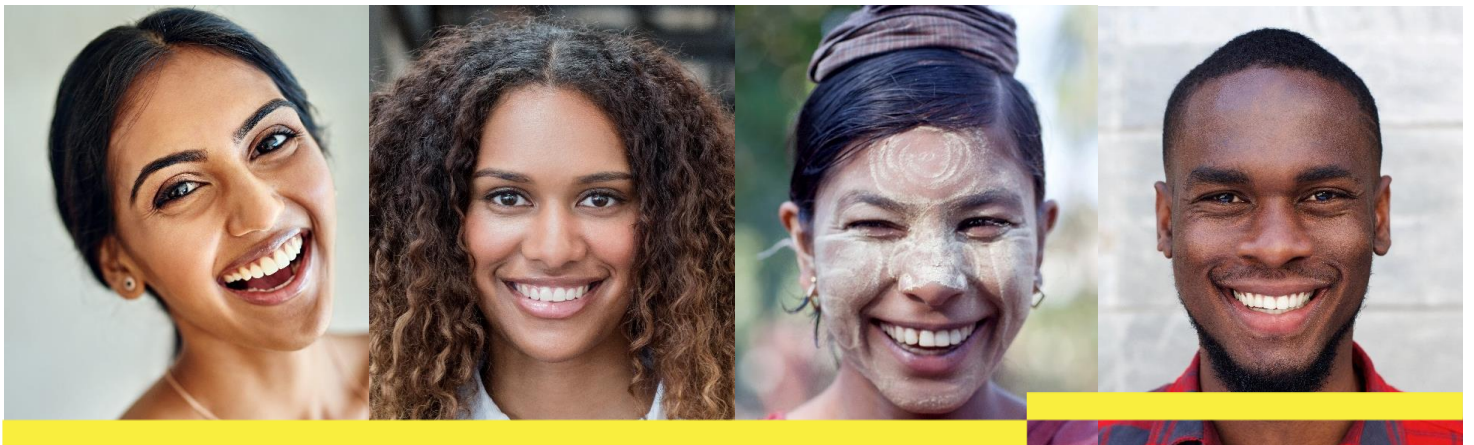




DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH

THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR ACTION



LAUNCH EVENT *OF THE* ENGAGEMENT PLATFORM

29 NOV 2017 // ILO, GENEVA // ROOM XI

Launch Event of the Engagement Platform

Launched in 2016 with the endorsement of the executive heads of the United Nations, the **Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth** has evolved as the overarching and inclusive platform under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to scale up action and impact on youth employment. Its vision: a world in which young women and men have greater access to decent jobs, everywhere.

Decent Jobs for Youth is based on an alliance of committed partners taking action across a variety of thematic priorities, sharing knowledge and leveraging resources for more and better jobs for youth.

Arduous work has taken place over the past year with ILO lead to set the foundations of **Decent Jobs for Youth** and place it in a progressive path towards full operationalization.

On 29 November 2017, partners of **Decent Jobs for Youth** will meet to jointly launch the engagement platform: www.decentjobsforyouth.org.

The engagement platform will provide an open space for partners who subscribe to the strategy and guiding principles of **Decent Jobs for Youth** to join and engage with others, creating real change for young people across the globe. In particular, the platform will catalyse youth employment partnerships and strengthen coherence with a view to scaling up existing efforts and increasing impact.

The platform is centred on the commitments of partners to promote decent jobs for youth. A commitment is a pledge to take joint action and include ongoing and upcoming initiatives, projects and programmes operating at local, country, regional or global level. All partners commit to align their work with the strategy and guiding principles of **Decent Jobs for Youth**.

As the global initiative on youth employment under the 2030 Agenda, all commitments are recognized as direct contributions to the United Nations Partnerships for SDGs and linked to its follow-up mechanisms, in particular to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

In a second phase, the engagement platform will integrate a knowledge facility to leverage the collective experience of its partners and to spur innovation and facilitate knowledge development and sharing in the field of youth employment. The global knowledge facility will serve as a knowledge gateway on youth employment. It will connect, capture, and widely share best practices and innovation, enhance capacity development and facilitate peer learning about what works to improve labour market outcomes for young women and men.

