When young women and men have access to decent, productive work, everyone benefits, and our future is more prosperous.
Globally over 68 million young women & men are looking for a job.

More than 126 million youth are working, yet living in poverty.

Put in perspective, youth unemployment is at least 3x higher than that of adults.

In every 5 economically active youth are without work or working but poor.

Youth employment investments remain fragmented despite increased policy attention.
DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH is the global initiative to scale up action and impact on youth employment under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Our vision is a world in which young women and men have greater access to decent jobs, everywhere.

PRIORITIES FOR ACTION

To make a difference in the lives of young people, Decent Jobs for Youth focuses on eight thematic priorities that respond to today’s most pressing challenges.

- Green jobs for youth
- Digital skills 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
WHAT WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS

BUILDING A STRATEGIC ALLIANCE

Decent Jobs for Youth brings together local, national, regional and international partners in a strategic and inclusive alliance to boost political will, ensure policy convergence, stimulate innovative thinking and mobilize resources for more and better investments in youth employment.

SCALING UP ACTION AND IMPACT

With the commitment of its partners, Decent Jobs for Youth helps to scale up action and impact across key thematic priorities, in response to national development goals and in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

SHARING AND APPLYING KNOWLEDGE

As a global knowledge hub, Decent Jobs for Youth leverages the collective experience of its partners to connect, capture and share best practices. It aims to highlight innovative approaches and facilitate learning opportunities on how to make decent jobs a reality for young people across different contexts.

MOBILIZING RESOURCES

Decent Jobs for Youth aims to mobilize domestic and international investments to scale up action on youth employment. It aims to explore innovative funding mechanisms, leveraging global facilities and financing for development in the most efficient and inclusive manner.
Launched in 2016 as the first-ever United Nations’ system-wide effort for the promotion of youth employment, Decent Jobs for Youth gathers the resources and in-depth expertise of multiple partners. It is a unique platform to address fragmentation and catalyze innovation at country and regional levels.
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The partners of Decent Jobs for Youth commit to 15 guiding principles, which steer their actions and investments on youth employment.

- Respect for youth’s rights
- Multi-dimensional and multi-sectoral approach
- Impact quantity and quality of jobs
- Youth’s access to productive assets
- Complementarity & coherence between public policies & private investment
- Gender equality
- Targeted approaches that acknowledge youths’ diversity
- Immediate action plus long-term interventions
- Balance demand- and supply-side interventions
- Leverage existing platforms & lessons learned
- Promote labour market policies
- Focus on country and regional action
- Invest in quality education and skills development
- Encourage active youth engagement
- Expand multi-stakeholder partnerships

JOIN DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH

Partners of Decent Jobs for Youth tap a vast network of resources and expertise to drive positive change for young women and men across the world.

To join, partners commit to action through ongoing and upcoming initiatives at country, regional and global level.

To maximize the impact of their commitments and to advance the Sustainable Development Goals, all partners align their work with the priorities and guiding principles.

Visit our engagement platform to make a commitment and learn about the progress and contributions of our partners to Decent Jobs for Youth.

Contact us
Employment Policy Department
International Labour Organization
decentjobsforyouth@ilo.org
www.DecentJobsForYouth.org
@DecentJobsYouth