

1st to 3rd MARCH 2019 GYIN GAMBIA ACTIVITY REPORT ON EXPERIENCE SHARING WORKSHOP HELD AT THE TRANS-GAMBIA LODGE IN PAKALINDING, LOWER RIVER REGION



On 1st to 3rd March 2019, GYIN Gambia organized Experience Sharing Workshop at Trans-Gambia Lodge in Pakalinding, Lower River Region (LRR), over 180 Kilometers from the Capital- Banjul.

Participants converged on the eve of 1st March 2019, and were oriented on the two days' monthly workshop sharing experiences and its planned logistical arrangements.

On 2nd March 2019 marked the opening ceremony, chaired by **Mr. Fabakary Sanneh** of the Manager's Prescription Consultancy Firm, who is a supervisor in the programme. Mr. Sanneh introduced the dignitaries to the participants, reminded them of the purpose of the **GYIN Gambia Youth Mentorship Programme**, and its monthly **(Face-to-Face) Experience Sharing Workshop**.

Mamadou Edrisa Njie – GYIN Gambia Executive Director in his remarks, thanked God, and the donor- the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) for fully funding the six months Youth Mentorship Programme on Enterprise Management, saying that since the launch of the Youth Mentorship Programme in 2017, YEP Gambia is the ‘only’ project that is funding the entire programme.

He personally thanked Mr. Raimund A. Moser, Project Manager of YEP, Mrs. Fatou Mbenga Jallow, Project Coordinator and Senior Technical Adviser of YEP and other YEP staff as well as the International Trade Centre (ITC) Geneva office for sponsoring and for continuously providing opportunities for youth development.

Njie also hailed the efforts of Managers’ Prescription Consultancy Firm, saying that in 2017, Managers’ Prescription Consultancy Firm served as mentors and in this year’s mentoring, they’re serving as Supervisors.

He thanked and recognized the efforts of the Mentors, and Mentees for making the youth mentorships experience sharing a success.

Mr. Njie expressed gratitude to witness the last workshop, and now facing the final graduation ceremony in two weeks’ time- schedule on 15th – 16th March, 2019 which worth commended.

Adding: “It is now left with the Mentees to make best use of the knowledge and skills learnt during the six months’ mentorship programme adding that mentors are willing to provide support after the mentoring contract.

“If you need any further support in your ventures, kindly contact your mentors, they will provide it for you because they have agreed with GYIN Gambia Mentorship Programme team that after the expiry of the contract, they will continue serving young Gambians”.

He also commended the supports from Managers' Prescription Consultancy Firm, while calling for collective drive in our future endeavors on numerous successes and challenges encountered along the way.

The GYIN Executive Director further said participants comprises different leaders, ranging from managers, directors, supervisor etc. "We need to form alliance, and see each other as brothers and sisters to push and model this country and even beyond," Mr. Njie said.

He further said despite challenges they are engaging on boosting the morale of their interventions.

As far as we are concerns, GYIN Gambia belong to the youth of this country and our doors are open and we are saying good luck to those will be certified at the graduation- Certificate of Completion, Certificate of Merit and Certificate of Achievements.

Other speakers included Mr. Mustapha Manneh the YEP Lower River Region representative who also delivered a statement on empowering youth through YEP in various interventions.

He among others thanked GYIN Gambia for complimenting efforts especially on the area of youth mentorship programme and its related activities at the rural areas, that will pay dividend in near future.

1st Presentation:

The First Presentation was centred on the Rural Youth Award 2019 due to be held in Upper River Region this year. Mr. Sarjo Jarju, Chairman of the Rural Awards 2019 National Organising Committee explained how everything is going from applications to the award ceremony and urged participants to apply, adding that forms are available in the entire regions.



2nd Presentation:

Mentor, NedyAwa Ceesay, who made presentations on Resources Mobilization Strategies in a brother perspective and identified various types of resources and major challenges for startup business at different instances. This was followed by open discussions on those relevant issues related to business especially for those at the rural and startup faces.

3rd Presentation:

Mr. Sahou Jallow of Managers Prescriptions Consultancy Firm made the third presentation on mentoring, why mentorship is important and the responsibilities of both mentors and mentees towards achieving common goals.



MENTEES TESTIMONIES

The mentees were given the equal opportunities to give their personal declarations on the GYIN Gambia Youth Mentorship Programme, their successes and challenges during the six months programme, with stimulations of their products as exhibit in active role modeling.

MENTORS' INTERVENTIONS

Mentors and the Supervisors also caution the Mentees to be steadfast on their crusade after graduation and informed them about more opportunities ahead, if they are preparing to face challenges.

Many chance and conducive environment are available for potential investment, but to those who see beyond the boxes can make it possible and scenarios were stated and showcase by mentors.

The final presentation and way-out for the GYIN Gambia Youth Mentees after youth mentorship face out was moderated and facilitated **Mamadou Edrisa Njie**

Mr. Njie further divulge on how to conceptualize new project interventions that will commensurate and compliment the youth mentorship programme.



The Mentors, Supervisors, Mentees and **GYIN Gambia** secretarial brainstorm and came out with the following action points:

- ❖ **Creating Startup Capital**
- ❖ **Market Availability**
- ❖ **Business Plan Clinic**
- ❖ **Youth Mentorship Career Fair**
- ❖ **Registration of Small Business**
- ❖ **Harmonize Interventions**
- ❖ **Value Additions all categories**
- ❖ **Supporting Rural Youth on How to Apply for Programmes on Online**

The final interventions were done by Mr. **Fabakary Sanneh** from Managers' Prescription Consultancy Firm, who stipulated on the values and urgency of youth mentorship.

He described GYIN Gambia Chapter as leading youth organisation in rural developments in the country saying that GYIN Gambia Chapter have touched the lives of many young Gambia particularly those in the rural areas.

He said all need to ensure that hands are on deck, to boost our divergent businesses, without limitation, to champion the crusade in empowering young people.

The Experience Sharing Workshop was officially closed with collective prayers.