

Symposium: Working with youth for a sustainable future – What works and why to improve youth employment?

Location: Oxfam Novib, Mauritskade 9, 2514HD, The Hague

Time: 9:00 – 17:00

Preliminary Programme	
9:00 - 9:30	Opening: Welcome to the Symposium! <i>Coffee and tea, combined with a warm word of welcome!</i>
9:30 - 10:30	Plenary Session 1: “Placing youth employment into (thematic) perspective” <i>At the beginning of the day, we will place things into perspective: an interactive exploration of the various thematic areas that we will engage with during the interactive workshops; who is in the room with us; what are all our expectations; and, last but not least, we will place a spotlight on the utmost urgency of working to improve youth employment.</i>
10:30 - 12:00	Interactive Workshops – Round 1 <i>A series of simultaneous interactive workshops. Each workshop will take a deep-dive into one specific thematic area. From concrete experience, research, and/or measured results, a reflection will be held on the question <u>how</u> interventions can improve youth employment, and what does this improvement actually entail?</i> <i>Please find below an overview of the workshops.</i>
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch Break and Networking Game <i>During the lunch, next to the open networking opportunity, a structured moment will be provided for interested participants to break down cross-sector barriers and link up!</i>
13:30 - 15:00	Interactive Workshops – Round 2 <i>A series of simultaneous interactive workshops.</i> <i>Please find below an overview of the workshops.</i>
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee and Networking Break
15:30 - 16:00	Plenary Session 2A: Workshop Wrap-Up <i>A short reflection and recap on the main lessons that came out of the interactive workshops, looking at the central question how our interventions can improve youth employment.</i>
16:00 - 17:00	Plenary Session 2B: Panel Debate – Youth Employment to what end? <i>Throughout the workshops, we have developed our understanding on <u>how</u> we can work to improve youth employment. During an interactive panel debate, facilitated by OneWorld, we will again link back to the opening and discuss <u>why</u> we need to urgently engage with the current youth employment crisis. We will engage within this in a reality check / critical reflection: by improving employment for young people, what can and can't we achieve – for example the link between improving youth employment and engaging with radicalization.</i>
17:00 - 18:30	Informal drinks and networking opportunity

Overview Interactive Workshops

BUTTERFLY WORKS

"Exploring power dynamics in youth employment"

Session 1: From image to idea

During this first session we will discover the power dynamics between youth and adults based on the photos and diaries of young people from the first part of the exploration lab. We will contextualise this content through a case study from Tunga (a fast growing African developers network). By using Human-centered design techniques we will create opportunities for new ideas that can help to tackle youth employment issues.

"Exploring power dynamics in youth employment"

Session 2: From prototype to plan

Building upon the lessons learned and initial ideas of the first session, we will look for - and start making - solutions. Through rapid prototyping we will bring these ideas to life. The aim is to quickly visualise opportunities and abilities for/of young people in their careers.



Relevant market research for quality skills training

Job-seeking youth need to have skills that match market demands. To obtain these skills, many youth are trained by Technical and Vocational Training and Education (TVET) institutes. But do these trainings really provide the skills needed to find a job? Edukans offers a short interactive training on how to do relevant market research to ensure skills training matches the demands from the job market.

How to develop relevant skills training

The skills that young people need for finding a job, are not only technical skills, but also transferable and life skills. How to define which skills are necessary for which job? Edukans helps you to work from job profiles to curriculum development. Taste the coffee and experience which skills are needed to become a true barrista!

Key to successful training = teacher quality

Ever been in a class and thought: this teacher is boring? This is probably not the class in which you learnt most. Trained and motivated teachers are essential in the learning process. Therefore, Edukans invests in training teachers to actively involve their students and make training practical. In this workshop you learn how we do this and experience yourself what it means to be a good teacher.

Play the 7-STEPS game

Which steps do you need to follow to ensure skills training matches market demands? You start with market research and finish with reaching out to others. Curious what's in between? Come and play the 7-STEPS game!



Defining a job in the Digital Age

An interactive discussion on what should be considered as a job in light of the rise of non-conventional job market. With 'digitization' growing rapidly, can we still consider widely acknowledged definitions and standards viable for our activities? We will work with the audience in an interactive workshop on defining what they consider a valid definition of a job, based on their experiences and discuss donors' perception of the evolving definition.

Brain Drain Effect on prospects of Job Creation

Are the programs we develop creating a different type of migration? Is worker migration turning into skilled migration? This workshop will aim to discuss and present data about the so-called brain drain effect and how we can pursue young skilled migrants to remain in and benefit their countries. Skilled migrants and entrepreneurs will be invited to share their experiences and what would have persuaded them to remain in their home countries and help to create more jobs.

Impact Assessment for Job Creation

Hivos will showcase the effects of co-working movements on the job market in Tunisia and Egypt. We will share our own experiences within our co-working for sustainable employment program in the respective countries, and explore how we defined and measured our impact on job creation.



Exploring the concept of Rural Hubs

The session focuses on how we used [E-motive's](#) collaborative learning approach to address the challenge of *the future of work and rural youth opportunities*. Within the Empower Youth for Work (EYW) project, Oxfam and its partners within rural, climate change affected, marginalized areas of Pakistan and Bangladesh are promoting entrepreneurship, especially for young women, by setting up innovation hubs. This session will take participants through this unique process of South to South learning by the E-motive method, and the identification of 25 successful cases to learn from. We are excited about our new found insights to set up rural Hubs.

Business development support (BDS) for social impact

Oxfam Novib's BDS experts will share their experience in supporting existing companies to further develop and expand their activities. The focus will be on supporting those companies that create social impact - how to identify them, support them, and what results can be achieved. Together with participants, an interactive reflection will take place on the importance of social impact in addition to employment improvement / creation.

Youth Influencing Policy

The workshop will start with a reflection on recently conducted research on how young people can influence public policy. Research results will be shared and reflected upon. It will be followed by an interactive exploration how these findings can be applied to improve youth employment: what is the role of influencing; how can youth take this up; and what do we need to focus on? The aim is to build upon the experiences of participants themselves.



**Gender
Transformative Youth
Employment
Programming**

Empowering women to fully participate in economic life is essential to building stronger economies and achieving sustainable development. The workshop will aim to understand and stimulate our thinking about gender equality, gender stereotyping and the impact of gender issues for the young women and men in the design and implementation of Youth Employment (YE) programming. In an interactive workshop we will focus on improving ways to realize gender transformative YE programming, making sure we are not leaving half of the world's population behind.

**Corporate
Engagement**

To be shared



**Business model
canvas: Step in the
shoes of a youth
entrepreneur in
Somalia or Nigeria**

The workshop will start with a brief overview of the work of VC4A and the results of our latest annual research, on supporting start-ups. Hereafter, we will engage in a deep dive into the Business Model Canvas (BMC) concept – a methodology to support (new) entrepreneurs to design or improve their business models.

Through a video message, participants will get to know a young entrepreneur from Nigeria/Somalia. In groups, you will be asked to step into his/her shoes and engage in a BMC exercise on their behalf! At the end of the session the groups will present their BMC's and finally the entrepreneur will showcase the BMC they created themselves, allowing for interesting comparisons.

Further reading related to **youth employment...**



['Made in Nigeria' duikt meer en meer op](#)

[Investeren in Afrika is aantrekkelijk](#)

[Terwijl de wereld in puin ligt, gaan Afrikaanse jongeren voor een duurzame toekomst](#)

[Biedt Rwanda's duurzame koers kansen voor jonge ondernemers?](#)

[AkzoNobel en SOS Kinderdorpen slaan handen ineen voor jeugdwerkgelegenheid](#)