

Beyond2015: Children and Youth Working Group (Corrected 22 November)

Recently...

Youth representatives meet with the UN High Level Panel to discuss post-2015

On 2nd November, youth representatives met with the UN High Level Panel on Post-2015 Development agenda on the third day of the panel's first substantive meeting held in London. The session was designed to give young people (23 people from around the world) the opportunity to offer their thoughts the role of young people and youth priorities within the forthcoming global development framework.



Shaped around the theme of '**Household Poverty**' the session consisted of a series of short presentations exploring:

- Common (mis)conceptions of what young people today need from development;
- a Vision of 2030 as seen by young people;
- Innovative youth-led development initiatives addressing household poverty and;
- Youth priorities for the new global development framework that will emerge in 2015.

Presentations were then followed with 2 sets of roundtable discussions allowing for direct interaction with High Level Panel members on these issues, with members of the panel feeding back with active **recommendations on how to 1) create a definite role for young people within the post-2015 process, and 2) create a framework that is relevant to young people and the issues they face.** The key themes emerging from discussion where:

- **Inclusion:** The added value of the strong, creative and skilled role young people can bring.
- **Innovation:** Creating space to think radically and out of the box and not lean on historical assumptions (new ways of thinking)

There was a lot of buzz and conversation happening online (twitter and facebook) and many of our youth participants asked questions in the subsequent 'town hall' plenary session with other members of civil society that closed the 3 day meeting.

So what next...? It was made clear by panel members that the responsibility for taking this work forward and capitalising on the links created at this event, lies with youth participants and their broader networks. However, the High Level Panel Secretariat have recently nominated a **Contact Point* on Youth issues based in New York**. Restless Development have been in touch with the contact point on support that the High Level Panel can provide regarding youth involvement in post-2015. In the coming days/weeks, we will be seeking your input into recommendations on what that support should look like – e.g. to push for youth representation at all further High Level Panel meetings, to encourage the appointment of a youth observer on the panel itself. We feel that this new appointment of a contact point for youth in the HLP demonstrates a real commitment to building up a working relationship with young people. All notes from this discussion will be shared as soon as possible.

- Read more about the event and our youth participants [here](#)
- Check out the facebook page [here](#)
- Watch the plenary sessions [here](#)

- Please note that an error was made in the earlier version of this bulletin regarding the reference to this contact.

Post-2015 Country Consultations in Kenya

One of the key points of follow up from the UN High Level Panel meeting in London has been the coordination of a post-2015 Youth Consultative Meeting at the national level with individual panellists. On return to Kenya, one of the youth participants (Willice Onyango) worked with the International Kenyan Youth Council to coordinate a follow-up meeting with UN Special Adviser Amina Mohamed and High Level Panellist Betty Maina in Nairobi, on 17th November. The outcomes of this meeting will soon be available and will help to form a set of recommendations for taking post-2015 youth engagement forward.



We hope that this will be the first of many follow-up meetings with panel members to be coordinated by youth participants and that the substance of each of these meetings will feed into an international strategy on how to take youth involvement in the post-2015 framework forward.

Youth Consultations for a Post 2015 Framework: A Toolkit



We are excited to announce the launch of the toolkit for facilitating consultation workshops on post 2015. You can download it from the Restless Development Website [here](#).

Consultations using this toolkit will be run with at least 14 partners in 12 countries (Sierra Leone, Kyrgyzstan, Ghana, The Philippines, Colombia, Kenya, India, Nepal, the UK, Romania, Croatia and Tanzania) but the toolkit is also available for any group wishing to run a consultation on the post 2015 process.

The aim of these consultations will be to gather opinions from diverse groups of young people on the visions, principles, issues and solutions they have for a post 2015 framework that addresses their hopes and needs. The results of the consultations will be made available online for other young people to comment on, and the results from the consultations will be analysed and made into a final report.

If you would like further information, or would like to run a youth consultation please contact katy@restlessdevelopment.org

This project has been supported by the Youth in Action Programme of the European Union, and co-funded by the Youth DFID PPA Consortium led by Restless Development, with War Child and Youth Business International.

Arab Youth Climate Movement: Day of Action!



Preceding the 18th UN Climate Summit (COP18) taking place in Doha, Qatar at the end of November, young people across the Arab region came together for the very first [Arab Day of Climate Action](#) on 10th November.

