Recent Activities

Iran becomes 9th Lead Country of the Youth Employment Network

Following a meeting between an Iranian government delegation and the YEN Secretariat brokered by Iranian youth in December 2003, the ILO’s Director-General, Juan Somavia received a letter dated 20 January, 2004 from Dr Rahim Ebadi, Advisor to the President and the Head of the National Youth Organisation, signalling Iran’s intention to become a YEN Lead country. Iran has a strong track record in addressing youth employment issues and in accordance with UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/57/165 on Promoting Youth Employment has recently formulated a National Action Plan on Youth Employment which places education and training in ICT’s at its heart. With this plan now being implemented throughout the country, Iran will use its experiences and leadership role within the YEN partnership to share its experience regionally.

Young people bear the burden as global jobless total stays high

Youth unemployment rates have become pronounced in recent years (see table below) with young people being two to three times more likely to be jobless than adults in most countries.

Young people, both in developing and developed countries fall into a trap by being unable to get jobs which could provide them with essential skills necessary to make them more employable.

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<td>Youth, female</td>
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Source: Global Employment Trends
Many of these young workers can be categorised as "working poor" – some of the 550 million people, mainly in developing countries, who earn less than $1 a day.

**Youth Employment and Labour Standards in the ICT industry discussed at the World Summit for Information Society**

The YEN Secretariat participated in a panel discussion coordinated by the Youth Caucus at the ICT 4 Development platform during the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) December 10, 2003, featuring young representatives from labour movements, business and NGOs to discuss the impact of the Information Society on young workers around the world. The panel discussed issues of concern to youth in the information economy, including entrepreneurship, unionization, education, gender equality and conditions for young workers in high-tech industries. The YEN presented linkages between ICT’s and youth employment citing of projects being run by YEN partners aimed at improving the employability of young people through ICT training:

**UN General Assembly Resolution on Youth Approved**

In January 2004, the UN General Assembly (GA) passed resolution A/RES/58/133 concerning policies and programmers involving youth.

This resolution reinforces the commitment of member states to the development of National Action Plans on youth employment within the framework of the YEN by September 2004. It also sets out a timeline for the Secretary-General to report back to the General Assembly. The resolution can be found in all the official UN languages at [http://www.un.org/youth](http://www.un.org/youth).

**Regional workshop held on youth employment in post-conflict Arab countries.**

This event held in Beirut, Lebanon, January 28-30, and organized by the UN Division for Social Policy and Development examined issues relating to youth unemployment in the context of political instability, due to both civil and military conflict. It reviewed current policies and programmes on the issue, as well as suggested strategies that could be used to improve the lives of young people looking for decent work in the Arab region. For more information contact Julie Larsen: larsenj@un.org.

**UN Youth Flash Service Launched**

Youth Flash is the free news service provided by the UN Programme on Youth that keeps you up to date on what is happening for youth at the UN and its partner organizations. [Click here to subscribe](http://www.digitalpartnership.org).

**enta 21** is a partnership between The International Youth Federation (IYF), a partner organisation of the YEN, and the Inter-American Development Bank to award grants to non-profit organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean to run training and job placement projects that target disadvantaged youth and impart ICT skills, enabling trainees to work with computers, the internet, and other workplace technologies and equipment. The projects need to meet a demonstrated demand in the labour market and teach the skills necessary for trainees to find and hold a job. Grants ranging from 300,000 – 700,000 USD will have been made to up to 40 non-profits by the end of this year. [www.iyfnet.org/document.cfm/39/554](http://www.iyfnet.org/document.cfm/39/554).

The Digital Partnership is an international partnership to facilitate affordable access to technology, ICT skills training and the Internet to improve the employability of marginalized young people. A pilot established in June 2002 in South Africa with support from leading global IT companies and their major corporate IT users, the World Bank and foundations has committed to install 150,000 refurbished computers over a period of two year in a network of e-learning centres across the country. The centres supplied with free software under licence from Microsoft SA and staffed by Intel trained ICT teachers, will teach courses to young students, in an after school non-formal setting, on computer skills and network administration with curricula designed by Microsoft and Cisco. [www.digitalpartnership.org](http://www.digitalpartnership.org).

