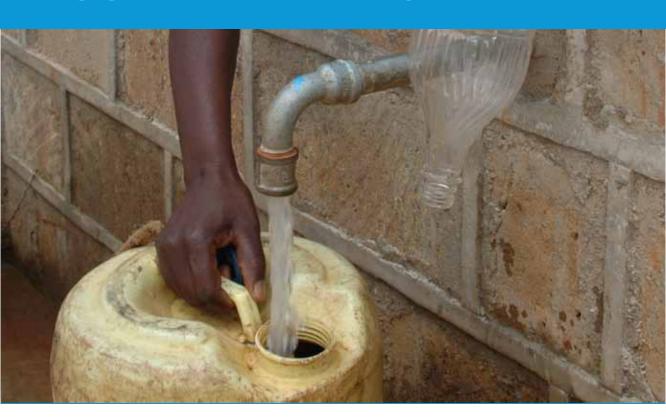
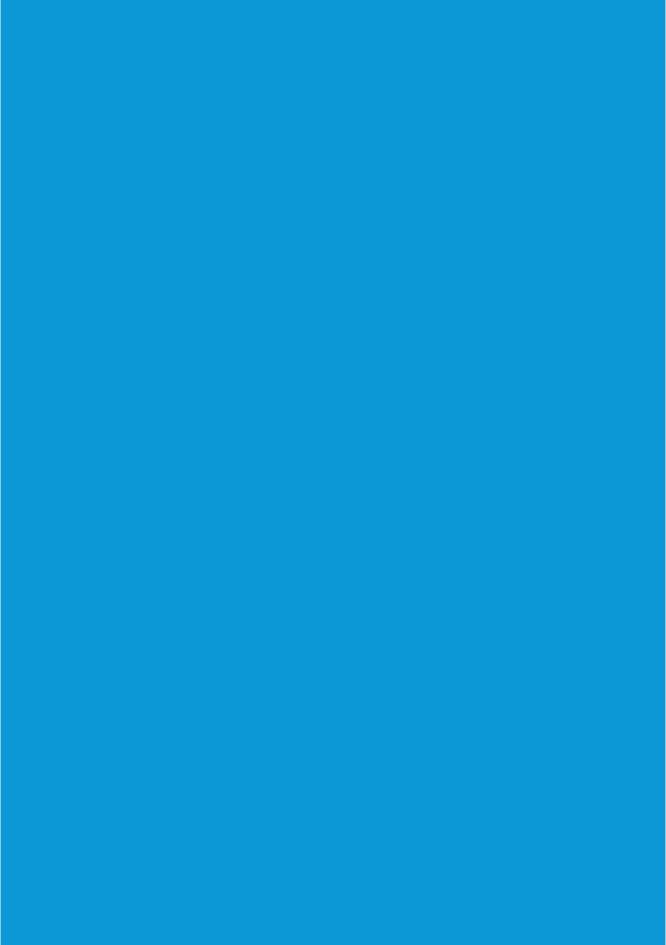


OPPORTUNITIES FUND FOR URBAN YOUTH-LED DEVELOPMENT

MAPPING URBAN YOUTH-LED DEVELOPMENT







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MAPPING URBAN YOUTH-LED DEVELOPMENT



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Tel: 254 20 7623900 Fax: +254 20 7624588 www.unhabitat.org

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Compilation: Nottawasaga Institute - rob@nottawasaga.net

Design & Layout: Conrad Mudibo - mudibo@ecomedia.co.ke

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INTRODUCTION

UN-HABITAT recognises that young people need to be active participants in the future of cities. Its "Strategy for Enhanced Engagement of Youth" aims to promote the leadership and participation of young women and men in all its efforts to improve the lives of people living in the rapidly expanding cities of the world. It sees the urgent need to create opportunities for youth to play a much more active and constructive role in making cities the engines of development.

The 21st UN-HABITAT Governing Council met in Nairobi from 16-20 April 2007, and resolved to establish an Opportunities Fund for Urban Youth-Led Development (resolution GC 21/7). The fund is meant to be an important mechanism for ensuring the sustainability and expansion of the agency's efforts towards youth-led development.

The fund was established to support urban youth-led initiatives in pursuance of the Habitat agenda, the work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and overall strategy within the following areas:

- mobilising young people to help strengthen youth-related policy formulation;
- building capacities of governments, civil society organisations and the private sector to better address youth needs and issues:
- supporting the development of interestbased information and communicationoriented networks:
- piloting innovative approaches to employment, good governance, adequate shelter and secure tenure:
- sharing and exchanging information on best practices:
- facilitating vocational training and credit mechanisms to promote entrepreneurship and employment for young women and men, in collaboration with

- the private sector and with other UN bodies:
- promoting gender mainstreaming in all activities of urban youth.

PURPOSE OF THE MAPPING EXERCISE

The Opportunities Fund aims to contribute to the knowledge base and learning regarding strategies for enhancing the contribution of youth to development. An important outcome of the fund, thus, will be to provide tangible input to strengthening international and national policy formulation, such as through the Youth Employment Network, established by the UN Secretary General, and through the Cities Alliance.

While the operations of the fund will build this knowledge over time, it is also imperative that early results are seen in order to verify the impact value of the programme and encourage more partners to contribute to and support the fund. To do this, it will be important to ensure that early recipients of grants have a high potential to achieve substantial and timely positive outcomes. Consequently an inventory, or mapping, of youth-led initiatives was undertaken during the inception phase to identify and assess existing organisations and initiatives that would enhance the effectiveness of the fund.

The objectives of the mapping exercise were:

- to identify potential beneficiaries of the fund from selected countries who could qualify for the first phase of funding;
- to develop a database of youth-led initiatives in Africa, Asia and Latin America that can be used to analyse the characteristics of youth-led organisations on these continents.

The mapping report, through the establishment of a data base on youth-led, and

youth serving projects and programmes, is also intended to initiate a mechanism in which the Opportunities Fund will aim to contribute to the knowledge base and learning regarding strategies for youth development for UN-HABITAT and its partners in urban development.

RATIONALE FOR UN-HABITAT INVOLVEMENT IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

In 2006, the world's population was 6.55 billion people. Approximately 5.1 billion people live in the developing world and approximately 48.8% of the world's population lives in urbanized areas. Estimates suggest that 60% of the world's population will live in cities by 2030 and that as many as 60% of urban dwellers will be under the age of 18. Most urbanisation will occur in cities in the low-income countries, where already 30% of the population lives below official poverty lines¹. Many urban dwellers have limited or no access to basic services, employment, and adequate housing.

