

# “Ari Mpya Nguvu Mpya Kasi Mpya”

## Youth Development in Tanzania

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# Specific Situation of Youth in Tanzania

- The total population of Tanzania is 34 million. 33 % of the total population is Youth, and 68 percent of the active labour force is young people.
- A youth in Tanzania is defined as a person between the ages of 15-35 years.
- The core problem facing youth in Tanzania is unemployment. This problem is characterized by lack of job opportunities in urban areas, and under-utilization of the majority of the national labour force in the rural.

- Youth from primacy, secondary and high learning institutions entering the labour force annually is about 700,000 but only 40,000 get employment into formal sector.
- The incidence of unemployment among the youth is relatively high. The youth constitute 60 % of all people who are unemployed.
- According to labour Force Survey 2001 unemployment rate for the whole country is 12.9 percent. Almost half of the unemployed live in urban areas. 46.5 percent of active people in Dar es Salaam is unemployed, unemployment for the other urban areas is 25.5 percent, and for rural areas is 8.4 percent.

# Specific Situation of Youth in Tanzania

Unemployment for people aged 18-34 was 8.6 in the rural areas and 41.4 per cent in the urban areas. The youth aged between 15 and 34 years are more vulnerable to unemployment.

- Rural youth grow up in a culture that does not typically support entrepreneurship. They often seek employment by migrating to nearby cities and town. When they could not find jobs in town they engaged in dangerous behaviors such as petty theft, armed robbery, drug abuse and unsafe sex, which cause other social problem like spread of HIV/AIDS among youth, family crises, mental disease, and deaths.

# High prevalence of HIV/AIDS

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is a **threat** to socio-economic development in Tanzania. An estimated 1.5 million Tanzanians are infected with HIV, which will progress to AIDS and eventually result in death.

- According to 2002 Behavioural Surveillance Survey among Youth, during the year 2001 a total of 14,112 AIDS cases were reported to the National AIDS Control Program (NACP).
- Most AIDS cases fall within the age group 20-49 years with highest number of reported cases in the age group 25-34 and 30-39 for female and males respectively. Youth aged between 15 – 24 years contributed to 15% of the total cases.

# CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES

## ■ **Education System**

The number of primary school leavers is big and has not been followed by a corresponding expansion of the secondary education. Very few have been absorbed in secondary school (about 10 per cent).



- **Lack of Skills and Business Training**

At the time youths complete primary or secondary education they do not have adequate skills that they can use to start self employment activities. There are few secondary schools that have business and commercial courses for students but the weakness is however that they emphasis on theoretical courses.

- **Inadequate credit facilities**

Many youths have started self-employment opportunities but lack start up capital. Financial institutions usually have difficult conditions, which are almost impossible to be met by youths.

## ■ **Emphasis on the formal sector alone**

The formal sector has not been able to absorb the majority of the unemployed youths. Various studies (Bagachwa, 1991, Luvanga, 1994) have shown the potential of the informal sector in creating employment opportunities for youths.

## ■ **Non-attractive agricultural sector and the rural areas in general**

The rural areas and the agriculture sector in particular are currently not attractive to youths. The hand-operated hoe has remained the main farm implement for working the soil and has, for a long time now, rendered agriculture a difficult task.

## ■ **Gender Imbalance**

This attitude is however slowly changing and women are increasingly becoming active in the labour force.

Gender mainstreaming in all youth programmes is required

## ■ **Inadequate Information**

Youth information is inadequate in coverage, gender insensitive and lack standards for statistics.

## ■ **Inadequate Infrastructure**

Inadequate Infrastructure in rural areas encourages youth to migrate to urban areas intensifying the problem of unemployment in urban centres.

- Inadequate skills on youth work among VEO WEO and District officials



- **Globalization**

The transition to the free market system has resulted in the privatization of many public institutions. Since the capacity to make profit depends on low operational costs, employers often hire the minimum number of workers to maximize their profit.

- **Lack of youth friendly services**

Community leaders have a tendency to ignore youth issues, hence make unfriendly environmental which hinder youth development opportunities.

# Lack of youth friendly services





# POSSIBLE MEANS OF OVERCOMING THE PROBLEMS

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- To link youth development with government, local government structures at all levels and sectors.
- To strengthen and expand vocational training in public and private training centers with a dual purpose of industrial and self-employment.
- To link HIV/AIDS campaign with youth employment campaign.
- To advise and build capacity of youths on how to secure loans from financial institution, private firms and Donors.



