



NEWSLETTER

DAKAR, SENEGAL
20-22 JUNE 2017

CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP & RESTRUCTURING OF AFRIYAN WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA

West & Central African youth meet to strengthen their roles for achieving the demographic dividend

The first two days of the much anticipated three-day youth meeting that was organized by UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund, West and Central Africa Regional Office (WCARO) were concluded the 22 June 2017. Youth representatives from all 23 countries in the region were able to strengthen their knowledge and understanding of the African Union Roadmap on the demographic dividend, strategize on concrete next steps to implement their action plans for achieving the demographic dividend at country, sub regional and regional levels, and restructure the African Youth and Adolescents Network on Population and Development, West and Central Africa (AfriYAN), through an election of a new regional executive committee accompanied by

HIGHLIGHTS

- UNFPA WCARO Regional Director with young people to strengthen their leadership
- Youth Voices
- The New AfriYAN regional executive committee is elected
- Regional and 23 country level action plans to implement the AU roadmap on demographic dividend developed



YOUNG PEOPLE FIRST
TO HARNESS THE
DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND



MABINGUE NGOM WITH YOUNG PEOPLE TO STRENGTHEN THEIR LEADERSHIP

The Regional Director of UNFPA West and Central Africa Regional Office at the opening emphasized the potential of young people. For Mr. Mabingue NGOM, Africa must position itself as a champion of harnessing the demographic dividend. Young people must be promoted to benefit from the demographic dividend in Africa and have an important role to play as partners.

“

Africa has a unique chance to get out of poverty by capturing the demographic dividend and investing in young people

”

YOUTH VOICES

Hearing from participants



Let's be there for each other, the communication between us is so crucial if we want our networks to succeed

Janice Da Graça, Cabo Verde



All our networks have to work together for the purpose of the development of our region

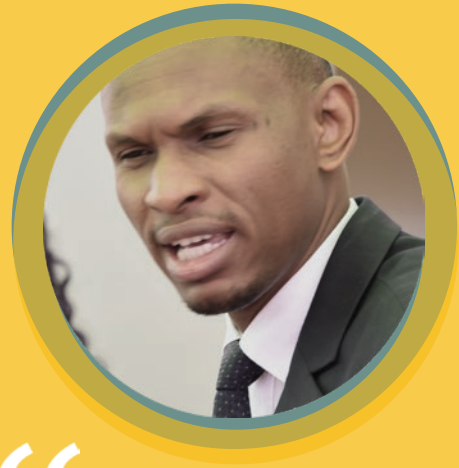
Shamwill Hassan, Nigeria



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We can empower ourselves by sharing experiences. Let's be there for the whole of Africa because we now have the chance to be the actors of change

Mahouna Romaric Ouitona, Benin ”



“

We are the ambassadors of AfriYAN in our countries. Our commitment must help our countries to harness the demographic dividend

Ba Bocar, Mauritania ”

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YOUTH VOICES

Hearing from participants



To promote entrepreneurship we need strong advocacy for new curricula in our universities and high schools

Cheick Faycal Traoré, Burkina Faso



With the action plans developed in Dakar, youth organizations must approach their governments to participate in the implementation of the AU Road map to harness the demographic dividend

