

# NETWORK MOVEMENT FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WELFARE- SL (NMYCW-SL)



*Vision: We envisage the eradication of all forms of abuse against children and the full empowerment of young people in decision making.*

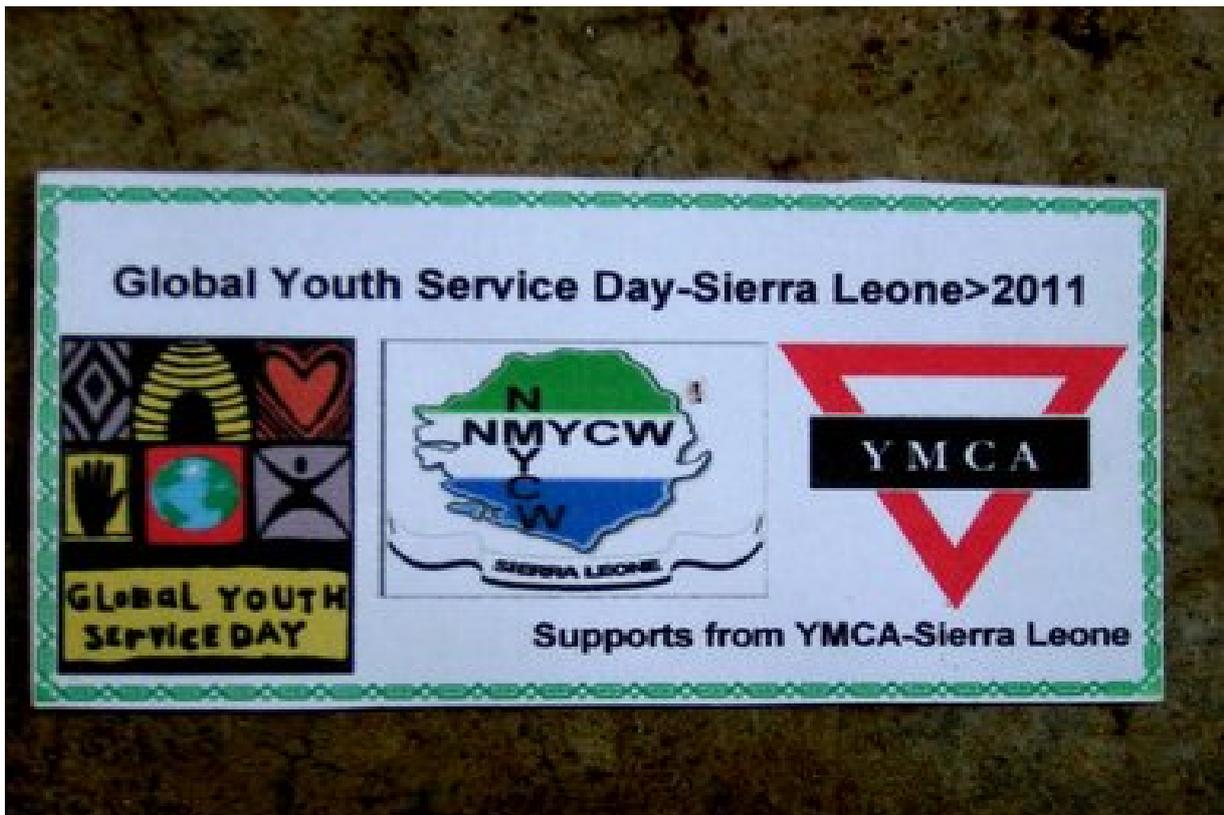
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**REPORT ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY-2011 (SIERRA LEONE) ORGANIZED BY NETWORK MOVEMENT FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WELFARE-SL IN COLLABORATION WITH YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION(YMCA-SL), FREETOWN CITY COUNCIL(FCC) and its Community PARTNERS in DWARZACK, MABELLA and KROOBAY.**



As one participant from Dwazack said, "it is good to volunteer, but to make it more impacting, Government and other partners need to come on board and help with resources."

Power to the Youth, Glory to the children does of the world, stay blessed be Peaceful and think positive.

## **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Country Partners (formerly known as National Lead Agencies) serve as lead conveners and organizers of Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) in their country. Country Partners promote GYSD, mobilize partners and local project organizers, lead high profile events, engage local media and government officials, and coordinate project registration and reporting.

Due to many challenges, most of these tasks have not been achieved as poor regional coordination affected our actual plans; low internet server is also a major factor, minimal Local financial supports etc.

