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AFRICA
AMERICA
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INFO

✓ UPCOMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2013

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
06 November 2013	International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	Melaka, Malaysia
17 November 2013	International Students Day	Melaka, Malaysia
25 November 2013	International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women	Melaka, Malaysia



✓ ERITREA: GASH-BARKA REGION - SEMINAR CONDUCTED WITH A VIEW TO RAISING ALL-ROUND AWARENESS OF FEMALE YOUTHS

Barentu, 24th October 2013 - REPORTS indicated that a seminar was conducted in Barentu city with a view to raising the all-round awareness of female youths in Gash-Barka region, and thus enhancing their role in various domains.

The seminar in which a number of female workers and High School students from all sub-zones of the region took part witnessed

seminars by various a number professionals.

Accordingly, history of the Eritrean women, the advantages of VCT and prevention of communicable diseases were among the addressed issues, besides the question of law and women.

Ms. Alem Belai, head of the NUEW branch in the region, called on the

meeting participants to demonstrate competence in academic pursuit. She further pointed out that the Union has been exerting intensive efforts towards promoting women's awareness and organization. Ms. Alem also asserted that the branch would continue to collaborate with members.

The participants expressed satisfaction with the

seminars, and said that they would strive to make impact in this connection.

Among the participants, Ms. Zebib Gergish, Salwa Yusif, Aro Ibrahim and Helen Beraki noted the timeliness and vitality of the seminars, and commended the Union for taking the initiative.

[Shabait.com]

✓ MALAWI: LILONGWE YOUTHS EXCITED ABOUT KAUNIUNI PROJECT

Lilongwe, 23rd October 2013 - THE youth in Lilongwe have expressed their excitement by the Kauniuni project saying the project has potential for economic transformation.

Government through the Ministry of Mines will be searching for precious stones country wide in a 14 month Kauniuni Project.

In a series of interviews during road shows held in Traditional Authorities Chiseka, Malili, Chitukula and Chimutu Malawi News Agency (Mana) heard from the youth that the project has the potential to bring major social economic transformation.

The road shows were held with an aim of sensitising people about the project

"I hope the exploration yields positive results. I, as a business man, hope to be part of the mining industry. People in African countries like Zambia, Mozambique, Botswana and South Africa have greatly benefited from the discovery of precious stones. It is my hope that the same happens to Malawi," said 24 year old Gilbert Maulana who runs a small scale construction business at Mitundu Trading Centre in TA Chiseka.

26 year old Albert M'gunya who owns a bottle store at Likuni in TA Malili in a separate interview concurred with Maulana saying Government must develop policies that will encourage community participation to ensure that the benefits of the project

trickle down to the community.

"The project has the potential to greatly transform the country social economically if properly managed. My grandfather and his friends who used to go to South Africa to work in mines returned home worthy," he said.

M'gunya, however, appealed to government to develop policies that will prevent a repeat of the Kayerekera scenario where the community benefited very little from mining activities.

Ministry of Mines Public Relations Officer, Levison Undi, told MANA that the exploration which will involve small aeroplanes flying 40 metres high aims

at discovering precious stones which when discovered will greatly benefit the country.

He said the project is a living project as its approach will be changing to suit emerging issues.

"We are in the initial phase of exploration and after 14 months the project will be reviewed and chart the way forward in order to ensure that communities and malawi as a nation greatly benefit from mining activities," he said.

Kauniuni Project is being implemented with assistance from the World Bank and the European Union (EU).

[Malawi News Agency]

✓ RWANDA: YOUTH IN POST-MDG AGENDA

Kigali, 24th October 2013 - THE youth have voiced their concerns and ideas for a better future during consultations that will help shape the post-2015 global development agenda.

The One UN, through the

United Nations Volunteers and its partner, Youth Parliament, better known by its French acronym, Pajer, engaged in consultations with four vulnerable groups of youth and compiled the findings into an art exhibit and networking event at

Inema Arts Centre in Kigali on Tuesday.

"You have to find interesting ways to present their views, otherwise it's just another report that lands on somebody's desk and doesn't get read," said

Frances Nixseaman, from Pajer. The UN Millennium Goals expire in 2015 and a global discussion on new development agenda is ongoing. Consultations have taken place in Rwanda in the past under the One UN system.



The new consultations targeted specific groups of youth, including girls, the deaf community, the Muslim community and refugees, to give them opportunities to make their voices heard. Youth at Kigeme Refugee camp in Southern Province created paintings to express their opinions visually. On display at Inema Arts Centre in Kigali, each painting tells a story.

Majority youth populace:

The small canvases each represent a development issue important to the youth

such as the need for potable water, recreation centres and peace. "It's a really unique way of sending a message because as an artist there's a lot of things people hide in their thoughts and it's easy to portray them creatively," said Emmanuel Nkuranga, the director of Inema Arts Centre.

In Rwanda, 65 per cent of the population is under 35. The post-2015 development agenda will have an impact on young people and their future. "It's important we hear the wishes and aspirations of young people because they're often

ignored," said Aylin Schulz van Endert, the UN Youth Volunteer UNDP.

Secondary students representing girls and young women were given an opportunity to air their views at the event on Tuesday. "They came to us to seek our views and our goals and see what is most important to put into action," said Mahoro Mastel Pierrette, a student at Lycee Notre-Dame de Citeaux in Kigali.

Students at the girls' school zeroed in on good governance and eradicating

infant mortality as the most important development issues for the world post-2015. "There can't be a good country without a capable government and, without the youth, who is going to lead that country?" Pierrette posed.

The consultation findings were presented to the Ministry of Education to help impact policy in Rwanda and to the UNV who are one of the lead agencies influencing the global project.

[The New Times]



SUDAN: VICE - PRESIDENT CALLS ON YOUTHS TO PRESENT INITIATIVES FOR UNITY OF RANK

Khartoum, 23rd October 2013 - VICE President of the Republic, Dr. Al-Haj Adam Yousif, has given a directive to the National Sudanese Youth Union, to reinforce the role of youths and to present for the unity of rank through launching constructive dialogues with the political forces in

general and the youth leaderships at the parties especially.

This came when the Vice - President received at the Republican Palace the Chairman of the Sudanese National Youth Union, Dr. Yahia Shugar Bashar.

Dr. Yousif has affirmed the importance of consolidating the ties between the youths of Sudan and South Sudan State and guaranteeing effective youth participation at the regional and international forums.

Meanwhile, Dr. Bashar acquainted the Vice Presi-

dent with the union's plan which includes a number of initiatives that serves the youth issues in the coming period at the economic, social and cultural fields.

[Sudan News Agency]



TANZANIA: DEVELOP READING CULTURE, YOUTHS URGED

Dar es Salaam, 24th October 2013 - THE government has cautioned against lack of interest among youths in immersing in literature on serious issues when at school, saying they risk losing global opportunities.

The Deputy Minister for Finance, Ms Janeth Mbene, said on Tuesday that it will be extremely tough for the government to bring about development to people unless they were ready to seize various opportunities through education.

She was speaking when addressing students at the University of Dar es Salaam

who attended a public debate organized by the United Nations (UN) Tanzania office as part of events to commemorate the organisation's 68th anniversary marked worldwide.

