



Africa Youth for Peace and Development



Contact

Africa Youth for Peace and Development

P: +233 506340208 / +232 76632695

E: info@aypadinternational.org

Shelter for Africa House – National Stadium

Freetown, Sierra Leone

AYPAD'S Profile: Pushing Africa Forward

Background

Africa Youth for Peace and Development (AYPAD) was established on 24 October 1995 in Sierra Leone and registered as a non-profit charity with the Government of Sierra Leone in 2000, holding a United Nations Economic and Social accredited Status. It was created by 7 young men who had seen harsh realities being experienced on the entire continent as a result of war and the consequent violence galore which follow. Therefore, they decided to form the organization with the vision of continental integration for peace and development for youths in the continent.

AYPAD believes in establishing opportunities for young people in Africa through our multifaceted development programs that enables peace, sustainable development, and social integration. Our goal as a non-profit charity is to create opportunities, enable and empower particularly disadvantaged young people, and the marginalized whose lives are constantly under threat because of their deprived economic and social situation.

Our organization relies solely on charitable funding and donations to ensure the survival, sustainability, and success of our projects in order to benefit the most vulnerable young people in Africa and to ensure they have a future. It has hold membership of different networks and is also affiliated to many organization such as GYAN, GYCA, Peace Child, War child Canada, WayOut International and, IFFDO. Actually, AYPAD has been registered with the governments in 29 countries across the African continent with the belief that violence achieves no meaningful goal and not a solution.

Our Mission

AYPAD is a youth serving, empowerment, and advocacy movement with a mission and vision of ensuring peace and development among youth around the world through enabling empowerment activities such as capacity building and leadership

training, formal and non-formal education, social soft skills activities, environmental health, IT skills and sporting activities.

What We Do

Create a platform of opportunities to enable and empower young vulnerable people

- We target to improve lives of disadvantaged adults, street orphans and any young individual affected due to deprived economic & social factors.
- Engage youth through a variety of activities including sports, cultural activities, and skills development.
- Advocate for children, gender, and HIV/Aids issues 1

AYPAD also educates and informs young people on diverse international celebrations and commemorations so they can learn and celebrate difference and value diversity, to name a few:

- International Day of Peace
- International Youth Day
- Global Youth Service Day
- World Environment Day
- World Aids Days
- International Women's Day.
- World Aids Day

Overall Goal of AYPAD

Our continuous goal and pledge to the youth of Africa are to ensure:

- Marginalized street homeless young are given opportunities and educated to make informed choices in their lives.
- Opportunities for education, employment and training are created to empower and enable young people towards better prospects for the future.
- Facilitating the spread of sustainable agriculture and environmental initiatives.
- The use of soft skills like sport and the arts to build confidence and ensuring capacity building of teams so that they are able to understand and promote these values in a structured manner.

Organizational Structure

Our organization predominantly works with volunteers as none of our staff are salaried, not even the Executive Director. The organization relies solely on charitable funding and donations to ensure the survival, success, and sustainability of our projects to benefit the most vulnerable young people in Sierra Leone, and the other countries of operation, to ensure them a bright future.

AYPAD Programs

Environmental Program

The Environmental Program aim is to promote a clean and healthy environment while also instill a positive mind-set on the importance of caring for the environment and create a platform to develop the capacity of especially young people who have none or limited knowledge on how to care for the environment we

live. In some communities where even the availability of food, or public education are a challenge, it is simple to forget about our environment and focus all limited resources on our immediate needs. Therefore, ignoring the importance of engaging in basic practical environmental initiatives. AYPAD works to educate people on the importance to keep our environment clean, reduce carbon emissions, engage in afforestation and the need to care for the world we live. Through our projects of Beautification, Tree Planting, and Waste Management we work towards sharing knowledge in our communities that will guide and encourage them to live in a clean and healthy environment.

AYPAD's Beautification Project restores parks and open spaces while providing leadership and community service experiences for young people in Sierra Leone and beyond. Beautification service is a uniquely effective way to build community. When people put their hands into the dirt together and see their efforts, transform a threatened area

into a more vibrant landscape, they forge a special bond. Young children quickly learn to appreciate the natural gardens they create.

