



Citron Wood & Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS

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President - Citron Wood

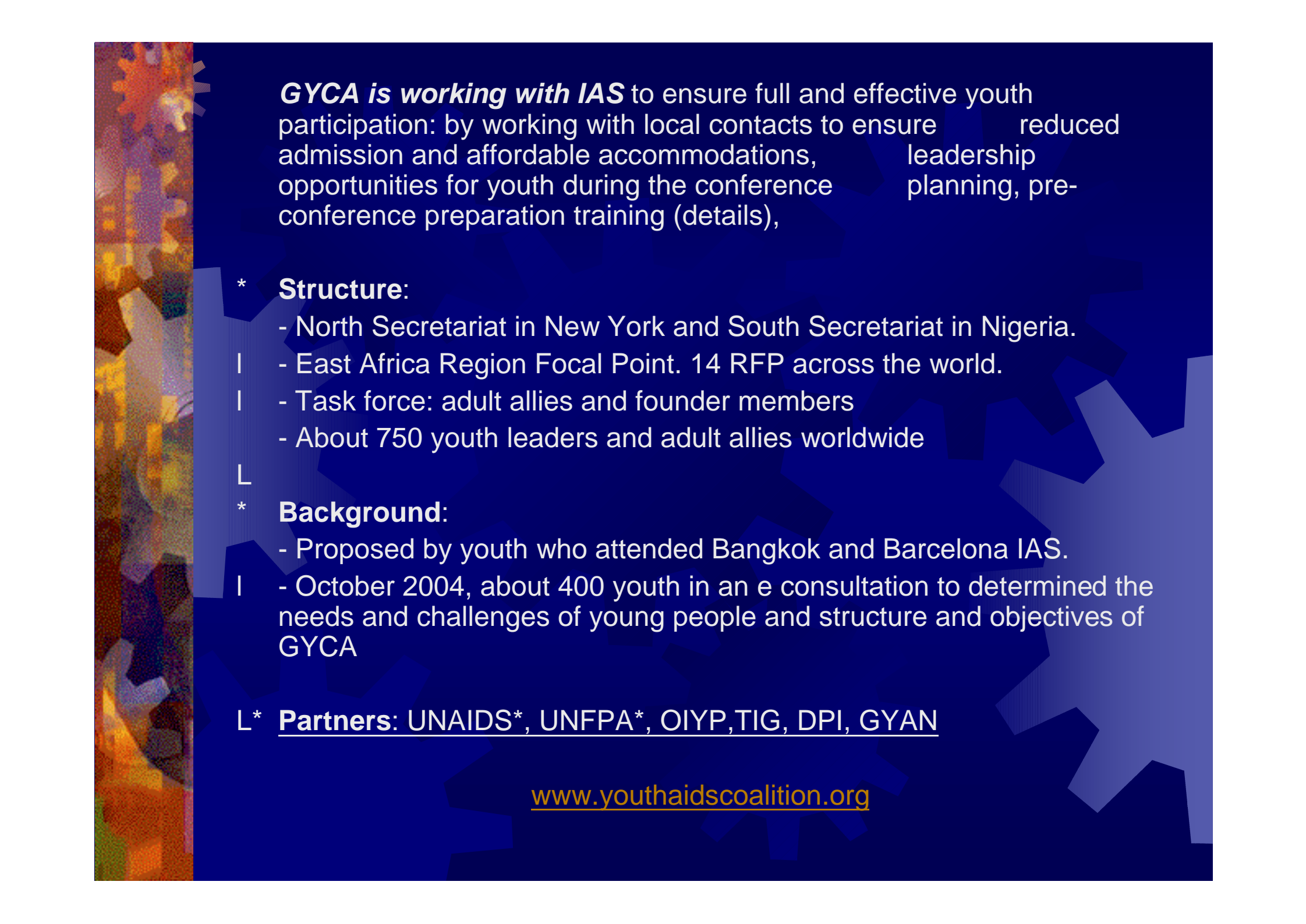
East Africa Region Focal Point
Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS

Action Partner - Oxfam International Youth Parliament

Introduction

Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS

- * Coalition of networks and organizations working to empower young people to fight HIV/AIDS in their communities
 - * Priority Areas:
 - (i) **Capacity building and technical assistance:** training, e courses and sharing information and resources in e forums, articles and publications, newsletter and gatherings.
 - (ii) **Networking and sharing best practices:** creating online global directory that can be used to find organizations working in ones country and communities, allows for networking and collaboration and reduces duplication of efforts
 - (iii) **Political Advocacy:** GYAD, WPAY, UNGASS researching national policies and programmes, developing advocacy plans and partnering with UN and UN youth initiatives
 - (iv) Preparing youth for International Conferences: writing abstracts, travel, registration, active participation and advocacy
- XVI International AIDS Conference Scientific Programme Committee Member: Track A. www.ias2006.org**



