



✓ *In Today's Bulletin*

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✓ *UPCOMING EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 2018*

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
1 December 2018	World AIDS Day	Melaka, Malaysia
3 December 2018	International Day of Persons with Disabilities	Melaka, Malaysia
5 December 2018	International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development	Melaka, Malaysia
9 December 2018	International Anti - Corruption Day	Melaka, Malaysia
10 December 2018	Human Right Day	Melaka, Malaysia
18 December 2018	International Migrants Day	Melaka, Malaysia
20 December 2018	International Human Solidarity Day	Melaka, Malaysia



✓ BOTSWANA: YOUTH EXPECT NEW OPPORTUNITIES FROM CHINA-AFRICA INITIATIVES

Gaborone, 12 November 2018 - BOTSWANA's young people are inspired by China-Africa initiatives on the African development, expecting new opportunities and better jobs for them and changes in the southern African country.

Masego Maifala, a 25 year old worker in the capital Gaborone, said he enjoys working together with the Chinese fellows in his clothing factory. "They always come up with solutions for almost all challenges we face in the factory and they also understand the rules easily," he said.

But Maifala was also among the hundreds of young Batswana who attended the 2018 Diamond Symposium that opened on Saturday. The symposium is dubbed a catalyst for entrepreneurship. Botswana is known for its rich diamond resources.

Young people like Maifala at the symposium feel

inspired by the joint initiatives with China on Africa's development outlined in early September during the 2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

They believed new opportunities and changes will come along with the initiatives to be carried out from 2019 to 2021. They expected the planned promotion of industrial development; capacity building and people to people exchanges will help Botswana a lot, which currently sells rough diamonds only, far from realizing the sector's high added value.

Tebogo Moloi, 24, a civil engineering graduate from the University of Botswana, thought that with industrial promotion, more Chinese enterprises will come, bringing investment and more jobs.

In his hometown of Francistown, the country's second-largest city located

some 430 km northeast of Gaborone, a Chinese company has built a state-of-the-art interchange known locally as the "spaghetti road," he said, and many high-rise buildings are emerging there.

"I'm currently working with a Chinese construction company. And some of my friends are now working with Chinese companies in different types of projects," said Moloi.

He praised as remarkable the progress made in infrastructure development, textile industry, and information technology among others, thanks to the Chinese investment and enterprises.

"However, little is being realized in the diamond sector. We are looking forward to our government working with the Chinese in driving diversification and value addition in the diamond sector," Moloi added.

People engaged in the

import business of jewelry products from countries like China and India also hope the Africa-China initiative on trade facilitation will enable them to earn more.

Then, "I think it is also going to make it easy for me to get products from here or China at a very cheaper price," said Thato Masupe.

The 32-year-old businesswoman also wants to make jewelry, saying this can accelerate the transaction process to better meet the demands of her clients, and that she needs machinery and a Chinese business partner.

Businessman Lorato Edward said he hopes that trade facilitation will help Botswana's importers and exporters to establish a direct link with the Chinese producers and buyers.

[Xinhua]

✓ MALAWI: ACB SLOTS IN YOUTHS IN FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

Lilongwe, 21 November 2018 - IN an effort to create a corrupt free Malawi, the Anti-corruption Bureau ACB has incorporated youths as one of the pillars in the fight against corruption in the country.

This was said in Lilongwe on Tuesday during a press briefing organized by the bureau on the reviewing of the National Anti-Corruption Strategic Plan.

Speaking to Malawi24, Director General for ACB

Reyneck Matemba said youths have a greater role to play in combating corruption in the country hence incorporating the group as a standalone pillar for the sustainability of the fight against corruption.

"The youths are in the majority, this tends to be the crucial pillar in the National anti-corruption Strategy hence highlighting them in the plan so as to fight corruption at all angles," said Matemba. On how other pillars have

performed in the past years, Matemba applauded Civil Society Organizations for helping the country to prevent corruption and he asked for collaborative efforts in fighting the vice.

"There is zeal among CSOs in the fight against corruption hence the need for consulted efforts in the fight against corruption in the country.

"However, we ask the CSOs not to be confrontational when approaching various

cases but handle issues in a professional manner and in so doing, the country will benefit greatly," said Matemba.

He added that the bureau has got over 300 cases being processed.

Matemba then applaud the newly formed consortium by Malawi Law Society, Youth and Society and Centre for Human Rights and Rehabilitation aimed at fighting the vice saying this will help in investigating other cases.



✓ ZAMBIA: PROMOTION OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG YOUTHS, PRIORITY

Lusaka, 12 November 2018

- MINISTER of Youth and Sport Moses Mawere says government is prioritizing the promotion of entrepreneurship among the youths.

Mr Mawere said government fully supports the global entrepreneurship week which aims at exposing young people to benefits of entrepreneurship through different activities and also to motivate them to explore their own entrepreneurial ideas.

He explained that since its creation in 2008, more than 10 million people from 102 countries have participated in entrepreneurial-related activities during the Youth Entrepreneurship Week.

Mr Mawere said this yesterday when he officiated at the workshop on entrepreneurship, organised by the Lusaka Youth Resource Centre, the National Youth Development Council (NYDC) and the Technical Education Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority (TEVETA).

“Around the world, researchers and policy makers engage in discussions to examine the underlying policies necessary to promote entrepreneurial growth.

This is more than just an awareness campaign. It is a platform for connection and collaboration, engaging all players along the entrepreneurship spectrum in strengthening ecosystems around the world”, he said.

