

**GLOBAL YOUTH INNOVATION NETWORK GAMBIA CHAPTER
(GYIN GAMBIA CHAPTER)
THE 2ND EDITION RURAL YOUTH AWARD 2018 AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING REPORT**



2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018

**THEME: LINKING STAKEHOLDERS IN THE AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN -
“INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION, PROCESSING,
AND MARKETING TO PROVIDE DECENT JOBS FOR RURAL YOUTHS”**

**VENUE: THE GAMBIA SONGHAI INITIATIVE (GSI), CHAMEN,
NORTH BANK REGION**
DATE: 28TH APRIL, 2018





2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018

TRAINING ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR RURAL YOUTH

**VENUE: THE GAMBIA SONGHAI INITIATIVE (GSI), CHAMEN,
NORTH BANK REGION**
DATE: 27TH APRIL, 2018



[2ND EDITION OF THE RURAL YOUTH AWARD REPORT 2018]

The Global Youth Innovation Network (GYIN) Gambia in collaboration with key partners; The National Agricultural Land and Water Management Development Project (*Nema-Chosso*), the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) and the National Youth Council (NYC) supported the 2nd Edition of the Rural Youth Award 2018 (#GYINGambiaRYA2018).

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1.1. Acknowledgement

The Global Youth Innovation Network (GYIN) Gambia in collaboration with key partners; The National Agricultural Land and Water Management Development Project (**Nema-Chosso**), the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) and the National Youth Council (NYC) supported the 2nd Edition of the Rural Youth Award 2018 (**#GYINGambiaRYA2018**).

The 2nd Edition of the Rural Youth Award 2018 aims to recognise and celebrate the success of rural youth in Entrepreneurship and Agribusiness in a bid to provide some financial support to deserving agribusiness players to not only grow their businesses, but serves as an encouragement for them and others to stay in Agriculture and contribute to increasing food security and at the same time enjoy the benefits of running their own businesses.

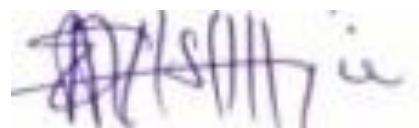
The theme for this year's award is: Linking Stakeholders in the Agricultural Value Chain from Fields to Mouths- *"Increase Food Production, Processing, and Marketing to provide decent jobs for rural youths"*

The Award categories are: Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Young Business Idea of the Year, Young Emerging Business of the Year, Young Commercial Farmer of the Year, Young Agribusiness of the Year, Young Agro-Tech of the Year, Young Business Innovation of the Year, Young Business Partner of the Year, Young Service Provider of the Year and the Best Packing Products and Labelling of the Year

GYIN Gambia expresses special thanks and appreciation to the National Agricultural Land and Water Management Development Project (*Nema*) funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP), a four- year project funded by the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa and implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC) in partnership with the Government of The Gambia and the National Youth Council (NYC), for all the financial and logistical support in the successful organizing of the award.

Thanks to the GYIN Gambia Board of Directors, Ministry of Agriculture, The Gambia Armed Forces (GAF), and the Ministry of Youth and Sports for all the support.

We would like to thank all the media houses in The Gambia both print and electronic for the publicity as well as online mediums and bloggers who blogs and tweets about the award.