GYCA is working with IAS to ensure full and effective youth participation: by working with local contacts to ensure reduced admission and affordable accommodations, leadership opportunities for youth during the conference planning, pre-conference preparation training (details),

*** Structure:**

- North Secretariat in New York and South Secretariat in Nigeria.
- | - East Africa Region Focal Point. 14 RFP across the world.
- | - Task force: adult allies and founder members
- About 750 youth leaders and adult allies worldwide

*** Background:**

- Proposed by youth who attended Bangkok and Barcelona IAS.
- | - October 2004, about 400 youth in an e consultation to determined the needs and challenges of young people and structure and objectives of GYCA

L* Partners: UNAIDS*, UNFPA*, OIYP, TIG, DPI, GYAN

www.youthaidscoalition.org

Citron Wood

- * A youth run Development agency working to establish conditions under which the welfare the underprivileged can be enhanced
- * **Main priority areas:** Poverty Reduction, HIV/ AIDS and environmental conservation
- * We collaborate with many organizations and have formed an immense and constantly growing partnership network
- * Some of our Projects:
 - (i) Lessons For Life Campaign
 - (ii) Resource Centre Project
 - (iii) WSIS Youth Caucus Campaigns
 - (iii) Trade Justice Project



Resource Centre Project

- * Setting up learning resource centres in slums and rural communities across Kenya to equip youth with entrepreneur and life skills to address the major problems affecting their communities namely poverty and HIV/AIDS. Quincey being expanded.

Lessons For Life

- * Lessons for Life. Last year we mobilized over 140,000 children, youth and adults from diverse backgrounds across Kenya to take part in a lesson. Boosting their level of understanding of HIV/AIDS and encouraging action to stop HIV/AIDS in their communities. The theme this year is access to treatment, with a call for more affordable and accessible treatment.

www.gmfc.org/lessonsforlife- Citron Wood NC

Trade Justice

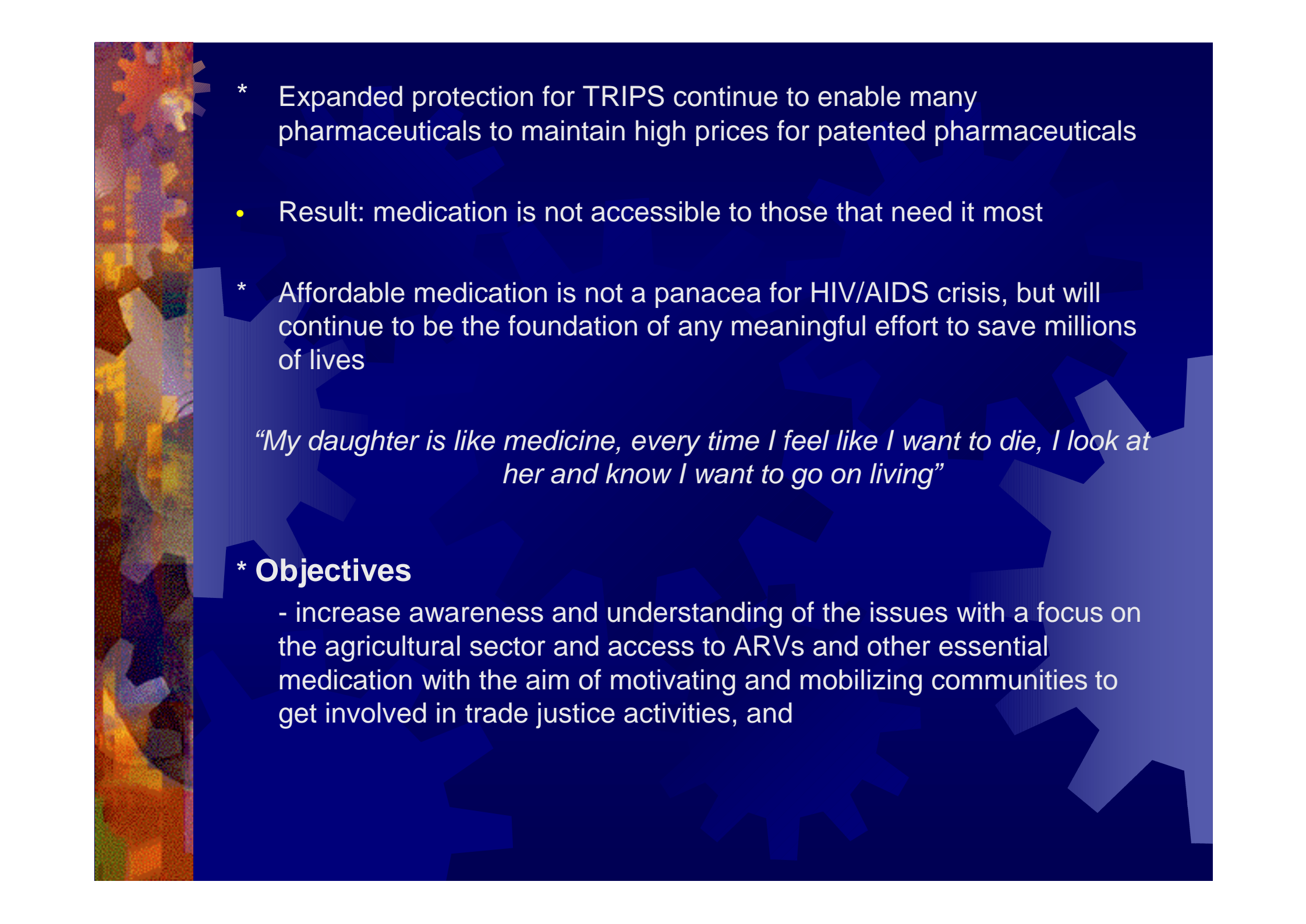
- * trade can act as a catalyst for development, but it must be fair.

