

NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE



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North-South Centre of the Council of Europe



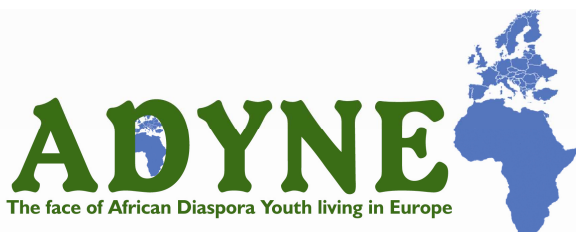
Call for Participants

3rd Training Course for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora Living in Europe

21 -27 may 2012, Braga, Portugal

*Organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in
cooperation with the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe
(ADYNE) and Braga 2012 – European Youth Capital*

In cooperation with:



1. Background of the Training Course

Encouraged by the success and demand of the previous training courses (the last two in Almada- Portugal- in 2009 and in Praia/São Francisco -Cape Verde- in 2010) and of the thematic Seminar on the African Youth Diaspora and the Millennium Development Goals (held in Spain in 2011) and the demand for capacity building opportunities for youth leaders expressed by the participants to these initiatives, the North- South Centre will continue to invest in organising a capacity building activity for youth organisations from the African Youth Diaspora living in Europe.

The third Training Course for Youth leaders of the African Diaspora Living in Europe will be organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in cooperation with the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe (ADYNE). The Course will be organised in framework of Braga 2012 European Youth Capital, in Portugal, from the 21 to the 27 May 2012 and is part of a consolidated path of cooperation among African and European youth establish by **the Africa Europe Youth Summits** (Lisbon 2007 and Tripoli 2010).

The Africa Europe Youth Summits jointly organised by the European Youth Forum, the Pan African Youth Union, in partnership with other international youth organisations and institutions and facilitated by the North-South Centre of the



Council of Europe reached an effective framework for dialogue and cooperation between young people and youth organisations from both regions and to contribute to the recognition of the important role they play in the Africa-Europe cooperation.

Since 2007 a number of instruments and a framework for Africa-Europe Youth Cooperation activities have been implemented involving various youth actors from both regions with an active participation of the youth representatives from the African Diaspora living in Europe. The Youth organisations and youth groups from the African Diaspora living in Europe are fundamental actors for the Euro-African Youth Cooperation. These groups share several aspects of the collective imaginary of the Diaspora phenomenon and identity. At the same time they are part of the European citizenship and African citizenship.

They become essential actors and act as important bridges when it comes to implement youth cooperation projects, building on common identity. Their experience of action and the response to their challenges and aspirations are fundamental resources and aims of the Euro-African youth cooperation. The youth from the African Diaspora was a key participatory element in the process leading to the Africa Europe Youth Summit and the Summit itself.

At the political level the Diaspora is considered by the African Union as the 6th region of Africa and the 6th building block of the African Union. These groups are also important actors for youth cooperation and represent for the hosting societies an immense richness in terms of human resources, intercultural opportunities and possibilities for relationship with the sending societies.

The training course will be a residential programme of 5 days, and will be held in Braga , from the 21st (arrival day) to the 27th May(departure day). The pedagogical team of the course will be composed of experienced trainers in Euro-African cooperation and will include trainers of the African Diaspora living in Europe.

During the course participants will acquire knowledge and tools to strengthen the role they play with regard to Euro-African Cooperation, acquiring also skills to develop the capacity of their organisations as civil society actors in this process. Participants will exchange experiences and strategies to empower the youth community of Africans Living in Europe and to empower also actions developed from a local level to achieve the global goals involved within the Euro-African cooperation framework.

The course will also be an important tool to renew, enlarge and consolidate the network of youth leaders from the African Diaspora initiated by the participants of the first training course (A.D.Y.N.E).



The course will gather close to 30 youth leaders from the African Diaspora active in youth organisations in the hosting societies or leading African Diaspora youth groups and movements. It is designed using a process of mutual learning, being the participants' experiences the starting point of the training process. Active participation and in-depth reflection are key methodologies used in the course, methodologies that have proven successful in the previous trainings and activities with youth leaders of the African Diaspora. Participants will compare their approaches to youth work and youth participation, engaging in the implementation and evaluation of the programme with the team of trainers.

