



# Young Americas Business Trust

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Young Americas Business Trust  
YABT

General Secretariat of  
the Organization of American States

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## TIC Americas is launched in Panama

“An initiative so that future entrepreneurs can exploit their talent and creativity,” this is how Dr. Raul Lago, representative of the OAS in Panama, defined the Talent and Innovation Competition of the Americas (TIC Americas).

Dr. Lago, along with Mr. Roy Thomasson, CEO of YABT, Mr. Ricardo Endara, director of the International Technopark of the City of Knowledge and Mr. Eysel Chong, chief of the Solicitors Network for the Panama Technology Business Accelerator of the City of Knowledge presented TIC Americas to the Panamanian press on January 16.

Mr. Thomasson took the opportunity to fully explain TIC Americas, the final event of which will be held from May

31 to June 2 in the City of Knowledge, Panama. TIC Americas is directed at young entrepreneurs under the age of 35.

Mr. Thomasson explained that the competition goes beyond the simple submission of business plans. TIC Americas will include training and mentoring, offers business resources to the participants and will test the market feasibility of the business plans in a prototype phase.

The competition will also offer participants the opportunity to interact with leaders in the business field. TIC Americas will serve as a platform for the Global TIC which will be held in Taiwan. The winning team of TIC Americas will have the opportunity of participating in the Global TIC.

Mr. Endara reaffirmed the importance of TIC Americas in changing the mentality that “with the passing of the years has educated us to only obtain paying jobs.”

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Señor Roy Thomasson, CEO YABT, en rueda de prensa Panamá

## II Taller de Entrenamiento de Entrenadores del programa Laboratorios Empresariales en Paraguay

The II Business Labs Training of Trainers Workshop in Paraguay, was successfully developed through the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of December.

The workshop took place at the facilities of the Universidad Columbia de Paraguay and with the cooperation of YABT, the Organi-

zation of American States and the Fundación Paraguaya.

The event was organized by the Universidad Columbia de Paraguay and the Fundación Paraguaya, who were also responsible for choosing participants, coordinating and developing the workshop.

At the workshop representatives from various sectors.

From the civil society: Fundación Paraguaya, Cooperativa Universitaria, Cooperativa de Ecnomistas, Cooperativa Multiactiva de Luque Ltda, Centro Educativo Santa Catalina de Siena.

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## YABT realiza Taller sobre Responsabilidad Social Corporativa en Brasil



From left: Rafael Pinto (YABT), Leonardo Gomes (YABT Brasil), Pedro Lins (InWent) y Djordjija Petkoski (World Bank Institute)

YABT held its first Workshop on Socially Responsible Practices in Businesses on December 9th in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. The event marked the United Nation's International Anti-Corruption and Transparency Day and was made possible with the collaboration of the World Bank Institute and InWent.

Over 50 people participated in discussion sessions, debates and case studies provided all of which further developed the themes of anti-corruption and corporate responsibility. During the event, participants took part in various activities such as role-play

in which participants were asked to represent different interest sectors inside a corporation. Activities like this one served to teach the participants how to better handle issues of corruption, transparency, social responsibility and individual interests.

## TIC Americas in Panama

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According to Mr. Endara, that same mentality has to be substituted by an enterprising culture that seeks to better opportunities in the entrepreneurial realm. He also added that the creation of new business ideas have to be supported by the individuals gifts and talents.

**TIC Americas**  
Young Entrepreneurs Talent and Innovation Competition of the Americas

**YOU STILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER. THE DEADLINE FOR TIC AMERICAS HAS BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH 15!**

Visit the competition's website:

[www.ticamericas.net](http://www.ticamericas.net)

## II Training of Trainers Workshop in Paraguay

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From the public sector: Ministry of Treasury, Centro de Adiestramiento en Servicio, Universidad Nacional de Asunción, Crédito Agrícola de Habilidadación del Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería.

From the private sector: Academics, employees and board directors of the Universidad Columbia del Paraguay.

### The Workshop

The model that was used was the same as the first workshop in which participants were asked to elaborate and implement a business plans over the course of five days.

On the first day, and after the opening act, participants attended a conference on Entrepreneurship. Towards the end of the day, the group split into four teams.



Participants in the II Training of Trainers Workshop in Paraguay.

The second day was dedicated to the development of each teams' business plan which was presented on the third day. During these two days various conferences took place covering a range of subjects related to small enterprises such as: quality standards, financing and strategic planning.

The workshop also included a visit to Lecker S.R.L., which manufactures Alfajores Engel (biscuits with milk caramel filling)

To close the workshop, participants held an exhibition fair, where they had the opportunity to present their businesses and offer their products to the public. The businesses created by the four teams were: Chulina P.L.C. which offered gift-wrappers and jewelry, Modas Ladies, which produced and sold ribbon belts for women, Don Jorge Ltd which manufacture *chipitas*, traditional Paraguayan cheese snacks and Mimbi which sold handmade candleholders and mobiles.



Modas Ladies, makers of ribbon belts for women.



Members of Don Jorge SRL offer their chipitas.



Members of Mimbi

## YABT holds an online course on CSR at the Confest 06 in Argentina

YABT in collaboration with the Business, Competitiveness and Development Program of the World Bank Institute, InWent and the University of Buenos Aires, developed an online course on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The course was offered online from October 9 through November 9 and was part of Confest 06 which took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Over 300 people from the different member states of the Organization of American States, participated in the course.