This year, GYSD would not have been commemorated without the intervention of Young Men's Christian Association, Sierra Leone (YMCA-SL) and the Freetown City Council.

Activities concentrated on dialogue, voluntary cleaning and beautification of three slum communities in the Western Area (Kroobay, Marbella and Dwarzack). During the dialogue session, participants agreed to form National Youth Volunteers Network (NYV-Net) and some recommendations were made for this network to be successful.

In conclusion, this project would not have created positive impacts on its own during implementations if we haven't had the cooperation of Child Advocacy Network based in Mabella, Dwarzack Youth Dev Org., Kroobay Youths., YMCA-Slum Team, Mamaja Jalloh, Mr. Mohamed Konneh of West Africa Democracy Radio, CSOs, Youth groups, the Mass Media, Momoh Sesay Programme officer-NMYCW-SL.etc

As one participant from Dwarzack said, "it is good to volunteer, but to make it more impacting, Government and other partners need to come on board and help with resources.

When preparing this report some actions were left out but we hope that we can raise funds to do more copies of our documentary which clearly explain all events outlined for the Global Youth Service Day 2011.

## 2.0 ACTIVITIES:

- **Launching of the GYSD event with Press statements:** 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011.
- **Youth Dialogue Forum:** 15<sup>th</sup> June 2011.
- **Cleaning and Beautification of Kroobay, Marbella and Dwarzack communities:** 18<sup>th</sup> . DWAZACK; 19<sup>th</sup> . MABELLA; and 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011 . KROOBAY.
- **Media Campaign- Radio Discussion and TV/Radio Coverage of Activities: Ongoing coverage.**
- **Documentation of reports on 2011 volunteerism:** 13<sup>th</sup> June -1<sup>st</sup> July 2011.

## 3.0 PRESS STATEMENT:

The NETWORK MOVEMENT FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WELFARE (NMYCW-SL) in collaboration with its partners YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION (YMCA-SL), FREETOWN CITY COUNCIL (FCC) and its community partners will organize events to mark the global youth service day 2011. These service projects will target up to 100 participants between the ages of 5 and 25 yrs and will also include 50 youths above the age of 25yrs to do cleaning and beautifications of strategic areas in Dwarzack, Marbella and Kroobay community in the Freetown Municipality.

To bring youth groups to dialogue and develop advocacy strategies that will continue after the GYSD events, which will encourage young people to undertake voluntary ventures in promoting and protecting the environments.

The media will be used to raise awareness on GYSD programmes, educate the public on how to manage solid waste, plant trees and maintain clean drainages.

### Proposed activities:

- Launching of the GYSD event with Press statements: 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011.
- Youth Dialogue Forum: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2011
- Cleaning and Beatification of Kroobay, Mabella and Dwazack communities: 18<sup>th</sup> . DWAZACK; 19<sup>th</sup> . MABELLA; and, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011 . KROOBAY
- Media Campaign . Radio Discussion and TV/Radio Coverage of Activities: Ongoing coverage

Network Movement for Youth and Children's Welfare Sierra Leone (NMYCW-SL) is a civil society and human right organization that works towards youth and children's welfare. NMYCW-SL was established in 2004 to develop and implement programmes that help alleviate the suffering of children and youth affected by denial of their Economic Social and Cultural Right (Human Rights); such as education, water and sanitation, food etc.

One hundred copies were printed, sent to media houses, NGOs, INGOs, CSOs, etc and some media houses made news over the press statement whilst some read as public notices.

The statement generated interest from youth groups and local partners around the country, even though the resource is small to cover the entire country. Youth and adult around the country took part in our radio discussion programmes with the national broad casting service radio station, the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Cooperation (SLBC).

#### 4.0 Youth Dialogue Forum:

**Ms Juliet Anderson (Gender Activist), Chairperson's welcome remarks:** It is my pleasure and gratitude to join Mr. Momoh Sesay and NMYCW-SL to welcome young people from different CBOs /CSO from various areas, journalists, etc. However, I am also concerned with gender imbalance as the percentage of women present is not encouraging as we are presently campaigning for 70% Men and 30% for Women in Parliament, isn't it? We need the young girls, for you cannot live without them and they too cannot live without you.

