YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROMOTING JOB GROWTH IN AFRICA

INTEGRATING YOUTH ENTREPRENEURS INTO VALUE CHAINS: JOB CREATION AND GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

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Kenya Private Sector Alliance

- KEPSA is the apex body private sector in Kenya and provides a unified voice for the private sector.
- Drives economic growth through collective effort using various dialogue platforms
- KEPSA is made up of associations and corporates from different sectors
- Membership is purely from the private sector and currently there are approximately 90 Business Membership Organizations (BMOs) and over 200 corporates (Approximately 40% of Kenya Private Sector).
- KEPSA is currently implementing one of largest youth empowerment project in Kenya that focuses on job creation in the formal and informal sectors.

Kenya Youth Empowerment Project

- KYEP is a Government of Kenya Project Financed by the World Bank
- The Project is Coordinated by the Ministry of Devolution and Planning (Youth Directorate)
- It has two components;
 - Capacity Building and Policy Development (MoDP)
 - Private Sector Training and Internship(KEPSA)
- Overall Project Development Objective is to support Government of Kenya effort in improving youth employability

Private Sector Training and Internship Component

- Objective is to improve youth employability, by providing skills and work experience in both formal and informal sectors
- Eligible youth: 15-29 years , at least 8 years of schooling, out of school for at least a year, not working and a Kenyan
- Key project outcome indicators: Wage employment; Selfemployment; Further Trainings, education or skills development; and Satisfaction of the intern and employer
- Project activities include: Creation of internships in the private, Provision of internship training, Developing Capacity of informal sector employers and monitoring and evaluation

KEPSA intervention on integrating youth entrepreneurs in value chains

- Youth are provided with lifeskills, business and entrepreneurship skills training before proceeding for work experience
- Youth entrepreneurs participating in the project are then attached to a mentor – either in large companies or Small businesses
- The mentors (80% youth) are provided with trainings to enhance their capacity
- Supports linkages of small business to value chains of large enterprises – PSYF and MSEF
- Networking forums where formal and informal mentors meet regularly