



Concept Note

Capacity-Building Workshop for AYC National Consortium members on Project Development and Resource Mobilisation

3rd – 5th June 2019, Malawi

Background and Rationale

Following its official inauguration in January 2017 as an independent Pan-African Youth Network of youth-led and youth-serving organisations on the continent, the AYC recognised the need to build a stronger youth network in Africa, intensify its presence, and expand its reach and impact at member states level. To achieve its mandate of organising, coordinating activities of its member organisations, building partnership, promoting and supporting other in-country youth initiatives and programmes at national level, the Secretariat in 2018, has established a national consortium of youth organisations, youth groups, youth networks, youth coalitions, youth councils, youth commissions, youth associations, youth parliaments, youth professional and think tank bodies, youth chambers of commerce, youth clubs in high schools and colleges, and associations of university students in 46 member states of the African Union.

The national consortium spread across the African continent are currently working on a number of projects/initiatives in the area of youth socioeconomic development, youth leadership and participation in governance, health and well-being, protection and promotion of human rights, green growth and climate action, as well as promotion and maintenance of sustainable peace and security at all levels of society.

Considering the crucial role of national consortium in domesticating and implementing the AYC programmes and activities at national level, the vision of the AYC cannot be realised without continuous capacity strengthening of national consortium members. Since the launch of national consortium in 2018, major milestone could not be achieved due to inadequate resources, low capacity and technical know-how to develop and manage their own projects/activities successfully. This weakness has seriously hindered the effective and efficient operations of the AYC and implementation of its strategic plan 2018-2020 at national level.

To address the challenge, the idea of a 2-day intensive capacity building workshop is conceived, and aimed at strengthening the capacity of a selected national consortium in the following areas:

- Project development, management and sustainability,
- Budget preparation or costing of the project,
- Fund raising,
- Monitoring and evaluation,
- Advocacy, communication and networking.

Part of the training, representative of the participating national consortium will be introduced to the **AYC strategic goals, outputs, planned activities and**



expected outcomes with a view to encourage them to align their in-country projects and activities to the priority areas of the strategy. The training is prudent and timely to equip the selected national consortium members with the requisite knowledge, capacity and tools to develop and implement projects within their respective organisations successfully so as to contribute to the development of their countries and the continent as a whole.

The AYC 3-year strategic plan (2018-2020) was developed through a series of online and physical consultation which accorded the AYC membership and young people in Africa the opportunity to have their say and decide on the strategic direction for AYC. Validated at the 2nd Annual General Assembly Meeting of AYC in Harare, Zimbabwe, the strategic visioning process was generously sponsored by German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (GIZ) through the African Governance Architecture programme of African Union Commission. This youth-owned and youth-driven strategy outlines practical steps to create decent job and entrepreneurship opportunities for young people, improve health services including comprehensive sexuality education in formal and non-formal education, promote human rights and deliver good governance, accountability and social cohesion at all levels as well as encourage inclusion and active participation of youth in the maintenance of peace and security in the country, at regional and continental levels.

By the end of training, participants will acquire hands-on experience skills on how to work and initiate projects on various national issues such as education and skills development, entrepreneurship and employment, health and gender-based violence, youth political inclusion and accountability, peace and security, environment and climate change.

The capacity building workshop will be jointly organised by the AYC Secretariat and International Organisation of Employers. This session will build on the existing IOE-AYC partnership to address employment and skills concerns of African youth.

Objectives and expected outcomes

The objective of the workshop is to:

- Build the capacity of selected national consortium to develop and implement projects within their respective countries successfully.
- To enhance the understanding of the consortiums (roles and expectations) among members in line with the AYC Strategic Plan 2018-2020)
- Encourage national consortium to align their in-country projects, programs and activities to the priority areas of AYC strategic plan,
- Inspire ownership and enhance the understanding of national consortium members of AYC strategic plan,



- Strengthen the resource mobilisation capacity of national consortium to source the needed financing for their in-country projects and activities,
- Provide peer learning platform allowing national consortium members to share knowledge and experiences relating to implementation of AYC strategy at in-country level,
- Meet IOE general employers' and discuss how to ensure sustainability of in-country projects and activities of national consortium through partnerships at national, regional and continental levels,
- Enhance the advocacy, communication and networking skills of selected national consortium to advocate, communicate and work together on developmental challenges facing their countries and the continent.

The following expected outcomes are envisaged:

- Participants are equipped with tools needed to develop and manage their in-country projects and activities effectively,
- Increased level of knowledge and awareness of the AYC, its vision and the strategic plan 2018 – 2020 among the national consortium members,
- Increased capabilities of the members to formulate, implement, monitor and evaluate their in-country projects and activities independently,
- In-country projects/activities of participating national consortium are aligned to the priority areas of AYC strategic plan 2018-2020,
- Participants acquired hands-on experience skills on project development and management, and have the ability to initiate and mobilise resources for their in-country projects/activities,
- Build synergies with IOE general employers' and possible areas of collaboration explored,
- Advocacy, communication and network skills of participants are enhanced.

Format

The workshop will take the format of expert presentations, practical exercise and thematic group works.

Participants

Overall 10 representatives from AYC national consortium in West, East, Central and Southern Africa will participate in the workshop.

Dates and Venue

The workshop will take place from June 3-5, 2019 in parallel with IOE general employers' meeting in Malawi.

Language

The official working language for the workshop will be English.