

## Welcome Package and Reader

Youth Co:Lab Summit 2023

11-14 July, 2023

# Strategic Intelligence Hub

## for Youth Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Asia and the Pacific

*Collective policy action for  
youth entrepreneurship*

# BACKGROUND

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the important role of youth in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and calls for action against the challenges faced by young people that limits their economic, social, and political inclusion. Today, young people are connected, creative, informed, and persuasive. They are responding to the challenges of today with innovative approaches, contributing fresh ideas, creating the world they want, and driving human development for themselves and their communities. The COVID-19 pandemic further unleashed an unprecedented global crisis, disrupting the lives of millions and creating long-lasting socio-economic impacts that risk reducing the productive potential of an entire generation.

The Youth Co:Lab Summit 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand, co-organized by UNDP and Citi Foundation, will serve as a key milestone for the regional youth empowerment agenda by positioning young people and their innovative ideas, front and center to solve the region's most pressing challenges. As we celebrate young entrepreneurs' agility and resilience in responding to these unprecedented times, we must also meet the moment and step up our collective efforts to support young people and their transformative solutions to lead the way in our journey beyond recovery towards 2030. The 2023 Summit is envisioned to highlight, encourage, and celebrate the role of youth in our crucial Decade of Action, aligning on "Inclusive Entrepreneurship", showcasing and inspiring youth action from underserved communities, as well as youth contributing to solutions to support the most excluded and hardest to reach groups to leave no one behind.

The government track at the 2023 summit will focus on **"Policy Experiments for the Inclusive Entrepreneurship Ecosystem"**. It will convene policymakers from across the region in an interactive and dynamic setting to ideate, design, and refine innovative policy experiments that foster an enabling environment for all young entrepreneurs.

Strategic Intelligence Hub (SIH) formed in 2022 is a community of practice and learning- co-curated by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP Asia Pacific), Commonwealth Secretariat, International Labour Organization (ILO), Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Since its foundation at the Youth Co:Lab Summit 2022 in Singapore, the Hub has facilitated thought leadership development on critical themes and trends identified by policy-makers who attended the 2022 Summit. Using a three transitions approach (economic, skills and mental model transitions), key future policy trends for the youth entrepreneurship ecosystem were identified. These included enabling an inclusive youth entrepreneurship environment through strengthening the data ecosystems and evidence bank, facilitating digital access of all entrepreneurs to fully leverage the potential of a tech-driven future of work, and building the capacity of young entrepreneurs to actively lead the green and blue transition agendas across the region.

A series of webinars were arranged on these themes throughout the year which were informed by strategic intelligence briefs. These briefs were developed and reviewed through a crowdsourcing approach where SIH members, policymakers and wider stakeholders who attended the webinars were invited to steer and provide guidance on the technical content and examples. Based on the situated knowledge and practical insights gained through the process, 2023 Summit will focus on collective intelligence of the policymakers and development practitioners by showcasing inspiring success stories and innovative initiatives, encouraging dialogue, and fostering collaboration for effective policy development on youth entrepreneurship. The discussions will be facilitated by a policy action toolkit developed to support the policy-makers as a live document/ journal of experiences and reflections gained throughout the Summit.

# WELCOME MESSAGE

## Sushil Ram

*Adviser, Youth Development,  
The Commonwealth Secretariat*



The Commonwealth is pleased to acknowledge the role of its partners UNDP, UN ESCAP, and ILO for their support in mobilizing and sharing knowledge, expertise, technologies, and financial resources to create the 'Strategic Intelligence Hub/ Government track' to accelerate efforts in youth entrepreneurship in Asia and the Pacific to address high youth employment. This new approach is instrumental in achieving the milestones set under the SDG's related to youth employment and poverty by 2030 and can be transformational by challenging the social, political, environmental, and economic root causes that are generating the youth employment challenge.

