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# Opening Remarks

**UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta H. Fore**

**ILO Director General Guy Ryder**



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# Celebrating Collaborations

**Robert Jenkins**, Chief, Education Section, UNICEF

**Veera Mendonca**, UNICEF Deputy Representative, Bangladesh

**Tuomo Pountianen**, ILO Director, Bangladesh

**Fabrice LeClercq**, ILO Representative, Haiti

**Bruno Maes**, UNICEF Representative, Haiti



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# Collaboration in Bangladesh

8 October 2020

# Generation Unlimited and Decent Jobs for Youth in Bangladesh

Tuomo Poutiainen, Director ILO Bangladesh

Veera Mendonca, Deputy Representative  
OIC Representative UNICEF Bangladesh

*Courtesy of BRAC: Female apprentices breaking barriers at a motorcycle repair shop*





## Context: The Urgency

- **Bangladesh** is one of the fastest aging societies in the world with a 13 years **golden window** of opportunity for investing in **young people's development, training and decent employment**.
- **COVID-19** has disrupted learning, training and employment opportunities for the country's **47.6 million young people**
- The **digital transformation** accelerated by COVID-19 represents the **largest opportunity** for creating new skills and job opportunities for young people

***Clear commitment** from Government, private sector, civil society, multi and bi-lateral development partners to invest in the **Future of Work and Young People's Skills and Employability** as the core for **Sustainable Development**.*

## ILO and UNICEF past cooperation

- **2012 – 2013:** Collaboration between BRAC, UNICEF and ILO to pilot 'STAR', an apprenticeship programme developed by BRAC for out of school youth in informal sectors.
- **2014:** RCT evaluation showed promising results especially for young women's employability and as decrease in early marriage.
- **2016:** **STAR** is scaled up with support from DFID, DFAT and from UNICEF as part of its **Alternative Learning Programme (ALP)**.
- **2019:** The **Apprenticeship Programme** is selected as a top 10 'Global Innovation in Skills' by UNICEF
- **2019 - 2020:** Building on good practice and lessons learned **Apprenticeship** becomes a key target of **Generation Unlimited Bangladesh**, aiming at reaching 500k young people in formal and informal sectors by 2024, with **UNICEF, ILO, Decent Jobs for Youth, BRAC** and **a2i** as key partners for scale.
- Bangladesh was identified as a country to pilot test the alignment between Generation Unlimited and Decent Jobs for Youth



## GenU Bangladesh: decent jobs for trained, upskilled, and empowered youth

- **Launched** in 2019 as a public private led multi-stakeholder platform with participation of government, 15 industry associations, UN agencies, NGO representatives and youth groups.
- ILO, Decent Jobs for Youth, UNICEF, World Bank, a2i and BRAC make up a **foundational partners** group directed by the GenU Bangladesh Steering Committee, chaired by the former Principal SDG Coordinator of the PM's Office.
- **8 Aspirational COVID-19 sensitive targets** to reach **17+ million young people** with skills development, apprenticeship, entrepreneurship and quality employment by modelling best practice and contributing with evidence and technical assistance to public and private national Policy and Programme development.
- Targets include **gender and disability** indicators and take into account the situation of **marginalized and vulnerable** youth

# GenU Bangladesh Repurposed Targets



1. **Migrant and Returnee Migrant workers**: 3M skilled worker (1M reintegration and 2M decent job abroad).
2. **Entrepreneurship and Self Employment**: 1M total including 300K digital entrepreneurs
3. **Apprenticeships**: 7.5% of total workforce 500k in formal and informal sectors
4. **Underserved**: 1M Madrasah and minor ethnic youth
5. **Future of work (new 4IR) skills**: 200K
6. **Skills in Education**: 10 M Learners received transferable, digital and technology skill.
7. **Mid level Managers**: 500k mid level managers
8. **Developing skills in post COVID-19 emerging sectors**: 2M Jobs



Cabinet  
Division  
Government of the People's  
Republic of Bangladesh



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## ILO & UNICEF synergies:

- **ILO and UNICEF** works closely with public and private sector partners to ensure that the **8 targets** put **young people** in focus for connecting **Secondary Education and Training** to **Entrepreneurship, Apprenticeship and Employment** opportunities.
- Current priorities of **UNICEF and ILO** are to:
  - Advocate for GenU Bangladesh targets to be considered in the UN-Bangladesh Socio Economic Response Framework (SERF)
  - Co-create a **Blue Print** with public and private partners, including youth led organizations, for a national strategy and policy on entrepreneurship and apprenticeship training in emerging job sectors for marginalized youth



## Looking ahead for 17+ Million Opportunities by 2024

### **Catalytic GenU Milestones supported by ILO and UNICEF:**

1. Programmatic frameworks and time bound strategies developed on post COVID 19 skills for the emerging job sectors, entrepreneurship and apprenticeship opportunities for most marginalized youth, endorsed by key public and private stakeholders
2. Integrating and aligning GenU targets with Bangladesh's Government priorities and large development programmes
3. Development and launch of an Agile GenU Bangladesh Data Platform

Fifteen-year-old Thompa Akhter says her sewing apprenticeship has transformed her life:

*"This job has given me a fantastic opportunity to escape a life of mundane housework and make something of my life. I find it really enjoyable and I'm pretty good at it"*



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# Addressing child labor in Haiti The role of education and skills

8 October 2020



## Context



- 59% of pop living in poverty & 28.3% in extreme poverty = > 60% unable to meet basic needs
- Poverty fuels family separation and child labor: 1/5 Haitian children do not live with a biological parent & >400,000 children involved in domestic work
- 34.4% of children aged 5-14 are involved in economic activities in Haiti.
- 48% of child domestic workers are girls.
- 320,000 children aged 6 to 15 are out of school, or nearly one in 10 children of school age.
- The majority of children outside the school system are in the 12-14 age group due to either late entry to school or dropping out of school.
- Children leave the school system due to academic difficulties and unmet socio-economic needs which push them to seek gainful activity.

# Intervention/programme

**Reduce exposure to the worst forms of child labour, especially domestic work by:**

- Strengthening the legal, political and institutional framework in Haiti
- **Ensuring increased protection of children engaged in domestic work by education and vocational training support**
- Strengthening the prevention of child labor in unacceptable situations.

**Ensuring increased protection of children engaged in domestic work by education and vocational training support**

- Sustainable response and prevention services: Vocational and life skills training for 1700 adolescents (14-17)
- School reinsertion for 9200 children
- Socio-economic support for 5000 households
- Care including psychosocial support to 1,500 children
- Parental education for 6,500 parents



# Intervention/programme



## Innovation

- Social mobilisation using innovative tools: U-Report & SCREAM to promote ado/ & youth participation and social change - 140,000 people reached
- Strategic partnership with private sector for the training and access to youth employment
- Multisectoral approach with education, social protection and health to best meet the comprehensive needs of children, adolescents and youth



## Partners

- Government: Ministry of Social Affairs and Work, Ministry of Education and Professional Training, National Institute for Professional Training and Institute for Social Welfare and Research (institute responsible for child protection)
- Employers and labor organisations including chamber of commerce
- Civil society: 5 INGOs and 2 national NGOs

## Looking ahead: what's next?

Mid-term evaluation underway & final evaluation in 2021

Vocational training in line with UNICEF/Generation Unlimited & ILO/ Decent Jobs for Youth.

Advocacy: Revised labor code, child protection code, list of hazardous work for children and the national action plan against child labor

**Scale up:** Lessons learned will inform future fund mobilization and joint collaboration

### Lessons learned:

Govt buy-in key to success & civil society engagement essential in the volatile political environment

Agency tools (U-Report/UNICEF & SCREAM/ILO) leveraged participation for child rights

UN Joint initiatives = stronger advocacy for policies to increase protection of children  
UNICEF's and ILO's respective areas of expertise = stronger program

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# **ALIGNMENT BETWEEN GENERATION UNLIMITED AND DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH**

