



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

**Amplifying Youth Voice and Action for Citizen Safety and Security  
Technical Working Group Meeting Minutes  
August 18, 2021 @ 2pm**

**Attendance**

Name	Organization
Jovi Williams	PIOJ
Renee Steele	MNS
Paula Cavero	UNESCO
Kamesha Blake	PSOJ
Davoreen Gaynor	UNDP
Ashleigh Blythe	UNDP
Kerry-Ann Willis	UNDP
Absent	MOEYI

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting of the technical working group for the AYVA project was called to order at 2:15pm, on August 18, 2021 by Ms. Davoreen Gaynor. Welcome was offered to the participants and apology given for Miss Simone Campbell from the MOEYI

**2. Project Updates**

Project Updates were provided by Ms. Kerry-Ann Willis, Acting, Programme Coordinator for the Social Resilience and Cohesion Portfolio.:

➤ **RISE Onboarding**

- ✚ RISE boot camp was held on June 29, 2021
  - Capacity building sessions have been convened to support the finalizations of group work plans, proposals and budgets
- ✚ Youth groups were able to meet with their assigned project consultant from the RISE team
- ✚ UNDP team met with six of the 10 grantees to identify areas in which their budgets and proposals could be strengthened
- ✚ Final proposals and budgets have been submitted by all youth groups
- ✚ The first tranche of payment has been made to RISE to facilitate procurement activities for the youth groups. Regular meetings will continue to be held with RISE to ensure implementation activities are progressing as they should
- ✚ Project extension has been granted until March 2022 and project implementation is expected to be completed between November – December 2021 to allow for closing activities



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

- Five (5) interns have been recruited and onboarded
  - ✚ The names of the interns are: Domonique Darling, Neville Charlton, Dana Atkinson, Tanisha Tapper, DeAnte Livingston
  - ✚ Interns were tentatively placed with JYAN and PSOJ
  - ✚ There may need to be a switch with the intern at PSOJ due to the need for face-to-face engagement, which the current intern (Tanisha) is unable to provide at this time, as she is completing a law internship as well
  - ✚ PIOJ indicated that they would not be able to support an intern at this time
  
- Social Media and Visibility activities continue
  - ✚ Appearances have been made on Smile Jamaica, CVM at Sunrise and in the Observer
  - ✚ Special feature has been given to one particular project – ‘We Hear You Alert’
    - Persons within the deaf community will be able to make reports in select police stations using interpretation services
  - ✚ Video documentary is being collected to assist with the knowledge products, as well as to provide visual support at the closing ceremony
  - ✚ Video profiles are being created for all youth groups; four (4) have been captured so far and the remainder should be completed over the course of the weekend (if the Tropical Storm allows)
  
- Lifeyard Partnership Update
  - ✚ After several meetings with the Lifeyard team and Jahmeyka project, Lifeyard expressed that they could no longer be a part of the project due to unavailability of their team members to effectively participate and implement the microproject.
  - ✚ Youth for Development Network (YFDN) has been onboarded to partner with The Jahmeyka Project team to implement their microproject and a meeting was held with the teams to ensure seamless transition and integration into the project.
  
- Project Challenges
  - ✚ Mobilizing interns to be placed with UNESCO proved challenging, thus no intern was able to partner with that agency.
  - ✚ Efforts are being made to onboard the PIOJ intern in a hybrid modality, however this is proving challenging.
  - ✚ The delay in the disbursement of funds created a series of ripple effects for the youth groups. Youth groups were encouraged to begin execution of those aspects of their project that does not require spending, where possible, until the funding is disbursed which is expected to be in early September.



