



INDEPENDENT EVALUATION ILO'S STRATEGY AND ACTIONS FOR IMPROVED YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS 2012-2017

QUICK FACTS



International
Labour
Organization

100
1919-2019

ABOUT YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

In 2012, 75 million young people were unemployed and more than 200 million young workers earned less than US\$2 a day. Responding to the deterioration in youth employment prospects, the International Labour Conference adopted a resolution, entitled "A call for action." The resolution specifically called for the promotion of employment growth and decent job creation through effective economic and labour market policies, encouraging employability and entrepreneurship, and protecting rights at work for young people.

Globally, youth represent:



15%

labour force
(2017)



12.5%

unemployment
rate (2018)



16.7%

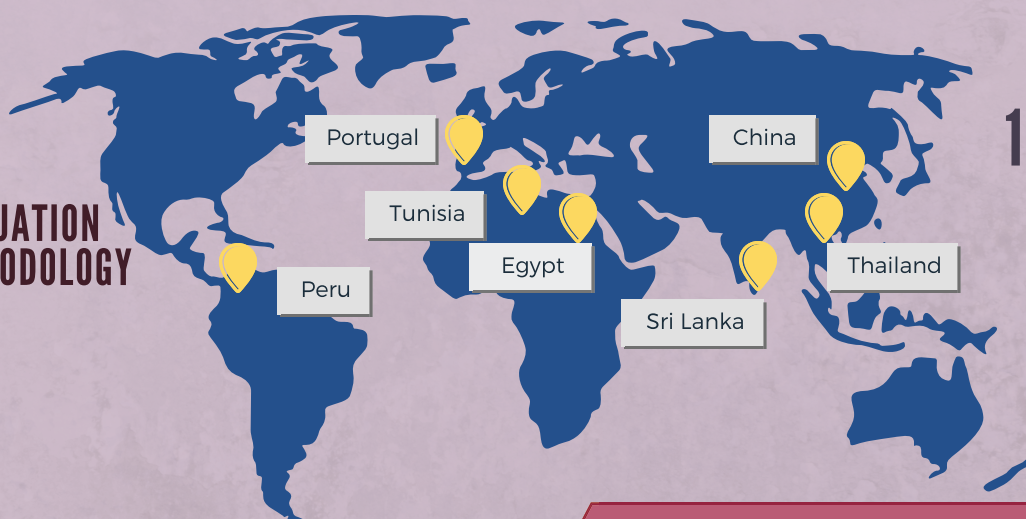
earn less than
US\$2/day (2017)

ABOUT THE EVALUATION

This high-level evaluation assesses the ILO's strategy and actions for improving youth employment prospects. The evaluation is informed by the organisation's long history of work in youth employment. The evaluation takes into consideration all efforts undertaken by the office from 2012 to 2017 in order to provide insight into the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of its work in this area in order to inform future policy and decision-making processes.

EVALUATION METHODOLOGY

Field visits



7 countries in four
regions visited

174 interviews with ILO
staff, constituents, UN
partners and donors

97 stakeholders
participated through
surveys

30 evaluations analyzed
as part of synthesis
review

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eval@ilo.org



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SOME KEY FINDINGS



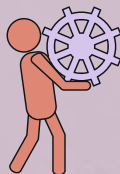
ILO's expertise is needed more than ever

The ILO should find opportunities to support youth engagement in policy and programme formulation. Promoting effective models for this engagement through tripartite constituents at country level could be envisaged.



Influencing a balanced approach

More activities that are focused on increasing employment demand are needed to maximise the effectiveness of ILO's work in supporting youth employment prospects.



Taking a lead role

The ILO has extended its technical advice to new areas of work, notably youth guarantee programmes. This can be applied to other settings, thus positing the ILO to take a lead role in this area.



Improve gender-related results

Youth employment projects have generally been sensitive to gender issues and have included targets for female participation. However, such targets were not always met.

SOME KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



Youth are part of the solution

Understanding the aspirations of young people is vital to formulating effective policies. The ILO should promote models for such engagement with its constituents and support related initiatives.



Establish a mechanism to measure impact and sustainability

The ILO should systematically track the results and sustainability of youth employment upstream work. Long-term outcomes for selected youth employment projects should be followed-up annually.



Promote employment quality and equality

Support good practices of gender sensitivity in the design and implementation of youth employment projects. Strengthen understanding of what works for disadvantaged youth and advocate for their participation.



Continue action

The ILO's leadership in youth employment is not guaranteed. It needs to build on its existing knowledge base, reframe its youth employment strategy and lead debate on future prospects.

VOICES FROM CONSTITUENTS

"More attention is needed on what is happening at the country level. What practical steps are being taken to improve youth rights at work and to influence employers?"

"Our relationship with the ILO is very important. Without them, we could not reach our goal."

VOICES FROM ILO STAFF

"The work of the ILO on supporting the development, implementation and monitoring of youth employment policies and plans is essential. However, more capacity is needed to further support implementation and monitoring."

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