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5 February 2015

Dear Friends,

Community-based organizations appreciate and try to harness the power of communities in implementing change. Community participation is critical for the validity and relevance of research, design, planning, evaluation, and advocacy. In this week's Newsflash, we share with you some resources, which may be useful in various aspects of community participation.

Please note that February 6 is the deadline to register for the inaugural conference of the Institute for Human Development at the Aga Khan University. The conference will be held February 12-14, 2014, in Nairobi. See details below.

Sincerely,

The Firelight Team

*(Resource) Training for Change: Training Tools*

*(Resource) Developing and sustaining community-based participatory research partnerships: a skill-building curriculum*

*(Resource) Community Tool Box*

*(Conference) Institute for Human Development Inaugural Conference 2015*

*(Funding Opportunity) Small Grants Programme at UNDP*

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(Resource) Training for Change: Training Tools

Since 1992, Training for Change has been committed to increasing capacity around the world that helps groups stand up more effectively for justice, peace and the environment. Their direct education approach, rooted in popular education, aims to deliver skills directly that people working for social change can use in their daily work.

The Training for Change training tools are useful in getting community groups to engage critically with matters such as diversity and inclusion, team building, facilitation skills, and activism. Many of their training materials are available here: <http://bit.ly/1JJIRAq>

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(Resource) Developing and sustaining community-based participatory research partnerships: a skill-building curriculum

Community-based participatory research is research that is grounded in and engages

meaningfully with communities at all stages of the research process - from developing the research question and designing the study to collecting, analyzing, and interpreting data. This evidence-based curriculum is directed to community-institutional partnerships that are using or planning to use a CBPR approach to improving health.

For more information, visit: <http://bit.ly/1tu5yEN>

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### (Resource) Community Tool Box

The Community Tool Box includes 46 Chapters through which you can obtain practical, step-by-step guidance in community-building skills.

Topics include conducting community needs assessments, communications, organizational development, leadership and management, participatory planning, designing and implementing community interventions, cultural competence and inclusivity, advocacy, evaluation, and sustainability.

There are also related Toolkits, which offer short outlines for key tasks.

Access the Community Tool Box online at: <http://bit.ly/1zCOnUc>

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### (Conference) Institute for Human Development Inaugural Conference 2015

" Investing in Early Childhood Development for a Better World "

CONFERENCE DATES — 12-14 February 2015

LOCATION -- Safari Park Hotel & Conference Centre, Nairobi, Kenya

An interdisciplinary conference for researchers, practitioners, policy makers, programme designers, students, governmental & non-governmental agencies, and civil society leaders.

- Learn about the science informing interventions in health, nutrition, psychological development, education, and child welfare in the earliest years of life.
- Be part of discussions on creative solutions to challenges faced by young children in our part of the world.
- Exchange ideas about the design, delivery, and evaluation of programmes and services for young children.
- Expand your perspectives on forms of knowledge and research necessary to design locally relevant programmes.
- Meet and network with professionals who share your interests in issues affecting early child development.
- Hear from private foundations championing children's causes globally about their

programmes and priorities.

## OUR DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

- Dr. Robert Armstrong, Aga Khan University
- Dr. Caroline Arnold, Aga Khan Foundation
- Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta, Aga Khan University & University of Toronto
- Dr. Alan Bocking, University of Toronto
- Dr. Barbara Fallon, Fraser Mustard Institute of Human Development, University of Toronto
- Dr. Anil Khamis, University College London-Institute of Education
- Dr. Stephen Lye, Fraser Mustard Institute of Human Development, University of Toronto
- Dr. Stephen Matthews, Fraser Mustard Institute of Human Development, University of Toronto
- Dr. Nuruddin Mohammed, Aga Khan University
- Dr. Azim Nanji, Aga Khan University
- Dr. Alan Pence, University of Victoria
- Dr. Linda Richter, Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa
- Dr. Robert Serpell, University of Zambia
- Dr. Karlee Silver, Grand Challenges Canada
- Dr. Susan Walker, University of the West Indies, Jamaica
- Dr. Aisha Yousafzai, Aga Khan University

## FEATURED SYMPOSIA & ROUND TABLE SESSIONS

- Advances in metrics for child development
- Development and use of child assessment test in African contexts
- AKU Early Child Development Projects funded by the Canadian Government and Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **6 FEBRUARY 2015**

For more information or to register, visit: <http://bit.ly/1DimXjS>

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(Funding Opportunity) Small Grants Programme at UNDP

Established in 1992, the year of the Rio Earth Summit, the GEF Small Grants Programme embodies the very essence of sustainable development by "thinking globally acting locally". By providing financial and technical support to projects that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing people's well-being and livelihoods, SGP demonstrates that community action can maintain the fine balance between human needs and environmental imperatives.

## Grant Amount

SGP grants are made directly to community-based organizations (CBOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in recognition of the key role they play as a resource and constituency for environment and development concerns. The maximum grant amount per project is US\$50,000, but averages around US\$25,000. In this way, SGP complements the large and medium-sized GEF project funding by providing a window for the direct participation of NGOs, local communities, and other grassroots organizations.

## Eligibility requirements

All project proposals submitted to SGP country teams need to demonstrate:

- How the proposed project proposal meets the GEF SGP criteria by articulating how project objectives and activities would have an impact in the SGP areas of work -GEF focal areas-. For more information on this please visit our areas of work section.
- How they respond or are aligned to the targets and objectives of the SGP Country Programme Strategy(CPS) of their country. Please visit your country page to download a copy of the CPS or contact the NC.
- Be proposed by national CBOs and NGOs.

For more information on how to apply, visit: <http://bit.ly/1ByC4WJ>

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As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website:

<http://www.firelightfoundation.org/resources/newsflash>

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at [newsletter@firelightfoundation.org](mailto:newsletter@firelightfoundation.org)

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