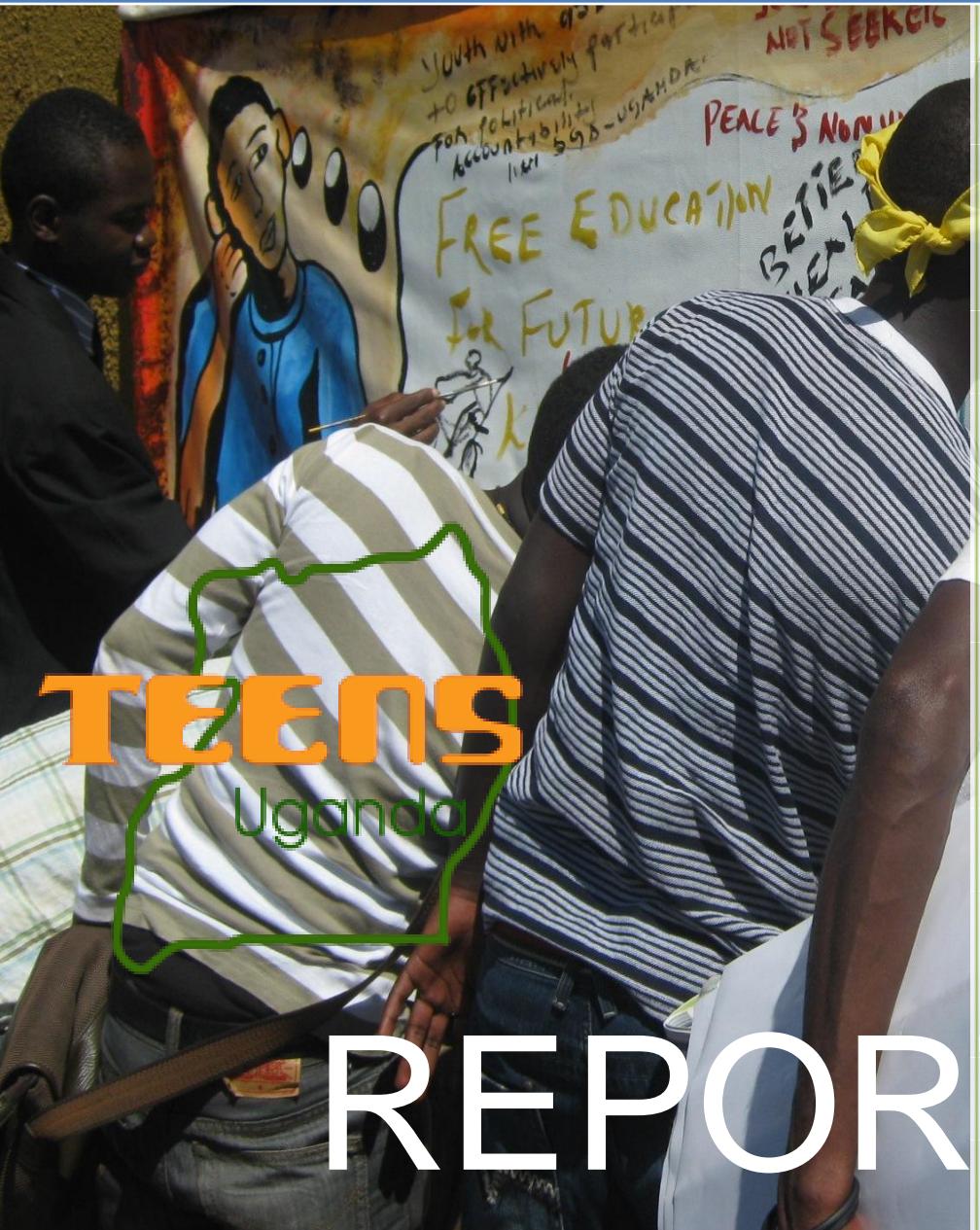


National Youth Congress

2012



REPORT



Confidential
Final Report



Project Progress Report

Project Name: NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS 2012 (NYC)

Activity Scope: National Advocacy

Focus Area: Youth Empowerment through information sharing

Service/Process: Partnership, capacity building Meetings, Study Workshops,
Resource Mobilization, Information Sharing,
etc