The course will also provide an excellent space for strategic networking and finding partners; this dimension will be most strongly encouraged by the team of trainers as well as for intercultural dialogue and intercultural learning.

Furthermore, the course is a unique moment of practical and political follow up and implementation of some of the outcomes of the previous seminar about the Millennium Development Goals and of the Lisbon and Tripoli declarations and commitments resulted from the Africa Europe Summits in 2007 and 2010.

This Training Course is an opportunity given to youth leaders from the African Diaspora to share, better understand and integrate the objectives settled at the international level and better contribute to their achievement. Some of these objectives, inscribed in the Africa-EU Strategic help enable youth to take an active part in these strategies at the national and regional level and be further equipped to participate in cooperation project:

1. *Promoting the empowerment of Europe's and Africa's youth*¹
2. *Strengthening young people's capacity to disseminate information and to get involved in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Joint Strategy*²
3. *Facilitate moments of encounter and exchange between young Africans and Europeans*³
- 4 *Mapping the existing African youth networks*⁴.

2. Background on ADYNE - African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe.

The African Diaspora Youth Network – ADYNE is a platform of organisations, led and driven by young Africans and young people with African backgrounds living in Europe⁵. It aims and endeavours to serve the interests of young people from all over Europe, promoting their active participation in a constructive dialogue between African and European societies.

For the past years, a growing number of young African leaders from the Diaspora have felt the need to create a network to connect with each other and express their needs, interests and aspirations. They strongly believe that, as Africans from the Diaspora, they can be key actors and be the bridge between African and European societies. Therefore, they joined their efforts to make this vision a reality and launched a process that resulted in the establishment of the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe - ADYNE.

ADYNE is a continuous process that aims to become the face of the African Diaspora young people in Europe, actively participating and contributing, for the sustainable development of our societies.

Please visit: <http://adynes.org/>

¹ As in 56. of the joint strategy, under the heading Human and social development

² As in 56. of the joint strategy, under the heading Human and social development

³ As in 108, under civil society + 108. under the heading Monitoring, evaluation and review mechanisms

⁴ As in the action plan of the joint strategy under the heading Making it work: institutional architecture and implementation

⁵ ADYNE refers to the term "youth" and "young people" according to the definition given by the African Youth Charter. These terms shall refer to every person between the ages of 15 and 35 years.

Similarly, ADYNE refers to the term "African Diaspora" according to the definition provided by the African Union Charter: "people of African origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent ...".

2. Braga, the European Youth Capital 2012. An ideal context for the training.

The 3rd training course for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora living in Europe will be held in a ideal context: Braga, a Portuguese city with a long history of commitment to youth policies.

Braga has been awarded as European Youth Capital (EYC) for the year 2012, an annual title attributed since 2008 by the European Youth Forum to municipalities that are distinguished by their inclusion programs and youth empowerment capacity, encouraging the implementation of new ideas and innovative projects that seek active participation of young people to serve as an example for development in other European cities.

The city of Braga is unique in terms of the youth policies, with different structures and support services to the youth movement, as the Portuguese Youth Institute, the Federation of Youth Associations of the District of Braga, the Municipal Youth Council and also the National Agency for the management of the Youth in Action Programme of the European Union.

In 1998, Braga hosted the 3rd edition of United Nation's World Youth Forum of the united Nations System, that brought together representatives of youth NGOs, the UN System and other intergovernmental organisations from all over the world to promote Youth Policy and Participation for Human Development and to prepare for the first World Conference of Ministers Responsible for youth. This resulted in the Plan of Action for Youth of Braga.

In 2009, the 11th National Youth Encounter was held in Braga, with the theme "Action for the transformation: the future is in your hands," organised by the National Youth Council. In 2011 hosted the Council of Members of the European Youth Forum and the Conference "A Europe for New Generations", the latter in partnership with the CNJ (National Youth Council).

During this year, the city will be responsible for the establishment of a set of landmarks in youth policies at national, European and Global levels, helping the strengthening of areas such as non-formal education, promoting participation, volunteering and structured dialogue, fostering new social practices and ways of understanding and building society. **The 3rd training course for Youth Leaders of the African Diaspora living in Europe is ready to give its contribution to this aim and strength the potential of this idea.**



Please visit <http://www.bragacej2012.com/about/?id=1>

3. Aims of the Training Course

The training course aims to:

- Strengthen the role of young people particularly youth leaders and youth workers from the African Diaspora active in youth organisations in the hosting societies or leading African Diaspora youth groups/movements.
- Empower and promote the capacity to organise, take action and foster their political participation in Euro African Cooperation and Global youth Work.



