

Youth Employment Summit Campaign

Title	Youth Employment Summit Campaign (YES)
Coverage	International
Organization/enterprise	Youth Employment Summit Campaign Inc (YES)
Topic	Youth employment promotion Advocacy
Target group and outreach	Young unemployed people around the world, international institutions and organizations, youth organizations, donors and other stakeholders
Purpose	<p>The Youth Employment Summit Campaign brings together different stakeholders and works with them to (1) develop the capacity of youth to lead employment initiatives; (2) promote youth employment to address key development challenges; and (3) build in-country coalitions to develop national strategies addressing youth unemployment.</p> <p>It focuses on building self-sustaining youth-led Country Networks. These are youth-centred national coalitions, focusing on promoting youth employment and bringing together youth organizations with NGOs, the private sector, academic and training institutions and governments. Together they develop programmes and policies that provide young people with skills, qualifications and possibilities for productive work.</p>
Key features	<p>(1) Multi stakeholders, particularly youth</p> <p>(2) Focus on youth leadership</p> <p>(3) Provides funding opportunities for youth entrepreneurship projects</p>
Strategy and approach	<p>1) Building entrepreneurship through the YES Fund – A Global Fund for Youth Entrepreneurship. The YES fund works to create markets and unleash entrepreneurship in developing countries by helping young people to identify business opportunities, prepare their business plans and compete for the best ideas. The fund supports young entrepreneurs to participate in the Business Plan competition, which rewards winners with small-scale risk capital, start-up funding, credit and loan guarantees, and innovative business development services to start their businesses.</p> <p>2) Building the capacity of the YES Country Networks as a means to generate an in-country infrastructure of youth-led networks to disseminate information, develop programmes, advocate innovative policies, and implement projects that promote youth employment and leadership. Currently there are over 80 YES Country Networks in various stages of development. They will be given technical support through an Academy for Youth Social Entrepreneurship that will provide them with leadership and entrepreneurship training.</p> <p>3) Organizing the 3 remaining YES Summits as means to continue to hold and maintain a focus on the issue of youth unemployment on the global agenda. Summits have been held in Egypt 2002, Mexico 2004 and Kenya 2006, and the next one will be held in 2008 in Azerbaijan. At these summits the youth delegates meet with experts, donors, practitioners and other stakeholders to develop programmes and policies that will help build in-country capacity to provide the education, training and other services needed by young people to find productive work.</p>

	<p>4) Academy for Youth Social Entrepreneurship, based at Cambridge College (Massachusetts), will become an international centre for engaging and inspiring young people to 'be the change they want to see'. It will take the lessons learnt and the pathways unfolding through the work of the YES Campaign over the last 8 years, to become a leading programme for building the capacity of young people to be change agents. It aims to become a source for innovative and creative solutions for action in the social sector. All of the programmes offered will have a theoretical and a project based approach to learning.</p>
<p>Partners</p>	<p>The decade-long YES Campaign was launched under the co-chair of President Clinton and Mrs. Mubarak by 1,600 delegates from 120 countries at the Alexandria Youth Employment Summit in Egypt on 11 September 2002.</p> <p>Collaborating Institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agence intergouvernementale de la Francophonie(AIF) • Cambridge College (MA) • Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) • Caribbean Community Secretariat (CARICOM), Commonwealth Secretariat • Commonwealth Youth Programme Asia Centre, Corporate Social Responsibility Forum • Deutsche Bank • Development Gateway • Education Development Center, INC. (EDC) • Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO/United Nations) • Foundation E. • Global Environment Facility (GEF) • Indo Global Social Service Society • Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), International Labour Organization (ILO) • International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE) • Levi Strauss • Microsoft • Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) • NIIT • Organization of American States (OAS) • Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) • Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC/DEZA) • Tallberg Advisors • The Synergos Institute • United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO & UNEVOC)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHABITAT) • United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) • United Nations Millennium Development Goals Campaign, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) • United States Agency for International Development (USAID) • Youth Employment Network (YEN) <p>Youth Organizations and Initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Youth Action Network (GYAN) • Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) • Young Americans Business Trust (YABT) • TakingITGlobal (TIG)
Major achievements	The organization claims that the lives of 1 million youth have been touched by YES programming and there has been extensive community re-investment. With the support of diverse stakeholders, networks organize and facilitate customized programming that relies on youth to drive the implementation process.
Additional information	For further information on YES, please contact: Mrs. Poonam Ahluwalia President YES Inc. E-mail: poonam@yesweb.org
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