**8 OCTOBER 2020**

**Sangheon Lee and Roberto Benes**



# THE INITIATIVES



|                   |   |   |
|-------------------|---|---|
| <b>What</b>       | <p>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</p>   | <p>A global partnership with aims to transform education, skills, employment and entrepreneurial outcomes for young people around the world, by joining together governments and businesses with the reach and networks of the UN</p>   |
| <b>Vision</b>     | <p>A world in which young women and men have greater access to decent jobs everywhere</p>   | <p>To make sure all young people have the ability and opportunity to realize their potential</p>  |
| <b>Priorities</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Digital Jobs For Youth</li> <li> Quality Apprenticeships</li> <li> Youth In The Rural Economy</li> <li> Green Jobs For Youth</li> <li> Youth Entrepreneurship And Self-employment</li> <li> Youth Transitioning To The Formal Economy</li> <li> Youth In Fragile Situations</li> <li> Young Workers In Hazardous Occupations</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connect every school and learner to the internet</li> <li>• Scale up on-line/remote learning skilling and livelihood platforms</li> <li>• Boost entrepreneurial skills and opportunities</li> <li>• Engage youth as change makers</li> </ul> |

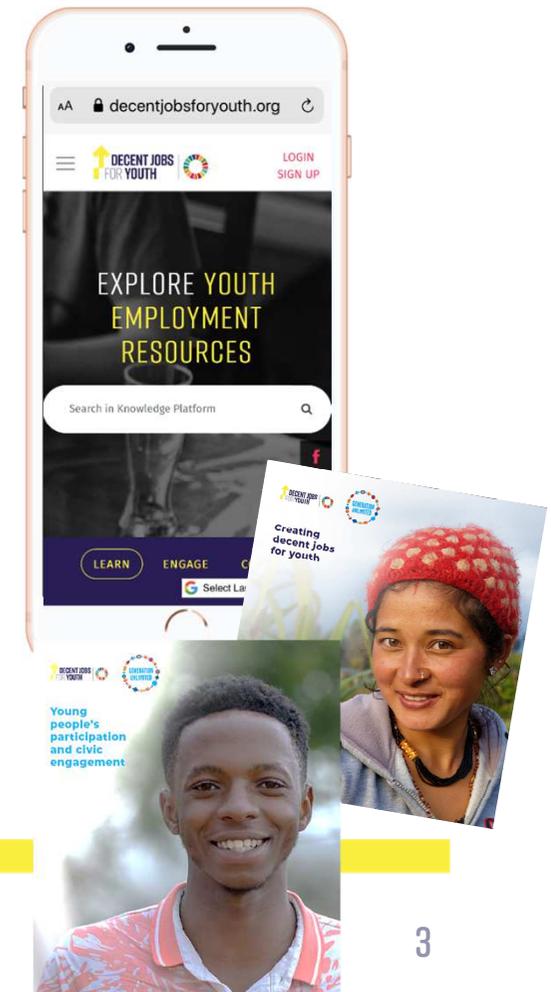
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# KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION

1. A **Joint Knowledge Facility** to assist partners with evidence, advice and tools for smarter and effective youth related interventions.
2. A series of **global knowledge products**, inspired by the recent joint Action Guides.
3. Joint **evidence gap map and research agendas** on youth employment, education and youth participation.

LEVERAGING OUR COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES FOR SMARTER, MORE EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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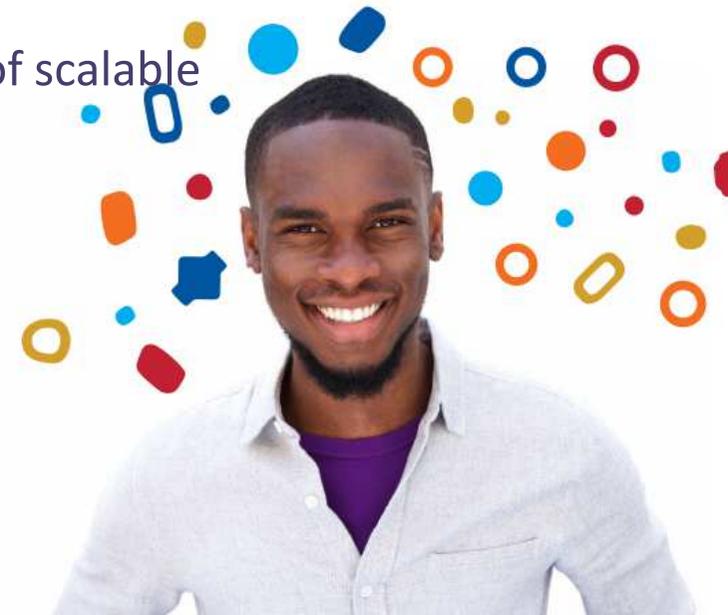
# COUNTRY ACTION, ADVICE AND LEADERSHIP

