



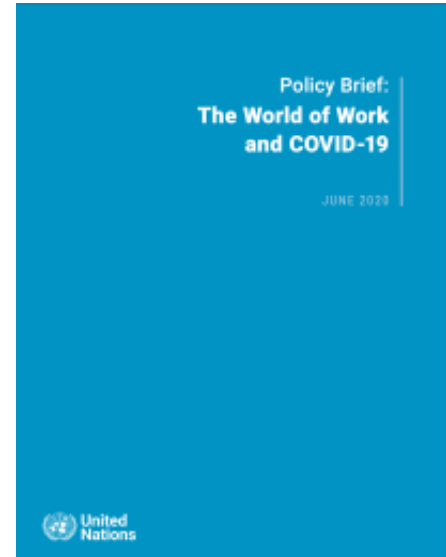
Employment Policy Dept.

Newsletter, July-August 2020

Dear Reader,

Highlights of this July/August edition of our newsletter include:

- [UN Policy Brief: The World of Work and COVID-19](#);
- [Announcement of the winner of the first ILO Skills Challenge Innovation Call 2020](#); and,
- [Employment Podcast Series: Global challenges – Global Solutions: COVID-19 and the Employment Policy](#)



[Read more](#)

LATEST PUBLICATIONS - PUBLICATIONS LES PLUS RÉCENTES - ÚLTIMAS PUBLICACIONES



UN Policy Brief: The World of Work and COVID-19

According to the policy brief developed by the ILO Employment Policy Department in cooperation with the UN Secretary-General and several UN organizations, the COVID-19 pandemic has turned the world of work upside down. It is having a dramatic effect on the jobs, livelihoods and well-being of workers and their families and on enterprises across the globe, particularly the small and medium-sized. While certain sectors and industries have successfully moved online, pointing the way towards exciting innovations in the world of work, millions of workers have lost their livelihoods and many more – especially women who are concentrated in highly exposed sectors – remain at risk. As with so many aspects of this pandemic, the impacts are falling disproportionately on those who were already in precarious circumstances and who can least absorb the additional blow. **Read more**

ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. Fifth edition: Updated estimates and analysis

The fifth ILO Monitor on COVID-19 presents three scenarios for



recovery in the second half of 2020: baseline, pessimistic and optimistic. It stresses that the long-term outcome will depend on the future trajectory of the pandemic and government policy choices. The Monitor also finds that women workers have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic, creating a risk that some of the modest progress on gender equality made in recent decades will be lost, and that work-related gender inequalities will be exacerbated. Read the report in [Spanish](#), in [French](#). For earlier editions of the ILO Monitor Reports, click [here](#).



Nota de la OIT: Prevenir la exclusión del mercado de trabajo: Afrontar la crisis del empleo juvenil provocada por la COVID-19

Este reseña de políticas destaca cómo los jóvenes, especialmente las mujeres, están siendo gravemente afectados por la pandemia COVID-19. Es probable que la crisis sea particularmente grave para los jóvenes en las tres dimensiones siguientes: 1) perturbaciones en la educación, la capacitación y el aprendizaje basado en el trabajo; 2) mayores dificultades para los jóvenes que buscan empleo y para los que se incorporan al mercado de trabajo; y 3) pérdidas de empleo e ingresos, junto con el deterioro de la calidad del empleo. El informe hace un llamado a medidas de política urgentes, integrales y específicas para hacer frente a la pandemia mundial. Disponible en [francés](#). [Lea más](#)

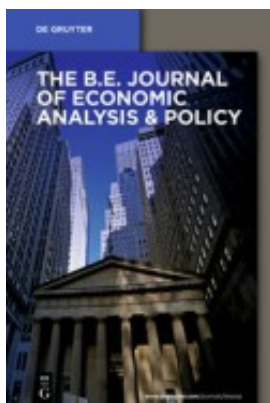


The role of public employment programmes and employment guarantee schemes in COVID-19 policy responses

The devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic urgently call for policy measures towards establishing an employment guarantee, which would aim to arrest further deterioration of labour markets. Large-scale public employment programmes or employment guarantee schemes would form a critical part of such a guarantee by acting as an employer of last resort and offering work at a minimum wage to those willing and able to work. However, these programmes need to be designed and implemented as part of a coherent set of economic, social protection and employment policies that collectively protect minimum conditions in the labour market and at the same time support economic recovery and transitions into formal employment. Also available in [Japanese](#). [Read more](#)

Complementarities between Labour Market Institutions and their Causal Impact on Youth Labour Market Outcomes

The paper, co-authored by ILO's Niall O'Higgins, Senior Youth Employment Research Specialist, examines recent policy reforms



in Italy focusing on the impact of the 2012 Fornero reforms of employment protection legislation as well as the initial impact of the EU-wide Youth Guarantee (YG) scheme introduced in Italy in March 2014. The paper then examines how these two policy reforms interacted. The analysis first confirms the finding that the Fornero reform increased permanent hires particularly among the very youngest workers; it then goes on to find that the YG was successful in increasing the hires of young people, although this operated through a statistically significant increase in female hires on temporary contracts. Third, it finds some evidence of a dampening effect of the YG on employment protection legislation reforms as predicted by theory. (The paper was published in The B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy).



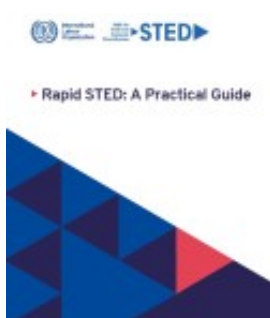
Employer organizations in the governance of TVET and skills systems

This report explores the engagement of employer organizations in the governance of TVET and skill systems. It presents the experiences of 28 national employer and business membership organizations in key aspects of skills development including national policy and strategy setting, financing arrangements (including national training funds), apprenticeships, the management of training organizations and the delivery and assessment of training. [Read more](#)



Skills partnerships on migration

The ILO conducted 13 country studies and two sub-regional studies identifying the potential for skills partnerships on migration between different countries and key skills stakeholders. Skills partnerships can contribute to more effective tapping of the potential of migrants. Such partnerships can be an innovative mechanism for maximizing brain gain, or the knowledge and skills of migrants, both in origin and destination countries. [Read more](#)



Rapid STED: A practical guide

This guide aims to speed the process, deepen collaboration, build capacity among national and sector partners, improve their skills strategies and to help move more effectively from diagnosis of skills needs to implementation of the skills development responses required. [Read more](#)

Robotics and reshoring - Employment implications for developing countries

This volume addresses the impact of automation on employment in global supply chains. The publication contains case studies addressing the implications of the increased use of robots and ITC-



enabled automation in the apparel and electronics industries as well as in retail warehousing and business process outsourcing. [Read more](#)



A gender-responsive employment recovery: Building back fairer

The COVID-19 crisis has laid bare the entrenched gender inequalities that, compounded with other inequalities, plague labour markets. Women's jobs are relatively more at risk than men's, and in a rapidly deteriorating context, women are losing them at a greater speed than men. Employment policies, including macroeconomic, sectoral and labour market policies must put gender equality at the core of the emergency and recovery efforts to avoid long-term damages to women's job prospects and to build back fairer. This ILO policy brief indicates four policy priorities for a gender-responsive recovery: prevent women from losing their jobs; avoid premature fiscal consolidation; invest in care; and focus on gender-responsive employment policies. [Read more](#)

OTHER COVID-19 RELATED GUIDANCE AND TECHNICAL NOTES AND RESOURCES - AUTRES NOTES D'INFORMATIONS ET TECHNIQUES ET RESSOURCES LIÉES AU COVID-19 - OTRAS NOTAS INFORMATIVAS Y TÉCNICAS Y RECURSOS RELACIONADOS CON EL COVID-19

