to 350,000 each group for their activities, which were planned to last for six months. Through our training, the organizations managed to smoothly implement their programs hence achieving tremendous results according to their workplan.

TRAININGS:

ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING IN MAKUENI

In sub-Saharan Africa, home to almost two-thirds of all people living with HIV and a continent with a generalized epidemic, African women are at greater risk and become infected at an earlier age than men: in 2003 there were on average 13 infected women for every 10 infected men in sub-Saharan Africa. Countries that fail to bring the epidemic under control risk becoming locked in a vicious circle as worsening socio-economic conditions, which render people, enterprises and communities even more vulnerable to the epidemic. The impact of AIDS on societies and economies, however, can be dealt with. Addressing the economic, political social and cultural factors that render individuals and communities vulnerable to HIV/AIDS is crucial to a sustainable and expanded response. Unless this happens, AIDS will continue to erode human development achievements, deepen poverty, and further hinder access to education, health and viable livelihoods. Marginalized young people (including street children, refugees and migrants) are at particular risk if they are excluded from health services, exposed to unprotected sex (sometimes in exchange for food, protection or money, or as a result of violence) or use of illicit drugs. In many countries, the majority of sex workers are young people. And in all countries, the majority of sex workers start their activities when they are young. Special

attention must be paid to these marginalized groups in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

With this background in mind, International Youth Development developed a program "Mitigation of the socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS among Most Vulnerable young people through improving their skills on entrepreneurial skills within the local communities"

The primary aim of the project is building the capacity of young people in this region to implement and develop effective income generating programs.

The project aims and objectives are:

- To identify, Promote and encourage entrepreneurial initiatives among women/youth groups through micro-enterprises development.
- Identify, promote and develop women/youth un-utilized talents and assist as necessary.
- Assist in mobilization of materials, moral and technical support for specific socio-economic youth groups' projects. This will create self-employment. With key emphasis on young women.
- To ensure sustainability of the women/youth groups through capacity building, research, educational programmes and monitoring.
- Improving business management skills to increase the output of these enterprises,
- Ensuring that entrepreneurs have increased the ability to save so that they can invest further,
- Improving the income from members businesses that consequently lead to improved living standards.
- Promote The Quality Of Human Life By Enabling The Communities Realise Their Potentials And Lead Lives Of Dignity And Fulfilments.

150 young people (Men and Women) are currently in this program.

This project was 65% financially supported by the local community and the rest was provided by IYDN.

This project also encourages the local community to make proper use of the local resources other than totally relying on donor

funding (reducing the dependency ratio amongst the locals)



Life skills training in Nyanza Province

Young people can be active and useful participants in development, potential transmitters of positive values and possessors of great potential and skills. They can be societies most precious resource for development. Youth symbolize the future: what they think today, what they become tomorrow and what they plan for the coming days, decide and shape the community in the future. Yet we are all familiar with the fact that most young people plunge blindly and pathologically into playboy activities and live only for the pleasure of the moment.

It is under this context that IYDN developed a program on life skills training for in school youth with its pilot program done in RAE girls Scholl in Nyanza province.



Team Building training by GTZ RHS Project

Many Youth organizations lack team-building skills. Majority of them lack Teamwork and harmony in their projects. With this justification, GTZ reproductive health project came up with a team building skills

development project together with DSW, GTZ Prosyrr and IYDN.

The project kicked off in September 2004 it will end October 2005.

FORUMS INVITED:

Expert Group Meeting

This is a UN Habitat event that brings together selected experts from all parts of the world to discuss and come up with possible solutions to different problems. This year the theme was to come up with possible solutions in employment creation among young people within urban

centers in Africa. We were privileged to be invited to share our expertise with other experts. At the end of the five-day session, we were requested to assist the UNDESA in co-moderating in the E-discussion for six months.

