



ver. 24 Sept. 2020

29 September 2020 Global Online Dialogue Series “Navigating uncertainties: An intergenerational dialogue on COVID-19 and youth employment”

Concept Note

Background

Today’s youth face the unique challenge of managing their personal development and transition to adulthood amid more uncertainties than usual. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO) (2020), the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted job prospects for the world’s 1.8 billion young people. This demographic – 15 to 24 years old – faced an unemployment rate three times higher than adults before the crisis. Moreover, this situation has not stopped young people from taking concrete actions to support other community members affected by the pandemic, as well as concretely contributing to the pandemic response and recovery.

Society as a whole benefits from young people’s smooth transition to adulthood. Evidence-based inclusive policies supporting young people during the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making processes related to the pandemic’s response and recovery, are essential. In addition, actions to build back better taken by young people themselves need to be recognized, highlighted and supported.

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs invites young people to an intergenerational dialogue where they can share their concerns about finding jobs in a worsening market and discuss ways forward. The online forum “Navigating uncertainties: An intergenerational dialogue on COVID-19 and youth employment” offers young people an opportunity to discuss the socioeconomic impacts of the pandemic during this period of their lives when many things are in flux. Members of older generations will share their experiences from making the school-to-work transition amid challenging situations of the past. A brainstorm on innovative solutions to ward decent employment for youth, and how different generations can work together to ease the

; hat actions are young people already taking today to address the employment challenge:

; hat are some of the key approaches that should be scaled'up and replicated: Oo+ can other generations support these approaches:

Oo+ can 9ember 1tates partner +ith young people to ensure an optimal response and recovery from the pandemic# especially from a youth employment perspective:

; hat are some of the key policy changes that +ould q

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A moderator will hear from young entrepreneurs about their career paths and how to get started being your own boss - even during a pandemic.