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

- ✚ There is still some delay in the start of the research component as UNESCO is currently reviewing the UN to UN agreement and is to submit the concept note; however the finalized agreement is needed to move forward with the activity

➤ **Project Risks**

- ✚ COVID-19 has restricted the execution of certain activities and will continue to restrict the execution of activities within the communities, especially with the Delta variant
- ✚ Some of the participants that would make up the mentorship workshop for some of the microprojects will be returning to school in September and as such may not be able to participate in training activities. Also, some school facilities were to be utilized to conduct these trainings and will become unavailable after school reopening.
- ✚ An active hurricane season is expected and as such, RISE has committed to ensuring that groups that will implement outdoor activities be prioritized.
- ✚ Some participants may become disinterested because of the delay in the disbursement of funds, and that certainly may affect the implementation or the successful implementation of the activities

➤ **Microprojects Snapshot**

<b>Youth Group</b>	<b>Project Type</b>
Norwood CDC	Aquaponics
YWOP/YMOP	Entrepreneurship & Mentorship
YFDN/Jahmeyka	Creative Arts
Bullyproof Kids	Fencing
NPYC	We Hear You Alert
Called to Lead	Mentorship
Every Mikkle	Fire Safety/Prevention
ISEEED	Security Training
YIPCJA	Mentorship
Total Health Services	Telemedicine

- ✚ Most activities are being done in the Kingston and Montego Bay area
- ✚ Consideration to be given to how these can be integrated into the larger national and/or community-based strategy and Vision 2030, as well as how policy linkages can be made and/or strengthened
  - Questions to be considered: How are these projects linked to community efforts being organized by the CDC by the SDC? What are the synergies? Where are the opportunities? How are the young people being empowered to participate in national efforts or are the projects linked to national efforts? How can the efforts of the participants be linked to sustainability planning? What is the exit strategy? Once the



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

project wraps up can these projects still ensure that the sustainability portion of it is maintained within the community and provide opportunity for scaling?

- ✚ Sensitization of core community governance mechanisms in any given community need to be considered to aid in sustainability and scalability of projects

### 3. Next Steps

- The Youth as Researchers Activity will be conducted in partnership with the UNESCO chairs and the University of Penn State in Galway which have developed this methodology.
  - ✚ Young researchers will be identified, and young people will be trained in researching activities through an open call for applications and a specific profile would be identified with the help of the university based on their expertise.
  - ✚ Three knowledge products will be prepared to focus on youth centric policy on citizen security.
  - ✚ Currently awaiting feedback from UNESCO headquarters to finalize the agreement between UNDP and UNESCO.
- Knowledge Management Consultant is to be onboarded to capture some of these lessons learned, to present case studies, photovoice and significant change stories that will be included at the closeout session that is scheduled to happen in March 2022.
- One immediate youth initiative that the interns have been integrally involved in is being led by UNDP Communication Analysts, Gillian Scott.
  - ✚ The Youth Summit has been successfully launched
    - Appreciation was given to all project partners for participation in this initiative
- Completion of an incubator report which would capture the successes, challenges, lessons learned, and recommendations
- Collaborate with RISE to ensure that project plans include a rights-based approach and SDGs
- The development of 3 Intern solutions is a key deliverable noted in the results framework.
  - ✚ TWG Members are to share those initiatives that their organizations are currently undertaking that the young people can get themselves involved in.
    - MNS 'We Transform' Program aims to work with juveniles who are in facilities to provide them with mentorship but also to aid their transition back into wider society. Youth have the opportunity to become 'We Transform' mentors, and/or engagement between themselves and the juveniles may be facilitated for them to impart their knowledge and experiences. Further discussion is to be arranged to facilitate this initiative.



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

- A Youth representative is to be selected from among the interns to sit on the Technical Working Group
  - ✚ Youth will share their experience in the project and as an intern at next TWG meeting
- Strengthening of stakeholder partnerships
  - ✚ Youth groups were given opportunity to join an upcoming UNESCO training to help increase their capacity
  - ✚ There is room for improvement in the integration and synergy of the projects with other local agencies
  - ✚ Partners were reminded to submit their logos for addition to the Ready, Set, Great: Youth Summit on Crime and Violence website ([readyssetgreatja.com](http://readyssetgreatja.com))

#### 4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01pm by Ms. Willis

DocuSigned by:  
*Kerry-Ann Willis*  
21206393F7A4450...