VOLUME 3 | JUNE 2007

IN THIS ISSUE:

- MESSAGE FROM Y-PEER.....1
- Y-PEER NEWS.....2
- CURRENTLY IN Y-PEER.....2-3
- EVENTS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES....3-4
- Y-PEER ANNOUNCEMENTS.....4
- DID YOU KNOW.....4

YNB

Y-PEER News Bulletin

Dear YPEERs,

The Y-PEER Network is bringing you this Y-PEER News Bulletin (YNB) to update you about our activities at the national and regional level, and to keep you motivated for our mandate: promoting behavior change of young people for the benefit of society.

As World Children's Day just recently passed and the Global G8 Summit is currently taking place, we reminded ourselves about the importance of youth participation into decision making and leadership processes. This is particularly important when addressing young people's sexual and reproductive needs and rights. We hope that some day young people will have a seat in these meetings as advocates for youth related issues.

Thanks & enjoy the YNB 3rd Edition.

Y-PEER Team

Prepared by Nazim Benchikh Y-PEER, Special Youth Program Fellow and Y-PEER Algeria Focal Point

Designed by Aleksandar Skundric, Special Youth Program Fellow

(Assistance provided by Ryan Dolan, Marija Vasileva-Blazev and Ziad Mikati)

Special thanks to Aleksandar Bodiroza & all Y-PEERs who provided their input

Y-PEER
Youth Peer Education Network

What is Y-PEER?
Y-PEER, or Youth Peer Education Network, is a groundbreaking, comprehensive youth-to-youth peer education initiative pioneered by UNFPA. Y-PEER is a network of organizations and institutions consisting of thousands of young people working in the broad areas of adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

Who is Y-PEER?
Members of Y-PEER are young people, active peer educators, trainers of trainers and youth advocates for adolescent sexual and reproductive health. They contribute to and benefit from the resource materials, tools, training programmes and campaigns through the Y-PEER network's web site, electronic communications and face-to-face meetings.

Where is Y-PEER?
The network was launched in Eastern Europe and Central Asia in 2000. Now it has spread to the Arab States (Middle East and North Africa) and some countries in East Africa (Tanzania and Kenya). To date, Y-PEER links more than 3.000 members from 39 countries in these regions.

1) Online Forum: The Power of the Media - Y-PEER Strategic Communication for Behavior Change Globally

The objective of this global discussion forum was to share effective strategies in the area of pop culture and youth-led media for sexual and reproductive health promotion, drawing on Y-PEER's expanded, innovative partnerships.

Moderated by Dr. Srdjan Stakic, a behavior change generalist and the Coordinator of Epidemiology and Public Health at the Yale Center for Public Health Preparedness, the forum consisted of six weekly discussion topics, each co-facilitated by an expert in the specific issue of the week's discussion.

If you didn't get a chance to participate in the discussion, you can review all the postings on the following website: http://www.infoforhealth.org/networks/youthandmedia

2) Y-PEER invited to the Global Forum on Youth and ICT for Development, 24 to 26 Sept 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland

The Global Forum will provide a platform for youth representatives from all over the world to meet with civil society, as well as their peers, policy-makers, and representatives from the private sector, to explore ways to empower their communities and to participate more fully in society through the appropriate and responsible use of information and communication technologies (ICT).
Related web site: http://www.un-gaid.org/gfyouth

Currently in Y-PEER »»

1) ToT in Neum

The ***Seventh Y-PEER Advanced Training of Trainers in Peer Education and Focal Points*** *is seven days away!*
It will take place in Neum, Bosnia and Herzegovina from 18 – 26th June 2007. The training will bring together 35 youth from 31 countries who are members of the Y-PEER Network for a unique opportunity of capacity building in planning, designing and delivering high quality peer education programmes in Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Arab States. Currently the training faculty team, in collaboration with the Y-PEER HQ and BiH CO staff, is putting together an exciting agenda while the participants are busy completing the CyberPeer certification as a pre-training requirement.

Contact: vasileva-blazev@unfpa.org

2) Y-PEER National Activities

- The official launch of Y-PEER Tajikistan will happen on June 12th. Public events for Y-PEER promotion, as well as training for 100 peer educators will officially welcome Y-PEER Tajikistan into the big Y-PEER Network. All activities are supported by UNFPA and the Global Fund. Contact: maksudova@y-peer.org

- A six-day Training of Trainers **is being organized by Y-PEER Uzbekistan. The Training will take place during the month of July in Tashkent.** This event will be organized by the Ministry of Education and UNFPA Uzbekistan. The training will bring together four representatives from five regions across Uzbekistan. After the training, participants will return to their regions where they will conduct three-day training. In addition, Y-PEER TOT Manual will be translated into the Uzbek language.

Contact: lily_of_valley@rambler.ru

- A six-day Y-PEER training was conducted in Somalia in collaboration with Y-PEER Kenya.
For more information contact: **jaurah@nope.or.ke**

- **Y-PEER Egypt** is organizing its first national ToT between 2-5 July in Cairo.
More than 20 participants shall attend the training representing youth organizations working in peer education from different communities and geographic areas.

The objectives of the training will include: launching of the Y-PEER Egypt as a network, building the capacity of these organizations, and creating a link between them to share experiences and skills.

