

e-CIVICUS

A weekly e-newsletter for civil society from CIVICUS!

27 May 2010
Edition No: 489

In this issue

- News in brief
- Get Involved
- Events
- Book Reviews
- Vacancies
- Resources
- Opportunities

Poll question

I have confirmed my subscription for e-CIVICUS because it

a. Covers important civil society 'News'
b. Contains 'Highlights' of CIVICUS' activities
c. Carries Jobs/Reviews/Events
d. Collects Resources/Opportunities
e. It's simply essential reading!

To answer the question, click here

If you have not confirmed your subscription, confirm now or before 1 June 2010.

Previous question: Media freedom is important because...?

a. Media rights equal human rights
b. Media freedom strengthens civil society
c. Media ensures transparency across society
d. Media fulfills everyone's right to information
e. All these and many other very good reasons!

Results: a. - 63.2%, b. - 13.2%, c. - 10.5%, d. - 7.9%, e. - 5.3%

Get involved

#AfricanAgenda2010
Source: Sangonet

Have your say about Africa's development

From the Desk of the Secretary General

This week we feature Dr. Bhekinkosi Moyo, author and director of programmes at TrustAfrica, a pan-African foundation based in Dakar, Senegal, a partner in the Africa for Haiti campaign

The response by Africa to the Haitian disaster dispels the myth that Africans are only good at receiving aid

Disasters appeal to the minds and hearts of people. Whether rich or poor, the emotional response is usually the same—people rally to help where they can. This was certainly the case when Haiti was struck by a violent earthquake on 12 January, resulting in the deaths of more than 200 000 people and leaving over a million homeless. But there was something unique in the response to this particular disaster.

Africa dispelled the usual image of itself as helpless by playing a pivotal role in disaster recovery efforts in Haiti. The poverty levels of the continent and many of its challenges did not hinder it from making aid contributions. It was arguably one of the most important paradigm shifts concerning the continent's efforts towards developmentalism. The entire world was shaken by the massive destruction of the already poverty stricken and troubled nation of Haiti. The first people to arrive in the disaster zone, such as native musician Wyclef Jean—who carried out rescue efforts through his Yéle Haiti Foundation—could only describe what they saw as 'apocalyptic', reminiscent of Robert Kaplan's 1994 article in the Atlantic Monthly 'The Coming Anarchy'.

But Haiti was only the first of a string of subsequent disasters that occurred in the following weeks. Further havoc was wreaked in Uganda, Chile, Taiwan and Turkey. With regards to previous disasters—such as floods, tsunamis and hurricanes—in different parts of the world, no African governments moved as swiftly or with such determination as they did this time.

Read more

Announcement

Update your e-CIVICUS subscription today!

Thank you to those who have reconfirmed their subscription to e-CIVUCS. If you have not done so yet, please note that the e-CIVICUS team is updating the information on the e-CIVICUS mailing list and requires you to confirm your subscription by 1 June. e-CIVICUS has grown considerably over the last ten years and we need to make sure you are getting only the emails you want! We request that you:

1. Reconfirm your subscription to e-CIVICUS; and
2. Provide some basic information for us to serve you better

To complete these tasks, click here.

Don't miss out - If you do not reconfirm your subscription by **1 June 2010, you will no longer receive e-CIVICUS**.

priorities. Take Action and complete the #AfricanAgenda2010 Survey
Click here

Save the children

However hard it is to believe, child labour is still a harsh reality in India. Today, there are more than 1,26,66,377 child labourers who are illegally working in factories, workshops, mines, construction sites, farms, restaurants or being used for domestic work. To stop this, support us in our effort to eliminate child labour from India.
Take action

We Welcome Contributions

e-CIVICUS is a useful channel through which you and your organisation can share your news, publicise your events and articulate the issues you face. Please send us your contributions by Monday for publication in the coming week to editor@civicus.org. To read the contribution guidelines, click here.

The content of e-CIVICUS may be translated into other languages and reproduced elsewhere, as long as due acknowledgment is made to CIVICUS.