Mr Mawere disclosed that

his Ministry has continued to establish youth resource centres, such as the Lusaka youth resource centre to provide skills training to youth for both formal employment and self-employment.

The theme for this year’s global entrepreneurship week is “recognising women, youth and inclusion in entrepreneurship”.

[Lusaka Times]

NEWS



✓ BERMUDA: ARGUS DONATION TO YOUTH COUNSELLING PROJECT

Hamilton, 19 November 2018 - THE Argus Group has donated \$15,000 to Family Centre in support of its Youth Development Zone counselling programme.

The YDZ is a community initiative launched in 2011 that offers services to the youth population living in North East Hamilton. Family Centre provides YDZ with child and family counselling and, by end of last September, had worked with 77 families. In addition to counselling, Family Centre helps to coordinate other services for

YDZ children and their families, including collaboration with Bermuda Police Service, Bermuda Economic Development Corporation, Bermuda Coalition, Workforce Development, Salvation Army, Mirrors, Team Street Safe and a local church representative. According to a press release, these efforts help to ensure that social services are more accessible to residents living in the North East Hamilton area.

Martha Dismont, executive director of Family Centre, stated: "I would like to thank Argus for being a

loyal supporter of the Family Centre year after year. For us to be accessible to the communities that we serve, we rely on generous donations from sponsors. Without them, we couldn't have the impact that we do."

Lauren Bell, executive vice-president of Life and Pensions at the Argus Group, and a member of the Argus Group's Charitable Donations Committee, stated: "Our core values include integrity, fairness, excellence, respect, professionalism and

teamwork. We believe that it is only fair for everyone to have access to professional services like the counselling that Family Centre provides.

"Their YDZ programme involves teamwork with partners throughout the community to ensure families who otherwise would not have access to important services can do so.

[Royal Gazette]

✓ CANADA: HEALTH PREVENTING PROBLEMATIC SUBSTANCE USE IN YOUTH

Ottawa, 24 November 2018 - PROBLEMATIC use of alcohol, cannabis and opioids is a serious issue in Canada. The more than 8,000 deaths from opioid poisoning since 2016 are preventable deaths. More deaths can be stopped with our collective action.

"We have an opportunity and an obligation to come together to prevent problematic substance use from impacting future generations.

We need to collaborate across all sectors to improve policies that can protect youth and provide them with information on the harms and risks of using substances.

To tackle this problem and to save lives, we must maintain, expand and evolve efforts across sectors and society.

Today, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada's Chief Public Health Officer, released her

annual report on the State of Public Health in Canada. This year's report provides a snapshot of the health status of Canadians and then explores problematic substance use in youth with a focus on prevention. Dr. Tam will launch her report this afternoon at the Canadian Mental Health Association's national conference in Montreal, Quebec.

While many youth experiment with using drugs and alcohol, some use these substances in ways that are harmful to themselves and others.

Intervening early to counteract the risk factors of problematic use among youth offers the best chance of having a positive influence on a young person's development and in reducing long-term harms to them and to society as a whole.

There is no single cause of problematic substance use

in youth, so preventing it will require strong collaboration among many sectors of society.

A comprehensive approach includes marketing restrictions, reduced availability, and the provision of stable housing, supportive education, and accessible social and mental health supports.

These will help youth thrive and prevent the harmful use of substances.

"I thank Dr. Tam for her report and support her call to undertake a coordinated approach across sectors to prevent problematic substance use among youth in Canada.

Protecting our youth is one of the main reasons the Government of Canada strictly regulates substances like alcohol, cannabis and opioids," comments Ginette Petitpas Taylor, the federal Minister of Health.

"The Canadian Mental

Health Association is pleased to see that the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada is endorsing a strong public health approach in her new report, which outlines how we can all best support young people to make healthy choices that contribute to their mental wellness.

This approach will support the promotion of mental health throughout all stages of a person's life and a family's development, and help balance the existing clinical focus on mental illness only after it's become acute" states Dr. Patrick Smith, National CEO, Canadian Mental Health Association.

[Toronto Star]



✓ CHILE: CHILE TO HOST WORLD CONGRESS OF SCIENTIFIC YOUTH

Santiago de Chile, 13 November 2018 - THE University of Santiago De Chile (USACH) will host the 9th World Congress of Scientific Youth from November 15-19, with the participation of a hundred exhibitors from 18 countries.

The event, which will be organized jointly by USACH and the International Federation of

Scientific Societies, will be attended by specialists from NASA and the two-time participant of the Nobel Peace Prize, Mexican Ana Maria Cetto.

Towards a more human science, is the conclave slogan which is held every two years and for the first time has Chile as its main host.

Adriana Ocampo, director

of NASA's New Horizons Program, and NASA exoplanet specialist Mario Perez will also be at the event.

According to the top university center, the meeting will address issues such as climate change, electro mobility, migration and gender, through workshops and conversations.

By opening a space for the promotion and exchange of different disciplines, the University greatly contributes to the strengthening of knowledge in Latin America, said the Vice Rector of USACH, Dr. Julio Romero Figueroa.

[La Prensa]

✓ JAMAICA: AVASANT SCALES UP ITS YOUTH DIGITAL EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

Kingston, 12 November 2018 - TO support the development of the BPO industry in Jamaica, the Avasant Foundation and partners are scaling up the Avasant Youth Digital Employment Initiative.

The aim of the new programme is to train between 500 and 800 high potential youth to participate in the country's BPO sector, which aims to add 30,000 jobs by 2020.