For more information on the training and application forms, please send an email to hassan@y-peer.org or malah@y-peer.org

3) EXIT FESTIVAL 2007: Belgrade, Serbia

EXIT Fest 07 will present 65 famous music groups from 12 – 15 July, 2007, and is expected to draw a crowd of 500,000 over three days. Taking advantage of this large congregation of youth, Y-PEER Serbia and MTV's Staying Alive will host an array of activities focusing on HIV/AIDS prevention and sexual reproductive health, including a Y-PEER booth.

Y-PEERs main objective is to raise awareness, and among other activities, Focal Points and concert-goers will make their own "Say Condom" movie (visit www.saycondom.org for details), enforce good decision making as the "Condom Police", and distribute condoms, literature, t-shirts, and other promotional items. (visit www.exitfest.org for more information)

Y-PEER Participation:
Koray Serin (Turkey) serin@y-peer.org,
Hamza Oukili (Morocco) oukili@y-peer.org, Irina Janevska (Macedonia) irina.janevska@undp.org,
Milena Zaharieva (Bulgaria) zaharieva@unfpa.org, Nour-Al-Rasheed (Jordan) alrasheed@y-peer.org

Events and Training Opportunities »

1) Mediterranean Crossroads 6-10 June, 2007, Monopoli, Puglia, Italia

The main objectives of this conference are: to raise awareness about young migrants; to reflect on the causes and effects of migration (to both the host countries and countries of origin); to discuss European integration and inclusion; to explore and promote good practices for including migrants and refugees; and to raise awareness on the themes of the campaign in the Mediterranean http://alldifferent-allequal.info/

Y-PEER Participation:
Naida Kucukalic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) <kucukalic@y-peer.org>

2) World YWCA Council and International Women's Summit, July 4-7, 2007 Nairobi, Kenya

The World YWCA, in partnership with the International Community of Women Living with HIV and AIDS (ICW) and other international organizations, will convene an unprecedented international conference on women's leadership on HIV and AIDS.

Y-PEER Participation:
Nessryne Jelalia (Tunisia) <Jelalia jelalia@y-peer.org>, Fatma Hacioglu (Turkey) <hacioglu@y-peer.org>, Tamara Abbadi (Jordan) <abbadi@y-peer.org>

SPECIAL: 48Fest 2007! MTV is looking for youth delegates attending the World YWCA Council and International Women's Summit from July 2nd - 5th to take part in a short film festival! More information at NEWS and http://www.worldywca.info/index.php/ywca/world_council_07/iws_women_s_summit

3) Regional SEE Youth Summit on HIV/AIDS prevention: Novi Sad, Vojvodina, Serbia 8 – 12th July 2007

The Summit will gather guests from 10 South-East Europe countries which will present and exchange their programs and experience over the 4 days.

4) Summer Course on Gender, Ethnicity and Democracy, 9-22 July, 2007 Bitola, Macedonia

This course will analyze the processes of transition and democratization, with a particular focus on the gender perspective.
www.academictraining.org

5) Global Women's Leadership in HIV/AIDS Workshop July 16 – Aug. 10, 2007 Washington, DC, USA

The workshop offers up-to-date technical knowledge on the epidemic and its impact on various populations, and highlights successful approaches to HIV prevention, voluntary counseling and testing, care and support, and access to and adherence to antiretroviral treatment. http://www.cedpa.org/section/training/aids_leadership

Y-PEER Participation:
Wesam Adel Mohamed Hassan (Egypt) <hassan@y-peer.org>

Y-PEER Announcements »

1) We are glad to announce the new Peer of the Month!

Mirza Dedic comes from **Y-PEER Bosnia and Herzegovina**. He started as a volunteer in a local NGO which is very popular among youth and is one of the biggest in his town. He finished his first peer education workshops in 2004 and the year after he participated in the big National Training of peer educators. **Congratulations Mirza!**

2) New Edition of the Y-PEER Newsletter

We are glad to announce the development of the new issue of the Y-PEER Newsletter. This issue will focus on Youth Pop Culture, Media and HIV/AIDS and our Guest Editor will be Mr. Rupert Springfield, Communication Coordinator of the project "Dance4Life".

3) To contribute to this Y-*PEER News Bulletin* - **YNB**

Please send any national or international information you think may be of interest to your fellow Y-PEER educators.
Don't hesitate to send us an email to **info@y-peer.org**

Did You Know? »

*AIDS at the G8: As the world's leaders meet this week in Heiligendamm, Germany for the 2007 Group of Eight (G8) Summit, UNAIDS urges bold and decisive leadership from G8 countries on AIDS issues.

*UNFPA Campaign to End Fistula: About the Campaign; Who is Campaign's Spokesperson? and more @ http://www.unfpa.org/news/news.cfm?ID=965

*International AIDS Society announces the Report of the Evaluation of the XVI IAC held in Toronto 2006: http://www.iasociety.org/Web/WebContent/File/Old/PDF/1339.pdf

United Nations Population Fund
220 East 42nd Street, 20th floor, New York City NY 10017
Phone +1 212 297 2703
Fax +1 212 297 4905
Email info@y-peer.org