With the theme "The future we want; Are we seizing the opportunities we have?" the Deputy Minister said that the debate has come at the right time as Tanzania is looking forward to meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

"The first round of MDGs implementation is not good

yet particularly in terms of participating of the larger population in the country, but we have to be careful of being unrealistic and ambitious than our own capacity and strength as we are working on them," she said.

She added that it will be difficult for the Tanzanians to seize economic opportunities if they remained ignorant, challenging the youths in higher learning institutions to build the culture of learning hard for their own good and that of the nation.

According to the Minister,

in implementing MDGs, the government has adopted the Big Result Now (BRN) agenda, which will ensure quality delivery of services in six important areas including education. Ms Mbene also reacted to the shocking statistics released by the Chair of the Youth of the United Nations Tanzania (YUNA), Dr Lwidiko Edward, who said while 5,000 to 8,000 copies of serious newspapers are sold on daily basis in the country, 80,000 to 100,000 copies of the papers with yellow pages are selling like hot cake daily.

[Tanzania Daily News]



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA: ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA PARTICIPATES IN THE 2013 CTO YOUTH CONGRESS

Antigua, 17th October 2013

- ANTIGUA and Barbuda's Junior Minister of Tourism Autumn Odlum is off to represent the country at the CTO's (Caribbean Tourism Organization) Caribbean Youth Congress which commenced today in Martinique.

The Youth Congress is structured to mirror a CTO Board of Directors' Meeting. There will be an agenda for discussion, with topics on salient tourism issues which participants have to research beforehand.

Students are required to prepare ONE of two topics to discuss during the forum. Each student will be given three (3) minutes to express

his/her ideas on the chosen topic. The 2013 topics are "Multi-Generational Travel" and "Caribbean Agri-tourism....There's More to it Than Visiting the Farms", along with a question chosen on a mystery topic. It is however important to note that the forum is not a debate.

Ms. Odlum is accompanied by Mrs. Cynthia Simon, Manager of Tourism, Education Training and Awareness within the Ministry of Tourism, as well as the first runner-up in the recently held local run-offs for the title, Ms. A'Shante O'Keiffe.

While in Martinique, the delegation will attend presentations with Tourism

Industry Leaders. Additionally, they will accompany the other Regional Junior Ministers and Commissioners of Tourism, along with their Chaperones, on a destination tour to get to know and enjoy the highlights of the Martinique's tourism product.

Antigua's Junior Minister of Tourism, Autumn Odlum is a fifth form student of the Antigua Girls High School. She is a school Prefect, the Vice President of the Interact Club, a member of the Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI) Club, President of the 5th Form Fund-Raising Committee, a member of Antigua Girls' High

School Choir and an Environmental Cadet. Ms. Odlum is currently preparing to sit ten (10) subjects in the 2014 CXC CSEC Exams.

The CTO Youth Congress is held annually during the State of the Industry Conference which runs from the 16th to the 18th of October this year.

Antigua & Barbuda participates in CTO Caribbean Tourism Youth Congress with satisfactory levels of success, having placed three out of five times in the top three positions, between 2006 and 2012 with no Congress held in 2009 and 2010.

[SKNVibes]



BAHAMAS: BAHAMAS YOUTH LEADERS UNDERGO NATIONAL TRAINING DURING YOUTH MONTH

Nassau, 11th October 2013 - YOUTH leaders from all around the country are participating in a Youth Leaders Certification Programme that will bring their training to a the national standard that the Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture has set, and over a period of time, expects every youth leader in the country to meet.

The national standard is in keeping with regional and international standards in youth development. A wide range of leaders are attending the ten-week certification course, including representatives from the military arms of government, community leaders, members of the legal profession, youth pastors and church youth leaders, youth social

workers, and youth programme representatives. The Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture is celebrating the month of October as National Youth Month, and continued a series of activities that began on September 30 under the theme: "Celebrating our youth... the journey continues."

The month of activities kicked off with a Youth Opportunities Fair at the Town Centre Mall, where unemployed young people got the chance to meet face to face with public and private entities, prepare resumes, and be interviewed on-the-spot. A Youth Gospel Explosion hosted by DJ Godson was held at the National Centre for the Performing Arts.

Sports World is teaming up with the Ministry to train sports youth leaders, and the Sandiland's Rehabilitation Centre is training adolescent health workers. CARICOM is partnering with the Ministry of Youth to host the Creative for Employment & Business Opportunity (CEBO) - a week-long workshop that will take aspiring entrepreneurs through the ropes and give them the tools needed to start their own successful business.

Jail House Rock, a theatrical play performed by students of the Government High School will be held at the National Centre for the Performing Arts on October 15 and 16 and is free to the public. The National Youth Recognition Ceremony will be held at the same venue

On October 24 at 7pm.

"What's your Bahamian dream?" is the question the Division of Youth is asking young people (technically ages 16 to 30) during the Youth Summit which starts on October 18 at the British Colonial Hilton hotel at 7pm.

Programs designed to help the youth with employment are still planned for National Youth Month: Youth Empowerment Day career explosion will be held at the Church of God of Prophecy, Joe Farrington Road on October 25 from 9am to 2pm; and the Fresh Start program will launch at the Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture on Thompson Boulevard, ground floor on Monday, October 28 at 9am.



The National Art Gallery of The Bahamas will feature at Art Show on October 21, and the Kingdor Parkinson's Foundation will host a speech competition at the National Centre for the

Performing Arts on October 27 at 3pm. Public and private schools throughout New Providence will be visited by Ministry of Youth officials this month.

National Youth Month will wrap up with the 300 CONNECT program, in which the Ministry is reaching out to at least 300 young people who are not connected with a youth

program, so that they can become engaged in something positive.

[The Bahamas Weekly]

✓ BARBADOS: LINK THE ELDERLY, YOUTH

Bridgetown, 1st October 2013 - AMBASSADOR Robert 'Bobby' Morris is calling for a stronger link between the elderly in our society and the youth. As the outgoing Chairman of the Christ Church South Council, his appeal came at the launch of the Council's signature project 'Seniors in Motion'.

Speaking to The Barbados Advocate, he wants to see a mentorship programme created where the elderly are trained to go into schools and share their wisdom. He assured that the mentoring would see a transfer of knowledge, experience and values. He spoke of grandmothers even counselling young mothers, saying, "This is a rich opportunity."

Appealing to all

Constituency Councils at the event hosted at the Dover Complex and Pavilion, Morris said, "I want a twinning between the younger people in our society and the elderly. [...] Do your micro-work. Let the central government do what they have to, but there is a role and place for the Constituency Councils. Move to get the young people twinning with the older people."

Morris said that the elderly should be seen as mentors and counsellors to be engaged. "What we need very, very importantly is to put those young people with all these brains and the talent and intelligence, so that they [the elderly] can coach them and guide them," he urged.

Addressing the more than

50 seniors present, he added, "Get the richness that you have to share."

He lamented, "This used to be done in the homes where you had grandparents, three generations living in the same household, but [nowadays] that is a little bit difficult."