# POSSIBLE MEANS OF OVERCOMING THE PROBLEMS

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- To start a special fund for the purpose of covering training cost and providing loans for self-employment activities.
- To emphasize practical and appropriated education and counseling in- and out- school with an objective of preparing youths for self-employment activities.
- To establish youth information centers starting at village level and to promoting youth programs through Media.



# POSSIBLE MEANS OF OVERCOMING THE PROBLEMS

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- To insist on gender balance and mainstreaming in all youth development programs.
- To pay attention for the groups with special needs particularly for youths living in the rural areas.
- To use YES and YEN Networks framework as well as to effectively implement priority areas in the World Programme of Action on Youth (WPAY) 2000 and Beyond



# POSSIBLE MEANS OF OVERCOMING THE PROBLEMS

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- To work towards fulfilling the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) especially goal #8 which emphasizing Global Partnership as well as to mainstream youth issues in all UN-MDGs.
- To provide seminars and workshop for Government leaders so that they can understand how to solve current cross cutting issues-mainstreaming youth issue.

# **ACTION TAKEN AND THE NEED OF INCREASING COMMITMENT ON YOUTH EMPOWERMENT**



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Tanzania has initiated the establishment of YES Country Network (YES-Tanzania).

The process started by 50 youth related organisations with a support of the South Korean Embassy in Tanzania.

# Establishment of YES Country Network in Tanzania





# Members of YES Country Network

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YES Country Network comprises of representatives over 250 different NGOs including:

- Government, International and Religion Institutions
- Educational and Vocational Institutions
- Financial institutions,
- Youth Groups,
- Private Sectors,
- Media organizations
- Other Diverse Stakeholders.