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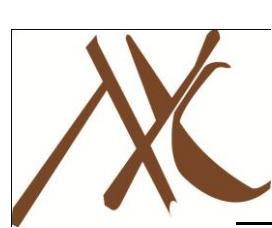
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RECOGNITION:

Special recognition goes to DENIVA a network for indigenous local voluntary organizations that demonstrated strong partnership with Teens Uganda through providing technical and resource mobilization support towards the success of the national youth congress 2012. Ruhi Mamuji (Canada) who participated actively in the design of the NYC concept paper, as an internship at TEENS Uganda. Recognition also goes to other strong partnerships such as Ram Computers Youth Project, Open space, AYDL, 24/7 Distinct (U) Ltd, AFFCAD, Kawaala Health Centre III (KTYC), HESI-International, Suubi International Troupe, HRCU, for their time during the planning meetings and in participation in the resource mobilization and building capacity of the NYC.

Among other support agencies include; Uganda parliamentary forum on youth Affairs, Huger Fighters, Student for Global Democracy-Uganda, Bileafe Rural Development Association, Rushenyi Youth Drama Actors, Hope Initiative, CCG, West Nile Youth Organization on Healthy Education, Kibaizi Youth Development Association, KAYODA, Kugumikiliza Highway Community Based Organization, Bunyoro youth development Network, Mukono Multi-purpose Youth Organization, Pallisa Civil Society Organization Network, Youth Empowerment Initiative Uganda (Soroti), JIDNET, ActionAid, Arua District NGO Network, UNESCO Youth Desk, Vintage Band and the Uganda Police Force for providing security at the venue.



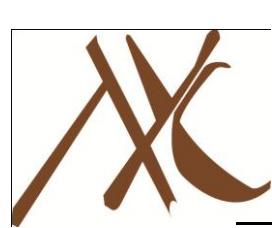
ABBREVIATIONS

NYC	National Youth Congress
DENIVA	Development Network for Indigenous Voluntary Associations
KTYC	Kawaala Teenage & Youth Center
AYDL	African Youth Development Link
AFFCAD	Action for Fundamental Change and Development
HRCU	Human Rights Centre of Uganda
NGO	Non- Government Organization
CBO	Community Based Organization
SCOSP	Site for Community Services Project
SGD	Students for Global Democracy
HFUG	Hunger Fighters Uganda
MUK	Makerere University
PACONET	Pallisa Civil Society Organization's Network



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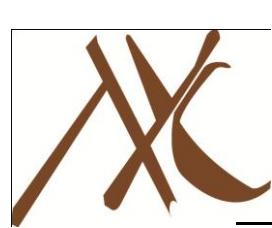
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1 Introductions

The National Youth Congress (NYC) was the second such meeting organised by TEENS Uganda being an interactive, high profile meeting of representative youth delegates from different socio-economic and political backgrounds especially the civil society to provide a platform upon which youth would voice their opinions, concerns, and formally discuss the issues most impacting young people in Uganda and the East African Community i.e. un-employment, youth role in governance, etc.

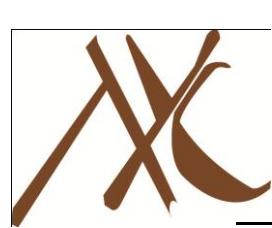
First was a Regional Youth Congress (RYC) was held on the on the (2011) focusing on ignorance, lack of information/training, and crime, as sensitive topics. In November 2011, the East African youth caravan spear headed by DENIVA, TEENS Uganda, and YADEN East Africa, revealed that youth suffer similar challenges in Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda. Taking congress nationally was thought to be a motivation for the organizers and the participating delegates, to address and adopt issues mirrored nation-wide, and therefore formulating strategies that need to be fine-tuned to meet region-specific needs.



2 Back ground:

According to national statistics, Uganda currently has about 34.1 million people where youth contribute about 78% to this population having grown from 33.8 million in 2010 and 16 million in 1991 with a population growth rate of 3.2% (POPSEC projected report on population 2012). The population reference bureau, suggests that Uganda now has the second highest young population in the world. About 83% of these youth have no formal employment. The youth numbers are already a 'Time Bomb' waiting to explode. The underlying reasons for the high population growth rate include demographics; due to the health care improvement in the (1970s and 80s), dramatically declined infant mortality rates without a corresponding decline in the birth rates leading to now the largest youth cohort who have reached working age but the availability of jobs has not changed. The working conditions in labour market determine that the higher overall un-employment rate, the higher the youth un-employment.