The aim of the event was to unite young people across the Middle East on the issue of Climate Change, remind policy makers of the urgency of this issue and push Qatar, as the host country of the UN summit, to show leadership and take a strong stance on climate change which has been markedly absent from Middle Eastern politics to date.

With numerous actions taking place in over 13 countries around the region including Eco-art installations, rallies, workshops, public graffiti and live music, young people came together to take peaceful action and spread the word that NOW is the time for the Arab World time to take a more serious role in stopping climate change.

Read more about the event here: <http://aycm.net/the-story-of-regional-day-of-action/>

Mo Ibrahim Foundation Forum 2012: 'African Youth: Fulfilling the Potential'

"We are not right when we say young people are our future, they are our present. They are here right now!" – Desmond Tutu, Mo Ibrahim Forum 2012



On 11th November, in Dakar, Senegal, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation hosted the 2012 Ibrahim Forum with this year's topic focusing on **Youth Employment, Education and Civic Participation in Africa**.

Attended by many powerful and inspirational figures from across Africa and beyond, the forum explored the sensitive and complex issues surrounding Africa's burgeoning youth population and the lack of opportunities available to many, for as Hadeel Ibrahim stated: '*Young Africans are more educated than their parents but less employed...*'

Restless Development – in collaboration with the Foundation – coordinated a diverse and committed Youth Delegation, with the aim of contributing to improved livelihood outcomes for young people in Africa

by ensuring that their perspectives and realities fed into this high-level discussion forum. As Mo Ibrahim himself stated: '[it's time to really listen to the young people.](#)'

The outcomes of the forum are still being captured and will be shared in the coming weeks. We hope that the forum's focus on employment and livelihoods of young people has provided a key opportunity to gather and compile data and perspectives on

youth employment which will help to shape our thinking and strengthen our evidence base when making recommendations for the post-2015 agenda.

- Take a look at some of the facts and figures used to inform the forum debates [here](#)
- Read some more about the event and youth participants [here](#)
- Follow the debates on twitter [here](#)
- Watch the opening speeches [here](#)

Upcoming Events

As part of the [International Conference on Population and Development Beyond2014](#), taking place in Bali from Dec 4-6th 2012, a partnership of UN agencies, young people, civil society and the private sector will be hosting a [Global Youth Forum](#).



Led by young people for young people, the specific aim of the forum is to translate the participatory goals of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development into a sustainable youth advocacy movement and more broadly, to facilitate young people's input into the process of defining future development goals. Over youth 900 delegates will agree on global recommendations for action on crucial development issues that will form the basis of their advocacy strategy moving forward.

Applications to participate as a virtual delegate are still open so you can be part of the Global Youth Forum wherever you are: <http://www.icpdyouth.org/>

Opportunities

Generation Development: Volunteers needed!

New, youth-focused development organisation 'Generation Development' is looking for support with taking their post-2015 work forward. Keen to ensure the voices of the *future international development professionals* are heard, over the coming months Generation Development aims to crowdsource the views and opinions of young people around the world, through a variety of means including blogs, twitter and low technology initiatives. These will be filtered and edited into the Generation Development report, focusing both on areas of priority in development and the needs of regions around the globe.

Volunteers are need in 3 areas:

1. To solicit and encourage submissions from young people from around the world to the project and manage our online presence.
2. To act as editors for sections of the report. This will involve reading and putting together all of the information we collect.
3. Grant writing, as we are currently seeking funds.

Generation Development is London based and looking to recruit a small London based team to take leadership roles within the project.

To learn more about the organisation visit the website at www.generationdevelopment.org, find them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GenDev> or on Twitter @Gendev2015.

If you might be interested please email Tim@generationdevelopment.org

What are you up to?

We are **really** keen to learn about any post-2015 activities our members may be engaging in as this could really encourage important conversations and highlight opportunities for cooperation or partnership across the group or the wider network of Children and Youth focused organisations.

So, if you are doing anything interesting please feel free to share with the Google group at beyond-2015-children-and-youth-wg@googlegroups.com or contact leanork@restlessdevelopment.org.

Please share this bulletin with your networks who might find it of interest!

We look forward to hearing from you!