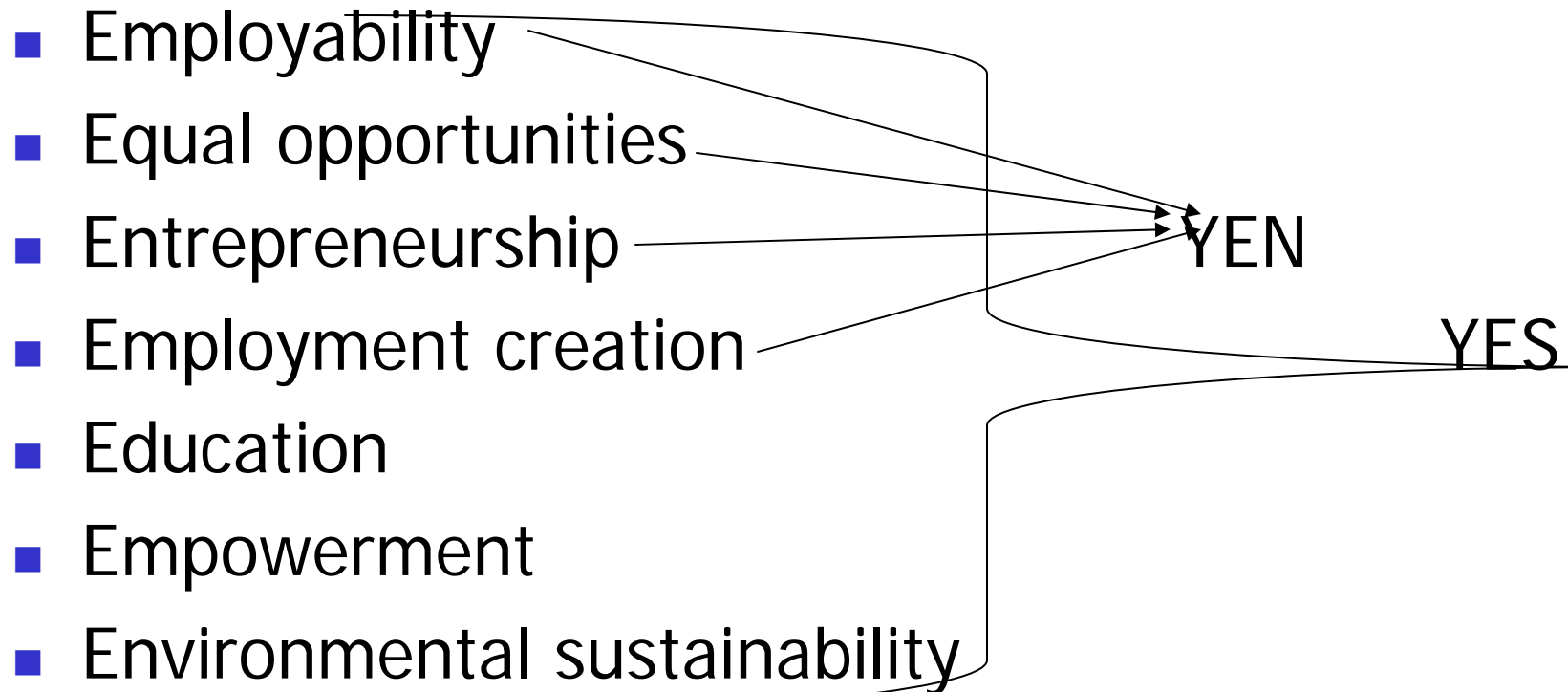
# Policies and National Strategies

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- Vision 2025 ,Poverty Eradication Strategy, MKUKUTA
- The National Employment Policy
- The Youth Development Policy
- The Local Government Reform Agenda
- National Population Policy
- Agriculture Policy
- Small Enterprise Policy
- MKURUBITA

The Youth Development policy and the National Employment Policy are currently under review to take into consideration the globalization and National Vision 2025 Poverty Reduction Strategy.

# The YES 7Es and YEN AREAS



# ACHIEVEMENTS – Youth Empowerment



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## **Economic Empowerment**

- Availability of Youth Credit Fund
- Financial institutions have demonstrated an interest / issue loans to the youth groups. CRDB, NMB
- Increased of youth income generation activities.
- Establishment of Small Enterprises Policy
- Increasing of Vocational Training Centre
- Establishment of Labour Exchange Centre.
- Establishment of youth working premises and markets.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

## EDUCATION/ EMPOWERMENT

- Introduction of parenting skills
- Increasing number of NGOs, which provide life skills for young people
- Increasing the number of education facilities and number of youths entering Secondary School .
- Establishment of youth NGOs directory
- Establishment of youth centres at ward level

# ACHIEVEMENTS

## Empowerment/Youth Participation

- Youth participating in out door life activities at Marangu-Kilimanjaro outward bound.
- Involvement of young people in the preparation of Poverty Reduction Strategy Program.
- Establishment of National Youth Week
- Increased local and international exchange program.
- Establishment of youth friendly services in many sectors.
- Formation of Rural Youth ICT Centre in Kilosa, Morogoro region  
[www.infoyouth.or.tz](http://www.infoyouth.or.tz)
- Involvement of young people in the preparation of National Youth Development Policy
- Increased of Youth NGOs and Youth Groups.
- Youth Participation in local government structures

# Youth participation- International Forum





# ACHIEVEMENTS

## ~~Gender Equity~~

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- Enactment of Sexual offences Act 1998.
- Introduction of women/girls special education program at high learning institutions.
- Promotion of gender equity in school.
- Campaign against genital mutilation
- Awareness of women's right.
- Promotion of decent work for young women
- Establishment of Young Women NGOs and Women Networks.



# ACHIEVEMENTS

## **Empowerment/Health**

- Strong campaign against HIV/AIDS
- Increased number of youth NGOs, which provided adolescent reproductive health education
- Establishment of drug abuse prevention programs and rehabilitation youth centers
- Establishment of youth medical friendly centers.

# YOUTH MAINSTREAMING IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA



**Director of Youth Mrs. Joyce Shaidi motivating youth to become more active on Youth Policy Review Workshop in Tanga region, 2004**



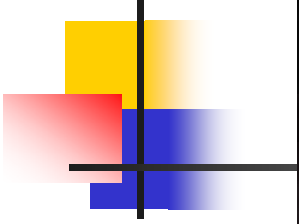
**Ms. Asia Mohamed from Zanzibar insisting gender equality in the National Youth Forum on Youth Employment in Dar es Salaam, 2002**

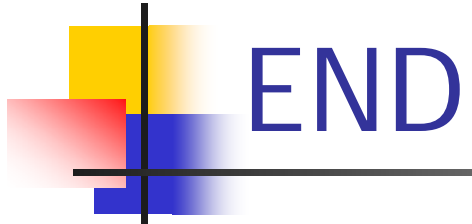


# CONCLUSION

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- Sub-regional partnership will pave the way to the green future of youth if we will put the ideas into the actions.
- Let us measure our success by demonstrating what we have done rather than what we know





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- THANK YOU