

Background Notes: Youth Development Experiences

Peter Kenyon

Relevant Professional Background:

- Since 2002 Coordinator of a range of national youth programs including Youth at the Centre, C.R.E.A.T.E. (Creating Rural Enterprising Attitudes Through Education) and *ruMAD?*
- Since 1991 Director of IDEAS (Initiatives for the Development of Enterprising Action and Strategies)
Director of The Centre for Small Town Development
- 1991/92 Special Advisor to the Ministry of Youth and Sport (Government of Namibia)
- 1990 Implementation Manager of Community Employment Development Unit (New Zealand)
- 1984 – 90 Director, Employment (State Department of Employment and Training)
- 1982 – 83 Lecturer in Youth Work and Career Studies (Western Australian College of Advanced Education)
- 1976 – 81 Education Officer (Applecross and Rockingham Senior High Schools)
- 1974 – 75 Executive Officer, Frontier Youth Services (Western Australia)
- 1973 Teacher (Denmark District and Agricultural High School)
- 1970 – 72 Youth worker, City of Melville

Youth Development Experiences:

- Executive member of a range of national, state and community based organisations including National Youth Council of Australia and Youth Affairs Council of WA.
- Design and implementation of tertiary youth worker courses in Western Australia.

- Executive Officer for two years of a voluntary youth organisation focussing on the support of frontier youth issues – detached youth work, violence, youth abuse, and unemployment.
- Youth Education Officer for six years facilitating school to work and community experiences including coordination of career studies, work experience, community service, recreation, leadership and personal development.
- Head of employment initiatives for State of Western Australia for six years including the implementation of a wide range of youth employment and enterprise experiences, eg, Joblink, Jobmate, Business Enterprise Centres, Operation Livewire.
- State Director of the Rotary Youth Leadership Award Program for Western Australia for three years.
- Current Board Member of Fairbridge Youth Program and St Brigid's College.

National Youth Policy Development:

- Facilitation support for the formation of national youth policies in 16 countries within the Pacific, Asia, Africa and the Middle East, they are - South Africa, Pakistan, Fiji, Singapore, Namibia, Botswana, Malawi, The Maldives, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Brunei, Vietnam, Yemen, Bahrain, Palestine, Jordan and Somalia.
- Responsible for compilation of a *Resource Kit* for the Commonwealth Secretariat (London) for use with all Commonwealth countries in terms of design and implementation of a National Youth Policy (including authorship of *Formulating and Implementing National Youth Policies – a Commonwealth Handbook*).
- Keynote presenter on National Youth Policy Formation to Commonwealth Ministers of Youth (Trinidad and Tobago, 1996).
- Coordination of international course for Facilitators of National Youth Policy Formulation (India, 1996).
- Trainer and presenter at Regional Meetings on National Youth Policy in Goa (India), Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) and Beirut (Lebanon).
- Commissioned by Youth UN Unit (New York) to prepare study on the design, implementation and evaluation of National Youth Policies - part of the UN Report "Global Situation of Youth", submitted to the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (1998, Lisbon, Portugal).

- Author of the "*Commonwealth Youth Charter*".
- Author of "*Guide for Formulating and Implementing National Youth Policies in Africa*" (Commonwealth Youth Program).
- Author of *Youth Policy Formulation Manual* (United Nations, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific).
- Contribution to UNICEF 'National Youth Policy Toolkit' for Middle East Countries.
- Founding member of International Council on National Youth Policy and inaugural secretary.

International / National Youth Program Development:

- Commonwealth Secretariat Adviser to the new nation of Namibia (1990-91) to assist with the establishment of their Ministry of Youth and Sports.
- Development of National Youth Action Plans for Fiji, Maldives and Bahrain.
- Evaluation of youth employment and enterprise programs in Indonesia.
- Coordination of national research project - '*Making Rural Australia Work for Young Men and Women*'.
- Design and implementation of the national 'Youth at the Centre' program in Australia and New Zealand.
- Design and implementation of the C.R.E.A.T.E. (Creating Rural Enterprising Attitudes Through Education) Initiative in Australia.
- Design of the youth parliament for Bahrain.
- Assistance with the national development of the *ru MAD?* (Are You Making A Difference?) and *Lead On* Programs in Australia.

Youth Enterprise:

- Author of '*Youth Employment Matters*' (Municipal Association of Victoria).
- Co - author of '*Young People and Self Employment in Australia*' (National Youth Resource Scheme).

- Facilitator of workshops on youth enterprise in Fiji, New Guinea, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India.
- Evaluation of youth enterprise initiatives in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.
- Design and implementation of three major national youth enterprise programs in Indonesia.
- Coordination of Roadshow on Youth Enterprise in rural Victoria.
- Project consultant to the Katatura Youth Enterprise Centre (Namibia).
- Project consultant to Youth Business Initiative on the development of Australia's first Youth Enterprise Centre (Parramatta, NSW).
- National workshop presenter on the themes *Youth Enterprise* and *Youth Participation*.
- International workshop presenter on the themes of youth enterprise and youth participation (Canada, USA, South Africa, New Zealand, Sri Lanka).
- Co-author of International Review of Youth Enterprise Initiatives for I.L.O (Geneva, Switzerland).