

Developing the World's Youth

Teaching Resource Guide





Prime Minister Justin Trudeau issued the following statement to mark International Development Week:

“As Canadians, we are defined by our compassion, our generosity, and our ingenuity. Nowhere are these qualities more evident than in our international development workers and volunteers. These Canadians work tirelessly at home – and around the world – to reduce poverty and inequality.

Moving forward, the Government of Canada will be refocusing development assistance on helping the world’s poorest and most vulnerable. Our efforts will be guided by the principles of innovation and effectiveness, as we strive to make Canada’s approach to development something that we can all be proud of.

During International Development Week, I encourage all Canadians to learn – and draw inspiration from – those who do so much to make our world a safer and more compassionate place to live.”

Exhibition Overview

Developing the World's Youth

February 6 - 27, 2017

This exhibit invites you to see the developing world through the eyes of today's youth. The images and voices weave together stories about the challenges and opportunities in earning an income in an economy that does not offer a direct path to employment. The exhibit asks the questions:

"What would you do if you couldn't find a job?"

"What innovative ideas can help address the challenge of youth unemployment?"

Explore this topic through two international programs that focus on youth entrepreneurship. We are showcasing Humber's Sulawesi Economic Development Strategy (SEDS), a Global Affairs Canada funded project that is advancing entrepreneurship in universities in Indonesia, as well as Save the Children and MasterCard Foundation's Youth in Action Program (YiA) that supports out-of-school rural African youth to develop their foundational and entrepreneurial skills and explore livelihood opportunities. Through the words of the youth entrepreneurs, you will learn about the power of creative thinking, the upside of taking risks and how passion can fuel sustainable change.

About the Organizations

Humber's Sulawesi Economic Development Strategy Project (SEDS) works alongside seven universities in Indonesia to improve their curriculum and teaching methods in entrepreneurship. The five year program is developing the creative and business skills of students in the classroom, while also providing on-campus hubs to explore entrepreneurship on their own through services such as business planning, financial management and mentoring.

Youth in Action Program (YiA) is a six-year education and livelihood program in partnership with Save the Children and the MasterCard Foundation. YiA works to improve the socio-economic status of rural out-of-school girls and boys, ages 12-18, in Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ethiopia, Malawi and Uganda, through three main pillars:

Youth Learn: *Youth build foundational literacy, numeracy, financial literacy and transferable life-skills relevant to the local market.*

Youth Act: *Youth self-select a pathway to practice and apply their skills and receive a small grant to pursue their pathway. Pathways include: returning to school; vocational and apprenticeship training; or starting a small business.*

Youth Connect: *Youth receive community-based mentorships, establish peer-to-peer support systems, and are connected to local financial service providers, government, and community organizations, as well as the private sector for sustained support and livelihood development.*



Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two key concepts: the concept of needs, in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given; and the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), otherwise known as the Global Goals, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. These 17 Goals build on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities. The goals are interconnected — often the key to success on one will involve tackling issues more commonly associated with another.

SDG Goal #8:

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

Over the past 25 years the number of workers living in extreme poverty has declined dramatically, despite the lasting impact of the 2008 economic crisis and global recession. The SDGs promote sustained economic growth, higher levels of productivity and technological innovation. Encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation are key to this, as are effective measures to eradicate forced labour, slavery and human trafficking. With these targets in mind, the goal is to achieve full and productive employment, and decent work, for all women and men by 2030. Goal #8 also emphasizes the need to build economic solutions with and for young people. Young people below the age of 25 now account for more than half of the population and approximately 90% reside in low-income countries. Young people make up 37% of the global working age population, but represent 60% of those unemployed or under-employed, struggling in the margins.



Tupen Doni Emerson

“Being an entrepreneur is a natural calling for me”

Tupen, 28, wakes up at 4am every day to cultivate a small field on campus, growing vegetables to sell to local restaurants.

He meets regularly with his business coach Reggy from the university’s SEDS-supported business centre. Reggy advises him on business management and helps to troubleshoot any problems.

Tupen’s business is struggling because the market price for chili peppers is low due to price manipulation in the sector. “It is the biggest challenge that we are facing,” he says. “Small farmers are left out because we have no direct access to the market, so we just accept whatever price the middlemen give us.” Despite this challenge, he is still passionate.

Discussion Questions

1. What does decent work mean to you? Provide examples of jobs, from your own experiences.
2. What unemployment or underemployment do you see here in Toronto? Canada?
3. What are the biggest challenges or barriers to employment that youth face here in Toronto? Canada?
4. How do you think or see unemployment or underemployment impacting individuals? Communities? Societies?



Youth and Employment

Youth Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

The share of youth who are neither in employment nor in education or training in the youth population (the so-called “NEET rate”) is a relatively new indicator, but one that is given increasing importance by international organizations and the media. The popularity of the “NEET” concept is associated with its assumed potential to address a broad array of vulnerabilities among youth, touching on issues of unemployment, early school leaving and labour market discouragement. These are all issues that warrant greater attention as young people continue to feel the aftermath of the economic crisis, particularly in advanced economies.

