

African German Youth Initiative

Monthly News-bite

JUNE 2018



Implementing Organisation for the AGYI
South Africa

Southern African Edition

WELCOME TO ISSUE

5



HORIZONTE VERBINDEN.
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AGYI

Study Tour

Berlin - Germany

Mike Denison, WESSA African German Youth Initiative (AGYI) project manager, attended a 2 week Study Tour to Berlin which was hosted by Engagement Global. The tour is part of the capacity building strategy of the AGYI to enhance institutional and in-country capacity for exchange and volunteering in the pilot countries of South Africa, Tanzania and Benin.

The South African government was represented on the tour through the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) who's delegates included the Chief Director of the National Youth Services, Ms Ankie Motsoahae and Makume Tlaleane, Senior Manager of the Youth Services. Further representatives on the tour included the African Union and the GIZ Ethiopia office.

The tour was dedicated to workshops and meetings with exchange and volunteering actors in Germany. Delegates were afforded time to engage at programmatic level with the different formats of exchange and volunteering as well as time being allocated towards strategic thinking at the pan-African level as it relates to youth development, knowledge exchange and youth mobility for a sustainable Africa. This re-emphasised the positioning of the AGYI within the context of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

WESSA will bring these learnings to South Africa and work with local and regional organisations to optimise the youth mobility and knowledge sharing agenda.

Correction to News-bite 4 – Vice Chair of SAwN is Abel Motokolo and not Abel Amotokolo as printed 😊

Gauteng & Pretoria Area Weltwaerts

23 July to 25 July – WESSA and SAwN will be visiting partner organisations in the Johannesburg and Pretoria areas as part of the 5 Cities Tour.

26 July – A one day workshop for partner organisations will be facilitated by WESSA and SAwN for partner organisations in Johannesburg.

Please contact youth@wessa.co.za if we have not already communicated with you and you would like to know more.

SAVE THE DATE



27 – 29 August 2018

Thematic Forum

“Partnerships for Youth Exchange and global learning in the context of education for sustainable development”

See page 3 of News-bite for insights about the forum. Contact youth@wessa.co.za to be added to the communications database.



Mike Denison sharing developments with delegates in Berlin

THIS MONTH

Study Tour

Alumni Voice

Alumni Network

Thematic Forum

Online resources

Submit copy by 22nd month for inclusion
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ALUMNI VOICE

Ontiretse Ganabo

I am a 21 years old male from Zuurbekom in the Westonaria and I'm also a former volunteer at the Orlando Pirates Learning Centre and a former learner at Orlando High School.

I am **currently volunteering at a community programme on sports development** and I am a senior coach in athletics; athletics and running are my passion. The programme aims to **take kids away from substance abuse and criminal activities** that many young people are involved in.

One thing that I have learnt is that it takes **bravery and confidence to change someone's life** through volunteering and be a life-time hero to that particular program.

I took part in the ENSA school exchange programme between my school and another school in Germany around 2016. The **ENSA School Exchange program is such a wonderful** School Exchange Program where students from South Africa are taken to Germany and learn about German's culture and history and the way people live in Germany and the teaching system in Germany.

The same applies to students from Germany taken to South Africa to learn about the Country's history, culture and diversity.



The exposure **really impacted my life** and moving forward my recommendations for the program would be if ENSA could also offer Youth International Workshops especially for those who are taking part in the exchange program before and after the exchange period to prepare them for their exchange journey before leaving and when they return back home.

Furthermore, to **have a platform where all the exchange students are able to share their stories or experience** between Germany and South Africa and be introduced to other exchange programs even if the students are no longer part of the school.



Spearheaded by an enthusiastic, voluntary group of alumni, the Southern African Alumni Network continues to mature. Regional working groups led by a core team drawn from the AGYI have taken ownership of this much needed initiative. Key focus areas for their work include developing a vibrant social media presence, information services, training and support mechanisms for outbound and returning participants and to drive the Change-Action-Projects agenda.

To view their profile document, please click on the logo on the left.

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Thematic Forum

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humanity’s last planned opportunity to restore human, plant and animal well-being! In Spanish we learn of the term *Bien vivre*. This alludes to the ‘good life’ and means to live well, respectful and conscious of realising the common good. In Africa we refer to such a disposition as ubuntu. The Thematic Forum, “Partnerships for Youth Exchange and global learning in the context of education for sustainable development” from the 27 – 29 August 2018 is the ideal forum to take this crucial work forward. **Global Learning and Education for Sustainable Development** is thus both the pathway and the mobilising force for achieving more sustainable living and the SDG’s!

Information packs and application forms will be circulated early July. Please contact youth@wessa.co.za if you are interested to attend. The forum is funded through the AGYI in partnership with Engagement Global. Places are however limited and we apologise for this should your application not be successful as a result.

As the largest public participation process in the history of humanity, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s) provide a road-map to future sustainability. They integrate development and sustainability to provide an excellent platform, and mobilising process, to rethink and reconstruct the way we live and work on the Earth. Through such processes, we can work towards minimizing the erosion of our life support systems and risks to ecological infrastructure¹.

Let’s not, therefore, simply treat the SDG’s as another important policy process. Rather let’s address the SDG’s as

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Accessing online links of past communications and reports

Click for previous editions of News-bite

Minutes to the WESSA SAwN Workshop
Cape Town 30 May 2018 – click below

WORKSHOP MINUTES
Prepared by Walusungu Ngulube – AU Volunteer to the AGYI SA

“Strengthening the South African Weltwaerts Exchange Landscape”

WESSA
In collaboration with the Southern African Weltwaerts Networks as part of the African German Youth Initiative

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