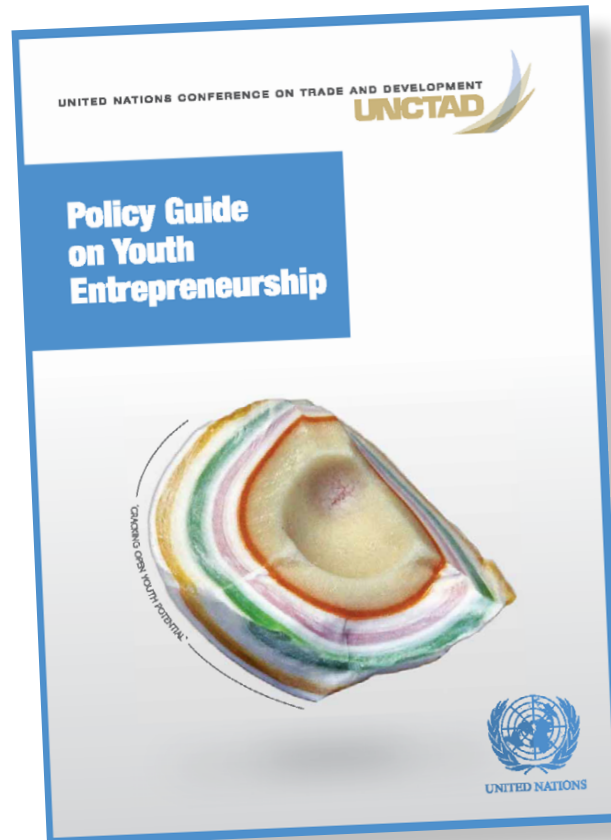
The world is experiencing the largest youth bulge in its history, which presents both a special challenge and a chance to utilise this generation's potential. Young people are battling using their unique and inventive solutions to overcome the issues of the current global economic crisis, which has increased socioeconomic inequality and intensified youth unemployment.

It is the need of the hour that, further collective actions must be taken to support the efforts of young people by reshaping the socio-economic ecosystem, and policies to support and sustain the dynamic and innovative environment central to supporting the kind of transformational shift needed for youth employment. These policies need to be an integral part of the wider set of strategies and policies for structural transformation and sustainable development, making coherence, coordination, and the whole of government approach essential.

As a proponent of global development, the Commonwealth has a long-standing track record in supporting youth entrepreneurship in member states. This includes the formation of networks of young entrepreneurs through the establishment of the Commonwealth Alliance for Young Entrepreneurs (CAYE). CAYE has played an important role in building the business and soft skills of young people in member states as well as providing an avenue for young entrepreneurs from across the Commonwealth to network and communicate.

At the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2022, leaders declared 2023 as a the “Year of Youth”, which is now being commemorated with a focus on youth-led action for sustainable and inclusive development across the 56 members states of the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth Secretariat in partnership with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), is in process of updating the Youth Entrepreneurship Policy Toolkit 2023 for policymakers and private sector ecosystem leaders looking for solutions to challenges in removing barriers to entrepreneurship, accelerating entrepreneurship success, and capitalizing on opportunities. Currently, the Commonwealth in collaboration with UNDP and IsDB is also working directly with countries in the region, such as Maldives, Pakistan and Brunei Darussalam in conducting the diagnostic studies of Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in these countries.



[Click here to read the report](#)

# WELCOME MESSAGE

## Devika Iyer

Economic Policy Specialist – Employment  
UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub



The Future of Work is being shaped by megatrends, including technological change, climate change, and demographic change. The application of new technologies like artificial intelligence, blockchain, and robotics, is unleashing productivity gains that is key to economic growth. Given the strong linkages between climate change and the world of work, countries across Asia-Pacific are embarking on green and blue transitions of their economies, unlocking new business prospects and employment opportunities. The demographic transitions –with an increasing youth population in some countries and ageing populations in others—is incentivizing countries to rethink the nature of work.

UNDP's approach to Employment and the Future of Work moves away from single point solutions to more integrated policy responses that are tailored to the needs of countries, including those in crisis, and in line with UNDP's Strategic Plan 2022-2025. Anchored in the human development approach, UNDP advances an employment and future of work agenda that empowers workers to benefit from and contribute to job rich development pathways, enhances the productivity and resilience of micro, small and medium enterprises, and drives a just transition towards more inclusive, productive, and environmentally sustainable jobs.

Supporting youth entrepreneurship is a key element of UNDP's approach to advance the employment and future of work agenda and to promote inclusive economic growth. Along with partners, UNDP through its Youth Co:Lab initiative, works to catalyze and sustain youth-led startups and social enterprises across the region as well as strengthen the entrepreneurship ecosystem. To better understand the youth entrepreneurship ecosystem, UNDP in collaboration with partners develops diagnostics and analytical studies, employing traditional and innovative research approaches. UNDP also fosters South-South cooperation to shape upstream policies on youth entrepreneurship through advancing the objectives of the multi-partner Strategic Intelligence Hub on youth entrepreneurship. Serving as a nerve center for UNDP and its partners like Citi Foundation, Commonwealth Secretariat, ILO, and others, the Strategic Intelligence

Hub works to strengthen thought leadership and build a community of practice comprised of policy and programme leaders at the national, sub-national, and regional levels.

This Youth Co:Lab Summit 2023, co-organized by UNDP and Citi Foundation, is an excellent platform to inspire and engage youth, bring together our partners, enhance knowledge exchange, and drive action to advance inclusive youth entrepreneurship in the region. By embracing the power of inclusion, we unlock the unlimited potential of young minds, fostering a generation of entrepreneurs who break barriers, uplift communities, and forge a path towards a truly equitable and prosperous world.