The explanation that young people are not able to find jobs, is also an issue of discrimination (one cannot get a job without experience yet you can't have experience without a job). The enrollment rate in higher education without corresponding increase in available jobs is an issue on its own. Among other socio-economic vulnerabilities youth suffer the cause of i.e. lack of education, information, ignorance, poverty, un-employment, HIV/AIDS, etc, which expose them more to risky behaviors such as youth crime, sex work, substance use/abuse, and early parenthood. More "enlightened" societies in developing countries are aware of the problems but become frustrated in their individual attempts to solve these problems. When youths are excluded from making important decisions, their rights are violated, with an impact on their



level of productivity.

Young people find it difficult to obtain clear and accurate information about required skills in the labour market, job security, or other topics such as rights, that are sensitive for their development. Where information is available, it's given in a manner that is authoritarian, judgmental, or non-adapted to young people's values, viewpoints and lifestyle. This situation threatens young people's right to information, freedom of expression, participation and contribution to decision making.

2.1 YOUTH FOSTERING DIALOGUE AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING:

Young people possess tremendous expertise to develop and implement innovative means of fostering intercultural dialogue through projects and initiatives they develop themselves. This knowledge constitutes an asset to be recognized, promoted and harnessed in all efforts to enhance dialogue and mutual understanding at the local, national, regional and international levels. Although youth make up a large part of the Uganda's population, their views and voices lack sufficient channels of expression. Investment in youth democratic participation reflects a recognition of young peoples' active and positive contribution to today's societies, especially with regard to good governance and socio-economic development. Such investments must target youth from all socio-economic, political or cultural backgrounds, including young people from indigenous and minority communities. As youth are both partners and stakeholders in today's efforts to foster dialogue and mutual understanding, their meaningful participation in larger processes and a clear recognition of their expertise and initiatives are essential to the success of any endeavour in this area.



The national youth congress was a unique opportunity of different youth from different backgrounds to meet, network, discuss issues and transform it into national understanding and actions. Focusing on their common challenges, the congress targeted young people who had formulated combined-effort at community, regional and National level to suggest solutions because young people have their own distinct way of seeing and reflecting aspects of their social environment, needs and their culture.

3 OVERALL OBJECTIVE:

To provide a platform for the youths to network and have a cohesive voice on the development processes.

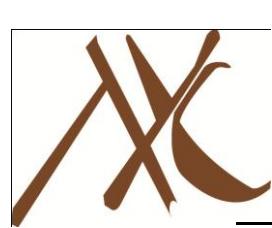
3.1 Specific objectives:

- To stimulate the interest of youth participation in governance in Uganda.
- To raise awareness about the Youth Fund and how it can be accessed to increase employment opportunities,
- To disseminate lessons learned at the Congress through a Youth declaration.

4 ACTIVITIES

4.1 Build up Activities for the NYC

The activities below are a highlight of the many that were carried out prior to the event (NYC) day activity to build capacity for the organizers, partners and the participants reflecting meaningful contribution eventual



dialogue based on evidence. It consisted of a continuous process of research, resource mobilization, collecting opinions, meetings, etc.

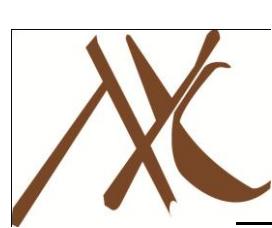
4.1.1 Call for Abstracts/research papers:

Abstracts were solicited Dated (**April 1st – May 31st 2012**) prior to the NYC with the sole aim of stimulating young professional/practitioners interest as candidate participants in research in order to allow informed discussions and debate during the congress. This was also to mark the celebration of the international Youth Day 2012. Several thematic areas were pre-selected and a public notice was put to encourage the public to participate and to present their papers focusing on social security, MDGs, information access, employment and democratic participation. As a highly participatory annual youth meeting, the congress was a premier place to showcase the latest advances in research and practice.

This activity congress was not well attended with only a few youth participating in the process and most international including Wilbroad Peter (Tanzania). This clearly proved that not many young people participate in research and therefore lack the ability to present professional findings about practicing research.

