

S4YE SOLUTIONS FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

April 2019



About S4YE

Solutions for Youth Employment (S4YE) is a multi-stakeholder coalition among public sector, private sector, and civil society actors that aims to provide leadership and resources for catalytic action to increase the number of young people engaged in productive work.

The S4YE Secretariat is housed in the Social Protection and Jobs Global Practice of the World Bank. S4YE partners include the World Bank, Accenture, The Rockefeller Foundation, Mastercard Foundation, Microsoft, Plan International, International Youth Foundation (IYF), Youth Business International (YBI), RAND Corporation, the International Labor Organization (ILO), the Governments of Norway, Germany, the UN Envoy for Youth, and multiple private companies (over 20 large corporations). Several new partners are in the process of joining S4YE.



S4YE Mission

To innovate, provide leadership, and catalyze action to significantly increase the number of young people engaged in productive work by 2030.

Systemic unemployment and underemployment affect millions of young people worldwide. To tackle this issue, S4YE’s mission is to develop innovative solutions to youth employment through practical research and active engagement with public and private stakeholders to enable solutions at scale. S4YE combines a pragmatic approach to identifying solutions for youth employment with an evidence-based advocacy platform to increase access to productive work for young people.



S4YE Key Priorities

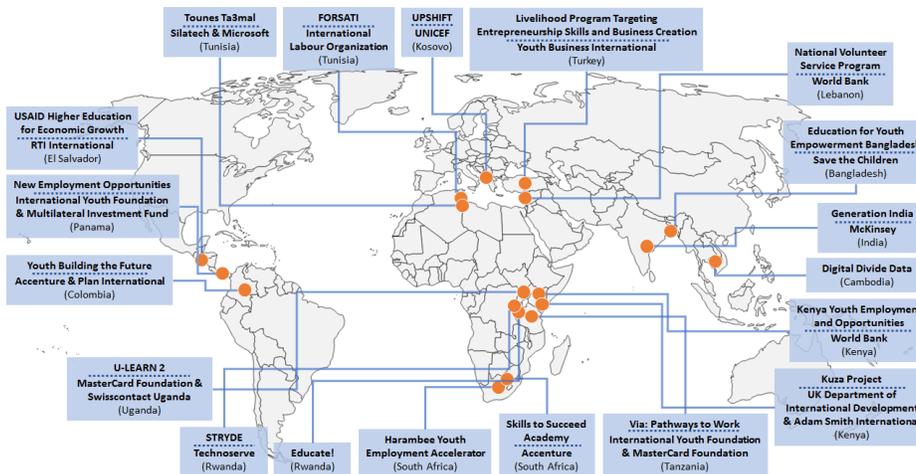
S4YE has two key priorities: **1) Scaling Innovation** and **2) Knowledge Sharing** and three cross-cutting themes: *gender, youth participation, and private sector engagement.*

Priority 1: Scaling Innovation

Impact Portfolio

One of the pillars of S4YE’s work to promote bottom-up understanding of *live and ongoing innovations* in the field is its community of practice, the “Impact Portfolio” (IP). Launched in January 2017, the IP is currently made up of 19 high-potential and innovative youth employment projects. The projects in this dynamic learning community are led by partner organizations, including Save the Children, UNICEF, Microsoft, Harambee, Digital Divide Data, Educate!, and others. In its first phase, S4YE curated several ongoing design-innovations from the 19 projects to publish the *S4YE Impact Portfolio Report*. The IP community has become a robust, lively peer-to-peer learning community where teams from diverse partner organizations come together and share knowledge on practical design issues through regular technical sessions and a series of jointly co-authored Knowledge Briefs targeted at youth employment practitioners.

Building on the success of the first phase of this community and keeping up with the need for agile innovations in the rapidly changing world of work, the IP is now expanding its network to double its membership by identifying additional projects that are experimenting with cutting edge frontier solutions for youth employment.



