





# Guide on

# **Measuring Decent Jobs for Youth**

Monitoring, evaluation and learning in labour market programmes



The seven part volume is the first comprehensive guidance to evaluating, monitoring and learning in labour market programmes targeting young people.

The Guide aims to equip ILO constituents and stakeholders with a full set of concepts and tools needed to make informed decisions about how to best measure and evaluate the results of youth employment programmes. It contributes to the evidence base for "what works" in youth employment and thereby advances the goals of the 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development. The Guide offers direction on a wide range of evaluation methods and encourages users to select the most appropriate design feasible in the context of their youth employment intervention. Each note contains a case study, live stories of youth employment practitioners grappling with challenges of M&E.



#### Note 1: Diagnosing, planning and designing youth employment interventions

This section guides readers through the key steps in designing youth employment interventions. An employment diagnostic analysis can inform programme planners about the specific barriers to employment both across economic sectors and subgroups of youth. The note then provides guidance on how to select an intervention to tackle these constraints using a menu of Active Labour Market Programmes as a starting point to determine objectives and outcomes.



# Note 2: Concepts and definitions of employment indicators relevant for young people

The objective of this note is to assist readers to choose appropriate outcome measures of their youth employment interventions. Readers can choose from a menu of decent work indicators, depending on the context and objectives of the particular project. The menu of youth employment indicators is broken down into four key dimensions: employment opportunities, employment quality, employment access and employment skills.



## Note 3: Establishing a monitoring system

This note summarizes the key steps for building a results based monitoring system for youth employment programmes. This includes guidance on visualizing a theory of change, defining a results chain and collecting, analysing and reconciling findings. The chapter includes innovations for technology powered M&E and lean data collection tools.



#### Note 4: Enhancing youth programme learning through evaluation

This note discusses potential motivations for conducting evaluations, including an overview of key knowledge gaps in youth employment, before introducing the reader to evaluation criteria and how to derive relevant evaluation questions. It gives an overview of performance and impact evaluation as well as cost-effectiveness and cost-benefit analyses.



## Note 5: Impact evaluation methods for youth employment interventions

This note first explores the fundamental impact evaluation question: "How can we show that the changes in outcomes we see result from our youth employment intervention?" and explains the theory behind methods that aim at establishing a clear cause and effect link, also known as attribution. The note to provide youth employment practitioners with an overview of the different tools available for an impact evaluation and discusses the features of certain evaluation designs which are particularly relevant for youth employment projects.



## Note 6: A step-by-step guide to impact evaluation

This note is a step-by-step guide to implementing an impact evaluation for a youth employment interventions. The note will help to plan an impact evaluation from the programme perspective, from preparation, timeline and budget, data collection, programme implementation and finally the dissemination of evaluation results. It also clarifies the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders involved in the evaluation.



#### Note 7: Evidence uptake in policy formulation

This note guides readers on how to ensure the results of their youth employment evaluation can inform the formulation of pro-employment policy frameworks. This can be achieved by ensuring research questions are relevant through engagement with constituents; communicating research effectively; and synthesising and repackaging research for different audiences.