The challenges arising from this urban growth exceed the capacity of most cities to meet even the most basic needs of large proportions of the urban population². For this reason, investing in urban children and youth is not only a question of human rights and social justice. It is also about potential economic benefits and increasing citizen security, as young people are supported in their efforts to become integrated members of society³. The challenge keeps growing since it is typically youthful populations that leave rural areas for urban destinations in search of jobs, adding to already large numbers of youth living in cities in the lowincome countries. Those who leave their home country, for economic and other reasons are also predominantly young people (McKenzie 2007).

reaching impacts on future development. It is for these reasons that UN-HABITAT has prioritised youth engagement in order to achieve its mission of "Shelter for all and Sustainable Urbanisation." The facts are clear – youth remain one of the most marginalised groups in terms of decision making and engagement in communities, leaving them vulnerable to the ravages of poverty. Youth engagement provides both solutions to past problems and opportunities to foster sustainable development. There are numerous working examples of youth-led development initiatives where young people are taking the lead in providing solutions to the issues that affect them. Making resources available for youth to replicate their successful initiatives has been a challenge and UN-HABITAT is demonstrating its commitment to youth em-

powerment through the recently established Opportunities Fund for Youth-Led Develop-

ment which is now operational.

Over the years, youth have been particularly affected by growing urban poverty. This is

demonstrated in the growth in trafficking of

of young people, especially girls and young

women, the high levels of unemployment, a growing phenomenon of street children, crime and violence by young people, youth gangs,

the recruitment of child soldiers, the destruc-

tion of family patterns, environmental degra-

diseases, and the emergence of new diseases,

opportunities in terms of access to better hous-

ment. The majority of those growing up in cit-

ies in developing countries, however, face more risks than opportunities. These include health

risks from overcrowding and poor sanitation,

increased vulnerability to natural disasters, and

the risks of eviction and economic vulnerability

in urban populations and, therefore, have far-

because of the lack of secure employment. These issues foster continued vulnerabilities

as well as the continued growth of the HIV/ AIDS pandemic. Urban areas should provide

ing, health services, education and employ-

dation, worsening health conditions and its impacts, such as the transmission of infectious

children and young people, sexual exploitation

Creating Livable Cities for All Ages: Intergenerational Strategies and Initiatives (Willem van Vliet- University of Colorado, USA)

² Creating Livable Cities for All Ages: Intergenerational Strategies and Initiatives (Willem van Vliet- University of Colorado, USA)

³ Creating Livable Cities for All Ages: Intergenerational Strategies and Initiatives (Willem van Vliet- University of Colorado, USA)

METHODOLOGY

The mapping was conducted by three teams of consultants. One team focussed on Asia, one on Africa, and the third was to have focussed on Latin America. However the team working on Latin America attended various youth events and, therefore, had the opportunity to conduct one-on-one interviews with youth from continents other than Latin America. With that one exception, all teams conducted the exercise mainly via a desk-study using the following methods of gathering data:

- a questionnaire sent to selected youthled organisations;
- internet research;
- consultation with Youth Networks.

The organisations surveyed had to meet the following basic criteria:

- adherence to the principles of youth-led development, namely:
 - youth define their own development goals and objectives;
 - youth have a social and physical space to participate in development and to be regularly consulted;

- adult mentorship and peer-to-peer mentorship are encouraged;
- youth act as role models to help other youth engage in development; and
- youth are integrated into all local and national development programmes and frameworks.
- relevance to focal areas of the fund;
- organisational capacity and potential for scaling up;
- evidence of past achievement of results;
- opportunities for adding value through investment from the fund;
- potential for documentation of tangible results from investments from the fund.

A combination of survey techniques was administered directly.

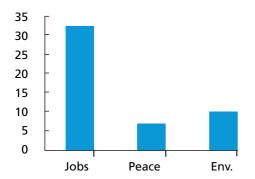
This report is based on a consolidation of the data collected by all three surveys. Some background information has been provided on each of the continents surveyed to enable contextualisation of the findings and recommendations.

KEY FINDINGS

GENERAL FINDINGS

As stipulated in the operational guidelines, the fund will initially concentrate on supporting projects related to the creation of employment, peace-building and environment. The first analysis of the findings has, therefore, explored the engagement of youth in Asia, Latin America and Africa in these three areas.

Graph showing the proportion of surveyed organizations focusing ondiferent focal areas of the fund



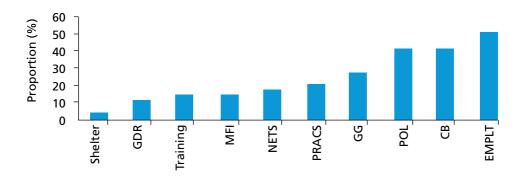
Of the 210 organisations surveyed across the three continents, 32% are involved in projects focussed on youth employment. As demonstrated in the graph above, 10% and 6% of the surveyed organisations are involved in environmental and peace-building projects respectively.

The second focus of the survey analysed the involvement of youth in the focal areas of the fund. For the purposes of the analysis, the focal areas of the fund have been classified as shown below

As the graph below demonstrates, employment was a primary priority with 32% of the organisations implementing projects related to this focal area. The key issues addressed under this theme include:

- policy advocacy on employment including workers rights;
- vocational training;
- credit mechanisms.

Focal Area	Acronym
Mobilising young people to help strengthen youth-related policy	
formulation	POL
Building capacities of governments, civil society organisations and the	
private sector to better address youth needs and issues	СВ
Supporting the development of interest-based information and	
communication oriented networks	NETS
Piloting innovative approaches to employment	JOBS
Piloting innovative approaches to good governance	GG
Piloting innovative approaches to adequate shelter and secure tenure	SHELTER
Sharing and exchanging information on best practices	PRACS
Vocational training	TRAINING
Credit mechanisms	MFI
Promoting gender mainstreaming in all activities of urban youth	GDR



Capacity building ranked second. There is also a correlation between mobilisation of young people to help strengthen youth-related policy formulation and capacity building. Of the organisations with projects related to capacity building, 43% have implemented projects related to policy formulation.

Only a 0.01% of the organisations surveyed are involved in implementing projects related to shelter.

Of the organisations surveyed, 10% practice sharing and exchanging information on best practices.

While poverty and unemployment remain central to the youth development agenda, only 14% of the surveyed organisations have micro-financing schemes.

Of the surveyed organisations, 11% are incorporating gender in their projects.

Less than 20% of surveyed organisations were engaged in networking and sharing information on best practices.

What follows is a breakdown of the findings by continent.

AFRICA FINDINGS

Youth issues in the region

Key Challenges

Poverty: Many of today's youth in sub-Saharan Africa have suffered the consequences of severe poverty from birth, a situation made worse by the rising cost of child-rearing and the reduced availability of many basic commodities. The World Youth Report 2007 indicates that the percentages of youth living in poverty are extremely high.

Growing population: By 2015, the population aged 15-24 years in sub-Saharan Africa is expected to reach some 200 million, and the population aged 15-34 years is projected to be 343 million⁴.