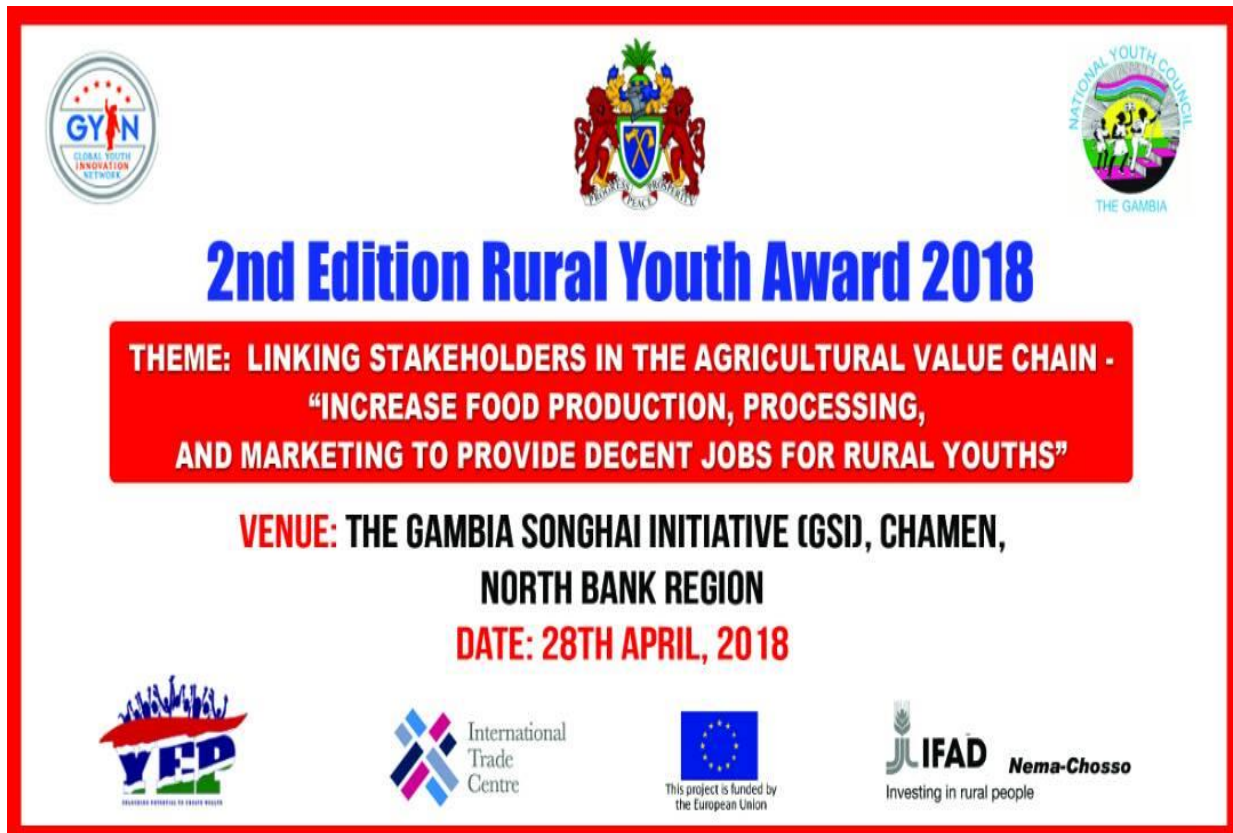


Ambassador Mamadou Edrisa Njie
Executive Director
GYIN Gambia

2.0. Introduction

The Global Youth Innovation Network Gambia Chapter (GYIN Gambia Chapter) on Saturday, 28th April, 2018, staged a successful Rural Youth Award recognising the successes of rural youths at The Gambia Songhai Initiative (GSI), Chamen, in the North Bank Region (NBR) of The Gambia.

The idea for the Rural Youth Award (#GYINGambiaRYA) stemmed from the National Youth Summer Camp held in Jenoi, Lower River Region as one of the 11-Point recommendations to celebrate youths in Entrepreneurship, Agribusiness and Information Technology.



The 2nd of the Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 is an award that recognizes and celebrates the success of rural youth in entrepreneurship, tourism, agribusiness and information and communication technology in rural areas.

The theme for this year's Rural Youth Award is **“Linking Stakeholders in the Agricultural Value Chain from Fields to Mouths *“Increase Food Production, Processing, and Marketing to provide decent jobs for rural youths”*”**

Rural transformation is an effective way to overcome poverty, food security and job opportunities through the value chain thus building partnerships to facilitate the transformation of smallholder farmers.

3.0. Activities:

3.1. Editing and Printing of Forms

Immediately the committee was inaugurated, the draft concept note was presented and reviewed. Some adjustments were made on the forms and it was finally printed. The online version was also launched on the very day. Days later, a nationwide caravan tour and forms distribution was embarked on.