Again I'd like to join in welcoming you to this youth dialogue forum which is part of several events to mark the global youth service day. Well, you may want to know the importance of global youth service day and to throw light on it, it is being put aside to recognize the important role young people have played in developing their communities through various services. As indicated also in different publications, the main purposes of Global Youth Service Day are:

1. To mobilize youth to identify and address the needs of their communities through services;
2. Support youth on a life-long path of service and civic engagement; and,
3. Educate the public, media and policy makers about the year-round contributions of young people as community leaders.

So as we mark this day let us think about the diversities and challenges youth face. Perhaps you may want to know some of these challenges which include poverty, hunger, malnutrition, drug abuse, poor health services, limited job opportunities, inadequate housing facilities and poor environment. I think we can eliminate these challenges by turning them into opportunities to achieve a common goal, which is to improve the lives of young people in Sierra Leone and the global family. With these brief remarks I wish you fruitful deliberations. Thank you.+



Madam Juliet Anderson-making her opening statement as chairperson.



The Mass Media representatives. Children's Prog officer.NMYCW CTN-reporter

#### 4.1 Introduction of participants:

Participants were drawn up from Dwazack, Mabella, Fire Born, CBOs, CSOs and the Mass Media (TV/Radio).



Participants from Dwazack, Mabella, Kroobay and members of Youth groups and CSOs in the Western Area.

#### 4.2 The main purpose of Global Youth Service Day:

Mr. Hajie Bah (National Coordinator . NMYCW-SL)

According to the chairperson, this event is normally commemorated in April every year and GYSD is set aside to celebrate the great work of young people, especially young people from the grass root level with determination to undertake self help projects with little or no support from government or other agencies in which such activities create great impact in their communities and the world at large. In the past years GYSD has been organized in different forms and shapes.



Hajie Bah making presentation.

Last year the NMYCW-SL and other organizations applied online to become country partners for Sierra Leone. Fortunately, only NMYCW-SL was granted partnership on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2011.

Thereafter, we received posters from our regional coordinator based in Ghana. As you can see from the posters, this day is meant for us to discuss and see how we can make voluntarism a reality. Going back to history, you may recall during the NPRC era, young people were consciously involved in self help community cleaning exercises, beautifications, engaging stake holders, etc. as way of contributing to national development.+

#### **4.2.1 Our main activities for this year's campaign**

Launching of the GYSD event with Press statements: 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Youth Dialogue Forum: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

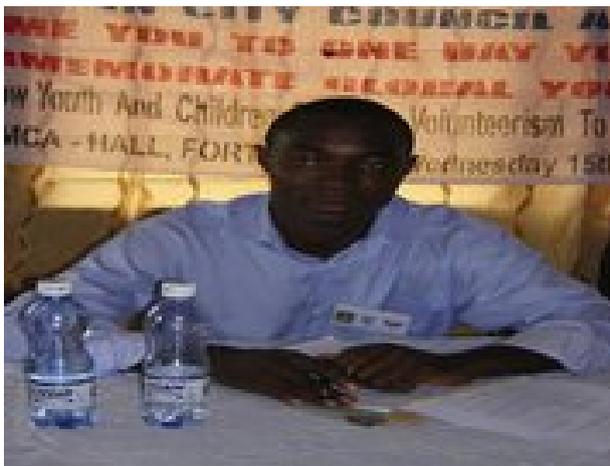
Cleaning and Beatification of Kroobay, Mabella and Dwarzack communities: 18<sup>th</sup> DWAZACK, 19<sup>th</sup> MABELLA and 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011 KROOBAY.

Media Campaign- Radio Discussion and TV/Radio Coverage of Activities: Ongoing coverage

On behalf of the International partners, the regional Coordinating Team, National Partners the Young Men's Christian Association, the Freetown City Council/Waste Management and our community youth partners in the three communities, we are very much grateful. With these ventures we want to see how we can plan together not only for this year but also for 2012. In closing, be reminded that GYSD is a way young people can change the world through their initiatives, especially, where we can network together with one goal, I believe we can do it.ql thank you Madam Chair for giving me this opportunity to address this forum and I thank you all for attention.

#### **4.3 The Challenges /Benefits from Volunteerism by Peter Kugba Nyande:**

I am here as an ambassador of YMCA-Canada, but presently serving as an intern with YMCA . SL. Now I feel privileged to talk to you guys about volunteerism, from my experiences in Ghana and in Canada. Volunteerism has a meaningful impact on the community but it could also have a meaningful impact on the one who is volunteering.