Confest 06 was the second forum on CSR held in Buenos Aires with the purpose of creating greater sensibility towards corporate responsibility. To this end they identified the following focus areas to be worked on during the forum:

- Culture and Social Responsibility

- Ethics and Transparency
- Development of Value Chains
- Labor Relations
- Social Integration
- Community Investment
- Environmental protection

Over 150 representatives from companies, NGO's, directors of human resources departments, academics, government representatives and international specialists in corporate areas took part in Confest 06.

## Business Opportunities Online Training (BOOT) Camp

January 15 signaled the Start of the Business Opportunities Online Training Camp, the third phase of the Talent and Innovation Competition of the Americas. BOOT Camp in an online tool that offers TIC Americas participants informative tools to help them create their business plans.

BOOT Camp has been made possible through the collaboration of YABT with various organizations from the academic, public and private sectors. By identifying different partners, YABT has created a greater access to resources for the TIC Americas participants. We can highlight the availability of resources from Bank of America, Florida International University and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

BOOT Camp is available for those competing in TIC Americas, for more information visit [www.ticamericas.net](http://www.ticamericas.net)

## MYBIZ.NET keeps growing!

MYBiz.net , our online information portal, keeps growing. Since January, over 100 people have registered. We now have 790 members! You can also take advantage of the opportunities YABT offers check [www.mybiz.net](http://www.mybiz.net)

## Come and take part in our chats

We invite you to come and participate in our live chats already available on [www.ybiz.net](http://www.ybiz.net).

**Look out for our Open Chat Sessions which will deal with various subjects in the entrepreneurial field and will be moderated by YABT staff, specialists in different fields.**

***BOOT Camp is now open for the participants of TIC Americas. You still have time to register!***

## Training of Young Entrepreneurs in Barbados



Participants in the Rural Tourism Workshop.

On November 20 through the 24, 2006, the **Young Americas Business Trust (YABT)**, with the support of the **National Office of the Secretary General of the Organization of American States** in Barbados, **Pine-lands Creative Workshops**, and the **United Nations Development Program**, successfully trained more young entrepreneurs in **Rural Tourism** in Barbados.

Twenty-six participants took part in the workshop. The Barbados participants represented diverse organizations including the Barbados Youth Business Trust, the Ministry of Business Development, the Association of Non-governmental organizations, as well as inspiring young entrepreneurs.

A number of individuals from Guyana and Surinam also participated, including a representative from the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth in Guyana, the Caricom Youth Ambassador from Surinam and a representative from the Youngbiz Education and Development Center in Surinam.

During the week long workshop the following three groups were created:

“Things That Matter”, an enterprise that focused This enterprise had three distinct product lines. The Service Division offered Body, Hands & Foot Massages to the public. The Food Division provided delicious cup cakes and natural fruit drinks for sale and the the Souvenir/Gift Division offered unique one-of-a-kind ornaments and charms made from natural raw materials.

“G9 Publishing” provided variety of attractive seasonal Holiday Cards for the general public.

“Healthy Wise”, this company concentrated on providing a healthy choice of products for the lunch and snack market.

## Past News



## Training of Trainers Workshop in Bahamas

On November 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006 the Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) conducted its first **Business Labs Training of Trainers Workshop** focused on **Small and Medium Enterprise Development** in Bahamas. The workshop was held at the Ministry of Youth Conference Room at the Ministry of Education Building in Nassau.

For the development of this workshop YABT collaborated with the National Office of the Secretary General of the Organization of American States in the Bahamas, the Bahamas Development Bank and the Ministry of Youth in the Bahamas.

Thirty-seven participants, from the Bahamas Main Island and the sister islands

attended this workshop.. These persons represented youth leaders, business leaders, trainers from the Bahamas Islands. The workshop represented a very important opportunity for the participants to learn practical business skills through hands on experience. The methodology provides the initial necessary training to create youth employment through entrepreneurship.

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## Next Activities

**Barbados:** there will be a **Training of Trainers** focused on Small to Medium Businesses from the 19 to the 23 of February 2007.

**Jamaica:** From the 12 to the 16 of March will be held a **Science Business Labs** focused on **Biotechnology**.

**Uruguay:** a course on Agribusiness offered from April 9 through 13.

For more information visit our website:



*By young people for young people.*

### New Year New Look

You might have noticed a change in our newsletter. With this new year we're trying out a new look and we'd like to ask for your ideas and suggestions to help us make it even better.

Please contact:

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## YABT

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## Training of Trainers in Bahamas

Mr. Roy Thomasson, YABT CEO, was present at the closing ceremony where the four groups created during the workshop presented their companies and products. These companies were:

"Creative Link Inc." which further divided itself into two subsidiary companies to market and sell different products in two different ways.

**CoCoNaturale** manufactured and sold a delicious drink made of natural coconut water, milk, spices.

**Col-Sek-OrS** sold on consignment from a third-party craft manufacturer a beautiful range of shell crafts.

"Creative Mind Inc." a printing service company offering holiday gift boxes, seasonal cards, company flyers and brochures, business cards, etc.

"Snack Time Inc." and catered to the market that craved a tasty and filling snack during and between meals during the workday.

"Spa-To-Go" provided the most innovative idea, a massage service that was willing to go wherever the customer was - home, office etc.



Participants at the Bahamas workshop

the initial necessary training to create youth employment through entrepreneurship.