AYPAD Tree Planting Project discuss the importance of caring for locally planted trees in order to decrease soil erosion and to provide protection from strong winds and rain. Secondly, we plant fruit and other lucrative trees on the hill sites and flat lands that have been degenerated. During the tree planting, AYPAD volunteers link with local community youth and leaders to seek the best areas where trees can be planted and to ensure that these trees will be cared for.

AYPAD's Waste Management Project is on a mission to maximize resource value, while minimizing – and even eliminating – environmental impact so that both our economy and our environment can thrive. To provide



our customers with the exceptional waste collection, recycling, and disposal services

that protect, preserve and improve our environment and the quality of life in the communities we serve. AYPAD Waste Management is and will continue to be, the “Distinguishable Difference” in the solid waste and recycling collection and disposal industry.

Sports Program



AYPAD Sports program started with football project and developed into different sports categories later on such as handball, yoga, and hockey. The program was created to engage youth, many who live on the streets, into peaceful and peace-promoting activities which

build skills in them and promotes physical, spiritual, and mental well-being.

Cultural Program

Culture is the identity of a country, therefore it is important to preserve it and encourage people to participate towards the objective of spreading it. African cultures are unique, strong and very different throughout the continent. It is the belief of the organization that as the youth in Africa, we should be culturally oriented.

Therefore, the main aim of the AYPAD Cultural Program is to engage

youth and children in cultural activities to promote peace and develop their talents providing a context outside formal institutions where youth can come together to



better understand each other and their culture. With the help of WayOut Arts Organization, based in England, AYPAD received support to buy equipment (dance costumes and drums) to start running the cultural programs. The cultural group seeks to do this by providing youth with training and a place in which to dance and drum together as a cohesive group. AYPAD seeks to support this program and the youth within it by performing in a variety of spaces including cultural festivals, sensitization projects, conferences, and tourist venues. Through these performances, AYPAD hopes to create funds to ensure that all members of the troupe are able to attend school and have their basic housing and food needs met. Presently the organization offers cultural dance or drumming training for interested individuals or groups; if any organization need a cultural group to perform, they can also contact us.

Street Children Program

AYPAD Street Children Program aims to give youth all the basic knowledge that anyone needs to live and have a future in our modern times. Therefore, AYPAD developed different projects to engage young people into skillful activities that will develop their minds and lifestyles. Among our projects we have the AYPAD Skills Training Center, Film Project and Basic Education Project. These projects are associated as well to our Food for All Project, which is geared towards ensuring that all people can have at least a daily meal in the communities where we operate in Africa.

AYPAD Skills Training Center is an initiative that seeks to provide youth with market driven technical job skills and training for the hospitality industry that will enable them to secure steady, well-paying jobs and become productive members of society in their community. Curriculum will include areas of focus such as tailoring, welding, auto mechanics, and carpentry. The Center provides personal and social competencies. Subset classes are foundational to the program which focus on English proficiency, Entrepreneurship and Leadership Development.

AYPAD Basic Education Project has the purpose of giving African street children access to education and thus reintegrating them into society. Due to the continent's poor economic and social conditions, children often do not have access to



education. The project counteracts this injustice by offering educational programs for children aged between 6 and 17. Furthermore, an individual curriculum that is tailored to the children's special needs is developed with the aim of reintegrating the children into the educational system. The initiative reduces the risk of social exclusion and the threat

of slipping into the abysses of crime. AYPAD hope the project will contributes significantly to the reduction of poverty in Africa.

To escape the vicious circle of poverty, children have to be empowered and given access to high quality education. Our Filmmaking Project aims to promote education, inspire social change and encourage creative self-expression by teaching the basics of filmmaking: how to write, direct, act in, shoot and produce their own films. Additionally, students will be responsible for event management and marketing as well. The classes will offer a safe and stimulating learning environment where students can acquire valuable skills and knowledge which could be exceedingly beneficial for their education, and future earning ability. We strongly believe that

Within the confines of the program, children will be taught filmmaking techniques. They will gain practical and theoretical knowledge, learning from books and teachers who are trained and

knowledgeable in filmmaking. To afford the necessary filmmaking tools and equipment, second hand products will be sought. A wide range of tools and equipment will be available so that the students have experience in learning about cameras, audio, lighting, directing, developing a story and scriptwriting among others.