3.2. Caravan tour and Form Distribution

On Tuesday, 22nd March, 2018, the National Organizing Committee embarked on a nationwide tour to the underprivileged and to the remote part of the country to meet the local administrative authorities including youth leaders and groups to enlighten them on the Award application forms.



Caravan team in NBR distributing Award forms

The four (4) days caravan tour, which started from **North Bank Region** and ended at **West Coast Region**, enabled the organizing committee to meet the local stakeholders to discuss the 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018. This also enabled the committee to distribute 500 forms across the country as well as create more awareness.

3.3. Social Media Adverts (Radio talk shows and publications)

In raising awareness and clearing misconception on the rural youth award, the committee engaged in lots of radio programs at different radio stations using different languages. During the radio programs, telephone lines were open for the general public to call and enquire more about the event.

Radio stations visited:

1. DHK Radio: the committee was given an air time on two occasions; the first was only 30mins while the other was 2h 30mins.
2. Radio Deggo: GYIN Gambia secretariat had a radio talkshow for an hour for two days.
3. Taranga FM: the committee had an hour talk show hosted by Halimatou Ceesay
4. West coast 1: the committee has its final talk show hosted by Mr. Mass for an hour program.

Social media advertisement was continuous process, from the official launching of the award towards the final day of the program. A tag, **#GYINGambia RYA2018** was used in all the social media postings. Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp were the most popular social media the committee was using to reach the general public. The social media publications are done at all the levels of program organization.

3.4. Booking of Accommodations

The committee and a representative from the secretariat went to book for lodging accommodation for the nominees and delegates to be hosted during the award night. The accommodation was provided because the award was an evening programme and transportation would be difficult. All the decent lodges at Farafenni were booked including Mone Berry, Balanghar, Gamworks, Chakubantang, AMRC, Water Resources and part of Gambia Songhai Initiative campus.

The 2018 rural youth award nominees were lodged at Mone Berry lodge for three days (3) and the rest of the invitees were lodged at the other lodges provided.

3.5. Press Conference



A press conference was held at the GYIN-Gambia's conference hall with representatives from 9 media houses which includes both print and electronics. The main objective of the conference was to raise awareness on the award and to enlighten the general public on the level of preparedness.

3.6. Forms Collection

The dateline for submission of the application forms was 16th, 17th and 18th April 2018 all forms were collected and presented to the reviewing committee.

3.7. Background Checking and Documentation of Nominees' Stories

The documentation committee comprises of a five man team, including the Executive Director of GYIN Gambia, Mamadou Edrisa Njie, vice chairman of the RYA Committee, Modou Lamin Darboe, the media officer, Sulayman Ceesay, Mariam Saine editor, the camera man and the driver. The documentation process took two days to be completed.

3.8. Ground Preparation



The ground survey and preparation was done by the advance team that consists of our members. The ground preparation started with cleansing exercise and setting of the best suitable place for the canopies.

3.9. Arrival of the Nominees

The nominees arrived at Farafenni between the hours of 16:00GMT to 19:00GMT. Upon arriving at Farafenni, they were all accommodated at Mone Berry lodge. The quarters were divided in to two sections, one for the male and the other for the ladies. On the other side, some participants shared rooms. In sharing rooms, people from the same area are separated in other to encourage networking among nominees.

3.10. Orientation with the Nominees

The orientation started around 22:00GMT and was chaired by Mr. Modou Lamin Darboe, the vice chairman of the RYA2018. He opened his statement by welcoming the participants and congratulating them for the efforts invested in the award. He also advised them to be kind to each other and network well as this is an opportunity for their betterment.

Also speaking, the chairman to the RYA 2018, Mr. Muhammed Lamin Kinteh highlights the significance of the Rural Youth Award in the country, describing it as an avenue for celebrating rural successes and creating rural enterprises. "Everyone is a winner, whether you are awarded or not," says Mr. Kinteh.



For her for part, the finance controller of the committee, Miss Hawa Singhateh clearly mentioned that the reviewing was done by an Independent committee. For her part miss Jainaba Manjang, head of programmes at GYIN Gambia, in her speech, briefly spoke about the organization and the programs available for rural youth. She gave a background explanation of the Rural Youth Award and its benefits. “Being nominated for the award does not necessarily mean that you have to win an award,” she said.