Plummeting levels of income: Sub-Saharan Africa is the only region in the world that has registered a sharp increase in the total number of young working poor (those subsisting on less than \$US1 per day); between 1995 and 2005, the number of such individuals rose from 36 million to 45 million ⁵

⁴ World Youth Report 2007, chapter 3 - Overcoming the barriers of poverty: challenges for YOUTH participation in sub-Saharan Africa

⁵ International Labour Office (2006). Global Employment Trends for Youth 2006. Geneva: International Labour Organization, August

Low levels of education: Data published by MEASURE DHS indicate that in countries such as Burkina Faso (2003), Mali (2001) and Niger (1998), more than 50% of males aged 15-19 years at the time of the respective surveys had not obtained a primary education. Among youth aged 20-24 years, 58% of males in Burkina Faso (2003), 31% in Chad (2004), 33% in Ethiopia (2005), and 59% in Mali (2001) had no education. The data show that the proportions of female youth without any education are much higher than the corresponding rates for males in many countries.6

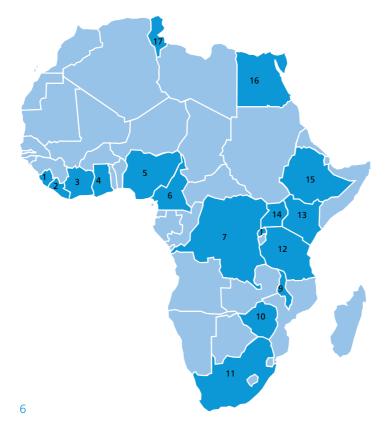
Increasing rates of unemployment: The rate was at 19.5% in 2005 in sub-Saharan Africa. Between 1995 and 2005, this number rose by approximately 34%. Young people in the region are three times more likely than adults aged 25 years and above to be unemployed. Twenty-seven per cent

of youth are neither in school nor at work⁷, and youth unemployment is much higher in urban areas than in rural areas (WYR 2007).

Conflict: It has been noted that the period 1990-2000 alone saw 19 major armed conflicts in Africa, from civil wars to the 1998-2000 war between Eritrea and Ethiopia. Angola, Guinea-Bissau, and Mozambigue all experienced chaotic transitions from colonial rule (Addison, 2003).

The Mapping Exercise in Africa

For the purposes of the mapping exercise, the countries surveyed in Africa were: Liberia, Nigeria, Cameroon, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, South Africa, DRC, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Tunisia, and Egypt.



KEY

- 1 Sierra Leone
- 2 Liberia
- 3 Cote d'Ivoire
- 4 Ghana
- 5 Nigeria
- 6 Cameroon
- 7 DRC
- 8 Rwanda
- 9 Malawi
- 10 Zimbabwe
- 11 South Africa
- 12 Tanzania
- 13 Kenya
- 14 Uganda
- 15 Ethiopia
- 16 Egypt
- 17 Tunisia

⁶ World Youth Report 2007, chapter 3 - Overcoming the barriers of poverty: challenges for YOUTH participation in sub-Saharan Africa

International Labour Office (2006). Global Employment Trends for Youth 2006. Geneva: International Labour Organization, August

Most organisations that were mapped in Africa were engaged in more than one area of focus:

- 63% of the organisations are engaged in economic enhancement and employment related projects;
- 33% Of surveyed organisations are involved in policy related projects;
- 1% of the organisations surveyed work on shelter related projects.

Employment, as demonstrated in the table below, remained the primary focus:

Key issues addressed by the organisations under employment were:

- small scale micro-enterprises operated by youth organisations;
- entrepreneurship skill building and vocational training;
- savings and micro-credit schemes.

Eleven percent and 16% of the organisations are engaged in training and microcredit programmes respectively.

Of the organisations surveyed, 32% focussed on governance issues and of these, 56% were also engaged in policy advocacy related work through projects in the following areas:

- human rights;
- conflict resolution;
- youth participation in governance.

Most organisations working in the health sector were focussed on HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness campaigns were key activities undertaken by youth in this sector.

Environment issues addressed included ecological restoration programmes involving tree planting, and conservation. Water and sanitation projects primarily addressed access to or provision of clean drinking water.

In Africa, the organisations surveyed:

- were urban based;
- were legally registered as either local community-based organisations or non-governmental organisation, and had bank accounts;
- had contact details available;
- demonstrated some track record based on the projects implemented in the past or had on-going projects.

Of the surveyed organisations, 51% have been in existence for a period of five or more years.

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Fund focal areas

Percentage representation of various focal areas of the fund among

ASIA FINDINGS

Youth issues in the region

Urban residents in Asia—more than 270 million of whom are youth—currently account for almost 50% of the world's total urban population. East Asia is the most urbanized part of the region and South-Central Asia, the least urbanized, with city-dwellers accounting for 41.6 and 29.8% of the respective populations (Hugo, 2003).8

Key Problems

Poverty: Poverty ranges between 12% and 40% in urban areas, and in many Asian cities, 30-40% of the population live in slums.⁹

Slums: In 2005, the slum populations of South Asia and East Asia were estimated at 276 million and 272 million respectively. The slum population in Asia far exceeds that in any other region of the world.¹⁰

Challenges

Growing youth population: By 2030, the number of youth living in urban areas in Asia is expected to climb to 533 million; the region's total urban population is projected to increase from 1,553 million to 2,663 million, with the proportion of urban residents rising from 40% to 55% of the global population (United Nations, 2005b).¹¹

Unemployment: In South-East Asia and the Pacific, youth are five times more likely than older workers to be unemployed, and in South Asia and East Asia they are almost three times more likely to be without a job

(International Labour Office, 2006).¹² It should be noted that employment and unemployment figures mask problems of underemployment and poverty among working youth. Since the dynamics of economic growth help determine a country's capacity to absorb new entrants to the labour market, employment prospects for young people are more sensitive to economic growth than are those for older workers (Morris, 2006).¹³

Although opportunities for education and employment are generally better in urban areas than in rural areas, inflexible labour markets and education systems have not always been able to absorb urban youth adequately, making the members of this group more vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion. The relatively high rate of joblessness among educated youth is believed to derive at least partly from the misalignment or lack of correspondence between their training and the skill requirements for the types of jobs created by globalisation

Globalisation: Globalisation has had a polarising effect, widening inequalities within and between countries and population groups. Many are restricted by inadequate education and poverty, or are outside the reach of basic information and communication and of the goods and services that have become available with globalisation. Factors such as the changing nature of work, diminishing demand for unskilled labour, and the emergence of new and less secure forms of employment effectively prevent young people from participating fully in the global economy.

^{8 (}Hugo 2003). Migration and Development: A Perspective from Asia. IOM Migration Research Series, No. 14

^{9 (}Hugo 2003). Migration and Development: A Perspective from Asia. IOM Migration Research Series, No. 14

¹⁰ United Nations, 2005b: World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision. New York.

¹¹ United Nations, 2005b: World Population Prospects: The 2004 Revision. New York.

¹² International Labour Office 2006: Global Employment Trends for Youth 2006. Geneva: International Labour Organization, August.

¹³ Morris, Elizabeth (2006). Globalization and its effects on youth employment trends in Asia. Paper presented at the Regional Expert Group Meeting on Development Challenges for Young People, Bangkok, 28-30 March 2006.