# WELCOME MESSAGE

## Jonathan Wong

*Chief of Innovation, Enterprise and Investment*  
United Nations Economic and Social  
Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)



Entrepreneurs have been a source of innovation and economic dynamism in the Asia-Pacific region. However, this has often been to the detriment of the environment and society, with CO2 emissions increasing in step with the Industrial Revolutions and income inequalities growing.

In addition, the pandemic has quickly turned into a story of the haves and the have nots. The pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable. People at the base of the economic pyramid have suffered the most, unable to access and afford essential products and services and unable to make a living.

The pandemic has revealed a fractured economy in dire need of innovation. Building a new economic framework must be a priority if we are to build back better and meet the ambitions of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To do this, we need a shift from entrepreneurship to social entrepreneurship, business-as-usual to inclusive business, and investing for profit to investing for impact.

This shift is being led by a new generation of young entrepreneurs who are aligning profit with purpose. With the Asia-Pacific region home to 60 per cent of the global population aged 15 to 24, youth entrepreneurs remain the driving force for the socio-economic and environmental transformation that our economies urgently require.

From the Social Enterprise Promotion Act in the Republic of Korea to the Social Enterprise Act in Thailand, government policy can play a critical role in incentivizing and creating an enabling environment for young people to unleash their entrepreneurial spirit for people and planet as well as profit. As we chart out the pathways for a post-pandemic era, we look to the entrepreneurial and innovative spirit of the youth as a source of optimism and solutions. These attributes of our youth will be vital as we forge ahead in this Decade of Action to accelerate progress on the SDGs.

ESCAP's work on this agenda has focused on supporting governments to create an environment to support, enable and incentivize entrepreneurs to focus on people and planet alongside profit. We welcome this focus on policy and supporting policymakers and stand ready to work with you all on this important agenda.



# WELCOME MESSAGE

## Kelvin Sergeant

*Enterprise and Job Creation Specialist*  
Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and  
South-East Asia and the Pacific



I am pleased to be associated with the Summit and to represent The International Labour Organization (ILO) on the strategic intelligence hub for youth entrepreneurship ecosystem in Asia and the Pacific and I welcome all participants.

The Covid-19 Pandemic is on the wane and that is good news, although we must remain vigilant. So many young people were affected by the pandemic and the job market has not returned to pre-pandemic levels. So, youth employment in the region remains high. Even before Covid-19, youth unemployment has been a concern among practitioners and policy makers. We accept that young men and women are the key to our future development which must be transformative and sustainable. Yet many of them seem to be left behind, and struggle to find decent employment opportunities.

Young people are our future. We must have clear policies for youth on job creation and other programmes that allow them to earn a livelihood in a decent and constructive way. If we do not do this, many young persons can fall through the cracks. The ILO remains committed to the promotion of decent work among our nation's youths and we are guided by the ILO follow-up action plan on youth employment 2020-2030, in collaboration with multiple partners, including through the UN Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth. The private sector has a critical role to play in working with the youths in programmes such as apprenticeships, on the job capacity development and development of entrepreneurial skills. So that there needs to be constant discussion between the government, the private sector, workers union and other CBO's and NGO's. Consultation and social dialogue remain the key.

In summary, we need policies and programmes which can release their potential for creativity and innovation and provide solutions to the sustainable development challenges which confront us. These challenges such as climate change or digitalization, the platform economy or SME development will remain with us for some time. We need a just transition that leaves no one behind.

Through collective efforts in addressing many issues, the hub will provide a platform for increased impact on youths and youth entrepreneurship in Asia and the Pacific.

# HUB ACHIEVEMENTS | 2022-23

## ● MAY- JUNE 2022

Partners Vision Board for Design and Launch of Strategic Intelligence Hub

## ● JULY 2022

The government track sessions at the Youth Co:Lab Summit in 2022 engaged over 14 government representatives in scoping out the vision and governance structure of the strategic intelligence hub and ideate south-south collaboration ideas on youth entrepreneurship policy programming within their country contexts and at the regional level. UNDP Bhutan and the country representatives presented findings of the ethnographic diagnostics research they administered for understanding the national youth entrepreneurship ecosystem and inspired other countries to also develop evidence-led policy actions in this regard. A reflection panel was conducted with private sector leaders from Samsung Electronics and Intel Corporation to highlight the need for the future of work and how young entrepreneurs could be supported through national and regional policy-making and targeted programming fostering public-private partnerships. The National Youth Council Singapore also arranged a showcase for the government representatives where they got an opportunity to interact with the senior council leadership and seek inspiration from the range of interventions being undertaken at the national level.

