



## AGYI

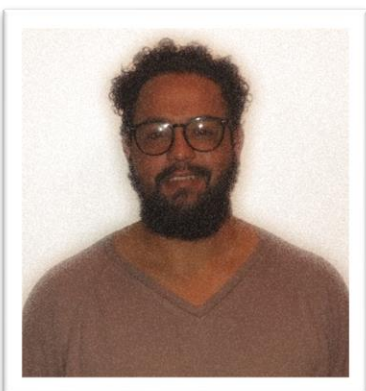
# Growing its Support

### in light of the Coronavirus

While the AGYI has been focusing on developing the international youth exchange and volunteering sector, we cannot help but be aware of the current world crisis caused by the Coronavirus. The AGYI will welcome more additions to their team with the formation of a youth led COVID Response Team. The team will support alumni and "AGYI" organisations who are responding to the burden of the global pandemic as curators of information and agents of actions.

The outbreak of the Coronavirus has put a lot of communities with little resources at risk. This is particularly true for the elderly, infants and people with diseases that affect the autoimmune system (HIV, Diabetes, TB etc). WESSA has appointed Dan Mehl as coordinator (see more on Dan below), and we are in the process of appointing a marketing & design officer and a counsellor. This team will offer support, including capacity building, for essential skills to those on the COVID frontline.

As an exchange alumni, beneficiaries of the Innovation Fund or an organisation that engages within the framework of the AGYI, **we invite you to draw on us for support** (South Africa and in the SADC region). Your point of contact is Dan on [daniel.mehl@wessa.co.za](mailto:daniel.mehl@wessa.co.za)



**Daniel Mehl**  
AGYI COVID Response Team  
Coordinator

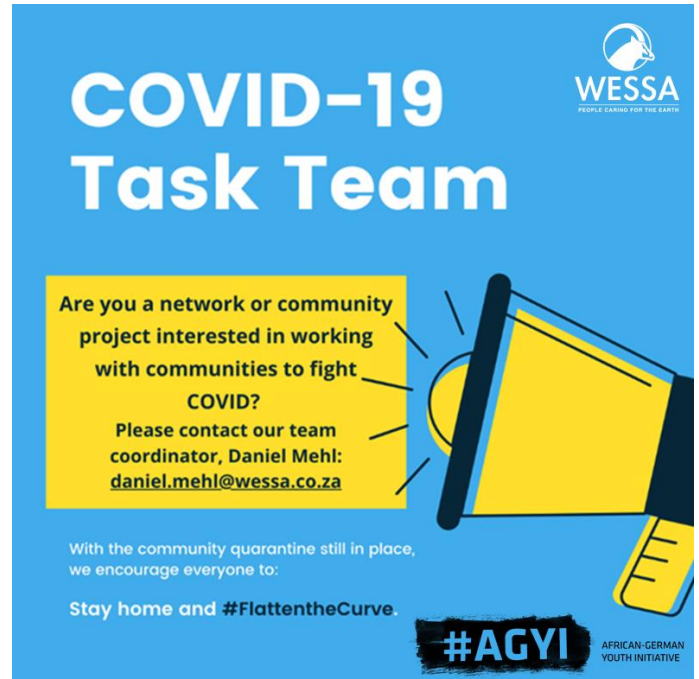
*"Change begins with YOU  
and YOU have to be the  
change you want to see in  
the world"*

Dan is based in Cape Town where he has been coordinating 60 youth stewards on a capacity development project. He brings this experience into the AGYI where his enthusiasm and passion to mobilise youth for action will be an important driver behind the Covid Response Team.

## Issue 25: JUNE 2020

Online Learning – COVID 19 Activities Updates

Alumni Voice – Updates - Upcoming



**COVID-19 Task Team**

Are you a network or community project interested in working with communities to fight COVID?

Please contact our team coordinator, Daniel Mehl: [daniel.mehl@wessa.co.za](mailto:daniel.mehl@wessa.co.za)

With the community quarantine still in place, we encourage everyone to:

Stay home and #FlattenTheCurve.

#AGYI AFRICAN-GERMAN YOUTH INITIATIVE



## Stronger Together

### Global South Networks collaborate

Content provided by SAwN



The Southern African weltwaerts Network ([SAwN](#)) with efforts to prioritize partnerships and collaborations in view of the sustainability and maintaining the activities of the network have continued to connect with various Global South networks. After an initial meeting with the Weltwaerts Indian Network ([WIN](#)) at the 2019 AGM various engagements have taken place with newly formed networks such as the West African weltwaerts Network and the Andean Network: Unidos Por La Montaña (United By The Mountain) based in South America in order to strengthen ties, share learnings/best practices and to agree on future collaboration. As the networks continue to engage there are continuous efforts to improve the quality of the weltwaerts programme for Global South organizations, strengthen collaboration and south-south exchanges. This partnership is another strong example of the power of partnerships (SDGs 17) beyond physical and language barriers.