Jamaica is implementing a strategy to become a nearshore location for the IT and Business Process (BPO) industry. The sector has seen steady growth in recent years, up 15% annually.

To further support the industry's growth, and to help reduce Jamaica's severe youth unemployment rate of about 26%, the Avasant Youth Digital Employment Initiative was launched in 2015.

The initiative is the brainchild of the Avasant Foundation, the charity arm of global management consulting and outsourcing

advisory firm Avasant, and Xerox.

The six-week programme aimed to support 30 youth, primarily disadvantaged but high potential youth, to gain the professional skills necessary for a career in ICT-enabled work.

The programme has thus far trained a total of 123 youth in Kingston and Montego Bay, Jamaica. More than half of whom have already secure positions at partner organisations, with most of the rest in the on boarding or interview stage.

As part of the development of the wider BPO industry in Jamaica, the Jamaica Promotion Corporation (JAMPRO) aims to create around 30,000 jobs in the Jamaican Business Process industry by 2020.

To support JAMPRO fill the positions, the Avasant Foundation, and its partners such as Jamaica's University of Technology*, are scaling up the training programme, under the FUTURE JAMAICA banner.

The programme will equip between 500 and 800 people with the ICT skills

necessary to work in the country's growing BPO sector - among others.

ChitraRajeshwari, Executive Director of Avasant Foundations, remarks, "I am extremely proud of all 123 students who have graduated through our skills training program and are already working or soon to be employed in the contact center industry.

Now they can look ahead to a brighter future. I am very grateful to the BPO industry who believed in our program and our youth."

Professor Rosalea Hamilton who leads UTech's Community Service and Development Division reflects, "This Avasant Foundation initiative addresses the needs of our communities, especially our at-risk young women who need help to pursue opportunities to create income now and into the future."

[The Guardian]



✓ PERU: YOUTH GROUP HELPS PERU FOOD PANTRY

Lima, 11 November 2018 -

[Peru this Week]

WHILE the -30F wind chill put a damper on the outside Peru Winterfest activities, it was still a productive Saturday inside the Peru Community Center.

Members of the Friends on a Mission youth group used the morning to sort and fold more than a thousand plastic bags, to be used by those people served by the Servant's Heart Food Pantry.

Both programs are part of the United Baptist Church of Peru.

Food pantry Director Brenda Swan said the bags are brought in by people making food donations that keep the program operating. Hours here are 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday and 9 to 11 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month.

The service project is part of the youth group's effort while fasting for 30 hours in order to raise money for hungry children through World Vision's 30-Hour Famine event.

Cathy Hezelton, who has directed the youth group since 2000, said there were nine youths participating in the 30-hour famine program, in which the young people learn about the children they are helping as well as doing local service projects.

She said evidence of the positive way this program affects the youth group is that former members Seth Tacheny, Vernan Farrar and Briant Hunt returned Saturday to assist with their service project.

NEWS



✓ INDIA: YOUTH SEE JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN FOOD DELIVERY BUSINESS

New Delhi , 29 November 2018 - THE teaching profession is getting a tough competition from online food delivery platforms such as Zomato, Swiggy and Food panda, as a delivery executive is making more moolah than a teacher once earned under a state-level scheme.

A full-time 'delivery boy' at Zomato is paid around Rs 12,000 per month for a 10-hour shift in a city like Jalandhar.

Besides the salary, he gets incentives by achieving delivery targets. An enterprising young man can easily make up to Rs 20,000 per month, executives working in the company said.

Until recently, the teachers recruited under the Pendu Sehyogi Teacher scheme in Punjab were

drawing a monthly salary of Rs 6,000 per month. Their services have been regularised recently with new pay scale.

These online platforms also provide part-time job opportunities for students, who can undertake the job of food delivery on weekends and during in the night shift.

Companies pay about Rs 1,100 to a delivery boy for week-end jobs.

Corporatisation of food delivery has made the profession more organised. These firms are also providing gainful employment to the youth. Companies prefer local youth because of their familiarity with the assigned localities.

According to Zomato spokesperson in Jalandhar, each delivery boy is given a

radius of 5 km. "Currently, Zomato is operational in only two major circles of the city Model Town and Shastri market. The company is planning to expand in other circles.

It, therefore, needs more employees," the spokesperson said. Within five months of its expansion in Jalandhar, Zomato has hired about 700 young men.

Manjit Singh, 27, who is not satisfied with his current job due to meagre salary, plans to join Zomato. He said the district employment exchange had failed to provide him a remunerative job.

"Anyone who has a driver's licence, a two-wheeler and is well-versed in using 4G-Android phone, can become a delivery executive," said an employer at Zomato. Usually, food delivery

executives get paid on an hourly basis and the flexible-hour shift suits them. Besides handsome salaries, delivery executives are also being given incentives for delivering orders during the peak hours and in bad weather conditions such as rains.

Incentives, however, differ from platform to platform.

These food delivery apps have undoubtedly created a highly targeted platform for restaurant owners to market their products to customers who are looking for meal options.

Almost every famous restaurant and eatery junction, including famous 'dhabas' have partnered with these platforms.

[The Tribune]

✓ INDONESIA: YOUTH MINISTRY URGES YOUNGSTERS TO BECOME INFLUENCERS

Jakarta, 25 November 2018 - CELEBRATING National Heroes Day, Deputy Ministry of Youth Development, Indonesian Ministry of Youth and Sports (Kemenpora), invited Indonesian youths to demonstrate the spirit of millennial heroes, or "Pemuda Zaman Now."