To bridge the intergenerational gap, he appealed to the elderly to tell the youth about the good old days, their mistakes and challenges and help them overcome their own. He stated, "With a mentorship programme, find room on the curriculum, train them, develop a core of elderly that can go into the schools."

He said that just as they trained and developed

individuals who were once imprisoned or who are still imprisoned to share their stories and influence the youth positively, a similar strategy can be employed with the elderly. "Carry the elderly and help the youth understand what they had to go through and to understand that today they have more opportunities," he suggested.

He concluded, "We have to think it through more and establish policy. Use the Councils, not central government, and use resources from the Social Care Ministry and the Ministry of Education and build a network to help the twinning."

[The Barbados Advocate]

✓ CANADA: CALGARY WELCOMES WORLD PETROLEUM COUNCIL YOUTH FORUM

Calgary, 23rd October 2013 - THEY may be students or entry-level professionals now, but the more than 1,000 young people taking in sessions at the Telus Convention Centre this week are the CEOs and policy-makers of the future.

Representing more than 50 countries around the world, the delegates — most of whom are between the ages of 20 and 35 — are taking part in the World Petroleum Council Youth Forum, an event first held in Beijing in 2004 followed by Paris in 2008 and New Delhi in

2010. Calgary, which was awarded host city status by the World Petroleum Council, is the first North American city to host the event.

"We're very excited to have it here because it puts Calgary and Canada on the map in terms of our innovation and our talent," said 29-year-old conference chair Joanna Desjardins, who is also an engineer with event title sponsor ConocoPhillips. "Our generation is very interested, we're very vocal, and we're very engaged in

what's happening in this industry ... This is a way for us to learn from each other, debate, and discuss what our energy future looks like."

Because the conference is geared to young people, the program is designed to touch on issues that will affect the energy industry of tomorrow. Session topics include clean technology, pipelines and market access, renewable energy, regulatory frameworks, and public perception of the energy industry. The lineup of speakers includes CEOs,

academics and politicians — not just from Alberta, but from countries like Kazakhstan, Turkey, Norway, and Brazil.

"We (young people) want access to those senior professionals before they leave the industry. We want their guidance, their perspective as well," Desjardins said. "So that's one of the things we're trying to address at this conference — getting those networks together and helping to bridge that generation gap."



Max La Cour Christensen, a 26-year-old PhD student from Denmark, said he is looking forward to a career in the energy sector. He said he believes his generation brings a fresh perspective to the technological and environmental challenges facing the industry.

"We bring new ideas, we're not stuck in old paradigms," Christensen said. "We can come up with the stuff that's unconventional, the way we think."

Twenty-six-year-old Tatiana Legeza, who works for Deloitte in Moscow, Russia, agreed. She said taking a

tour of the Alberta oilsands Monday — an opportunity offered to delegates as part of the forum program — got her thinking about what other revolutionary advances may be ahead for the energy industry.

"I think young people now

may do more for industry, their country, and the world as a whole," Legeza said. "We may create new technology, not only to produce the oilsands, but more efficient technologies to produce shale gas and oil in Russia."

[Calgary Herald]



JAMAICA: DIASPORA PROJECT WILL FOSTER DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG JAMAICANS - STATE MINISTER BROWN

Kingston, 18th October 2013

- MINISTER of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Hon. Arnaldo Brown, has hailed the Diaspora Youth Connect Project, noting that the initiative will provide for the growth and development of the country's young people, particularly those deemed at risk.

The project, which was launched on Thursday, October 17, at the Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) offices in Kingston, aims to utilise the skills and talents of youth in the Diaspora in assisting vulnerable and ambitious young people in Jamaica to realise their full potential in entrepreneurship.

According to Mr. Brown, targeting young, vibrant,

energetic young people in the Diaspora, who are willing to share their knowledge and expertise with youth in Jamaica, will bring fresh views to key areas such as technology, including its uses and applications.

"In keeping with our National Youth Policy, we must press on in ensuring that Jamaican youth realise their full potential, and, through access to opportunities, develop, participate and contribute as responsible citizens to a peaceful, prosperous and caring society," he stated.

Mr. Brown said that the initiative forms part of the Government's thrust to engage the Diaspora for national development.

He noted that the Jamaican Diaspora represents a group that is patriotic, dynamic and willing to share with their homeland, and the Government of Jamaica, through its Diaspora Policy, is seeking to maximise these attributes.

"For us, the engagement of the Diaspora is about the development of a symbiotic relationship with reciprocal benefit," Mr. Brown said.

"This project will deepen and strengthen their connections to their roots thereby, inculcating in them, a sense of pride of being Jamaican. This project will also foster mentorship and loyalty towards their motherland, an outcome which is critical to the sustainability of the Diaspora movement," he

added.

The Diaspora Youth Connect Project represents a collaborative effort involving the Jamaican Diaspora Institute, Cuso International, and the University of the West Indies (UWI) Township.

The initiative seeks to leverage human and financial resources that are located in the Diaspora to strengthen the capacity, the entrepreneurial and business management, community development, youth empowerment/mobilisation, and Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills, in a number of inner-city communities.

[Jamaica Information System]



USA: WALL STREET TO RAISE MORE THAN \$1 MILLION FOR NYC YOUTH

New York, 9th October 2013 - YOUTH, I.N.C.

(Improving Nonprofits for Children) announced today that Canaccord Genuity, the global capital markets division of Canaccord Genuity Group Inc. (CF: TSX | CF: LSE) will sponsor the Eighth Annual Trading Day for Kids, a fundraising event that provides a vehicle for institutional investors to improve the lives of at-risk children and youth. On

October 23, Canaccord Genuity will donate 100 percent of designated net commissions on cash equities, agency options, and electronic trades to Youth, I.N.C. Proceeds from Trading Day for Kids will benefit Youth, I.N.C.'s 51 nonprofit partner organizations and thousands of kids in need across New York City. In 2012, Canaccord Genuity's sponsorship of Trading Day enabled Youth, I.N.C. to raise

\$1 million.

Since its inception in 2006, Trading Day for Kids has enlisted the support of nearly 500 hedge funds and has raised more than \$8.6 million for Youth, I.N.C.'s capacity-building programs.

"We are proud to extend our partnership with Youth, I.N.C. and support such a worthwhile organization. Through its close association with distinctive

Wall Street partners, Youth, I.N.C.'s unique business model enables innovative nonprofits to become financially sustainable and serve a greater number of youth," said Daniel Daviau, President of Canaccord Genuity's U.S. Investment Banking Operations. "We are glad to partner with Youth I.N.C. once again to continue to support NYC kids."



Along with Trading Day for Kids, Canaccord Genuity will also host a "Mentor Day" on October 21.

Twelve high school students representing Creative Arts Workshops for Kids, one of Youth, I.N.C.'s partner organizations, will spend the afternoon at Canaccord Genuity meeting with senior executives and attending a panel discussion about various jobs across the financial services industry.

"It is an honor to have a firm of Canaccord Genuity's calibre support our Trading Day for Kids initiative for the second year in a row," said Steve Orr, Executive Director and Founder of Youth, I.N.C. "Their commitment to our mission of linking talent and resources from the for profit sector with promising nonprofits is unwavering, and we are truly grateful for their steadfast support to improve the lives of deserving youth in New York City."

