

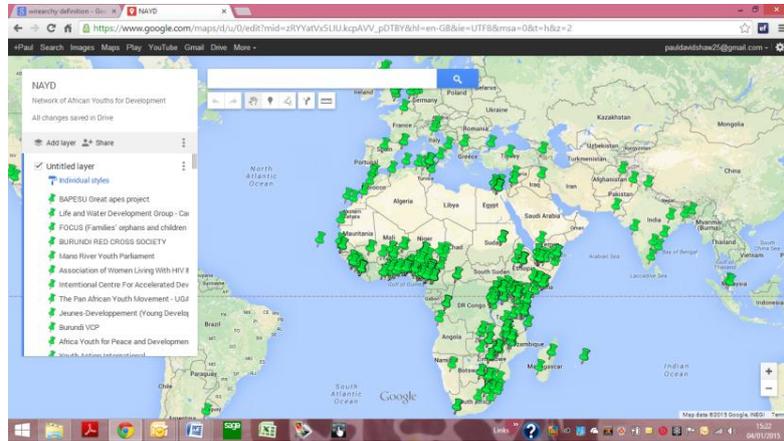


Dear NAYD members and supporters of youth-led sustainable development in Africa,

The start of a New Year is a time to reflect on the one just passed. So how did we do in 2014?

Membership

NAYD is now holding hands with over 40,000 on [facebook](#), up from 16,000 a year ago and 5500 [registered](#) members, up from 2000 a year ago. Details and geographic locations of registered organisational members can be seen by clicking on the map (opposite). We also have over 800 on [LinkedIn](#), 2800 in our Google [INSPIRE](#) group, 510 in our [YAHOO](#) group, 334 on [Google+](#), and 500 [@NAYDinfo](#).



NAYD maps

Social Media



Stephen Machua

Social media continues to play an important role in NAYD's development. Stephen Machua and Judyannet Muchiri have been holding regular chats on #NaydChat with guests Nerimo Wako talking about stereotypes associated with refugees, Nina Werner on mentorship, Tim Mugerwa on Pan Africanism, Betty Matua on the Value Chain in Agriculture, Mohamed Mouncharou on the role of African Youth in the Diaspora, Meredith Beal on Digital Migration and the action/2015 team of Marie L'Hostis, Francis Maberri and Mark Nowottny. Conversations can be followed [here](#) and video summaries on [NAYDtv](#).

We also organised a Google Hangout discussion on 'Agriculture is too Dirty to be Cool' to see if agriculture is a suitable profession for youths to get involved in. We are grateful to James Gondwe and [Yvette Ampaire](#) for their contributions and for the poster created by Tinashe Dirwal.

Judyannet Muchiri has also been holding discussions on Facebook under #RightAfrika with young Africans on various issues regarding Africa. #RightAfrika is a virtual space that allows Africans to freely express their opinions, exchange ideas and hopefully trigger action from the participants and other young people following the discussions. So far the topics have included; Does Africa need Aid? Is Africa being looted? (Mis)representation of Africa, and religion and development in Africa.

Country Co-ordinator Elections

Every two years we hold Country Co-ordinator elections. This time it was decided that co-ordinators should be members of existing youth-led organisations, and for the first time we invited organisations out of Africa to also apply. 100 applicants were received from 36 countries. The new co-ordinators can be viewed [here](#). We are very grateful to Paul Otara of the African Union who volunteered to set up the voting system and continues to support it. NAYD's founder, Pochi Tamba-Nsoh, has now been in contact with all the successful candidates and will start regular meetings with



them. The new co-ordinators have been sent a list of all members in their country and if you are a registered NAYD member we hope they will be in contact with you. Please contact them if you have not heard from them by the end of February. Kindly note not all African countries are represented.

NGO of the month

African Youth organisations continue to inspire us with their outstanding development efforts and each month we highlight the activities of one. The organisation is given great publicity over all of our social media for a month. More information on the NGOs recognized below can be read [here](#).