4.1.2 Capacity building workshops/ training:

Out of four (4) proposed Capacity trainings workshops, two (2) were successfully executed by the participating CSOs (partners) as a Computer literacy training for out-of-school youth organized by Ram



Computers in Mengo-Kisenyi on the 28th May 2012. In collaboration with ILO (Y2Y) TEENS execute a business entrepreneurship workshop at KTYC attended by over sixty (60) participants. This was facilitated by the national coordinator youth-to-youth Fund (Fredrick Baseke). Due to resource constraints i.e. time, two (2) workshops were not conducted including; by HRCU, DENIVA respectively.

4.1.3 Networks/Mass sensitization campaigns



The congress organizers collaborated with the AYDL, open Space Centre to launch the Imagine Uganda (Uganda @ 50) campaign whose aim was to interest young Ugandans into taking the lead in defining and shaping the country that youth want it to be for the current and most importantly future generations. The launch was hosted in Mengo - Kisenyi (Zone 3).

The congress team also participated in the creation of youth Prevention support Networks/Groups in schools and local communities linking employment programs with social entrepreneurship concerns using student leaders and local youth leaders as focal points to reach 200,000 youth by 2013.

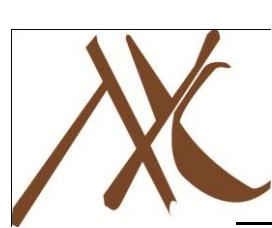


TEENS also partnered with Katwe Garage Association for the launch of the Beat Fm Funs clubs that highly impacted on young people with sports, a slum tour, and exhibition among other activities. This activity was a fundraiser for the congress with extended activities i.e.; the car wash at a relative low price from participants.

In collaboration with Kampala City Yange, Warid Telecom, Mukwana tea company and KCCA, Teens participated in a number of Cleaning exercises in Kampala district i.e. Mulago, Kisenyi, etc to send a message about collective effort towards clean communities and to sustain hygienically safe environments through mass cleaning exercises and influencing behaviors towards sorted garbage collection.



Under the same campaign, other channels as meetings, art and theatre festivals, and magazines were used relevant for disseminating congress information targeting high-risk groups. The campaign revealed the need to encourage youth to visit relevant websites (TEENS, DENIVA inclusive) and having electronic access to newsletters, and other global youth programmes.

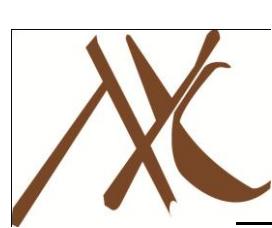


4.1.4 Slum Tours:

Slum tours were real-time activities conducted alongside imagine Uganda launch and independent study campaigns all hosted in Mengo Kisenyi. Among the independent activities, Community Policing was conducted in Kawaala under by Teens Uganda in collaboration with the Kawaala Police Station (5th – 9th June 2012). The purpose of these tours was to expose students to the entrepreneurial activities of out-of-school youth and to help them generate self awareness of the socio-economic challenges, means of livelihood, housing, sanitation, featuring youth in the slum communities. Main program interests were the market products which generate Small income for the group, extra mural activities, informal skills, and sharing knowledge in the development sector.

4.1.5 Stakeholder's meeting

A one (1) day Stakeholders' meetings was hosted on the 6th of August 2012 with youth CSOs, partners, sponsors/donors, researchers, among others interest parties to share information the progress of the congress and this was hosted by Open space Center. The meeting also doubled as a media press briefing to interest local media into participating in the congress meeting on the 8th August 2012 and at the youth festival.



4.1.6 Radio Talk shows

A number of local radio stations had committed to hosting talk shows with the congress team i.e. Pearl Fm, Community Radio, Tiger Fm, but did not fulfilled their.

4.1.7 Resource Mobilization/Fundraising events:

Teens Uganda through the fundraising committee initiated and spearheaded a fundraising Cultural diner(by Mwanje Amanda), a car wash (Lwaga Claire, Nakamakoolo Lillian), Exhibition (Nakayemba Hellen), and sporting activities (Hellen Nayima, and Nabadda Rehema others.

4.1.8 Exhibition/ Show casing

The congress preparatory stage highlighted a number of exhibition exercises or show casing of different project activities as reflected in the slum tours, art and crafts, Traditional dances and theatre, the Heritage Education Programme (HEP), health education (KTYC), King-stone (shoe making), Ram computers(ICT in communities), among other youth development projects.