To commemorate Trading Day for Kids, Youth I.N.C. and Canaccord Genuity will ring the Closing Bell at NASDAQ on October 23.

[The Wall Street Journal]

WSJ



✓ INDIA: 'ARTS ON AIDS' SEEKS TO ROPE IN YOUTH

Varanasi, 22nd October 2013 - TO involve and mobilise the youth of Uttar Pradesh in the awareness of AIDS, the DOVE foundation, a non profit organisation working towards creating awareness about HIV-AIDS, would organize 'Art on AIDS' as a part of the ICAAP's Youth Programme.

According to Abhinav Singh of the organisation, a workshop to brief young people about the Art on AIDS competition would be organized along with a series of consultation with young people. The aim of such attempts was to involve the youth in dialogue and get their views.

The outcome of such consultations would be compiled and used to devise devising future endeavors of the UNICEF and UNESCO in dealing with HIV related issues.

"The 'Art on AIDS' is a joint endeavor of UNESCO's Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education and UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific Regional Office," said Singh adding that the competition was open to all between the age of 12 and 28 years and would encourage art submissions to reflect messages and issues related to youth and HIV/AIDS.

"Some examples of artwork

to be submitted are drawings, painting or still digital art. The guiding theme of the competition is 'innovate, don't discriminate' which would encourage participants to think about new ways and means to support people living with HIV," Singh added. The last date for the entries is October 31.

He added that the 11th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP11) would be held from November 18- November 22 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Rising Tension

Almost half of all new HIV infections in the world

are among people under 25 years.

Estimates show that globally more than 3,300 young people get infected with HIV daily.

Globally, 5.4 million young people are living with HIV. (Source: UNAIDS, Global Report, 2012).

In India more than 35% of AIDS cases reported are below 25 years of age and 50% of new infections are between 15 and 24 years old. (Source: UNICEF, India Country Profile, 2012).

[The Times of India]

✓ INDONESIA: NEED FOR LEADERS WITH YOUTH PLEDGE DAY, 85 YEARS ON

Jakarta, 28th October 2013 - TODAY marks eighty-five years since Indonesian youth from various ethnic and religious backgrounds gathered at the Indonesische Clubgeouw building in Batavia to establish a nation on Oct. 28, 1928, an event that will forever mark the power of the Indonesian youth and what their ideas are capable of doing.

"The Youth Pledge Day is a mix of various ideas to formulate the concept of a nation, give clear limits to the archipelago as their homeland, as well as an agreement to the use of the Indonesian language as a language of unity," Aridho Pamungkas, political analyst from the Community for Social Transformation (Katalis), said.

Speaking at a discussion titled "What Other Pledges Do the Indonesian Youth

Need to Make?" Hermawan Sulisty, a political analyst from the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), said on Thursday that Indonesian youth remained rich with potential, both on a national scale and in the international community.

Such can be seen from the number of Indonesian students who have made high accomplishments in various international physics and mathematics competitions, he added.

However, Hermawan emphasized that not many of the Indonesian youth retained an interest in remaining in Indonesia after such accomplishments, as most preferred leaving the country, working abroad and becoming citizens of foreign countries.

"To me, this has redefined the Youth Pledge Day. It has now become a matter of

how we can tell our children not to sell themselves and not to sell their nation. They need to learn the knowledge, but after that, return here. Use technologies in other countries for the benefit of this nation," Hermawan said.

He noted that Indonesian youth today need a leader who is able to motivate them to perform and excel.

"There is one problem, which is that there are no leaders. All we have are government officials, but there are no leaders with a clear vision and mission. Meanwhile, all there is to motivate them are corporations, but there are no more national motivators such as Sukarno and [Mohammad] Hatta," he said.

"Nelson Mandela was jailed for 30 years, and once he

was released, he came out as a lion. The youth should be taught to fight. Attack, and do not remain silent," he said.

Data by the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) show Indonesia today is home to 62.5 million youth across the archipelago.

Hermawan emphasized that with 12 percent of the total youth being eligible to vote in next year's general election, none of the parties have proven themselves truly able to develop their younger constituents. Political parties today prefer to approach religious leaders, art workers and others, he said.

"Once they are able to win the hearts of the youth, they will surely become the biggest party."



He further said that approaching Indonesian youth was not a difficult task and that the most important element in doing so was to listen and think for the youth.

“Just listen, go to street races, invite them to race at the Sentul [racing track], ask their friends to go there. They will definitely be up for that. This is just an example,” Hermawan suggested.

In a separate discussion on Friday, Barita Simanjuntak, an academic from the Indonesian Christian

University said Indonesia’s democracy has yet to make room for the nation’s youth to express their aspirations and ideas.

“Democracy tends to turn into a structure of authority dominated by the elder generation,” Barita said in a discussion titled “Youth Pledge Day: Advancing Indonesian Youth Movements” at the Indonesian Movement Organization headquarters. He added that youths should be brave to leave their comfort zones to change the system and improve the nation.

Center for Strategic International Studies researcher Indra J. Piliang said Indonesian youth shouldn’t be measured by their age, but by their ideas and their thoughts.

The youth, he said, should be able to produce fresh ideas that could challenge the older generation.

“So the new ideas from the youth should be able to become breakthroughs,” he said.

Dedi Gumelar, a member of House Commission X,

which oversees education and youth affairs, called on the government to offer more funds and facilities for its youth, aimed not at spoiling the younger generation but in hope of motivating them to be creative in doing positive improvements.

[The Jakarta Globe]



MALAYSIA: YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS TO GET SOMETHING FROM BUDGET 2014

Petaling Jaya, 10th October 2013 - THE Malaysian government is expected to announce a framework designed to assist and mentor youth in social entrepreneurship in the upcoming Budget 2014, said Finance Ministry director general Mohd Irwan Serigar Abdullah.

“We need something for young entrepreneurs that when developed, will help us reach a developed nation status by 2020,” said Mohd Irwan in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

The announcement may even be made when Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak delivers his keynote address at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit 2013 (GES 2013) to be held on Oct 11, said Mohd Irwan, though he remains mum about any other Budget 2014 related issues.

Mohd Irwan said GES 2013 has received very good response where 3,900 participants from more than 100 countries are attending

the summit.

Some 60% of the participants attending the event lead organised by the Finance Ministry are from Malaysia.

“We were expecting 3,000 people but the response is overwhelming. We may have to limit the number of people coming into the summit” said Mohd Irwan.

The summit will also see senior ministers from South-East Asian countries attending, in addition to US Secretary of State Senator John Kerry who is coming on behalf of President Barack Obama who is unable to attend due to the American government shutdown. Kerry will be joined by US Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker.

One of the key events for the fourth edition of the summit is the inaugural Global Startup Youth (GSY) event, involving 250 participants from all over the world and another 250 participants from Malaysia.

GSY is expected to take ideas of the youth with their cultural diversity and expertise, and convert the ideas into ventures that are ready to be taken to the market. “Entrepreneurship movement among youth is the culture we want to drive,” said Mohd Irwan.

Another initiative in conjunction with the GES 2013 is the 1Malaysia Entrepreneurship Programme (1MET), involving 5,000 Malaysian youth.