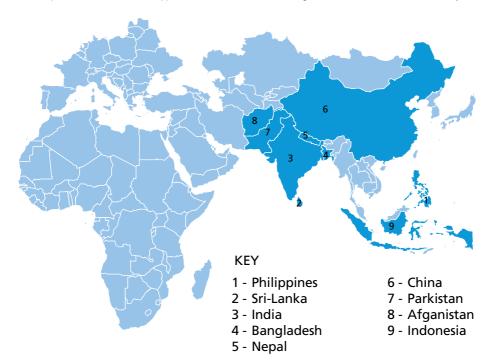
Opportunities

Youth bulge: The size of the youth population in Asia gives the region a major advantage in terms of development potential. Out of a global youth labour force of 633 million in 2005, some 353 million (55.7%) lived in Asia. By 2015, the Asian youth workforce is expected to increase to 361 million. Countries in the region have been able to reap a "demographic dividend" from the production capacity of a labour force that is sizeable in relation to the dependent population; indeed, it is estimated that one third of East Asia's economic miracle (occurring between 1965 and 1990) can be attributed to this phenomenon.¹⁴

Globalisation: In Asia, globalisation has generated extraordinary opportunities. New avenues for education and employment have been created; improvements in technology have helped to increase the productivity of individuals as well as manufacturing and agricultural output; and many people,

including youth, are reaping the benefits of major public health breakthroughs and interventions. Many of the new job opportunities created by globalisation, especially in manufacturing, have been in occupations dominated by women. Historical and cultural factors have combined with specific developments in the industrial and service sectors of cities to expand employment opportunities for women.¹⁵ Globalisation has improved the accessibility of a good education for many young people in Asia. Large numbers of previously un-served youth are benefiting from a wide range of innovative educational options, including opportunities originating outside their national borders. Distance education is particularly important within this context. ICT-based distance education has been used to overcome time. space and geographic restrictions, allowing teachers and students to interact and share learning materials. In China, there are 2.735 radio and television universities at the national, provincial, prefecture and county levels offering more than 18,000 classes. In

¹⁵ Lim, Lin Lean (1993). Growing economic interdependence and its implications for international migration. Paper presented at the Expert Group Meeting on Population Distribution and Migration, Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 18-22 January 1993.



¹⁴ Bloom, David E., and David Canning (2003). The health and poverty of nations: from theory to practice. Journal of Human Development, vol. 4, No. 1 (March), pp. 47-71.

2001, these universities produced 174,300 new graduates and enrolled 216,000 new students.16

The Mapping Exercise in Asia

The mapping exercise for the Opportunities Fund identified a total of 35 youth organisations from Pakistan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Philippines, Indonesia and China.

All of these organisations were either urban based or had an urban presence. In addition, they had known registration status. Of the identified organisations, only 23% had explicitly stated that there was adult involvement in the implementation of their projects.

Of the organisations surveyed in Asia, 57% were engaged in policy and advocacy-related activities, while 54% of the organisations implemented capacity building interventions towards enhancing the participation of youth in development. Of the initiatives identified, 31% involved employment and entrepreneurship, mainly focussed on vocational training and microcredit schemes.

Health was cited as a key focus area by 20% of the organisations. There is a broad spectrum of activities under this, including HIV/AIDS, maternal health, and healthy working conditions for workers.

Of the organisations surveyed, 17% are involved in peace and governance. This includes those organisations that are working on human rights (youth, women and children) and democracy.

In relation to the MDGs, most organisations are focussed on Goal 1.

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN REGION (LAC) FINDINGS

Youth issues in the region

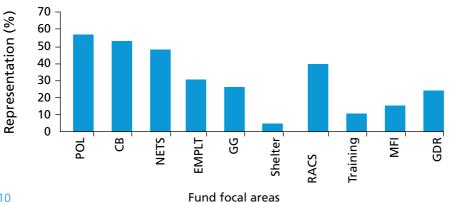
Key problems

Increases in income poverty, unemployment, and overall inequality:

These have had a tremendous impact on voung people's schooling, health, and social and economic welfare.

Poverty and inequality: These remain key issues in Latin America, and they have a profound impact on young people's

Percentage representation of various focal areas of the fund among youth organizations in Asia



¹⁶ World Youth report 2007; ASIAN YOUTH in the context of GLOBALIZATION

education, employment opportunities, access to essential services, and overall well-being. In 15 of the region's countries at least one in four residents live below the poverty line. and in seven of these more than half of the population is poor.¹⁷ In 2002, about 45% of 15- to 19-year olds were considered "poor" (with incomes of less than twice the cost of a basic food basket), and 17% were considered "indigent" (living on incomes lower than the cost of one basic food basket). The employment situation in Latin America is particularly problematic for young women, who have a harder time finding work, are paid lower wages, and are less likely than their male counterparts to participate in the job market. In 2004, about 62% of young men and 42% of young women were part of the labour force.¹⁸

Low levels of education: Few among the poor have had the benefit of a full, high-quality education that might allow them to improve their socio-economic situation.¹⁹

Absence of labour protections and benefits: More than two thirds of young people between the ages of 15 and 19 begin their working lives in environments that offer few or none of the labour protections or benefits typically available to other workers. Low-productivity employment declines after this entry phase, but the proportions remain high for all groups, hovering around 50%.

Challenges

Growing apathy towards politics:

Latin American youth are withdrawing from the realm of political activism.

Despite having a rich history of political engagement, the results of a region-wide survey conducted by the Latinobarómetro Corporation in 2004 suggest that the political fervour characterising many Latin American societies in the past may have diminished. This apparent political disengagement may have more to do with the changing nature of politics in the respective countries. Elections are held more frequently, which is a positive development by any standard; however, voter fatigue may occur, and gains such as these can breed complacence. ICT developments have allowed the public to become better informed, and exposure to frequent political scandals and a growing distrust of political parties have fostered an anti-political attitude among many citizens, including youth. It would appear that both socio-economic and political factors affect the capacity and willingness of young people to participate in the political process. Efforts need to be made to ensure that youth remain active in deciding the future of governments in the region both by government and civil society.²⁰

Opportunities

On the other hand, young people in Latin America have a rich history of political engagement, and recent events demonstrate that committed youth still constitute an effective political force. Though it has diminished, examples of youth activism abound. The 2006 Penguin Revolution in Chile is one example of a powerful social movement started by young people demanding educational reform. An estimated 800,000 protesters, most of them secondary and tertiary students, came together to participate in the largest social movement since the end of the military dictatorship 16 years earlier, and their actions resulted in increased educational spending and placed education at the top

¹⁷ United Nations Development Programme (2004a). La Democracia en América Latina: Hacia una Democracia de Ciudadanos y Ciudadanas. Second edition. Lima.

¹⁸ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: (2005). Panorama Social de América Latina 2005 (LC/G.2288-P/E). Santiago.