- [Portugal: Rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the economy and labour market](#)
- [India: Rapid Assessment of the Impact of the COVID-19 Crisis on Employment](#)
- [Technical note: COVID-19 response and recovery in countries affected by disasters and climate vulnerability: challenges and opportunities](#)
- Web page: [Employment, Labour Markets and Youth: Responses to COVID-19](#)
- Web page: [ILO SKILLS response to COVID-19 web-page](#)
- Web page: [Employment Intensive Investment Programme's \(EIIP\) response to COVID-19](#)
- Web page: [The socio-economic impact of COVID-19 in fragile settings: Peace and social cohesion at risk](#)
- Web Page: [Development and investment for a sustainable response to COVID-19](#)

PARTNERSHIPS AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION - ASOCIACIONES Y COOPERACIÓN
PARA EL DESARROLLO - PARTENARIATS ET COOPÉRATION POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT

- **[Publications produced under the auspices of the ILO/Sida partnership programme on employment:](#)**
 - ILO/Sida Partnership on Employment Working Paper No. 5: [Accelerating structural transformation towards SDG goals: Macroeconomic and sectoral policies for full and productive employment in Rwanda](#)
 - ILO/Sida Partnership on Employment Working Paper No. 6: [Attaining SDG 8 in Azerbaijan: The challenges of economic transformation and job creation](#)
 - ILO/Sida Partnership on Employment Working Paper No. 7: [Attaining SDG 8 in Portugal: Macroeconomic, sectoral and labour market policies for structural transformation and full and productive employment](#)
- **[Quality apprenticeship and lifelong learning in China](#)**
The Project, supported by J.P. Morgan Chase, aims to collaborate with the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, and employers' and workers' organizations in China in developing more responsive skills development systems, adapted to labour market changes and technological development, in order to reduce job-skill mismatches. It consists of three main components: research, capacity building and the adaptation of relevant ILO tools for apprenticeship and skills development.
- **[Applying the G20 Training Strategy in Viet Nam \(Phase 2\)](#)**
[Career Guidance App prototype presented in Viet Nam](#)
Through the mobile application, job seekers will be better equipped to understand their interests, aptitudes and potential to succeed in the labour market through a series of multiple-choice tests designed to assess their skills. The app also supports enrolment in TVET institutions and universities. It will soon be available for download for Android and IOS systems.
- **[In the frame of the 'Boosting decent employment for Africa's youth' partnership between INCLUDE, IDRC and Decent Jobs for Youth, a series of virtual roundtables were organized:](#)**

[Knowledge-sharing on gender, COVID-19, and youth employment in Africa](#)
A series of virtual roundtables were organized among the eight teams conducting in-depth research on the topics. The first virtual roundtable discussion explored the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth employment in Sub-Saharan Africa and highlighted the most and least impacted sectors in which youth are represented. The second virtual roundtable explored the context of female youth employment in Africa with the presentation of a newly released evidence synthesis paper "Young, female and African: Barriers, interventions and opportunities for female youth

employment in Africa”.