Priority 2: Knowledge Sharing

Knowledge Repository, Communications and Advocacy

Knowledge creation and sharing are vital aspects of S4YE’s work. S4YE has built a strong knowledge and evidence base which contributes to thought leadership on finding solutions for youth employment.

- S4YE is currently developing an online knowledge repository to help practitioners access tools to design and implement youth employment projects and bring them to scale. The repository will house toolkits, guidance notes and other practical resources on youth employment.
- S4YE Secretariat disseminates policy notes, knowledge briefs, case studies, and reports developed in collaboration with S4YE partners and engages in further conversations through its partner networks,

website, monthly newsletter, workshops and events. Please refer to the Knowledge Products section at the end to view the latest S4YE publications.



S4YE’s Partnership and Engagement

S4YE's partners are advocates for identifying and promoting innovative solutions for youth employment.



Governance

S4YE operates in a three-tiered structure:

1. **Board of Directors (BOD):** Provides high level strategic guidance on the focus and work program of S4YE. The BOD has a diverse representation of a variety of stakeholder groups, including civil society, private sector, governments, foundations, international organizations, and youth.
2. **Executive Committee (ExCom):** Composed of senior management level delegates of the BOD, who oversee the executive level decisions.
3. **Secretariat:** Manages the day to day affairs of the partnership. S4YE Secretariat is housed in the Social Protection and Jobs Group at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington, DC.



Engagements

1.1 Youth Advisory Group (YAG)



To tackle youth unemployment, young people must have a greater say in the policies that directly affect them. Recognizing the importance of youth voice, S4YE has formed the **S4YE Youth Advisory Group (YAG)** that consists of 17 talented and enterprising global youth. YAG provides input on the design of youth employment programs of S4YE and the World Bank, engages in S4YE’s knowledge work on the youth employment agenda, gains exposure and visibility in an international network and learns about governance and contributes to decision-making for the coalition. S4YE taps into their youth perspective and

ensures young people have a voice in all activities of the coalition.

1.2 Private Sector Advisory Council (PSAC)

Recent World Bank Group research shows that the private sector provides 9 out of 10 jobs in developing countries. In recognition of the private sector’s pivotal role in global youth employment, S4YE has identified private sector engagement as a cross-cutting theme for all its activities. To further advance the understanding and effectiveness of private sector engagement, S4YE is now developing a Private Sector Advisory Council that will consist of senior level representatives from a select group of companies to facilitate deeper engagement and partnership between private sector and S4YE/World Bank operations, knowledge products and advocacy on youth employment.



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[SolutionsForYouthEmployment](https://www.facebook.com/SolutionsForYouthEmployment)



[S4YE_Coalition](https://twitter.com/S4YE_Coalition)

1.3 World Bank Group Community of Practice



THE WORLD BANK

S4YE serves as the conduit that links the World Bank Group’s large portfolio of youth employment operations with S4YE’s large and growing network of civil society, private sector and government partners working on youth employment issues globally. To facilitate internal community building, S4YE developed a network of practitioners on youth employment across the World Bank Group who are working on research and operational activities related to youth employment. S4YE provides resources, tips, and ongoing support for this internal community so that new youth employment practitioners can benefit from collective experience across the World Bank Group and from external expertise.

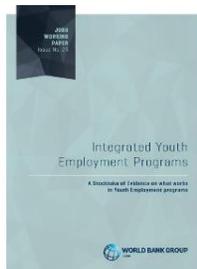
S4YE’s Recent Knowledge Products

S4YE Annual Report 2018 – Digital Jobs for Youth: Young Women in the Digital Economy



S4YE's 2018 Annual Report, *Digital Jobs: Young Women in the Digital Economy*, provides operational recommendations for the design and implementation of gender-inclusive digital jobs interventions for youth. Co-authored by S4YE coalition members including The Rockefeller Foundation, Plan International, RAND Corporation, and the World Bank Group, the report develops a new typology of digital jobs, and draws insights from 19 case studies based on past and ongoing employment programs implemented and/or supported by S4YE coalition members that connected youth with digital jobs opportunities.