Agriculture

- anchor for rural development and more than 70 of population majority in rural areas depends on it. its crucial that trade rules are designed to foster agricultural growth.
- Many farmers are unable to compete with cheap subsidized imports, and displaced from local market
- * Many farmers have been unable to sustain themselves, resulted in intensified rural poverty, food insecurity and greater dependence on food aid

HIV/AIDS

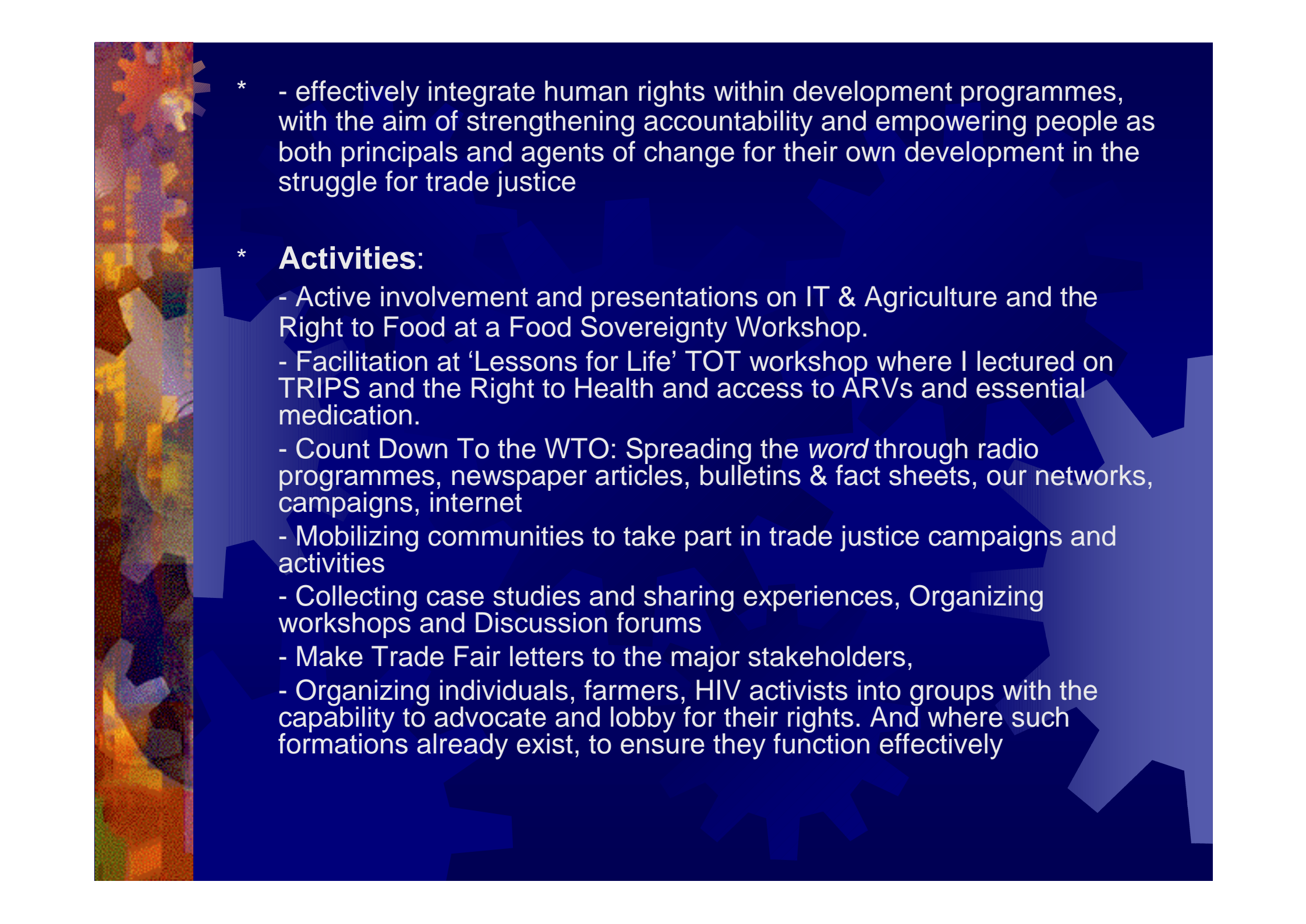
- * Estimated 25 million PLWHA in sub Saharan Africa,
- * Over 90% of PLWHA have absolutely no access currently available to life prolonging ARVs