UPCOMING EVENTS - EVÈNEMENTS À VENIR - FUTUROS EVENTOS

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| 29 July | <p><u>ITU/ILO virtual session. Digital skills and the future of work: Challenges and opportunities in a post Covid-19 environment. Action Line C4 capacity building and Action Line C7 E-employment.</u></p> <p>The session will discuss the critical role of digital skills and digital jobs in a post COVID-19 environment, its challenges and opportunities (including telework and digital learning in the context of an increasing digital divide). The session will share information on interventions designed to support digital skills development for employment, as well as provide information on useful tools and ongoing initiatives addressing these challenges. A panel of experts, including from the Employment Policy Department, and practitioners will discuss this topic in a one-hour session, with an opportunity to engage the audience in the discussions through a Q&A. Read more</p> |
| 10 - 28 August | <p>Global Youth Forum 2020</p> <p>Apply and join us during the Online Global Youth Forum 2020 by ITC/ILO featuring the work of Decent Jobs for Youth in advancing employment opportunities for youth in these COVID-19 times and beyond. <u>Register here</u></p> |
| 15 June - 30 October | <p><u>ITC/ILO: E-Learning Course on Employment Services for Effective Job Transitions</u></p> <p>The training aims to increase the capacity of member States to design and implement efficient employment services and labour market programmes for just transitions to decent work over the life course, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups.</p> |
| ongoing | <p>ITC/ILO: Online Training Module: Supporting SMEs in fragile contexts during COVID-19</p> <p>Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises are hard-hit by the present COVID-19 outbreak and related economic downturn. This is especially the case in countries experiencing fragility, protracted conflict, climate change and forced displacement, which are facing a multiple burdens due to the pandemic. This online training module provides an overview of strategies to support businesses and leverage their contribution to resilient recovery in situations of fragility. It is intended for government officials, representatives of employers' and workers' organizations, officials from enterprise development agencies, managers and business owners, as well as development</p> |

practitioners. Developed by the ITC/ILO in collaboration with the ILO's Coordination Support unit for Peace and Resilience (CSPR), the training module uses an interactive self-learning methodology. Participation is free of charge, and the module can be accessed at: [here](#)

29 June - 16 August

Launch of a free Open Online Course (MOOC) on Apprenticeships

The MOOC aims to support policy-makers and practitioners in the design and implementation of high-quality apprenticeships in the fast-changing world of work and addressing challenges posed by COVID 19. The course is open for all including ILO specialists and project staff, and those working for the government, employers' and workers' organizations, training providers and enterprises. For more information contact skills@ilo.org

18 June - 13 August

[Webinar series: Design and Delivery of Online Technical and Vocational Education and Training \(TVET\) in the Face of the Pandemic](#)

Series of webinars to share know-hows and lessons learned so that Indonesian TVET could successfully meet the challenges posed by the outbreak and contribute to eventual economic recovery.

RECENT EVENTS - EVÈNEMENTS LES PLUS RÉCENTS - ÚLTIMOS EVENTOS

23 July

[ILO-ETF webinar: Regulation and financing for promoting quality apprenticeships](#)

This webinar examines the existing regulatory frameworks, particularly in relation to the legal status of apprentices, their entitlements and financing of apprenticeships. The event also includes the participation of eminent panellists from Asia, Africa, Europe and America. Moreover, it provides an opportunity for identifying policy recommendations and innovative solutions to enhance the effectiveness of a regulatory framework for apprenticeships. Register [here](#)

22 June - 31 July

[Employment impact assessment in the time of coronavirus](#)

This course aims to improve the design and implementation of policies intended to promote job creation by building the capacity of all relevant stakeholders to identify, measure and assess the employment effects of economic, sectoral, trade-related or labour market policies. This year the course is offered in an innovative e-learning format and special attention will be given to the assessment of employment impacts of pandemics

like COVID-19. [Read more](#)

- 15 July** [World Youth Skills Day 2020: Skills for a Resilient Youth in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond](#)
The annual ceremony to mark World Youth Skills 2020, focused the discussions on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on skills development and explored how young people can respond to the economic crisis. During the virtual celebration, ILO Director-General launched the [ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships, Volume II for practitioners](#), and announced the winner of the [ILO Skills Challenge Innovation Call](#), a global competition to identify innovative approaches to address skills mismatch. [Read more](#)
- 14 July** **Webinar on the impact of COVID-19 on young people**
[Decent Jobs for Youth](#) shared the results of the impact of the pandemic on youth education, employment, mental health and social activism in a webinar organized by the Gerhart Center at the American University of Cairo. [Watch the recording here](#)
- 10 July** [ILO webinar on Innovations and Strategies for Quality Apprenticeships](#)
The Webinar provided a platform for international experts to share their knowledge and experience on various topics regarding apprenticeships. Speakers and participants were encouraged to engage in an open discussion through which knowledge, insights and innovative ideas were shared among the international community of apprenticeship policy-makers and practitioners. [Read more](#)
- 9 July** **Side-event during the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development**
[Decent Jobs for Youth](#) participated in a High-level Political Forum side-event on the economic exclusion of young people in times of crisis, organized by the Kingdom of Belgium along with UN Youth delegates from Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Kenya, Mexico, Sweden and the Netherlands in collaboration with the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY) and the European Youth Forum. The ILO's Sukti Dasgupta, Chief of the Employment, Labour Markets and Youth Branch, spoke at the event. Watch the recording [here](#)
- 1 July** **Recovery and Change: The breakdown of traditional structures**
EU40 - a network of young Members of European Parliament - organized a virtual discussion on the coronavirus and the future of work. ILO's Sukti Dasgupta, Chief of the Employment, Labour Markets and Youth Branch, spoke at the event on the

