



**Second Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations
Istanbul, Turkey, 6-7 April 2009
Breakfast Session #14: The Youth Solidarity Fund: Celebrating Young Bridge-Builders
Tuesday, April 7 2009, 07:45-08:45
Organized by the AoC**

Objectives and Expectations of this Session

The Youth Solidarity Fund provides seed funding to outstanding youth-led initiatives that promote long-term constructive relationships between young people from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds.

For the pilot phase of the Youth Solidarity Fund launched in 2008, three sub-themes were identified through a review of the calls to action and key needs identified during meetings and in reports produced by partner organizations and key networks of youth organizations during 2006-2007. Under the general theme of intercultural and interfaith dialogue, applications needed to address the following sub-themes: Exchanges; Youth Leadership Training; and Youth Voices in the Media.

A Youth Selection Committee composed of 7 youth representatives nominated by key regional youth platforms recommended the following projects for funding.

- The Role of Youth as Citizens in the Construction of an Intercultural Society (Argentinean Youth Organization for the United Nations, Argentina)
- God and Me (No Ghetto / Respect, France)
- Capacity Building for Youth Leaders of Religious and Traditional Groups on Tolerance and Cultural Diversity for Sustained Peace and Development (Federation of Youth Clubs, Ghana)
- Capacity Building for Youth Leaders and Strengthening Youth Networking for Peace Building (Generation Peace Youth Network, Philippines)
- Interethnic Youth Alliance (Cultural Center DamaD, Serbia)
- Speaking and Listening with Respect: Students, Faith, and Dialogue (International Movement of Catholic Students, International)

These YSF highlights the potent impact that local, national and international youth-led projects can have on the attitudes and actions of this vibrant generation of bridge-builders.

The objective of this breakfast session is to highlight the practical results generated by these youth-led projects supported by the pilot phase of the Youth Solidarity Fund. The emphasis will be on lessons learned, innovative approaches and models with the potential to be replicated.

Organization of this Session

Facilitator:

- TBD

Panelists (youth organizations with winning projects):

- Juan Martin Camusso, Institutional Relations Manager, Argentinian Youth Organization for the United Nations
- Rejane Ereau, Editor, No Ghetto / Respect
- Issah Ali, President, Federation of Youth Clubs
- Nikki Delfin, Project Coordinator, Generation Peace Youth Network (GenPeace)
- Samid Sarenkagic, Project Coordinator, Cultural Center DamaD
- Christopher Derige Malano, Secretary General, Pax Romana