A Stock Take of Evidence on Youth Employment Programs



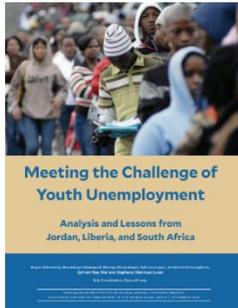
With support from the Jobs Multi Donor Trust Fund, S4YE finalized the *Stock Take of Evidence on Youth Employment Programs* on what works and what doesn’t in youth employment programs. It found that only one-third youth employment programs reviewed had a significant positive impact on labor market outcomes. The limited impact of traditional youth employment programs is because of their focus only on supply-side interventions to increase employability while doing little to ensure enough high-quality, inclusive, and youth relevant jobs are made available to meet the increasing demand for jobs.

Guidelines for a New Generation of “Integrated” Youth Employment Programs



Building on the stock-take, a new integrated approach for youth employment programs is outlined in the *Guidelines for a New Generation of “Integrated” Youth Employment Programs* that presents practitioners with clear practical guidelines on youth employment programs that better integrate supply side with demand side interventions. These guidelines for an integrated approach to youth employment have been informing the design of several World Bank youth employment projects.

Meeting the Challenge of Youth Unemployment: Analysis and Lessons from Jordan, Liberia, and South Africa – December 2018



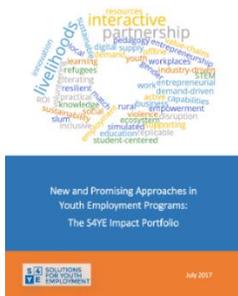
As part of its strategy to engage youth in its work, S4YE partnered with a diverse group of student researchers from the Yale University Jackson Institute for Global Affairs for research on three countries in which the World Bank is currently designing youth employment operations - Jordan, Liberia and South Africa. Over the course of four months, the students worked with project teams in the World Bank, conducted a country based stocktake and gap analysis and compiled their findings in this report. It includes interviews with representatives from select programs, country/topic experts and local youth themselves, a catalogue of 108 interventions.

Knowledge Brief Series – 2017 & 2018



The S4YE Secretariat produces a steady output of knowledge briefs in collaboration with its Impact Portfolio partners. The most recent brief, *Supporting social entrepreneurship through youth employment interventions* features UNICEF’s UPSHIFT program in Kosovo on supporting social entrepreneurship through youth employment interventions. Another Knowledge Brief, *Social Enterprises: A Win-Win Approach for Youth Employment* talks about the social enterprise approach in action from Divide Data’s (DDD) impact sourcing work in Cambodia, Laos, and Kenya. Issue 4, *Leveraging Youth Employment Program Beneficiary Data*, co-authored with Accenture and Silatech, discusses ways in which youth employment programs can make strategic use of their data. *Transportation Costs and Youth Employment* highlights the challenges transport costs (TCs) present towards youth getting a job and potential solutions to overcome it through Harambee's experience in South Africa. Knowledge Brief 2, *Promoting Coordination to Advance Employment Services for Youth* aims to guide employment service providers, government, businesses, and civil society agencies seeking to strengthen youth employment outcomes. The first issue, *Linkages and Youth Employment - Opportunities in Extractives and Infrastructure* aims to help practitioners design or strengthen the activities of impactful linkage programs.

New and Promising Approaches in Youth Employment Programs: The S4YE Impact Portfolio – July 2017



S4YE completed 25+ one-on-one consultation calls across the 19 Impact Portfolio projects to identify their innovative approaches and context-specific technological solutions. This report has two main objectives: The first is to provide youth employment practitioners insights into important aspects of the operations, design, and innovations of the 19 projects in the IP. The second is to support the development of this group of 19 projects as a live learning community and catalyst of innovation in the global youth employment space.