

 **DECENT JOBS  
FOR YOUTH**



# YOUNG GREEN AND DIGITAL

THE GLOBAL CONFERENCE  
OF DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH

**KIGALI, RWANDA  
22-23 MAY 2024**

decentjobsforyouth.org | @DecentJobsYouth



# DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH



**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 catalyse innovative action at all levels.

The Initiative 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.



# CONFERENCE PACKAGE



DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH



5

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP & SELF-EMPLOYMENT  
UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS DECENT WORK

DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH



4

GREEN JOBS FOR YOUTH  
BOOSTING DECENT WORK FOR PEOPLE, GREENING

DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH



3

YOUTH IN RURAL  
UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL THROUGH

DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH



2

QUALITY APPRENTICESHIP  
PROMOTING DECENT WORK FOR



DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH

YOUTH TRAINING  
THE FUTURE OF  
TACKLING  
SUPPORTING

THE GLOBAL INITIATIVE ON DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH



CASE STUDIES ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN FRAGILE SITUATIONS  
ILO UNDP UNHCR

DECENT JOBS FOR YOUTH  
DIGITAL SKILLS

1  
DIGITAL SKILLS  
PLACING YOUNG PEOPLE FOR THE FUTURE WITH DIGITAL SKILLS

# THE CHALLENGE

Workers, businesses and societies around the world are experiencing upheavals, with young people being amongst the most affected. The serious labour market impacts imposed on them by the COVID-19 pandemic were followed by a polycrisis characterised by conflicts, food insecurity, inflation and climate change. The profound economic impacts of the pandemic on youth labour markets is palpable.

As of 2023, young people aged 15 to 24 were 3.5 times more likely to be unemployed as compared to adults. A critical concern is the 289 million youth who are not in employment, education, or training, the so-called youth NEETs. There is a gender dimension to this with young women more likely to be in a NEET situation than young men. Moreover, the recovery from the pandemic has been an unequal one.

Labour market recovery has been particularly long and elusive for young people in low-income countries, often pushing them into vulnerable types of employment.

The complexity of the youth employment challenge extends to the lack of available productive and decent jobs. Many young workers are engaged in precarious and low-productivity jobs, often in the informal sector. These jobs are characterised by low wages, with little to no social protection, voice and representation. Consequently, the risk of working and still being poor is twice as high for young people compared to adults.

"Youth" is not a homogeneous group. Vulnerable and marginalised youth such as young women, young persons with disabilities, rural youth and young refugees are disproportionately affected by labour market challenges.



# THE OPPORTUNITY

Accelerating a **green** and **digital** transition that is fair, inclusive and leaves no one behind is imperative to make **decent jobs for all youth a reality**. The green and digital economies promise new work opportunities with an estimated 14.8 million additional jobs for young people created by 2030 through the implementation of green policies and universal broadband coverage.

A concerted effort is needed to ensure just transitions for youth, particularly those that are marginalised and vulnerable. This requires a comprehensive, coordinated and multi-faceted approach, including implementing targeted job creation policies, developing a skilled workforce and promoting a conducive business environment.



**Young, Green and Digital: The Global Conference of Decent Jobs for Youth** will reinvigorate the commitment of the global community to scale up action and impact on youth employment.

The Conference aims at accelerating efforts at global, regional and country-level to improve the lives of young people around the world. It will bring together governments, social partners, youth and civil society organizations, private sector, foundations, academia, regional and multilateral organizations, and many more partners to:

# CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

- 1 Stimulate innovative thinking and promote mutual learning on skills and job creation strategies for youth in the green and digital economies.
- 2 Broker concrete collaboration and partnerships among participants.
- 3 Mobilize political will and resources to scale up investment in decent jobs for youth, with a particular focus on disadvantaged youth groups.

## THEMATIC DEEP DIVES

- Financing just transitions for young people
- Digital economy opportunities for young refugees
- Coding a greener future
- Navigating career paths in the green and digital economies
- Sustainable agriculture and job creation for rural youth
- Employability, mindsets and inclusivity for the future of digital and green economies
- Promoting gender equality in the green and digital economies
- Rights at work for youth
- Youth voices shaping the green and digital agenda
- A circular economy with and for young people

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Matchmaking workshops on digital and green transitions
- Young experts and change-makers -led sessions
- A marketplace of youth employment actors and other networking activities
- A donor's meeting on **24 May** (Youth Employment Funders Group)





# 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

22-23 May 2024

Kigali, Rwanda

With the possibility to engage virtually

# LANGUAGE & ACCESSIBILITY

English, with audio captions available in French and Spanish for selected sessions.



# CONTACT US

**Employment Policy Department**

International Labour Organization

[decentjobsforyouth@ilo.org](mailto:decentjobsforyouth@ilo.org)

[www.DecentJobsForYouth.org](http://www.DecentJobsForYouth.org)

[@DecentJobsYouth](https://www.instagram.com/DecentJobsYouth)



More information:

