

LPAC: YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND POWERMENT PROGRAMME 2011-2012

MINUTES OF MEETING-18TH MARCH, 2011 AT YES CONFERENCE ROOM

List of Participants

1	APPYA	Ishmail Bangura	17	MYES	Hon Paul Kamra
2	MAFFS	James Amadu Lahai	18	YES	Momodu Wudie
3	UNDP	Mammah Wray	19	YES	Yusuf Kamara
4	UNDP	Keith Wright	20	UNDP	Natsuko Kaneyama
5	BWYDO	Sahr B Gamdi-Capio			
6	GIZ	Christiane Hornikel			
7	NYC	Saudatu Conteh			
8	MYES	Charles Moinina			
9	YAPAD	Bockarie Ensah			
10	NaCSA	John Paul Ngebeh			
11	NYC	Rev Machael Samura			
12	NaCSA	Francesc Kondo			
13	UNDP	Mia Seppo			
14	UNIDO	Antonia C Coker			
15	USL	Lola AFORO			
16	MYES	Anthony A. Koroma			

Agenda

- ❖ Prayers
- ❖ Co-chairs Opening Remarks
- ❖ Presentation of YEEP
- ❖ Discussion
- ❖ Summary of Main Points & Recommendation
- ❖ Co-chairs Closing Remarks

Chairman's Opening Remarks:

- The meeting which started at 10:30 am was chaired/co-chaired by the Minister of Youth Employment & Sports, Hon. Paul Kamara and the UNDP Country Director- Madam Mia Seppo. Mia welcomed members and stated that the meeting was convened to appraise the Youth Employment and Empowerment Proposal.
- She maintained that the project is important because youth employment is a key component of the UN Joint Vision and that the project would build on the previous youth employment programmes supported by UNDP.

- She expressed thanks for the immense support of the Ministry of Youth Employment and Sports (MYES) in the implementation of past projects and the comprehensive Mid-term and Impact Assessment Reports.
- She emphasized that the project would involve all stakeholders including MYES and the National Youth Commission. She implored members to share their views on the activities and management of the programme.

Presentation by the Director of Youth- Mr. Anthony A. Koroma

The presentation on the YEEP Proposal was done by the Director of Youth, Mr. Anthony A. Koroma. Highlights of the presentation (attached) included

- Priority for Government
- Priority for UN
- Priority for Development Partners
- Coherence and linkages
- Main Objectives
- Programme Duration and Budget
- Project Components and outputs
- Project Steering Committee
- Project Management and Implementation Arrangements

Discussions

The following issues emerged from the presentation:

- Further emphasizes on the need for partnership in the area of mapping, resource mobilization and better approaches;
- Role and importance of Agriculture- study to further understand the potentials for employment in Agriculture;
- Importance of Empowerment- making youth the actor rather than recipient;
- Key role of the National Youth Commission/Ministry of Youth Employment and Sports in the area of consultation and partnership;
- There is need to poll resources with other stakeholders in building synergies and sharing lessons in areas such as youth-led public works, agriculture, career advisory and placement services (CAPS), etc.;
- The support to the preparation of an annual Youth Status Report as well as the proposed annual youth trade fair were lauded as an important and necessary activities;
- Challenges in terms of sustainability of the programme;
- The budget should indicate those activities that resources are available for their implementation from those that require funding.

The issues outlined were to be incorporated into the project proposal.

Hon. Paul Kamara thanked the UNDP for the continued support his ministry has been receiving in government's efforts at addressing the challenges face by the youthful population of Sierra Leone. He emphasized the impact and sustainability of interventions. He re-affirms government commitment in support programmes aimed at promoting youth employment. He stressed on the need to:

- To have a register of all NGOs/Donors and youth groups for coherence and to prevent duplication;
- Review or expand on the current national youth employment strategy;
- Conduct a study on the impact of youth projects countrywide;
- Identify funding avenues, and
- Strengthening the partnership and linkages between UNDP, MYES and Development Partners.

The meeting concluded that:

- The project speaks to the priorities of the Government's Agenda for Change programme and the UN Joint Vision;
- It reflects the current reality of the youth situation and draws from lessons learnt from the various interventions over the last three years;
- Has the support of Government and stakeholders in youth development;
- The YEEP Project proposal meets the required standards and approved for resource mobilization and implementation.

The UNDP Country Director thanked members present for their input and assured them that their comments will be integrated into the proposal.

The meeting ended at 12:15 pm.