

07 February, 2008.

Dear Program Manager:

Greetings from Youth Initiative !

We are delighted to share with you an exciting opportunity to gain visibility and funding for your organization or program by contributing to an exciting research project on innovations in youth volunteering in South Asia.

This wonderful opportunity is created by Innovations in Civic Participation (ICP). ICP, a Washington DC-based non-profit dedicated to generating opportunities for young people to improve their communities through volunteering, community service and civic engagement, recently launched a multi-year program in South Asia to build capacity for youth service and civic engagement in the region. Youth Initiative is partnering with ICP to carry out this meaningful project. The first phase of the program is to identify existing youth service policies and civic engagement/volunteer programs currently underway in Nepal.

Therefore, we are interested in learning about programs that:

- Engage young people ages 10 to 24 (including university students) in civic engagement or community service activities (from volunteering to advocacy) that address issues of public concern. (For more detail on the kinds of activities we are interested in, see our note on "Definitions of Civic Engagement and Youth Service")
- Use innovative approaches to engage young people.

To participate in this research project, please fill out the attached survey and return it via email or mail to Youth Initiative, GPO 8973, NPC 430, 135/10 Siddhcharan Marg, Shantinagar, Kathmandu Nepal or at ysp@youthinitiative.org.np or info@youthinitiative.org.np

By completing and returning this survey your program:

1. Becomes eligible to compete for ICP's regional *Award of Excellence*, including cash prizes for the selected finalists. The *Award* will highlight innovative programs currently operating in the region, provide recognition of local actors, and increase awareness of youth service programs. The three programs ranked as most innovative by our panel of experts will receive US\$1,500 for first place, and US\$500 each for second and third place finishers.¹
2. Will be entered into ICP's online searchable global database of youth service programs and policies and may be profiled in our report highlighting examples of innovative youth service programs in South Asia. ICP will publish the report, disseminate it among our network of 2,000 youth service and civic engagement experts, practitioners,

¹ Please note that these funds must be utilized to support volunteer programs or activities, rather than individuals.

policy-makers and donors, as well as present it at the 2008 regional conference in New Delhi.

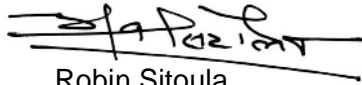
3. May be invited to attend ICP's regional conference on youth civic engagement in New Delhi in August 2008. The award, report, and conference are all intended to raise the profile of youth civic engagement and youth service in South Asia and will serve as an opportunity to spotlight innovative programs in the region.

Youth Initiative team may visit your program areas to meet with your youth volunteers and to see the impact of their work. Based on the collected information from the questionnaire and the field visit, Youth Initiative will send an appreciation note to ICP in favor of your organization for the Award of Excellence.

Please let us know if you require a Nepali translation of this survey. Also, please note that an organization may submit multiple questionnaires for distinct programs it manages. We also encourage you to pass the questionnaire along to managers of any other youth civic engagement programs in the country.

Feel free to contact Youth Initiative Offices throughout Nepal, if you have additional questions or concerns about this survey. A detailed list and contact information of our various offices outside Kathmandu is available in our website. We thank you in advance for your time in completing this questionnaire and participating in this important research project.

Sincerely,



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