NEPAD APRM Meeting

In May 2002, a NEPAD Short-term Action Plan for Infrastructure (STAP) was produced. The importance accorded to infrastructure in the NEPAD agenda reflects the fact that one of the priorities of NEPAD is the promotion of regional integration in the continent to overcome the lack of economies of scale. Bridging the infrastructure gap has been identified as an important element in promoting regional integration. Infrastructure is also an important element in reducing Africa's economic marginalization. There can be no meaningful development without trade – and there can be no trade without adequate and reliable infrastructure. The 2002 STAP outlined NEPAD's response to the challenges facing the sector under four areas:

- Facilitation – the establishment of the policy, regulatory and institutional frameworks to create a suitable environment for investment and efficient operations;
 - Capacity building-initiatives to empower the implementing institutions to perform their mandates;
 - Investment – in physical and capital projects; and
 - Studies – to prepare future projects.

The NEPAD secretariat in Kenya through the ministry of planning extended their warm invitation to us to join them in the African Peer Review Mechanism process in our country. This is a pilot project within NEPAD secretariat. IYDN was invited to join Africa Youth Parliament

Great Lakes Region Youth Meetings

This was a meeting, which had 15 youth representations from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Zambia who came together to come up with possible solutions to the following problems;

1. Socio-economic Issues
2. Humanitarian issues
3. Political Issues
4. Peace and Security.

ACTIVITIES:

International Youth Day



Today's society is the youngest ever; almost fifty percent of the world's population is aged 25 years or under. But societies are also aging. It is estimated that by 2050 the population of people older than 65 will have almost quadrupled, while the proportion of children will have declined by a third. By the middle of this century, the old and the young will represent an equal share of the world's population.

The theme for this year's International Youth Day was "youth in an inter-generational society"

This year's activity drew participants from different youth organizations, youth serving organizations and the line ministries dealing with youth issues. The main aim was to bring all of them together to address development issues in a common accord mainly to

Harambee youth Week

This is a countrywide celebration that takes a weeklong. The main aim of Harambee youth week is to invoke the spirit of volunteerism and nation building among the youths and also celebrate the achievements the youths have

Action Plan Launch

The Kenya National Youth Policy Plan of action was launched on 5TH JULY 2004 By the deputy director of social services – Ministry of Gender Sports Culture and Social Services at the Grand Regency Hotel.

The department together with the GTZ Prosyrr and the steering committee – National Youth Policy had organized a two day symposium for the youths where the participants were taken through the plan of action by the steering committee. IYDN was privileged to have a presentation on youth and health.

The presentation can be found on www.projects.takingitglobal.org/iyd

INTERNATIONAL NEWS ROUNDUP (brief):



Launch of our IYDN Uganda Chapter

16th September 2004 is a day to remember. This is the day when we launched our

Uganda country chapter in Victoria Falls west Of Kampala. Youth issues these regions have for some time been neglected because of war and basically rebel activities. Though during the current regime, there were no rebel activities but youth issues were rarely. The introduction of youth council in Uganda gave some green light to youth involvement into decision-making cadre in the country. For some time the council has been politicized hence giving less room for youth development. This prompted IYDN to actively involve the youths from this region into skills development programs.

The main projects that IYDN is currently undertaking are:

- Rehabilitation of child soldiers through entrepreneurial skills training
- HIV/AIDS advocacy skills training
- Intergenerational Dialogue programs.

Launch of our IYDN South African Chapter



The IYDN South African Chapter was launched On 15th November 2004. Currently our projects are in west Orlando in Soweto.

Our current projects:

- Entrepreneurial skills among young people
- Training, monitoring life skills programs
- To mobilize the young people to be development agents in the society
- Intergenerational Dialogue programs

Though at it's basic, the project aims to achieve the following:



IPPF-GTZ Course: AIDS Vulnerability and Young People in Johannesburg 7-20 November 2004

Objective: To build capacities and competencies of participants to improve

the quality of programmes addressing HIV vulnerability of young people

This training was co organised by GTZ and IPPF, which drew participants from all IPPF country networks and a few GTZ Partners.

IYDN being one of the partners was invited to attend to this noble course.

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Best posters within this quarter