The sessions achieved to create a dedicated community which is willing to support the strategic intelligence hub lift off and seek opportunities through which the youth entrepreneurship ecosystem is further strengthened in Asia and the Pacific context.

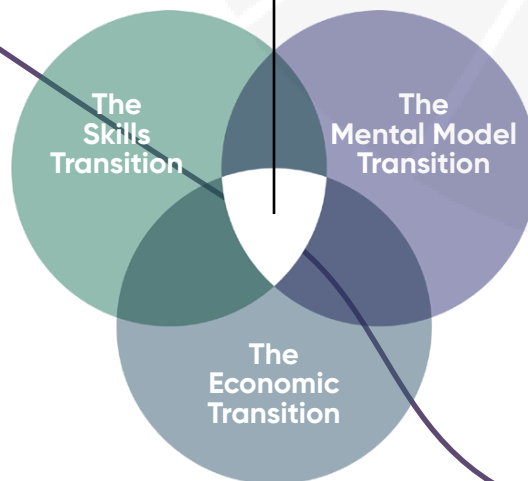
Following policy change trends were identified for in the broader transition areas of skills, mental models and economic aspects:

## System Transitions

Work based learning  
(reduced need for degree/ diploma/ formal education)

Government funded certifications

Youth moving away from public sector jobs/ open to jobs in private sector and freelancing



Education (early education, TVET education PPP/ Competitions

Enabling policies i.e., procurement policy, banking procedures

New Tools (Mental Model)

Ethnographic studies

Foresight

Stakeholders Engagement (youth involvement)

Data

Alternative Financing- growth of innovation ideas vs. onboarding of private sector

Digitalisation- gig economy, women entrepreneurship, remote/home-based work opportunities

Upskilling/reskilling- opportunity for job creation and inclusivity vs. lack of specialist training opportunities

Green/ Blue jobs- sustainability linked careers in demand vs. limited policy uptake

One of the aims of the hub in its pilot year was to curate insightful and meaningful discussions around emerging policy themes in this space which would allow fostering a collaborative effort for youth entrepreneurship growth by the policy stakeholders, particularly showcasing lived experience of South-South co-operation. In this regard, government representatives and founding partners have been invited to express interest to curate policy discussions with key audiences and target stakeholders at national or regional levels on the following three thematic focus areas during 2022-2023.

- Digital access of young entrepreneurs
- Green transition areas for young entrepreneurs
- Inclusive data ecosystem for young entrepreneurs

For each of these themes, webinars/ collective intelligence workshops were curated followed by a crowd sourcing exercise to write a strategic intelligence brief on each theme. Summary sheets are provided in the next section.

## NOVEMBER 2022

Webinar on  
**'Digitalization for Youth  
Engagement and Inclusion  
in Asia Pacific'**



[Watch the video here](#)

## DECEMBER 2022

Session on  
**'Innovating evidence-led policy making  
for youth entrepreneurship'**  
at ESCAP Business Innovation for the SDGs Forum

## MARCH 2023

[Watch the video here](#)

**Collective Intelligence Hub workshop on youth  
digitalization for Strategic Intelligence Hub**

## MAY 2023

[Watch the video here](#)

**South-South Cooperation on  
including youth in green transition**  
(15<sup>th</sup> May, 2023)

## JUNE 2023

**Strengthening data  
ecosystem for inclusive  
youth entrepreneurship  
in Asia and Pacific**  
(13<sup>th</sup> June)



[Watch the video here](#)

# SUMMARY SHEET 1:

## Building the Resilience of Youth Entrepreneurs through Digital Inclusion

[Read Here](#)



The Asia-Pacific region is home to a significant number of young people, comprising around 60% of the global youth population. However, these young individuals face various challenges in the current economic and social landscape. The region has experienced the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, a major war in Europe, rising inflation, job losses, limited employment opportunities, food insecurity, and the negative effects of climate change.

In terms of employment, a considerable percentage of young people in the Asia-Pacific region are not in employment, education, or training (NEET). The COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbated the situation, leading to a decline in youth employment. Vulnerable and low-paid employment remains a prevalent issue, with a significant portion of young people earning meager wages.

To address these challenges and provide opportunities for youth, policymakers need to focus on digital inclusion and entrepreneurship. The rapid digital transformation taking place in the region offers significant potential for young entrepreneurs. Digital technologies can facilitate inclusive growth, generate employment opportunities, and empower young individuals socio-economically.

However, leveraging digital technologies for youth entrepreneurship comes with its own set of challenges. Access to capital, infrastructure, and technologies is a major obstacle faced by young entrepreneurs in the region. Additionally, there is a lack of technical skills and digital literacy among young people, hindering their ability to effectively utilize digital tools. Weak entrepreneurship ecosystem conditions and intersecting inequalities further impede marginalized groups from benefiting from digital technologies.