DISCLAIMER: Although CIVICUS makes all reasonable efforts to obtain prima-facie reliable content for e-CIVICUS, CIVICUS cannot guarantee the accuracy of the reports, views or opinions of third parties

Events

Meeting: Women and the Future of the Middle East (2 June 2010)
Source: International Museum of Women

From women's human rights in Iran, to the economic engagement of women in the Middle East and North Africa, to the growing use of technology in movement building, hear about some of the most pressing issues for women in the Middle East today. Please join us for the International Museum of Women's Extraordinary Voices, Extraordinary Change Speaker Series programme.
Read more

Alliance Magazine blogs Foundation Week
Source: Alliance Magazine

Alliance magazine invites all to be part of her coverage of the European Foundation Centre's Foundation week (May 31 May to 4 June 2010) on her blog.
Lined up to cover the week and provide daily updates are:

- Akwasi Aidoo (TrustAfrica)
- Gina Anderson (Philanthropy Australia)
- Daniel Ben-Horin and Rebecca Masisak

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. The e-CIVICUS team remains dedicated to providing you with the best update on civil society every week.

If you have any feedback or comments, please email us at editor@civicus.org
editor@civicus.org

Highlights from CIVICUS

Burundi: Protect Independent Human Rights Reporting
Authorities should reverse decision to expel international human rights worker
A joint statement by CIVICUS and 19 other Civil society organisations

A group of 18 national, regional and international organisations working on Burundi expressed concern that space for independent human rights reporting may be diminishing following the Burundian government's decision to expel the Human Rights Watch (HRW) Burundi researcher from the country. The organisations call on the Burundian authorities to reverse their decision and ensure that the rights to freedom of expression are respected.
This attack on independent human rights reporting came just days before Burundi's communal elections on 24 May, the first in a series of five elections that are to take place in 2010. The elections are a crucial moment in Burundi's history, a country recovering from more than a decade of civil war. Read more

Pan-African solidarity with Haiti
CIVICUS and its partners, African Monitor, Trust Africa, the Southern Africa Trust, Charity Aid Foundation (CAF) Southern Africa, the South African Red Cross Society; the National Welfare Forum; and Ivan May through 1485 Radio Today on 1484 AM in Jozi and through SADC (also DStv 169), and the Synergos Institute have agreed to join what is known as the “Africa for Haiti Project” and to help in co-ordinating efforts. You can help by visiting any of the following websites:
Africa for Haiti
African Monitor
Trust Africa

News in brief

Malawi moves to adopt WHO guidelines
Source: PLUS News

Developing countries like Malawi are calculating the cost of adhering to new World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines that recommend starting HIV-positive people on antiretroviral drugs (ARVs) sooner. Malawi is one of three African countries that have conducted WHO-supported feasibility studies to assess what adopting the new guidelines would mean, and has announced plans to roll out the new WHO guidelines by mid 2011, said Dr Frank Chimbwandira, head of the HIV and AIDS department in the Ministry of Health.
Read more

INDONESIA: NGOs push for stronger child protection laws
Source: IRIN

Millions of Indonesian children remain vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and discrimination because the government has not prioritised children’s rights, says a coalition of NGOs. On 25 May, the National NGO Coalition for Child Rights Monitoring launched its review report on the implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) between 1997 and 2009, making a number of recommendations to better protect Indonesian children.
Read more

Midwives empowered to curb maternal deaths
Source: IRIN

Giving midwives access to further training in life-saving skills could prevent up to 80 percent of maternal deaths in the Philippines, says Rosalie Paje, division chief of the Family Health Office under the Department of Health (DOH).

(TechSoup Global)
- Filiz Bikmen (Sabanci Foundation)
- Steve Gunderson (Council on Foundations)
- Terry Odendahl and Chet Tchozewski (Global Greengrants Fund)
- Fernando Rossetti (GIFE)

Whether you're attending the event or not our blog will keep you up to speed as well as providing a platform for your comments.

Book Reviews

Global South Asians: Introducing the Modern Diaspora
By: Judith M. Brown

Global South Asians examines the overseas migratory experience of South Asians from the nineteenth century onward, and discusses their contributions to the places they have gone, as well as how they have influenced the places they left. The book explains how members of Indian, Bangladeshi and Pakistani diasporas have constructed meaningful lives that mirror the traditions and values learned in countries of their birth and, at the same time, encourages them to adapt to the contrary practices of daily life in their new homelands. The book also explores immigrant experiences of belonging to and being rejected by receiving countries, and does so by recognising inter-generational anxieties.
Read more

For more book reviews, click here

Find Us

Become a CIVICUS Facebook fan and get updates on our activities in your news feed!

Check out our video channel:
http://www.youtube.com/user/civicusworldalliance

Follow us on twitter and get the latest civil society updates.

Vacancies

This week, new civil society job openings have been added to the CIVICUS website. Please click here. Should you wish to publish a New Vacancy, please click on Add job. Please add an expiry date for applications.

