

Youth Employment

A NATIONAL GOAL

Youth Employment in Indonesia:

AT GLANCE

- About 57 per cent of the Indonesia's youth labour force aged 15-24 live in rural areas.
- The youth labour force participation rate declined from 54.10 to 50.86 per cent, mainly as a result of young women and men staying in education longer. In 2008, the labour force participation rate of young women (41.4 per cent) continued to be significantly lower than that of young men (62.06 per cent)
- Youth account for 53.6 per cent of Indonesia's jobless whereas they represent 19.3 per cent of its labour force. Young women and men aged 15-24 years continue to struggle disproportionately in the labour market.

The world is facing a growing youth unemployment crisis and according to the latest ILO data out of the world's estimated 190.2 million unemployed people in 2008, around 75.9 millions are aged between 15 and 24. In many economies around the world, young people are more than three times more likely to be unemployed than adults and an alarming five times in Indonesia.

"Creating jobs for youth is not enough. Across the planet, youth are not only finding it difficult if not impossible to find jobs, but also they cannot find decent jobs...We are facing not only an economic challenge, but a security threat of monumental proportions"

Juan Somavia – ILO Director General

Why we should CARE about Youth Employment?



Young people bring energy, talent and creativity to economies that no-one can afford to squander. Around the world including Indonesia, young women and men are making important contributions as productive workers, entrepreneurs and consumers. They are also important members of civil society and agents of change. What our young people do today will create the foundations for what our economies will do tomorrow.

Yet the lack of sufficient or sustainable decent work makes young people – and the societies they live in – extremely vulnerable. The youth employment crisis is not only an integral element of the broader general employment situation, it has specific dimensions.

In Indonesia, the challenge is how to find jobs for thousand of youth who are entering the labor market each year. In addition, the challenge is to find decent jobs for young people who are often underemployed and working in the agricultural sector or city alleyways of the informal economy.

Thus, youth are all too often at the vortex of a vicious cycle of poverty, inadequate education and training, and poor jobs. This creates an endless trail of poverty linking one generation to another. This “poverty trail”, from youth to adulthood, is fraught with danger for today’s societies. The costs are enormous – for individuals as well as economies – and the prospects are grim.

What are BENEFITS
of creating jobs for
young people?



Access to productive and decent work is the best way for young people to realize their dreams and aspirations, improve their living conditions and actively participate in society. Decent work for young people provides them with significant benefits in terms of increased wealth, a commitment to democracy, security and political stability. It also strengthens economies and creates a cadre of young consumers, savers and tax payers who fuel the energy, innovation and creativity that attracts domestic and foreign investment. Productive and motivated youth are the architects of an equitable society and they provide bridges across generations. And increased employment of young people also benefits societies by reducing costs related to social problems, such as drug abuse and crime.

What works BEST?



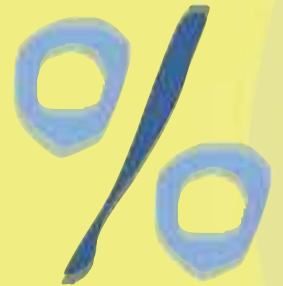


Nearly every country in the world has worked to address the youth employment challenge. Yet many of these efforts have been limited to specific programmes that are narrow in scope and limited in time. What's more, efforts have often focused on youth employment, neglecting the poor working conditions of many young workers.

Productive and long term employment requires sustained, coherent and concerted action on a combination of economic and social policies. Experiences from different countries shows that youth employment initiatives are more likely to be successful if they combine a range of measures across education, training and employment services including: work experience programmes and entrepreneurship development. These initiatives work best when designed and implemented together with the social partners.

The Indonesia Youth Employment Network (was established in 2003) recognizes the importance of an integrated approach that combines supportive macro-economic policies and targeted measures, and addresses labour demand and supply, as well as the quantity and quality of employment.

How does Indonesia
RESPONSE the challenges
and opportunities?



In order to respond to these opportunities and challenges, Indonesia signed up as the first nation to lead the establishment of a national Youth Employment Network (YEN) as initiated by Former United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan. In 2003, the Indonesian Youth Employment Network (IYEN) coordinating team was established to advance the Indonesia government's commitment policy and strategy towards promoting productive and decent employment for young women and men. The IYEN involves senior policy makers as well as prominent representatives from the private sector, civil society, workers unions.

The IYEN formulated Indonesia Youth Employment Action Plan (IYEAP 2004-2007) aimed to provide a sets of recommendations that would address the issues and concerns surrounding youth employment. The recommendations were organized into four main pillars of: Preparing Youth for Work, Creating Quality Jobs for Young Women and Men, Fostering Entrepreneurship and Ensuring Equal Opportunities for Young Women and Men. The last IYEAP was formally launched by the former Vice President, HE. Hamzah Haz in 2004.

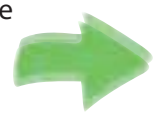
Where are WE?





IYEN with ILO assistance conducted an evaluation of how the Indonesia Youth Employment Action Plan for 2004-2007 was implemented. The evaluation highlighted the need for a more practically orientated action plan with clear priorities and targets as one major factor for greater result. IYEAP 2004-2007 was not a time bound plan strategy and had no clear Key Performance Indicators (KPI). In order to implement these actions, a small team of Monitoring and Evaluation experts have been set up under the leadership of Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs.

The team consist of representatives from ***National Planning Agency, Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, Bureau of Central Statistic, Ministry of Youth and Sport and CMEA.*** Together they will be responsible for setting the indicators for mainstreaming youth employment into the National and Provincial Medium term Development Plan. The second team from IYEN will be responsible for developing an national action plan on youth employment. The members will comprise representatives from the Ministry of National Education, APINDO, Trade Unions, Youth Organizations and people from the monitoring and evaluation team.





What is NEXT?



The IYEN calls for commitment from the national and provincial stakeholders to develop a plan of action and the implementation of strategies at the national and provincial levels. It involves integrating and mainstreaming youth employment issues into strategic and operational plans.

To facilitate the dissemination of knowledge and experiences from our stakeholders, IYEN will take up the role of a **knowledge broker**, connecting its members with each other and directing them to the information they need using online platforms. This will ensure that IYEN members, and other partners have easy access to the knowledge expertise, services and tools to help formulate strategies for improving the job opportunities for young people.

What are the existing knowledge and experiences in your organization?
Check the following link for :

- Job Opportunities for Youth (www.ilo.org/jakarta)
- Education and Skills Training for Youth in Eastern Indonesia (www.ilo.org/jakarta)
- British Council programme on Creative Industry (www.britishcouncil.org)
- Indonesia Business Links (www.ibl.or.id)
- Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration (www.nakertrans.go.id)
- Ministry of Cooperative and Small Medium Enterprise (www.depkop.go.id)
- Ministry of Youth and Sport (www1.kemenegpora.go.id)
- World Bank (www.worldbank.org)
- APINDO (www.apindo.or.id)
- Youth Committee - Confederation of Indonesia Prosperity Trade Union (KSBSI) (www.ksbsi.or.id)



Youth Employment Programme

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