Peter.K.Nyande making presentation.

For what I have realized since my stay in Sierra Leone for about three weeks now, volunteerism is not part of the culture of Sierra Leone especially among the youth. If you travel to other places of the world you will realize the results of volunteerism, but here I have noticed that people generally are not aware of the benefits of volunteerism. I am therefore here to share with you some of the benefits from volunteerism, but I will begin by talking about the challenges. Firstly, one of the key challenges is that most people don't like volunteerism because they think they cannot be rewarded financially; and, traditionally when people work they expect financial reward for their skills. On the contrary, volunteers are expected to offer their skills for free.

I am however not saying that if someone is working voluntarily he/she should not receive some stipends, but I'm saying that the person's primary aim is not about his financial gains but about his contribution to his/her community as well as the knowledge, skills and experience acquired in the course of the volunteerism.

One of the past days I was participating in the night line radio with DJ Base where I mentioned about scenario I personally witnessed. I was at Circular Road where I saw a group of youths working to fill in potholes along the street. I was initially impressed about their effort but was later disappointed when I saw the guys manning a check point and demanding money from motorist. What was most disturbing was the aggressive nature of their gate keeping. I then concluded that they were not volunteering but creating jobs for themselves.

Conventionally, no individual has the right to block public roads, and so if you decide to fix it you must be open to public opinion about your sacrifice. They will decide to reward you or not; and if they do it is fine, but if they don't then be satisfied that you have personally contributed to the development of your neighborhood or community. Be aware that when you make any sacrifice that brings about change in people's life of your community, people will be challenged to reward more than you expected, not the mere pittance of Le 500 or Le 1,000.

I must also admit that people do this because of the economic challenges in the country, such that we often have slogans like 'an empty bag cannot stand'. This is true, but naturally even when you gain employment, you start with no pay until after a month before you get your first salary. Similarly, one must sacrifice before getting rewarded.

In Canada where I come from, volunteerism has become a culture, such that people volunteer from childhood, adulthood and sometimes at old age. In high school for instance, you are required to volunteer forty (40) hours in four years before you are awarded the diploma, and failure to do so you will be penalized by not having your diploma. Here I often see young people spending 4 hrs idling, but I want to make a challenge today that if you use 4 hrs volunteering in your community you bring change and impact that you'd never have imagined.

As I mentioned earlier, the benefits one can get from volunteering include the following:

- Personal satisfaction you get because your effort is appreciated for your contribution to the community as well as seeing for yourself the impact created by your contribution
- The community can recognize your voice when you demand participation in decision making as they will not regard you as idle people.
- It can help to bring change in your community. In Canada for example, 20mins is dedicated to volunteerism, and all walks of life in the society (universities, offices, shops, etc.) stop their normal jobs to clean up their environment. At the end you realize how

clean the community can look like. We often talk about the beauty of other countries, like I saw some guys at Siaka Stevens Street talking about the beauty of America and other European countries, but I tell you, the efforts of the citizenry as I just mentioned contributes to these progress. Similarly, if we copy these best practices, it can bring about profound changes to environment and the community at large

- Finally, when we volunteer we discover new interest and benefits, such as in recreation and entertainment. You can use these new found interests to offer training or motivation to other young people+

#### **4.4 What control mechanism can be put in place by the FCC/Waste management Company? (Mr. Sulaiman Parker, Head of the Freetown Waste Management Company):**

Bring you greetings from His Lordship the Mayor of Freetown, Councilors, Administrative Head of the Freetown City Council and Staff of the Freetown Waste Management Company (FWMC).

I will start off by throwing light on the following questions:

- What is waste?
- What categories are we referring to be waste?

Generally speaking, wastes are discarded materials . things that you don't want and you have to dispose of them. Also bear in mind that what one man regards as waste can be useful to another man. For instance, during conferences people normally serve plastic bottled water. Participants of these conferences dispose of the plastic bottles after drinking the water but they are picked up by petty traders such as women selling palm oil.



**Mr. Sulaiman Parker making presentation.**

The definition of waste is not restricted to the individual alone because for me, I may use my phone for a month or a year and dispose of it but then can be picked up by another person.

Whenever we talk about managing wastes there are methods we have to put in place to make sure that the items that you don't want are disposed of without causing harm to your neighbor and to the environment. The systems that we put in place will help reduce environmental degradation. Waste by itself takes different forms, that is, solid, liquid and gas wastes. Solid wastes are discarded hard materials such as a discarded table; liquid include substances like urine; and, gas waste include gas that emits from waste dumpsites.