To address these challenges, policymakers should consider several key policy measures. These include ensuring access to digital infrastructure, capital, technologies, and skills for young entrepreneurs. Governments should invest in reliable digital infrastructure, provide affordable technology, and offer targeted training programs to enhance technical skills. Collaboration and partnerships among young entrepreneurs and key stakeholders should be encouraged to foster innovation and networking.

Improving data governance and access to secure digital platforms are essential for the growth and sustainability of young entrepreneurs' businesses. Policies should focus on promoting data privacy, transparency, and security. Supporting the participation of young women and underrepresented groups in the technology sector and entrepreneurship is crucial for inclusive growth. Gender-responsive policies, programs, and digital skills training can help reduce the gendered digital divide.

Regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and harmonization of policies can contribute to a conducive environment for youth entrepreneurship. Case studies such as the She Loves Tech Accelerator Program, Startup India initiative, Alibaba Entrepreneurs Fund, and Lazada's LazStar program highlight successful implementations of policies and programs supporting digitally-led youth enterprises in the region.

In conclusion, creating a favorable environment for young entrepreneurs in the Asia-Pacific region requires addressing key challenges through policy actions. By focusing on reducing inequalities, improving access to technology, enhancing digital skills, and fostering innovation, the region can cultivate a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem that benefits young individuals while ensuring inclusivity and sustainable growth.



## SUMMARY SHEET 2:

# Including Youth Entrepreneurs in the Green Transition

[Read Here](#)



The Asia-Pacific region faces significant challenges related to climate change and unsustainable development. However, these challenges also present an opportunity for a transformative shift towards a green economy. The International Labour Organization (ILO) identifies green jobs as a key area that will dominate the job landscape in the future. Greening economies can provide sustainable growth and employment opportunities, contributing to poverty reduction and environmental protection.

The Asia-Pacific region is already a frontrunner in terms of the outlook for green jobs. It accounts for millions of jobs in the renewables sector and has the potential to create millions more by 2030. Countries like China and the Republic of Korea have made significant commitments to green-led economic growth, investing in clean energy and research and development related to green technologies.

To enable a successful transition to a green economy, youth entrepreneurs have a crucial role to play. They can develop and implement sustainable business models, advocate for policy change, create and support eco-friendly communities, and use digital technology to promote sustainability. By collaborating with other stakeholders and participating in green education and training programs, youth entrepreneurs can contribute to the growth of a green economy.

However, there are barriers and challenges to overcome. Limited awareness and understanding of sustainable development among young people, as well as limited access to finance and resources, pose significant challenges. Territorial barriers, political barriers, and cultural factors also need to be addressed. Gender inequality is another obstacle that needs to be tackled, as women often face barriers to education, training, and resources.

To address these challenges, policymakers should focus on developing green jobs, promoting sustainable consumption, strengthening environmental education and skills development, encouraging green entrepreneurship, and fostering regional cooperation. Strengthening environmental governance and supporting

renewable energy development are also crucial. Moreover, youth participation in policy development and decision-making processes should be encouraged.

In conclusion, the Asia-Pacific region has both challenges and opportunities when it comes to transitioning to a green economy. By harnessing the potential of youth entrepreneurs and implementing supportive policies and programs, the region can pave the way for sustainable growth, job creation, and environmental protection. A just and inclusive green transition will not only benefit the current generation but also future generations, ensuring a sustainable and prosperous future for all.





## SUMMARY SHEET 3:

# Strengthening Data Ecosystem for Inclusive Youth Entrepreneurship

[Read Here](#)



Inclusive youth entrepreneurship is crucial for creating equal opportunities for young people from diverse backgrounds to succeed as entrepreneurs. However, there are challenges that need to be addressed in order to foster inclusive entrepreneurship. One of the key challenges is the lack of comprehensive and up-to-date data on youth entrepreneurship. Many countries in the Asia-Pacific region face difficulties in generating and updating data regularly due to limited resources and fragmented data collection systems.

The absence of disaggregated data is another significant gap in the region. Existing data often fail to capture the diversity within the youth entrepreneurship landscape, such as variations across gender, geographic location, and socioeconomic backgrounds. This limits the identification of specific challenges faced by different youth groups and hinders the formulation of targeted policies and programs.

Moreover, there is limited data on informal employment and entrepreneurship, which is prevalent among young people in the region. Many young entrepreneurs work in the informal sector, which may not be captured by official data sources. This makes it challenging to understand the scale and nature of informal entrepreneurship and develop interventions to support this sector.

Additionally, there is a lack of data on social and environmental entrepreneurship, which are crucial for addressing social and environmental challenges and promoting sustainable development. The region needs data on the impact of interventions aimed at promoting youth employment and entrepreneurship to evaluate the effectiveness of different policies and programs.

