



Image-in the MDGs

A promise to the Youth of Mathare, Nairobi

Image-in is a tale of true stories, a project by the youth and for the youth on one of Africa's most deprived slums.

With cameras in hands, ten young boys and girls have become witnesses and advocates of their own conditions. They describe their realities with an unusual acuity and exceptional sincerity. Their collection of photos and stories on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) constitute a real documentary but also the key ingredients to voice out the real issues and start addressing problems that sometimes go beyond words.

This project is part of UN-HABITAT's long-term commitment to empower the youth living in the slums. It is also a part of the Mathare Youth Sport Association's (MYSA) goal to link development, sport, environmental activisms and art to positively transform the lives of young boys and girls.

Behind their faces and eyes, behind the walls and doors, lie incredible testimonies, calls and cries of despairs but also a formidable energy that cannot be ignored to build the future of African cities. This project is a reminder that we need to invest in the youth of today if we want to reach the MDGs tomorrow.

Image-in the MDGs' is a project geared towards empowering the youth through photography with a particular focus on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The MDGs provide a compelling structuring element for discussing development strategies and policies and understanding the global dimension within which their



voices can be heard, their messages addressing the United Nation's pledge to address global poverty.

MYSA

The Mathare Youth Sports Association (MYSA) is run by the youth, for the youth. It all started with football for boys in 1987 and eventually football for girls in 1992. MYSA has been the first association in Africa to organise football leagues in the slums on a self help basis; the first to link sports and sustainable development in Africa; the first in Africa to organise under 12 girls and boys football leagues; the first in Africa to send a girls team to the Norway Cup.

Today, MYSA is the largest youth sports organisation in Africa with 1,128 boys teams and 269 girls teams, with more than 17,000 players and volunteers in the football leagues. Participants must undertake community service projects, for which points are awarded to the teams for every successful project. Points are gained for not only winning the game, but also for cleaning the environment and doing arts projects.

Exhibition Programme

CANADA
World Urban Forum, Vancouver
17 to 23 June 2006

KENYA
Alliance Française
12 to 30 September

NORWAY
Oslo, Kristiansand, Tokke, Sagavoll, Asker
and Brumunddal
12 to 30 October 2006