



5TH AFRICAN UNIVERSITY ON YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT

3rd – 11th May 2013, Mindelo, São Vicente - Cape Verde

Presentation of the 5th African University on Youth and Development

The 5th AUJD is organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (NSC), together with the Cape Verde Youth Federation (FCJ), the Portuguese National Youth Council (CNJ-Portugal), the Youth Forum of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (FJ-CPLP), the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe (ADYNE), in partnership with the Pan-African Youth Union (PYU) and the European Youth Forum (YFJ). It is supported by the Joint Management Agreement between the European Commission - EuropeAid Co-operation Office and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, the Government of Cape Verde, the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) and the Portuguese Co-operation Agency (IPAD).



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The Fifth African University on Youth and Development aims at:

- Enhancing the co-operation and dialogue among partners (civil society and institutional representatives) in youth development strategies and actions, increasing the efficiency and impact of their work;
- Promoting a space for preparation and follow-up of the Africa-Europe Youth Summits and reinforcement of the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation, Pan African and Global Youth Work;
- Strengthening and support the role of networks, non-governmental youth organisations and civil society responding to their needs in terms of capacity building;
- Developing joint efforts to address the major challenges faced by young people in the light of the priority areas identified as regards youth development;
- Increasing the opportunities for networking, information sharing, capacity building and training for young people and youth organisations;

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- Promoting global education among young people and youth organisations and awareness raising for development.

Framework of the 5th African University on Youth and Development

The AUJD was developed as a follow-up of the 1st Africa-Europe Youth Summit that took place in Lisbon in 2007, as a way to promote the contribution of Youth for the implementation of Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. Since the development of 2012-2015 Action Plan and the launching of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform (in 2012), the consolidation of the University has been identified as an annual and permanent feature of the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation.

The African University on Youth and Development is part of the **Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship**, together with the University on Youth and Development (14th edition in September 2013, Molina, Spain), the University on Participation and Citizenship (since 2003 in Uruguay) and the new Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (1st edition in July 2013).

The Network of Universities, promoted by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in partnership with youth organisations and governmental institutions, aims to promote personal development through training as well as capacity building and coordination of youth organisations in global youth work. The Network aims to promote a more coordinated work between Universities, thus promoting more visibility and sustainability of the partnership.

The 5th edition of African University on Youth and Development will take place in Mindelo, Cape Verde, and will bring together around 150 young people mainly from Africa and Europe, whom during one week will have the chance to live and learn together.

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Joint Programme of the 5th African University on Youth and Development

In line with the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship, the joint theme for the 5th AUJD is **"Democratic Citizenship"**.

Citizenship can be perceived as simply the legal status in a country, but *democratic* citizenship refers to much more. It is not limited to the citizen's legal status and to the voting right this status implies. It includes all aspects of life in a democratic society.

According to the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education¹, democratic citizenship is about inclusion rather than exclusion,

¹ Further reading can be accessed at:

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CM/Rec%282010%297&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&Site=CM&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=EDB021&BackColorLogged=F5D383>.

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participation rather than marginalisation, culture and values rather than simple procedural issues (such as voting) and is about being active in shaping understandings and practices of citizenship. It is therefore related to a vast range of topics such as sustainable development, participation of people with disabilities in society, gender mainstreaming, human rights observance, and many other areas.

Democracies are based on the principles of freedom, right to choose and equal access to opportunities; it is built on the belief that people should work together to make each other's lives better. But because democratic principles and rights depend always on the societies, human beings must ensure that values and principles are passed from generation to generation and daily shared among each other.

Knowledge and intercultural dialogue are possibly the most important features of democratic citizenship. The practice has showed us already that youth organisations are important actors for its dissemination and implementation and can make a difference on how young people perceive themselves, the other and the world. This is done mainly through educational activities/processes and non-formal and informal learning.