They will get to meet Najib and Kerry, and have the opportunity to interact with them, said Mohd Irwan. Co-organiser Multimedia Development Corp CEO Datuk Badlisham Ghazali said there would be 125 speakers from all over the world including 29 speakers from Malaysia at the summit.

Among the speakers are consultant and author of “Paradigm Shift” Don Tapscott, Air Asia Bhd group chief executive

officer Tony Fernandes and YTL Corp managing director Francis Yeoh.

Badlisham said one of the events is a policy round table discussion mooted by Malaysia aimed to formulate policies for entrepreneurship aimed to enhance the entrepreneurship ecosystem in the world.

The discussion will focus on the aspects of education, funding and regulatory framework, among others.

[The Malaysian Reserve]



✓ SINGAPORE: YOUTH TEAMS GIVEN \$40,000 TO KICKSTART SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IDEAS

Singapore, 12th October 2013- THE Singapore International Foundation's (SIF) Young Social Entrepreneurs (YSE) Programme awarded four teams with \$10,000 each to kickstart or expand their social enterprise ideas.

They were selected from a total of 13 teams that took part in Sunday's Pitching for Change forum, the finale to the SIF's YSE Programme which began in March.

The teams comprised 26 youths from eight countries - Singapore, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Thailand - who underwent eight months of mentoring, business clinics as well as

an overseas study trip to Thailand to refine their business ideas.

On Sunday, they presented their business plans to a judging panel of business professionals and social entrepreneurs, who decided on these four winning teams:

- Dorsal Effect, a social enterprise by Singaporean Kathy Xu, to promote eco-tourism in Lombok Indonesia as an alternative livelihood for shark fishermen, so as to sustain the local shark population

- Gazaab, a micro-social venture fund by Singaporean Jamon Mok and Nepali Akash Gunung,

to empower the poor via business competitions in Nepal and other developing countries

- Social Cops, a web and mobile application by Indian nationals Prukulpa Sankar, Varun Banka and Jahagirdar Kavya Narayan, that brings together citizens, city councils, NGOs and corporations to solve municipal and community issues

- Youth Agri-Socio Entrepreneurs, a team by Indonesians Alfi Irfan and Rayseed Hussien, to match undergraduate agricultural students with farming communities to maximise productivity and sustainable farming techniques

"I believe that today's youth are a generation driven by purpose - they want to make a change and when they set a goal, they will work towards that purpose. I hope more youth will join the (YSE) programme to experience this journey," said SIF governor Elim Chew. Ms Chew is also the founder of retail brand 77th Street.

The YSE Programme has enabled some 200 youth entrepreneurs from 10 different nationalities since its launch in 2010. Applications for the 2014 YSE Programme are now open.

[AsiaOne]

✓ THAILAND: HILTON PATTAYA SUPPORTS YOUTH AT THE YOUTH CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNICEF AS PART OF HOTEL'S BRIGHT BLUE FUTURES INITIATIVE

Pattaya, 4th October 2013 - HILTON Pattaya recently participated in the Youth Career Development Program in partnership with UNICEF, which ran between April 25, 2013 and September 7, 2013 in a show of support of youths in Pattaya. To cater to the growing demand amongst local youths for careers in the hospitality industry, community partners including UNICEF have joined efforts to organize the program as a way to generate awareness and positively impact these youths.

The initiative provides a comprehensive 20-week hospitality training program for selected students in Thailand to equip them with skills in various departments, such as food and beverage, kitchen,

housekeeping and engineering. This is the first time that Hilton Pattaya is participating in this initiative by supporting four student trainees who were trained on-property under a mentor system.

Hilton Pattaya's participation in the Youth Career Development Program is part of its support of Bright Blue Futures, a global community relations initiative by Hilton Hotels & Resorts, designed to help young people achieve stability through the delivery of basic needs such as food, shelter and hope through education, life skills development, training and employment. As the flagship brand of Hilton Worldwide, Hilton Hotels & Resorts is contributing to the company's broader goal

of creating opportunities for young people by engaging 144,000 team members across communities in this brand-wide effort.

"The Youth Career Development Program was established to support the growth and development of youths in our community," said Gerard Walker, director of operations, Hilton Pattaya. "This is a challenge we face globally, and at Hilton Pattaya, we see this as an opportunity to provide the resources we have available at our hotel to help young people reach their full potential."

Established in 1995, the Youth Career Development Program has provided resources, volunteers and mentors to developing youths in Thailand who experience sex trade issues,

lack of proper education and career planning. More than 1,000 youths have been positively impacted by this effort to date, allowing them to lead a more well-balanced, thriving life toward a brighter future.

Youths are the next generation of leaders, innovators, employees and world travelers, comprising approximately one quarter of the world's population. Approximately 200 million youths worldwide live in poverty and an estimated 75 million youths are unemployed.



The travel and tourism sector employs 255 million people around the world, and by the year 2022, an estimated 73 million new travel and tourism jobs will be created, providing ample opportunities for today's youths as they enter the workforce in the hospitality industry. Hilton Pattaya team members believe they can make a difference in the future of Pattaya's youths through their ongoing commitment to UNICEF.

[Pattaya Mail Newspaper]

new



✓ ALBANIA: 10TH INTERNATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING IN TIRANA, ALBANIA

Tirana, 1st October 2013 - STUDENTS and academicians from 40 countries gathered in the Albanian capital city of Tirana for the 10th International Youth Gathering.

The Union of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Islamic World (UNIW) has gathered 250 students from around the globe for its International Youth Gathering, which is held twice a year, where young people are encouraged to share their views on mutual history and the future.

Edvin Cami, a representative from the Alsar Foundation, said: 'We

have shown the world via this meeting how Islam has spread in Albania, how it has expanded throughout history, and especially how Muslims have not only preserved their religion in spite of the era of communism, but how they advanced its expansion even more. Additionally we have shown our youth the way to contribute to continuing this trend in the future.'

The International Youth Gathering focuses on different subjects every year. This year the theme was about the problems and solutions in the Balkans. Youth from Europe, the Middle-East, Asia and Africa explained the problems in their countries

and its relationship with the Balkans.

The Chairman of UNIW, Cihad Terzioğlu said: ' We aim to create a youth who believes in the necessity of a new constitution of an encompassing and realistic language to strengthen Muslim brotherhood and establish Islamic Unity, will be a model for the world with their accumulation, and has a long-term target and a promising future.'

This conference also hosted speeches from the UNIW General Coordinator and Executive Board Member of the Project of Progressive Cooperation and Contact with the Balkans Cihangir İşbilir, Prof. Dr. Kani

Nesimi from Macedonia Tetova State University, the former UN Ambassador to Albania and politician Abdi Baleta, along with nine other specialist speakers. Presentations were made covering the latest political plights of Egypt and Syria, with members of the R4BIA platform also using the event to lobby for their cause.

Also, youth from Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Macedonia, Bulgaria and Romania debated on the historical representations of Islam in their countries and the problems it has caused today.

