

UN YOUTH FLASH
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WELCOME to the UN Youth Flash, a service of the United Nations Programme on Youth to keep you informed about the work of the UN on youth issues. UN Youth Flash can also be read on-line at: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/flash.htm>.

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FEATURE: Furthering the youth agenda through International Youth Day

International Youth Day (IYD) is now less than two months away! What are your IYD plans for 12 August this year? What are Governments, UN agencies, NGOs, youth organizations and young people doing to use the day to further the youth agenda? Is this just another day of the year? Can one day make a difference? Yes IYD can make a difference!

From small grassroots projects to large national commemorations involving Governments, UN offices and major institutions, every effort can make a difference. Seminars, workshops, public rallies, street fairs and sports tournaments have been organized in local communities to draw attention to prevalent youth issues.

12 August was declared as International Youth Day by the United Nations General Assembly in 1998. Since then, around the world, 12 August has been commemorated as International Youth Day. At all levels, international, regional, national and local levels, people around the world have been celebrating young people and the importance of their role in society. The United Nations promotes the importance of this Day around the world to showcase the difference young people make in the lives of their communities and also to highlight issues of concern to them. Each year, special themes have been selected to draw attention to key issues and to bring the energy and dynamism of young people to the forefront. Prior themes for the Day have included sustainable development, unemployment, intergenerational issues and tackling poverty together.

The theme of this year's International Youth Day is "Youth and Climate Change: Time for Action". Climate change caused by human activity hampers poverty eradication efforts and makes the MDGs more difficult to achieve. Hard-earned progress towards poverty reduction is threatened or reversed by the negative effects of climate change. Further, climate change poses a threat to peace and security, and adds to the possibility of rising number of conflicts and the proliferation of nuclear weapons. It is therefore at the top of the list of major global concerns.

The Day presents a great opportunity to rally support and get key actors, such as Governments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, businesses, and young people to act on climate change. It brings young people together to participate in ongoing global discussions and to take action on an issue that has important implications for their future and that of the planet.

Last year, an international initiative - the Shoot Nations International Photography Competition, drew global attention to IYD. This year, the theme of the competition is “Young people in a changing climate” (<http://www.shootnations.org>). The competition will give youth from around the world the chance to express their views on how the climate is changing and what they can do about it. Last year’s winning photographs from the competition were presented and displayed at United Nations Headquarters in New York and at several other key exhibits around the world. They were also used in the recent World Youth Report 2007.

This year, the Fourth World Youth Congress will bring 600 of the world's most dynamic young activists in the field of sustainable development to Québec from 120 different countries (<http://www.wyc2008.qc.ca>). Delegates will join Canadian youth and use IYD to celebrate young people’s contribution to the UN Millennium Development Goals with the World Youth Walk through the city of Quebec. The Day’s celebrations will culminate in an event with statements by representatives of Government, UN system, non-governmental organizations and young people, followed by an open air concert.

For information on how previous IYDs were commemorated, please visit <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/iyouthday.htm>. Email us your plans (youth@un.org), so that we can showcase innovative and creative ideas on how partnering with Governments, organizations and communities on IYD can lead to change.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM UN HEADQUARTERS

Consultations on goals and targets on youth priority areas

An Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Goals and Targets for the World Programme of Action for Youth: “Youth in Civil Society” and “Youth and their Well-being” was held in New York from 19-21 May 2008. The EGM worked to develop a set of goals and targets for the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) priority areas: Environment, Leisure-time activities, Participation in decision-making, Intergenerational issues, Information and Communication Technology, Health, HIV/AIDS, Drug abuse, Juvenile Delinquency, Girls and Young Women, and Armed Conflict. The set goals and targets, along with those identified at a similar meeting last year on “Youth in a Global Economy” (http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/egm_unhq_may07.htm) will help monitor progress towards the implementation of the WPAY. Participants included experts in the eleven priority areas, as well as representatives of Member States, UN system offices, youth and youth organizations. The recommendations of the meeting will be included in a Report of the Secretary-General to be presented at the 47th next session of the Commission for Social Development and at the 64th session of the General Assembly in 2009. For more information, please see http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/egm_unhq_may08.htm.