For more information see: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_343153.pdf

Did you know?

- Youth make up one-sixth of the global population and therefore are strongly overrepresented among the unemployed
- Total global youth unemployment was 73.3 million in 2014
- The youth share of total unemployment is slowly decreasing from 41.5% (2004) to 36.7% (2014)



Fatma | Egypt

“I need to focus on making it bigger. From the money I will make, I want to invest in poultry, which makes a lot of profit in my community.”

Fatma, aged 14, dropped out of school last year. Like most of the girls her age in the village, she did not have access to good quality education, was not allowed to travel far away from her house, and her parents were not able to pay for her school expenses. Instead of going to school, she worked the fields to make ends meet for her family.

When an opportunity arose for Fatma to join the Youth in Action program in February 2016, her life path changed completely. Within four months, Fatma improved her literacy, numeracy and financial skills. Her new skills gave her the confidence to establish a small business selling popcorn. “I chose this business idea because it is easy, low cost,” says Fatma. “I have studied it thoroughly and learned the necessary skills to successfully run it.”

Her long-term plan is to become the main distributor of popcorn to all the supermarkets in her community.

Discussion Questions

1. What are some important factors in predicting successful employment for Canada’s youth?
2. Describe some of the challenges that you have experienced when trying to find either part-time or full-time employment in Canada.



Gender wage gap refers to the difference in earnings between women and men in the workplace. This is a widely recognized indicator of women's economic equality and it exists to some extent in every country in the world.

For more information see: <http://www.canadianwomen.org/facts-about-the-gender-wage-gap-in-canada>

Gender Wage Gap

A world without all forms of discrimination against women and girls is not only a basic human right, but it is also crucial to accelerating sustainable development. Empowering women and girls has a multiplier effect and helps drive economic growth and development across the board. The SDGs aim to ensure that there is an end to discrimination against women and girls everywhere.

There are still staggering inequalities in the labour market in some regions, with women systematically denied equal access to jobs. Sexual violence and exploitation, the unequal division of unpaid care and domestic work, and discrimination in public office all remain huge barriers. Affording women equal rights to economic resources such as land and property are vital targets to realizing this goal. Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health is also crucial. Today there are more women in public office than ever before. However, it is still important to encourage women leaders as this will help strengthen policies and legislation for greater gender equality.

Discussion Questions

1. What particular challenges do women face in accessing quality employment in Canada?
2. Describe how the world would look in a gender equal world. Consider at the individual level, family level, community level, work/economic level and government level.
3. What are some potential solutions to solve gender gaps/barriers? What would you do?
4. Around the world, girls are more at risk of discrimination because of their gender. Why do you think this is the case?



Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneurship is any attempt at a new business or new venture creation such as:

- Self-employment
- A new business organization
- The expansion of an existing business by an individual, a team of individuals or an established business.

For more information see: <http://www.gemconsortium.org/wiki/1149>

Social entrepreneurs play the role of change agents in the social sector by:

- Adopting a mission to create and sustain social and private value
- Recognizing and relentlessly pursuing new opportunities to serve that mission
- Engaging in a process of continuous innovation, adaptation, and learning

For more information see: <https://entrepreneurship.duke.edu/news-item/the-meaning-of-social-entrepreneurship/>



Grace | Uganda

“Now, I can solve my financial problems. I have many plans for my businesses. I want to buy a plot of land out of my profits. YiA has helped me a lot and my life has really changed.”

Meet 18-year-old Grace from Uganda. She is a single mother who, through the Youth in Action Program, started a journey of learning that offered her an improved livelihood and a pathway out of poverty. As part of Youth in Action’s My Business program, Grace explored local market opportunities and learned valuable entrepreneurship skills, such as how to make a business plan and basic bookkeeping. She became a member of a savings-loan group and now has savings of 250,000 UGX (\$96 CAD) through her cocoa trading business and hair salon. “My child used to be sick all the time but now I can pay for her treatment,” says Grace.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever thought about starting or owning your own business or working for yourself? Why or why not?
2. What support would you need here in Canada to start a new business?
3. How can entrepreneurship help Toronto communities and improve Canadian society at large?
4. What are some ways other than entrepreneurship that we can develop and grow a productive society?

Conclusion

The tangible steps taken towards social progress by **Humber's Sulawesi Economic Development Strategy Project (SEDS)** and **Youth in Action (YiA)** are admirable and evident in the stories of the people featured in the Developing the World's Youth exhibition. The efforts of these organizations represent a revolutionary shift in the power dynamics of international development initiatives, one aimed at sustainable growth, localized programs, and peer-to-peer mentorship. This is a welcome change from the hierarchy-ridden methods of past decades.

Having a job in the international development sector takes hard work, personal sacrifice and a knack for continuous adaptation. The world around us is changing, and dedicated employees and volunteers at SEDS and YiA are working to direct those changes to factor in individuals who do not have equal access to opportunities.