4. Objectives of the Training Course

The concrete objectives of the training are to enable participants:

- to strengthen individual and organisational capacities and skills for youth participation in development and youth leadership;
- to develop a common understanding of the situations and challenges faced by young people from the African Diaspora Living in Europe;
- to acquire know-how on concepts and challenges of youth work, youth policies and institutions relevant for the Youth from African Diaspora;
- to get acquainted with the action framework provided by the *Africa-EU Strategic Partnership*;
- to reflect upon topics of importance to strengthen active citizenship (e.g. culture and identity, international migrations, human rights, democracy, participation, exclusion and integration, development, education, globalization, MDG's);
- to co-operate in a network with other participants and their projects;
- to create operational tools and act as multipliers by passing on the training and knowledge acquired;
- to live through an intercultural experience with the opportunity to develop expertise and know-how on intercultural learning.

5. Training Methodology

The course is designed as a process of mutual learning, with the participants' experiences and realities as the starting point of the training process. Active participation and in-depth reflection are the keys to the success of this course.

Participants will compare their approaches to youth work and participate in the implementation and evaluation of the programme with the team of trainers. The training methodology is based on a number of successful experiences of training for youth workers and youth leaders developed by the North-South Centre.

The North-South Centre, together with its partners, has developed and tested training methods and tools for this type of activities; it also benefited from the knowledge of some of the best trainers and youth workers in the field of co-operation. The team of experienced trainers from Africa and Europe will be responsible to further design and implement the methodology of the course. Invited guests and experts will provide proposals for reflection in a process based on non-formal education and participant-centred methodologies. Thus, the course will be

also a mutual learning situation, where participants can compare their approaches and concerns in a dialogical intercultural approach and environment. The use of experiential methods and workshops will strengthen the practical side of the course.

The course is a 5 days long programme using a variety of educational methodologies such as: thematic, methodological and political inputs and discussions, new technologies, guides and reference documents, simulation exercises, groups dynamics, interactive role plays, examples of good practices, etc.

The educational team for this course is composed of 3 to 4 trainers with relevant experience in youth work and Euro African co-operation.

6. Expected Results

- Building capacity of multipliers from youth leaders from the African Diaspora in youth organisations and youth group in Europe with the necessary skills to develop their Network and strengthen youth participation.
- An informal network of youth leaders from the African Diaspora and organisations actively committed to the strengthening of Civil Society;
- An increased engagement of the youth from African Diaspora in the Africa Europe Youth Cooperation.
- An increase in the understanding of the cultural, social, economical and political context of the Africa Europe relations.
- An increase in the understanding of the instruments to follow up and implement the new framework of the Africa –EU Strategic Partnership and the Africa Europe Youth Summits final declarations.

7. Working Languages

The different sessions of the Course will be in English, candidates are requested to indicate all their working languages and language level in the application form and **should be fluent in English.**

8. Profile of Participants

The participants in this course are representatives of youth organisations and youth groups of African Origin Living in Europe. The course is open for residents of all member-states of the Council of Europe:

Concerning participants and their profile:

- Should be a key African multiplier or from African origin playing an active role within a youth organisation, network or service at local, national or regional level, and plan to continue this work in the near future;
- Seeking gender balance;
- Diverse social and geographical background;
- Aged between 18 and 30;
- Have already some qualification or experience in terms of international youth work and project work;
- Be committed to attend the full duration of the course and be supported by a youth organisation or service;
- Be able to present the context of their work, their way of tackling problems, the challenges they meet and identify;
- Be able to work and communicate in English.

9. Support for Travel Expenses

The North-South Centre of the Council of Europe will support the travelling of selected participants (only after a clear agreement) as well as travel insurance.

10. Course Fee

The Course will have a participation fee of 25 € (Twenty five Euros), which will be paid during the Course.

11. Deadline for Applications

Those participants fulfilling the criteria and interested to participate should send the enclosed application form to nsc.africaeurope-youthsummit@coe.int by the **6th of April 2012**.