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- * Expanded protection for TRIPS continue to enable many pharmaceuticals to maintain high prices for patented pharmaceuticals
 - Result: medication is not accessible to those that need it most
 - * Affordable medication is not a panacea for HIV/AIDS crisis, but will continue to be the foundation of any meaningful effort to save millions of lives

“My daughter is like medicine, every time I feel like I want to die, I look at her and know I want to go on living”

* **Objectives**

- increase awareness and understanding of the issues with a focus on the agricultural sector and access to ARVs and other essential medication with the aim of motivating and mobilizing communities to get involved in trade justice activities, and

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- * - effectively integrate human rights within development programmes, with the aim of strengthening accountability and empowering people as both principals and agents of change for their own development in the struggle for trade justice

- * **Activities:**

- Active involvement and presentations on IT & Agriculture and the Right to Food at a Food Sovereignty Workshop.
- Facilitation at 'Lessons for Life' TOT workshop where I lectured on TRIPS and the Right to Health and access to ARVs and essential medication.
- Count Down To the WTO: Spreading the *word* through radio programmes, newspaper articles, bulletins & fact sheets, our networks, campaigns, internet
- Mobilizing communities to take part in trade justice campaigns and activities
- Collecting case studies and sharing experiences, Organizing workshops and Discussion forums
- Make Trade Fair letters to the major stakeholders,
- Organizing individuals, farmers, HIV activists into groups with the capability to advocate and lobby for their rights. And where such formations already exist, to ensure they function effectively



WSIS RYNICS Campaigns Kenya

- * Equitable access to technology, and harness ICTs for development

Campaign Activities: Advocating: ICT Policy and Practice

- * **Youth and ICT & Young Women and ICT Sessions** : July.
- * **E-Conference on Youth and ICT in Kenya** , and collection of youth input on the draft ICT policy which was submitted to the Ministry of Information and Communication, **August**
- * Hosted **WSIS Youth Global Facilitator** on “The Break” June.
- * **Climax: Kenya Youth and ICT Convention 12th to 13th August.**
-Result: **Kenya Youth Declaration on Implementation of the National ICT Policy**

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- * Active Youth Representation in Policy Groups:
 - National ICT Policy** Discussions. position paper submitted to the Ministry of Info. and Comm. and KICTANet.
 - National WSIS Taskforce and Pavilion** subcommittee
 - Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet)
 - Kenya ICT Federation

- * Active Youth Representation at Events
 - African Regional Youth Congress and Exposition
 - National ICT Stakeholders Conference-finalized ICT Policy
 - Tokyo WSIS Thematic Conference, WSIS Prepcom Geneva
 - Nepad E-Africa Conference

- * Policy page <http://projects.takingitglobal.org/wsisyouthkenya>



Campaign Activities: Projects: Promoting youth initiatives

- * **Mapping and research** of youth ICT 4 Dev. Projects.
 - Nov. 2006, at least 50% of all youth ICT4D projects will be listed.
 - Information collected is used to build a national ICT4D database and web portal
- * **Radio Coverage of youth ICT 4 Development projects** on 'The Break' on Radio Waumini 88.5FM every Tuesday.
- * Free SMS News Service for the deaf set up by OneWorld. Promoted by WSIS Youth Kenya
- * Project website www.madeinkenya.org and moBlogging
 - Provision of free webspace, hosting and email access**
- * List serve: Over 100 members
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wsisyouthkenya>
- * Presentation of Campaign Report at WSIS Tunis 2005



Citron Wood: Lessons for life

Thank You!