Pape Arona Traoré, Senegal

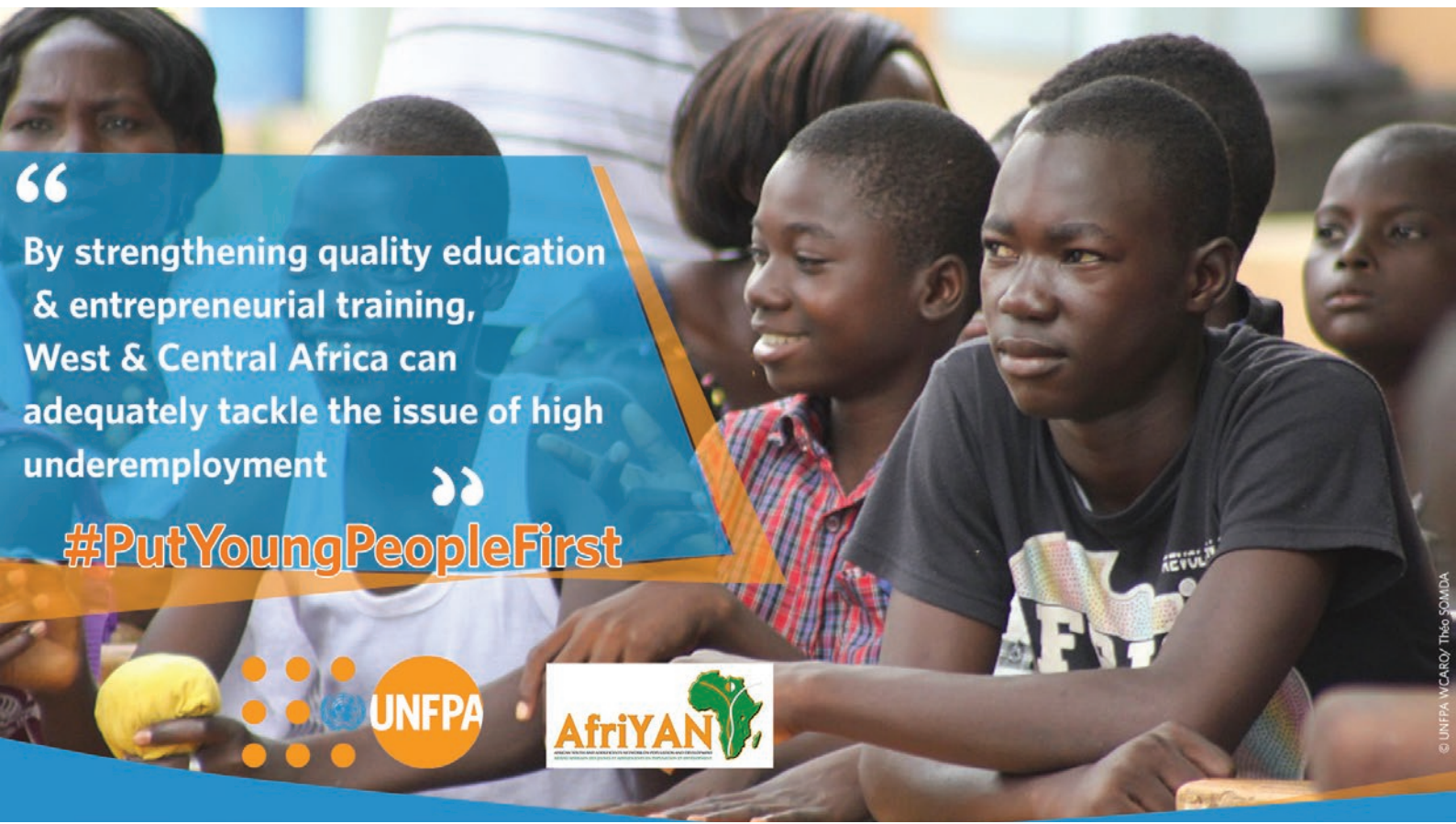
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Achieving the demographic
dividend by protecting
young girls from child marriage
”

#PutYoungPeopleFirst



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By strengthening quality education
& entrepreneurial training,
West & Central Africa can
adequately tackle the issue of high
underemployment
”

#PutYoungPeopleFirst





AFRIYAN ELECT NEW REGIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In an effort to allow AfriYAN to make a significant contribution to the mobilization, training and positioning of young people but also to their active and sustainable participation in the process of achieving the African Union Roadmap and the Sustainable Development Goals, it was considered necessary to reorganize and restructure the network.

With the support of UNFPA WCARO to facilitate the restructuring process, AfriYAN was able to elect a new regional executive committee, comprised of four chairs each responsible for guiding the work of the network for one of the four pillars of the African Union Roadmap on the demographic dividend (accompanied by deputies) and providing leadership to its members in the 23 countries of the region for the next three years.

“Let’s show that young people can take up the challenges on catching the demographic dividend. Let’s be innovative on implementing the AU Roadmap in the West & Central Africa region.

Pape Arona Traoré, Senegal

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Meet AfriYAN elected WCA's new executive committee