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**World Bank holds European Partners meeting to discuss its Children and Youth Strategy**

This one-day roundtable held in Paris, 23 January, 2004 offered an opportunity for open consultation and discussions on the latest draft of the Bank’s Children and Youth Strategy. The meeting brought together around 50 participants from a number of EU institutions, 9 European bi-lateral donor agencies, European NGO’s and Youth organisations and UN agencies to discuss ways and means for partners to collaborate in the shaping and implementation of the strategy. The YEN Secretariat was present to discuss the employment related elements of the strategy with participants and highlight the linkages between the Strategy and the Bank’s ongoing activities within the YEN partnership. The YEN also stressed the need for a life-cycle approach to employment policy within the draft document, which took into account the inter-generational aspects of youth employment both between children and youth on the issues of education and child labour but also between younger and older workers.

**World Bank Institute to run e-conference on youth leadership**

The World Bank Institute and its partners will run a global e-conference on the broad theme of strategies for successful poverty reduction involving the ideas and energy of young people from February 9-27, 2003. The e-conference will capture the views of young people on the importance of building sustainable development with a new kind of leadership and in turn alleviating poverty. To register click here.

Outcomes from this event will be shared at a major World Bank conference on poverty reduction to be held in Shanghai, May 23–25, 2004.

**Straight Talk for a New Generation**

*Kids DevNews* -- the Bank’s Web site dedicated to young people has become a key product in the Bank’s outreach to children and youth, with thematic stories complemented by multimedia products such as "Straight Talk," where Bank staff and other experts talk about development.

Complex topics are broken down into their essentials and explained in the most straight-forward terms possible in these short videos.

A comprehensive youth-oriented Web site is being prepared, with information on development issues, explanations of the Bank's role in addressing them, and ways to get involved and take action. In addition to information on topics such as AIDS, education, post-conflict reconstruction, unemployment, etc., the site will offer interactive games, discussion areas and other features.

**ILO reinforces commitment to youth employment: ILO-YETT created.**

In response to growing calls from its constituents to provide technical support and policy advice on meeting the challenge of youth employment, the ILO's Employment Sector has established a Youth Employment Task Team (ILO-YETT). The team will work to strengthen the ILO's technical activities and policy messages on youth employment within the context of the ILO's Global Employment Agenda. It has been specifically tasked with the preparation of a Technical Meeting on Youth Employment in October 2004 and the General Discussion on Youth Employment at the International Labour Conference in June 2005. ILO-YETT will also help to coordinate ILO response to the growing number of requests from the regions on youth employment issues and to provide support to the YEN Secretariat.

**Highlighting the activities of the ILO on youth employment: Asia**

Youth employment has been included as a target topic in a US$ 500,000 framework agreement recently signed
between the ILO and the Government of Korea.

Given that 60 per cent of the world's youth live in Asia, youth employment has been made a priority concern. A project under the agreement will promote the sharing of experiences on youth employment policies and programmes among selected countries in the region. It will also provide support to Nepal and China to gather information on the problems young women and men face in making the transition from school to work, and prepare National Action Plans on youth employment within the framework of YEN. More information

Furthermore, the ILO Regional Office for Asia is in the final stages of editing an Action Manual for Youth Employment in the Asian and Pacific region. The manual, designed for policy makers and employment specialists in the region will contain examples of good practices in youth employment in the Asian and Pacific regions. For more information please contact Sara Spant spant@ilo.org

Major Youth Employment project set to launch in Latin America.

A four-year project will be launched shortly to promote youth employment in Latin America, targeting Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Honduras, Mexico, Peru and the Dominican Republic. Entered into with the Spanish government and the Spanish Employers Confederation, it seeks to meet the Millennium Development goal of providing decent and productive work for youth. Generating and building upon commitments of governments, employers, workers and youth organizations and youth, it will create a network to develop activities and policies for the promotion of youth employment. It is directed towards the creation of entrepreneurship initiatives, the creation of SMEs and towards the improvement of youth employability, especially of those in the informal economy.

In parallel with this project will be the launch of a broad ranging advocacy and communications campaign on youth employment and child labour by the ILO’s Madrid office in partnership with the Spanish Government and Spanish Employers Confederation, in March 2004. The aim of the campaign will be raise public awareness of the problems of child labour and youth employment whilst highlighting international responses (IPEC and YEN) as well as promoting the Latin American project as an example of good practice in meetings these challenges.