Manjang explained that the nomination gives them the opportunity to stand at a chance of winning. She further advised the nominees to stay in the camp provided, limit their movements and to always remember the purpose that brought them there.

She also said the mode of payment is not going to be in cash but in kind, she said mode of payment is going to be after winning the award; you have to identify the items or the good that you will be needed and it will be purchase by the office and delivered to you (winners).

3.11. Entrepreneurship and Skills Development Training for Rural Youths



On 27th April 2018, a team from Managers` Prescription Consultancy Firm headed by Mr. Ousman Sonko conducted an entrepreneurship class for the nominees. This training was held to develop the capacity and skills of the nominees on business registration, record keepings, financial management, innovation etc. It was an educative and interactive sessions.

4.0 Statements on the Award Ceremony

4.1. Opening statement by GYIN Gambia Executive Director



Addressing the gathering, GYI -Gambia Executive Director, Mamadou Edrisa Njie underscored the significance of the award, saying it will go a long way in enhancing the business initiatives of the awardees.

While congratulating the nominees for being shortlisted for the prestigious award, Njie said the award came as a recommendation from participants of the 2016 Entrepreneurship, Leadership and Information Technology (ELIT) Annual National Youth Summer Camp. He said the nominees will all be trained as mentors and urged the winners to make best use of the recognition and the financial gesture given to them.

He then thanked the funders of the award saying that the award was possible through the support of **Nema-Chosso**, YEP and NYC.

He commended **Nema-Chosso** for solely funding the award categories while recalling that in 2017 .i.e the First Ever Rural Youth Award was also funded by **Nema-Chosso**.

4.2 Statement by the Guest Speaker



The ceremony's chief guest speaker, Fatou Saine Gaye, advised the participants to be committed and work towards achieving their dreams.

"Successful entrepreneurs set goals that are very challenges because they calculate their risks very well," she said.

Fatou, is the CEO of Gai Ngorro Skills Training Center, described rural youths as 'champions' and asked that they innovate and add value to their products and services.

While congratulating the awardees, she urged rural youths to abstain from 'back-way' and make use of the opportunities available in creating gainful employment opportunities for themselves,

4.3. Statement by Gambia Songhai Initiative (GSI)



In his statement, the Director of Gambia Songhai Initiative, Ebrou Sowe expressed delight for choosing his camp to host the ceremony. The award, she said, will offer participants the chance to network and share experiences for the advancement of their respective businesses.

4.4. Statement by National Youth Council



The National Youth Council's Assistant Programme Officer, Mrs. Mberry Jobe, commended GYIN Gambia for the initiative, saying it will have far-reaching impact in significantly reducing youth irregular migration and rural-urban drift. Poverty reduction, she explained, should be a collective concern for all stakeholders. Mrs. Jobe finally urged the winners to make best use of the award.

4.5. Statement by the Ministry of Agriculture



The Permanent Secretary II at the Ministry of Agriculture, Mrs. Adama Ngum Njie, for her part, said agriculture is one of the main drivers of the country's economy and thus the active engagement of young people in the sector is a prerequisite for development.

While urging them to redouble their efforts for the promotion of commercial agriculture, she assured GYIN Gambia of the ministry's continuous assistance.

4.6. Statement by the Youth Empowerment Project



In his speech, Raimund Moser, Project Manager of the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) said the nomination of the awardees indicated their commitment in making impacts in their various communities. "There is recognition of hard work and success in the award," he told the

nominees. He said all the nominees are winners for they have been recognized for the award. The YEP Manager also noted that the nominees are now role models and enjoined them to share knowledge and experience with their colleagues.

“We can only help you to get where you want to be, it’s you who are getting there,” Raimund noted.

4.7. Statement by the Rural Youth Award Chairman Muhammed Lamin Kinteh



The Chairman of the award’s Organizing Committee, Muhammed Lamin F. Kinteh, spoke at length about the activities carried out in their quest to hold a credible and successful award ceremony. He said the judgment for the award was fair and that it was administered by independent judges.