In fact, education for democratic citizenship means education, training, dissemination, information, practices and activities which aim, by equipping learners with knowledge, skills, understanding and molding their attitudes and behaviour, to empower them to exercise and defend their democratic rights and responsibilities in society, to value diversity and to play an active part in democratic life, with a view to the promotion and protection of democracy and the rule of law.²

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In the last years, we have seen the rise of several movements, mainly promoted by youth, questioning the exercise of democratic citizenship and fighting for rights and values. It happened in Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, it was the case in many squares and streets of Europe (mainly Southern Europe) and also a bit all over the world. Through social media, demonstrations, petitions and other tools, young people (including non-organised) are claiming the right to be part of decision-making processes and to contribute to the political solutions. How is the youth movement answering to these developments and what is its role?

The University will aim at debating and identifying regional and sub-regional practices and understandings of "Democratic Citizenship", collecting aspirations of the youth movement and mapping proposals for joint advocacy and action.

The Joint Programme activities

Throughout the week, participants in the University will also engage in a joint programme that consists of comprehensive discussions, educational visits, learning methodologies based on non-formal education, institutional and cultural contacts, and multimedia coverage. In particular the following are foreseen:

² Further reading can be accessed at:

<https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CM/Rec%282010%297&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&Site=CM&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=EDB021&BackColorLogged=F5D383>.

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- The institutional opening and closing ceremonies;
- Roundtable 'Youth Work and Democratic Citizenship' – focusing on the role of youth organisations and youth work for an increased engagement and democratic participation of young people on the public sphere, namely through educational activities.
- Various cultural activities and thematic evenings devoted to specific topics that will be developed with the help of participants and using their initiative and enjoyment as the driving force.

Programme of the 5th African University on Youth and Development

The Programme of the 5th African University on Youth and Development is composed by:

- 2nd Meeting of the Africa-Europe Youth Platform

Facilitated by the NSC, the meeting will gather all permanent appointed members and institutional partners of the platform. The mission of the AEYP is to coordinate, implement and follow-up the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation (as defined in 2012-2015 Action Plan). The meeting aims to follow-up the creation in the first meeting (Addis Ababa, November 2012) of the thematic working groups on Youth Employment and MDGs - Beyond 2015 Agenda and it is also expected to be an opportunity for coordinated action between members and institutional partners towards the IV EU-Africa Summit of Heads of State and Government (Spring 2014).

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- 9th Africa-Europe Training Course for Youth Organisations

Held under the Joint Management Agreement between the EuropeAid (DGDevCo) and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, this course is implemented by the NSC, in partnership with the European Youth Forum, the Pan African Youth Union and the Network of International Youth Organisations in Africa. Based on the success of previous editions, the course is intended for 25 leaders of youth organisations from across Africa and Europe and will have a team of European and African trainers experienced in Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation.

The course is focused around young people's participation in the Africa-Europe Youth Co-operation and within the framework created by the 2nd and 3rd EU-Africa Heads of State Summits (EU-Africa Strategic Partnership) and the Africa-Europe Youth Summits held in 2007 and 2010. During the course, participants will gain knowledge and tools to develop the capacity of their organisations as civil society actors in development processes as well as learn ways to strengthen their political participation in the context of Euro-African co-operation. The course also represents an excellent opportunity for networking and partnership development.

- Intercultural Forum on Democratic Citizenship and Culture of Peace

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Organised by the FCJ, in partnership with the United Network of Young Peace Makers and ADYNE and with the support of the United Nations and the Cape Verde Youth Directorate, the Forum will gather around 100 participants to debate on Democratic Citizenship and Culture of Peace, as axes for the sustainable development of the society. It will focus on strengthen cross-cultural understanding in Capeverdean, African and global youth through the promotion of Democratic Citizenship and Culture of Peace initiatives, in order to achieve a more tolerant and glocal intercultural society. At the Forum participants will discuss and interact with experts, share experiences on this topics, exchange projects with other leaders and elaborate a Declaration and Action Plan on Democratic Citizenship and Culture of Peace, as well as establish a Global Youth Alliance on Democratic Citizenship and Culture of Peace to advocate together for a more enabling environment for Democratic Citizenship and Culture of Peace.

