



PROGRAMME D'APPUI A L'ENTREPRENARIAT DURABLE DES JEUNES EN RD CONGO

Officiellement enregistré entant que « Youth Employment Systems » sous :
N° JUST.G.S.112/S-KV/2766/2009 du 11 Novembre 2009
N° 131/MJS/DP-J/SK/2115/2008 du 6 Juin 2008
5, avenue Kasongo, COOCEC Kivu, Ibanda, Bukavu
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REPORT ON 'REWORK THE WORLD' 5TH GLOBAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUMMIT (YES SWEDEN 2010) Participative Planning Workshop held on May 11 – 12, 2009 International Alert Conference Room Bukavu, South Kivu, DR Congo



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DRC BACKGROUND

The Democratic Republic of Congo (former Zaire) is the third largest country in Africa after Sudan and Algeria. Its total population is actually around 60 millions of inhabitants of which 69.24% are rural and 30.76 are urban. At least 60% of its active population is made up young people aged between 15 and 40.

The Democratic Republic of Congo is under developed country having engaged for more than two decades in conflicts. Only 57% of the active population runs economical activities – agriculture 41%, informal employment 8.8% and formally employed 7.2%. As to access to education, 12% of young girls and 9% of young boys are out of schools while 31% adolescents have never attended schools. The Government Budget allocated to the education sector is around 3.5%. The health situation is also in deep crisis - more than 37% (18.5 millions) of the DRC population have no access to basic health care. According to the Ministry of Agriculture, over 20 millions of people are suffering from malnutrition.

According to the World Bank and UNDP world report on the population, the poverty rate was 71.34% in 2005. The poverty rate in the rural area was 75.72% while the in the urban areas, it was 61.49%. The Gross Domestic Product in this country was USD 96.3 in 2003 (USD 0.25 per day). Its Index of Human Development of was 0.3% in 2003 according to the same source. The total rate of the poverty in the country was 71.34% in 2005.

The last armed conflicts in the DRC have sent more than 3.3 millions to death. 3.4 other millions of people have been displaced. So far, there are at least 30,000 child soldiers of which 3% are young girls. The number of victims of the sexual violence going over 100,000 people of which over 80% are made up of women and young girls. In conclusion, the DRC needs to develop public policies and programs in order to deal with the above issues successfully. Employment polices are the need of the hour - National Development Plan, Employment Policy, Youth Policy, Education Policy and Entrepreneurship Spirit Promotion.

Introduction to Rework the World Meeting:

Rework the World (RTW) is a global initiative to help scale promising sustainable initiatives to create green (carbon neutral) employment opportunities worldwide. This initiative engages entrepreneurs, young leaders, investors, business managers and political decision-makers all over the world in a process that culminates in the 5th Global Youth Employment Summit in Sweden in June 2010, organized in partnership between Tällberg Foundation and YES Inc and with the support of the Swedish government.

As part of the RTW initiative, YES DRC Network organised a participatory planning workshop in Bukavu on May 11 - 12, 2009. The workshop brought together 37 entrepreneurs, youth leaders, investors, scientists, business leaders, political decision-makers, and others who are committed to find new solutions and partnerships to tackle the interrelated challenges of financial and economic crisis, unemployment, development, and environment.

The YES Campaign is now 8 years old. Over the course of these years our efforts together with that of countless others has led to the firm establishment of youth employment on the global agenda, 55 youth-led YES country networks, 4 global YES Summits, 400 projects, among others.

Meeting Objectives: The purpose of the workshop was to meet with the YES DRC entrepreneurs and an engaged group of diverse stakeholders to identify and select concrete ideas and existing projects to replicate and scale up among the three solutions selected during the YES DRC Core planning meeting held on March 4, 2009.

Major Outcomes: Five successful pilot initiatives, including new project ideas were identified for selection to be replicated or scaled up in both rural and urban areas in order to provide more opportunities of generating youth employment. A group of 5 experts have been appointed to work together to design projects and raise seed funding locally and internationally with the support of the YES HQ.

