

On January 1, 2007 the YES Inc. was formed as a non-profit based in Boston to serve the following objectives:

- (1) **Develop the YES Fund:** Global Fund for Youth Entrepreneurship (Clinton Global Initiative)
- (2) **Build Capacity of the 84 YES Country Networks** to develop and implement programs
- (3) **Organize the 3 remaining YES Summits** (2008, 2010, 2012)
- (4) **Develop YES Academies** - Regional Youth Employment Centers

On September 11, 2002 under the Co-Chair of Mrs. Mubarak and President Clinton, the Youth Employment Summit Campaign (YES) was launched by over 1,600 delegates from 120 countries, including 45 ministers. Four years of global consultation culminated in five dynamic Summit days that led to the development of a concerted response to the problems faced by unemployed youth. In four years by the end of 2007 the Campaign had organized 3 Global Summits – Egypt, Mexico, Kenya and 2 Regional Forums – India and Paraguay; launched over 80 YES Country Networks, initiated more than 400 projects all over the world, and published more than 100 original publications.

1) Develop the YES Fund – A Global Fund for Youth Entrepreneurship. In today’s world with burgeoning populations there are just not enough jobs in the private and public sectors. The YES fund will work to create markets and unleash entrepreneurship in developing countries by helping young people to identify business opportunities, prepare their business plans and compete for the best ideas. This fund will support young entrepreneurs to participate in the Business Plan competition and the winners will be provided small-scale risk capital, start-up funding, and innovative business development services to start their businesses.

(2) Build the capacity of the 84 YES Country Networks. To generate an in-country infrastructure of youth-led networks to disseminate information, develop programs, be advocates for innovative policies, and implement projects that promote youth employment and leadership. Currently there are over 80 YES Country Networks in various stages of development. They will be provided technical support through a YES Leadership Institute that will provide them with leadership and entrepreneurship training.

(3) Organize the 3 remaining YES Summits (2008, 2010, 2012): To continue to hold and maintain a burning focus on the issue of youth unemployment on the global agenda: we do this by convening stakeholders at our Global Summits which have been held in Egypt 2002, Mexico 2004 and Kenya 2006. The next one is scheduled for 2008 in Azerbaijan. At these Summits – the youth delegates meet with experts, donors, practitioners, and other stakeholders to develop program and policies that will help build in-country capacity to provide the education, training and other services needed by young people to find productive work.

(4) YES Academies: Without locally driven research and development activity we will not be able to do justice to local needs. Therefore it is essential Regional Youth Employment Centers be developed that contextualize and build capacity for promoting youth employment through research, training, curriculum, policy and program development. This would be achieved by exploring economically viable markets in the region and share those opportunities with the actors and policy makers on the ground.

“...After the final no there comes a yes and on that YES the future of the world hangs...”

~ Wallace Stevens (1879 – 1955)