topic of youth employment, COVID-19 and the future of work. Watch the recording [here](#)

10 June

[Conversatorio Online LATWORK "Estructuras de investigación y redes para el análisis de la informalidad Laboral en América Latina"](#)

Esta actividad se enmarca en la ejecución del Proyecto LATWORK “Developing research and innovation capacities of Latinamerican HEI for the analysis of Informal Labour Market”, proyecto co-financiado por la Comisión Europea, a través del programa Erasmus+.

El conversatorio fue organizado de forma conjunta por la Universidad Viña del Mar, Chile, la Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina y la Universidad Estadual de Campinas, Brasil en representación del consorcio del Proyecto LATWORK que está formado por 12 Instituciones de Educación Superior de Chile, Argentina, Brasil, España, Reino Unido y Portugal. Durante el conversatorio Juan Chacaltana, Senior Employment Specialist de la OIT, desarrolló una ponencia bajo la temática “Políticas de Formalización en América Latina”.

9 June

[Webinar on Promoting Decent Employment for African Youth as a Peacebuilding Strategy](#)

The webinar was organized by INCLUDE for the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ Sustainable Economic Development Department (DDE). The presentation was based on the findings from the evidence synthesis paper of the same name by Valeria Izzi, prepared within the frame of the ‘[Boosting decent employment for Africa’s youth](#)’ partnership between INCLUDE, IDRC and Decent Jobs for Youth. **Read more**

9 June

ILO and SDG-Lab event - [Inequalities & the Informal Economy: How to move from crisis response to long-term resilience](#)

The ILO and the SDG-Lab convened a high-level panel focused on inequalities and the informal economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. The webcast event “Inequalities during and after COVID-19” offered a timely moment to learn of policies, programmes and approaches that three countries – Jordan, Portugal and South Africa – have taken to help informal workers and their communities cope with the coronavirus outbreak, which, globally, is impacting an estimated 1.6 billion workers in the informal economy, nearly half of the world’s workforce. Speakers at the event reiterated the role of governments in providing social protection to informal workers and other vulnerable groups—not only during times of crisis but as established policy measures to build long-term resilience in support of achieving the 2030 Agenda.

- [Summary of the online discussion](#)
- [Webcast](#)

