

## Alliance for African Youth Employability

<b>Title</b>	Alliance for African Youth Employability
<b>Coverage</b>	Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania
<b>Organization/enterprise</b>	International Youth Foundation (IYF), Nokia, US Agency for International Development (USAID) and Lions Clubs International Foundation
<b>Topic</b>	Youth employment promotion
<b>Target group and outreach</b>	Disadvantaged unemployed youth
<b>Purpose</b>	The initiative aims to help young people (14-29) in Africa develop skills and strengthen attitudes and behavior that would help them find and keep employment.
<b>Key features</b>	<p>(1) Focuses on disadvantaged youth</p> <p>(2) Includes vocational training, life and core work skills training, entrepreneurship education and business start-up assistance</p> <p>(3) Involves multiple stakeholders</p>
<b>Strategy and approach</b>	<p>In February 2004 the International Youth Foundation (IYF) officially launched the “Alliance for African Youth Employability” with the US Agency for International Development (USAID), Nokia and Lions Clubs International Foundation. USAID and Nokia have collectively committed over US\$1 million to the initiative.</p> <p>The Alliance aims to promote employability and employment for more than 1 300 disadvantaged young people living in South Africa, Rwanda and Tanzania. Young people would receive not only job training but also career counseling, direct placement in internships and jobs, and the skills to create their own businesses.</p> <p>The Alliance was set up to identify, strengthen and expand good practice programmes in the three project countries (South Africa, Rwanda and Tanzania). The <i>Make a Connection</i> programme in South Africa has served as a model: in its first three years it has set a standard for comprehensive employability training that incorporates best practices in life skills, entrepreneurship, and information and communications technology (ICT) training.</p> <p>In Rwanda and Tanzania, the project aims to improve the employability of orphans and vulnerable children in selected locations, both rural and urban. Beneficiaries receive market-driven vocational skills and small business start-up support. In order to enhance employability and the likelihood of business success, life skills training is added to the programme.</p>
<b>Partners</b>	<p>International Youth Foundation:</p> <p>The International Youth Foundation (IYF) is dedicated to supporting programmes that improve the conditions and prospects for young people where they live, learn, work and play. Since its founding in 1990, IYF has worked with hundreds of companies, foundations and non-governmental organizations to scale up existing programmes and build long-term strategic partnerships. It is currently operating in close to 70 countries and territories.</p>

	<p><b>USAID:</b></p> <p>The US Agency for International Development (USAID) has provided humanitarian assistance and economic development worldwide for more than 40 years.</p> <p><b>Lions Clubs International Foundation:</b></p> <p>Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) is the grant-making arm of Lions Clubs International, the world's largest service club organization, with 1.4 million members in 192 countries and geographical areas.</p> <p><b>Nokia:</b></p> <p>Through its cooperation with IYF and other regional philanthropic and social responsibility programmes, Nokia prepares young people to embrace opportunities and possibilities created by the global economy and new technological advance.</p> <p><b>Youth Development Trust:</b></p> <p>The Youth Development Trust (YDT) is one of the leading organizations in the provision of solutions to the youth sector in South Africa. YDT's mission is to act as a facilitative and responsive resource mobilizing and technical support foundation for positive development of youth.</p> <p><b>Population Services International Rwanda (PSI/Rwanda):</b></p> <p>PSI/Rwanda has many years experience working with adolescents in Rwanda to improve their health opportunities to succeed in life. Since opening the first <i>Centre Dushishoze</i> youth reproductive health centre in Butare in 2001, PSI/Rwanda has offered voluntary counseling, testing, training and educational programmes, and interpersonal communication sessions to youth aged 15-24.</p> <p><b>KIWOHEDE (Kiota Women Health and Development Organization):</b></p> <p>KIWOHEDE is a national non-governmental community-based organization in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, which promotes the rights of women, youth and children. The organization aims at empowering poor communities in their struggle against poverty and promotes human rights especially for girls and vulnerable children.</p> <p><b>IDYDC (Iringa Development of Youth, Disabled and Children Care):</b></p> <p>IDYDC is a non-profit organization whose mission is "to improve the living standards of disadvantaged youth in Iringa region (Tanzania)". Since 1991, IDYDC has provided vocational training, entrepreneurship skills, life skills and soft loans for income generating activities.</p>
<p><b>Major achievements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 900 young people underwent training in entrepreneurship and life skills including hotel, carpentry, driving, tailoring, salon, media and studio arts</li> <li>• Over 900 young people received business start-up assistance. Many of them have successfully begun businesses in tailoring, salon, carpentry, restaurant, etc.</li> <li>• In Rwanda and Tanzania, the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs) who became employed because of the project were able to support their younger siblings, providing their basic needs and enrolling them in school</li> </ul>
<p><b>Additional information</b></p>	

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*Source: International Youth Foundation (IYF)*