



RIGHTS AND VOICES OF YOUTH

ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH

28-29 MAY 2019 / ROME, ITALY

THIS EVENT IS ORGANISED BY PARTNERS OF THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH AND SUPPORTED BY

Citi Foundation



LUXEMBOURG
AID & DEVELOPMENT



The Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth

The challenge

Worldwide, over 59 million youth are unemployed and nearly 136 million youth are working, yet living in poverty. These figures embody a massive waste of potential and a threat to social cohesion. Despite widespread recognition of how vital it is to invest in both the quantity and the quality of jobs for youth, efforts remain fragmented and low-scale.

The response

Decent Jobs for Youth is the global initiative to scale up action and impact on youth employment under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Launched in 2016, with endorsement from the executive heads of the United Nations, Decent Jobs for Youth is a unique platform to address fragmentation and catalyse innovative action at all levels.

An inclusive alliance

Decent Jobs for Youth brings together the resources and expertise of diverse partners to maximize the positive impact of investments into youth employment. Decent Jobs for Youth recognizes the key roles of governments, social partners, the UN System, youth and civil society, the private sector, regional institutions, parliamentarians, foundations, academia and the media. Partners are united by their adherence to 15 guiding principles, which form the foundation of effective, collaborative action.

The strategy



Building a strategic alliance to advocate, ensure policy convergence, stimulate innovative thinking and mobilize resources



Scaling up evidence-based action and impact across key thematic priorities in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Sharing and applying knowledge by capturing, analysing and sharing best practices, highlighting innovative approaches and facilitating learning



Mobilizing resources by securing high-level commitments from national, regional and international actors

Priorities for action

Decent Jobs for Youth focuses on pressing challenges and promising opportunities.



Green jobs for youth



Digital jobs for youth



Quality apprenticeships



Youth in fragile situations



Youth transitioning to the formal economy



Youth in the rural economy



Youth entrepreneurship and self-employment



Young workers in hazardous occupations

The Conference

Conference objectives

To address the extent of today's youth employment challenge, it takes more than just one organization or one sector; it literally takes a movement! **Decent Jobs for Youth** was established in 2016 as an inclusive and overarching alliance of partners committed to scaling up action and impact on youth employment in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Leveraging the latest evidence and innovations on youth employment, partners of **Decent Jobs for Youth** align their investments to [15 principles](#) that offer insights on both: the interventions and models that work to improve labour market outcomes of youth and, the design and implementation features that trigger and sustain positive impacts among young people.

Under the tagline "**Rights and Voices of Youth**", this year's conference invites a reflection on the transformative power of collective action in advancing a **youth employment agenda that is rights-based, inclusive, and results-oriented**.

Youth are at least three times more likely to be unemployed compared to adults. The situation of those in employment also reflects important challenges. Young workers and young entrepreneurs rarely have a bargaining power equal to that of their employers and other players in the marketplace. For all young people, especially those facing discrimination and disadvantage, human rights – which include labour rights – provide a base from which they can make their voices heard, organize, assert their interests and find work that is productive and decent. A rights-based approach in youth employment investments will secure a path towards more and better jobs for youth.

The conference will bring together governments, social partners, academia, youth and civil society organizations, private sector, foundations, regional and multilateral organizations, and many more partners to:

1. **Stimulate innovative thinking and promote mutual learning** on job creation strategies that foster the rights and voices of young people.
2. **Facilitate a dialogue and broker collaboration among participants**.
3. **Mobilize political will and resources to scale up investment and impact in youth employment**.

Conference highlights

- **Young change makers** sharing experiences and inspiring action on decent jobs for youth.
- **Co-designed expert sessions on innovative action** for decent jobs for youth.
- **TED-like Talks** on key topics around a human-centred agenda needed for a decent future of work for youth.
- **Marketplace sessions** with interactive and simultaneous presentations on ongoing and upcoming collaborative initiatives in support of decent jobs for youth.

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- **Launch of new partner commitments towards Decent Jobs for Youth.**
- **Decent Jobs for Youth Media Zone.**

Participation

The conference will provide a global platform for governments, social partners, youth and civil society, private sector, UN entities and others to foster collaboration on decent jobs for youth under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Date and Venue

The conference will take place in Rome, Italy, on 28-29 May. Meeting venues are placed in [Roma Eventi - Fontana di Trevi](#).

Language and Accessibility

The conference will be held in **English**, with interpretation available in **French** and **Spanish** for selected sessions. Participants are kindly asked to inform the organizers in advance if they require sign language interpretation or any other special arrangements to make the conference accessible for all.

