

Project Name: Via: Pathways to Work

Organization(s): International Youth Foundation (IYF) and The MasterCard Foundation

Country: Tanzania (Also Mozambique)

Dates of Implementation: 2015-2021

Partners: Tanzanian Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) and the Tanzania Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness Center (TECC)

Website: <http://www.iyfnet.org/initiatives/pathways-work>

Project Description: In partnership with Tanzanian Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) and the Tanzania Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness Center (TECC), IYF is strengthening the capacity of three VETA training centers, VETA's Teacher's Training center, and TECC. Using a systems approach, *Via: Pathways to Work* is engaging public, private, and NGO actors to improve the quality and delivery of services for youth. There are three program components:

1. *Systems change:* *Via* is strengthening partner institutions' capacity to serve young people as well as work within the larger ecosystem of key YEO stakeholders to effect systemic change for improved/sustained youth outcomes. Data-driven partner capacity assessments allow IYF to understand partner needs, while YEO stakeholder advisory committees allow the project to better support/inform implementation, which ultimately results in customized capacity strengthening services that improve partner delivery.
2. *Improved youth outcomes related to employability and entrepreneurship:* Labor market assessments and market systems-driven analyses will ensure youth are trained in relevant skills that meet employer and market needs. Youth participating in the *Via* employability pathway receive a suite of services that include career guidance, life skills training, technical training in a market-relevant trade, and job placement support. Youth in the entrepreneurship pathway receive a holistic package that includes life skills training, entrepreneurship training, mentorship, and access to finance.
3. *Monitoring and evaluation for learning:* Learning is a priority for *Via* and IYF is using a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system and robust learning strategy so that best practices are adopted, scaled, and disseminated widely.

Target Population: *Via* targets vulnerable young men and women aged 16-24 who are unemployed, under-employed, economically disadvantaged (at or below \$2 per day), who are in- and out-of-school, and live in urban and peri-urban areas of Tanzania. The targeted regions are Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, and Mtwara.

Target Results: *Via* anticipates directly impacting 22,550 vulnerable Tanzanian youth over the course of the five-year program. Key outcome indicators and targets for *Via* include:

- Partner organizations increased capacity to prepare young people for work
- Stakeholders in youth economic opportunities ecosystem have strengthened capacity to incorporate youth-inclusive strategies into policies and programs
- Youth gain market-responsive technical and life skills
- New and existing youth entrepreneurs gain entrepreneurship and business planning/management skills
- Increased access to and utilization of financial services amongst youth entrepreneur

Interesting Features & Innovations:

- Taking a systems approach: mapping/leveraging key YEO stakeholders in the ecosystem, while understanding the influence of social norms on youth empowerment, to design activities that will lead to systemic change
- Demand-driven activities that identify priority economic sectors and related training for increased YEO.
- Capacity building of TVETs to be more demand-driven and strengthen employer partnerships
- Building on IYF's 7-year relationship with Tanzania's VETA
- Integrating *Passport to Success*® life skills curriculum in TVET classrooms, and addressing teacher behavior change to adopt new styles of interactive teaching