Women Empowerment Program

The Micro-credit Project main thrust is to effect a revolving micro-credit scheme for women members of AYPAD as a means of enchainning their economic empowerment. Obsessed with the desire to positively transform the lives and living conditions of vulnerable children (boy & girls) and women, AYPAD has been undertaken series of research and documentation of experiences together with suggested recommendations of street children and commercial sex workers, most of whom have subsequently been absorbed into AYPAD's membership, and gradually acquired coping mechanism skills. AYPAD holds the view that women's empowerment lies with that economic power and decision making abilities, which would also reflect positively on their lives and their families around them. The rationale of this request is to enhance the economic empowerment of the women members of AYPAD through the provision of revolving Micro-Credit scheme.

On the other hand, the Snail Farm Project aims at providing low cost meat in our countries of operation while also providing employment that will generate income for marginalized population. AYPAD detected that snails are a high source of protein and cheaper than other animals' meat, thus more accessible for population. Therefore we intend to commence this project with snail farming and at a later stage we would develop other farm types, to name a few: guinea fowl, turkey or pigs. These animals will be provided to the participants after being trained to properly manage their farms. AYPAD will help with marketing the product of our farmers after being harvested.

Achatina snail is a delicacy for the citizens of West Africa, Europe and Asia. In Ghana is eaten by about half of the 35 million population. The snail is traditionally gathered from the wild and sold at the local markets. However, in recent years, the Achatina snail has greatly diminished due to over- harvesting, adverse weather conditions, and deforestation. The limited supply of snail keeps the cost prohibitively high, and thus keeps the nutritious food out of the hands and mouths of the consumers who want and need it most. AYPAD Snail Farm which will commence first project in Ghana assisting women, mostly commercial sex workers, single mothers and local farmers in raising the large snails, thus providing a sustainable supply of the highly sought-after snail in the Ghanaian market.

Pushing Africa Forward

AYPAD is aware of the social, economic and health issues prevalent in the African continent such as poor education, lack of literacy and numeracy, poor health care, HIV/AIDS, unemployment and extreme poverty. This is evident through statistics such as the fact that 40% of children under five are chronically undernourished and over two thirds of the population of Africa is living below the poverty line.

Our interventions on the ground are mainly focused on leveraging employment possibilities and educating vulnerable young people who are marginalized by society. Our continuous goal is to try and source funding worldwide, national and local organizations, businesses, or charities to enable AYPAD develop a sustainable non for profit model to generate income to:

“Reach out to more young people from financially and socially challenged backgrounds in African countries and providing them with quality education, shelter, and nutrition that would help improve their quality of life and well-being.”

AYPAD Network Expansion

AYPAD wants to develop a network of youth within Africa that will enhance the possibilities of young people and women. For this, we are spreading our mission and connecting youth from different nationalities, who are fighting towards the same goal. With this AYPAD will be able to develop all ongoing projects in different parts of Africa and many people will be able to have a brighter future.

AWARDS

ENO 2003, 2004 -Finland

Energy Globe 2007 Wireless Communication and
Energy for Rural Communities – Brussels- Belgium

National Delegate 2007 – CIVICUS World Assembly –



Edinburg Scotland

National Delegate 2007- World Youth Congress - Quebec Canada

Energy Globe Award 2008, Health for All projects - Prague Czech Republic

National Delegate -2013 World Conference on Least Developed Countries -

Istanbul Turkey World at School Project - 2014 Germany

PARTNERSHIPS

Youth Partnership for Peace and Development

Bitcoin



Community Youth Network Program

Cool Designs

War Child Canada



Global Youth Action Network

Tools 4 Change



THANK YOU FOR YOUR COLLABORATION



CONTACT INFO

Ph: + 233 50 634 0208

Ph: + 232 88 718 407

Info@aypadinternational.org

www.aypadinternational.org

Shelter for Africa House – National Stadium,
Freetown, Sierra Leone