¹⁹ Sáinz, Pedro (2007). Equity in Latin America since the 1990s. In Flat World, Big Gaps: Economic Liberalization, Globalization, Poverty and Inequality, Jomo K.S. and Jacques Baudot, editors. Hyderabad, India: Orient Longman; London; New York: Zed Books; and Penang, Malaysia: Third World Network. Published in association with the United Nations.

²⁰ World Youth report 2007: Latin American YOUTH: In an era of socio-economic and political change

of the political agenda.²¹ This is probably an indicator of existing space for participation in Latin America which should be exploited.

The Mapping Exercise in Latin America

In the LAC region, the majority of the organisations are focussed on capacity building geared towards equipping youth with skills necessary for them to participate

21 Reel, Monte (2006). Chile's student activists: a course in democracy. Washington Post Foreign Service (25 November).



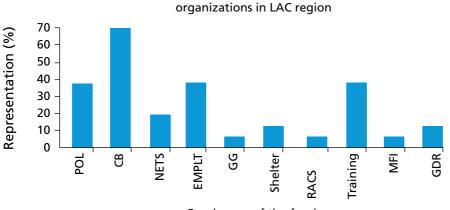
meaningfully in decision making and policy advocacy. Some capacity development efforts are also focussed on building life-skills, enabling youth to make valid decisions about career and life in general. Of the surveyed organisations, 69% were engaged in implementing capacity building interventions.

Employment and mobilisation to strengthen youth-related policy formulation emerged as the second priority, with 38% of surveyed organisations involved in these two focal areas. The activities undertaken are enterprise development related and involve offering services such as marketing, business management and business development to youth actors.

Mobilisation to strengthen youth-related policy formulation goes hand in hand with capacity building, with 68% of those organisations implementing policy-related projects having a capacity building programme.

Microfinance projects in this region have taken the last slot with 6% of the surveyed organisations engaging in related activities.

Percentage representation of various focal areas of the fund among youth



A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE FINDINGS ACROSS THE CONTINENTS SURVEYED

The following section compares the findings in the individual continents, taking into consideration the findings for all of the 121 organisations surveyed, and analysing the data in accordance with the focal areas of the fund. The graph below demonstrates the aggregated data, presented as a comparison between the three continents.

In the combined sample analysis, results indicate that employment is the most important issue among youth organisations. However, when the data is classified regionally, it reveals differences in the key focus areas. Where African youth have placed employment at the forefront, it ranks second in the LAC region and 4th in Asia.

Job creation in Asia ranks a distant fifth, while in Africa it ranks first with 63%. With 38% of the organisations surveyed engaged in job creation in the LAC region, it is the second most popular activity for youth organisations in the LAC region.

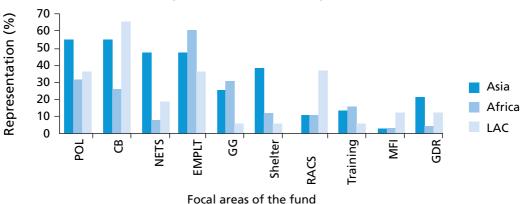
This could be attributed to the fact that weak infrastructure and civil unrest have created a relatively hostile environment, and Africa has, therefore, not benefited from the positive effects of globalisation on employment as has been experienced in Asia and Latin America. The opportunities for employment are, therefore, comparatively limited. Governments have begun to address this issue in some ways as is demonstrated by the emergence of funds targeted at youth development in various countries across the continent.

Micro-financing is almost equally common across Asia and Africa with 14% and 16% respectively. In the LAC region however, only 6% of the organisations surveyed are engaged in MFI related activities.

The world is facing a growing youth unemployment crisis. Both developing and developed economies are faced with the challenge of creating decent and sustainable jobs for the large cohort of young women and men entering the labour market every year.²² Youth employment is a major focus of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and was reaffirmed by the Ministers and Heads of Delegations participating in the High-Level Segment of the Substantive 2006 Session of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) who committed themselves to "develop[ing] and implement[ing] strategies that give

22 Global Employment Trends For Youth, ILO 2006

Percentage representation of various focal areas of the fund among surveyed youth organizations in different regions



youth everywhere a real and equal opportunity to find full and productive employment and decent work"²³. Youth now represent close to half of the world's 192 million jobless people. In many countries, they are more than three times as likely as adults to be seeking work. This presents an especially urgent challenge for developing countries, home to 89% of the world's youth (www.freeworldacademy.com, www. un.org, www.prb.org, www.unicef.org).

Youth unemployment or situations under which youth give up on the job search incur costs to the economy, society, individual and the family. In order to make poverty history, youth as drivers of economic development have to be brought on board as a key stakeholder group. In its 2004 Global Employment Trends for Youth report, the ILO estimated that halving the world's youth unemployment rate, and thus bringing it more in line with the adult rate while allowing for some natural differences, would add between an estimated \$US2.2 and 3.5 trillion of the 2003 value, or between 4.4% and 7.0%, to the global GDP.

On the other hand, idle youth is a costly group. They are not contributing to the economic welfare of the country – quite the contrary. The loss of income among the younger generation translates into a lack of savings as well as a loss of aggregate demand. Some youth who are unable to earn their own income have to be financially supported by the family, leaving less for spending and investments at the household level. Societies lose their investment in education. Governments fail to receive contributions to social security systems and are forced to increase spending on remedial services, including crime or drug use prevention efforts. All this is a threat to the development potential of economies. Focussing on youth, therefore, makes sense to a country from a costs-benefits point of view²⁴.

As much as 89% of the world's youth were living in developing economies in 2005. The youth labour force growth will continue to be concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa, South East Asia and the Pacific, and in the Middle East and North Africa – regions where insufficient economic demand already results in significant unemployment rates for youth. Between 1995 and 2005, these regions were projected to add another 24 million, 11 million and 865,000 young labour market participants respectively.²⁵

If current trends persist, by 2025 about 57% of the world's population will live in urban areas, up from about 50% today. By 2025, the world will add another eight mega cities to the current list of 19—all except one of these eight will be in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa²⁶.

Given that most people who move to urban areas are youth, UN-HABITAT faces a growing urban unemployment challenge. Furthermore, there is a proven link between youth unemployment and social exclusion²⁷. In addressing this, UN-HABITAT needs to continue engaging governments and youth in finding lasting solutions to the problems that hinder access to decent work among the youth in poor societies. It is clear from these findings that youth unemployment is a barrier to poverty eradication.

In Asia and Africa, youth have not been traditionally engaged in decision making processes, both formal and informal, due to cultural constraints. While the youth in these areas recognise the importance of policy and good governance, the opportunities for them to engage in meaningful dialogue are few. In Asia, however, with improved economic status as a result of globalisation, there is possibly a greater recognition of youth in development and, therefore, the opportunities for youth engagement are increasing.

²³ ECOSOC High-level Segment: Ministerial Declaration, 5 July 2006, E/2006/L.8.

²⁴ Global Employment Trends For Youth, ILO 2006

²⁵ Global Employment Trends For Youth, ILO 2006 26 Global Trends 2025

²⁷ See, for example, Ryan, 2000, and ECA, 2005.

