

APYouthNet Updates

Asian Decent Work Decade Knowledge Network

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International
Labour
Organization

NEW ILO REGIONAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SPECIALIST

It is my pleasure to join the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and help address the many challenges of the youth labor force in the region. As we post this note, figures indicate that 36.4 million young women and men between 15 and 24 were unemployed at the end of 2009. A year later, 14.8 per cent of all young women and men in South East Asia and the Pacific, 10.3 per cent in South Asia and 8.4 per cent in East Asia will be left without a job.

A call for action to develop more efficient youth employment policies to help capitalize on the tremendous source of energy and creativity which the youth offer is urgently needed. This will be achieved with more knowledge and in depth discussions; or, as per the motto of the International Year of Youth, "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding".

This is the precise purpose of this platform. APYouthNet, is celebrating its second year, thanks to your direct involvement, insight and contribution. The consolidated knowledge products produced out of your input have helped update governments, employers and workers on key issues related to youth employment. As we strive to improve and expand this unique Community of Practice in the Asia-Pacific region, we invite you to keep up your active support, provide suggestions and promote the platform.

Thank you for your participation. With APYouthNet, "BE PART OF THE DEBATE!"

Matthieu Cognac / Youth Employment Specialist, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF YOUTH

Two hundred youth gathered at UNESCAP headquarters in Bangkok on 18 August 2010 for the launch of the International Year of Youth (IYY).



The event was organized by the United Nations Asia-Pacific Inter-agency Group on Youth which advocates the role of youth in development and supports the regional implementation of the World Programme of Action on Youth, the Millennium Development Goals and other international conventions and legal instruments impacting young people.

Mr Shigeru Mochida, Deputy Executive Secretary of ESCAP, described the complex challenges faced by youth. "While the Asia-Pacific region is fast recovering from the economic crisis, the youth unemployment rate, at 10.9 per cent, is twice as high as for the workforce as a whole. Young people also face discrimination and exploitation. They are more exposed to risks, including HIV infection and drug use", he noted.

The Year coincides with the 25th anniversary of the first International Year of Youth initially observed in 1985.

LATEST RESOURCES

[Global Employment Trends for Youth](#) presents global and regional labour market trends for youth and specifically explores how the global economic crisis has exposed the vulnerabilities of young people around the world.



[APYouthNet discussion forum consolidated reply on active labour market policies for young people](#) is now available. If you were not able to participate in the discussion, this product will give you a summary of all the major points that you missed.

THE RESULTS ARE IN...

As you may recall, in early June the ILO Knowledge Services Team hosted a survey to solicit your views about ILO-sponsored Communities of Practices (CoPs) and APYouthNet in particular.

There were 213 respondents from across the region and other parts of the world and here is a quick recap of what they said:

- 30 per cent told us that they visit and use APYouthNet on a monthly basis;
- 36 per cent found the pool of knowledge resources most useful, while 33 per cent gave their vote to moderated discussion forums;
- 96 per cent said that they would recommend their colleagues to become members of APYouthNet or other ILO-sponsored CoPs; and
- 86 per cent said that APYouthNet has lived up to their expectations.



Where to now? Well, we are always looking to improve and many of you gave us great suggestions such as making the site more accessible to the visually impaired, conducting targeted marketing to solicit more valuable resources, ensuring more participation and that up to date information is populated on the site.

We hear you and will put the wheels in motion, but we can't do it ourselves—a community is only good as its members. Help make APYouthNet the community that you want it to be. Contribute, participate, spread the word and be part of the debate too!

CLICK FOR MORE DETAILS

- [ITUC-AP 5th Youth Committee Meeting / S.Korea](#)
1 October 2010
- [International Conference on Language, Education and the Millennium Development Goals / Thailand](#)
9 November 2010