RIGHTS AND VOICES OF YOUTH

28-29 MAY 2019 / ROME

AGENDA

Master of Ceremony: Joannie Bewa, SDG Young Leader

28 May 2019	
08:00	Registration – Roma eventi Lobby
09:00	1. Opening – Loyola Auditorium Welcome by Gianni Rosas, International Labour Organization Remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Representative from the Italian Ministry of Labour• Florencia Spangaro, Citi Foundation• Gonzalo Gimenez Coloma, Spanish Ministry of Labour, Migration, and Social Security• Luca Maestripieri, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation <i>Video-message from Mr Guy Ryder, Director General of the International Labour Organization</i>
09:20	2. My quest for equal rights: A journey of growth and self-discovery – Loyola Auditorium by Joannie Bewa, SDG Young Leader
09:40	3. Rights and voices: setting the scene – Loyola Auditorium The session will offer dynamic presentations on the rights-based approach guiding actions of Decent Jobs for Youth partners and some of the latest evidence around youth aspirations in the world of work. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agnieszka Okroj, AIESEC• Stephen Pursey, Economic and Social Policy Consultant Moderated by Joannie Bewa, SDG Young Leader
10:30	4. Coffee break – Ariosto Hall

11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Human-Centred Future of Work with and for Youth – Loyola Auditorium <p>A dialogue about innovative actions advancing a youth employment agenda that fosters the rights and voices of young people in a changing world of work.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilyana Georgieva-Voeva, Nestlé • Pedro Robledo, National Youth Agency, Argentina • Diah S. Saminarsih, World Health Organization • Nikita Sanaullah, European Youth Forum • Yasser Turé, National Workers Union, Guinea Bissau • Jacqueline Wamai, KUDHEIHA <p>Moderated by Sangheon Lee, International Labour Organization</p>
12:00	<p>5. Networking lunch – Ariosto Hall</p>
13:30	<p>6. A year at a glance: collective impact by partners of Decent Jobs for Youth – Loyola Auditorium</p> <p>Highlights on our collective efforts to scale up action and impact on youth employment.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The YES Declaration:</i> Anders Aeroe, International Trade Centre • <i>The Boosting Decent Employment for Africa's Youth Initiative:</i> Martha Melesse, International Development Research Centre • <i>The Global Initiative in the Sahel:</i> Peter van Rooij, International Labour Organization • <i>The Digital Skills for Jobs Campaign:</i> Roxana Widmer-Iliescu, International Telecommunications Union <p>Moderated by Susanna Pak, International Trade Centre</p>
14:30	<p>Partner-led parallel sessions</p> <p>Innovations from our partners with a special focus on effective practices and mechanisms protecting youth's rights and amplifying youth voices.</p> <hr/> <p>7. Young and female: transforming the double strike into opportunity – Loyola Auditorium</p> <p>Session lead: John Trew, Plan International</p>

	<p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lisa Corsetto, Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab • Paula Isturiz, Major Group for Children and Youth • Karen Moore, Mastercard Foundation • Niall O’Higgins, International Labour Organization
	<p>8. Indigenous youth in the labour market –Marinetti Room</p> <p>Session lead: Maria Teresa Gutierrez, International Labour Organization</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yon Fernandez-de-Larrinoa, Food and Agriculture Organization • Jocelyn Formsma, National Association of Friendship Centres, Canada • Martha Imaculada de Araújo Efi, Baikeno ethnic minority leader, Timor Leste • Elijah Mack-Stirling, National Association of Friendship Centres, Canada • Nancy Taggart, United States Agency for International Development
	<p>9. From child labour to hazardous youth employment: protecting young workers – Trilussa Room</p> <p><i>Featuring an overview of the forthcoming thematic plan on youth in hazardous occupations</i></p> <p>Session lead: Nicholas Levintow, International Labour Organization</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shahida Begum, Save the Children • Ariane Genthon, Food and Agriculture Organization • Angela Maria Herrera Puyana, ILO Youth Champion for Health and Safety at Work • Jacqueline Wamai, KUDHEIHA • Yann Wyss, Nestlé
	<p>10. Getting heard: the right to organize– Leopardi Room</p> <p>Session lead: Stephen Pursey, Economic and Social Policy Consultant</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jiwon Park, Major Group for Children and Youth • Amadou Sako, Conseil National du Patronat Guinéen, saKom, Guinean Young Professionals' Club

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative from workers' organization
15:30	11. Coffee break – Ariosto Hall
15:30 – 17:00 Matchmaking session (by invitation only) – Marinetti Room Session lead: Iqbal Hossain, United Nations Children's Fund Opening remarks: Sukti Dasgupta, International Labour Organization	
16:00	12. Marketplace 1: Partner-led action on youth employment – Gallery A and Leopardi Room The marketplace is a space for partners to speak about their commitments , innovations, and progress in translating the guiding principles of Decent Jobs for Youth into action. Moderated by Susanna Pak, International Trade Centre
17:00	13. Takeaways: reflections from young change makers – Loyola Auditorium Young change makers reflect on the thematic sessions and offer their views on the key messages. Session lead: Max Trejo, International Youth Organization for Ibero-America Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sania Haider, Major Group for Children and Youth • Dennis Kabutha, Mastercard Foundation Scholar • Jane Muthoni Njoki, Central Organization of Trade Unions of Kenya • Elizabeth Nouses, Namibian Employers Federation
18:00	14. Evening reception – Ariosto Hall

