Youth employment and skills needs: Challenges and Opportunities for Social Partners and Role of Social Dialogue

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Overview of the Global Labour Market for Youth, 2019

- Potential labour force: 41 million
- Unemployed: 68 million
- Population: 1,273 million
- Employed: 429 million
- Out of extended labour force: 735 million

Source: ILO, Global Employment Trends for Youth 2020
Advancing social justice, promoting decent work

COVID-LOCKDOWN GENERATION

Youth Employment in Times of COVID
A global review of COVID-19 policy responses to tackle youth employment and disadvantage among young people

Anna Stafford, Adam Garden, and Sachin Gahal

Figure 1. Global percentage changes in unemployment and inactivity by sex and age (2020)

- Total (4.3%)
  - Unemployment: 0.9%
  - Inactivity: 3.4%
- Female (5.0%)
  - Unemployment: 0.7%
  - Inactivity: 4.3%
- Male (3.9%)
  - Unemployment: 1.1%
  - Inactivity: 2.8%
- Youth (18.7%)
  - Unemployment: 5.7%
  - Inactivity: 9.1%
- Adult (26.7%)
  - Unemployment: 1.1%
  - Inactivity: 2.6%

Young and Female: A Double Disadvantage…

- Labour underutilisation among women is higher, due to care responsibilities and being NEET.
- Young women more likely to be excluded from universal basic education.
- Gender gaps continue in the job search and in the quality of jobs attained, including the gender pay gap.
- The labour market transitions of young women are less certain than for young men.
- Too many young women move directly into inactivity (outside of education) and remain there.

«The situation of young women in the pandemic shows how multiple forms of gendered disadvantage remain. Young women still lack access to education and job opportunities, continually confront gendered divisions of labour, high rates of labour market informality and shoulder most household responsibilities and domestic work.»
## CLOSING THE SKILLS GAP

### A dynamic and evolving world of work

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<td>Evolving sectors and new occupations</td>
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<td>Changing demand for skills, due to a changing composition of tasks</td>
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<td>More inclusive and environmentally responsible societies</td>
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<td>Increasing inequalities</td>
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- **Digital divide**
- **High informality in LA**
- **Trade and skills jointly affect productivity, growth and wage distribution**
- **Can spark innovation, fill skills shortages, allow for mutual learning**
- **Globalization**
- **Digital divide**
- **Evolving forms of employment relationships**
- **Demographics**
- **18 million jobs by achieving 2°C goal**
- **Care economy can create 475 million jobs by 2030**
- **Climate Change**

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Key Recommendations:

- Free and quality education should be recognised as a fundamental human right.
  The education system must be reformed to increase student performance in the subject areas of mathematics, sciences, literature, soft/behavioural skills and general competencies for better employability. Both trade unions and employers’ organisations should advocate for such reforms and policies.

- The factors behind school drop-outs need to be addressed with targeted policies.

- Access to free and high-quality education and skills development programmes, especially for young women should be ensured.

- Both trade unions and employers’ organisations shall work for improving the quality of jobs generated in the labour market.

- Policies addressing the NEET need to be implemented.
  Comprehensive programmes such as Youth Guarantees are needed to reengage NEETs in employment, education or training. It is essential to strengthen the capacity of ISKUR.

- Gendered support policies should be introduced in order to mitigate aspects of the dominant patriarchal culture.