We must continue to "Deliver as One", promote decent jobs for youth and make migration of our young people safe.

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MDG-F
Knowledge Management Facility on Youth Employment and Migration

“Reaping the benefits and minimizing the risks of youth labour migration”
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Youth Employment and Migration: An overview

There are currently some 73.4 million young people who are unemployed globally and the slowdown in economic activity is expected to push another half million into unemployment by 2014. This is further aggravated in many countries by large numbers of young people engaged in poor quality and low paid jobs, especially in informal economy. Many young people are either poor working or underemployed: some 228 million young people earn less than US$2 per day.

The current youth employment crisis pushes millions of young women and men towards the decision to migrate with the purpose of seeking alternatives to improve their job prospects. Many of them migrate to urban areas and big cities within their own country, or seek new opportunities in foreign countries. Recent estimates put at about 27 million the number of international young migrants in the world. Young people represent the main group of individuals migrating every year, especially from Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia. Migration can have a positive impact on young workers, allowing them to obtain a decent work, gain experience, and acquire skills that can benefit themselves and their communities and countries of origin. In some cases, however, labour migration can lead young people into vulnerable situations associated with poor working conditions, lack of social protection, and in the worst cases, human trafficking and forced labour.


“There are many reasons why young people migrate around the world. I believe that the most important of them are youth unemployment and lack of opportunities. But in some countries many youngsters migrate because of the harsh political situation of their state, lack of human rights, or socio-economic instability!”

Carlos Cisneros
Ecuador

Online discussion on youth, employment and migration, Decent Work for Youth Platform (www.decentwork4youth.org)

“Young migrant workers can really contribute to the economy of both the receiving and sending countries through their taxes and remittances. However, there is a big challenge for many young migrant workers, especially those who do not speak the language of the country where they work. In some cases, young workers are exposed to discrimination and abuse.”

Joanna Bernice Coronacion
Philippines

Online discussion on youth, employment and migration, Decent Work for Youth Platform (www.decentwork4youth.org)
The thematic window on youth, employment and migration (YEM) of the MDG-F was launched to support interventions promoting sustainable employment and decent work for young people. The aim of the programmes sponsored under this window was to enhance national and local capacity for the development, implementation and monitoring of effective youth employment and migration policies and programmes. The thematic window consists of fifteen Joint Programmes (JPs) spanning countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and South-East Europe.

The international agencies involved in the Joint Programmes on YEM were:

- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural (UNESCO)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- United Nations Office for Projects Services (UNOPS)
- World Health Organization (WHO)

The partners at national and local levels included ministries and local authorities in charge of labour and employment, youth and sports, health, economy and planning, enterprise development, agriculture, education and sciences; national statistical institutes; public employment services; employers and workers’ organizations; and representatives of young people.

The thematic window on youth employment and migration supported the implementation of joint programmes in 15 countries (see map on page 28), as well as the establishment of a knowledge management facility that engaged these programmes in the development and sharing of knowledge.
The Millennium Development Goals Achievement Fund (MDG-F) was established in 2007 thanks to the contribution from the Government of Spain. The objective of the Fund was to support countries in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

The Fund sponsored 130 joint programmes in eight programmatic areas (Children, Food Security and Nutrition; Conflict Prevention and Peace-building; Culture and Development; Democratic Economic Governance; Development and the Private Sector; Environment and Climate Change; Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment; and Youth, Employment and Migration) in 50 countries around the world.

Joint programming

Joint programming is the overall process through which United Nations’ Entities and national partners develop and implement a set of integrated and coordinated activities aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other international commitments on human rights and poverty reduction at country level. By pooling resources and expertise, the joint programmes enhance the effectiveness of the support provided by the multi-lateral system. They reduce transaction costs for governments, donors and the UN System and create synergies across national and local institutions, as UN Entities.
"I dropped out of school and moved abroad in the search of a good job that would allow me help my family. Upon return to my country, I found out about the joint programme on youth employment and migration, which supported me in establishing my own business. I especially liked the skills training programme. Now I won't have to live in poor conditions and can give a better future to my son."

Valentina Mairena
Nicaragua

Knowledge Management Facility on YEM
The Knowledge Management Facility on youth employment and migration, was established to connect the 15 joint programmes and promote cross-country sharing of experience, information, data and tools. It was instrumental to identify and document successful practices relating to the design, monitoring and evaluation of youth employment and migration programmes. Moreover, the Knowledge Management Facility built a body of evidence to support policy dialogue and programme development on youth employment and migration issues.

The Facility used a range of knowledge-sharing tools (e.g. face-to-face workshops, e-helpdesk, virtual forums, online discussions) to enable national teams that implemented the joint programmes to interact and exchange information on the technical areas covered by their programmes. The graphic above shows the three main steps followed by the Facility to generate products and share knowledge.
The knowledge-sharing work focused on the establishment of a community of practice. Three workshops were organized to share knowledge, lessons learnt and good practice; make available policy tools developed by the various national and international partners; and exchange lessons on how to ensure the sustainability of results:

An inter-regional workshop was held in Hungary from 2 to 4 March 2011;

A regional knowledge sharing workshop took place in Peru from 13 to 5 April 2011; and

A global workshop was held in Dominican Republic from 29 to 31 October 2012.