The launch of the engagement platform will serve as an opportunity to present the new ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships. The toolkit provides state of the art information and guidance for the design and implementation of quality apprenticeship schemes across different contexts.

2 Launch Event of the Engagement Platform

Event objectives

The event brings together partners of the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth and other key youth employment actors to celebrate the launch of the online engagement platform, to present the ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships and to learn more about the ongoing work and opportunities for collaboration.

Participation

The launch will be presided by the ILO Director-General, Mr. Guy Ryder, and attended by high level representatives from UN partner organizations and multiple stakeholders from governments, social partners, youth and civil society, private sector and beyond.

Time and Venue

The event will start at 10h30 in Room XI at the International Labour Office in Geneva.

The address is **4 route des Morillons, Geneva, Switzerland.**

Agenda

Launch of the Engagement Platform of Decent Jobs for Youth

Room XI, R2 South, International Labour Office, 10h30 – 12h30

10:00

Registration

Welcome coffee

10:30

Opening remarks

Azita Berar Awad, Director,
Employment Policy Department, ILO

10:35

Information session

- Latest global employment trends for youth
- Youth employment in the 2030 Agenda
- The Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth
- ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships

Q&A

11:30

Launch of Engagement Platform and ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships

Guy Ryder, Director-General, ILO

Remarks by

High level representatives from UN entities and partners of **Decent Jobs for Youth**

Q&A

12:20

Next steps and closing

12:30

Networking lunch

Light lunch in Espace Gobelins – R2 South, ILO

What is the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth?

The challenge

The youth employment challenge has become a stubborn reality in all regions and nearly every country. Today, more than 70 million young women and men are without a job globally and more than 160 million youth are working, yet living in poverty. These figures embody a massive waste of potential and a threat to social cohesion. Efforts to tackle the youth employment challenge remain fragmented despite increased policy attention. Yet, there is a sweeping recognition about how vital it is to invest in both the quantity and the quality of jobs for youth.

The response: Decent Jobs for Youth, the global initiative for action

Decent Jobs for Youth is the global initiative to scale up action and impact on youth employment under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In response to the youth employment challenge, it emerged as the first-ever, comprehensive United Nations system-wide effort for the promotion of youth employment worldwide. Launched in 2016 with the endorsement of the executive heads of the United Nations, *Decent Jobs for Youth* is a unique platform for partners to address fragmentation and catalyse effective, innovative and evidence-based action at country and regional levels.

An inclusive alliance of multiple partners

Decent Jobs for Youth brings together the resources and expertise of multiple partners to create linkages that maximize the effectiveness of youth employment investments. The initiative recognizes the important roles of governments, social partners, the UN System, youth and civil society, the private sector, regional institutions, parliamentarians, foundations, academia and the media in promoting decent jobs for youth.

Guiding principles

Partners of Decent Jobs for Youth subscribe to 15 guiding principles, which set the basis for effective and collaborative youth employment action. The principles stress the importance of delivering on both quality and quantity of jobs for youth, call for balanced supply and demand side interventions that prioritize gender equality and youth rights, and prompt complementarity and coherence between public policies and private investments.

The strategy

The strategy of **Decent Jobs for Youth** relies on four inter-connected elements:



Building a strategic alliance to advocate, ensure policy convergence, stimulate innovative thinking and mobilize resources



Scaling up evidence-based action and impact across eight thematic priorities in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Sharing and applying knowledge by capturing, analysing and sharing best practices, highlighting innovative approaches and facilitating learning



Mobilizing resources by securing high-level commitments from national, regional and international actors

Priorities for action

Eight thematic priorities frame the efforts of Decent Jobs for Youth towards scaled up action and impact on youth employment. These thematic priorities respond to today's most pressing challenges faced by young women and men in the world of work.



Green jobs for youth



Digital skills for youth



Quality apprenticeships



Youth in fragile situations



Youth transitioning to the formal economy



Youth in the rural economy



Youth entrepreneurship and self-employment



Young workers in hazardous occupations



SCALING UP ACTION & IMPACT ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The event is organized by

The Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth

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