



Pan African Youth Essay Competition on Extractive Industries and Inequality

The All Africa Conference of Churches (AACC), Norwegian Church Aid (NCA) Southern Africa and Youth for Tax Justice Network (YTJN) are jointly commissioning a youth essay competition on the topic of **Extractive Industries, Gender and Fighting Inequality in Africa**. The essay competition is an opportunity for young people to learn, research and write on the issues of Extractive Industries, Gender and Inequality in Africa.

The African continent is heavily endowed with valuable minerals resources, yet it has high levels of poverty and inequality. Amongst others, this has a direct impact on the socio-economic life and future of young people who constitute the continent's largest population bracket.

The essay competition provides a platform for youth across the African continent to research, critically analyse, write and share ideas on the linkages between the extractive industries, gender and inequality in Africa and most importantly to make recommendations on how the extractive industries can be fully leveraged to fight the scourge of inequality in Africa.

Objectives of the essay competition

- To get youth to engage on issues of extractive industries, gender and fighting inequality through research, dialogue and essay writing
- Youth to locate themselves and their role in the extractive industries, gender and fighting inequality discourse
- Make an analysis and provide recommendations on how best to leverage extractive industries to fight inequality in Africa

Submission of Essay Guidelines

Essay can be context specific, making examples to country level case studies. The writers' age group (15-35 years). The word limits are as follows:

- Ages group 15 to 18: 800-1500 words. (excluding references)
- Age group 19 to 25: 1200- 2000 words. (excluding references)
- Age group 26 to 35: 1800-3000 words. (excluding references)

Languages: English, French, Portuguese

**Award:**

- Winners stand a chance to attend the Alternative Mining Indaba in Cape Town, South Africa (possibly in February 2021) and to the All Africa Youth Congress in Ghana.
- Top 10 essays will be published for an online resource.
- A token of appreciation will be revealed to the top 3 essay writers.

Timelines:

- Call for Essays Announcement: 01 July 2020
- Express interest by sending your topic, name and email to youthessay@aacc-ceta.org: 31st of July 2020
- Final submission of essays and proof of age (copy of ID) to youthessay@aacc-ceta.org: 30 September 2020
- Review of Essays: October 2020
- Announcement of winners: November 2020

All correspondences should be sent to youthessay@aacc-ceta.org