








The African Youth Forum on S&T
 Strategic Plan 2007 – 2010
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 Youth Forum on S&T, Uganda








Background ...

- Young people world wide and in Africa particularly are disadvantaged in many ways
- Some of their major concerns are the need for;
 - Mentorship for the next generation of scientists/researchers
 - Bridging the inter- and intra-generational isolation
 - Building a popular constituency for S&T in Africa
 - Including the voice of young people in policymaking
 - Sharing information and expertise

Background....

- The 1st youth congress held in June 2005 in Nairobi on the theme; *Youth and unemployment/wealth creation: opportunities in Agriculture, Science, Technology* marked the beginning of broad collective youth engagement in youth led development network.
- The congress organized by CTA and ATPS drew over 80 young people from 21 African countries with diverse backgrounds

Background....




- The youth discussed among other issues the obstacles facing them in their quest for employment and wealth creation for Africa
- Among the key outcomes of the 1st youth congress were;
 - formation of an e-forum african_youth_congress@yahoo.com to enable youth network and continue with discussion on issues which pertain to their empowerment & Africa's dev't.
 - A resolution to form a youth led forum on science and technology (AYFST); a platform that would advance the African youth agenda in agriculture science and technology in Africa's development process and advance its role as the key driver of economic development was initiated.






AYFST 2nd Youth congress

- Held in June 2006 in Accra – Ghana on the theme; Food security and health for sustainable development in Africa: Perspectives from the youth
- The key outcomes include;
 - AYFST launched
 - AYFST Website launched <http://www.ayfst.org>
 - National level youth workshops held after the congress- (Kenya,Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria, Benin, Malawi and Lesotho)
 - Radio talk show was conducted over the Ghana national radio station on the theme of the congress.

AYFST 3rd Youth Congress

- Was held in Kampala -Uganda in June 2007 on the theme; Role of the youth in achieving the MDGs: Implications for ST&I
- Some of the key outcomes of the 3rd youth congress include;
- Radio talk show on the theme conducted on the national radio station
 - The draft **AYFST** strategic plan (2007 – 2010) and organizational/governance structure discussed and approved
 - The **AYFST/CTA/FARA/RUFORUM youth** competition announced



AYFST

Vision

Empowered African Communities that enjoy Sustainable Livelihoods


Mission

- To build the capacity of African youth in Agriculture, Science, Technology and Innovation and empower them to participate in policy formulation processes and advocacy for sustainable development.



AYFST objectives

- To build the capacity of African youth through training, information sharing, networking and dialogue in relevant topical and developmental issues.
- To promote youth participation in Policy formulation and implementation processes at all levels concerning Agriculture Science, Technology & Innovation and development.
- To promote a culture of science technology and innovation consciousness among the African young generation.
- To promote youth-led demand driven research and development initiatives in agriculture, science, technology and innovation.



Challenges AYFST will help to Address

- Limited and declining capacities for agricultural and scientific research
- The changing paradigm of research in agriculture, science and technology
- Lack of adequate channels for networking and information sharing
- Exclusion of the youth from the policy process

AYFST Strategies




- Youth led research and innovation on priority themes like science and technology, sustainable agriculture and development.
- Policy Advocacy action to advance science and technology, sustainable agriculture and development and mobilise political and community support.
- Capacity building of youth organizations in Agriculture Science and Technology and the development of principles of cooperation among youth development organizations.

AYFST Strategies...

- **Extending scientific and technical support in Community Extension & Education programmes, Youth Centres of excellence in Agriculture, Science & Technology and sustainable development**
- **Sharing of information and networking to build a strong youth led coalition championing Agriculture, science and technology as a key driver to sustainable development**