Several barriers contribute to these data gaps and hinder the establishment of an inclusive data ecosystem. Inadequate data collection systems, limited resources and technical capacity, legal and privacy challenges, and the digital divide are among the barriers that need to be addressed.

To overcome these challenges, it is important to increase research on young people's employment and entrepreneurship, improve the collection and use of data, and ensure that the data scope covers both the formal and informal sectors. Disaggregation of data by diverse identities of young people is crucial for addressing contextual inequalities. Monitoring progress and measuring the impact of policies and programs, promoting transparency and accountability, and fostering innovation in policy and program development are essential.

A systems thinking approach can be valuable in achieving an inclusive data ecosystem. By understanding the interconnected and interdependent nature of different factors influencing entrepreneurship outcomes for young people, systems thinking can help identify leverage points for change and design interventions that address barriers and create a more inclusive ecosystem.

Mapping the data ecosystem, collecting comprehensive data, identifying entry points in the ecosystem, promoting collaboration and partnerships, updating legislative frameworks, and building capacity are recommended actions to enhance inclusive data collection and analysis. Monitoring and evaluation should also be prioritized to ensure effective and sustainable impacts of interventions.

In conclusion, addressing the data inclusion needs in youth entrepreneurship is crucial for creating an inclusive and supportive ecosystem in the Asia-Pacific region. A comprehensive approach that considers the interconnected factors and addresses the identified challenges can help foster inclusive youth entrepreneurship and promote equitable and sustainable development.



## Government Track at Youth Co:Lab Summit 2023

# AGENDA

11<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

Allocated Time	Day/Session	Description
<b>Pre Forum Day 0: 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2023   Ecosystem showcases</b>		
9:30 - 10:30	Welcome and Ideas Refresh	<p><b>The aim of this session is to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome government participants and Strategic Intelligence Hub (SIH) member representatives</li> <li>• Provide an update on the SIH's key achievements, successes, challenges, and lessons learned</li> <li>• Set the context for the rest of the summit, highlighting the importance of collaborative intelligence sharing</li> </ul>
<b>10:30 - 10:45</b>		<b>Break</b>
10:45 - 12:00	<b>Panel Discussion on Innovation &amp; Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Thailand</b>	The aim of the panel discussion is to provide overview perspective on Innovation & Entrepreneurship Ecosystem in Thailand. The panelists will be from government agency, Start up, Social Enterprise and Ecosystem enabler.
<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>		<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13:00 - 13:30</b>		<b>Travel</b>
13:30 - 16:30	<b>Showcasing Public &amp; Start up Partnership for Smart City</b>	<p><b>BMA Visit</b></p> <p>Learn about the support provided by BMA to entrepreneurs in Bangkok and the example of products of SMEs in Bangkok</p>
<b>16:30 - 17:00</b>		<b>Travel to hotel</b>

Allocated Time	Day/Session	Description
<b>Pre Forum Day 1: 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2023   Policy den</b>		
Until 1 PM	Opening, welcome and lunch	<b>As per main summit agenda</b>
13:00 - 16:00	<b>SIH Policy Den</b>	<p><b>The objectives of the Policy Den are as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate collaborative problem-solving among policymakers, leveraging diverse experiences and insights.</li> <li>Share best practices and case studies on inclusive entrepreneurship policies and programs</li> <li>Develop actionable policy experiments that address barriers to inclusive entrepreneurship</li> </ul>
<b>Summit Day 1: 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2023</b>		
<b>Inclusive Entrepreneurship- Way Forward: Leveraging Traditional &amp; Non-Traditional Partnerships for Inclusive Youth Entrepreneurship</b>		
Until 3 PM	<b>Opening, high-level panel, youth talks</b>	As per main summit agenda
13:00 - 14:00	<b>Session on Inclusive Entrepreneurship: Way Forward</b>	<p><b>The aim of the session is to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the role of public, private, academia, and non-traditional partnerships and collaborations in fostering youth entrepreneurship</li> <li>Provide a platform for a panel discussion that delves into the opportunities and challenges associated with these partnerships, identifying effective strategies to create an enabling environment for inclusive youth entrepreneurship</li> </ul>
<b>Summit Day 2: 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2023</b>		
All day	<b>Fireside chats and call to action</b>	As per main summit agenda



## State of the Ecosystem for Youth Entrepreneurship in Bangladesh

This study produced by Youth Co:Lab in partnership with Islamic Development Bank and Startup Bangladesh Limited provides data-driven recommendations to strengthen the enabling environment for youth-led enterprises and amplify their potential in Bangladesh. This is the first research conducted using Youth Co:Lab's new youth entrepreneurship ecosystem diagnostic framework.



