Decent Jobs for Youth - Generation Unlimited Webinar

Supporting youth employment in developing countries through apprenticeship programmes

Background

Generation Unlimited (GenU) and Decent Jobs for Youth (DJY) are two initiatives sharing a common vision to improve the livelihood situation and prospects of young people around the world. Both initiatives aspire towards multi-sector engagement that boost action and impact on education and skilling, employment, entrepreneurship, and engagement of young people.

The partnership between Decent Jobs for Youth and Generation Unlimited includes the creation of a joint knowledge facility, which serves as a one-stop-shop for curated tools and resources on young people’s education and training, employment, entrepreneurship, and engagement.

In the context of this partnership, a series of webinars will be organise, which aim to facilitate the sharing of good practices, evidence and engagement opportunities with broader stakeholders.

Overview

Worldwide, more young people than ever, especially young women, are participating in education and training. Despite these gains, youth unemployment remains at high levels. Additionally, businesses all over the world report serious problems in matching available talent with unfilled jobs. The webinar will present two initiatives, one by the ILO and another by BRAC, that aim at solving this and other youth employment challenges.

ILO’s quality apprenticeships model and experiences

Quality apprenticeships offer a solution that benefits everyone: improving the integration of young people into the labour market, while meeting the skills needs of enterprises. While the benefits of apprenticeship systems are not in dispute, the challenge lies in their inclusive design, coordinated implementation, and financing to ensure their sustainability and expansion, particularly in developing countries. Under the aegis of the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, the ILO implemented the Luxembourg funded project “Support to the Global Initiative on Decent jobs for youth in the Sahel”. In Burkina Faso, the project focused on the promotion of quality apprenticeships, which are characterized by on and off the job training. The ILO’s quality apprenticeship systems are based on six key building blocks: 1) robust social dialogue; 2) clear roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders; 3) strong regulatory framework; 4) equitable financing mechanisms; 5) relevance to the labour market; and 6) the inclusiveness of the system.

BRAC’s alternative learning pathways for youth
BRAC provides an alternative learning pathway for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable out-of-school adolescents in Bangladesh. It provides out-of-school adolescents with a six-month programme of training that includes on-the-job training, as well as technical and soft-skills training. It is linked to communities, job markets and to the national technical and vocational qualification framework, which means students receive an allowance and have access to formal learning pathways and certification.

Key objectives:
- Presenting solutions, lessons learned, and good practices to support youth employment through the ILO quality apprenticeships programme in Burkina Faso funded by the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg;
- Showcasing BRAC’s alternative learning pathways model for youth employment in Bangladesh;
- Open space for discussion with GenU and DJY partners wishing to learn more and take action on youth employment and apprenticeships in developing countries.

Participation:

The webinar is open to partners of both initiatives and other interested stakeholders. Registered individuals will receive further information and the link to join.
- Registration link (registration is required for participation): https://ilo-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vpOnZXCjSoKQoA5g2-2RZA

Date and format
Zoom webinar, 15:00-16:00 CET, 20 April 2021
Presenters:
- Larue, Josée-Anne, Youth Employment Project Manager, ILO
- BRAC
Facilitator: Marcelo Cuautle Segovia, Employment Officer, ILO

Provisional agenda
1-hour webinar
- 5 min / Welcome and brief introduction to the Joint Knowledge Facility
- 5 min / Introduction to the ILO’s quality apprenticeship model
- 15 min / Lessons learned from developing and implementing a quality apprenticeship programme in Burkina Faso
- 15min / BRAC Skills Programme – lesson learned from developing and implementing the programme
- 15 min / Questions and discussions
- 5 min / Wrap up

Relevant links:
Brochure: Quality Apprenticeships in Burkina Faso (EN):
Blog: Five reasons you should consider an apprenticeship
https://iloblog.org/2014/09/16/5-reasons-to-consider-an-apprenticeship/

Study on the development of a quality apprenticeship model for Burkina Faso (FR):
https://www.decentjobsforyouth.org/resource-details/Publications/917

The ILO’s Quality Apprenticeship Model - Six Key Elements for Success (FR):
https://www.decentjobsforyouth.org/resource-details/Publications/916