5 CONGRESS EVET ACTIVITIES (8th August 2012)

5.1 Key Note:

The E.D (Mr. Hamba Richard)'s briefing featured the background of the national youth congress and the host institution (Teens Uganda), the challenges, feedback and highlighted the strategic importance of meeting at such a critical time to reflect on youth issues in a national perspective. He emphasized openness, respect for personal opinion and a need to resolve by prioritizing or embracing tangible decisions that reflect achievable actions coming from participants on behalf of their community groups' country wide. Also acknowledged support from partnering organizations as DENIVA, Ram Computer, AYDL, HRCU, Open Space, media and respectfully welcomed all delegates for happy deliberation at the National youth congress 2012.



5.2 PRESENTATIONS AND PLENARY SESSIONS

The congress meeting constituted a brief presentation of each topic of discussion and there after plenary session and this focused on the youth fund initiated by government and the role of youth in governance.



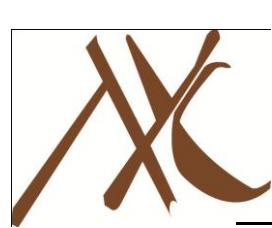
5.3 THE YOUTH FUND

Mr. Kato Ronald introduced the discussion arguing that the government set up Ugsh3.4 billion as an incentive for youth to start up business called self start initiatives. He however sighted a challenge with this fund relating especially with its access and utilization to create jobs for youth. He also remarked that the resource fund was still stuck in banks with because interested youth found it had to access, and so the congress would help answer the “questions” through sharing experiences on, **who, how, where, and when**, in regard to youth fund.



5.4 ORIENTATION & ACCESS:

Generally, participants shared that youth in Uganda had a great excitement with the introduction of the youth fund by the state, which motivated many youth to formulate groups for registration CBOs at local level and opening accounts with financial institutions (bankers) with an aim of becoming eligible stated youth fund. On a sad note youth were required to have securities (collateral) in order to have access including land titles, among other requirement for running loan accounts. Because of this challenge, many youth perceived this arrangement not to be any different from seeking personal bank loans and that the fund had become a big disappointment.



5.5 PROCEDURE & PROCESS

The terms and conditions for acquiring the youth fund were not clear especially among youth without an education (illiterate) or the semi-literate coupled with the lack of securities or sureties. It is common knowledge that youth do not own (have control) and are without access to critical assets like land. Aggravating this situation was the need for youth seeking recommendation from trusties (high profile people or adults with proficient reputation) within the districts whose main interest was fees attached to recommendation and much worse these individuals could not provide proper information about the fund to the applicants. Such information was not availed at sub-county by the concerned local government authorities.



6 CHALLENGES WITH THE FUND:

- a) Participants shared that had given the youth fund a lot of focus and their view this was just a destruction to youth that was not intended to pull them out of poverty as the government stated and that they were therefore not sure for the fund's existence and who it was intended to benefit.
- b) The youth fund was a theoretical approach to console the desperate youth than practical solution. Some youth considered





the fund a joke and not a well thought idea by the proposer. (*Sabiti from Kabaale shared a his personal experience as he approached his parents for a land title, that he took to century bank, completed the eligibility process only later to be informed that there was no fund youth for youth project.*)

- c) Participants lamented that there is a strong information gap emphasizing that the information youth get from the government is totally different from what they get from the banks.
- d) Gilbert from west-nile believed that the fund was a good idea, however remarked that its political interference that led to confusion and as such a destruction to the implementation process. He commented that the perpetrators are being politically driven and have also placed the self centered benefits to this so they can gain from it and later flee. He also stated some people use this opportunity for grabbing land by asking for land titles.
- e) In another direction (Ahmed Hadji) shared about an assessment he conducted on functional developments for the youth fund where he discovered that centenary bank had given out a lot of money but not the same with other commercial banks. He also shared the president's view to the fund that it be given to graduates in order to retain them in the country than seeking employment abroad.

6.1 ACTIONS TO ADDRESS THE GAP

- 1) Government should identify youth support organizations (CSOs) and bring them on board stream line the process, build capacity for the fund, participate in the selection of potential beneficiaries of



the fund. The CSOs are also capable of standing source of information on existing youth led organizations and processes.

- 2) Ssembajja Sulaiman a participant commended Teens Uganda for maintaining self sustaining programs which is an example for other youth projects. He suggested that youth direct their energy towards undertaking community resource mobilization than to focus on the centrally proposed youth fund from government.
- 3) **Question:** While the youth are selling off their parents land many of them are not aware that land is an investment.

6.2 COMMENT BY MR. OTIM FROM DENIVA

Deniva is a Coordinator of NGOS, CBOS which provided a collective forum to all of indigenous organizations. DENIVA has a strong youth focus especially in energizing them to voice their rights. Youth in Uganda are highly divided and have not realized their potential in demanding their rights, yet are the largest population currently. Youth also contribute a lot to the development of the country but are not recognized. As such youth need have a collective effort to get what they deserve in their socio-economic status as Ugandans but that youth cannot do all this without understanding their role in the process and without actively participating in promoting their voice even about the youth fund.





6.3 What should youth do?

Youth need to uniquely position themselves in the country. Ensuring coordination among youths needs be part of their roles which will reflect homogeneity in order to influence policy makers in decisions that affect them in the country. As implementers, youth should demand their rights to be respected i.e. to speak, information, to social security emphasizing equity in justice. This will be reflected within their collective voice so they can archive their development goals.

6.4 HOW TO MAKE THE YOUTH FUND WORK (by EMMY OTIM)

Emmy highlighted three categories of youth in the labour market; the job seekers, those that can lobby and others not searching and not willing to work. The problem with youth today is ambition where youth dream big but are they lowered down because youth fail to set standards when they advance to the market and to other forums.



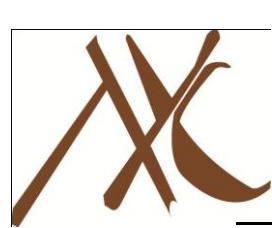
He advised that young people should not focus on the youth fund but need have (cast) multiple nets wide enough to tap into all opportunities beyond the youth fund. He also maintained that youth need to start small with standards so they elevate to big dreams.



6.5 PLENARY (REACTIONS FORM PARTICIPANTS)

- a) Youth need to find out the proper definition of youth fund, access, how it should be utilized (venture business) also defining the specific youth category might be the target beneficiaries, potential scale of the market, and particularly tracking the major cause of unemployment among youth whether its lack financial resources (money), the education system, etc
- b) The youth fund was untimely and that the government did not seek the youth perspective to assess whether the fund would be effective. Youth need formulate circles to support startup projects where government can branch the taxes on the final products ready for market in order to cater for the return rates of investing funds.
- c) Beneficiaries need to be identified early, placed with existing organizations and trained especially those that do not belong to any group. In appreciation, the government should work with these existing groups in order to alleviate government related corruption cases which is a major hindrance to many development projects including education.
- d) Henry Mubanda from Jinja shared that the greatest sin man can ever commit is seeing something going wrong and they keep quiet about it. Government need re-focus to different ventures placing realistic ideas than dormant ones and therefore should demonstrate high commitment to the stated activities.





- e) Policy issues need be practical enough especially towards good governance, and emphasizing the potential of major sectors like agriculture where youth can find easy employment and increase their productivity levels and also heavily alleviates youth poverty.

7 RESOLUTIONS ON THE YOUTH FUND:

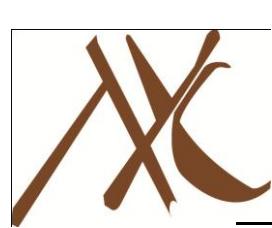
We the youth gathered at the National Youth Congress reaffirm and appreciate the introduction of the Youth Fund and its intended purpose of solving the unemployment problem amongst the youth in Uganda.

