



# Youth & COVID-19: Impacts on Jobs, Education, Rights and Mental Well-being

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY 2020 WEBINAR

12 AUGUST 2020, 10H-11H30 cest

This event is organised with the support of the government of Spain, by

## The Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth

### The challenge

Worldwide, nearly 68 million youth are unemployed and nearly 126 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 International Youth Day 2020 Webinar

## Background

The United Nations General Assembly designated 12 August as International Youth Day to celebrate the role of young people as agents of change as well as to raise awareness of the challenges and problems facing the world's youth. This year, International Youth Day comes at a difficult time with the COVID-19 pandemic causing an unprecedented job crisis among young people compounded by disruptions in their education and training.

In spite of this, young people have remained determined to step up and partner safely and effectively with governments, social partners, civil society, private sector, and other institutions to "Build Back Better".

Recognizing the integral role young people play in the recovery process, the **Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth** seeks to draw attention to their voices, perceptions and aspirations. With this goal in mind, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth, AIESEC, the European Youth Forum, the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for Africa and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights joined forces to conduct an online survey on youth and COVID-19.

The **Global Survey on Youth and COVID-19** ran in 23 languages between April and May 2020, a time when the COVID-19 pandemic had rapidly translated into an economic crisis. With over 12,000 responses from 112 countries, the survey findings provide insights about the impacts of the pandemic on young people, aged 18–29, across four areas: namely, employment, education and training, mental well-being, and rights.

## Webinar objectives

Under the tagline "**Youth and COVID-19: Impacts on Jobs, Education, Rights and Mental Well-being**", the webinar invites a reflection on the effects the pandemic has had on young people and calls for collective action in promoting decent jobs for youth.

The webinar seeks to:

1. **Launch the report "Youth and COVID-19: Impacts on youth employment, education, rights and well-being"**
2. **Facilitate an interactive conversation** among young people and youth development stakeholders on solutions to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth.

## Webinar highlights

The 90-minute webinar will be held on Zoom, featuring three interactive, thematic conversations between young people and experts of all ages. Questions and comments from the audience will be captured through the chat room and interactive polls. The webinar will be held in English.

## Participation

The webinar targets young change-makers, partners of **Decent Jobs for Youth** from various sectors and organizations, and other youth employment stakeholders.

## Date and Links

12 August 2020, 10h-11h30 CEST (Central European Summer Time).

Registration link:

<https://ilo-org.zoom.us/j/99710686607?pwd=OXZDVHdxbGtRTzZFRnA3VHU2bXhNUT09>

Event Page: <https://www.decentjobsforyouth.org/event/129>

# Youth & COVID-19:

## Impacts on Jobs, Education, Rights and Mental Well-being

12 August 2020 / webinar

### AGENDA

Moderator: Cissy Shen, United Nations Development Programme

10:00	<b>Opening</b> Welcome by Susana Puerto, International Labour Organization
10:10	<b>Panel discussion</b> Key findings by: Drew Gardiner, International Labour Organization
	<b>Employment impacts of COVID-19 on young people</b> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Betty Barkha, United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth</li><li>• Sara Elder, International Labour Organization</li></ul>
10:35	<b>Young people's education, mental well-being and COVID-19</b> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Franco Perez Diaz, AIESEC</li><li>• Srinivas Reddy, International Labour Organization</li></ul>
11:00	<b>Youth rights, social activism and COVID-19</b> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jovana Majstorovic, European Youth Forum</li><li>• Todd Howland, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights</li></ul>
11:25	<b>Closing</b> By Susana Puerto, International Labour Organization



# Scaling up **action** & **impact** on youth employment

The webinar is organized by

The Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth

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