Kinteh, who was hailed for his committee’s commitment in the successful implementation of the award ceremony, urged the nominees to keep on striving as better opportunities are ahead for them.

4.8. Screening of the Nominees` Stories

The screening of the nominees’ documentary video was displayed and viewed by everyone present on the ground. The nominees’ videos were displayed based on categories.

4.9. Announcement of Rural Youth Award Winners and Prizes (GMD)

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Winners

Name	Gender	Category	Telephone	Region	Amount (GMD)
Musa Jaiteh	Male	Winner Young Entrepreneur of the Year	2569991	Farafenni, Upper Baddibu NBR	D25,000.00
Sarjo B. Jatta	Female	1 st Runner Up Young Entrepreneur of the Year	3483328 6310400	Brikama, Kombo Central, WCR	D20,000.00
Fatoumatta Gassama	Female	2 nd Runner Up Young Entrepreneur of the Year	3636242	Kubariko, Kombo North, WCR	D15,000.00
Hatabou Jaiteh	Male	Winner Young Agribusiness of the Year	7060992	Katong, Kombo South, WCR	D25,000.00
Modou Lamin Fatty	Male	Runner Up Young Agribusiness of the Year	3930249	Jamissa Brikama, Kombo North, WCR	D20,000.00
Mamud Ndow	Male	Winner Young Business Idea of the Year	6766833 2092382	Farafenni, Upper Baddibu, NBR	D25,000.00
Omar Trawally	Male	Winner Young Emerging Business of the Year	6588014 9717517 3679589	Kerr Biram, Lower Baddibu, NBR	D25,000.00
Alfu M. Sarr	Male	Winner Young Business Innovation of the Year	3143721	Ndofan, Lower Nuimi, NBR	D25,000.00
Hatta Boye	Female	Winner Young Commercial Farmer of the Year	2221330 2789488	Boiram, Lower Fulladu West, CRR South	D25,000.00
Bora Kamteh	Male	Runner Up Young Commercial Farmer	6258738	Brikamaba, Lower Fulladu	D20,000.00

		of the Year		West, CRR South	
Lamin Keita	Male	Winner Best Package and Labelled of the Yea	9853779	Tendaba, Kiang Central, LRR	D25,000.00
GRAND TOTAL					D250,000.00

The Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dalasis was solely supported by the *Nema-Chosso* project

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Category

Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2018

#	Name	Gender	Category	Tel	Region
1.	Musa Jaiteh	Male	Young Entrepreneur of the Year	2569991	Farafenni, Upper Baddibu NBR
2.	Baba Sawaneh	Male	Young Entrepreneur of the Year	6259745	Njabakunda, Central Baddibu, NBR
3.	Sarjo B. Jatta	Female	Young Entrepreneur of the Year	3483328 6310400	Brikama, Kombo Central, WCR
4.	Fatoumatta Gassama	Female	Young Entrepreneur of the Year	3636242	Kubariko, Kombo North, WCR
5.	Oumie Gaye	Female	Young Entrepreneur of the Year	7229460 7692117	Panchang, Uppper Saloum, CRR North

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Category

Young Agribusiness of the Year 2018

#	Name	Gender	Category	Tel	Region
1.	Hatabou Jaiteh	Male	Young Agribusiness of the Year	7060992	Katong, Kombo South, WCR
2.	Ali Sallah	Male	Young Agribusiness of the Year	7989228	Old Yundum, Kombo North, WCR
3.	Modou Lamin	Male	Young Agribusiness of	3930249	Jamissa Brikama,

	Fatty		the Year		Kombo North, WCR
4.	Wally Juwara	Male	Young Agribusiness of the Year	3474013 7353172	Katong, Kombo South, WCR

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Category

Young Business Idea of the Year 2018

#	Name	Gender	Category	Tel	Region
1.	Ebrima K. Jammeh	Male	Young Business Idea of the Year	2663623	Massembah, Kiang East, LRR
2.	Mamud Ndow	Male	Young Business Idea of the Year	6766833 2092382	Farafenni, Upper Baddibu, NBR
3.	Nana Conteh	Female	Young Business Idea of the Year	3868557	Tendaba, Kiang Central, LRR
4.	Demba Keita	Male	Young Business Idea of the Year	6344631 3010132	Sare Birom Kumba, Central Baddibu, NBR