We declare our support for the youth fund with recommendations herein below

1. The Youth Fund should support existing businesses without determining which ventures the youth should get involved in.
2. The Youth Fund should be entrusted with local organizations that have demonstrated their ability to uplift the well-being of their beneficiaries so that they guide and monitor the youth that borrow from the fund
3. Youth Fund should be decentralized to the district level to make it more accessible especially for youth in districts that have no banks
4. Government should set business incubation centers to enhance capacity of youth to start and manage businesses

7.1.1 We also recommend the following outside the realms of the Youth Fund

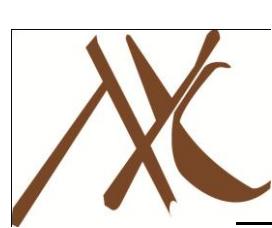
1. Tax incentives be instituted for youth run businesses to enable rapid growth



2. An assessment of youth skills and abilities should be commissioned to ascertain the kind of businesses that the youth are capable of starting and running effectively
3. A directorate of youth be set up at the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) to make known available opportunities coming with new investments
4. A deliberate internship and industrial training policy by government by mandating investors, Civil Society organizations and government ministries to create opportunities within their institutions by law
5. Incorporate vocational skilling subjects in the education curriculum to develop multi-skilled graduates with the ability either sell ideas or create enterprises
6. Government should encourage a 24 hour economy to create more jobs. This can be in form of encouraging beverage and food processing companies to have two shifts of night and day which creates more job opportunities
7. Government should create incentives for investors willing to set up factories upcountry as a way of encouraging local production of raw materials
8. Government should streamline information flow to the district level so that youth are more informed of available opportunities
9. Government should rejuvenate the cooperatives to strengthen the bargaining power of the local farmers

7.1.2 The youth should;

1. Utilize the available family land to engage in agricultural production of marketable commodities especially fruits and vegetables



2. Youth should set up companies and partner with local governments in providing services such as labor for road construction and maintenance
3. Youth organize at the district level should develop wealth creation projects to inspire youth into business ventures
4. The youth venture into the film industry which is still a young but promising industry in the Uganda

7.2 MR WAFULA (EQUAL OPORTUNITIES COMISSION)

In line with the congress meeting, the Mr. Wafula posed a question “if it were possible to have equal opportunities?”

(YES), equity was possible but youth need to speak have a collective voice to support the youth fund not to fail, but first would be to embrace it. Secondly, would be for youth to participate in decisions that affect their source of livelihood and have information access through such forums as the congress. When you are organized other agents even from government would therefore listen to their voices and implement actions of redress to the common challenges.

7.3 MR ANDREW BARUNET (HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER UGANDA)

Andrew highlighted the work of the HRCU as a duty to promote and protect universally recognized HR and fundamental freedoms, by monitoring the situation of defenders worldwide spearheaded by Ms. Margaret Sekaggya the current UN special Rapporteur on human rights of defender.



8 YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRACY, GOOD GOVERNANCE



Brett Daniel Gilbert

In the development world, 'good governance' does refer to the activities of government, but it is understood to go beyond government and to include the relationships between formal government institutions and an active civil society to includes voluntary associations of all sorts; churches, neighborhood organizations, cooperatives, charities, unions, parties, social movements, interest groups, and families.

The congress defined governance as carried out by two organizations; first the civil services and second the political parties. It is in civil services that people are recruited on the basis of merit and in political parties on the basis of elections. Since political leaders and their parties are more aware of the public needs and demands because of regular speeches and meetings, they (political parties and leaders) usually frame policies, and the civil servants do the implementation job.

When people elect their representatives they want them to frame policies and decide what is good and what is not. However, it's worth noting that the political leaders are not experts in the field of economics, finance, public administration, but civil servants are, so they are in a better position to frame policies.



Youth organizations (NGOs and POs) are important part of civil society; and besides youth within youth organizations, almost all other organizations in civil society have youth as members and leaders. From that, we can conclude that youth is a major part of civil society.

The youth can be a good and powerful partner in governance not only in contributing novel ideas but most importantly in putting novel ideas into reality. Not only for the youth sector but also for the whole community and society as well. Not only for the future but most importantly at present.

Youth have a vital role to play in shaping present and future societies, and their transition to independent adulthood is crucial in this regard.