Growing Together: Youth and the Work of the United Nations

“Growing Together: Youth and the Work of the United Nations” is a forthcoming publication that shows how the United Nations system as a whole, supports youth development with a diverse range of programmes and activities. The publication is intended as a source of information and shows how the work of the various parts of the United Nations system on youth issues covers all 15 priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth. Launch date for the publication is 12 August 2008.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM UN AGENCIES AROUND THE WORLD

IPJJ provides technical tools on juvenile justice

The Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice (IPJJ) is a group mandated by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to coordinate technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other relevant international norms and standards. The Panel is currently composed of thirteen United Nations bodies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) active in juvenile justice, including OHCHR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNDP and DPKO. To increase the availability of technical resources on juvenile justice, the Panel developed a website in English, French and Spanish

www.juvenilejusticepanel.org and a monthly electronic newsletter -

www.juvenilejusticepanel.org/en/newsletter. The latest edition of the newsletter focuses on a Panel follow-up event to the Committee on the Rights of the Child's General Comment No. 10 (2007) on "Children's Rights in Juvenile Justice". The newsletter also provides information on new tools available on the website, new reports, links and forthcoming events. For more information on the Panel, please contact: Davinia Ovet, Secretariat Coordinator (dovett@juvenilejusticepanel.org).

UNAIDS – New publication highlights partnerships with the private sector

AIDS is an enormous challenge that requires the unique strengths and resources of every sector of society, from Governments to non-governmental organizations and the private sector. "AIDS is Everybody's Business: Partnerships with the Private Sector: A Collection of Case Studies from UNAIDS" is a collection of stories highlighting just a few of the ways in which UNAIDS and its ten co-sponsors work to bring private sector leadership to the foreground in the global response to HIV. To download a copy of the publication, please visit

http://data.unaids.org/pub/Report/2007/unaids_private_sector_case_studies_en.pdf

UNESCO - A space for the BNP Paribas Youth Cup – 1 to 12 July

From 1 to 12 July, the BNP Paribas Youth Cup will bring around 150 young men and women together in Paris, France, for a tennis tournament. This tournament for young players from ages 12 to 14 will be organized in partnership with UNESCO for the sixth consecutive year. Various interactive activities will be made available to the young people participating through the UNESCO Educational Space. The UNESCO space will allow young players to learn about global issues and discover UNESCO's thematic priorities, such as Intercultural Dialogue, World Heritage, Human Rights, Anti-doping or Sustainable Development. Each young visitor will receive a UNESCO "passport" that will guide his/her visit and participation in the different activities. The Passport will be stamped with a visa at the end of each step, declaring that the passport holder has new knowledge on important issues. For more information on UNESCO and youth issues, please visit <http://www.unesco.org/youth>.

UNESCO - Youth campaign supports World Heritage sites in Indonesia

The Culture Unit of the UNESCO Office in Jakarta, in close collaboration with the Indonesian Department of Culture and Tourism, Borobudur Heritage Conservation Institute, PT. Taman Wisata and Indonesian World Heritage Youth Network (INDOWYN) recently participated in the youth campaign for the safeguarding of the Borobudur World Heritage site. INDOWYN initiated its first youth campaign by collecting over 14,125 handprints on 140 banners in support of the site. The youth campaign was conducted at the site, as well as in five major cities in Indonesia. It also included the production and dissemination of an awareness raising brochure entitled "I've been to Borobudur" printed in English and Indonesian. Major print and television media covered the press conference that was attended by Government, UN and other officials. The event also

included a religious ceremony to honour the site. It also served to promote the 1972 World Heritage Convention and the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. For more information, please visit <http://www.unesco.or.id> or <http://www.unesco.or.id/activities/culture/programme/416.php>.

UNFPA - Young Men and HIV Prevention: A Toolkit for Action

This toolkit will help address the multiple health and development needs of young men. It provides conceptual and practical information on how to design, implement, and evaluate HIV/AIDS prevention activities. The toolkit was developed by Promundo and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with input by several leading organizations working in the field of gender, sexuality and HIV prevention. It is designed for programme planners, health providers, peer educators, advocates and others who work with and/or for young people on issues related to gender-equity, health and HIV and AIDS.