- Post 2015 Agenda on Population and Youth Employment Conference (tbc)

Organised by the FCJ and the Organisation of African Youth, in partnership with the main youth networks in Africa, to contribute to the post MDG debate by the youth in two main topics: population and youth employment. In the framework of the International Conference in Population and Development, and according to the priorities of the youth leaders gathered in the Africa Europe Youth Co-operation Platform meeting, it will involve around 30 youth leaders aiming:

- To bring together youth activists to review the attainment of MDGs in Africa, develop strategies for accelerating the achievement of the MDGs and plan for the Post-2015 Development Framework, with special focus on Population and Youth Employment.
- To strengthen partnership within youth organisations in the region to implement MDGs, Population and Youth Employment based projects.
- To create a platform for young people to learn and share their best practices in their actions towards achieving the MDGs and decent work conditions for young people.
- To mobilize and motivate young people to actively get involved in the ongoing national, regional and international consultations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
- To come up with an African Youth Declaration for the Post-2015 Agenda on Population and Youth Employment.

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- Meeting of Youth Organisations Platforms

Organised by the Cape Verde Youth Federation and the Youth Leagues, it aims at gathering main leaders of the Youth Organisations to draft a common working agenda. This activity will develop a strategic plan to match with the specific needs of the Youth Organisations, as a way to guarantee a better and larger outreach of the youth action in their communities. Likewise, a balance of implemented activities will be done, so Youth Organisations can analyse and evaluate the outcomes and promote synergies and partnerships among youth participants and organisations.

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- Training on youth association, leadership and entrepreneurship

Promoted by the Youth League of S. Vicente, in partnership with the FCJ and the Local Youth Council of S. Vicente, it will gather main local youth representatives to train them in these particular youth issues. The training will use non-formal education methodology to foster youth entrepreneurship, leadership and association, with a gender based approach, to promote the active participation of women in youth associations. Furthermore, this will facilitate the integration and valorisation of women in local associations, as a way to strength their participation youth related policies and actions.

- 5th School of Youth Leaders of the CPLP

Developed by the CNJ-Portugal, in partnership with the Youth Forum of the CPLP, the 5th School of Youth Leaders of the CPLP will gather 20 youth leaders from the Portuguese speaking Countries and aims to promote a broad debate on the situation of young people, in particular regarding their engagement in public affairs and their participation in decision-making. The specific objectives include: sharing of experiences between the different realities of young people of the CPLP; dissemination of information on CPLP's co-operation; framework of global youth work, for a concerted action of the Youth Forum of CPLP and its members; joint reflection on the CPLP's co-operation in the youth field, taking into consideration the recent adoption of a the Youth Strategy for the CPLP. There will be a focus on the participation of young women.

- International Youth Work Camp on World Heritage "Cidade Velha, the origins of the Creole society"

Organised by the UNESCO and the FCJ, in partnership with Ribeira Grande Youth League, UNESCO National Commission for Cape Verde, the Cultural Heritage and Research Institute and other local partners, in Cidade Velha, Santiago Island, as a post-AUYD activity, from May 11th to 24th. This International Youth Work Camp aims at promoting the involvement of the youth in the conservation of the historic city of Cidade Velha, as well as deepening into the history of the site, from the colonial and slavery times to the modern Creole society. Specifically, it pretends to sensitize local community and schools, to assure the history and local culture conservation, to foster a nature friendly environment of the site, to enhance conditions for visitors and to advocate for a more enabling conditions for World Heritage conservation.

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For more information, please visit www.fcj.org.cv/5auyd or contact:

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-Cape Verde Youth Federation: Helmer Fortes (helmer.fortes@fcj.org.cv)

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