To excel the characteristic of millennial heroes, Kemenpora have initiated numerous programs, such as technology, art, culture, and entrepreneurship that aligned with the main theme of 2018 National Heroes Day in Indonesia, "Semangat Pahlawan di Dadaku."

"In today's digital era, young generation, including students and future leaders, now bear heavier burden to build this Nation.

In order to continue the goodwill of our national heroes and Indonesia's founding fathers, we need to optimise our creativity and innovation to create positive and constructive breakthroughs," said Imam Nahrawi, Indonesian Minister of Youth and Sports.

They are also invited to become influencers in their community, to inspire people on how to use social media platform wisely. All positive efforts include

sharing knowledge and expertise among young generation, as well as telling stories of Indonesia's heroes through millennial language to engage more with the youths.

"Young generation needs to fill the gaps in the social media with smart, constructive, and positive thoughts. In the coming years, these efforts will effectively create a more prosperous nation in Indonesia," added Imam Nahrawi.

To succeed the spirit of a true hero through social media, Kemenpora through Deputy Ministry of Youth Development, has also

initiated Literacy Program for the Use of Social Media, Millennial Innovation as well as Discussion as parts of the Millennial Youth Literacy Program.

The Millennial Youth Literacy Program is a program by Kemenpora to nurture the entrepreneurial spirit among young generation in Indonesia, some of which are through literacy and knowledge sharing of entrepreneurship and investment.



“These efforts aim to support all good potential of Indonesia’s youths, as the largest and diverse community. Moreover, they’re now facing challenges, to navigate the digital onslaught of the information age.

Thus, we need to give the right assistance for them, to succeed an inspiring millennial hero character in their communities,” said Imam Nahrawi.

To support the spirit of millennial hero, Kemenpora through the Deputy Ministry of Youth Development also launched

the Youth Entrepreneurship Development Workshop in Indonesia, which currently has spawned hundreds of entrepreneurial heroes in across cities in Indonesia.

The program includes entrepreneurial training, funding, and mentoring to start a business.

Kemenpora has also awarded 39 youths in Indonesia as entrepreneur heroes that were selected through their creativity in building the nation through business innovation.

The workshop has been developed to widespread community, including all

santri or Islamic boarding school students in Indonesia.

“They are now being one of the cornerstones of the country’s economy.

Hence, a santri must have an economically independent attitude.

Moreover, entrepreneurial development is not only for pursuing profit, but also aiming to create good personality and leadership that needed to develop our country.

Through this community, we are optimistic to realize

a new character of hero, to succeed the economic growth in Indonesia,” said Asrorun Ni’am Sholeh, deputy minister of Youth Development.

Asrorun added that the millennial hero is no longer defined as freedom march to fight for independence.

“They may come from any field, such as business, tourism, art, culture, and sports; as long as they carved out positive contribution to Indonesia.”

[Marketing Interactive]

✓ MALAYSIA: WORLD’S FIRST COMMONWEALTH YOUTH CITY

Tanjung Milam, 28 November 2018 - LAUNCHED as the first Commonwealth Youth City in the world.

Set to be the Youth City of Asean, 3.6ha of land has been identified for the building of the Commonwealth Youth Council and Commonwealth Youth Network headquarters which will commence in two years.

The Youth City, launched by Deputy State Speaker Aminudin Zulkipli, will consist of an innovation hub, business hotel, SOHO suites and affordable homes for youths.

Among its key components are the Commonwealth Innovation Centre and Youth Council Global Secretariat.

The city will include high-technology systems, including blockchain, artificial intelligence, big data and other futuristic

features.

It will be built on existing public infrastructures and facilities, and in collaboration with the Government, government-linked companies, the private sector and civil society.

Britain’s Prince Charles had first announced that Tanjung Malim would be made a Commonwealth Youth City during his visit to Malaysia in November last year.

In his speech, Aminudin said one of its aims was to reduce migration rate of youths from rural areas to big cities, as well as improve the standards of living and development in semi-urban areas. He said there would be opportunities for youths to improve themselves for better employment and entrepreneurship.

“The development of the city will incorporate

advances in digital technology and new thinking in the age-old city concepts of relationships, community, environmental sustainability, participatory democracy, good governance and transparency.

“The Commonwealth Youth City initiative will also be developed in several Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth countries to create a network of youth cities which will be known as Youth City Community,” added Aminudin.

“I am looking forward to this community, which will enhance integration of Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth members, allowing them to be more socially, economically, environmentally and politically engaged.”

Commonwealth Youth City global chairman Kishva Ambigapathy said the city

would allow rural and urban youths to use creativity in resolving local and global development issues.

“The network with other cities across the Commonwealth and beyond will provide an enriching approach to knowledge transfer across borders and strengthen ties between one another,” he said.

The launch was witnessed by dignitaries and delegates from the United Kingdom, United States, China, Russia, Pakistan, Malta, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Australia, India, Ghana and Bahrain.

[Metro News]



✓ PAKISTAN: YOUTH URGED TO LEARN MODERN ENTREPRENEURSHIP TECHNIQUES

Islamabad, 18 November 2018 - Dr. S. M Junaid Zaidi Executive Director Executive, Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), has emphasised equipping youth with modern techniques of entrepreneurship so that may be helpful in creating job opportunities for other young people.

He was interacting with the members of organising committee, ambassadors and bloggers of International Students Convention and Expo 2018 at COMSATS headquarters Islamabad. Dr. Afzal Rao, former vice chancellor of the Islamia University Bahawalpur was also present on the occasion. He said that he was pleased to learn that first ever International Student Convention is being organized in Pakistan.