Job Creation and Youth Employment.

YEN core partner, the ILO is working with entrepreneurial young women and men to create sustainable employment. TECA is a youth group, based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, which started to collect solid waste, for a fee, from households in their neighbourhood, in 1996. Starting with only a few pushcarts, the group now has six vehicles and three trailers, with its 50 members serving a community of 4,000 households. Workers are paid above minimum wage and the group pays taxes on its profit.

Click here to listen to an interview with Alodia Ishengoma coordinator of the ILO Solid Waste Management Project, Dar es Salaam.

News from Lead Countries

Brazil

Following Brazil's decision to become a lead country of the YEN in September 2003 the ILO and the World Bank have been working collaboratively to provide support for Brazil’s Primeiro Emprego (First Employment) programme. Specific joint activities include:

A Pact for Youth Employment:
Together with Rodrigo Abel, President Lula's National Youth Coordinator and Alessandro de Leon, Minister Jaques Wagner’s advisor on Youth Policies, the World Bank and the ILO have proposed the creation of a National Pact for Youth Employment, to be led by youth leaders from a variety of youth movements and organizations, with the support of the Brazilian
Government, the private sector, civil society and donors. The Pact is to promote a series of local, state and national conferences, which will culminate with a civil-society engagement at all levels of the Primeiro Emprego Program, from policy conception to the program evaluation. Aims of these of these conferences range from the strengthening of pre-existing Regional Youth Centers as mechanisms for the implementation of youth employment programmes, to promoting youth issues and employment opportunities in the agendas of candidates from all parties in the 2004 mayoral election.

**Consórcios Sociais da Juventud**

Together with the Ministry of Labour and the Government’s Primeiro Emprego Team, the World Bank and the ILO have brought together more than 60 NGOs from six metropolitan areas to build a common training and placement plan for the most disadvantaged youth in the region, with priority to Afro-Brazilians, disabled, young women, rural workers and indigenous youth. The first Consórcio (or grouping) met at the end of 2003 in the presence of Ministers Jaques Wagner (Labour) and Cristovam Buarque (Education).

**ILO Quilombos project moves forward**

The ILO is developing an employability programme targeted specifically at young black women and men from 5 Quilombos (communities that represent the remaining members of the runaway slave communities from the colonial period in Brazil).

5 Quilombos have now been selected in consultation with the National Commission of Quilombos and the Special Secretary for Racial Integration (SEPRIR) who has ministerial status. The project was positively received at a recent national meeting of Rural Black Communities, which brought together 300 participants in Recife.

**Brazil –India agree on importance of addressing youth employment**

In a meeting last month, coinciding with the World Social Forum in Mumbai, and building on the Brasilia Declaration of June 2003 President Lula of Brazil and Prime Minister Vajpayee of India agreed on the importance of addressing the youth employment challenge in their counties. This call will be taken up as part of a raft of social and economic issues under discussion by the India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue Forum, a newly formed trilateral decision making group of the G-3 group of nations, which will meet again in South Africa in March.

**Indonesia**

Under the direction of the I-YEN steering committee a National Youth Employment Action Plan for Indonesia is currently being drafted. This draft will be shared with a core group of stakeholders, including youth organisations, worker and employer representatives and the UN and World Bank offices) by the end of February 2004.

Feeding directly into this drafting process are the findings of two ILO led activities in 2003: a series of “youth for youth” consultations held in November / December and a number of school-to-work transition surveys carried out in the summer.

In the youth consultations more than 400 young Indonesian’s were given the opportunity to voice hopes and fears about their futures. Some of the most frequent comments included concerns about:

- The high price of education.
- Unequal opportunities in the workplace, especially for young women.
- The education system not providing students with vocational qualifications increasingly sought after by employees.
- The lack of policies conducive to the creation of business start-ups.

