Why Youth Employment, Why Now?

Global growth over the next 20 years will be driven by young people. Without employment opportunities, the world could be faced with a generation lost in economic crisis.
When young people are not participating in the labor force or are NEETs:

**Governments** forgo tax revenue and incur cost of social safety nets, unemployment benefits, and lost productivity

**Businesses** risk losing a generation of consumers

**Social costs**, including rise of civil discontent, economic insurgency and youth extremism

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The Odds are Stacked Against the Global Youth

Today we have the largest young generation in human history. There are 1.8 billion young people living on the planet with approximately 85 percent of them living in developing and emerging economies and in fragile states.
In the next 10 years:

1,000,000,000+
young people will enter the job market

Only 40% will be able to enter jobs that currently exist

600 million
jobs will need to be created to keep employment rates constant

That's 5 million jobs a month

S4YE’s Pathway to Youth Employment

S4YE’s Theory of Change shows conceptual approach and how all stakeholders can work to achieve youth employment at scale.
Contextual Baseline

Youth Unemployment Worldwide: Persistent and high
Youth are more than 4X as likely to be unemployed.

Significant number of youth not in Employment, Education, or Training.
Youth are more likely to be entrepreneurial investments in Africa dominate.
Investments in Supply Side Dominate

Evidence & Knowledge Baseline
Investments in Youth Job Interventions Pays Off

Effect Sizes of Employment Outcomes across Main Categories of Intervention

Key Questions

How will labor markets in low- and middle-income countries change in the next two decades, and how can young people be best prepared to meet these challenges?

How can education and training for young people be made more effective at preparing them for work?

What roles do expectations, perceptions, and aspirations play in young people’s access to employment, and how do the behavioral characteristics of youth affect choices?

What are the economic, institutional and policy conditions that lead to better youth employment outcomes?
How can innovation and technology be harnessed to improve work outcomes for youth?

Can entrepreneurship promotion have scaled impacts on youth employment?

What are the barriers to adopting and scaling up proven solutions for youth employment, and how can they be overcome?

How can job search and recruiting be made more effective?

Inclusion Baseline
Gender

YOUNG WOMEN fall behind on most indicators, with early marriage and childbearing a key constraint.

YOUNG MEN face unique challenges as well, especially around cultural expectations and forming identity.

Fragile and Conflict States: A Threefold Job Challenge

- Prepare youth for work
- Create and generate work opportunities for youth
- Boost the productivity of activities in which youth are engaged
Constraints differ in rural and urban settings but informality dominates.

Moving Forward
What is Next for Youth Employment

The baseline affirms that while there is a great growth opportunity in youth, the situation for most young people is grim. Will their situation and prospects change by 2020?

S4YE is recommitting itself to its vision to get all youth into productive work and asking you to join in linking, learning, and leveraging towards solutions at the frontier of youth employment.

The S4YE Approach

S4YE’s strategic framework for action indicates how a dedicated and strategic focus on youth employment can be achieved in practice.
Our Priorities

S4YE has identified four short-term priorities to ensure we are able to reach our long-term goal of providing catalytic support to employment and productive work for 150 million youth by 2030.

PRIORITIES 2020

Build Partnerships
Expand Robust Evidence Base
Increase Resources for Programs
Accelerate Innovation

SOLUTIONS FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

FLAGSHIP OVERVIEW | November 2016