It is hoped that this mega activity would provide an opportunity to the educated youth for deliberating over the common challenges by sharing their strengths. He remarked that Young people have a crucial role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

About 700 million youth, 60% of people aged between 15 and 24 live in Asia and the Pacific. 20 targets across six SDGs are strongly focused on youth: zero hunger, quality education, gender quality, decent work & economic growth, reduced inequalities and climate action.

He stressed upon need to encourage active participation of youth in every sphere of life especially in achieving the desired level of sustainable socio-economic development. He hoped that a special session on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

would highlight the effective role of youth in this regard.

He said that as COMSATS was partnering in organising this international activity in Pakistan, he assured utmost cooperation in hosting this mega activity at Islamabad.

Sharing the main features of the activity, Murtaza Noor National Coordinator Inter University Consortium for Promotion of Social Sciences Pakistan informed that International Student Convention (ISC) and Expo scheduled to be held on 11-13th December, 2018 at Islamabad under the theme of "Securing our future".

The main objectives of this mega activity includes revitalizing the crucial role of youth towards development, peace building, and achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) The ISC Convention and Expo 2018 would offer a unique

opportunity for Pakistani youth constituting of 64% of the population, to interact with their international peers and discuss youth issues.

There will be interesting composition of participants, hailing from more than 30 countries creating a diverse learning experience. The minimum footfall is expected to touch 40,000 excited visitors visiting various pavilions, stalls of different universities and other related organizations. More than 30 sessions and competitions related to youth issues have been designed to ensure maximum participation of students.

In addition, a special supplement covering profile/programmes and advertisements of the partner/ participant organisations will also be published.

[The News International]

✓ QATAR: SURVEY FINDS MORE YOUTH QUITTING SMOKING IN QATAR

Doha, 19 November 2018 - IN a positive development, habit of smoking has reduced among the youth in Qatar according to the latest Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS).

The survey has revealed that 12.1% of youth from ages 13 to 15 years smoke tobacco in Qatar.

The prevalence of smoking among youth in Qatar was 15 % in 2013 and 17.9% in 2007.

It was 20% in 2004. "We are working harder to reduce the prevalence of

smoking.

We are looking to see a 90 percent non smoking population," said Dr Sheikh Mohamed bin Hamad Al Thani, Director of Public Health Department at MoPH addressing a press conference yesterday.

"The Public Health Department is committed to continue reduce the smoking habit among youth, encourage more youth to seek quitting service, enhance family and community support when it comes to implementing the

law and do more researches," he added.

He also said that once the tax on tobacco products is increased it will become harder for the youth to get the products as the prices become high. Also with more inspections the shops will be under steady surveillance.

GYTS, a component of the Global Tobacco Surveillance system (GTSS), is a global standard for systematically monitoring youth tobacco use (smoking and smokeless) and tracking key tobacco control indicators.

GYTS was conducted in Qatar this year by the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH). A total of 2,328 Qatari and non Qatari students in grades 7 to 9 responded to the survey, of which 1,608 were aged 13 -15 years.

Dr Kholod Al Mutawa, Consultant Public Health, Head of Non Communicable Diseases, MoPH and Dr Amani Elkhathatim, Specialist Physician, Non Communicable Diseases also explained about the trends of reflected by the survey.



According to the law in Qatar tobacco can be sold to only to those above the age of 18.

But Among the respondents to the survey 69.1% cigarette smokers who tried to buy cigarettes were not prevented from buying them because of their age.

“We have regular inspections at the shops but they won’t be able to reach all the supermarkets and small shops regularly.

Although, the minimum age to get tobacco products is 18 but some people get it through illegal practices as some of the small shop still keep selling it,” said Dr Elkhathatim.

“Any violation to the law can be reported the hotline 50302001.

Anyone who sells tobacco products to those below the age of 18 will have to go through the legal process,” she added. GYTS is conducted in every five years and it was held for the fourth time in Qatar this year.

[The Peninsula Qatar]

NEWS



✓ GERMANY: YOUTH BETWEEN MARGINALIZATION AND CONTRIBUTION

Berlin, 18 November 2018 - THE Don Bosco Forum in Bonn provided a platform for more than 400 guests to discuss social marginalization of youngsters.

“It is our goal as Don Bosco to get youngsters out of isolation” emphasized the managing directors of Don Bosco Mondo (Christian Osterhaus) and of Don Bosco Mission Bonn (Nelson Penedo).

Hundreds of young and long-term members of Don Bosco institutions worldwide, interested parties and representatives from politics and society attended the meeting at the University of Bonn. At the end of the Don Bosco Forum the participants of the prior scheduled International Youth Conference presented the results on the topic “Marginalization”. 40 teenagers from Europe and the Middle East were

searching for ways out of radicalization. They presented the Forum with a video pleading for more tolerance and peace. In addition, their dancing performance served as an impressive testimonial of the meaning of marginalization.

The teenagers experienced the encounter with participants from diverse countries as enrichment. One female attendee concluded: “the more we know about each other, the more tolerant we become.”

Father Thomas Koshy (SDB), Director of the Don Bosco National Forum for the Young at Risk (YAR) with headquarters in New Delhi, is aware of the meaning of marginalization of the young. Roughly ten million children live in the streets in his home country India. For decades he has been promoting the welfare of street children.

Education is an important key to success.

The caste system constitutes a major problem in India demanding a strict separation of social classes.