All these wastes have the potential to cause damage to man and the environment if they are not well managed, as such there is need to manage wastes properly to minimize its harmful effects on our biodiversity. In practice, we need to start by providing storage facilities for wastes such

as in our compound or offices, this will be followed by some body or cleaning agents collecting the wastes and transport its original place to a designated dumping ground. Walking around Freetown youd realize that the city is punctuated with series of min-dumping sites where most families do their initial waste disposal.

In other countries, waste disposal is structured such that it is segregated into biodegradable wastes which can easily decompose, and non-biodegradable wastes which cannot be decomposed easily unless through an engineering process. Where such systems operate wastes can be used otherwise such as manure, gas, electricity, etc., as in the case of biodegradable, or recycled if they are non-biodegradable such as plastic. Unfortunately, in Sierra Leone, these opportunities are yet far-fetched.

Meanwhile, the FWMC has introduced crude methods where wastes are manually disposed through transit point where on the contrary in developed countries they are done by machines. In the same vein, FWMC is now moving towards the direction of training young women and men as Sanitary Wardens which will be effective in July 2011. I therefore want to use this opportunity to inform you so that you will not be surprised to see them in major streets for illegal and reckless dumping offences.

Looking through the document I saw some of the activities lined up for the coming days which include organizing cleaning campaigns in Dwarzack, Marbella and Kroo Bay. Iam however only informed today, but I recommend we need to coordinate it very well in order to maximize our efforts and resources. On that note, I thank you for your attention.

**4.5 “Why is it important for young people to participate in development activities in their communities?” by Suleiman Suntas Kamara (Senior Youth Serving Agent, Fire Stone Youth Association):**

First of all I want to thank God for the protection of young people. When I was asked to speak on this issue I found extremely important because my dream is for young people of this country to be empowered. I will not in any way compromise my interest in young people with the old habit politicians influencing young people to be involved in negative activism.



Mr. Suleiman Suntas Kamara

Our dream and aspiration have been realized by the setting up of the National Youth Commission and the appointment of Mr. Anthony Koroma as the Commissioner and I must register the support of the youth of this country for this appointment once again.

The answer to the question of reflection for all of us here is simple: It is the right of young people to participate in community development+ as they represent a huge percentage of the human resource of any nation, with Sierra Leone as no exception.

Today, I am hereby justifying that young people are extremely important in what we are talking. Any nation that does not place premium on its human resource development is doomed for failure, even with huge natural resource potential as in the case of Sierra Leone, because a weak human resource capacity will not be capable to sustain ably manage these resources. Celebrating 50 years of independence represents 50 years of marginalization of young people, but we are still thankful to God for keeping us alive.

To reflect a little on the past, I want to give credence to the NPRC government who created opportunities for young to participate. Our contribution at that time was quite monumental because we were the space and opportunity to participate, which justifies the view that if young people are empowered they be of immense help in nation building. Our activities were channeled through the FCC under the chairmanship of Alfred Akibo-Beths, and it was within the purview of volunteerism. I can still recall personalities such as Dr Rogers-Wright who used to be the Environmental Officer of FCC, and even Mr. Sulaiman Parker here with us was also a youth activist.

I must also draw our attention to the fact that often these administrators use volunteerism to misuse us while they utilize the funds for their personal aggrandizement. Against this background, we must emphasize that as we mobilize youth participation we must think of how to reward them for their efforts as a way of appreciating and in turn motivate them incrementally overtime.

Thank God for the National Youth Commission which serves as a centre for youth to interact and show case their talents for the development of this nation. This is an opportunity where we can exhibit our dynamism and creativity as against the confused state of mind of the older generation. It was proved under the past government when through NMYCOS we successfully divided Freetown into zones and effectively managed the cleaning exercise of Freetown in six months.

Let me remind you all that by participating in community development, you have directly or indirectly contributed to national development. A classical example is the Firestone community where I was born and bred, which had dangerous ghettos which are now transformed into schools that have helped to send young people to FBC and other tertiary institutions. It can be recalled that even in Germany, it was the young people who rose up to rebuild their nation after the war. Through their dynamism, young people can adopt national and international programming into their community development efforts. For example, in places like Moa Wharf young people have taken leadership responsibility, and in Kroo Bay young men like Hajie Bah have contributed immensely to the development of their community which was not the case 15 years ago. These facts are however not recorded, that is why we are informing you here.