<http://www.promundo.org.br/materiais%20de%20apoio/Toolkit-ENG.pdf>

UNHABITAT - e-consultation on Forum on harmonious Urbanization

From June 15 – July 11, 2008 the Partners and Youth Section of UN-HABITAT will undertake an e-consultation at <http://groups.takingitglobal.org/WUYF4> on the theme of the Fourth World Urban Forum (WUF) which will take place in Nanning, China from 3-7 November 2008. The World Urban Youth Forum (WUYF) will take place, before the WUF, from the 1-2 November. The aim of the e-consultation is to gather information for the development of a background paper for the WUYF. The theme of both forums is Harmonious Urbanization: The Challenge of Balanced Territorial Development. The process presents an opportunity for young people to articulate their thoughts and experiences on what is harmonious or inharmonious in their lives, towns and cities. To find out more and join in the e-consultation, please visit

<http://groups.takingitglobal.org/WUYF4>.

UNHCR - Handbook for the Protection of Women and Girls

The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCR) works to promote gender equality by using a rights- and community-based approach, by mainstreaming age, gender and diversity, and through targeted actions to empower women and girls in civil, political and economic areas. The aim of the guidelines in this publication is to ensure the protection of the rights of all women and girls, facing discrimination on account of disability, ethnicity, class, sexuality or other factors. To download the publication, please visit

<http://www.unhcr.org/protect/PROTECTION/47cfae612.html>

UNICEF - Report on actions and progress on children and AIDS

In 2005, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) addressed a Call to Action to all those working to protect children from the consequences of the HIV/AIDS epidemic urging the international community to Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS to ensure that the next generation of children is AIDS-free. The Call to Action set forth goals for 2010 in four programme areas, known as the 'Four Ps' (1) preventing mother-to-child transmission of HIV, (2) providing pediatric treatment, (3) preventing infection among adolescents and young people, and (4) protecting and supporting children affected by HIV and AIDS. A second stocktaking report since the Call to Action finds important gains in the areas of the 'Four Ps'. The report also focuses on three major themes: strengthening communities and families, strong health, education and social welfare systems, and the challenge of measurement. To download the complete report, please visit http://www.unicef.org/aids/files/ChildrenAIDS_SecondStocktakingReport.pdf.

UNICEF Commemorates the Day of the African Child

The Day of the African Child is commemorated on 16 June. “Right to Participate: Let Children Be Seen and Heard” was the theme of this year’s Day. The Day was commemorated in countries across the continent with events including songs, dances and drama presentations. UNICEF marked the Day by drawing attention to the importance of the active involvement of children in schools, community action, media and governance. Every year, the Day of the African Child reminds adults of the importance to include children in planning and decision making processes. It also calls for greater efforts to listen to the voices of children and to protect them from harm. The Day was also commemorated in Sudan where an estimated 20 million Sudanese are children under the age of 18 and comprise half of the total population. The commemoration in Sudan included events drawing attention to the ongoing problem of the recruitment of child soldiers. UNICEF estimates that there are still some 8,000 children associated with armed forces and groups across the country, the majority in the strife-torn Darfur region. The Day of the African Child has been celebrated on 16 June every year since 1991, when it was first initiated by the Organization of African Unity, now called the African Union. Find out more at http://www.unicef.org/media/media_44456.html.

UNIDO - Boosting the IT skills of Africa's young people

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Hewlett-Packard (HP) joined forces to help unemployed young people across Africa build their entrepreneurial and information technology (IT) skills. The Graduate Entrepreneurship Training Through IT (GET-IT) initiative will initially be launched in six nations – Egypt, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Tunisia and Uganda – and eventually be expanded further to span the African continent. The scheme seeks to train youth and graduates, who are between the ages of 16 and 25 and do not have jobs, to acquire IT skills and run their own businesses. GET-IT courses will focus on teaching practical solutions for businesses in finance, management, marketing and technology management. By providing IT technology, curricula and training for entrepreneurs, the project aims to foster jobs and opportunities for young people in Africa. For more information, please see <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=26601&Cr=communication&Cr1=>.

UNOSDP – Using sports to help achieve the MDGs

The UN Office for Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) and FIFA, the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, have agreed to further their collaboration to enhance the role of sports in furthering peace and development. The 2010 FIFA World Cup to be held in Durban in South Africa provides an opportunity to promote FIFA's initiative "Football for Hope" which seeks to further the achievement of the MDGs by 2015. In recent years, football and other sports have played an important role in areas of health, children’s rights, education and the fight against racism. For more details, please visit [http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/\(httpNewsByYear_en\)/1CA28A53DA6AE432C12574440054640D?OpenDocument](http://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B9C2E/(httpNewsByYear_en)/1CA28A53DA6AE432C12574440054640D?OpenDocument).