As Canadian citizens, it's our duty to stay informed about the unique challenges and triumphs of communities around the world, and to do our part by getting informed and getting involved. By reading this learning resource, you have taken the first step to becoming educated on these issues. Next, we welcome you to use the Additional Resources provided in the next section of this guide to further explore the factors and issues affecting the world's youth.

Additional Resources

The following resources are intended to aid further research on the topics discussed in this teaching guide.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Websites

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - *Goal #8 Decent Work and Economic Work*: <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-8-decent-workand-economic-growth.html>

The Guardian newspaper's resource section for SDGs: <https://www.theguardian.com/globaldevelopment/sustainable-development-goals>

Articles

Johnston, I. (January 16, 2017). World could enjoy utopian future with sustainable development, year-long study finds. *The Independent*. Accessed at <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/business/news/sustainable-development-global-goalstheresa-may-united-nations-mark-malloch-brown-a7527736.html>

Saldinger, A. (January 16, 2017). Business leaders call for new socially focused business model that embraces SDGs. *Devex*. Accessed at <https://www.devex.com/news/business-leaders-call-for-newsocially-focused-business-model-that-embraces-sdgs-89437>

Smedley, T. (September 24, 2015). Sustainable development goals: what business needs to know. *The Guardian*. Accessed at <https://www.theguardian.com/sustainablebusiness/2015/sep/24/sustainable-development-goals-business-sdg-targets>

YOUTH & EMPLOYMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Websites

Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) is online resource on entrepreneurship funded by the Canadian Government: www.gemconsortium.org 19 ILO (2016).

Visit GEM's Wiki for terms and definitions. <http://www.gemconsortium.org/about/wik>

Canada World Youth (CWY) is a Canadian non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of young people that have a desire to become informed and active global citizens. CWY programs are designed to help youth experience the world for themselves, learn about other cultures and diverse Canadian communities while developing leadership and communication skills. www.canadaworldyouth.org

Sulawesi Economic Development Strategy Project (SEDS) is a Humber College partnership with seven universities in Sulawesi, Indonesia to develop the partner institutions' capacity to delivery entrepreneurship education and business support services – critical tools in helping to alleviate poverty and create employment opportunities in the region. <https://business.humber.ca/idicentresofexcellence/the-institute/projects/sulawesi-economic-development-strategy-project-seds.html>

Youth Challenge International (YCI) is a Canadian non-profit organization that develops market-ready solutions that catapult youth around the world to success and prosperity: www.yci.org

Youth in Action (YiA) is a partnership between Save the Children and The MasterCard Foundation. Launched in 2012, the program aims to improve the socio-economic status of approximately 40,000 rural out-of-school boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18, in Burkina Faso, Egypt, Ethiopia, Malawi and Uganda. <http://youthinaction.savethechildren.ca/resources-media-center/>

Articles

The Economist. (January 23, 2016). The walled world of work. Accessed at <http://www.economist.com/news/special-report/21688588-youth-unemployment-massive-waste-resources-walled-world-work>

Patton, A. (2016). The unlikely evidence gap in youth livelihoods work. *Devex.com*. Accessed at <https://www.devex.com/news/the-unlikely-evidence-gap-in-youth-livelihoods-work-88903>

CTV News (January 3, 2017). 19-year-old B.C. inventor makes 2017 Forbes 30 Under 30 list. Accessed at <http://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/19-year-old-b-c-inventor-makes-2017-forbes-30-under-30-list-1.3226569>

Post, J. (December 29, 2016). 9 companies founded by amazing young entrepreneurs. *Business News Daily*. Accessed at <http://www.businessnewsdaily.com/5051-young-entrepreneurs.html>

Rodov, F. and Truong, S. (April 14, 2015). Why schools should teach entrepreneurship. *Entrepreneur*. Accessed at <https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/245038>

GENDER WAGE GAP

Websites

Canadian Labour Congress: Gender Pay Gap <http://canadianlabour.ca/issues-research/issues/gender-pay-gap>

Canadian Women's Foundation raises money to end violence against women, move women out of poverty and build strong resilient girls through funding, researching and promoting best practices. <http://www.canadianwomen.org/>

Gender Wage Gap Strategy Steering Committee (2015). Final Report and recommendations of the Gender Wage Gap Strategy Steering Committee. *Province of Ontario*. Retrieved from <https://www.ontario.ca/page/final-report-and-recommendations-gender-wage-gap-strategy-steering-committee>

Articles

CBC News. (November 19, 2015). Stubborn pay gap for women persists worldwide. Retrieved from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/gender-equality-workplace-1.3326221>

CBC News. (October 18, 2016). Gender wage gap adding to income inequality, Oxfam says in new report. Retrieved from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/oxfam-wage-gap-1.3808560>

Evans, P. (March 7, 2016). Women's wage gap getting wider in Canada, new report indicates. *CBC News*. Retrieved from <http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/wage-gap-oxfam-1.3478938>

Freeman, S. (October 26, 2016). Canada falls to 35th in gender wage gap report. *The Toronto Star*. Retrieved from <https://www.thestar.com/business/2016/10/26/canada-falls-to-35th-in-gender-wage-gap-report.htm>