Mobilisation for youth-related policy formulation is most popular in Asia with a majority of 57%, as compared to 38% and 33% in LAC and Africa respectively. There is a strong correlation between this focal area and capacity building. Observations from the three regions indicate that most of the organisations involved in policy advocacy activities have a capacity building component.

In Africa, mobilisation for policy advocacy is related to governance, having 56% of those organisations with a governance programme concurrently advocating for policy change.

There is a large variation between the continents in the proportion of organisations involved in the sharing of best practices. In Asia, the organisations engaged in the exchange of best practice are 40% of the institutions surveyed, 12% and less than 10% in Africa and LAC respectively. In addition, in Asia 50%, in LAC 19% and in Africa 8% of surveyed organisations have a networking strategy.

Clearly there is a correlation between the existence of a networking strategy and the sharing of best practice. In Africa, the low levels of networking and sharing of best practice could be attributed to weaknesses in the capacity and the mechanisms available for documentation and dissemination. Whereas, in Asia, 40% of the organisations surveyed are engaged in networking, owing to good communication mechanisms. In LAC, the low levels of networking are surprising, and it is not clear what causes this. As is evidenced in the youth political movements, youth are able to come together effectively and undertake collective action. Therefore, it is unclear as to why they are not better engaged in networking and the sharing of best practice.

By the end of 2000, more than half the population in developed regions had ac-

cess to the Internet, compared with 7% in developing regions and less than 1% in the 50 least developed countries (ww.free-worldacademy.com, www.un.org, www.prb.org, www.unicef.org). In addition, an estimated 130 million of the world's 15-to 24-year olds cannot read or write (www.worldbank.org, www.unicef.org, www.nationmaster.com).

These, among other reasons, could be why one of the findings of this report was that only 10% of the organisations were found to be sharing information on best practices. Given that most of the organisations surveyed have been in existence for a number of years and have successfully completed projects, the fund's knowledge generation potential is vast. For example in Africa, 51% of the surveyed organisations have been in existence for a period of five or more years and some for as long as 20 years. Such organisations already have evidence of what youth-led development can achieve. A platform created for sharing such knowledge and experiences can enhance the benefits of the fund. This is needed given the fact that only 8% of the surveyed organisations in Africa are sharing information on best practices. In Asia, 50% of the surveyed organisations are sharing best practices; however, this could be attributed to the fact that half of them are networking organisations. Barriers to information sharing should be addressed in order to facilitate knowledge generation, documentation and dissemination.

Shelter-related activities are the least popular in Asia and Africa and even in Latin America; the percentage only makes the second last rank from bottom because of a UN-HABITAT project included in the survey. This could be attributed to the fact that youth rely on adults for the provision of shelter. It could also indicate a lack of opportunity, and skills for youth to engage in shelter-related activities. Shelter provision is considered the domain of the private

sector, the planning of which lies with local authorities. Neither of these sectors is equipped to engage youth in the decision making and implementation processes.

Results from the Ideas to Action report showed that 90% of respondents stated that adults were involved in their project. Mentors constituted 75.6% of the total; 53% were involved in administration and the same percentage were involved in the board, and 33.3% were involved in program delivery. There are, therefore, different types and levels of adult involvement. This could either enhance or strangle the ability of youth actors in designing solutions to youth issues. There is a need to define the nature of adult involvement to ensure that it enhances youth engagement and increases effectiveness. The boundaries of engagement should be guided by proper research and should be entrenched in policy in order to safeguard the concept of youth-led development. The Opportunities Fund should attempt to draw lessons from organisations that have adults

involved in some way and seek to define positive parameters for their involvement.

Employment tops the list in Africa, capacity building in LAC, while mobilisation for vouth-related policy formulation takes the lead in Asia. While there are various reasons. why this could be the case, there is not enough information available to make a clear cut analysis on the factors that influence these trends. It is not clear whether the engagement of fewer organisations in a particular focal area reflects that the area is underserved and, therefore, requires more attention from the implementation of the fund, or if it is indicative of the needs and priorities of youth: therefore, calling upon the fund to focus its attention on those areas where there are a large number of organisations already engaged. To guide this decision, it is imperative that more research be carried out to enable the Partners and Youth Section (PYS) and its partners to better understand what drives the trends revealed and, therefore, guide the implementation of the fund.

DATABASE TO MANAGE INFORMATION

Parallel to the mapping exercise, a database was developed to map existing initiatives and key organisations, and the same database is intended to form the basis of the information management system for tracking the activities of the fund. The database was designed in consultation with UN-HABITAT IT staff, and aimed to be consistent with and complementary to the existing Best Practices database.

The consultant's scope of work in relation to the database to manage information was limited to the design of the database in consultation with UN-HABITAT staff. The database was designed and developed in Microsoft Access.

The process involved:

 identification of the nature and type of data required. This was done via a consultative process at the steering committee level whose aim was to determine what kind of data needs to

- be captured. This formed the basis for setting the data entry fields;
- classification of data required was then done to group similar types of data e.g. that which relates to institutional issues, areas of focus i.e. programme or project issues, donors, implementing partners, etc.;
- development of the database in Microsoft Access based on the agreed data entry fields which were classified or grouped according to the specific information they relate to, e.g. organisational information, donorrelated information, etc.

It was agreed at the steering committee that UN-HABITAT Partners and Youth Section will ensure that the database is populated and maintained within UN-HABITAT.

Samples of the database's data entry forms are attached as appendix II.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- i. Increase the engagement of youth in shelter-related work. While shelter is an important focus area of the fund, it is clear that currently there is not much focus on this among youth organisations. The strategy under development with the UN-HABITAT Shelter Branch needs to be linked to the Fund in order to identify and develop pilot initiatives that can generate models and tools to be used in promoting broader youth engagement in shelter-related activities, and building their capacities in this area.
- ii. One of the seven focal areas of the fund is "facilitating vocational training and credit mechanisms to promote entrepreneurship and employment". The mapping exercise found only 14% of organisations are engaged in micro-finance type activities. It will be important to undertake research on the reasons for this low participation in order for the fund to develop appropriate strategies to ensure effective use of the funds that may be approved for credit mechanisms.
- iii. Capacity building for youth remains a crucial matter. The correlation existing between policy advocacy and capacity building is an indicator that the ability of youth to engage at this level is limited. This factor will need to be taken into consideration in assessing applications to the fund for advocacy initiatives; proposals of this type should either show evidence of advocacy capacity or include a component for capacity building. Additionally, in developing training tools with the **UN-HABITAT Training Capacity Building** Branch (TCBB), advocacy capacity needs should be addressed.