## ADVOCATING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL TO SCALE UP ACTION AND IMPACT FOR AND WITH YOUTH!

1. Through joint leadership of the GenU and DJY platforms at country level, we jointly convene all key actors, public and private, around a common agenda, to advance education, skills development, youth employment and youth participation, in response to national priorities.
2. Together we provide policy advice and guidance, identification of scalable solutions and innovations, and influence resource allocation.

**ILO AND UNICEF COMMIT TO SUPPORT THE ALIGNMENT OF THE DJY AND GENU AT COUNTRY LEVEL THROUGH HUMAN RESOURCES AND OTHER SUPPORT SYSTEMS**

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# JOINT RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND COMMUNICATION

1. **Joint fundraising plans** will boost outreach and coordination with the goal of enhancing scale and impact of resources.
2. **Joint communiques and products** will be used to produce and disseminate timely and relevant knowledge on education, skills development, youth employment and youth participation.

**TOGETHER, WE WILL AMPLIFY YOUTH VOICES AND PROMOTE THEIR PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

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## REACTIONS FROM OUR PARTNERS

“We see this not only as an alignment between two UN partnerships, but also as a welcome push for the youth agenda, and we look forward to working together, not as beneficiaries but as equal partners.”

**UN Major Group for Children  
and Youth**

“We think it is terrific that ILO and UNICEF are combining efforts to advance digital inclusion and decent work for young people. As a partner of both Generation Unlimited and Decent Jobs for Youth, Microsoft looks forward to supporting this collaboration!”

**Kate Behncken  
Vice President  
Lead of Microsoft  
Philanthropies**

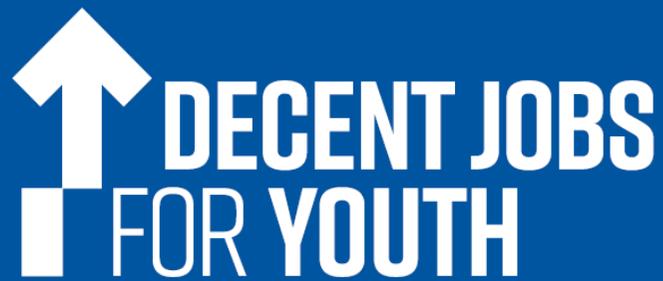
“As a young person and a decent work advocate, I am excited about the partnership between Generation Unlimited and Decent Jobs for Youth which is a beautiful opportunity for the ILO and UNICEF to work together to get youth skilled up and access to decent work. We look forward to the transformational change that this partnership brings for millions of youth in the Global South.”

**Joshua Alade  
Nigeria Youth SDG Network**

“We believe that by investing in skilled work for young people, businesses can become more competitive, innovative and inclusive. That’s why ITC is an enthusiastic partner of the Decent Jobs for Youth initiative and looks forward to the collaboration with GenU.”

**Pamela Coke-Hamilton  
Executive Director  
International Trade Centre**

# THANK YOU



Global initiative for action



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Our Time. Our Turn. Our Future.

**ENGAGE:** [DECENTJOBSFORYOUTH.ORG](https://www.decentjobsforyouth.org)  
[GENUNLIMITED.ORG](https://www.genunlimited.org)

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[@\\_GENUNLIMITED](https://twitter.com/_genunlimited)



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# Setting the Vision

**Srinivas Reddy**, Chief, Skills and Employability Branch, ILO

*with*

**Laura Bill**, UNICEF Deputy Representative, Ukraine

**Markus Pilgrim**, ILO Director of Subregional Office for Central and Eastern Europe



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# Closing Remarks

**Urmila Sarkar**

Senior Adviser, Planning and Programmes, Generation Unlimited Global Team

**Patrick Daru**

Head of Operations, Global Programme on Skills and Life Long Learning, ILO