Accordingly, the so-called “untouchables” are excluded from society being forced into doing menial work such as toilet cleaning and trash disposal. Fr Koshy laments a culture of exclusion preventing progress.

There are also many youngsters in Germany who are marginalized encountering rejection. “There is one form of emotional marginalization which leaves young people heavily scarred”, Simon Härting (SDB) stated, the educational director of the Don Bosco Youth Aid Center in Sannerz close by Fulda.

“We had one boy with us who was rejected by his parents, grandparents, by

his entire family. Nobody wanted to be in contact with him.

As a protective measure, he built armor, also physically. We did not manage to establish a relationship with him for a year, this being the most important factor we must build up a relationship with the youngster.”

“Sometimes we reach our physical limits when the youngsters become aggressive or offensive which can hit us also physically.

It is important to be well protected and to keep the focus on what is doable and what not. Regardless, Don Bosco always facilitates a fresh start over.

We adhere by our familiar quotation, “In case of a doubt, we grant a tenth chance.”

[The Guardian

✓ NETHERLANDS: YOUNG PEOPLE LEARN LIFE LESSONS BY TACKLING CHALLENGES

Geneva, 8 November 2018 - MODERN life being what it is, it is sometimes hard to imagine being out on your own, stranded on a remote island with just enough food and water to survive.

Such exercises, though, do build character in people, and that’s the sort of training Oman Sail is giving the next generation of Omani leaders.

Their Khazan youth programme, run in association with BP, began three years ago and has trained over 1,700 Omanis

from local universities.

We did research on what was missing in people in Oman, and found that skills such as leadership, communication, planning and self-motivation were needed,” said Khamis Al Anboori, head of Oman Sail’s Corporate and Personal Development arm.

The programme runs for three days, and we have about six teams of eight students in each batch,” he added. We give them a challenge on the first day and ask them to solve it.

What is important is what they learn here.

We don’t just look at how quickly they completed the activity, but also measure teamwork, communication and participation.”

We were given a piece of wood and asked to cross a stretch of water to get to the other side,” said Taymora Al Ghawi from the Ibri College of Applied ScieMy teammates and I had to figure out the best way to cross the water and get to land, because you can only stay afloat for so long.

This activity taught us to measure distances between two places, and how to get there in the safest possible manner and shortest possible time,” she added.

We went through another exercise where we were only given a limited portion of supplies in a very remote part of the beach and asked to survive there, making do with what we had.



After seeing the changes in my personality because of this course, my parents want my brother and sister to take part as well," said Anwaar Al Bamani, another student.

My parents are very proud of all that I have learned

here," added Ahmed Al Balushi, a student. "They are happy that I am getting to learn such things and imbibing leadership and teamwork skills which will help me in the future."

We want people to choose

their jobs in the future because they are good at it, not because their fathers or friends want them to," said Al Anboori.

Together we have a built a unique programme," added David Graham, CEO of

Oman Sail.

We are all convinced this will have a positive and enduring effect across the Sultanate in the years to come."

[Times of Oman]

✓ ROMANIA: BANCPOST SENDS YOUNG ROMANIAN IT SPECIALISTS

Bucharest, 6 of November 2018 - BANCPOST sends the most talented IT specialists from Romania to the competition "Beyond Hackathon" dedicated to young IT specialists (software developer, designer, marketer, business developer), an event to be held between 17-19 March 2017 in Athens.

The Bank supports thus the IT industry, offering young talents real chances to national and international recognition.

The competition aims to promote innovative ideas and projects which can make a difference in the field of financial services and products and can thus

influence the future of banking.

Beyond Hackathon is now at its second edition and is organised by Eurobank Group in a partnership with Foundation M.P. and The Cube Workspace M.I.K.E. and with Eurobank Group subsidiaries in the region Bancpost SA (Romania), Eurobank Bulgaria AD and Eurobank Cyprus Ltd.

This year's novelty is that start-ups may also participate in the competition - companies in this field with maximum 5 years' experience.

During three days IT specialists - programmers,

software developers, designers and business developers - will participate in workshops held by international leaders in FinTech and will have the opportunity to interact with experts in various fields (business, design, technology and communications).

The final objective is to generate innovative ideas which can materialise in future banking products and services.

First 10 Romanian specialists registered in the competition will benefit from free participation (within the limit of 500 Euro/participant), according to terms and conditions of

the campaign „Bancpost sends you to Beyond Hackathon”.

In the end participants will be able to present their ideas before a jury, and the first three projects will be granted money awards (€5,000, €3,000 and €2,000 respectively), as well as the opportunity to implement the projects with Eurobank support.

[The Daily Star]

✓ SPAIN: EDUCATION STRIKE FOR BETTER FUTURE OF SPAIN'S YOUTH

Madrid, 9 November 2018 - F.E.CC.OO., FeSP-UGT and STEs-Intersindical, the ETUCE member organisations in Spain, together with students and parents are organising the education strike to demand the Spanish authorities to:

- repeal RD 14/2012 that leads to severe cuts in the Spanish education sector;

- withdraw the appeal to the Constitutional Court against the cessation of the LOMCE;

-repeal the LOMCE that

fosters inequality in education and leads to segregation in Spanish society;

reverse cuts in the education sector and improve education personnel's working conditions; guarantee collective bargaining on all issues affecting education personnel;

- involve education social partners in the negotiations on an Education Pact.

Dissatisfied education

personnel, students and teachers are protesting against education personnel's precarious working conditions, low salaries or salaries that have been frozen for several years, large classroom sizes and dismissals in Spain that pose a severe threat to the future of the teaching profession in Spain and jeopardise the future of Spain's youth.

As education social partners, we believe that without guaranteeing decent working conditions for education personnel and involving education social

partners in decision-making, the delivery of high quality education is going to be compromised.

We strongly support our Spanish sister organisations in their appeal to the Spanish government to respect and promote the rights of Spanish education personnel", said Susan Flocken, ETUCE European Director.



ETUCE stands firmly with its member organisations, their affiliates and all demonstrating people in their fight for quality education, education personnel's rights and better

future for Spain. The demands of the ETUCE member organisations in Spain are fully in line with the main message of the Europe-wide campaign "Europe Needs a Pay Rise".

The campaign was launched by ETUC in February 2017 to tackle rising inequalities and in-work poverty, through effective social dialogue and the full restoration of collective bargaining.

[Daily Mail]

✓ UNITED KINGDOM: COMPULSORY SEX EDUCATION IN ALL SCHOOLS WELCOME

London, 2 November 2018 - JUSTINE Greening, Secretary of State for Education, has announced plans for the Government to introduce legislation that will see every child from the age of 4 taught sex education.

Following years of campaigning, UK Youth Parliament welcomes the news that more young people will receive sex education and warns it must be implemented through a youth-led UK-wide review.

UK Youth Parliament has been calling for a 'curriculum for life' for a number of years. We've argued that a radical overhaul of citizenship education and PSHE is needed to ensure schools prepare students for life.

Both PSHE and citizenship are really important for young people's growth and development as they teach vital life skills and can be the first steps to engaging young people in political life.

This year, UK Youth Parliament will be working to achieve an adequate curriculum for life, following a vote by Members of Youth Parliament in the House of Commons last year, which saw the issue chosen as the priority campaign for England.

UK Youth Parliament believes every young person across the UK should receive the same high-level standard of sex and relationship education in schools.

It is nonetheless vitally important PSHE includes opportunities to learn about politics, cultural awareness, community cohesion, sustainable living and personal finance.

It's become increasingly apparent that young people have felt the current citizenship education and PSHE provisions are inadequate for today's generation of students.

Young people have repeatedly called for a curriculum for life, most recently in UK Youth Parliament's 2016 Make Your Mark ballot of 978,216 young people, when the issue was voted a top priority.

However, it's important to note a curriculum for life has become a recurring issue, topping the Make Your Mark on four occasions in the last 5 years.

The British Youth Council have also been working to convince the Government to introduce statutory and compulsory high-quality citizenship and sex and relationship education to the curriculum for a number of years.

In 2013, the British Youth Council's Youth Select Committee report 'A Curriculum for Life' concluded life skills education in schools fell well short of its full potential and little has been done to address the report's findings since.

According to political commentators, it is likely that the introduction of a compulsory sex education would also include a change in teacher training.

UK Youth Parliament believes it is paramount teaching staff are specifically trained to a national standard to deliver PSHE and citizenship education.

[ukyouthparliament.org.uk]





✓ AUSTRALIA: LOOKING TO AUSTRALIA FOR NEW SOLUTIONS TO YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Canberra, 14 November 2018 - CHOICES for Youth and the Harris Centre are looking abroad for new solutions to the old problem of youth homelessness in the province.

This week David MacKenzie presented on

Australia's Geelong project, which has had success identifying youth at risk of dropping out of school or homelessness and helping them before it happens.

MacKenzie says the ideal is to shift between responding to a crisis after the fact to

preventing the crisis in the first place.

MacKenzie says the idea is to focus on supporting and working with the families.

So many programs for youth focus on the youth themselves, or on the schools, but he says two

thirds of the factors that contribute to students leaving school early have nothing to do with schools.

[VOCM]

✓ FIJI: YOUNGEST MP AIMS TO BE THE VOICE OF YOUTHS

Suva, 7 November 2018 - GOVERNMENT Whip and Assistant Minister for Youth and Sports Alvic Maharaj says he will be the voice of the youth in Parliament.

The 34-year-old bachelor and businessman is the youngest Member of Parliament.

Originally from Bulileka, Labasa, Mr Maharaj said: "The first thing I want to

say is that when youths speak we need to listen. They definitely need to be heard.

"The time when we used to say experience matters is gone. Seventy per cent population of our below the age of 40.

"Most of the people sitting in Parliament are basically in the minority group, which means above the age of 40.

They are making policies which are going to affect at least 70 per cent of the population."

Mr Maharaj said he would continue to advocate for youths.

"What we are going to do is we are going to pick up from where we left," he said.

"We will continue with the policies that were brought in. We are going to

implement what had been implemented all this while. Four years is not a long time."

In his role as a Government Whip, Mr Maharaj yesterday moved the motion for the reappointment of Dr Jiko Luveni to be the Speaker of Parliament.

[Fiji Sun Online]

✓ NEW ZEALAND: CALF SALE TO ENCOURAGE YOUTH TO GET INVOLVED IN STRATFORD

Wellington, 14 November 2018 - A calf sale is being held to encourage more youth into cattle handling.

Stratford A&P Show Dairy section president Paul Vanner, also on the A&P Show executive, says the inaugural Stratford Next Generation Sale is being held in conjunction with the Waikato show and New Zealand Dairy Event.

During the sale, 25 calves will be up for auction, providing an opportunity for youth to get their hands on well-bred calves to handle and show in the future.

Paul says breeders are asked to sell a calf at the sale. The purchaser will become a member of the futurity club and go on to show the

animal as a calf, yearling or a two year old.