The school to work transitions surveys carried out by the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration (MoMT) with the support of the ILO...
interviewed 2,180 young people between the ages of 15-24. These were some of the key findings:

**Education and skills**

- 28% of self-employed youth did not have primary education
- 60% of self-employed youth and 40% of job seekers left school because of financial constraints
- 39% of those interviewed received educational and vocational guidance
- less than 40% have participated in work experience programmes

**Entering the job market**

- 67% did not receive careers or job opportunities counselling
- 47% used informal networks to find jobs, 21% replied to advertisements and 4% used public employment services

**The Characteristics of working youth**

- 25% work at home or in home-based industries
- Over 60% are in workplaces with less than 10 employees
- 50% of self-employed enjoy the greater independence this brings

The I-YEN is developing a number of practical aids for young people seeking work or looking to start their own businesses. A Pocket Guide for Youth Seeking Work is being developed in partnership with the ILO, and the Ministries of Education and Labour which seeks to provide young Indonesians with information on how to profile themselves for work and what to do to seek work.

Also in partnership with the Ministry of National Education, I-YEN has organized the translation and printing of 10,000 copies of the ILO’s Start Your Business (SYB) package of materials (Handbook, Workbook, Business Plan) These publications will be used in the immediate future to assist the lead trainers and the vocational secondary school trainers to refine the "Teacher's Guide" that was adapted and translated late last year as well.

**Sri Lanka**

Formal structures have been put in place in-country to ensure the swift development of Sri Lanka’s National Action Plan on Youth Employment. Housed within the Ministry of Labour the secretariat of the Sri Lanka YEN (SL-YEN) has assembled a task force to oversee the plan’s implementation. The secretariat is being supported in its start-up by the ILO through funding from the Dutch government. Given the fragile peace process underway in the country and the existence of 600,000 jobless young people, youth employment strategies are being seen by the Sri Lankan government as a key to ensuring national security and stability.

**News from the High-Level Panel**

**Mr. Alan Larsson** accompanied YEN/ILO staff on a mission to the Nordic Countries in early February to present his vision of a ‘Nordic Initiative’ on youth employment (see page 7.)

**Mr. Magatte Wade** will participate in a meeting on Youth Employment in West Africa being organised by the Social Science Research Council and Gorée Institute, 12-13 February, in Dakar, Senegal in support of the UN Office in West Africa.

**News from around the globe**

**Youth Employment on the agenda in China and Hong Kong S.A.R**

The International Forum on Youth Business held in Beijing, China in November 2003 saw the All China Youth Federation (ACYF), launch a youth entrepreneurship scheme, Youth Business China (YBC).
Based on the model of YEN partners Youth Business International (YBI) programme, the ACFY are working to translate the findings of the YEN’s working group on entrepreneurship into Chinese. This document will then be distributed to all 11,000 branches of the China Youth Palaces, the implementing agency for YBC throughout China. The issue of youth employment will also be discussed at the ILO’s China Employment Forum, 27-29 April in Beijing.

Following on launch of Youth Business China in November 2003, High-Level Panelist, Rosanna Wong’s organization the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups is now looking to set up a similar Youth Business Hong Kong.

She reports that youth unemployment figures are improving in Hong Kong with the Government seeing unemployment as a main priority. On 7 January 2004 the Chief Executive committed the Government to set aside about HK$1.2 billion to implement three employment measures, two of which are directly related to young people. These include:

- Extending the Youth Work Experience and Training Scheme by two years to place into employment 10,000 young people between the ages of 15 to 24.

- Introducing a one-year trial scheme to assist 1,000 young people to become self-employed.

The Government will also continue the Youth Pre-employment Training Programme and has vowed to establish a Youth Sustainable Development and Employment Fund to promote trial schemes for young people.

News from the YEN Secretariat

Youth participation in the YEN

A formal response has been issued by the YEN Secretariat to the youth platform presented by youth representatives at the meeting of the YEN’s High-Level Panel in July 2003. The core partners, in consultation with youth, are developing a strategy and work programme for more sustained involvement of young people in the YEN. A first step will be working with youth organisations to create a YEN Youth Consultative Group both as a sounding board for the High-Level Panels own recommendations, and to lobby for government action on youth employment. The YEN Secretariat is currently looking for resources for a training programme and materials to help young people get involved at the national level and in their communities.