[Kuzey News Agency]

✓ BELARUS: EU MPS INTERESTED IN BELARUS' YOUTH EMPLOYMENT POLICY

Minsk, 3rd October 2013 - BELARUS' best practices in youth employment raised interest in EU MPs, Chairman of the Permanent Commission for Education, Science, Culture and Social Development of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly Nikolai Kazarovets told BelTA reviewing his participation in the events of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Central European Initiative Parliamentary Dimension (CEI-PD) that was held in Budapest in late September.

The participants of the session discussed

unemployment among the youth. Youth unemployment is estimated at 40% on the average in the CEI-PD member states. According to the participants of the session, some 7.5 million school graduates did not join the labor market of Europe. There are regions where the unemployment rate among young people exceeds 50%, which greatly jeopardizes social stability.

The MPs analyzed various options to tackle the issue. Nikolai Kazarovets presented a report on the Belarusian system of state support of young people.

The state guarantees the first job for Belarusian university students who studied for free. The government also creates temporary subsidized jobs to help graduates learn practical skills.

"The Belarusian practices aroused a great interest and were discussed at the session of the General Committee on Political and Home Affairs and at the working meetings with President of the CEI-PD, Head of the Hungarian Delegation to the CEI-PD Richard Horcsik and heads of other national delegations. The Italian

MPs said they would like to come to Belarus to study the youth employment policy in situ," Nikolai Kazarovets said.

The participants of the CEI-PD Parliamentary Assembly also discussed interregional cooperation and joint policy in ecology and environmental protection. The Belarusian MP took part in the elaboration of the Parliamentary Assembly final declaration that was unanimously adopted at the end of the session.

[Belarusian Telegraph Agency]

✓ BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA: YOUTH PEACE CONFERENCE BEGINS IN BANJA LUKA

Banja Luka, 16th October 2013 - A REGIONAL youth peace conference aimed at organizing a network of young peace builders to work on the

preservation of peace in the region kicked off in Banja Luka, Republika Srpska (RS), on Tuesday.

The conference, dubbed

'Youth for the Balkans', is being held on October 15-17 and is bringing together representatives of youth organizations from the Western Balkans to

exchange experiences, discuss future cooperation and become familiar with youth programs by the Council of Europe (CoE).



RS Minister of Family, Youth and Sports Nada Tesanovic pointed out that the main objective of the regional youth cooperation is to increase awareness about the need of tolerance and accepting differences in society for the sake of a better and peaceful future.

"The fight against Internet hate is just one of the activities that these young people are involved in," said Tesanovic.

Ratko Savic, a CoE youth peace ambassador and program manager at the Banja Luka 'Auctus' youth

center, has said that young people will meet at the conference to talk about what they can do to enhance reconciliation, cooperation and progress in the entire Balkans.

The conference was organized by 'Auctus', in

cooperation with the RS Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports and the CoE, and the participants are young people from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Albania.

[InSerbia]



GEORGIA: ICC GEORGIA ESTABLISHES ICC GEORGIA YOUTH

Tbilisi, 25th October 2013 - THE International Chamber of Commerce (ICC Georgia) has presented its new youth wing ICC Georgia Youth. ICC Georgia Youth has been established in order to encourage the development of business skills and entrepreneurialism among youth in Georgia, and to provide a platform for the involvement of future entrepreneurs and professionals in ICC Georgia.

"This is the most important initiative developed by ICC Georgia yet. It will contribute to raising a new generation of young Georgians who will be aware from the very start of the importance of modern

business practices and proper business ethics and who will become the real leaders of tomorrow," Chairman of ICC-Georgia, Fady Asly said.

ICC Georgia Youth members will attend seminars and events throughout the year aimed at familiarizing them with the business environment in Georgia and exposing them to best business practices and the activities of the International Chamber of Commerce globally.

Members of ICC Georgia Youth will also participate in ICC certified training in topics such as leadership, corporate governance, project management, entrepreneurship and ICC

rules and publications. Students will be provided with mentorship and internship opportunities for students with ICC Georgia member companies. ICC Georgia is working closely with three university partners on this initiative: Free University, International Black Sea University, and Tbilisi State University.

Students from these and other universities have applied to become members of ICC Georgia Youth. Student members must be between the ages of 20 – 26 years old and be studying or have graduated from a business-related university program (for example, business administration, finance, accounting,

economics or law). Upon graduating, young professionals are encouraged to join ICC Georgia Youth to further develop their business skills and to network among ICC Georgia member companies.

Students of universities who are ICC Georgia members (TSU, IBSU, Free University and Agrarian University) pay a membership fee of 150 GEL per year, while students of universities who are not ICC Georgia members and youths who have already graduated will pay a membership fee of 250 GEL per year.

[The Messenger Online]



LITHUANIA: EASTERN PARTNERSHIP YOUTH FORUM STARTS IN KAUNAS

Kaunas, 23rd October 2013 - ON 22–25 October, the most important event dedicated to youth of the Lithuanian Presidency of the EU Council – the Eastern Partnership Youth Forum – is take place in Kaunas. Two-hundred youth leaders, employees of youth organizations, and representatives of youth policy from the EU programme Youth in Action and six Eastern Partnership countries – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine – will participate in

the Forum.

What will the education system in Lithuania and Europe look like in 10 years? How can informal education contribute to the promotion of democracy? Is informal education valued and recognized enough in the European Union's labour market? This and other questions will be discussed at the 1st Eastern Partnership Youth Forum.

According to Liliya Gerasimienė, Head of the Agency of International

Youth Co-operation, this Forum seeks to promote cooperation with the Eastern Partnership countries, and strengthen the importance of acknowledging informal education.

"Participation in international exchange programmes, volunteering activities, and language improvement courses contributes to a broader outlook. In this Forum, youth representatives from various countries will discuss the importance of

informal education in the EU, and how to increase it in countries such as Belarus and Moldova," Gerasimienė says.

During the event in Kaunas, guidelines for the recognition of informal education will be prepared. It is planned to submit this document to the EU's institutions and present it during the Eastern Partnership's topical meetings.



The High Representatives of the 28 EU member countries, six Eastern Partnership countries, and the Heads of the EU's institutions are expected to participate in the Forum.

The Eastern Partnership Forum's participants have

come to Kaunas on 22 October. A daytime excursion will be organized as well as a meeting with the Mayor of Kaunas, Andrius Kupčinskas. Officially, the Eastern Partnership Forum will open 23 October.

Jan Truszczyński, Director-General of the EC Directorate-General for Education and Culture, Dainius Pavalkis, Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania, Algimanta Pabedinskienė, Minister of Social Security and Labour of the Republic

of Lithuania, and Peter Matjašič, President of the European Youth Forum, will participate in the event. Vladas Lašas will represent the business community.

[Eurasia Review]



MALTA: FOUNDATION TO HELP YOUNGSTERS

Valletta, 27th October 2013

- THE importance of reinforcing the social fabric of our society and being pro-active in the daily struggle against the pointless loss of life were discussed during a meeting between the Save a Life Foundation council, led by MP Claudio Grech, and the President George Abela.

Dr Abela highlighted the key role the foundation had in carrying work within the community, based on its needs in respective areas. Despite Malta's size, each locality had its needs, which the foundation determined and analysed carefully.

