



YET NEWS

Inspiring and empowering youths to reach their full potential

Quarterly Newsletter

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Coordinator's Note

Compliments of the New Season.

As we brace ourselves for the year 2007 it is important for us to take a moment and reflect on 2006 in terms of good practices and challenges. This will enable great things to emerge in 2007. Despite challenges, the year 2006 was the most progressive for YET. facilitated and supported partner organisations in executing activities geared towards the empowerment of young people. This was made possible by the immense support of Local Reference Group members (LRG)



Based on the evaluation of the programme carried out in August 2006, it is clear that YET has made a lot of achievements in facilitating the empowerment of youths in Zimbabwe. It is delighting to note that the YET programme has moved steps towards reaching out to marginalized communities namely rural youth and young women. Interactions between rural and the urban youths have also been made visible through the assistance of organizations that work with rural youths and exchange and joint programmes. Besides YET acting as a facilitator for youth activities it has been a referral point for youth organisations seeking for financial and technical assistance. YET partner organisations now own the programme. YET secretariat has continued to build strategic alliances with other civil society organisations in and outside the country. The YET programme has not only managed to create pool of young resource persons but also a leadership base for the youths through the various leadership training programmes.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2006 YET ACTIVITIES

Youth Leadership and Development Programme (Winter School)

Winter School participants 2006



YET secretariat implemented the Winter School programme in July 2006 which was attended by 35 participants from partner organisations, 11 females and 24 males. The main objectives of the leadership training were to develop a framework for visionary leadership based on new ethos, norms, value system and a new paradigm. The major contribution of the programme was its ability to provide a forum for youth to meet and be groomed to be leaders who will at the end of the day transform Zimbabwe for a better

and brighter future. The presence of youths from rural areas enabled participants to share a broad array of issues. Teamwork among participants was enhanced through group work and discussions.

Participants were equipped with the essential skills and knowledge in leadership. The participants testified that they were now visionary leaders, goal oriented, role models and pioneers of the change process in Zimbabwe. Most of the participants developed the vision of changing their lives and communities. Resource persons were impressed by the active participation and articulation of issues by the participants. Networking and sharing of information were enhanced between participants and resource persons. The YET Secretariat felt motivated and transformed given the fact that the Winter School was a success and managed to have a trickle down effect in various communities. Experiences of the Winter School posed the YET secretariat with areas that need to be revisited. It was noted that the participation of young women was minimal and did not enhance their contributions during the training. Managing the diversity within the Winter School programme was identified as an area that needed due attention.

Youth Participation in Social Forum Processes

As a follow up to the Winter School programme, YET facilitated the active participation of young people in social forum processes. At national level, youth were active in the youth camp at the Zimbabwe Social Forum (ZSF). As a follow up YET facilitated and supported the participation of 16 youths at the Southern Africa Social Forum (SASF) in Malawi in October 2006.



YET delegation having a youth tribunal at SASF, Malawi

Recently 12 youths actively participated at the World Social Forum. For most of the participants, it was an eye opener as they managed to get exposure at national, regional and global level. The youth camp was vibrant and saw the active participation of marginalized youth such as young women and rural youths. Sharing of information and networking were enhanced and this improved communication skills for the participants. Solidarity networks with young people were established.



Youths from around the globe joined YET for the Youth Dialogue at the World Social Forum 2007 in Kenya

Sports Tournament- Youth Ahead

YET supported Youth Ahead to implement a Sports Tournament which attended by around 678 participants, 296 females and 382 males. The main objective of the sports tournament was to encourage alternative anti-social behavioural practices and provide a forum for talent identification through equal participation of young women and men. There was mobilization of youths from urban and rural areas such as Masvingo, Mutoko, Binga and Macheke. There was the active participation of females and males which enhanced interaction and networking. Evening sessions encompassed discussions on youth participation and millennium development goals, domestic violence and sexuality and behavioural change which led to sharing of experiences. There was the active participation of five Winter School Alumni for 2006 who were leading different sport groups.

Youth and Information Dissemination

Young people are agents of change and should take the initiative to disseminate information on critical issues affecting the nation. YET secretariat facilitated the participation of young people on the Day of the African child through an awareness campaign on Human Trafficking implemented by DP Foundation in Plumtree. Participants agreed to lobby government to formulate legislation to curb human trafficking in which young people are the most vulnerable.

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender Based Violence were marked by the active participation of young people. YET partner organisations such as YWCA, CHIYSAP, BUIYSAP and Silveira House held awareness campaigns on Domestic Violence Bill in Masvingo, Chitungwiza, Bulawayo and Murewa respectively. This provided a platform where young people participated actively in national events which were traditionally dominated by the government. In addition, there was the participation of rural and young women in these activities.

Youth and HIV/AIDS for Transformation

Batanai Support Group and Youth Alive took Masvingo by storm on 1 December 2006 when they implemented the World Aids campaign the initiative to mobilise youths to appreciate the broader definition of heroism and leadership by commemorating and celebrating the life of Auxillia Chimusoro (the first woman to disclose her HIV status). Space was provided for youths to participate actively in national issues which were traditionally dominated by the pro ZANU National AIDS Council (NAC). There was dissemination and sharing of information on HIV and AIDS. CHIYSAP was also invited to participate. This enhanced networking and sharing of experiences. This was a major landmark activity as it was the only World Aids Day celebration held in Masvingo and members of the community were mobilised.



World AIDS Day commemorations in Masvingo implemented by Batanai Support Group and Youth Alive on 1 December 2006.

Activities implemented by YET Secretariat and Partner Organisations 2006

Activity	Organisation	Venue
World Social Forum	SST, YWCA, Youth Ahead	Bamako, Mali
Workshop on Conflict Transformation	Christian Care	Silveira House, Harare
Leadership Training Workshop	SCMZ	Bulawayo and Harare
Education for All Campaign	ZINASU	Bulawayo
Winter School Reflections Meeting	YET Secretariat	Harare
HIV/AIDS Behavioural Change Workshop	YWCA	Bulawayo
Young Business Leadership Skills Development	Silveira House	Guruve Bulawayo Goromonzi Rushinga
Youth Sensitisation on Elections- Killing the myth	ZYCS	Masvingo
An Integrated Youth Approach to Solving Zimbabwe problems	NMCS	Mutare
Strategic Planning for 2006 and beyond	YET Secretariat	Gweru
Youth Leadership and Development	Kunzwana Women's Association	Harare
Day of an African Child	SCMZ	Chitungwiza
Day of an African Child	DP Foundation	Bulilamangwe, Plumtree
Winter School	YET Secretariat	Silveira House, Harare
Work Camp	ZYCS	Kwekwe
Exchange Visit	Batanai Support Group and Youth Alive	Mutare and Masvingo
University of Zimbabwe Orientation Week	SCMZ	Harare
Sports Tournament	Youth Ahead	Harare
Southern Africa Social Forum	YET Secretariat	Lilongwe, Malawi
Awareness Campaign on 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence	CHIYSAP YWCA BUIYSAP	Chitungwiza Masvingo Bulawayo
Leadership Training	Silveira House	Murewa Mutoko
World AIDS Day	Batanai Support Group and Youth Alive	Masvingo

For your Views and Comments

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