WHO/CAH – Conference on maternal and child survival

The second conference of the Countdown to 2015: Tracking Progress on Maternal, Newborn and Child Survival was held in Cape Town, South Africa from 17-19 April 2008. The Countdown to 2015 tracks progress towards the achievement of MDGs 4 & 5 by measuring coverage of key interventions for maternal, newborn and child survival across 68 countries which together account for 97% of global mortality. The World Health Organization (WHO) is a key partner in the Countdown initiative. Nearly 400 delegates from 61 of the 68 Countdown countries attended the conference that was held in conjunction with the 182nd Session of the Inter-Parliamentary

Union. The 2008 Countdown report emphasized that progress has been made in some countries, but more can and must be done. Delegates at the conference issued a statement which reaffirmed their commitment to promoting concerted and coordinated action to ensure that the lives of millions more mothers, newborns and children are saved by the year 2015. Emphasis was made on "how first-time adolescent mothers - particularly poor, marginalized, disadvantaged girls - bear the highest risks of maternal morbidity and mortality, and that special attention needs to be given to meeting the needs of marginalized and vulnerable groups, including the poor, rural populations and adolescent girls". For further information, please see <http://www.countdown2015mnch.org>.

WHO/CAH - Five years of distance education on adolescent health in the Americas

The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) of the World Health Organization (WHO) hosted a meeting in Washington DC from 16-18 April 2008 to review the first five years of implementation of distance education courses on adolescent health and development. The courses were used to build capacity in Central American countries and supported around 70 programme managers and clinicians to take the 300 hour Diploma course organized by the University of Chile. Given the low enrolment fees of US\$500 for the Diploma, the training of professionals through distance education has proven extremely cost-effective compared to traditional capacity-building that incur other costs, such as travel. Valuable lessons on reaching people in remote areas with low connectivity, mixing online and hardcopy materials, the effect of selection and scholarships on drop-out rates will enable other regions to establish a quality distance education programme. For more information on WHO's work in the area of adolescent health and development, please see http://ww.who.int/child_adolescent_health/topics/prevention_care/adolescent.

CALENDAR OF YOUTH EVENTS

27-29 June: International Youth Dialogue in Malaysia

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) in collaboration with the Malaysian Youth Council, Melaka State Government and the Ministry of Youth and Sports (Malaysia), the Asian Youth Council and the Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation, will organize the International Youth Dialogue in Malaka, Malaysia. The theme selected for this year's Dialogue is "Towards a Drug-Free Generation". This theme has been selected in realization of the need to educate and increase awareness to prevent or reduce the rates of drug abuse among youth. Participants are invited from National Youth Councils. For more information, please visit <http://www.way.org.my/index1.html>.

2-9 July: J8 - Junior Summit

The Junior 8 Summit, or "J8", is a parallel young people's event to the annual Group of 8 (G8) Summit, where leaders from eight major industrialized democracies (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States) meet to discuss key global issues. Young people also discuss global issues and share their solutions with G8 leaders and the world community. Find out more at <http://www.j8summit.com>.

5-8 July: Training Workshop on Disaster Risk & Environmental Management

The World Youth Foundation in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia and the Economic Planning Unit of the Prime Minister's

Department Malaysia will be hosting an interactive International Training Workshop on Disaster Risk & Environmental Management in Melaka, Malaysia. For more information, please see <http://www.wyf.org.my>.

15-21 July: European International Model United Nations

The general theme of this year's conference that will take place in The Hague, is "Striving for Sustainable Globalization". Over 220 students from all over the world will participate in one of six councils, debate on key topics and tackle global issues. For more information, please see <http://www.teimun.org>.

15-22 July: Asia-Europe International Youth Forum

The 19th International Youth Forum 2008: Youth Challenges in the ASEM Context will take place from the 15-22 July, in Seoul and Goesan, Republic of Korea. The project is co-organised by the National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea, the Korean Ministry for Health, Welfare and Family Affairs and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF). The project will bring together 130 representatives from youth organizations in the regions' countries. For more information, please Email: bogdan.imre@asef.org or visit <http://www.asef.org>.