The foundation was set up by Mr Grech earlier this year with the aim of supporting NGOs in the underprivileged areas of the first district to provide more active participation in meaningful activities for children and youths through the implementation of pro-active measures to keep them away from substance abuse.

To kickstart the foundation, Mr Grech has contractually committed himself to invest the full parliamentary honoraria he is bound to receive over the five-year legislature into the foundation and augment it with other fundraising measures from the private sector and other NGOs.

Jointly with his wife Charmaine, they have designated Caritas and Puttinu Cares as the underlying beneficiaries of the foundation.

Mr Grech gave a run-through of the social problems inflicting the underprivileged areas and informed Dr Abela of the first two projects the foundation had started to work on.

The first is an extension of the Hamrun Spartans FC Youth Nursery, which will allow for closer educational and community engagement for the over 250 children.

The second project is the establishment of a virtual classroom at St Elmo Primary School, which would focus exclusively on enhancing the children's literacy skills and educational engagement.

[Times of Malta]

Review



✓ FIJI: NAUPOTO REMINDS YOUTHS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION ON FIJI DAY

Lautoka, 10th October 2013

- THE Minister for Youth and Sports, Viliame Naupoto yesterday reminded the youths of Fiji to recognize the value of education one has in their lives.

Officiating at the Fiji Celebrations in the western division yesterday, the Minister told students and youth who gathered at the event that Government was fully committed to the growth and development of Fiji's youth.

"Like any 43 year old, we have developed our wisdom," the Minister said as he referred to Fiji's 43 years of independence.

"We are now wise enough to understand that our differences, be it racial, religious or otherwise is not a barrier but a blessing that we should embrace," he said.

"We are wise enough to recognize that our youth are the energy of our nation and that they can vote at the age of 18 and have their voices heard in the running of our

nation."

Crowds turned up at both Labasa and Lautoka yesterday to celebrate Fiji's independence anniversary, members of the public, business houses and corporate entities flocked to the town of Labasa in hoisting and swaying their flags up high as civil servants and school children marched through town.

Meanwhile, President Ratu Epeli Nailatikau and Prime Minister Commodore Voreqe Bainimarama will offici-

ate at the celebrations at Albert Park as this article goes online.

[The Jet Newspaper]

✓ GUAM: MORE TEENS ENVIRONMENTALLY INVOLVED: YOUTHS DOING THEIR PART TO KEEP THE ISLAND CLEAN

Hagatna, 6th October 2013 - THOUSANDS of

individuals scoured Guam's shores for trash at daybreak during the Guam International Coastal Clean-up.

Unfazed by inclement weather, which postponed the event a week, youths played a vital role in the cleanup's success, helping to publicize, organize and mobilize the cleanup effort. The presence of various student groups at all 17 participating beach sites highlighted local youths' increasing environmental awareness and activism.

Father Duenas Memorial School senior Joseph Maravilla, president of his school's environmental club and a participant in at the cleanup at the Paseo de Susana beach, embodies this amplified youth involvement. His club, the only one of its kind at Father Duenas, seeks to promote and encourage environmental awareness and initiative.

Student clubs

Maravilla explains that the club's name, FD180, creatively references its motto ("taking a turn for the better") and emphasizes its purpose of effecting a 180-degree shift in current complacent attitudes and behaviors toward the preservation of the Earth and the sustainability of its ecosystems.

"When I joined the club freshman year, it was exciting. The club president then, Fritz Arellano, really jump-started the club into what it is today," Maravilla says. "As president, my goal is to make sure FD180 thrives within the younger classmen. ... Hopefully, this club will live on, and the message it carries will go on with it."

Maravilla says his club makes its presence known at his school and in the community by hosting quarterly cleanups and implementing

environmentally friendly policies.

"We are trying to partner up with i*recycle to help our campus become much more environmentally friendly by recycling plastic bottles, aluminum cans, newspapers and other recyclables that we can find all around our campus," he said.

Clubs similar to FD180 are found in many public and private institutions across the island and rapidly are establishing their own community voices.

Collective efforts, such as joint beach cleanups hosted by both FD180 and the Academy of Our Lady of Guam's Green Club, as well as village beautification opportunities held by such organizations as National Honor Society chapters, school and community service coalitions, and even Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps programs, make it possible for young people to actively serve Guam's environmental

needs -- and spread awareness of the issues which threaten the island's delicate ecological balance.

Also, it's easy to take action by forming new clubs, organizing novel events and starting to make a difference by preserving the environment, one cleanup at a time.

[Guampdn.com]



NEW CALEDONIA: PACIFIC YOUTH AND SPORTS CONFERENCE OFFERS INSPIRATION FOR YOUTH

Noumea, 27th October 2013

- UNICEF Pacific spokesman Tomas Jensen says the Pacific Youth and Sports Conference offers a platform for young people to shape their futures.

Jensen, UNICEF Communication Specialist, spoke with oceaniafootball.com to outline his organisations perspective on the forthcoming conference in Noumea, New Caledonia, 2-7 December, 2013.

"UNICEF Pacific have provided a great opportunity for young people participating in this conference to develop a proposal as to what sports for development in the Pacific should look like.

"Our participation in the conference is really important for us to connect with the young people in the region who will be engaging in sports for development," Jensen says.

Oceania Football Confederation, along with the Government of New Caledonia and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community are facilitating PYASC, but UNICEF's values are closely aligned with the conference's aims.

"UNICEF has a multi

country programme covering 14 countries in the Pacific. Our primary programmes centre around education, health, water sanitation, protection of children and HIV/AIDS awareness and youth participation and especially in the context of climate change and the promotion of gender equality.

"Our link to the conference is that any activity involving sports is also contributing to the healthy body and minds of youth in the Pacific. Sport is generally where a lot of exchange of ideas occurs and its a good interface with our programmes," he says.

With sport often viewed as a mere time-filler by some, Jensen is quick to point out the holistic development opportunities sports provides youth in the Pacific where employment or access to higher education is not always easy.

"I think that sports is an essential element of the well being of children and youth and its our experience that when they are engaged in sports they are engaged in talking about values and issues they face, it leads to collaboration and a lot of positive energy to address

social obstacles. Sports development and sport in general is a very useful tool to engage with," Jensen says.

One social obstacle fast looming on the radar of all Oceania peoples is that of climate change and Jensen says its only a matter of time before the youth of today face the impact of the phenomenon.

"Climate change is affecting not only the low lying atoll nations, but all the countries in the Pacific.

"It leads to more frequent droughts, undermines fresh water resources, leads to encroachment on habitable land, so climate change affects the youth and children of today and is something that is expected to affect everyone in the region as climate change impacts and becomes more and more visible," he says.

Which brings Jensen neatly back to the importance of gatherings such as the Pacific Youth and Sports Conference in December.

"I think that these types of conferences allows young people to come together and exchange ideas and learn from each other. Oceania is a region where not a lot of

young people are connected. There is not much internet penetration here, so engagement does not happen the same way as for example in Europe or Australia where it is easier to communicate.

"Conferences like PYASC are a very important platform to facilitate youth engagement and it make the issues they face visible and tangible. They can exchange ideas because ordinarily they cannot address these issues isolated nation by nation" he says.

UNICEF Pacific's work in the region and Jensen offered kind words of support for a successful PYASC.

