Together for Peace – Speakers' Biographies

François BAHANUZI

Program Manager, SELP, and Head of Project, "SAUTI YA VIJANA KWA AMANI" (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

François BAHANUZI is a young Congolese entrepreneur and dedicated leader actively driving peacebuilding, security, and environmental protection in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As Program Manager at SELP, he applies his strategic leadership to support high-impact social initiatives across the region.

Firmly believing that youth are key to breaking the cycle of conflict in eastern DRC, he serves as Head of Project for "SAUTI YA VIJANA KWA AMANI" ("Voice of Youth for Peace"). Under his direction, this initiative operates across the city of Goma and the territory of Nyiragongo to strengthen community resilience. François oversees the training of young peer educators, the establishment of school peace committees, the rollout of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) programs, and intergenerational dialogues targeting local land and generational conflicts.

Through his grounded commitment, François exemplifies a resilient and proactive Congolese youth dedicated to positive environmental transformation and the construction of a peaceful, sustainable future.

SABE Hermas Dieu-Parfait

Country Representative, Global Youth Synergy for Peacebuilding and Security – CAR Chapter (Central African Republic)

SABE Hermas Dieu-Parfait is a 24-year-old Central African geologist living in Bangui. He holds a Professional Master's degree in Mining and Petroleum Engineering Sciences, with expertise in Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), from the University of Dschang in Cameroon.

Committed to the fields of environment, sustainable development, and youth, he is active in the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) movement and within the Global Youth Synergy for Peacebuilding and Security – CAR Chapter, where he serves as Country Representative. Through these commitments, he works toward youth participation, peacebuilding, civic action, and community development in the Central African Republic.

He also gained recognition through his master's thesis on the impact of artisanal gold mining on children's education and health.

Andi Rabiaj

Executive Director, Youth Voice Network of Organisations (Albania)

Andi Rabiaj has been Executive Director of the Youth Voice Network of Organisations in Albania since July 2016. He is dedicated to leading impactful initiatives for youth through strategic leadership in project planning, fundraising, and advocacy. His role emphasizes collaborative efforts in developing programs that address critical social issues and peacebuilding efforts.

His work is strengthened by a solid academic foundation: a Master's degree in Public Health from the University of Medicine, Tirana, and a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Tirana.

Irini Demo

Student, Albania

Irini Demo is a student who will give a testimony on how the programs of the Youth Voice Network of Organisations have impacted their life.