

Council of Europe
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Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth

Call for Participants

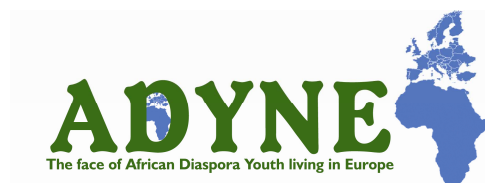
**A Seminar for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora
Living in Europe
19 – 21 September 2011, Molina, Spain**

Theme:

***From Millennium Development Goals to Millennium
Development Wins***

*Organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in the framework of the
Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of
Youth, in cooperation with the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe [ADYNE]*

At the 12th University on Youth and Development



1. Background & Context

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The Millennium Development Goals [MDGs] adopted by world leaders in 2000 and set to be achieved by 2015, provide a framework for the entire international community to work together towards a common aim. This is to make sure that human development reaches everyone, everywhere. If these goals are achieved, it is anticipated that world poverty will be cut by half, tens of millions of lives will be saved, and billions more people will have the opportunity to benefit from the global economy. The eight MDGs break down into 21 quantifiable targets that are measured by 60 indicators.

The eight Goals are:

- Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
- Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
- Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
- Goal 5: Improve maternal health
- Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
- Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

Recent reports indicate that progress towards reaching the goals has been uneven. Some countries have achieved many of the goals, while others are not on track to realize any of them. Areas needing the most reduction, such as the Sub-Saharan Africa regions, have yet to make any drastic changes in improving their quality of life. It has also been realised that African Diaspora are part of the solution to achieving the MDG goals.

The Tripoli Declaration adopted at the II Africa-Europe Youth Summit [25-28 November 2010, at Libya] identified new priorities and actions, some of which are focussed on the realisation of the MDGs. Some of the themes are around: Employment for young people, trade and socio-economic development, climate change and sustainable development, good governance and democracy, migration, mobility, inter-cultural dialogue and co-development, conflict resolution.

Noting the importance of the MDGs, and the limited progress made so far [especially in Africa] it is timely to reinvigorate this debate with the African Diaspora Youth a bridge between Europe and Africa. African Diaspora Youth in Europe are well placed to address the realisation of the MDG aspirations, especially those that resonate with African Diaspora youth living in Europe. It is also a renewed opportunity for MDGs if new partners are engaged in their pursuit - that is, the African Diaspora Youth - that have been neglected and that can and should have key roles in delivering the MDGs across the two continents - Africa and Europe.

As citizens that are aware of Africa's reality and the urgent need to achieve the MDGs by 2015, African Diaspora youth in Europe are very well placed to contribute to and raise this awareness among the European civil society, youth organisations and young people in general. There are 4 more years and the opportunity to reenergise the efforts to achieve the MDGs cannot be missed. The African Diaspora youth living in Europe can and will have fundamental roles in re-launching the campaign efforts. They can be champions for the aspirations and achievement of the MDGs, converting it from goals to real wins!

2. Aims of the Seminar

This summit aims to:

- a. Be a forum and space to discuss, identify and propose how African Diaspora youth in Europe can start to address the MDG agenda and come up with actions that can convert some of the aspirations and requirements to deliverables;
- b. Develop a stronger and effective network of African Diaspora youth in Europe as part of the solution to the MDG agendas.

3. Objectives

- a. Inform and increase the knowledge of youth leaders from the African Diaspora on the MDGs, to ensure an understanding of the specific involvement of the African Diaspora as part of the solution in Africa and Europe.
- b. Provide a space for youth leaders and youth organisations in the Diaspora to discuss and develop strategies on how to contribute to re-launching the efforts to achieve the MDGs.
- c. Strengthen and make more visible the roles and contributions of African Diaspora youth and youth organisations in the MDGs agendas.
- d. Develop recommendations on how African youth and youth organisations in the Diaspora form partnerships with other stakeholders that will lead to the realisation of specified MDGs in Africa and Europe.

4. Methodology

The sessions are organised as spaces of and for debates and mutual learning, with the participants' voices, experiences and realities as the starting point of the process. Active participation and in-depth reflection are the keys to the success of these sessions.

The session will be engaging (participative?), whilst employing participant-centered methodologies with the application of experiential methods and workshops.

Highlights are:

- a. Key note addresses from experts in the field
- b. Plenary on some MDG and related themes
 - o Entrepreneurship and co-development
 - o Decent work for youth
 - o Non-formal education
 - o Good governance and democracy
- c. Personal development workshops on:
 - o Influencing skills and leadership
 - o Policy development
 - o Becoming an entrepreneur
- d. Debates
 - o By participants: *African Diaspora Youth in Europe - bridge or tunnel to MDGs?*
 - o By partners and agencies: *Making MDGs a reality*
- e. Discussions:
 - o Youth Rights in Europe
 - o African Youth Charter
- f. Others: Info market and Expo, social evening, & Questions and Answers session

5. Working Languages

The different sessions of the Course will be in English. Participants are requested to indicate all their working languages and language level in the application form and should be fluent in English.

6. Anticipated outcome & measures of success

- a. Action plan on identified themes that will inform the delivery and contributions of the group
- b. Capacity building of attendees through workshops and seminars
- c. Positioning of African Diaspora youth living in Europe as actors in international development and policy.

7. Profile of Participants

The participants in this seminar are representatives of youth organisations and youth groups of African Origin Living in Europe. The course is open for residents of all member-states of the Council of Europe:

Concerning participants and their profile:

- Should be a key African multiplier or from African origin playing an active role within a youth organisation, network or service at local, national or regional level, and plan to continue this work in the near future;
- Seeking gender balance;
- Diverse social and geographical background;
- Aged between 18 and 30 (in exceptional cases participants up to 35 can be accepted) ;
- Have already some experience in terms of international youth work and project work;
- Be committed to attend the full duration of the summit and be supported by a youth organisation or service;
- Be able to present the context of their work, their way of tackling problems, the challenges they meet and identify;
- Be able to work and communicate in English.

8. Support for Travel Expenses

The North-South Centre under the Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth will support the travelling of selected participants as well as travel insurance.

9. Course Fee

The Course will have a participation fee of 25 €, which will be paid during the Course.

10. Deadline for Applications

Those participants fulfilling the criteria and interested to participate should filled the enclosed application form and submit to nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int by the ~~26th June 2011.~~

EXTENDED DEADLINE 10 JULY 2011

For more information on the Partnership on Youth Between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth and the Africa Europe Youth Cooperation Programme :

<http://youth-partnership-eu.coe.int>
http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/GE/JMA/JMA_Youth_EN.asp
www.nscentre.org