



YES Southern Africa

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR YES COUNTRY NETWORKS IN THE SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION

MAKING OUR WAY TO MEXICO FROM REGIONAL COORDINATOR

As I write this, many of our Country Network Co-ordinators are busy preparing to make their way to attend YES Mexico 2004. As the Regional Co-ordinator for Southern Africa, I am working hard to ensure that as many Country Network Co-ordinators from our region get to go. I believe that it is important for our region to be well represented in Mexico.

Firstly, through the YES Regional Support Plan, we had many opportunities to consult, plan, strategise, develop pilot programmes, receive high-quality training and network with each other. In fact, very few regions have had this opportunity. There is something that we have to say about working with each other and working together as a region.

Secondly, many of the Country Networks have been involved in the pilot projects on mentoring, entrepreneurship education, research and knowledge development. We have learned valuable lessons through the project implementation that is worthwhile sharing with other YES Country Networks from different regions.

Thirdly, many of our Country Networks have been involved in implementing various initiatives within their countries. These initiatives differ in scale and impact. Nevertheless, these stories need to be told in Mexico.

Fourthly, there is much that we can learn from other Country Networks and regions. New programme ideas and models will be investigated. New funding opportunities with critical partners will be explored. Mexico will provide the platform for further work in the Southern African region.

Making our way to Mexico is vital for us as a region. I encourage you to continue working hard so that you can be at YES Mexico 2004. There is something that we have to say there. It must be heard.

Clayton Peters
YES Regional Co-ordinator
Southern Africa

COUNT DOWN TO MEXICO 2004

A list of Southern Africa's registered delegates for the YES Summit was sent to the Youth Development Network in July. At this stage few people have registered for the Summit. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to urge all YES Network members who will be attending the Summit to register as soon as possible and that YES coordinators see to it that all their delegates are registered and have applied for visas, scholarships etc.

People should be cautioned that going to Mexico is not going to be as easy as going to other countries in the region. From the information we've received from the Mexican Embassy, all we can say at this stage is that people should register as soon as possible to avoid inconveniences. The YES Secretariat and the Yes Country Network in Mexico are negotiating for more accommodating requirements.

The Youth Development Network has taken a decision to pay for the airline tickets of all Coordinators in the region from their respective countries to Johannesburg and back. Which means that Coordinators will only pay for their tickets from Johannesburg to Mexico and back to Johannesburg.

COUNTRY PROFILES FOR YES SADC COUNTRY NETWORKS

1. SOUTH AFRICA

The report on the Knowledge Development programme will be submitted on the week of 16/08/2004 and will be made available to all youth employment stakeholders, YES Country Networks included as soon as the layout and printing is done.

Preparations for the Mexico Summit are underway. One thing that is delaying the preparations is the information on Visas.

We are still waiting for information about the issuing of Global Permits. These permits will allow us to get visas without having to meet all visa requirements. The YDN Project Officer for the Mentorship Pilot Project, Sonkho Phiri, is currently conducting monitoring visits for the Mentorship programme. On 02/08/2004 he will be in Mauritius, and he will be visiting Zambia on 10-12/08/2004.

Monitoring and evaluation visits for the Entrepreneurship in Schools programme are also underway. The first visit was made to Namibia from the 27th to 30th of July. Visits to Zimbabwe and Zambia will take place late in August. The report for the Regional Training Workshop has been finalised and will now be taken to the layout designers and printers. The YDN and the South African Youth Council (SAYC) are planning to host a YES South Africa consultative meeting on Monday the 30th of August. This is the first step in setting up a YES South Africa Network.

2. SWAZILAND

YES Swaziland has been engaged in a fundraising drive in an effort to professionalise its operations. The network has acquired space at the

International Trade Fair running for a two-week period starting from 27/08/2004. This space will be used to exhibit some of its members' projects.

Yes Swaziland has also become involved in mineral water project through the Swaziland Water Service Corporation. The Swaziland network is looking for markets and currently the Swaziland YES Coordinator is in Malaysia to promote this product and seek distribution partners. Also the Minister of Enterprise and Employment has pledged his support for this project.