‘Nordic Initiative’ discussed with Swedish, Norwegian and Finnish Governments

Mr. Alan Larsson, Rapportuer for the YEN’s High-Level Panel, along with Mr. Gorän Hultin, Executive Director of the Employment Sector at the ILO and Mr Steven Miller, Secretary of the YEN travelled to Sweden, Norway and Finland in early February 2004 to discuss potential donor interest in supporting the YEN’s activities. The team, travelled to Stockholm to present a progress report on the activities of the YEN to the Swedish government who donated start-up funding for the YEN. In the other capitals the concept of a ‘Nordic Initiative’ was put forward, which would see Finland and Norway match Sweden’s commitment for the years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.
The team had meetings with youth organisations in the three capital cities to discuss this proposal and ask for their support in approaching their Governments. The youth organisations also shared their experiences in youth employment policies and programmes in their respective nations.

**Support for the YEN from the Irish**

Mr. Steven Miller met with the Irish Minister for Development Cooperation, Mr. Thomas Kitt, in Dublin in early January. The Minister expressed his continued support for the work of the YEN and indicated that he would seek to find opportunities and resources to support the YEN, especially given Ireland’s current Presidency of the European Union.

**YEN meeting with World Bank and the Draeger Foundation**

The Steering Committee for the Malente Symposium and Youth Conference on Youth Employment, Empowerment and Participation: Securing the Future, met on 22 January, 2004 to plan for this event which takes place in Lübeck, Germany, 18-20 October 2004. Comprised of officials from the YEN Secretariat, the World Bank, the Dräger Foundation, GtZ, the German Technical Cooperation agency and the World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM) this group explored the structure and themes of the event, including a one-day youth dialogue supported by GtZ.

**YEN Joint Secretariat Meetings**

The Senior Management Steering Committee of The YEN (Director level staff from the ILO, the UN and the World Bank) is moving ahead with the development of a Programme Document as a framework for Joint Collaboration and Fundraising.

**News from Partners**

**YEN becomes a Cooperating Organization of the Development Gateway**

Following discussions with editorial staff at the Development Gateway the YEN has agreed to become a Cooperating Organization on the Youth for Development area of the gateway. The YEN will post on youth employment related topics and explore other opportunities with the DG team for knowledge exchange.

**Achieving Scale – Youth Business International (YBI) and the International Youth Foundation (IYF).**

Two YBI programmes, Canada and South Africa have now helped over one thousand young people into businesses. India is fast approaching this number. In order to scale up their activities Youth Business programmes need help to learn from the global experience of the YBI network to accelerate this rate of growth. A number of bids have been made for December 2003. This regional meeting for South and South East Asia, was hosted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, and brought together over 600 high-level representations from government, multilateral and bilateral agencies, civil society, business, international donors and youth delegates from over 20 YES Country Networks from ASEAN, SEAMEO and SAARC countries to discuss the issue of employment.
funds to achieve this. YBI and the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank are preparing a proposal for a Latin American project for 5 country programmes over 4 years to take them from 150 start ups to 3500. The International Youth Foundation has started discussions with YBI for possible joint projects in the Philippines, Indonesia, the Balkans, Palestine and Israel.

On the occasion of the State Visit of President Lula of Brazil to India, on 27 January 2004, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed, in his presence between Bhartiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST), an Indian NGO and Instituto Negocios da Juventude (INJ), a Brazilian NGO.

BYST and INJ are part of Youth Business International (YBI), a partner organisation of the Youth Employment Network (YEN).

With 2.8 billion people living at incomes below $2 a day and one third of the world's work force unemployed or underemployed, the human race is facing major challenges as they enter the 21st century. A disproportionate number of the vulnerable groups are young people - 54% of India and 47% of Brazil.

The purpose of this memorandum is to maximise the help that the two organisations can give to disadvantaged young people seeking to become entrepreneurs in India and Brazil. The organisations will exchange best practices in identifying, mentoring and monitoring young entrepreneurs.

The other areas of collaboration include exploring ways of building linkages between young entrepreneurs and mentors of both countries, especially for future trade links; exchanging ways of building capacity particularly involving the corporate sector; and working together for research and development of new models and tools using ICT and other technology.

Media Sampler

Financial Times Supplement on 'Investing in young people'
23/01/2004
Containing articles on youth employment quoting World Bank President James Wolfensohn, ILO Director-General Juan Somavía and the YEN Secretariat.

