May Newsletter

Five reasons why digital work may help promote inclusion of youth with disabilities

In the World Bank blog published on Jobs and Development, the S4YE team highlighted five reasons why recent developments in digital work opportunities may present an opportunity to ramp up efforts to include youth with disabilities. The blog is based on the new S4YE Knowledge Brief “Digital Jobs for Youth with Disabilities”. This Brief was jointly developed with a small group of S4YE partners and World Bank teams that include Youth Business International, Enablecode, Education for Employment, Digital Data Divide, Save the Children, CISCO, Microsoft, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, USAID, Fingertalk Enterprise, Every1Mobile, Leonard Cheshire PEAT, KLM Empowered. Read>>

WEBINAR on How to include Youth in Low Bandwidth Areas
The outbreak of Covid-19 has accelerated efforts by practitioners to move learning, skills building and mentoring to online models rapidly. Practitioners need to address how they will reach the youth in low bandwidth areas. If this is not confronted, the youth in rural, remote, and disconnected areas will be further marginalized. This month an S4YE webinar discussed strategies that online learning programs could use to reach youth in areas that did not have access to broadband connectivity. A recent S4YE Knowledge Brief "Online Learning Models for Youth in Low Bandwidth Areas", described 5 strategies such as mobile vans used by Save the Children’s Skills-to-Succeed Program in Bangladesh and bite-size mobile learning courses of Every1Mobile.

Check out the recording and the presentation.

The World Bank Group partners with Microsoft Philanthropies
COVID-19 has accelerated the digital transformation of economies and changed the employment and entrepreneurship landscape for youth. The impacts of the pandemic on young people, particularly women and vulnerable youth are deep and disproportionate. Now, it is even more crucial than ever for vulnerable youth to build digital skills to be included in the digital economy and benefit from improved livelihoods and employment opportunities. And the private sector is indispensable in preparing youth for the future of work.

In April, the World Bank signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** (MoU) with Microsoft Philanthropies. Through this MOU, Microsoft will provide its expertise and digital skills resources to World Bank operations, free-of-cost.

### Lessons For Education during the COVID-19 crisis: Continuity Stories

The World Bank’s Education Global Practice, OECD Directorate for Education and Skills, Harvard Global Education Innovation Initiative, and HundrED have collaborated to document the lessons for education from different countries and regions on their response to COVID-19. Over 30 case studies from around the world highlight countries’ remote learning solutions and how they are adapting to different student and teacher needs.

[Read more=>>](#)

### NEW WORLD BANK STUDY ON INFORMAL ECONOMY

**The Long Shadow of Informality**

Challenges and Policies
A large percentage of workers and firms operate in the informal economy, outside the line of sight of governments in emerging markets and developing economies. This may hold back the recovery in these economies from the deep recessions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic—unless governments adopt a broad set of policies to address the challenges of widespread informality. A new World Bank study, “The Long Shadow of Informality: Challenges and Policies”, is the first comprehensive Bank analysis examining the extent of informality and its implications for an economic recovery that supports green, resilient and inclusive development in the long-term. It finds that the informal sector accounts for more than 70 percent of total employment—and nearly one-third of GDP—in Emerging Market and Developing Economies. That scale diminishes these countries’ ability to mobilize the fiscal resources needed to bolster the economy in a crisis, to conduct effective macroeconomic policies, and build human capital for long-term development.

The study brings together a wide range of topics related to the informal economy, ranging from measurement issues to policy options, provides an analysis of the impact of COVID-19 in countries with pervasive informality, and includes a large dataset of twelve commonly used measures of informality for up to 196 countries for 1950-2018.

Download the study>

Preventing Students for the Workforce: Introducing IFC’s Vitae Initiative

On 28 April, IFC’s Vitae team presented how they are helping higher education institutions to improve employability of their graduates. The benchmarking tool assesses how well a higher education institution is rated in terms of best practices that drive employability and positively impact career outcomes for graduates. The IFC team shared an overview of the Vitae product offerings: Employability Benchmarking tool, 360° Assessment and Vitae Bespoke Advisory Services. The webinar was co-hosted by the Skills Global Solutions Group, COREHEG, and S4YE.
Check out the recording and the presentation.