On Another note, YES Swaziland has registered as a non-profit making company allowing it to work as a consortium.

3. ANGOLA

The YES Network in Angola is busy working on preparations for the Mexico Summit. The difficulty that they are experiencing is the problem with Visas. The Network is also involved in an HIV/AIDS programme working with HIV/AIDS groups in Angola. Another programme, though still at the planning stage is that of teaching communities to read. The aim of this programme is to reduce illiteracy, a problem that is very common in Angola.

4. DRC

YES-DRC has received invitation letters from YES HQ (in Boston) for the Minister of Youth and Sports, Minister of Labour and Social Security and for the President of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FEC) to participate in the YES Mexico Summit. The Minister of Youth and Sport has already agreed to participate.

YES-DRC has sent a memorandum to the Minister of Youth and Sports in which they are requesting the DRC government's support (e.g. airline tickets and others) to allow youth delegates to attend the Mexico Summit. If everything goes as planned, the DRC delegation in Mexico will include ten youth delegates. On 26/07/2004 YES-DRC sent its

presentation for the Mexico Summit 2004 to the YES HQ in Boston and to the YDN. The presentation is a good reflection of the network's achievements.

In addition to the follow-up of the Mentorship Programme (meetings with Mentors and Protégés), YES-DRC has devoted its time to writing the first report of the Mentorship Programme. This report will be sent to the YDN on the week of 02/08/2004.

5. MALAWI

Women Empowerment for Economic Development (WEEDO) hosted an orientation workshop at the Malawi Entrepreneurship Development Institute in the Mponela Dowa district from the 17th to the 18th of June 2004. WEEDO is implementing a renewable energy programme with assistance from the YES Renewable Energy Partner's sector. The Programme is one of the first direct initiatives that YES Malawi has implemented with support from the YES Global campaign.

UNICEF has funded YES Malawi through the National Youth Council to have an intern for a period of 1 year. University of Malawi is also sending an intern for a period of three months. The intern is a Computer Science student who will assist in the development of a database on employment issues in Malawi.

6. TANZANIA

YES Tanzania's membership has increased with Organization for Rural Association for progress (Tanzania ORAP) coming on board.

Tanzania ORAP is a Non-Governmental Organization, which is involved, in a pilot project in Rural Health Dispensary and environmental protection. Tree plantation has started at Ilungu village where about 15,000 trees have been planted.

Below are ORAP's objectives:

- **To promote appropriate training and education for women, youths particularly girls, orphans and children living in difficult circumstances in rural areas;**
- **To conduct research and disseminate information on HIV/AIDS, STD's, environment conservation, water, education and other developmental aspects;**
- **To provide counseling services to improve the welfare of rural communities;**
- **To prepare, publish and distribute books, booklets, leaflets, pamphlets, video film and magazines on rural economic, culture and social development;**
- **To promote Pre-school, primary, secondary and technical education.**
- **To promote health services through improving rural dispensaries, health centers and hospitals;**

Tanzania ORAP in collaboration with Kyimo Investment Company Limited and other stakeholders will train 150 small farmers in coffee, bananas, maize, and cattle rearing. Also they will improve livestock, beans farming and train farmers on how to prepare organic fertilizer/non industrial fertilizer, which has been discovered by Kyimo Investment.

ORAP will also prepare booklets, posters and brochures related to rural development as well as mainstream HIV/AIDS in aspect of the association's programmes.

7. ZAMBIA

The way to Mexico seems to be challenging and everyone in YES Zambia is kept on their toes. The difficulty is getting a sizeable delegation to the Mexico Summit. Questions are coming in from different corners, asking the importance of attending the Summit.

The Zambian Network would like to see the YES voice equal to that of HIV/AIDS awareness programmes, where massive publications and electronic media will be used to bring out the issues of Youth Employment.

Sonkho Phiri, the YDN Project Officer will be in Zambia on 10/08/2004. He will be visiting for the monitoring of the mentorship programme. He is expected to have a one-on-one dialogue with protégés and mentors.