Building Capacity to Assess National Youth Policies in Africa: Five Country Experiences

12 – 14 December 2007

United Nations Conference Centre at the Headquarters of Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Annotated Agenda

The principal objective of the workshop is to increase the ability of participants to review and assess the implementation of national youth policies.

Specifically, the workshop will enable participants to:

- Share and learn from the experiences of one another in working to implement national youth policies and programmes.
- Work as a group to identify tools, activities, and approaches in support of effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of youth development programmes.
- Discuss lessons learned to date in the implementation of national youth policies and analyze obstacles to achieving desired youth development outcomes, including resource mobilization.
- Identify and record further capacity-building needs and knowledge gaps for follow-up activities.
- Foster inter-regional collaboration for the alignment of national youth policies to the regional commitment to youth encapsulated in the African Youth Charter.

The venue of the meeting will be the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa at the Headquarters of ECA. Transportation between the Hilton Hotel and the Conference Centre has been arranged. Participants are kindly ask to meet at the entrance of the Hilton hotel at the time indicated in the agenda below to ensure they do not miss the transport to the meeting location.

The proposed agenda and organization of work for the meeting follows.

AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

WEDNESDAY, 12 DECEMBER - Meet at hotel main entrance at 12:30

13:00 - 14:00	Registration, free time to tour ECA, cafeterias available
14:00-15:00	Welcome and introductions [30] Chair: Julie
	Expectations, norms and working style [10] Review of desired outcomes, agenda and logistics [10]
15:00 - 17:30	Review of the six national youth policies (using visual wall chart) [60]
(with a break from 15:30 – 16:15 to facilitate DSA payments)	 What are the main components or priority areas addressed in the six national youth policies? Where are the commonalities? Which areas do the participants consider the most advance d in terms of implementation?

THURSDAY, 13 DECEMBER - Meet at hotel main entrance at 8:30 a.m.

9:00 - 13:00	Chair: Nigeria
	Overview of today's agenda [10] (Julie)
(with a coffee break from 10:30 – 11:00)	Finish review of national youth policies [50]
	Implementation activities from each country [6 countries – 20 minutes each = 120]
	 Participants should come prepared to briefly describe one or two activities that have been implemented in relation to their country's national youth policy. From this, the group will discuss obstacles and lessons learned and relate the activities to tools for monitoring and evaluation in the following session. What are some of the activities used to implement the policy? Are they currently evaluated for impact and results? What have been some of the lessons learned and obstacles encountered in implementation of the policies?
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH
14:00- 15:00	<i>Chair: Liberia</i> Overview presentation on implementation, monitoring and evaluation tools (e.g. logical frameworks, indicators and targets, information gathering, etc). [60] <i>Julie</i>
15:00 - 17:30	Working in country pairs – applying tools to country implementation activities [75]

(with a coffee break from 15:00 – 15:30)	 How can the tools described be applied to each country's implementation activities? How can ministries better evaluate results and impacts of their interventions? What other resources are available e.g. research organizations, NGOs, universities, the UN system, etc.? <i>Chair: Kenya</i> Reporting back from pairs [75] Optional – going out for dinner as a group 	
Friday, 13 December - Meet at hotel main entrance at 8:30 a.m.		
9:00 - 13:00	<i>Chair: Ghana</i> Review of yesterday's activities and overview of today's agenda [10] Presentation on the Plan of Action to Accelerate the Signing, Ratification and Implementation of the African Youth Charter [60]	
(with a coffee break from 10:30 – 11:00)	 Open discussion: [90] How can instruments such as the World Programme of Action for Youth and the Africa Youth Charter better support and advance the implementation and monitoring of national youth policies? What are the challenges to aligning national youth policies to international and regional commitments expressed in the World Programme of Action for Youth and the Africa Youth Charter? Presentation on working with donors and mobilizing resources for youth development work – followed by discussion and Q & A (<i>Julie</i>) [60] 	
13:00 - 14:00	LUNCH Chair: Ethiopia - Identifying further needs and opportunities	

14:00 - 16:00

Open discussion: [60]

• What are some of the outstanding capacity building areas and knowledge gaps to fully implementing, monitoring and evaluating national youth policies?

(with a coffee break from 15:00 – 15:30)

Reflection on one (or more) concrete actions to be undertaken by each participant to the workshop [30]

Next steps and evaluation [30]