The virtual forums were used by the joint programmes to share knowledge, information, material and tools, as well as, to disseminate effective and innovative youth employment and migration practice. They were also useful for engaging programme managers in pre- and post-activities related to the global, inter-regional and regional workshops. An Expert-helpdesk service provided support in areas identified as critical for the implementation of the programmes. A team of youth employment experts held thematic discussions and responded to specific technical questions of the programme managers.
Teamworks

Teamworks is a social networking platform that enables UN organizations and their external partners to leverage the collective knowledge of communities, individuals, programmes and projects. The MDG-F developed a knowledge management system based on “Teamworks” in order to facilitate knowledge exchange through interactions among people. The YEM window had its own space in Teamworks, where documents and tools related to the working areas and themes implemented through the JPs, and information on the different activities of the KM facility were shared.

“...The knowledge facility team helped our Joint Programme in Tunisia to connect to other experiences and success stories on youth, employment and migration around the world. Their support helped us to understand that even though each country programme is unique, patterns and successful models can be adapted and replicated. As such, ILO's knowledge network was an enormous value-added for us, and should serve as a model for other UN interventions.”

Paz Arancibia
UN Coordination Specialist - UNDP Tunisia
The main products developed by the Knowledge management facility are *:

**Learning package**
This learning package offers guidance for the design, monitoring and evaluation of UN joint programmes on youth, employment and migration joint programmes. It consists of a toolkit with examples, templates and suggestions to manage all the steps of the joint programme cycle.

**Profiling guide**
The purpose of this guide is to support the design and implementation of targeted employment programmes for young people exposed to social exclusion.

**Learning tool on M&E**
The learning material explains methods and tools for monitoring and evaluation of programmes for the promotion of youth employment.

**Training manual on youth labour market analysis**
The training manual provides guidance on requirements for the assessment of youth labour markets.

**Youth labour migration trends**
Based on a recent analysis and a series of country papers, this report sheds light on the benefits relating to work of young migrants and the risks associated with irregular migration.

**Good practices on youth employment and migration**
The aim of this document is to identify the factors that contributed to develop the good practices, lessons learned and replication of the initiatives promoted by the joint programmes.

*Available: September 2013 in www.ilo.org/yep and www.mdgfund.org*
"Thanks to the MDG-F Joint Programme, I received training and then I got employed in a factory. It is so fantastic to create and produce Venetian masks. This is something good not only for me but for my family as well. Besides, I think this work will contribute to my future career."

Young man  Albania
The joint programmes resulted in policy and institutional changes, as well as piloted a number of innovative interventions for the promotion of decent work for youth and safe migration. These programmes managed to: (i) enhance knowledge and information on youth labour markets and migration issues; (ii) strengthen policy and institutional environment; (iii) improve capacity to manage and deliver youth employment and migration services; (iv) pilot innovative interventions that improved decent work opportunities for young people and manage youth migration; and raise awareness on youth employment and migration issues.

The joint programmes supported the development of 31 national and 18 local policies, 18 national laws and 68 national and local plans. It is estimated that 14,3 million young people have benefitted from the policies, laws and plans supported by the joint programmes.

The joint programmes reached almost 100,000 young persons, with several programmes of employment and social services. These direct interventions included labour market training, job-search assistance, placement into employment, social protection measures, access to information on decent jobs and on safe labour migration.
THE AMERICAS

Joint Programme on youth, employment and migration: A one-stop shop for youth employment - Costa Rica

Youth, employment, migration: Reducing inequalities in Ecuador - Ecuador

Human development for youth: Overcoming the challenges of migration through employment - Honduras

National development capacities for improving employment and self-employment opportunities for young people - Nicaragua

EASTERN EUROPE

Economic capacities and opportunities for social inclusion - Paraguay

Peru: Promotion of employment and MSEs for youth and management of juvenile labor migration - Peru

AFRICA

Youth migration: Reaping the benefits and mitigating the risks - Albania

BiH Youth employability and retention programme - Bosnia and Herzegovina

Support to national efforts for the promotion of youth employment and management of migration - Serbia

Growth with decent work for all - Turkey

ASIA

Protecting and promoting the rights of China's vulnerable migrants - China

Alternatives to migration: Decent jobs for Filipino youth - Philippines

Creating opportunities for youth employment in South Sudan - South Sudan

Creating opportunities for youth employment in Sudan - Sudan

Engaging Tunisian youth to achieve the MDGs - Tunisia
The Facility supported the finalization and dissemination of the following products that were developed by the joint programmes on youth, employment and migration.

- Guide for preparation of National Action Plans on YE
- Information package for young people - the secrets of an interview
- Territorial youth employment pact

- Voices of youth survey (Bosnian version)
- Career counselling manual
- Manual for young returnees

These products are available in the CD that accompanies this brochure:

- Peer education Training manual
- Handbook for labour inspector’s training
- Employment services for young migrants

- Guide for jobseekers
- Education services directory
- Interculturality manual

- Youth make their voices heard 2010
- Market analysis report
- Facilitator’s manual: create your business plan
Honduras
- Entrepreneurship manual
- Youth employment plan 2011-2013
- Manual of employability

Nicaragua
- Young entrepreneur form
- Guide for the network leader
- Youth employment analysis

Paraguay
- Youth employment social dialogue committee
- Summary of youth employment policy
- Migration processing module

Peru
- Documentation of Certijoven
- Youth employment plan
- Study on youth and international migration in Peru

Serbia
- Impact of economic crisis
- Improving employment services for disadvantaged youth
- Youth employment fund

South Sudan
- Manual for conducting market assessments
- Business module
- Functional adult literacy programme: business module
The Philippines

- Youth employment and migration nexus
- Trainers manual on campaign against illegal recruitment trafficking
- Technical vocational training

Tunisia

- Green jobs in Tunisia
- Regional action plan on youth employment Kef
- Informal apprenticeship report

Turkey

- The structure of rural employment in Turkey
- Research on migration and employment study
- National action plan for youth employment in Turkey