Follow SAwN updates on Facebook



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# In a time of lockdown, keep the doors of learning open .....



This month we are highlighting some of the best online learning platforms popularly known as MOOCs or Massive Open Online Courses that can help to embark on your journey of learning. You can sign up for free and get free audits for the content.

With courses available in almost every subject and a flexible schedule of studying, online learning offers a unique opportunity for everyone to develop on a personal and professional level. Whether you are interested in topics about business management, engineering, data analysis, coding, entrepreneurship, graphic design, learning languages, or even psychology, you can get free access to content that will help you to advance your career. Once you sign up for the course, you will have access to pre-recorded video lectures that you can watch anywhere and anytime. You will have assignments, readings, quizzes, hands-on projects, discussion forums which are in multiple languages. You will also get feedback from a global community of learners. All of that could be accessed via the web or mobile devices.

1. **Coursera:** one of the most popular online learning platforms that offers access to courses in all topics, taught by top instructors from top universities around the world.
2. **EDX:** A platform that hosts online courses in a wide range of disciplines from top universities and other institutions around the world.
3. **Future learn:** a leading online learning platform that provides a diverse selection of courses in all topics from leading universities and institutions
4. **Philanthropy University:** An educational online space aims at helping organizations and individuals who seek social impact

If you never have taken any online courses before, we highly recommend getting started by taking “**How to learn online**” course provided by Edx. It will teach you how to be a successful online learner.

Please feel free to contact [Mona on mona.moustafa@wessa.co.za](mailto:mona.moustafa@wessa.co.za) for further guidance or to just chat through the online learning space.

## POST-AGYI Planning

WESSA together with the GIZ will be engaging key roleplayers to work on a post-AGYI plan. The process will focus on co-developing and situating appropriate mechanisms and systems in which roles and responsibilities are identified in a manageable and meaningful way to further build on the interventions of the AGYI to date.

Both WESSA and GIZ are really looking forward to this creative and representative engagement within the framework of the AGYI.

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## UPDATES from the field



### Lungalo Youth Development

has responded to the impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic through re-focused attention, training of their team and delivering to essential needs in their community.

#### Operations have included:

- Door to door community screening
- Accommodating & supporting matriculants to study
- Food parcel distributions to those with chronic medication
- Awareness campaigns
- Access to Adolescent Youth Friendly Health Services
- Dignity packs for girls and young women
- Sandwich services for children

Info & photos – Mary Mlambo – LYD  
[marymlambo@gmail.com](mailto:marymlambo@gmail.com)



If you are an alumni or an organisation working on the COVID19 frontline, we would like to hear your stories, connect you with others and share learnings.

Please contact [daniel.mehl@wessa.co.za](mailto:daniel.mehl@wessa.co.za)



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[youth@wessa.co.za](mailto:youth@wessa.co.za)

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# Itumeleng Mphure

development worker & communicator

# Valumni Voice



My name is Itumeleng Mphure from Katlehong, South Africa. I am a development worker and communicator focussing on African development. I am currently a Program Officer at the South African Institute of International Affairs and I also work as a Consultant on the YouMatch Global

Initiative on Innovative Employment Services for Youth. It is an initiative by AUDA-NEPAD and GIZ. On this project I work with a community of practice focusing on "Building effective Public-Private-Partnerships for Employment Services for Youth".

In 2013 I was part of the Southern African Youth Exchange Programme (SayXchange) by the Southern Africa Trust. On this programme I was a volunteer for six months in Lusaka Zambia. I worked for an organization *Youth Vision Zambia* with a focus on sexual and reproductive health rights. I was part of a study group headed by UNICEF in Zambia and the Department of Chief's and Traditional Affairs which started work on ending child marriage. Years later this has been a policy and social effort of many countries in Africa. When I went on exchange I had just graduated. **The experience reiterated my zeal to work in the development space in Africa.**

Since then I have worked on many projects with multiple stakeholders, continue to volunteer and have also worked for the African Union Commission. **I believe that there should be more inter-African exchange programmes.** It promotes Pan Africanism, contributes to the development agenda of the continent, and makes a lasting impact on participants. Exchange programmes are beneficial because they **facilitate intercultural learning and cohesion.** They are most impactful when the participant is placed in an organization where they can improve their professional capacity and are given a space to contribute to the organization and the community in which they are placed.