January - Mukinge Youth Development Foundation, Zambia
February - International Centre for Accelerated Development, Nigeria
March - Locodein Community Based Organization, Kenya
April - Fishers Union Organisation, Tanzania
May - Hope For the Needy, Cameroon
June - Icirore C'Amahoro, Burundi
July – Help the African Child, GHANA
August - Youth without Borders Association, Tunisia
September – Associaco Coalizao da Juventude, Mozambique
October – Flamme D'Avenir, DRC
November – Peace and Youth Transformation Project, Uganda
December - Eaglesworld Initiatives, GHANA.

BLOGS and INSPIRE

Our expert volunteers continue to write BLOGS on [HIV/AIDS](#) and [Climate Change](#) for which we are very grateful. Please support these BLOGS by clicking on the share buttons and by making comments. We also produced 4 INSPIRE e-magazines, including a special edition on [Nelson Mandela](#).

We make every effort to promote our members activities and continue to support their BLOGS by RSS feeding them to our 40,000 facebook members. We also offer a free web design service, BLOGS and emails. If any member would like more information about the above please let us know.



WEB site

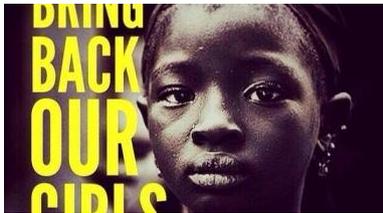
The [home page](#) was completely updated during the year and NAYD is extremely grateful to JP Web Development. We also now have a [volunteers page](#) to show our appreciation of those who have contributed to the development of NAYD.

Other news

We launched a [Petition](#) in January asking for monuments and peace gardens all over Africa in memory of Nelson Mandela as a symbol of peace and unity. The petition was submitted with 250 signatures to the Chairperson of the African Union, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma.



Judyannet Muchiri and I completed 'The Age of Sustainable Development' a free online course between September and December, led by the world renowned expert on Sustainable development Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia State University. My summary of the course can be read [here](#). Other free courses are available through the [Sustainable Development Solutions Network](#).



NAYD tries to avoid politics but was outraged when, on April 14th, 230 School girls were kidnapped from the Chibok Government Secondary School by Boko Haram Terrorists in Nigeria. We continue to support the Bring Back our Girls campaign and ask why, after 8 months, the Nigerian government has still not

brought them home.

NAYD applied for UN ECOSOC status in May but since have been asked to resubmit the application due to a misunderstanding of how NAYD runs its finances. For the avoidance of doubt, NAYD does not handle money and is run on a completely voluntary basis. There is no monetary advantage in being a member. ***NAYD operates as a 'wirearchy' - we empower through sharing knowledge, based on trust and credibility in each other.*** NAYD's main focus is on steering African youths towards a sustainable future.

2015 Activities

2015 is an important year in the development agenda especially for Africa, we are moving towards the UN Post-2015 SDGs. NAYD will be working in close collaboration with different organizations towards realizing the SDGs, for example **action/2015**. More information about action/2015 [here](#). You can watch this inspiring [New Year's message](#) from a young person who volunteers with Restless Development, who, like NAYD, is in the action/2015 coalition. There will be a big launch of the campaign on the 15th Jan. The contact in Africa is [Francis Maberj](#).



#NaydChat on Twitter will also continue every Wednesday - you are encouraged to join Twitter and follow us at @NAYDInfo. **#RightAfrika** will be held twice per month on Facebook, it is a free space with diverse topics being addressed. Besides these, we will have other activities going on throughout like issues of our e-magazine INSPIRE and changes to the web pages. As ever, everything that NAYD achieves is through the efforts of volunteers. If you feel inspired by our efforts and would like to contribute we call upon you to get in contact with us, share ideas and join in the various activities planned which will be communicated via our social media and emails. You can also register as a NAYD member [here](#).

Finally, may we express our heartfelt gratitude for your kind support, professional advice, appreciation, encouragement, emails and messages in 2014. We find ourselves in a new year, and a new chapter in the book of our lives has opened. We wish that it brings you all peace, health, happiness and fulfilment.

Paul Shaw and Judyannet Muchiri

NAYD steering group