

Stakeholder Consultation

ILO/ITU/AU Joint Programme: Boosting Decent Jobs and Enhancing Skills for Youth in Nigeria's Digital Economy

2 December 2021 | 10:00 – 16:00 | Wells Carlton Hotel and Apartments in Asokoro, Abuja

Background

Africa's growing youth population represents one of the most promising resources of our continent. Yet, many young people continue to be affected by decent work deficits including high levels of youth unemployment, working poverty, informality, gender inequalities and lack of access to social protection. At the same time, digital technologies are rapidly transforming societies and labour markets, creating new job profiles and fields of work. Africa's transition to the digital economy offers an opportunity for job-rich growth but requires a skilled workforce to be successful and inclusive.

Under the aegis of the [Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth](#), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), with the support of the African Union (AU), have launched a programme with continental reach to create decent employment and enhance skills for youth in Africa's digital economy. In Nigeria, one of the target countries, the programme's overarching goal is to increase the number of young women and men who access decent work in the digital economy.

These objectives have become even more pressing in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in systematic, deep and disproportionate impacts on young people. Demonstrating the importance of digital technology in moving training and jobs online, the pandemic has also underscored the need to accelerate digital transformation in Africa.

The joint programme intends to promote job creation, strengthen digital skills and improve employment services while at the same time establish partnerships and develop diagnostic tools to understand what works to boost youth employment in the digital economy.

Following the validation of the programme for Nigeria in December 2020, ILO and ITU have commenced implementation of pilot initiatives aimed at strengthening the evidence-based on the digital economy in Nigeria and identifying partners and interventions to accelerate action. The stakeholder consultation intends to take stock of progress made and discuss possible priorities and joint work going forward.

Objectives

The objectives of the stakeholder consultation are to:

1. Discuss an update on the ILO/ITU/AU Joint Programme on Boosting Decent Jobs and Enhancing Skills for Youth in Africa's Digital Economy with key stakeholders;
2. Present the ongoing assessment on Skills Supply and Demand in the Digital Economy in Nigeria, including digital skills and other relevant initiatives;
3. Review ongoing activities by programme partners and identify priorities of and synergies with existing initiatives in the areas of job creation and matching in the digital economy and digital skills development.

Participants

This stakeholder consultation will bring together representatives of Government, workers' and employers' organizations, UN agencies, youth representatives, academia and other relevant actors.

Format and venue

The workshop will take place on 2 December 2021 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM at Wells Carlton Hotel and Apartments in Asokoro, Abuja.

Registration for the event is required. Please confirm your participation with Mr. Iniobong Charles at charles@ilo.org with a copy to Mr. Dino Corell at corell@ilo.org and Ms Christine Sund at christine.sund@itu.int.

Agenda – 2 December 2021

Moderator: Ms. Chinyere Emeka-Anuna, Senior Program Officer, ILO Country Office Abuja

Time	Session
09:30 – 10:00	Registration of participants
	Welcome remarks
10:00 – 10:10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Vanessa Phala, Director, ILO Country Office Abuja Mr. Ali Drissa Badiel, Representative, ITU Area Office for West Africa
	Introduction: the ILO/ITU/AU Joint Programme in Nigeria
10:10 – 10:20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Christine Sund, Senior Advisor, ITU Regional Office for Africa Mr. Jonas Bausch, Youth Employment Officer, ILO Regional Office for Africa
	Technical discussion: Youth employment in the digital economy
	Interventions by key stakeholders, including:
10:20 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministries of Labour and Employment, Youth and Sports Development and Communications and Digital Economy Social partners Nigerian Youth SDGs Network
	Moderated exchange and Q&A
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee & tea break
	Research and project activities to boost youth employment in the digital economy
11:30 – 12:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penetration of digital platforms in Nigeria, Uma Rani Amara, Senior Economist, Research Department, ILO Activities of the Generation Connect Africa Youth Group towards the Generation Connect YouthSummit (TBC), ITU
	Presentation of ILO/ITU assessment of skills supply and demand in the digital economy in Nigeria & Discussion
12:15 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Olumide Taiwo, Expert working with ILO and ITU
	Feedback from participants
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break
	Interactive discussion on partnerships to scale up action for decent jobs and skilling in the digital economy
14:00 – 15:00	Participants are invited to highlight linkages between envisioned joint programme components and ongoing and planned initiatives to scale up action and ensure knowledge sharing.
15:00 – 15:15	Reporting back
	Summary of the interactive discussion and reflections
	Conclusion and next steps
15:15 – 15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Dino Corell, Employment and Migration Officer, ILO Country Office Abuja
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee and tea break