## State of the Ecosystem for Youth Entrepreneurship in Indonesia

Young people dominate the unemployed population in Indonesia: three-quarters of unemployed people were youth in 2019 and COVID-19 has further exacerbated the challenges young people face. UNDP – under the Youth Co:Lab initiative co-led by UNDP and Citi Foundation – the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) commissioned this study to provide data-driven recommendations to strengthen the ecosystem for youth entrepreneurship in Indonesia.



## State of the Ecosystem for Youth Social Entrepreneurship in Singapore

Youth in Singapore are increasingly using social entrepreneurship to take action for a better and more sustainable future. To fulfil their potential, it is crucial to understand the enabling factors and challenges they face along their journey. Led by Youth Co:Lab, a joint initiative of UNDP and Citi Foundation, this study assesses Singapore's youth social entrepreneurship ecosystem and generates key recommendations.

# FLAGSHIP CASE STUDY

## Systems mapping of youth unemployment

Understanding the wicked challenge of youth unemployment through a systems approach: The problem space. This report captures the journey and results of Bhutan's work with partners on tackling youth unemployment through systems thinking and practice.

[Read here](#)

[Watch the video here](#)

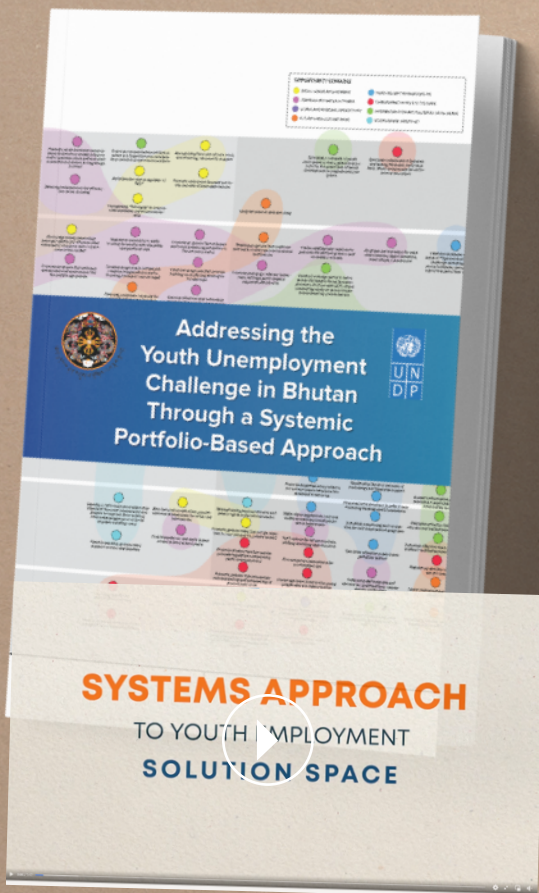


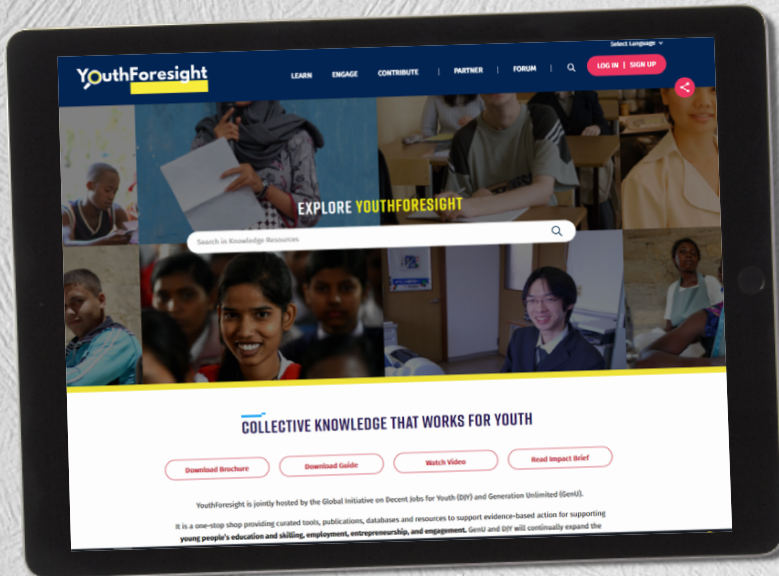
## Addressing the youth unemployment challenge in Bhutan through a systemic portfolio-based approach

Youth unemployment is a complex, multifaceted challenge and impacted by multiple, interconnected factors. Hence, tackling it requires a systemic portfolio-based approach. This video presents interventions for systemic and transformational change proposed in the new report.