16-19 July: Conference on Global Action: Taking Community Service Abroad

An annual conference held each year in July, this training conference provides participants with tools to create community service projects in conjunction with the Sister City Programme. In the programme, students learn to fund-raise and design their projects in a way that allows other youth delegates and their sister city friends to decide together what each city needs. Students will gather new ideas to improve tolerance and understanding in their communities and also be encouraged to implement some part of their project on Youth Service Day in April 2009. For more information or to register, please visit <http://www.sister-cities.org/conference>.

17-19 July: Youth Leadership Summit

United Nations Foundation, People Speak, National Forensic League, and IDEA are organizing the first annual Youth Leadership Summit. The Summit will feature opportunities for high school students and educators to participate in skill-building workshops and other activities. Participants will also learn specific skills that they can bring back to their classrooms and communities to build effective campaigns about climate change challenges and solutions. For more information, please see <http://www.thepeoplespeak.org/activities/youth-leadership-summit.html>

3-8 August: XVII International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2008)

The AIDS 2008 Conference will be held in Mexico City and will be the first International AIDS Conference ever held in Latin America. For more information, please visit <http://www.aids2008.org>. The Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS (GYCA) is one of the main coordinators of the Mexico City YouthForce for AIDS2008. Visit their website to find out more: <http://www.youthaidscoalition.org>.

12 August: International Youth Day

For more information, please see above.

10-21 August: 4th World Youth Congress

Régénération 2008 - Quebec City, the 4th World Youth Congress, designed to promote and celebrate youth-led development, will bring together 600 young people from over 120 countries

to Quebec City in August 2008. Find out more and be a part of this worldwide Youth Action Event! For more information, please see <http://www.wyc2008.qc.ca>.

19-22 August: 3rd International Young Professionals Summit (IYPS)

The International Young Professionals Foundation will organize the summit in Manchester, UK. The aim of the Summit is to bring together young professionals for networking, capacity building and information sharing around the core theme of how young professionals can help to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals. For more information, please see <http://www.iyps.org/iyps08/index.htm>.

1-3 September: Social Forum of the Human Rights Council

The Social Forum is a unique space for interactive dialogue between the United Nations human rights machinery and various stakeholders, including grass-roots organizations. It underlines the importance of coordinated efforts at national, regional and international levels for the promotion of social cohesion based on the principles of social justice, equity and solidarity. For more information, please see <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/poverty/sforum.htm>.

3-5 September: 61st Annual DPI/NGO Conference

For the past 60 years, the DPI/NGO Conference has been held at the UN Headquarters in New York, welcoming over 2000 participants. The 61st Annual DPI/NGO Conference will be held in Paris, France, and will commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Find out more about the Conference from the Information Bulletin at <http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/index.asp>.

4-5 September: UN Forum on Minority Issues

Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 6/15 of 28 September 2007, a forum on minority issues has been established that will provide a platform for promoting dialogue and cooperation on issues pertaining to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. The forum will provide thematic contributions and expertise to the work of the independent expert on minority issues. It works to identify and analyze best practices, challenges, opportunities and initiatives for the further implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities. For more information, please visit <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/minority/forum.htm>.

14-21 September: European-Latin American Youth Forum

The Forum Eurolatinoamericano de Juventud (FEULAT 2008) will be held in Mollina, Spain. The FEULAT is an event organized by the European Youth Forum (YFJ) and the Latin American Youth Forum (FLAJ), in cooperation with the Youth Council of Spain (CJE), and with the support of the Youth Institute of Spain (INJUVE) and the Ibero-American Youth Organization (OIJ). For more information, please email info@flaj.org.

15-16 September: Global Youth Enterprise Conference 2008

Designed as a participatory learning event, this conference, organized by Making Cents International, will be held in Washington, DC. The conference aims to support youth enterprise and entrepreneurship programmes and policies to achieve greater effectiveness around the world. Participants include practitioners, funding organizations, the private sector, academics and youth leaders from around the world who will share best practices, unique approaches, and groundbreaking ideas that help youth develop the necessary skills and opportunities to start their

own businesses or seek quality employment. For more information, please visit www.youthenterpriseconference.org.