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8 – 9:15 Strategic breakfast of partners (by invitation only)

09:30	1. Youth employment in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – Loyola Auditorium <i>Video-message from Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme</i>
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	<p>A fireside chat on country level efforts to deliver on youth employment related Sustainable Development Goals with a particular focus on progress on SDGs 8.6 and 8.b.1</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joannie Bewa, SDG Young Leader• Domenico De Maio, National Youth Agency, Italy• Kevit Desai, Ministry of Education, Kenya• Carmen Menéndez, Public Employment Service, Spain• Christopher I. Morris, Asian Development Bank <p>Moderated by Azita Berar Awad, Global Labour Organization and Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies</p>
10:30	<p>2. Coffee break – Ariosto Hall</p>
11:00	<p>3. Brilliant talks: the voices of youth –Loyola Auditorium</p> <p>Three lightning talks by youth sharing perspectives on strategies to amplify youth voices and build youth’s agency in an increasingly changing world of work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Effective solutions for youth on the move:</i> Ahmed Badr, Narratio• <i>Media for decent jobs for youth:</i> Kristeena Monteith, Talk Up Radio• <i>Technology and youth labour rights:</i> Dorotea Zec, Croatian Union of Sailors <p>Talks followed by thematic discussions</p>
11:30	<p>4. Technology and youth labour rights – Loyola Auditorium</p> <p>Session lead: Sukti Dasgupta, International Labour Organization</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Antonio Aloisi, Bocconi University• Elena Gramano, Goethe University• Akustina Morni, International Organisation of Employers• Dorotea Zec, Croatian Union of Sailors <hr/> <p>5. Effective solutions for youth on the move – Leopardi Room</p> <p>Session lead: Ahmed Badr, Narratio</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Charu Bist, United Nations Development Programme• Jennifer Brooks, Microsoft Philanthropies

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ghadeer Khuffash, Education for Employment Foundation
	<p>6. Media for decent jobs for youth –Trilussa Room</p> <p>Session lead: Susanna Pak, International Trade Centre</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Omotolani Badara, Mastercard Foundation Scholar• Kristeena Monteith, Talk Up Radio• Jiwon Park, Major Group for Children and Youth
12:30	<p>7. Networking lunch – Ariosto Hall</p>
14:00	<p>Partner-led parallel sessions</p> <p>Innovations from our partners with a special focus on effective practices and mechanisms protecting youth’s rights and amplifying youth voices.</p>
	<p>8. Supporting the transition to decent jobs among youth in the rural economy – Loyola Auditorium</p> <p>Lead partners: Food and Agriculture Organization and International Labour Organization</p> <p>Session lead: Peter Wobst, Food and Agriculture Organization</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Luc Christiaensen, World Bank• Marleen Dekker, INCLUDE Knowledge Platform• Sania Haider, Major Group for Children and Youth• Rotimi Olawale, JR Coffee• Marjan Petreski, Partnership for Economic Policy
	<p>9. Innovative approaches to include youth with disabilities in the labour market – Marinetti Room</p> <p><i>Featuring the launch of the policy brief on digital skills for young persons with disabilities.</i></p> <p>Session lead: Jurgen Menze, International Labour Organization</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vincent Huang, Tencent• Charlotte O’Leary, WHO Global Health Workforce Network Youth Hub• Francesca Sbianchi, European Youth Disability Council• Gabriel Serber, McDonald’s Corporation