- iv. The wide variation between the regions in the levels of networking and information-sharing raises many questions that will need to be addressed in future research. There may be lessons that African organisations can learn from Asian ones in this regard. The finding argues for differential priority focusses in the different regions, for example targeting a stronger focus on supporting network development in Africa, while undertaking case studies of successful networking in Asia.
- The wide variation between the regions in the levels of focus on the above and other areas begs the question why certain ones are quite low. Is it due to a low perceived need to address such areas or because of political, social, capability or institutional constraints obtaining in these regions? It is also possible that where the engagement of youth in some areas such as lack of housing is low, this problem is not considered to be a youth problem. Further research is needed to determine the reasons, and then to develop strategies to address constraints if they exist.
- vi. Gender integration should be requisite for all the projects funded through the Opportunities Fund, as it is one of the focal areas stipulated in the Governing Council decision. However. given that only 11% of the surveyed organisations are incorporating gender in their projects, it is likely that there is a lack of capacity in youth organisations to address gender. The Gender Unit should be requested to assist in developing a strategy for mainstreaming gender in the fund operations, with a specific focus on building the capacity of youth organisations in this area.

- vii. Because 'youth' is a transitional group with varied needs at different stages of their development, the Opportunities Fund ought to establish more specific age targeted interventions. The data collected does not reveal the targeted age group for their projects i.e. 15-19, 20-24, and so on.
- viii. Adult involvement needs to be clearly defined. Further research should be done to define the parameters of engagement necessary to guarantee that initiatives are youth led.
- ix. An important way to build capacity and empower youth organisations is to strengthen their ability to mobilise resources. Data available through the hundreds of applications to the fund can provide a rich overview of how and where different groups around the world are obtaining their financial and other support. This data
- should be collected and analyzed in a systematic way in order to build a knowledge base of resources available for youth work, first and foremost as a tool to assist the youth organisations themselves. The data can secondarily assist in identifying opportunities for collaboration and augment resources for the fund's future sustainability and impact.
- x. Finally, relating to all of the above recommendations, it will be critical to use the information management tools of the fund (application forms, report formats, evaluation instruments, etc.) to gather data that addresses the knowledge gaps identified in the mapping exercise and, thus, makes a substantial contribution to building the knowledge base of UN-HABITAT on best strategies and mechanisms for promoting youth engagement in sustainable urbanisation.

ANNEX I

SURVEYED ORGANIZATIONS: OPPORTUNITIES FUND FOR YOUTH LED DEVELOPMENT

Eastern Africa, Tanzania

- 1. Arusha Women Legal Aid and Human Rights Centre
- 2. Kagera Youth Forum
- 3. Africa Youth Development Foundation
- 4. Lindi Youth Development Foundation
- 5. Tanzania Youth Vision Association
- 6. Tanga Youth Development Association
- 7. Newala Youth Network
- 8. Kilosa Youth Development Organization
- 9. FCTP Singinda Youth Centre
- 10. Vijana Jitulize
- 11. Youth Empowerment Tanzania
- 12. Shake Hands Youth Organization
- 13. Rise Alive Youth Association
- 14. Tanzania Development Forum for Youth Wazo La Wiki
- 15. Youth and HIV Awareness
- 16. Lughano Network for Vulnerable Children
- 17. I AM YOUTH-Supporting Youth Tanzania
- 18. E-Agriculture Portal

Eastern Africa, Rwanda

- 1. Training for Peace Rwanda
- 2. Family Planning Education Project
- 3. Rwanda Youth and Capacity Building **Project**

Eastern Africa, Ethiopia

Enhancing Youth and Child Rights in Schools

Eastern Africa, Kenya

- 1. Young People for Peace and Development
- 2. Peace Caravan
- 3. Kenya Disabled Action Network
- 4. Sexuality of Young People Prenatally Infected With HIV/Aids
- 5. Mrembo Girls Program
- 6. Dudu Baya Youth Group7. Friends of Ngaira
- 8. Taka Ni Fashion Na Arts Awards

- 9. Participatory Education Theatre for Healing and Reconciliation
- 10. Sculpture Designing and Modeling11. Child Youth Media Project
- 12. Embu Youth Development Initiative
- 13. Holiday Science Camp Under Cosmos Education
- 14. Pambazuka Fishing and Farming Project
- 15. Kaswesha Self Help Group
- 16. Kenya Youth Business Trust
- 17. Kenya Reconstruction Express
- 18. Youth Drugs Control Centre
- 19. Community Watch and Rescue Team
- 20. Dandora Youth and Football Club
- 21. Kamukunii Youth Welfare Alliance
- 22. Youth Alive Africa
- 23. Society Empowerment Project
- 24. Padhola Youth Group
- 25. Thicka District Young Leaders Initiative
- 26. Let's Work for The Future

Eastern Africa, Uganda

- 1. Hope for Youth Uganda
- Community Alliance for Change
- 3. Yohana (youth organisation for humanity and nature)
- 4. Vei Education and Development Agency
- 5. Youth With a Vision
- 6. Trust Youth Environment Centre
- 7. Alpha Youth Uganda
- 8. Forum for Youth Advocacy
- 9. Con-Trust Youth Environment Centre
- 10. Magoro Youth Group
- 11. Kazinga Youth Volunteer Program
- 12. Bulondo Youth Unti-Aids Association
- 13. Masaka Youth Association
- 14. Youth With a Purpose
- 15. Youth Alive Uganda
- 16. Growing Futures Project
- 17. Prevention of HIV Transmission Program For Young People
- 18. HIV/Aids Environment for Mission for Youth Rights
- 19. Youth Entrepreneurship Environment Skills

- 20. Magora Local Poultry Project
- 21. Lugingi Youth Ox-Plough Project
- 22. Osukuru Youth Fish Farming Project
- 23. Youth Crime Watch
- 24. Transformation of Women And Youth Organization
- 25. Empowerment Project-Makindye Youth Development
- 26. Community Transformation Foundation Network Mission for Youth Rights
- 27. Tororo Millennium Computer Training
- 28. Rural Youth Empowerment Project
- 29. Community Child

Eastern Africa, Burundi

- Centre De Formulation Et D'escadrement Pour Paix Et Le Development
- 2. Centre De Liquaiteka Youth Commission
- 3. Casobu
- 4. New Generation Association

West Africa, Sierra Leona

- 1. Africa Youth Coalition Against Hunger
- 2. Africa Youth for Peace and Development
- 3. Africa Youth Coalition Against Hunger
- 4. Sierra Unit Network
- Global Youth Network for Peace and Development
- 6. Ilearn Sierra Leone
- 7. Yedem Training Centre
- 8. Global Youth Network for Peace And Development
- 9. ICT To Close The Digital Gap in Post Conflict Sierra Leona
- 10. Sustainable Livelihood Through Skills Training for Youth

West Africa, Ghana

- 1. Edikafo Progressive Foundation
- 2. Vision for Alternative Development
- 3. Abusua Foundation
- 4. Waves International
- 5. Young People We Care
- 6. The Avert Youth Foundation
- 7. Young People Experience for Change

Western Africa, Cameroon

- 1. Youth to Reinforce Forest Policies
- 2. Extension
- 3. Local Youth Corner
- 4. Change Centers for Unemployed Youth and Young Women