S4YE takes part in the Our Future Agenda Partners' Forum
In celebrating 75 years of the United Nations, Member States made a request to the UN Secretary-General – to offer "recommendations to advance our common agenda and respond to current and future generations". Led by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, Our Common Agenda is the response to that call to action; an inclusive and intensive 12-month effort to reimagine a global social contract.

The UN Foundation’s Next Generation Fellows invited S4YE to a high-level partners’ discussion on the critical challenges and opportunities facing next and future youth generations, with an audacious young people’s program through to September, culminating in a youth-led, and focused, companion manifesto: Our Future Agenda. Alieu Jallow from Ghana Startup Incubator, who is an S4YE Youth Advisory Group member, represented S4YE during the forum. The resulting recommendations will be further discussed with the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth during event on 3rd June, 2021 from 10am-11.30am ET. Register your interest here=>>

YOU DON’T WANT TO MISS IT

S4YE Webinar - Youth-led Innovations to support Green Jobs

Improving employment opportunities for young people while addressing environmental and social challenges, is fundamental to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This webinar will highlight how youth are driving innovation for social and environmental impact for a green economy, highlighting learnings from Oxfam Novib’s The

S4YE Youth Innovating for Youth
Webinar Series

Youth-led Innovations to support Green Jobs

Learnings from Oxfam Novib, “la Caixa” Foundation and ASIGE

26 May
9:00 – 10:00 AM EST

REGISTER
Work in Progress! Program and Empower Youth for Work Program, and "la Caixa" Foundation’s Work4Progress project and presenting young innovators’ solutions and perspective on challenges and opportunities for sustainable innovating for youth: Climate Smart Village in Bangladesh, PadUp Creations in Nigeria, e-rickshaws in India and ASIGE's environmental-friendly baskets in Ghana.

This webinar is part of the new S4YE webinar series: Youth Innovating for Youth.

**World Bank Group YOUTH Summit 2021: Resilient Recovery for People and Planet**

Join S4YE and S4YE Youth Advisory Group members at the World Bank's Youth Summit 2021. The economic hardship, loss of life, and global human suffering seen at an unprecedented level as a result of COVID-19 has highlighted the deficiencies in our society and ignited a call to action that is practical, inclusive, and sustainable. At the heart of the 2021 Youth Summit theme is the opportunity for a global conversation that emphasizes the role of the youth in addressing the effects of climate change and examining the measures and opportunities for a resilient recovery for people and the planet.

S4YE’s Program Manager Namita Datta will speak during Plenary Session II: "Bridging the digital gap for women and the youth for an inclusive recovery are" and S4YE’s Youth Advisory Group members will judge and mento innovation challenges. Details=>>

**S4YE Partners Update**
Solv[ED] Program for Youth by SolveMIT

Solve MIT launched Solv[ED] Program in May. The new program aims to help young people solve problems in their communities and around the world by equipping young people with knowledge, tools, and resources to practice problem identification and solution design.

More details=>>

20 million young people upskilled by the Global Alliance for YOUth in 2020!

The Global Alliance for YOUth has announced last month that despite the impact of COVID-19, the Alliance has supported 20 million young people in 2020 with relevant training to develop the skills to find a job or start a business.

More details=>>

Solidaridad Annual Report released

According to the newly released Annual Report 2020, Solidaridad trained 900,000+ smallholder producers to adopt good mining, agricultural and also management practices, and bringing more than 2 million hectares under sustainable management.

More details=>>

Business Disability Forum releases reports on disability data and workplace adjustments

Business Disability Forum (BDF) released the reports “Collecting Global Employee Disability Data: The challenges and enablers for global disability-smart organisations” and “Global Workplace Adjustments: Insights on current practice”.

In the NEWS

- What is Hybrid Learning? How can countries get it right?, World Bank Group, EdTech
- Assessing outside of the “classroom box” while schools are closed: The potential of phone-based formative assessments to support learning continuity, World Bank Group
- Youth2030 - A Global Progress Report, UN
- COVID-19 cost women globally over $800 billion in lost income in one year, Oxfam
- Private Equity and Value Creation: A Fund Manager’s Guide to Gender-smart Investing, IFC

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