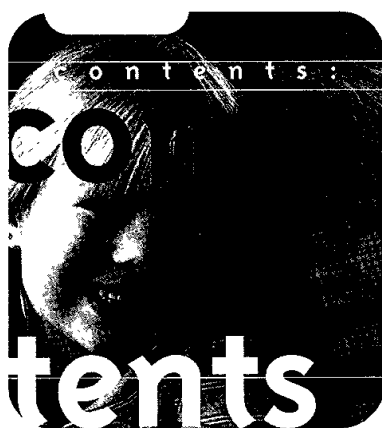


# **TERRA VIVA**

July 2001 [www.nscentre.org/tvmonthly/](http://www.nscentre.org/tvmonthly/)

## **Youth Events 2001**



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To highlight Youth empowerment

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Youth and development Summer University

## **Youth and Development** **The World Youth Events** **2001**

Marcos Andrade

In August 1998, Portugal was the stage for 5 major international youth events: the World Youth Festival, the 3rd Session of the World Youth Forum of the UN System, the 1st World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, the 9th Iberian-American Conference of Youth Ministers and the 1st Conference of Portuguese Speaking Countries.

This package of events brought the aspirations and challenges of young people throughout the world to the attention of international institutions, governments and public opinion. The events also created a youth-friendly momentum for a renewed commitment to youth, and to the strengthening of youth policies at national and international level.

In the summer of 2001, the Government of Panama in partnership with the Regional Youth platforms is hosting the 2nd World Youth Festival. Meanwhile, the United Nations System in co-management with the representatives of the regional and international youth movements, is convening the 4th Session of the World Youth Forum in Dakar, Senegal. Finally in September, the North-South Centre in co-operation with Youth for Development and Cooperation, the Spanish Youth Council and the European Youth Forum is organising the 2nd Summer University on Youth and Development in Mollina, Spain. This is an opportunity for youth partnership to enhance youth participation in giving solutions to the global issues.

This marathon of events offers a fundamental opportunity to revisit the three years of implementation of those commitments made in Portugal and to launch new challenges and perspectives. Most of all it will provide an opportunity to empower young people and to strengthen their capacity to participate in the development of our societies.

The idea of this **Terra Viva** dossier is to provide a critical historical perspective of these processes and to evaluate the past years as well as being a reflective resource for projecting the future challenges.

This will be an essential document for the files of all delegates to the World Youth Forum, and those participants of the Festival and Summer University, as well as all those engaged in the struggle for greater youth rights and youth participation, who care about the international youth work, but for one reason or another are unable to make it to Panama, Dakar or Mollina.

By putting together this dossier, the North-South Centre also wants to reaffirm its commitment to improve the role of the youth movement in interdependence and development.

This principle is very evident in the emerging 2002-2004 Programme of the Centre, where youth is given priority as a target group and partner, participating centrally in the definition and implementation of the overall programme of the North-South Centre. ■





## Fair on Youth and Development Cooperation

# Combating Poverty: Building Today's Future

The International Fair on Youth and Development Cooperation is a space for national, regional and global actors in the field of Development Cooperation and Development Education.

The fair will be organised, between the 21 - 28 of July 2001, in Panama City, Panama. This is within the framework of the World Youth Festival, a Festival that will gather 6000 (young) people from around the world. The fair is envisaged to be a series of activities that foster the exchange of ideas, knowledge and resources across organisations and for the purpose of poverty eradication.

### Discussion Forums

Through discussion forums the Fair will promote dialogue between youth organisations, institutions, NGOs and international development cooperation agencies as well as to seek commitments for future cooperation between these organisations.

The discussion forums will have the following topics at the centre of the discussions: Young people are actors in the development of their communities and therefore actors of development and inclusion of youth in the political agenda of Development Cooperation and to include them in the formulation and implementation of development policies and programmes.

### Exchange of information and experiences

The exchange of information will be facilitated through thematic and regional oriented workshops. At these workshops the participants will have the opportunity to get information about successful

initiatives developed on a specific theme or in a specific region of the world. Through these thematic and regionally oriented spaces the different actors can share these experiences and discuss successful methods and strategies.



The thematic workshops will include youth related projects carried out by youth organisations in the areas of education, employment, health, human rights, environment conservation and development education.

The regional workshops will include youth related projects carried out by youth organisations in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Pacific.

### Capacity Building

Several workshops will be organised during the fair aiming to build the capacity of young people and youth organisations in the three following fields: project development, project management and fundraising. The workshops will intend to strengthen the capacities of youth organisations to develop and implement youth development projects in different regions of the world.

### Service Centre

The fair will incorporate a service centre that will assist the participants to identify possible partners, viable projects and potential founders. Upon request a team of workers from youth

organisations and NGOs will assist those participants that seek help in finding partner organisations for their projects, finding specific projects on specific themes or that are looking for appropriate funding for their projects.

### Participation

The participation in the fair is open to development actors and all the people interested in projects and ideas in the field of youth development and poverty eradication.

- **Young people** between 18 to 30 years active in youth and/or youth serving organisations around the world, which have demonstrated interest and commitment to the development of their own communities through successful and verifiable programs, projects or actions.

- **NGOs** that are either interested or active in the field of youth development.

- **Governments** and institutions active in the development and/or implementation of policies and programmes in the field of youth and in development cooperation and educational policies. ■

# YOUTH FOR DEVELOPMENT

## Youth Events 2001



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## Youth and Development

Cesar Valor\*

Despite the lack of vision and action that societies have regarding the development and participation of their youth, young people have stood up, taken action and have created change. Their voices have caused governments to change (such as recently in Indonesia), or international agreements to be reformulated. Young people have also been agents for change in less visible ways. In the more anonymous fight against poverty, young people in and out of youth organizations are in the forefront. Youth organizations have led relief operations, have been engaged in conflict resolution, rural development, health education, human rights work, environmental protection in marginalized areas and education for development.

Therefore it is important to ensure young peoples active participation in development policies. Looking at the current realities of international development, the only way we can ensure a sustainable and just development that meets the agreed poverty reduction targets will be through the active involvement and commitment of all the sectors in society and of all societies in the North and South. The world can't afford not to include young peoples participation in this process.

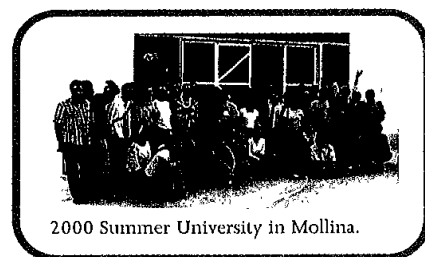
There are many different ways to work for the inclusion of young people in the above-mentioned process. One of them could be by participating and supporting the events such as the World Youth Forum and the World Youth Festival, and specially the results and follow-up of these events. Another way is to work to bring the livelihoods of young people to the political agenda of development and development cooperation. Youth for Development and Cooperation (YDC), together with many other organisations are involved in this work. We hope we can involve more young people and youth organisations for this cause. ■

\* Secretary General of Youth for Development and Cooperation

## Summer University on Youth and Development

15-23 September 2001

The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, Youth for Development and Co-operation (YDC), the Spanish Youth Council and the European Youth Forum, with the support of the Spanish Youth Institute (INJUVE), would like to propose a new space for your committed participation. If you wish to participate in the Summer University in Mollina, Spain, please send your application



2000 Summer University in Mollina.

before the **15 July** to the North-South Centre, Avenida da Liberdade, 229-4º, P-1250-142 Lisboa.  
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