NEWS - NOUVELLES - NOTICIAS

- [Call for abstracts: Technology and the transition from informal to formal economy](#)
The ILO and UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) invite researchers to submit proposals for innovative research papers relevant to the theme of the use of digital technologies in support of accelerating results in the transition from the informal to formal economy. The deadline for submission is 31 August 2020.
- [ILO announced the winner of the 1st ILO Skills Challenge Innovation Call 2020](#)
The first ILO Skills Challenge Innovation Call has been won by the Domestic Worker Center of Zimbabwe for a proposal to provide specialist training in modern domestic skills to improve workers' employability. The winner will receive a USD 50,000 prize and six months membership of an 'innovation lab' that aims to provide technical support and mentoring to help implement their project. In addition to the winning project, 10 projects made it to the semi-finals and will be offered membership of the ILO Skills Innovators Network. See the results [here](#).
- [ILO Director-General launched the new ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships](#)
During World Youth Skills Day, Guy Ryder, Director-General of the International Labour Organization, launched the ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships, Volume 2: Guide for Practitioners, which is a comprehensive resource for helping improve apprenticeship programmes offering over 125 tools and guides from more than 40 countries and institutions worldwide.
- [Rapid assessment highlights impact of COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable workers and small-scale businesses in Lebanon](#)
The assessment examines how the crisis has affected employment and livelihoods of Lebanese nationals and Syrian refugee workers, as well as the new challenges now facing small-scale enterprises in an already fragile economy.
- [What Would It Take to Reskill Entire Industries?](#)
As the global health crisis begins to recede in some countries, the economic one is only just beginning. As of May 27, 2020, the [International Labour Organization](#) estimated that 94 per cent of the global workforce lives in countries with active workplace closure measures. Businesses across a range of sectors are facing catastrophic losses, resulting in millions of workers vulnerable to layoffs.

- Jobs, economies and COVID-19 in the developing world**

On 12 June, ILO's Mito Tsukamoto, Chief of the Development and Investment Branch, was invited by the OPEC Fund to speak about development, job creation and economic transformation in the age of COVID-19. Highlights from the interview available [here](#); full interview available in the summer edition of the OPEC Fund Quarterly magazine [here](#).
- [Industry-school partnership gives a better opportunity for youth to decent jobs](#)**

The involvement of industry in the vocational education system is a key to reduce skills gap and mismatch.
- [Supporting the development of digital learning in Indonesia](#)**

The ILO through its skills development programmes supports the capacity building of technical and vocational education and training (TVET) in 47 countries, including Indonesia. Nine Indonesian representatives have been part of the ILO's e-learning programme.
- [Tanzania: Apprenticeship programme resumes after COVID-19 closure](#)**

Over 200 youth from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar have resumed their apprenticeship programme in hospitality after more than two months away due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [Joint ILO/World Employment Confederation webinar series on COVID-19: the role of employment services and policies for recovery](#)**

The new webinar series focuses on the impact on employment and the role of employment services, with a deep dive on active labour market policies and social protection. The webinars take stock of responses, initiatives and lessons learned that could inspire the road to recovery.
- [Joint Op-Ed ECLAC, ILO & UN Geneva - Building back better: Equality at the centre](#)**

The Op-ed, which follows the joint [ILO-SDG Lab Event](#) hosted from Geneva in June, was issued on 16 July by Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO); Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General, United Nations Office in Geneva (UNOG). Available in [Spanish](#) and [French](#).

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- Video: [ILO Toolkit for Quality Apprenticeships - Vol. 2: Guide for practitioners](#)** (in [French](#) and [Spanish](#))
- [Employment Podcast Series: Global challenges – Global Solutions: COVID-19 and the Employment Policy:](#)**

[Episode 1: The global pandemic in the world of work today. Interview with Sangheon Lee, ILO Director, Employment Policy Department](#)

[Episode 2: The deepening crisis in the informal sector. Interview with Mito Tsukamoto, Chief of the development and Investment \(DEVINVEST\) branch of the ILO's Employment Policy Department](#)

[Episode 3: Tackling the COVID-19 pandemic and the youth employment crisis. Interview with Sher Verick, Head of the Employment Strategies Unit, and Susana Puerto Gonzalez, Research and Technical Specialist](#)

[Episode 4: The skills challenge in the time of COVID-19. Interview with ILO Senior Skills and Employability Specialist Ashwani Aggarwal](#)

- [Banco do Brasil podcast on COVID-19 and the impact on the labour market. Interview with Jayme Júnior, General Manager of the Foreign Trade Unit of the Bank of Brasil and ILO's Mito Tsukamoto, Chief of Development and Investments Branch.](#) (in Spanish)

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