Western Africa, Liberia

African Child Peace Initiative

Western Africa, Nigeria

- Anambra State Nynet Ha Youth Resource Centre
- 2. Centre for Peace Education and Democracy
- 3. Liberian Youth Congress
- 4. Liberia National Student Union
- 5. Aid Foundation
- 6. Blossom
- 7. Foundation for Turning Community Concern Into Citizen Action
- 8. ICT a Panacea for Effective RA and HIV/ ADISs Programming
- 9. Book Drive for Vulnerable Children
- 10. Stop Crime- Take The Lead Nigeria
- 11. Youth Reform Initiative Project
- 12. Vanguard for Development
- 13. Vision for Sanity
- 14. Save a Soul Project
- 15. Urban Community Development Initiative

Western Africa, Congo

- Jeunes Entrepreneurs Congolias Network
- 2. Youth and Climate Change Mitigation
- 3. Mazombo Menga Rodolphe

Western Africa, Cote d'Ivoire

- 1. Struggle Corruption at School
- KAYIGA

Southern Africa, Mozambique

- Accord. Association of Cooperation for Development
- 2. Aro Education Information and Youth
- 3. Associação Ds Proprietaires Immoveis
- 4. Associacao Mocambicana Dos Amigos De Alemanha
- Associacao Republica Mozambicana De Amizadee

- 6. Associacao De Prevençao As Toxicomanias – Kubessa
- 7. International Relations Students Association
- 8. Mbeu
- 9. Mozambique National Association for Women
- 10. Mozambique Youth Union
- 11. National Democratic Youth
- 12. Jierdemo
- 13. Organization of The Mozambique Youth

Southern Africa, Malawi

- 1. Counseling of The Adolescent and Youth Organization
- Together for Mzuzu Youth and Orphans
 Dedza Youth Advocacy Organization
- 4. Girls Empowerment Network
- 5. Active Youth Initiative for Social Enhancement (AYISA)

Southern Africa, Zimbabwe

Work4Peace

Southern Africa, South Africa

- Stop HIV/AIDS Abstinence Group, Curtaining HIV/AIDS Spread
- 2. Youth Enterprise Society

Southern Africa, Zambia

- The Infotainment Movement
- The Movie Posse Band

Northern Africa, Egypt

- 1. Global Youth Partners
- 2. Sustainable Development Organization
- 3. Nahdet el Mahrousa
- 4. Entrepreneurs Business Forum Egypt
- 5. Future Youth Club
- 6. Peace Youth Coordination

Asia, Bangladesh

- 1. National Federation of Youth Organizations in Bangladesh (NFYOB)
- 2. YES Campaign 2002 2012
- 3. UNESCO: Breaking the poverty cycle of women
- 4. bEARN Youth Programme

- 5. Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)
- 6. Advocacy for a Public Policy to Ensure Human Rights in Ship breaking Industry
- Bharatiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST)
- The Youth Parliament (YPF)
- 9. Vishwa Yuvak Kendra
- 10. Indian Committee of Youth Organizations (ICYO)
- 11. The Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA)
- 12. Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA)
- 13. Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development
- 14. Marwari Yuva Manch
- 15. Resonance2020
- 16. Building Good Citizens Through Youth Leadership Development

Asia, Nepal

- 1. Association of Youth Organizations Nepal (AYON)
- YES Country Network-Nepal
 Nepalese Young Entrepreneurs' Forum (NYEF)
- 4. ILO Child Labour, Youth Employment and Social Dialogue
- Ensuring The Future of Urban Forestry Youth Action Nepal (YOAC) 5.
- 6.
- National Health Foundation 7.
- 8. Nepalese Youth for Climate Action
- 9. Youth Managed Resource Centre

Asia, Pakistan

- 1. Youth Investment Promotion Society
- 2. Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) & Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)
- 3. All Pakistan Women's Association (APWA)
- 4. Swat Youth Front (SYF)
- 5. Pakistan Grassroot Youth Forum
- 6. Pakistan National Youth Council
- 7. Youth Engagement Services Network
- 8. Youth Enterprenweship Training Program
- 9. Youth Conservation

Asia, Sri Lanka

- 1. Beyond Boarders
- 2. Jaffna Youth Congress
- 3. Youth Link Movement (YLM)
- 4. Sri Lanka Youth Parliament (SLYP)

Asia, Philippines

- 1. The National Youth Commission
- 2. Caucus of Development NGOs Network
- 3. Youth Build UNHABITAT
- 4. Popular Education for People's Empowerment (PEPE)

Asia, India

- 1. Green Wings
- 2. Foundation for Development and Governance
- 3. Sakit Vohra
- 4. Youth Governance
- 5. Awareness About Health And HIV
- 6. BODHI-centre
- 7. Self Employment Mission
- 8. Volunteers India
- 9. Youth Development Programme of National Equity
- 10. Training To Urban Youth And Families
- 11. Mainstreaming The Unemployed Youth Through Skill Training

Asia, China

- 1. The China Youth Association
- 2. The Chinese Young Volunteers Associations
- 3. China Youth Development Foundation (CYDF)

Afghanistan

Balwa Science Academy

Sri-Lanka

- 1. Youth Parliament
- 2. Business Idea Generation Workshops

South- America, Argentina

CSO and Political Party Dialogue For Development

South America, Colombia

Ando Participando

Haiti

- 1. Prevention Program for STI/HIV/AIDS
- 2. Pierra Paul Audate
- 3.

Indonesia

ENABLE (Aprentiseship for trafricking victims and youth women)

ANNEX II – DATA CAPTURE FORM

UN-HABITAT OPPORTUNITIES FUND MAPPING OF POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES- DATA CAPTURE FORM

1	Name of organization	10	Current/ previous project implementation partners		
2	Country				
3	Region/ Continent	11	Networks affiliated to		
1	Kay avec of force of the avecainstics				
4	Key areas of focus of the organization	4.2			
	Project Actions being/ Geographic already area of implemented operation	. 12	Other youth organizations that the organizations works with areas that the mapping consultants should state their assesment-adherence to youth led development principle		
_	pployment	13	Have the youth played a significant role in		
	od governance cure Tenure		planning and implementing the organization		
	cure renure lequate shelter		activities?		
	her (Please specify)		YES/ NO. (Briefly explain)		
	her (please specify)				
	her (Please specify)				
5	Address Physical Location (Building Street) Post / Mailing address	14	Are the youth significantly represented in the governance and management structures of the organizations? YES/ NO. (Briefly explain)		
	Phone Fax				
	Email				
	Website address:	15	Has the organizations demonstrated linkages to adult Mentos/ adult led institutions?		
6 Contact person for the organization			YES/NO. (Briefly explain) Please specify the institutions		
7	Legal from				
8	When was the organization established/registered	16	Does the organizations reflect gender balance at the governance and staff levels?		
9	Current/ previous donors		YES/NO. (Briefly explain)		
	Donor Project Size of funding				
	funded				
	-				

