



A new programme in Morocco aims to empower youths to take charge of their future. The Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Alumni Network's "Be Heard Now" project provided young leaders with a seven-day training course in social media that ended Friday (October 1st). Eighteen young representatives of civil society attended the course. *It* illustrated ways to use modern technology so as to initiate social change.

Abdallah Yassine Boukrizia, national co-ordinator of MEPI's Moroccan division, said youths are accustomed to using web-

based social networks to post photos or chat, but that they could also use them to run high-impact awareness campaigns. The training covered three areas: the fight against corruption, social entrepreneurship and promoting the image of Moroccan women. According to the organisers, the topics were chosen for their ability to affect the lives of Moroccans directly.

The young beneficiaries learned easy ways to convey civic messages via podcasts over the Internet. For social entrepreneurship, simple graphics were used to encourage business owners and investors to increase profits and efficiency by providing better work environments for employees. Manal Elattir, the MEPI Alumni Network coordinator, stressed that the Morocco programme focused on empowerment. "We're not pushing forward," she said. "People fear risks; we need to build up our young people's faith in their own abilities."

"The enriching training ... changed my view of the Internet and ways of raising awareness," said Rachid Dib, a 22-year-old student of English literature. "Just a few days are all it takes to change people's view of the future." Dib said he intends to pass on the benefit of the experience to others when he returns home. A similar view was held by Loubna Ghidou, a 19-year old from Casablanca. She said that young people need to be guided in order to have a greater impact on society. "I'm a member of the Idmaj Association," she said. "This training will help <u>me</u> a great deal in my community work, which will definitely be more effective."

Mohamed Bachir, an Egyptian expert on new technologies who supervised the training, said: "Morocco and Egypt are similar in terms of the use of new technologies, but one difference is that young Moroccans are much more active in civil society and can do a lot of things on the Internet." "The impact of programmes like this is very important," said Judith Chammas, Deputy Chief of Mission at the US embassy in Rabat. "Young people can make a real difference in society if they have the right tools."

She told the story of a young schoolgirl named Jihad who visited one of MEPI's awareness caravans: "[She] didn't dare to express herself during the training," Elattir said. "After she returned to Fes, she started up a club for young people with her friends." According to Abdallah Yassine Boukrizia, "Be Heard Now" exists for now only in Morocco but could be implemented in other countries if successful.

COMPREHENSION (15 POINTS)

{BASE ALL YOUR ANSWERS ON THE TEXT}

1 The young beneficiaries learned easy ways.

A Complete the following chart with information from the text. (3 pts)

2		Young people could have a greater impact on society.			
3		young people can make a real difference in society			
В	Are the following sentences TRUE or FALSE? JUSTIFY. (3 pts)				
1	Youths are familiar with the use of the Internet.				
2	It takes a long time to change the way people see the future.				
3	Some students from primary schools took part in the training.				
С	Answer the following questions with information from the text. (3 pts)				
1	When did the training start?				
2	In addition to conversing with e-pals and displaying photos on the Net, what could they use it for?				
3	How do Moroccan youths surpass other Arab	youths?			
D	Find in the text words that mean the same as the following. (2 pts)				
1 2	emphasised (para 3)applied (para 6)				
E	What do the underlined words in the text refer to? (2 pts)				
1	<u>It</u> (para 1)				
2	<u>me</u> (para 4)				
F	Complete the following sentences with information from the text. (2 pts)				
1	Simple graphics were used to encourage business owners and investors so that				
2	Jihad returned to Fes, started up a club for young people with her friends although				

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II		LANGUAGE (15 POINTS)						
A		Give the correct form of the words between brackets. (3 pts)						
1		NGOs receive (finance) help depending on their activities.						
2		"I didn't order all these tables; it was just a (misunderstand)	," the	secretary said.				
3		It may take a few weeks for you to build up your (strong) again.						
В		Put the verbs between brackets in the correct tense. (4 pts)						
1		Before Nabil moved to the countryside, he (retire) from work.						
2		The heavy rainfalls (damage) a lot of roads in December.						
3		I stayed at home all afternoon last Sunday. I should (attend)	th	ne concert.				
4		I wish I (not miss) my friend's wedding; he was really disappointed.						
С		Rewrite the following sentences beginning with the words given. (3 pts)						
1 "Why don't you eat more vegetables and fruit?" the doctor said.								
		The doctor advised the patient						
2 I'm going to send my application before the end of March.								
		My application						
3		I can't have access to the Internet because I don't have a modem.						
		If,						
D		Correct the mistakes in the following sentences. (3 pts)						
1		The boy has been working on the computer since three hours.						
2		That's the song who got the first rank in the 'top ten'.	at's the song who got the first rank in the 'top ten'.					
3		Whenever I see this film, I can't stop laugh.						
E		Match each statement with its appropriate function. (2 pts)						
			a pur	rpose				
	1	As a result of global warming, the world climate has changed considerably.	b cau	use / effect				
2	2	As far as I'm concerned, the Internet is very useful.	с орі	nion				
				ncession				

III WRITING (10 POINTS)

NGOs play an important role in developing society and improving the lives of citizens, especially youths. Write an article to your school magazine about the role of these associations and the benefits young people can gain from participating in their activities.

(Approximately 150 words)

Thes	e suggestions might of some help to you:					
Role of association			Benefits for young people			
>	provide literacy classes	>	become active educated members in society			
>	help poor / disabled / marginalized people	>	develop personality (self-confidence, autonomy)			
>	protect the environment	>	learn new values / gain experience			
>	safeguard human rights	>	get a source of livelihood			
>	offer employment	>	help in the development of their society			

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