Janice Da Graça, Cabo Verde
Chair of Pillar 2



Ba Bocar, Mauritania
Deputy of Pillar 4



Matsida Kamta Marcelle Annie,
Cameroon
Deputy of Pillar 1



*Hafizou Boncana, Mali
Deputy of Pillar 1*



*Princilia Benovy Wini, Congo
Chair of Pillar 3*



*Cheick Faycal Traoré, Burkina Faso
Chair of Pillar 1*



*Awa Issa Rachid, Niger
Deputy of Pillar 2*



*Edith Esinam Asamami,
Ghana
Deputy of Pillar 3*



*Shamwill Hassan, Nigeria
Deputy of Pillar 4*



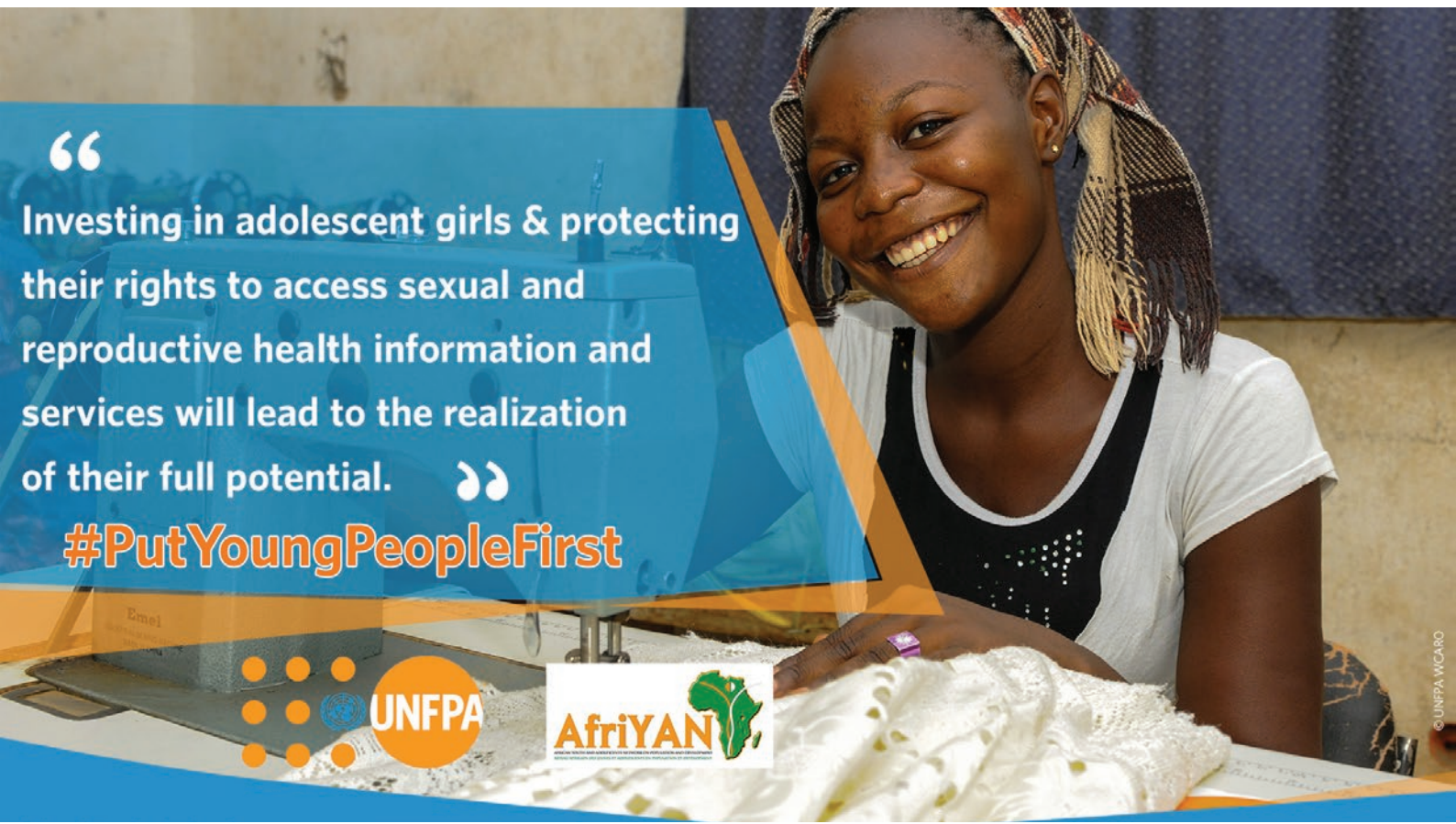
*Roger Djeraro Diondane,
Chad
Chair of Pillar 4*



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UNFPA and African Union know
investing in youth & adolescents
is critical to Africa’s future.



#PutYoungPeopleFirst



“
Investing in adolescent girls & protecting
their rights to access sexual and
reproductive health information and
services will lead to the realization
of their full potential.



#PutYoungPeopleFirst





23 COUNTRIES ACTION PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE AU ROADMAP

This capacity building workshop on the demographic dividend and the revitalization of the AfriYAN, also enabled the young participants to continue their work on country action plans during the two days. Indeed, these young leaders, following the meeting of the networks of young leaders of West and Central Africa on leadership and demographic dividend held last March in Dakar, had to work country-by-country on final actions plan on the four pillars of the African Union Roadmap on harnessing the demographic dividend.

These pillars are Health and Wellbeing, Employment and Entrepreneurship, Education and Skills Development, Rights Government and Youth Employment.

Participants developed and finalized 23 action plans covering over three years, with a focus on concrete actions, with strong indicators of performance.

“ Youth ministers meeting in Bamako during the Africa France summit in January 2017 are committed to ensuring the full implementation of the African Youth Charter and other relevant legal instruments to the realization of the youth potential in all African countries

Pape Arona Traoré, Senegal

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