Process of the Workshop: About 47 high-level participants from provincial government, business, NGOs, youth groups and practitioners were invited of which 37 (82.2%) attended. (Participants' list attached as Appendix 1).



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This was therefore built on a set of highly interactive sessions. It was structured around working groups, where each group has profiled a set of initiatives that pioneer new approaches:

- **Reworking the DRC Energy** – *How can we create sustainable rural and semi urban solar and small hydro power energy systems?*
- **Reworking the DRC Agriculture and Forestry** – *How can we increase the production, transformation and distribution of agricultural and forestry business products in a sustainable way?*
- **Reworking the DRC Youth Enterprises** – *What financial infrastructure is needed to support sustainable enterprises?*

There was a general agreement that it was time to innovate 'what has worked' and find ways to replicate effective practices. Among the 10 successful initiatives identified during the YES DRC Core meeting held in March 2009, five initiatives including new project ideas were discussed under the following broad themes:

All the participants agreed that the replicable models in the sector of Renewable Energies (RE) and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) needs to be scaled up or replicated.

Renewable Energy: The most inspiring models include models from Renewable Energy Technology Training Centre, Charcoal Manufacturing from Waste Material, etc.. The objective being to organize youth at community level to assemble, install, service, and market products such as solar cookers, solar refrigerators, solar panels, solar radios, telephone solar chargers and small hydro powers, etc.

ICT: focus was on developing programs that support ICT-based entrepreneurship such as web-based services (i.e. website designs, e-marketing, e-business, e-administration, etc.), ICT for agricultural crops and planting cycles monitoring, ways to incorporate ICT into educational programs for students, Reality TV, etc.

Youth Enterprise Development:

- § The creation of large scale sustainable livelihoods by creating entrepreneurs with focus on environmental, social and economic sustainability.
- § The skill building and income generation - skill building of the artisans and linking them to the export markets, sustainable employment in carpet weaving,
- § The creation of micro-credit fund for the young entrepreneurs which will deliver comprehensive micro credit and business development services to individuals, groups, to improve rural livelihoods.

Agriculture and Forestry:

Agriculture and Forestry: It was agreed that efforts would be made to replicate some of the existing models in both rural and urban areas. One model of green livestock, one of oily crops (soya bean, peanuts and sunflowers) and another one of forestry initiative were selected for replication. Full details about the concrete projects will be designed by the 5 experts appointed for the issues.

However, it will also be very helpful to refer to the Indian models. The following models were selected for reference:

- Agribusiness that provides information service in Agriculture, Food Processing, Social Development
- Food processing that consists into growth-oriented micro enterprise development program (GMED)integrating farmers into commercial supply chains
- Green Livelihood Initiatives that runs environmentally sustainable youth employment and livelihood initiatives
- Livestock breeding which promotes dairy husbandry through up gradation of low productive non-descript cattle
- Vermin composting that manufacturers, exporters and suppliers vermicompost from India



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- Rural Marketing organizations to provide Specialised Training Programme on Rural Marketing (Marketing of Rural Products) For NGOs
- Mushroom production to implement a Community Enterprise model

Three groups in parallel sessions discussed the ideal set up of a thematic workshop, to enable pioneering initiatives identified to be replicated. For each theme, key questions included:

- What does a "Green" Enterprise mean for you?*
- What infrastructures are needed to scale up/replicate these solutions?*
- What partnerships can deliver those infrastructures?*
- How can these solutions provide opportunities for young people?*



Rework the World Group Works in Progress

It was decided that between June and December 2009 the appointed group of 5 experts will do the following:

- 1) Design the final models for replication referring to existing initiatives and the infrastructures to be replicated
- 2) Identify the partners needed and co-create the replication
- 3) Ensure that the project being adapted builds the livelihood opportunities of young people in their communities

REWORK THE DR CONGO TOWARDS THE YES SWEDEN 2010





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Appendix 1

Participants to the 11 – 12 May workshop and their Contacts

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