8.1 RESOLUTIONS ON YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRACY

We declare our support for the participation in democracy and good governance with recommendations herein below

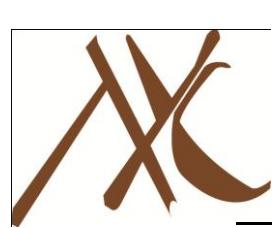
1. Every young person shall have the right to participate in all spheres of society.
2. States Parties shall take the following measures to promote active youth participation in society:

8.2 Actions to:

- a) Support the participation of youth in parliament and other decision making bodies in accordance with the prescribed laws to the constitution;
- b) support the creation or strengthening of platforms for youth participation in decision-making at local, national, regional, and continental levels of governance referred to as district, national or global congresses;



- c) Ensure equal access to young people to participate in decision-making and in fulfilling civic duties;
- d) seek priority to policies and programs including youth advocacy and peer-to-peer programs for marginalised youth, such as out-of school and out-of-work youth, to offer them the opportunity and motivation to re-integrate into mainstream society;
- e) Create platforms to provide access to information such that young people become aware of their rights and of opportunities to participate in decision-making and civic life;
- f) Seek and promote measures to professionalize youth work and introduce relevant training programs in higher education and other such training institutions;
- g) Seek technical and financial support to build the institutional capacity of youth organisations;
- h) Support policy and programs of youth voluntarism at local, national, regional and international levels as an important form of youth participation and as a means of peer-to-peer training.
- i) Improve access to information and services that will empower youth to become aware of their rights and responsibilities,
- j) Promote youth representatives as part of delegations to ordinary sessions and other relevant meetings to broaden channels of communication and enhance the discussion of youth related issues.



9 HON. AMODING MONICAH (also the guest of honour)



Bwette Daniel Gilbert

The Hon Amoding represented the Uganda parliamentary forum on youth affairs and also is National Female Youth MP in Uganda.

She discussed that it was the youth fund had faced many challenges which was unfortunate with the hope the youth had attached to it especially in addressing youth un-employment. But before she could detail issues of un-employment found it necessary to note a note about HIV/AIDS and how it hard affected youth in Uganda because young people had ignored the ABC program which means to abstained, being faithful and condom use. HIV was eating into the productive population which is the young people 14- 35 years.



Embarking on to the youth Fund, she stated that the idea was a big success in parliament about youth issues because of the pressure that is posed on the leaders in correcting issues of general un-employment even among graduates.

Hon. Amoding advised that youth should come up with fundable ideas that would push for rejuvenating comparatives (Unions) such the farmers and marketing cooperatives so as to boost the agricultural sector, industries, which would also provide for employment of youth and also provide market for produce as raw materials to feed the industrial producers.

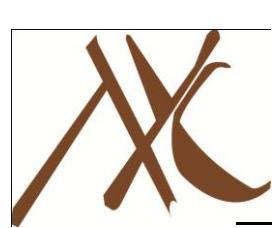
The MP also advised youth to explore both the tourism and film industry as they are also potential source of wealth, employment, adventure and also very heavy income earners both to the individuals and government. Uganda generally has not exploited the two sectors to its fullest as Nigeria which has established itself with "Nollywood".

She therefore made a strong statement that there was no way the youth fund would fail if the youth would embrace it as backup than never before.

10 ENTERTAINMENTS (THEATRE AND MUSIC)

The Teens Uganda performing group graced the delegates with both traditional and creative dances as a way of their expression and importance of culture in respect of the diversity. Hence a **YOUTH ANTHEM** by Teens Uganda members (Nanyunja Irene, Mwebaza Ronnie and Najjemba Maureen) was launched. However, concern arose that the anthem was





only one Language (Luganda) and translating it into multiple languages was necessary.

11 AWARD OF CERTIFICATES

The guest of honor, Hon. Amonding presided over the award of certificate as recognition to participating youth CSOs, and partners towards the success of the National Youth Congress 2012.

12 Remark

TEENS Uganda struggled a lot technically and financially in organizing the congress but with the support from DENIVA, KTYC, RAM Computers, Open Space centre, AYDL, and many other youth CSOs, the congress was a big success. It also became evident that youth have a lot interest in actively participating in promoting democracy, and to ensure future financial freedom.

13 Conclusion

The national youth congress was a very successful meeting for the youth as an opportunity for them to deliberate on the most pressing issues at the time especially the gaps with the youth fund, and the role of youth in governance.

It clearly highlighted how important youth are in the civil society and their contribution to the state affairs through their representatives to parliament. It's therefore important that youth realize their role in contributing to national development through own affairs.



14 PROJECT REPORT APPROVALS

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Approved by _____

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(DEVIVA) Executive Partner

Client Sponsor
