

Global Youth Microenterprise Conference

*Supporting Youth Entrepreneurs in the
World's Least Developed Countries (LDCs)*

David Woollcombe

11th September 2007 - Washington DC

1	<u><i>Afghanistan</i></u>	26	<u><i>Madagascar</i></u>
2	<u><i>Angola</i></u>	27	<u><i>Malawi</i></u>
3	<u><i>Banladesh</i></u>	28	<u><i>Maldives</i></u>
4	<u><i>Benin</i></u>	29	<u><i>Mali</i></u>
5	<u><i>Bhutan</i></u>	30	<u><i>Mauritania</i></u>
6	<u><i>Burkina Faso</i></u>	31	<u><i>Mozambique</i></u>
7	<u><i>Burundi</i></u>	32	<u><i>Myanmar</i></u>
8	<u><i>Cambodia</i></u>	33	<u><i>Nepal</i></u>
9	<u><i>Cape Verde</i></u>	34	<u><i>Niger</i></u>
10	<u><i>Central African Republic</i></u>	35	<u><i>Rwanda</i></u>
11	<u><i>Chad</i></u>	36	<u><i>Samoa</i></u>
12	<u><i>Comoros</i></u>	37	<u><i>São Tomé and Príncipe</i></u>
13	<u><i>Democratic Republic of the Congo</i></u>	38	<u><i>Senegal</i></u>
14	<u><i>Djibouti</i></u>	39	<u><i>Sierra Leone</i></u>
15	<u><i>Equatorial Guinea</i></u>	40	<u><i>Solomon Islands</i></u>
16	<u><i>Eritrea</i></u>	41	<u><i>Somalia</i></u>
17	<u><i>Ethiopia</i></u>	42	<u><i>Sudan</i></u>
18	<u><i>Gambia</i></u>	43	<u><i>Timor-Lesté</i></u>
19	<u><i>Guinea</i></u>	44	<u><i>Togo</i></u>
20	<u><i>Guinea-Bissau</i></u>	45	<u><i>Tuvalu</i></u>
21	<u><i>Haiti</i></u>	46	<u><i>Uganda</i></u>
22	<u><i>Kiribati</i></u>	47	<u><i>United Republic of Tanzania</i></u>
23	<u><i>Lao People's Democratic Republic</i></u>	48	<u><i>Vanuatu</i></u>
24	<u><i>Lesotho</i></u>	49	<u><i>Yemen</i></u>
25	<u><i>Liberia</i></u>	50	<u><i>Zambia</i></u>

Youth Led Development

Development Projects designed and implemented by people under 25

- **Youth Led Business Start-ups (YLBSUs)**
- **Youth Led Social Enterprise (YLSE)**
- **Youth Led Public Works (YLPW)**

World Youth Congress Series

- *1999 - Hawaii*
- *2003 - Morocco*
- *2005 - Scotland*
- *2008 - Canada*

CONGRESS QUESTION:

What is the most effective role that youth can play in the effort to make poverty history and achieve the Millennium Development Goals ?



Be the Change!

You must be the change
you want to see in the
world!



Peace Child International

- supporting young people to be successful -

Co-Management

“The way to measure success of youth participation with adults is to measure the extent to which the youth feel ownership of the project they are undertaking and - equally - the extent to which the adult partners feel satisfied by the contribution being made by the youth.”

www.co-management.info

MENTORSHIP in LDCs

- *Differential Mentorship*
 - *Local Business people*
 - *Local community leaders*
 - *Local university/secondary school grads*
 - *International Volunteers*

MRU-Youth Employment Forum



Prepared in partnership with 50 Youth Associations and NGOs of the region by Alpha Bacar Barry, MRU-YEF

The Challenge

- *4.5 millions young people need job*
- *The basic needs of millions of people in the region are not met (water supply, health and education)*
- *A fragile peace and insecure, unreliable (corrupt) political institutions*
- *A fragile business sector burdened by an oppressive regulatory environment*

Objectives



Active Citizens



Decent Jobs & Full Youth Employment



Peace & stability in the MRU



A growing economy

3 x Areas for Youth Employment

1. *The Private Sector (YLBS-Us)*
2. *Social enterprise*
3. *Public Works (LIIPs)*

Private sector



Agriculture



Fisheries



Food-processing



Services - IT, Legal, Accounts



Environment - Recycling Industries

Social enterprise



Health & Hygiene



Health Awareness Campaigns



Peer Education



Promotion of Volunteerism

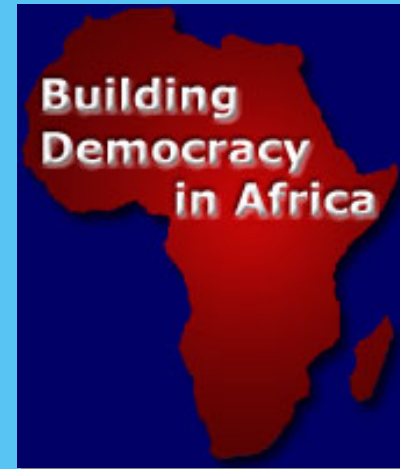
Public Works

Labour Intensive Infrastructure Projects



Other Key Elements of our Plan for Action

- Youth Commission on Good Governance
- A region-wide programme of awareness-raising about citizenship, democracy, human rights and sustainable development.



Other Key Elements of the Plan for Action

- *Gender Mainstreaming*
- *The Annual Summit*
(for evaluation & monitoring)





- **Inclusion of Youth with disabilities**



- **International Volunteers**
- **Exchange of skills & experience**

Other Key Elements of the Plan for Action



- The means of regional communication - press, radio, TV, internet
- Encourage Cross-border service provision
- Encourage tertiary study & research

Other Key Elements of the Plan for Action



- *Capacity-Building: A National Network of Job and Training Centres*



Other Key Elements of the Plan for Action



- *Cleaning up the Informal Sector*

Expansion of Financial Services throughout the Region

Goldman
Sachs

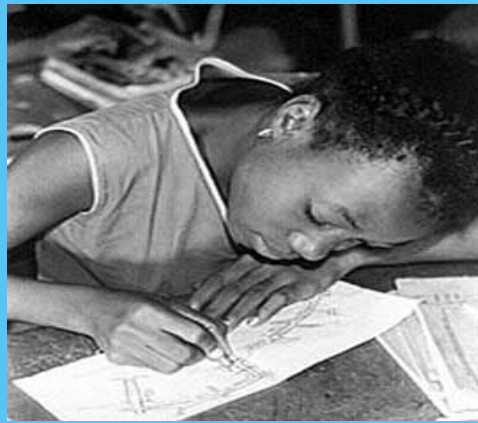
HSBC 

*Youth-friendly
financial services
that make
borrowing simple
and attractive to
Youth*

Other Key Elements of the Plan for Action

- *A caravan of ex-combattants*
- *A Travelling Trade Fair*





Africa's Greatest Resource is
its Young People
Lets invest in them!



CONCLUSION

Governments, Aid Agencies, Communities:

PLEASE! - PUT

YOUTH-LED DEVELOPMENT

AT THE HEART OF YOUR

DEVELOPMENT POLICIES