



Information Note – YouthConnekt Convention 2014

Background

The inaugural YouthConnekt Convention took place in 2012, establishing a platform for Rwanda's young people at home and abroad to showcase their potential and contribute to building their country.

Through YouthConnekt, Rwanda's young people, who make up more than 60% of the active labour force, have understood that they are the largest contributors to national development, given not only their number but also their energy, innovation, creativity and passion. At the first two conventions, the participants expressed the wish to participate and contribute meaningfully to the national dialogue so that their views are fully taken into account in the national development agenda. At the conventions, attendees also made a number of commitments, which have been achieved in the last two years.

This year's convention will bring together more than 2,000 young people including entrepreneurs and professionals, Indangamirwa, innovators, artists, students, and young people living with disabilities. Attendees of the convention will follow and participate in Umushyikirano (the National Dialogue Council) live from Petit Stade in Remera, Kigali. Participants will also showcase their initiatives and innovations that are positively impacting society and reiterate their role in national development.

Introduction

From 17-19 December 2014, the National Youth Council in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and ICT will host the third edition of the YouthConnekt Convention. The convention 2014 will include the following components:

YouthConnekt Awards

The boot camp will feature 90 young people with outstanding innovations. A selection of three innovations per district shall be undertaken. The selected innovators will undergo a three-day training and will get support on how to improve their ideas and initiatives. A selection of the best 30 shall eventually be undertaken and rewarded. At the grand finale, three will be selected. At least two innovators with great achievements will be invited to give testimonies and encouragement to their peers.



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YouthConnekt Exhibition

Each of the 90 selected projects, startups or innovations will be showcased in a poster exhibition at Petit Stade Amahoro in Remera, Kigali.

YouthConnekt and Umushyikirano (National Dialogue Council)

The attendees of YouthConnekt will participate in Umushyikirano live from Petit Stade. This involvement will give young Rwandans the opportunity to directly contribute to the nation's development through the exchange of ideas and decisions making.

Expected Outcomes

- Umushyikirano resolutions that are owned by young people and are ready to be implemented
- Signed performance contracts for implementation until the next YouthConnekt Convention
- A spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation boosted among Rwanda's young people

Visit www.youthconnekt.rw or follow [@YouthConnekt](https://twitter.com/YouthConnekt) for more information about the Youth Connekt Convention taking place alongside Umushyikirano.