"We are very very happy to be having the opportunity to engage with young people through this conference.

"We wish that the PYASC is successful as is hoped and we look forward to working with young people and sports for development partners to harness the potential of it as a tool to generate results for young people in the Pacific," he says.

[Oceania Football Confederation]



PNG: SURVEY: LARGE NUMBER OF PNG YOUTHS UNEMPLOYED

Port Moresby, 11th October 2013

- A YOUTH unemployment survey conducted in six urban areas has discovered that there is a large number of unemployed youth in cities and towns.

The National Youth

Commission survey, conducted in conjunction with the University of PNG and the University of Western Sydney, Australia, stated that many PNG youth migrate into urban centres in search for employment or studies.

Out of a total of 318 respondents, 44 per cent arrived in towns and cities in search for a job while 33 per cent migrated for study. More than half of the respondents were primary and secondary school drop outs and just over 10 per cent had tertiary qualifica-

tions. Interestingly, only 32 per cent of the youth in the survey were employed while 68 had no formal jobs.



The vast majority, aged between 18 and 30, agreed that most social issues come as a result of unemployment. Most of the youth in the survey want the government to put more emphasis on education, employment, training and social services. The general feeling shared by youths in the survey is that young people are not happy with the general situation and the chronic unemployment issues they face.

The survey investigated five different types of unemployment that are not fully explored by researchers in the context of PNG.

'Frictional unemployment'

occurs when young people search for jobs that best suit their skills and preferences. It represents the unusual amount of unemployed resulting from people who have left jobs that did not work out and searching for new ones or young people entering or re-entering the labour workforce.

"Structural unemployment" results from a shift in the pattern of demand for goods and services or change in technology in the economy that affects the profitability of hiring workers in specific industries.

"Cyclical unemployment" is evident in PNG. It results from recurring depression and cyclical fluctuations in

business activities and government projects.

'Technological unemployment' arises due to the advancement of science and technology, resulting in intervention of labour saving machines and devices to accelerate production.

"Seasonal unemployment" arises in certain periods that usually result from the reduction on demand for labour, further attributes to patterns of consumer's habits or to variation in production associated with climate change.

The survey was conducted from December 2011 to December 2012, by student

Peter Kanaparo, from the Graduate School of Management, University of Western Sydney. It was conducted in Kokopo, Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Goroka and Mt Hagen and the findings presented yesterday at the youth employment framework meeting in Port Moresby.

[Post Courier]

✓ SAMOA: CAMERA, LIGHTS AND ACTION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN SAMOA

Apia, 4th October 2013 - THIS week high school students in Apia are directing their own climate change mini TV documentaries, radio programs and other stories for the A2C2 project (Action Against Climate Change).

Over 30 students from three schools are filming field trips, recording their radio voice in studio and busily writing about climate change and its impacts on people in Samoa.

"After a month of preparation, training, writing their scripts and stories the students finally get the chance to get out into the field this week to film and record their stories," said Joelle Auffray, the co-founder of Apidae, who is leading the initiative.

"Their stories are very powerful. It is the 'voice of

youth' speaking about climate change and how it impacts their country, their family and them personally."

On the field trips, the students are being supported by local Samoan media personalities and climate change experts who have kindly volunteered their time to be 'mentors' and help spread the educational messages about climate change.

This Mentorship Program is a key component of the A2C2 project, where local Samoan 'experts' in climate change and media have been advising and supporting the high school students over the duration of the project.

The mentors have also provided support to the National University of Samoa (NUS) journalism students who are also

involved in the project, as part of their Semester 2 curriculum.

"The stories will be completed by the end of the month and launched at a Showcase meeting soon, which we hope will attract key decision makers in Samoa keen to listen to the youths present their stories and voice their concerns and hopes," Joelle said.

The high school children involved in the A2C2 project are from Leifi'ifi College, Maluafo College and Loto Taumafai.

A2C2 (Action Against Climate Change) is a collaboration between the Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS), the Australian Government's Department of Environment, AusAID, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), and implemented by Apidae Development

Innovations.

It involves five Pacific countries: Vanuatu and Samoa (in country media production), and Kiribati and Tuvalu (via the University of the South Pacific hub campus in Fiji). A key focus of the initiative is partnering with each country's ministries (Education, Environment or others), selected schools and media institutions to ensure the project is local and to create maximum awareness on the science and solutions to climate change.

[The Jet Newspaper]



✓ VANUATU: VANUATU HOSTS FIRST NATIONAL YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Port Vila, 16th October 2013

- FIFTY-TWO youth representing Vanuatu's six provinces are in Port Vila this week participating in the country's first ever National Youth Parliament which is generating a lot of interest among the youth groups, many of whom for the first time will enter Vanuatu's Parliament Chambers. The project is conducted by the government of Vanuatu with UNDP's support.

The youth will undergo a week-long training programme facilitated by Transparency International Vanuatu (TIV) in collaboration with the Parliament Secretariat and support from the Vanuatu National Youth Council (VNYC).

The Youth Parliament was organised to allow the youth the opportunity to experience the procedures for parliamentary democracy, understand how a parliamentary system functions, its procedures, structure and organization of the Parliament. The youth participants will also experience how decisions made in Parliament can impact development and human rights issues in Vanuatu.

Speaking at the opening of the training, the Clerk of the Parliament, Mr Louis Kal-npel told the youth participants that as the leaders of tomorrow, they've made history by participating in Vanuatu's first ever Youth Parliament in Vanuatu representing their provinces.

"Vanuatu desires to see

young leaders who have the courage to lead this nation forward in the future, leaders who can stand for the principles of good governance amid the current development challenges. Leaders who are called to deliver the needs of citizens and contribute effectively to the transformational changes in the livelihood of the people of Vanuatu."

"We are grateful to UNDP for the support provided for this initiative. The Government of Vanuatu Government will continue to maintain this good will relationship with UNDP and other UN agencies in our collective endeavour to achieve the shared vision in strengthening our parliamentary system and to groom our young people to become leaders of tomorrow."

On the third day of the training, Ms Akiko Fujii, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative addressed to the participants. "The youth holds the key to the future development of Vanuatu. Understanding the Parliament's key role as law making body and its responsibility to serve for the people of Vanuatu is a very important step for the youth."

The training will end with the Youth Parliament on Wednesday 23 October followed by the Parliament Open Day and United Nations Day on Thursday 24 October. The youth will be deliberating on issues which are of paramount importance to their livelihood in the Parliament Chambers resembling the current Members of

Parliament representing their constituencies.

The Parliament Open Day organized by the Vanuatu Parliament Secretariat will be an opportunity for the public and schools to learn more about the Parliament, its key functions including decision making processes including how laws and policies are endorsed through the parliamentary procedures.

The support to the National Youth Parliament is part of UNDP's overall assistance to the Government of Vanuatu to support governance and promote democracy in Vanuatu.

[Scoop Media]

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World Youth Complex
Jalan Lebu Ayer Keroh
Ayer Keroh 75450
Melaka, MALAYSIA

Phone: +606 2322711/1871
Fax: +606 2327271
E-mail: office@way.org.my
Website: <http://www.way.org.my>