

[Regional Youth Development Dialogue-Post 2015 MDG Agenda](#)

- o **Date: March 19th-21st 2013**
- o Venue: British Council Hall, Freetown Sierra Leone



The 2013 youth development summit was a joint initiative of the Youth Millennium Development Ambassadors, Democracy Sierra Leone, Worldview Mission

, Restless Development and World Vision with support from the Office of the Special Adviser to the President of Nigeria on Niger Delta and National Youth Commission of Sierra Leone with delegates from across the region in attendance.

<http://mdgambassadors.org/regional-youth-development-summit-2013-ends-in-sierra-leone/>

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Regional Youth Development Summit 2013 ends in Sierra Leone Date: March 19th-21st 2013

Regional youth development summit 2013 ends in Sierra Leone

The Regional Youth Development Summit 2013, which attracted over 50 local and international delegates from the region has ended in Freetown, Sierra Leone with delegates

endorsement of youth development declaration, formulation of youth development goals for consideration by other youth networks and relevant stakeholders. The summit also recommended the need for creation of youth development councils from local to global levels as well as emphasized the need for Youth Development Fund to provide opportunities for young people to have access to resources to empower those with creative ideas.

The idea of designating exemplary youth leaders as youth development ambassadors was deliberated, recommended and endorsed for implementation in nations around the continent. Some participants from Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Kenya, Cameroun, Gabon and Liberia were commissioned as Youth Millennium Development Ambassadors. A special award of excellence on engaging young people in the Niger Delta was presented by the African youth leaders to the Special Adviser to the Nigerian President on Niger Delta, Hon. Kingsley Kuku for the coordination of the amnesty program in Nigeria.

Also, Youth Millennium Development Ambassadors award certificates were presented to the Chairman of Yala LGA in Cross River State, Nigeria who was nominated by the Yala LGA Students in Tertiary Institutions for his outstanding support to youth education programs in the area as well as five members of the Adamawa State House of Assembly for their work to support young people and in facilitating the realization of the MDGs in their constituencies. Among the recipients of the YMDA award were two Cameroun young women leaders who have been very active in promoting women and youth rights and volunteers with Amnesty International.

A seed fund of 4.3million Leone (US \$1,000 equivalent) was provided as takeoff fund for the Sierra Leone Youth Development Fund to help in the implementation of three key projects, the Voices of Youth radio show, the 2013 Mr. and Miss MDGs Sierra Leone and the Youth MDGs Soccer Tournament.

The summit emphasized the need to engage youths in Africa in most productive ways that they can contribute to their personal and community development. The summit noted with dismay the limited attention given to youth development in the Millennium Development Goals but called on world leaders to consider convening an international summit of young people to formulate and articulate youth development goals that should be achieved before year 2030. The summit underscored the importance of engaging youth in service to their community and nation and commended the nations in Africa with national youth service scheme but expects the scheme to be all embracing through providing opportunities for youths of all categories to engage in community service as preparation for transition into adulthood.

- In August 2013, during the international youth day, a special youth conference shall be held in Freetown with a focus on youth service for sustainable development. During the youth service conference, the Youth Development Ambassadors shall launch the West Africa Community Youth Service (WACYS) scheme and commence the Community Service for Development projects. The 2013 youth development summit was a joint initiative of the Youth Millennium Development Ambassadors, Democracy Sierra Leone, Worldview Mission (WM) Int <http://www.worldviewmission.org> Restless Development and World Vision with support from the Office of the Special Adviser to the President of Nigeria on Niger Delta and National Youth Commission of Sierra Leone with delegates from across the region in attendance. http://worldviewmission.nl/?page_id=70 / <http://mdgambassadors.org>