He wants to encourage youth to build greater passion in showing cattle and some good prize money can be won, especially in the two-year-old class.

The animals are registered with breeders societies so they can be used to breed from.

Because of the threat of M. Bovis, the dairy section of the Stratford Show was cancelled this year. Precautions will be taken, with calves put into separate stalls.

[Stratford Press]



✓ SAMOA: SAMOA'S YOUTH HONOURED WITH INTERNATIONAL WETLANDS PRIZE

Apia, 20 November 2018 - IN May this year, Samoa's Youth in Climate Action Network (Y.C.A.N.) learned they had won a Ramsar Wetland Conservation award of US\$10,000 (T\$26,609).

President Samantha Kwan, still very much taken aback by the win, travelled to Dubai yesterday to accept the prize.

The group has been hard at work since 2015 replanting and restoring mangroves and rehabilitating coral reefs on Samoa's borders.

"Most of our members live on the coastline," Ms. Kwan said.

"They are at the forefront of the changes happening because of climate change and they can link it to what they see reporting in the media, and see a direct relationship to the action we are taking."

With the Ramsar prize, the group will reach more youth to enable greater action against an unliveable planet. More funding means more training and capacity building, not only for youth to know how to restore mangroves or plant more trees, but understand why, and how to pass on that information on to their communities, Ms. Kwan said.

The Ramsar Conservation is an award for Young

Wetlands Champions. Ms. Kwan said it's great to see youth in particular being honoured.

As a conservation officer at the Ministry of Resources and Natural Environment, Ms. Kwan said she used to see the voices of youth ignored in the conservation policy space or brought in as tokenistic gestures.

"But there has definitely been a huge shift since we started Y.C.A.N.," she said.

"We're actually a partner to M.N.R.E. to implement the National Environment Sector Plan for 2017-2020 because they see the work we do on the ground."

Y.C.A.N. is a three-year old youth group working on defending Samoa's coastal areas from pollution, reef degradation, species loss and more.

The Ramsar Wetland Conservation Awards were established in 1996 to recognise and work to promote the conservation and wise use of wetlands.

Ramsar is the oldest of the modern global intergovernmental environmental agreements and was negotiated through the 1960's. It was adopted in the Iranian city of Ramsar in 1971 and came into force in 1975.

[Samoa Observer]

✓ SOLOMON ISLAND: SICCI CHAIR: A NEED TO INVEST IN YOUTHS

Honiara, 14 November 2018 - TO take full advantage of Solomon Islands' youthful population we need to make decisions on education, training, policy and programs particularly by building job-relevant skills that support entrepreneurship and innovation.

Jay Bartlett, Board Chairman of the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) made this statement at the official launch of the Young Entrepreneurs Council Solomon Islands (YECSI) at the Mendana Hotel in Honiara on Friday 12th October 2018.

"Solomon Islands along with Papua New Guinea have one of the youngest populations in the Pacific

and our population structure has a large youth bulge and these statistics are quite daunting and concerning," he said.

"It is important that we fully understand the population situation we face and the implication it poses for socio-economic growth and development," Mr Bartlett said.

Mr Bartlett said as a country we currently face a serious skills deficit needed to support economic growth and we need to reconfigure the training supply system that is demand responsive.

"We must ensure that our youth labour market can supply current market demands.

"Our youth demand our efforts, time and investment and the time to act is now.

This is one of those moments in our history where our future depends heavily on the critical decisions we make today and in my humble opinion we are standing at a cross roads with two pathways ahead of us 'a demographic dividend or a demographic time bomb'," he said.

He said statistics are truths that should be self-evident and the need for intervention by the Government, donor partners, private sector, civil society .

"As a general rule of thumb, to reap a dividend you must first invest in it. If we want demographic dividend, then it is important that we truly start investing in our young people along with the supporting infrastructure and institutions.

"We must stop talking. We need real action and real reform if not for us then for the young people around this country," he said.

Mr Bartlett said if young people cannot find employment, earn a decent wage, live in dignity then this large mass of frustrated youth will likely become a source of social and political instability a demographic time-bomb.



“I believe our leaders are aware of the urgent need to tackle youth unemployment but we need to take this acknowledgement one step further, it needs to be reflected and translated in our national budget-less discretionary expenditure and more non-discretionary, transparent and accountable spending across the board.

“The basic challenge before us all is to address this crisis. Although data on unemployment is limited, there is absolutely no doubt that there is significant surplus labour in Solomon Islands that could be utilized to the benefit of the country as well as individual youth and their families,” the SICCI Chair said.

Mr Bartlett said the Young Entrepreneurs Council Solomon Islands (YECSI) is all about positioning our youth in a way so they have an opportunity to influence the decisions that will affect them.

“We must not only create a framework for youth but they must involve in important discussions and nurture the partnership between our youth, Government and business to find ways to meet the development challenges we face,” he said.

YECSI is setup under the auspices of SICCI with support from Government through the Ministry of Women, Youth and Children Affairs to represent young entrepreneurs in the Solomon Islands.

[Solomon Star]

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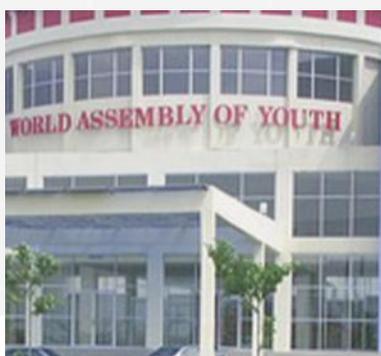
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