#### **4.6 Launching of the Youth Dialogue by Mr. Francis Anthony Reffell (Project Manager YMCA-Slum)**

Today, I feel deeply honored to have been giving the mantle to launch the global youth service day. Honestly, I must say here that I did not prepare to make any speech, but you know there is an advantage of being the last speaker. Just to share a story, this man was given an opportunity to make a speech that he did not prepare for. Fortunately for him, he was the last speaker, and he started by saying according to the first speaker I have to entreat you all, and also according to the second speaker, and so and so forth until he closed his remark.

So in that light, I want to say that all previous speakers have said all the meaning words that need to be heard here. However, I will still use this opportunity to say a few words. I must start by saying that young people can use volunteerism to positively change their communities. In our contexts we all know children and youth have the greater percentage of population. At the same time, youth have the energy, in talent, the capability that is needed for national development if well harnessed and utilized. Unfortunately however, this same proportion of our population remains highly marginalized and deprived. But because of this situation, do we have to continue brooding and blaming our politicians and other authorities. I must say a capital NO!

As we talk about volunteerism, let us adopt proactively, organize ourselves and take up the challenges of developing our communities. We must be more proactive to prevent crisis such as flooding in our communities and less reactive. When we achieve these objectives we can safely showcase our potentials and capabilities to FCC and other authorities and we also use these achievements to advocate and influence key decisions and policies for youth and community development.

Experience has proved that three things are key in advocacy: people, finance and information. If we are able to mobilize and organize ourselves, make financial contributions and get the correct information about our situations and communities, we are bound to engage the authorities from a point of strength such that decision are often taken to favor young people.

I therefore want to challenge you to start doing something on your own then the authorities can listens to you. I always take Hajie as example, who through creative thinking and sacrifice is doing a lot for his community both locally and nationally.



Mr. Francis. A. Reffell

In that light I ask that as we commemorate the global youth service day in this gathering of youth dialogue forum, we do not only need to discuss but to also take the message back to our different communities. On that not I want to use this opportunity to launch the GYSD though belated as it was schedule to be done from 15 to 17 April 2011. However, it is better late than never

#### 4.7 Dialogue/ recommendation towards GYSD and the proposed setting up of National Youth Volunteer Network in Sierra Leone by Momoh Sesay and Hajie Bah:

- **Mohamed Kanneh -West Africa Youth Network(WAYN)-** I totally agree for us to setup the NYV-Net and also continue to appeal that we need to put in place trash bins around the city to be sincere you hardly find them
- **Jesitan Boyle** from conscience international appeal to colleagues to take this venture to our organization and start practicing volunteerism also in our communities.
- **Samuel from Dwazack** it good to volunteer but to make more impact Government and other partners need to come in and help with resources.
- **Pastor Beckley from YMCA-EU Project-**its good to add governance programme into this initiative as it also important for young people to be heard. As we approach 2012 elections this network should involve in electoral and non violence sensitization campaign in communities.
- **Songo from CCYA-** "I am impressed with NMYCW-SL initiative as always worry about the cleaning of our communities, these cleaning exercise needs to be continue and expanded to other areas
- **Patrick Pokawa from Western Area Human Right Committee-**Welcomed the idea and asked that we should take this initiative to public vehicle by providing plastic bags.
- **Ramadan Jalloh from Youth Arise** –this network should volunteer and conduct perception survey to know active and vibrant youth groups, called on the Freetown City Council to look into the collapse of the Albert academy fence. He further buttresses the need for expansion of NYV-Net.
- **Yusif from YAI-**I am concerned about our children next year we should be organizing debate on the Global Youth Service Day commemoration come 2012.
- **Sulaiman from Kroobay Youth Ass.-**confess that he has benefited from volunteerism just some times back I received training from Red Cross society in Sierra Leone.
- **Dinsin from Klin Salone-**volunteerism is very important as I love to volunteer, through volunteerism I was employed by FCC, later travel abroad and I believe that there is always benefit in volunteerism.

Once more calling on NMYCW-SL to affiliate with NACSA another big organization to develop this initiative. In this light I will donate one wheel barrow to NMYCW-SL for the proposed cleaning.

- **Mamoud from Margai/NMYCW-SL-**for us as youth to succeed we need to be inform about what is really going on in around our communities.
- **Sir Didimus from Vision for the Blind-**Sierra Leonean want thing to happen but don't used their philosophy to make things happen.