[Read here](#)

[Watch the video here](#)





## YouthForesight knowledge platform

[Website Link](#)



## ILO x ADB report Tackling the COVID-19 youth employment crisis in Asia and the Pacific

[Read here](#)



## Growing green: Fostering a green entrepreneurial ecosystem for youth

[Read here](#)

## ILO Peer Learning Hub

[Website Link](#)



The **'Zooming in on Youth Entrepreneurship Ecosystem: Toolkit for National Diagnostic Studies'** was developed by Youth Co:Lab, co-led by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Citi Foundation, and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) to provide actionable guidance to policymakers, development practitioners, researchers and young people interested in conducting an assessment or facilitating dialogues on the state of youth entrepreneurship in any geographical context.



[Read here](#)



A policy toolkit on **'Youth Entrepreneurship for the Green and Blue Economy'** was launched, designed to help governments boost green and blue growth through youth entrepreneurship. The policy toolkit is the first of its kind, developed by the Commonwealth in partnership with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). It provides practical policy advice to help governments respond to the multiple opportunities and challenges facing young people, the economy, and the environment.

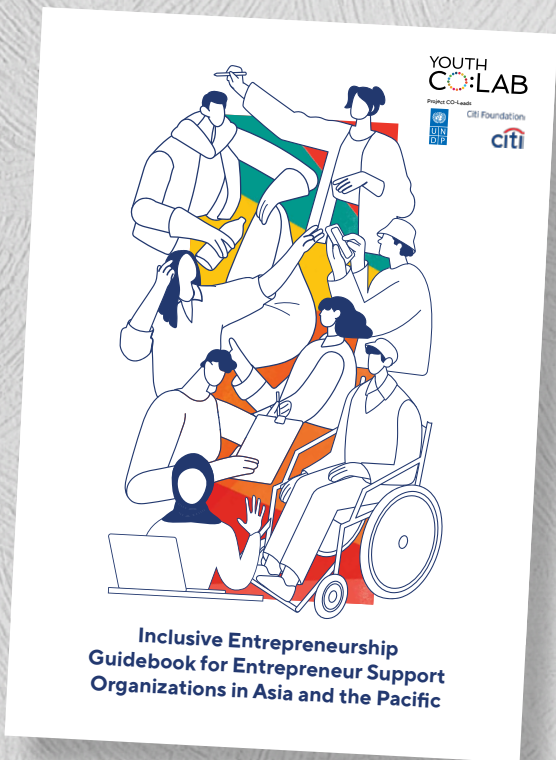
[Read here](#)





## Breaking Barriers, Building Successful Businesses: A Gender Inclusivity Toolkit for Young Entrepreneurs

[Read here](#)



## Inclusive Entrepreneurship Guidebook for Entrepreneur Support Organizations in Asia and the Pacific

# CO-LEADING PARTNERS OF THE STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE HUB

**UNDP** is the leading United Nations organisation fighting to end the injustice of poverty, inequality, and climate change. Working with our broad network of experts and partners in 170 countries, we help nations to build integrated, lasting solutions for people and the planet.

Learn more at [undp.org](https://undp.org) or follow [@undp](https://twitter.com/undp)

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**The Citi Foundation** works to promote economic progress and improve the lives of people in low-income communities around the world. The Citi Foundation invests in efforts that increase financial inclusion, catalyze job opportunities for youth and reimagine approaches to building economically vibrant communities. The Citi Foundation's "More than Philanthropy" approach leverages the enormous expertise of Citi and its people to fulfil its mission and drive thought leadership and innovation.

Learn more at [citigroup.com/citi/foundation](https://citigroup.com/citi/foundation) or follow [@Citi](https://twitter.com/Citi)

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**The Commonwealth** is an association of 54 independent countries, comprising large and small, developed and developing, landlocked and island economies. As the main intergovernmental body of the association, the Commonwealth Secretariat works with member governments to deliver on priorities agreed by Commonwealth Heads of Government and promotes international consensus building. It provides technical assistance and advisory services to members, helping governments achieve sustainable, inclusive and equitable development. The Secretariat's work programme encompasses areas such as democracy, rule of law, human rights, governance and social and economic development.

Learn more at [thecommonwealth.org](https://thecommonwealth.org) or follow [@CommonwealthSec](https://twitter.com/CommonwealthSec)

**The Islamic Development Bank** is a multilateral development bank (MDB), working to improve the lives of those we serve by promoting social and economic development in 57 Member Countries and Communities Outreach in Non-Member Countries, delivering impact at scale.

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**ILO** brings together governments, employers and workers of 187 member States to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.

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**Youth Co:Lab** was co-created in 2017 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Citi Foundation, Youth Co:Lab aims to establish a common agenda for countries in the Asia-Pacific region to empower and invest in youth, so that they can accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through leadership, social innovation and entrepreneurship.

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