**YOUTH RESILIENCE DIALOGUE** In partnership with Dept Woman Youth & Persons with Disabilities, GIZ, NYDA, WESSA & agape, an online youth dialogue *Recognizing Youth Resilience: Young People Leading in the Time of Covid-19 and beyond* will be hosted 13 July 2020 10:00-12:00. Further details to be shared on social media.



**SAAN UPDATE** [Follow](#)

**INNOVATION FUND & THE ALUMNI APP**

Work has begun on the Network's Innovation Funded project to develop the alumni app. Phase 1 of the app, which includes an engagement process, content development and app design is underway. WESSA are collaborating with SAAN, and particularly for phase 2 which will see the technical development of the app for testing in the alumni sector. Final release is planned for the end of the year.

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## Calendar Planning SDG SPECIAL DAYS July 2020

- 11 World Population Day
- 13 World Youth Skills Day
- 18 Nelson Mandela Day
- 30 International Day of Friendship
- 30 Day Against Human Trafficking



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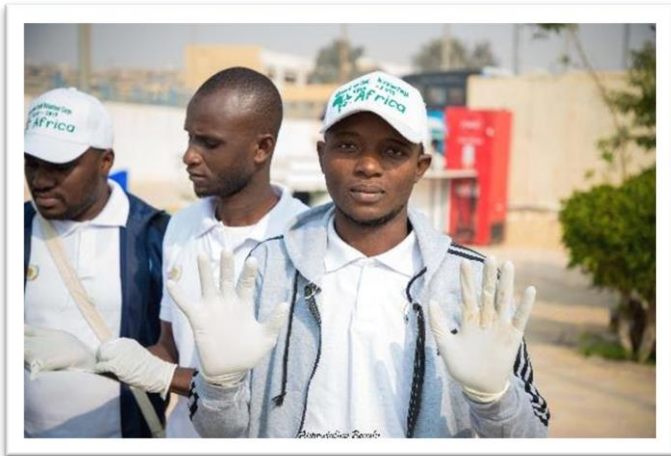
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## AU CONTINENTAL VOLUNTEER FRAMEWORK - Validation Workshop

The AGYI team participated in the AU Continental Volunteer Framework Workshop discussions along with 52 participants and stakeholders from different organizations. The workshop was organized by the African Union on the video conferencing platform ZOOM.



The purpose of this workshop is to validate the draft of the Continental Volunteer Framework and provide insights and feedback. This Framework is meant to provide guidelines around volunteer programs and volunteer management and to promote common understanding for 'Volunteering' and related terms in Africa and all AU Member States. The AU is currently in the process of finalizing this framework based on the insights and feedback provided during the workshop.

### SKILLS in EXCHANGE & LEARNING JOURNEYS

Surveys have been circulated to alumni as part of the needs and operational analysis and a draft working document to capture the framework is under discussion. Dialogue with African Diaspora in Germany has also opened as a possible mentor programme to support the framework is being explored.

As always, WESSA invites any interested individuals or organisations who wish to contribute to this process to please get in touch – [youth@wessa.cp.za](mailto:youth@wessa.cp.za)

If you would like to receive the international AGYI Quarterly Newsletter, please register here



**CONNECT HORIZONS**



Engagement Global convened the two-day virtual **AGYI Results Workshop** this month to jointly reflect upon the impact, lessons learned and recommendations from the pilot phase that ran from 2016 to 2020. Participants included the BMZ, the African Union Commission, the implementing organisations from Benin, South Africa and Tanzania, GIZ, BKJ and DSJ.

While growth in south north participants was noted as being less than the target, the implementing entities, including the African Union, presented on substantial gains as a result of the initiative. At country level, all pilot countries have seen growth in areas such as improved cohesion, information flow, enhanced capacity of the sector and specific quality gains. The strengthening of the notion of reciprocity, cooperation and partnerships in the exchange and volunteering landscape, together with elevated and more focussed discussion and developments related to Skills in Exchange, were highlighted by participants. The African Union's division Head for youth development, Ms Prudence Ngwenya Nonkululeko, recognised substantial growth in continental discourse and developments. The workshop highlighted some of the barriers to south north growth and discussion groups considered post-pilot and sustainability plans for the sector with informed recommendations being tabled to Engagement Global.

### UPCOMING AGYI Workshops

#### 1. FUNDRAISING WORKSHOP

WESSA is working with Engagement Global to plan the virtual workshop which will be attended by representatives from the networks and associations in SA and Tanzania and their counterparts in Germany. Date to be confirmed.

#### 2. CHANGE-ACTION-PROJECTS WORKSHOP Online Series for alumni

WESSA is engaging alumni to co-develop the training series in support of alumni implementing change-action-projects.



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## Good Practice, Responsible Exchange & Volunteering

A Guideline for Practitioners

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Developed as part of the African German Youth Initiative

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