Read more

Resources

Assessing and Strengthening Civil Society Worldwide
An updated programme description of the CIVICUS Civil Society Index: Phase 2008 to 2010
Source: CIVICUS Civil Society Index Programme

In the first semester of 2008, the CSI programme undertook a revision of its framework and methodology. This followed the end of the first phase of implementation between 2003 and 2006, in which the CSI was implemented in 53 countries worldwide. This revision process was based on the findings of the end-of-programme evaluations as well as extensive feedback provided by the participatory evaluations of the National Coordinating Organisations (NCOs). The revision of the CSI methodological framework was developed in partnership with Heidelberg University, resulting in a revised toolkit for the 2008-20010 CSI implementation phase.
Download (PDF)

WHO – Equity, Social Determinants and Public Health Programmes
Source: World Health Organisation

This book analyses the impact of social determinants on specific health conditions. It presents promising interventions to improve health equity for: alcohol-related disorders, cardiovascular diseases, child health and nutrition, diabetes, food safety, maternal health, mental health, neglected tropical diseases, oral health, pregnancy outcomes, tobacco and health, tuberculosis, and violence and injuries.
Download

Leading to Action: A Political Participation Handbook for Women
Source: Women's Learning Partnership

Leading to Action is designed for use as a learning tool by those who are challenging themselves to play a more significant political role in their communities. Women's participation is a critical step towards reshaping economic, political, and social conditions to allow for equality in opportunities and results for both women and men. WLP's latest publication was developed to empower women to become democratic and participatory leaders.
Read more

Opportunities

The SMK Campaigner Awards
Source: The Sheila McKechnie Foundation

The annual SMK Campaigner Awards provide a support programme for emerging and grassroots campaigners. The awards are for individuals who are new to campaigning or operating with few resources and who show passion, tenacity and the potential to create change – locally, nationally or globally. You might not see yourself as a "campaigner" but if you are demonstrating commitment to a cause then SMK wants to hear from you. Read more

Call for papers - Gender & Development: Migration (deadline: 14 June 2010)
Source :OXFAM

The next issue of the international journal Gender & Development, (published for Oxfam GB by Routledge/Taylor and Francis) will focus on Migration. Gender & Development invites articles from development practitioners working from a gender perspective:

- Analysing and researching the experiences of migrants and their loved ones
- Understanding rural to urban links in livelihoods
- Supporting and advocating for the rights of women and men who have undergone forced migration
- Tracking how change occurs in gender relations as a result of migration.

Call for trainers: Gender equality training
Source: CIVICUS Gender Equality Team

CIVICUS invites trainers on gender to submit applications to conduct 2 day intensive training sessions for the Gender Equality Team followed by a 1 day all staff training. Applications should outline topics that will be covered for the training as well as proposed training methodology. The primary purpose of the gender training is to impart practical knowledge and skills on gender mainstreaming concepts.
Read more
Download Terms of Reference

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)is recruiting
Source: Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is recruiting medical professionals for her work in various parts of the world including Haiti.
Read more

Events Fundraiser (application deadline 2 June 2010)
Source: Bond UK

Computer Aid International is recruiting an events fundraiser who will be responsible for managing and developing Computer Aid International's overseas challenge events programme as well as establishing new events for the organisation's growing number of individual and corporate supporters.
Read more

Development Officer
Source: YPWC

Young People We Care (YPWC) is looking for a responsible and motivated volunteer/intern to assist with fundraising and strategic planning for the organization. This internship is for up to one year.
Read more

Read more

UNICEF Voices of Youth: Call for contributors
Source: Youth Section and the Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP) Unit of UNICEF

The Youth Section and the Adolescent Development and Participation (ADAP) Unit of UNICEF is seeking interested parties to contribute to a blog.
Read more

Tell a friend

Would you like to share this newsletter with a friend? Please forward their e-mail address to subscriptions@civicus.org

Unsubscribe: To unsubscribe from e-CIVICUS, get a password reminder, or change your subscription options by entering your subscription email address: Click here.

CONTACT US

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF
Devendra Tak
Ingrid Srinath

EDITORS
Jessica Hume
Oluwakorede Asuni
COPY EDITOR
Margaret Fish

P.O. Box 933
Southdale, 2135
South Africa

Tel: +27 11 833 5959
Fax:+27 11 833 7997

1420 K Street NW,
Suite 900
Washington D.C.
20005 USA

Tel: +202 331-8518
Fax: +202 331-8774

www.civicus.org