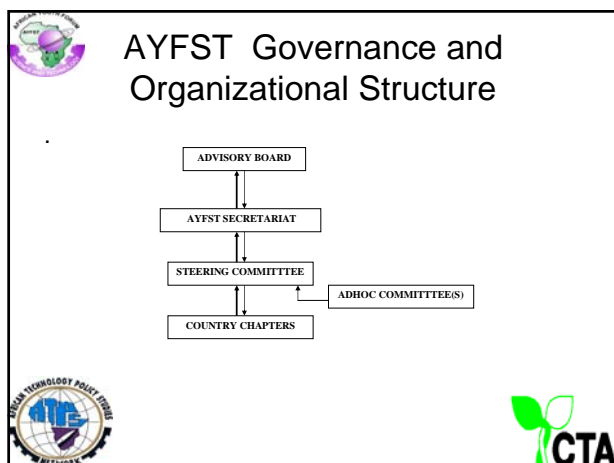
AYFST STRATEGIC PLAN		
Strategic Approaches	Aim	Expected Outcomes
1.Capacity building of youth organizations in Agriculture Science and Technology and the development of principles of cooperation among youth development organizations.	To equip the youth with skills and knowledge needed to generate and manage relevant development initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Improved project management practices for better production and delivery of services to communities •Improved capacity through skills development and "knowledge products" generated by the network on a series of pilot subjects to serve the priorities established by the group in its action plan.
2.Advocacy action to advance science and technology, sustainable agriculture and development and mobilise political and community support.	To mobilise political, private sector and community support for Agriculture science and technology in Africa To promote meaningful youth participation in Agriculture science and technology Policy development and implementation processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Increased political, private sector and community support for agriculture, indigenous knowledge and appropriate technologies. •Increased budgetary allocation for Agriculture science and technology within the national budgets and community decentralised funds •Increased meaningful participation of the African youth in Policy formulation and implementation processes at both national and regional levels
3.Youth led, demand driven research and innovation on priority themes on, science and technology, sustainable agriculture and development to inform new initiatives and management.	To promote generation of new information and knowledge that will stimulate innovation among the African youth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Improved access to indigenous knowledge •Improved project management and implementation practices •Increased number of innovative and productive interventions implemented •Increased productivity

AYFST STRATEGIC PLAN...		
Strategic Approaches	Aim	Expected Outcomes
1. Extending scientific and technical support in Community Extension & Education programmes, Youth Centers of excellence in Agriculture, Science & Technology and sustainable development	To catalyse the adoption of appropriate technologies to improve the local farming systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased Number of local projects scaling up their activities Increased productive capacities at the local communities Increased awareness of the existing and appropriate technologies.
1. Sharing of information and networking to build a strong youth led coalition championing Agriculture science ,technology and innovation as a key driver to sustainable development	To enable replication and /expansion of best practices in Agriculture Science and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A functioning networking mechanism; forum [online and offline] in which all parties can participate effectively at will on broad basis and/or in specific cooperation topics, involving its ongoing evaluation, feedback of the results, and adaptation. Increased awareness among the youth on Agriculture, S&T issues Greater cross border cooperation

Objectives of the AYFST Strategic plan and Plan of Action

- Spell out strategies of implementation that will enhance the achievement of the goal and objectives of the AYFST
- To identify priority activities and responsible persons/action partners
- To provide an avenue and basis for resource mobilization and management of AYFST
- To outline the logical framework for implementing the AYFST proposed activities



AYFST Achievements

- Objective 1: To build the capacity of African youth through training, information sharing, networking and dialogue in relevant topical and developmental issues.
- The website is offering information on training opportunities
 - E-forum discussions on topical issues
 - AYFST represented in the YPARD strategic planning meeting in 2006- Netherlands, GFAR triennial meeting 2006 New Delhi, Women scientist conference, 2006 –Uganda, ATPS 2006 Annual meeting in Maputo and Today CTA 6TH Advisory Meeting
 - Capacity building in research, abstract writing and presentation during the youth congress and other conferences
 - Promotion of knowledge development through Essay/ knowledge contests e.g. the 2005 essay competition and the forth coming AYFST/CTA/FARA/RUFORUM) knowledge contests

AYFST Achievements...

Objective 2. To promote youth participation in Policy formulation and implementation processes at all levels concerning Agriculture Science, Technology & Innovation and development.

- The after congress country workshops involved relevant government officials e.g. in Kenya Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Science and Technology, Professor Crispus Kiamba honoured the occasion, in Uganda, commissioner for trade and industry graced the occasion
- During the work shop the AYFST Kenya chapter presented to the government and development agencies, a paper on youth perspectives on Science, Technology & Innovation In Kenya, which contained key issues and action areas for the youth.
- AYFST Kenya has, since then, received positive feedback from the ministry with an invitation to make a presentation and a case for the youth in the ST&I Policy Stakeholders workshop which took place in July 2007.
- AYFST Kenya has, since then, been in continuous consultation with the Ministry of Science and Technology focal point in Policy development Senior Principal Economist Dr. Joseph Wangombe and national agency in charge, Kenya Institute Of Public Policy and Research (KIPPRA).

AYFST Achievements....

Objective 3. To promote a culture of science technology and innovation consciousness among the African young generation.

- AYFST members have had several exhibitions, e.g. in the national science week in Uganda -2007
- Institute of electric and electrical engineering institute exhibition 2007 -Nairobi
- science symposium conference 2007-Uganda

Objective 4. To promote youth-led demand driven research and development initiatives in agriculture, science, technology and innovation.

- AYFST Uganda chapter in collaboration with NARO BuZARDI and CIAT is working with youth groups to promote agriculture for income generation

Acknowledgements

- CTA
- ATPS
- AYFST



Thank you