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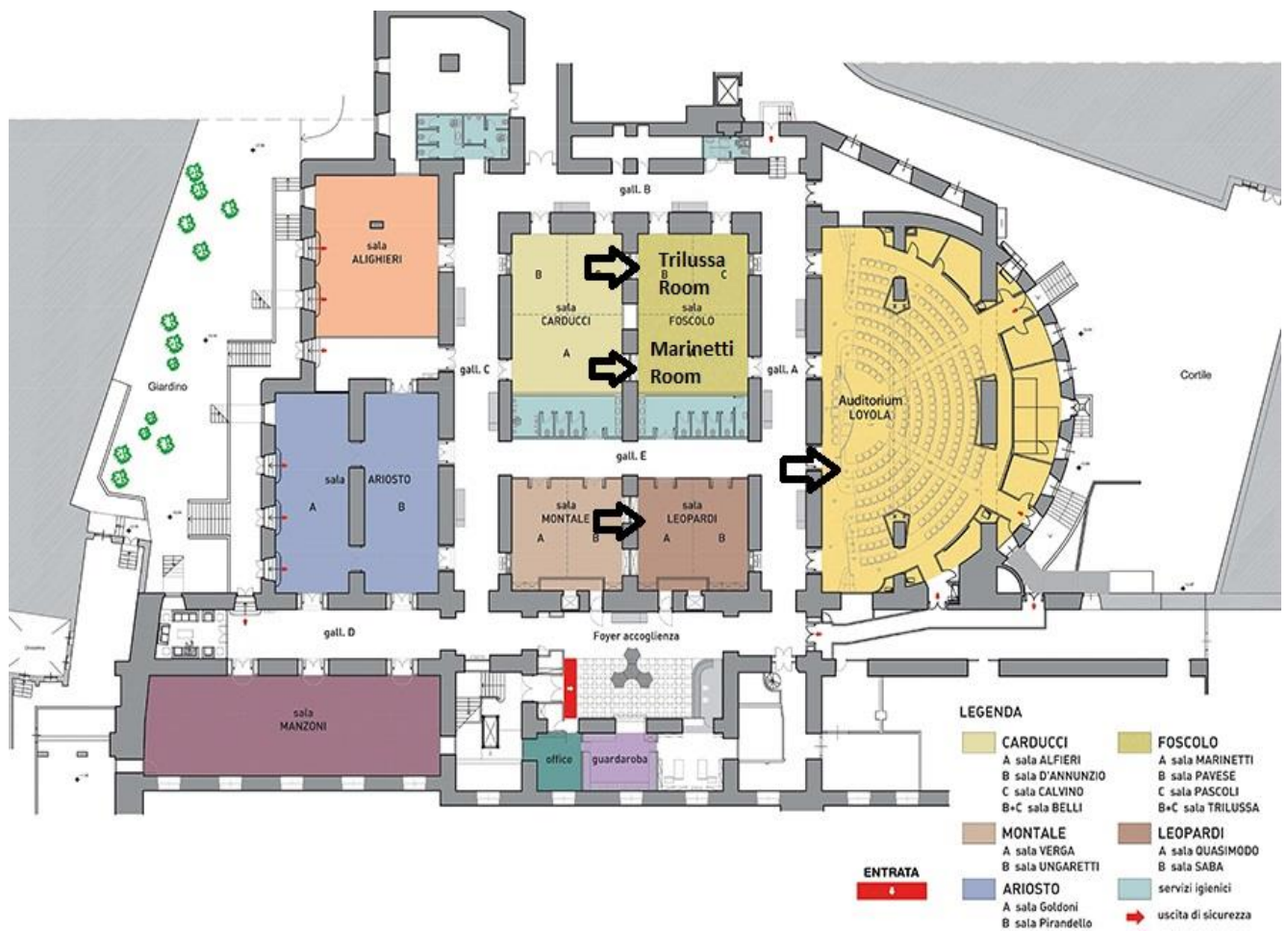
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maria Tussy, Fundación ONCE
	<p>10. Young people greening the economy – Trilussa Room</p> <p>Session lead: Desmond Alugnoa, Major Group for Children and Youth</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kishore Gopal Reddy, Major Group for Children and Youth• Callie Ham, International Labour Organization• Florencia Spangaro, Citi Foundation
15:00	11. Coffee break – Ariosto Hall
15:30	<p>12. Marketplace 2: Partner-led action on youth employment – Gallery A and Leopardi Room</p> <p>The marketplace is a space for partners to speak about their commitments, innovations, and progress in translating the guiding principles of Decent Jobs for Youth into action.</p> <p>Moderated by Susanna Pak, International Trade Centre</p>
16:30	<p>13. Road to 2030: What's next for Decent Jobs for Youth – Loyola Auditorium</p> <p>A strategic conversation among partners on next steps to boost youth employment action and impact through Decent Jobs for Youth.</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anders Aeroe, International Trade Centre• Azita Berar Awad, Global Labour Organization and Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies• Jennifer Brooks, Microsoft Philanthropies• Peter Loewi, Major Group for Children and Youth• Salvatore Nigro, Education for Employment Foundation• Ahmed Osman, International Council for Small Business• Tijmen Rooseboom, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands <p>Moderated by Sukti Dasgupta, International Labour Organization</p>
17:30	<p>14. Closing – Loyola Auditorium</p> <p>Closing remarks</p>

29 May 2019

- Moussa Oumarou, International Labour Organization

Venue and meeting rooms

[Roma Eventi - Fontana di Trevi](#) (Piazza della Pilotta, 4 - 00187 Roma - Italy)





SCALING UP ACTION & IMPACT ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The conference is organized by

The Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth

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