24-27 September: YES Azerbaijan 2008

The 4th global Youth Employment Summit will be hosted by the Republic of Azerbaijan through the Ministry of Youth and Sport in partnership with the Youth Employment Summit (YES) Campaign Inc. For more information, please visit <http://www.yesweb.org/yes2008/index.htm>.

3-7 November: World Urban Youth Forum

The Fourth session of the World Urban Forum will be held in China, Nanjing from 3-7 November 2008. The World Urban Youth Forum (WUYF) will be held prior to the main World Urban Forum to be held from 31 October to 2 November 2008. For more information, as well as supporting documentation and programme of events, contact the WUYF Coordinator, Ms. Mutinta Munyiati at mutinta.munyiati@unhabitat.org and visit <http://www.unhabitat.org/content.asp?typeid=19&catid=535&cid=5581>.

19-22 November: 8th IANYS Global Conference on National Youth Service

The conference will be held at the Fondation des Etats-Unis in Paris, France. Conference registration is now available online at <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevaaid=160766> and is open to practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and young people working in the field of national youth service and youth development. Please visit <http://www.icicp.org/ianys> for additional information, including a preliminary conference agenda.

20 February - 1 March 2009: ISFiT 2009

ISFiT, the 10th International Student Festival in Trondheim, Norway, will be a festival filled with meetings, debates, concerts, ceremonies and a wide cultural programme. About 450 students from all around the world will get together to discuss issues around the theme of Peacebuilding. To support students in the struggle for peace, democracy and human rights, send in nominations for The Student Peace Prize! For more information, please visit <http://www.isfit.org>.

ON THE INTERNET

Nicole Kidman leads call for millions to “Say NO to Violence”

One in 3 women and girls is beaten, coerced into sex or abused in her lifetime. Your signature is needed to help break this silent pandemic. Please join the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and people from around the world who “Say NO to violence against women”. Log on to the internet campaign at <http://www.saynotoviolence.org> and join over 200,000 Government officials, NGOs, activists and celebrities such as Nicole Kidman in signing the campaign and demanding that ending violence against women be a top priority for Governments everywhere. For more information go to <http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/vaw/toolkit.php> or contact UNIFEM at saynotoviolence@unifem.org.

UNICEF- VOY Join in the discussions and be in the know

How good is media coverage of young people? Are the images of young people realistic and fair? Are they positive or negative? What needs to change? If you are a young person, talk about what you think in the discussion forums at VOY. Increased participation in the media by children and young people brings about increased media literacy. UNICEF Voices of Youth (VOY) provides thousands of young people from over 180 countries with an opportunity to self-

inform and engage in lively debate, and partner-with their peers and decision makers-to create a world fit for children. Join in the discussions at http://www.unicef.org/voy/explore/media/explore_3024.html.

Teachers Without Borders

Teachers Without Borders is devoted to closing the education divide through teacher professional development and community education in order to build self-reliance, health, and capacity of "teacher leaders". Find out more about volunteering to promote the MDGs, please send an email to raphael@teacherswithoutborders.org or visit <http://www.teacherswithoutborders.org>.

GlobalVote

TheGlobalVote is an innovative internet-based democratic voting system on global issues for people all over the world who wish to bring about positive change. GV is currently looking for parliament members for each country, board members, and like-minded partner organizations. Become a member of this growing online initiative. Find out more at <http://www.theglobalvote.org>.

One World Youth Project

The Project is a unique sister-school program for middle- and high-school students that link groups in the US/Canada with groups from around the world. It brings schools together in learning partnerships for the purpose of community service toward the achievement of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. One World Youth Project is entirely run and operated by a volunteer staff of young people called Project Ambassadors. The new list of Project Ambassadors has just been announced. For more information, please see <http://www.oneworldyouthproject.org>.

Nothing but Nets Campaign

Young people are helping other young people to buy bed nets and protect against malaria in Africa. Giving to charity and saving lives can be "cool." By not spending money on themselves and collecting loose change, young people are helping to make a difference in the battle against malaria. Find out more at <http://www.nothingbutnets.net>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

UN Youth Flash is prepared by the UN Programme on Youth, Division for Social Policy and Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations Secretariat in New York. Mailing address: 2 UN Plaza, DC2-1306, New York, NY 10017.

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For more information, please visit: <http://www.un.org/youth>.