The secret to your happiness is when you make others happy. We should embark on cleaning our environment, I will discuss with my boss to see how we too can help.

- **Francis from YACAN**-once we have the spirit in volunteerism we should not allow the date to pass. Next year 2012 we should work according to the actual date for the commemoration want to suggest that next year NYV-Net should adopt a campaign to know your councilor and parliamentarians this should be positive youth campaign.
- **Bedohh from Premier News Paper**-what we should be doing to better our lives? When it comes to practical works people will not show up. I have benefited a lot in volunteerism, you can believe this I have been thought by Dr Lakkoh how to setup web site and blog, I agreed with most of the speakers that we really lack volunteerism culture.
- **Gibril from YMCA-Slum**-its more of talking every day by us as youths let change the talking to action point, with positive constant community engagement.
- **Gibril Bangura from Mabella (CYDO)** . According to all the above comments, what we need to do is to embark on non-violence campaign in different communities.
- **Fatmata from NMYCW**-we should engage the producer of plastic water and drinks to give their helping hands.



Didimus –vision 4 d blind. Bedohh-premier news paper. Jestina-CI-SL



Ddinsin-klin salone. Gibril- YMCA-SL. Fatmata- NMYCW-SL.

Participants making comments and recommendations during the Youth Dialogue Forum.

## **5.0 Cleaning and Beatification of Kroobay, Mabella and Dwazack communities.**

Before the cleaning exercise numbers of community engagement were made with several stakeholders including the Councilors, Elders and youth leaders in these three communities.

During these engagements, the initial plans for the cleaning were finally agreed after the youth dialogue forum with a little change towards Kroobay community as the youth from Kroobay appeal for a change due to the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> event for them to have a rest. This was considered and agreed to be done on Wednesday 22 June, 2011.

The entire cleaning started with full force at the Dwazack community on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2011 with vehicular supports provided by the Freetown Waste Management Company between 10:00am . 15:00hrs at the DWAZACK Community. These activities continued to Mabella on the 19<sup>th</sup> June, 2011 and 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2011 at KROOBAY.



### **Cleaning exercise at Dwazack, Mabella and Kroobay.**

Staff of NMYCW-SL led by the National Coordinator went and purchased the cleaning materials ranging from shovels, head pan, brooms, gloves, wheel barrows with funds from Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA-SL) with additional one wheel barrow from Klin Salone. These materials were used for cleaning of these communities also being kept for further similar activities to be undertaken by NYV-Net.

Ninety youths aged between 15 -35 years participated in the cleaning exercise in all the communities. In addition, fifty participants above the youth age were involved especially, market women and community elders.

In each community, interviews were done to capture community perception on such ventures taken by youths in these three communities. One of the respondents was Mariatu Mansaray, a petty trader at the Mabella community who also voluntarily helped the youths during the cleaning exercise. According to her, cleaning should be a must for every one as the risk to get sick is real in our communities.

## **6.0 Media Campaign- Radio Discussion and TV/Radio Coverage of Activities.**

The media campaign started with press statement and radio discussion programme with a popular programme called night line with D.J. Base, SLBC.

Panelists on that programme were Hajie Bah (NMYCW-SL) and Peter K. Nyande (YMCA-SL). Hajie explained the purpose for commemorating GYSD in Sierra Leone and the benefits towards Volunteerism, while Peter explained the international experience regarding volunteerism in Ghana and Canada.

During the Youth Dialogue Forum, fifteen journalists from electronic, print and TV media were invited to take part and reports back to the public.

After the youth dialogue many media houses reported the event and also covered the cleaning. Some of the media represented were; Awareness Times, Radio Democracy, SLBC-TV, CTN, Universal Radio, Premier Radio & News papers, Culture Radio, Standard Times. Etc

Two radio programmes were done on Culture Radio and Star Radio with panelists including all the three communities ; Samuel K Kamara (DYDO), Gibrilla Bangura (CYDO), Mohamed Sillah (KYDO) and Peter .K. Nyande (YMCA-SL).

In all the radio programmes, comments and questions through phone calls and text messages were received from listeners.

## **7.0 Documentation of reports on 2011 Volunteerism Activities.**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011, Photographers of the lion photo studio were contracted to produce documentation of all events regarding the GYSD activities to produce full clips for key partners.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011, the clips were produced and released to NMYCW-SL.