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Category

Young Emerging Business of the Year 2018

#	Name	Gender	Category	Tel	Region
1.	Nyimasatou Colley	Female	Young Emerging Business of the Year	6152906	Tendaba, Kiang Central, LRR
2.	Omar Trawally	Male	Young Emerging Business of the Year	6588014 9717517 3679589	Kerr Biram, Lower Baddibu, NBR
3.	Adama Sowe	Female	Young Emerging Business of the Year	6921916	Kuntaur Fulla Kunda, Niani, CRR North

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Category

Young Business Innovation of the Year 2018

#	Name	Gender	Category	Tel	Region
1.	Alfu M. Sarr	Male	Young Business Innovation of the Year	3143721	Ndofan, Lower Nuimi, NBR

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Category

Young Commercial Farmer of the Year 2018

#	Name	Gender	Category	Tel	Region
1.	Bora Kanteh	Male	Young Commercial Farmer of the Year	6258733	Brikamaba, Lower Fulladu West, CRR South
2.	Hatta Boye	Female	Young Commercial Farmer of the Year	2221330 2789488	Boiram, Lower Fulladu West, CRR South
3.	Babou Secka	Male	Young Commercial Farmer of the Year	7657152	Dibba Kunda, Sabach Sanjal, NBR

The 2nd Edition Rural Youth Award 2018 Categories

Best Package and Labelled Product of the Year 2018

#	Name	Gender	Category	Tel	Region
1.	Lamin Keita	Male	Best Package and Labelled of the Year	9853779	Tendaba, Kiang Central, LRR

4.10. Vote of Thanks

The statements ended with a closing remark by the head of programs of GYIN Gambia, Jainaba Manjang, commended **Nema-Chosso**, YEP and the National Youth Council (NYC) for financially and logistically supporting the 2018 Award and called on other projects, NGOs and the Central government to support the upcoming award in 2019 and years to follow.

5.0. Recommendations:

1. Nema-Chosso project should include the Rural Youth Award in its Budget and Work plan
2. Call for Applications for the Award should be one months
3. Mobility (a vehicle) should be provided for GYIN Gambia for easy mobility to properly coordinate the award
4. Agricultural Project should have a budget for the Award
5. Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) should continue supporting the Award
6. Profiling and Documenting of Nominees stories should be done at least one month before the award
7. Printing of both the Nominees and Award Winners Profiles and Success stories should be done at least three weeks before the Award Day
8. Nationwide Caravan should be held before the Award to sensitize youth about the Award
9. Media campaigns i.e coverage's using the TV, Radios and online media should be increased
10. Another Award category should be added .i.e Awarding Previous Award Winners

6.0. Some Online links:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdJiYs8X2mLbDet1iwH8Hg_1DEaTYg7sZKCfmPQPdfik8s70w/viewform?c=0&w=1

<http://standard.gm/site/2018/04/11/gyin-gearing-up-for-next-rural-award/>

<https://freedomnewspaper.com/2018/03/07/gambia-gyin-gambia-2nd-edition-rural-youth-award-set-for-april-2018/>

<https://mansabanko.blogspot.com/2018/03/preparations-are-in-high-gears-for-much.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/prince.darboe?lst=100002377484778%3A100002377484778%3A1526414032>

<http://foroyaa.gm/gyin-held-2nd-rural-youth-award/>

<http://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/article/gyin-gambia-holds-youth-award>

<http://standard.gm/site/2018/05/16/gyin-rural-youth-award-success-stories/>

<https://twitter.com/search?q=%23GYINGambiaRYA2018>

<https://www.thestonecircle.info/gyin-held-rural-youth-award-2018/>

<https://www.google.com/search?q=gyin+gambia+rural+youth+award+2018&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjBn7zax5rbAhWGN8AKHTc6CnQQsAQITg&biw=1024&bih=494>

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/gyingambiarya2018>

https://touch.facebook.com/GYIN.ORG/?_tn_=%2As-R