Jobs scare for youngsters
News24, 23/01/2004

World jobless hits new peak, young suffer most
Reuters, 23/01/2004

Young people bear the burden as global jobless total stays high: ILO
Channel News, 23/01/2004

Xth African Regional Meeting, Youth Employment: A leap to the future
ILO World of Work Magazine, December 2003

Youth Business Trust continues to benefit entrepreneurs
Barbados Advocate, 03/12/2003

Related Issues

Employer’s organisations and the promotion of Youth Employment: an example from Sweden.

The Confederation of Swedish Enterprise, A member organisation of YEN partner, the International Organisation of Employers is a business interest organization representing close to 60,000 Swedish companies. It consists of 48 trade and employer association members, with a 1.5 million labour force covering 70% of the Swedish private sector.

The Confederation encourages entrepreneurship and an increase in the number of people who start and develop companies. Out of the close to 500,000 companies in Sweden,
approximately 97% have less than 19 employees. Every year nearly 40,000 new companies are formed--a third of these by women and one fifth by immigrants (youth businesses comprise a significant number of this total) As such the confederation sees entrepreneurial spirit and the economic growth of a nation as being closely connected.

The Confederation is working to support young entrepreneurs by highlighting examples of successful companies, influencing the shaping of and information about rules and regulations and stimulating and improving education about running businesses and entrepreneurship.

One initiative which the Confederation is actively supporting is the Venture Cup, a pan-Nordic business plan competition that helps students, researchers and others to take their business idea from concept to actual start-up. Venture Cup motivates participants to develop their ideas by hands-on coaching and feedback as well as inspirational events and workshops. Venture Cup has a large network of entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and professionals within a wide range of fields devoted to helping make young entrepreneurs businesses ideas become a reality.

**Latin America and the Caribbean directory of Youth Entrepreneurship organizations created.**

Young Americas Business Trust (YABT), the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development of the Organization of American States and the Youth Development and Outreach Program of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB YOUTH) are creating a directory of organizations and agencies that support and promote youth entrepreneurship in Latin America and the Caribbean. If you are a youth entrepreneur and/or are affiliated with an organization that supports youth entrepreneurs in Latin America and the Caribbean, you can complete the questionnaire relevant to you. Additional information and links to the questionnaires can be found at: [http://www.ybiz.net/dir_letter.htm](http://www.ybiz.net/dir_letter.htm)

**Interesting Links**

**La Red Latinoamericana de Juventudes Rurales (RELAJUR)**  

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**2004 calendar of Youth Employment related events**

- **February 2004:** World Bank Youth and Labour Workshop  
  New Dehli, India
- **February 2004 – through 2004:** ILO Spain Visibility Campaign on Youth Employment and Child Labour
- **9 - 10 February 2004:** Meeting of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Entrepreneurship in Poverty Alleviation: youth entrepreneurship  
  Geneva, Switzerland
- **12-13 February 2004:** Meeting of the UNECE Working Party on Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development WP8 of Economic & Social Council  
  Geneva, Switzerland
- **12-13 February, 2004:** Practical Recommendations for Combating Youth Unemployment in West Africa  
  SSRC and UNOWA Dakar, Senegal
- **5 –7 April 2004:** ILO Meeting on Youth Employment in the Arab States and the Middle East  
  Amman, Jordan
- **27-29 April 2004:** [China Employment Forum](http://www.ybiz.net/dir_letter.htm)  
  Beijing, China
- **June 2004:** UNDESA and UN HABITAT expert meeting on youth employment. Nairobi, Kenya
- **9-12 June 2004:** JCI Africa Conference  
  Dakar, Senegal
- **12 August 2004:** International Youth Day  
  ‘Youth and Intergenerational Relations’
- **8-14 August 2004:** [World Youth Festival](http://www.ybiz.net/dir_letter.htm)  
  Barcelona, Spain
- **September 2004:** African Union Extra-ordinary summit on Employment  
  Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
- **October 2004:** ILO Technical meeting on Youth Employment  
  Geneva, Switzerland
- **4 – 8 October, 2004:** You Employment Summit  
  Boca del Rio, Veracruz, Mexico
- **18-20 October 2004:** Malente Symposium and Youth Conference, Youth Employment, Empowerment and Participation: Securing the Future  
  Lübeck, Germany

We welcome both feedback and contributions. We would like to hear from you at monticone@ilo.org and encourage you to share this Newsletter with colleagues and friends.