



The Youth Employment Network



Youth participation for development: Youth engagement in employment policymaking

Panel Discussion and Launch Event

Hosted by the Youth Employment Network's Youth Consultative Group and the United Nations Programme on Youth

13:15 – 14:45

9th October 2007

Room 9, United Nations HQ, New York

Background

In 2004, a number of major international and regional youth organisations mobilised themselves into a Youth Consultative Group (YCG) to advise the High-Level Panel¹ of the YEN on how best to support active youth participation in youth employment policy development around the world, by drawing on their extensive networks.

Building on their global work, including a review of youth participation in the development of National Action Plans on Youth Employment² and experiences in a number of YEN Lead Countries, the YCG, with the support of the YEN Secretariat, has produced a guide: *Joining Forces with Young People: A Practical Guide to Collaboration for Youth Employment*.

The publication is designed as a tool to facilitate young peoples' participation in youth employment policy-making and to provide guidance for stakeholders, primarily governments, on engaging with youth. Also, through highlighting good practices on youth participation, the guide seeks to demonstrate the added value of youth involvement.

Objectives

The event will serve to:

¹ Twelve leaders and policy experts in the field of youth employment from throughout the world were appointed by the ILO, World Bank and United Nations in 2001 as members of the High-Level Panel on Youth Employment. The Panellists role has been to advise the YEN on youth employment policy as well as mobilize opinion and action in favour of youth employment worldwide. In December 2006, in parallel with the conclusion of tenure of Mr. Kofi Annan as UN Secretary -General, the High-Level Panel announced that it had completed its 5 year mandate set out in 2001.

² See the UNDESA/YEN Secretariat Publication, *Putting Commitments into Action: A Review of National Action Plans on youth employment (2007)*. The review was based on 41 submissions to the United Nations by member states in 2004-2005, which included both finalised NAPs and progress reports towards the development of NAPs.

www.un.org/esa/socdev/poverty/documents/National.Action.Plans.2007.pdf

- Showcase of the work of the YEN Core partners (ILO, WB UN) in engaging with young people on employment issues.
- Highlight the work of the YEN's YCG in promoting employment issues within their organizations and mobilizing their members to advocate for greater youth participation in policymaking at all levels.
- Provide a forum for sharing good practices by YEN Lead Countries in creating opportunities for youth to participate in the development and implementation of youth employment policies and programmes.

Format

This event will include both an official launch of the new publication and a moderated panel discussion based around the key themes addressed in the guide including; the value of youth participation, strategies for effective engagement between youth and policymakers, and how youth organizations can contribute to addressing the youth employment challenge both through their members and within the wider community.

<p>Welcome and official launching of “Joining Forces with Young People: A Practical Guide to Collaboration for Youth Employment”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ms. Patience Stevens, Head, UN Programme on Youth, UNDESA</i> - <i>Mr. Arturo Romboli, Manager External Relations, World Scout Bureau</i> 	<i>10 mins</i>
<p>Introduction of the panel and format of the discussion by the moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mr. Arturo Romboli</i> 	<i>5 mins</i>
<p>Panelists to provide short introductory statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mr. Guiseppe Porcaro, UN & Global Coordinator, European Youth Forum</i> - <i>Ms. Adina Rom, Swiss Youth Delegate to the UN, 2007</i> - <i>YEN Lead Country Government representative 1 (TBC)</i> - <i>YEN Lead Country Government representative 2 (TBC)</i> 	<i>15 mins</i>
<p>Moderated Q & A and discussion with the panel and the floor including reactions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ms. Elena Gastaldo, ILO</i> - <i>Ms. Annette Richter, World Bank</i> - <i>Ms. Sarangerel Erdembileg, UNDESA</i> - <i>Mr. Kevin Ahern, Pax Romana</i> 	<i>60 mins</i>
<p>Close and thanks by the moderator</p>	