

Preparing Youth for the

World of Work

The International Youth Foundation's Leader with Associates Award



YOUTH:WORK

a program of the International Youth Foundation

Overview

Youth:Work is a Global Development Alliance (GDA) Leader with Associates (LWA) assistance mechanism that USAID missions and bureaus can utilize to access the youth employability programs and services of the International Youth Foundation (IYF). Under Youth:Work, USAID can support existing IYF programs to expand their scope and scale. Alternatively, USAID and IYF can design new programs through a collaborative process based on proven interventions that address local realities.

USAID missions may implement Youth:Work activities under separate Associate Award agreements **without additional competition or sole source justification**. Participation in Youth:Work allows country programs to benefit from the activities funded under the Leader Award, which include cross project learning, monitoring, impact evaluation; training; networking events; and other special initiatives.

Based on the requirements of individual missions or bureaus, IYF can design, implement, monitor, and evaluate employment, livelihood, and entrepreneurship programs for young people ages 15 to 29. IYF's integrated approach to job placement through comprehensive training, and job creation through entrepreneurship, builds on a solid foundation of best practices in private sector engagement, NGO capacity building, monitoring, and evaluation.

IYF has a long and successful track record in creating solutions for disadvantaged youth. The portfolio of programs include tailored interventions that accommodate the special needs of out-of-school, orphaned, vulnerable urban and rural young people, as well as those living in post-emergency and post conflict environments.

IYF's 18 years of experience shows that training alone is not enough to help a young person get a job. IYF workforce development programs utilize a "dual client" approach focusing on both the young person and the prospective employer. Only by meeting the needs of both will the program succeed in placing at-risk youth in decent jobs.

All IYF programs combine demand-driven technical skill-building with training in life skills, basic literacy, and numeracy. Mentoring, internships, and targeted job placement strategies ensure that participants find decent employment and excel in the workplace. Additionally, IYF offers entrepreneur education and linkages to financial assistance and other support services to make sure that participants' small businesses survive and grow.

IYF matches market demands and youth needs by working in partnership with local NGOs, governments, and private businesses. All IYF programs feature state-of-the-art monitoring and evaluation systems that allow for documenting impact, and sharing learning and best practices across programs.

IYF is recognized for creating new approaches, enhancing proven practices, and taking successful pilot programs to scale. Local ownership and strong partnership with respected members of civil society, business, and government at all levels support the sustainability of interventions.

Accessing IYF Programs & Services

Youth:Work is easy for USAID missions to use. As a GDA mechanism, missions may collaborate with IYF to design program descriptions. Under rules governing LWA mechanisms, Youth:Work has already undergone a competitive process. Associate Awards do not require additional competition or sole source justification. Youth:Work allows missions to appoint Cognizant Technical Officers and Agreement Officers to oversee Associate Awards, so missions retain appropriate control over implementation. To utilize Youth:Work, a mission should:

- **Designate an Activity Manager** who will serve as CTO when the award is signed;
- **Develop a Program Description**, in collaboration with IYF, as desired;
- **Clear the Program Description** with Youth:Work Leader AOTR Patricia Flanagan, EGAT/Infrastructure and Engineering (pflanagan@usaid.gov);
- **Send the Program Description to IYF** for proposal development (Missions may continue collaboration with IYF during this process if desired);
- **Review and approve IYF's proposal;** and
- **Make an Associate Award to IYF.**



Leveraging Resources & Building Alliances

For the past two decades, IYF has specialized in building multi-stakeholder alliances. Youth:Work will achieve a one-to-one leverage on the resources USAID provides across all global activities. IYF will pair resources from local and international businesses as well as other multi-lateral and bi-lateral donors to maximize USAID's investment and amplify results. IYF has a successful track record in this area, as described below:

- The Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) of the Inter-American Development Bank and IYF created *entra21*, a project to prepare young workers for jobs in the new economy in Latin America and the Caribbean. In the program's first phase, the MIF provided US\$10 million, and IYF leveraged US\$20 million from other donors, including US\$4.1 million from USAID. IYF leveraged US\$7 million more than the amount required in the original commitment. In 2007, the MIF awarded IYF a new US\$10 million grant for phase two, which IYF will leverage with US\$20 million. This unprecedented second commitment by the MIF was a challenge to IYF to surpass past achievements. If successful, IYF will receive an additional US\$5 million from MIF to scale up projects to serve more young people. The 2007 World Development Report highlighted *entra21's* approach as a proven practice, and USAID presented the program with its 2006 Global Development Alliance Excellence Award.
- The Education and Employment Alliance (EEA) works in six countries with high youth unemployment rates and large disadvantaged populations—Egypt, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Pakistan and the Philippines—to develop and expand quality education, job training and placement opportunities. EEA is supported through a US\$13 million grant from USAID, which includes US\$4 million in seed funding to pilot innovative youth employability activities. To date, IYF and its partners have leveraged more than US\$9.5 million to pair with the seed funding in support of 43 locally-driven public-private alliances.
- Since 2004, the GE Foundation has invested US\$3.5 million in the development of Passport to Success, a life skills and employability program that IYF implements in Hungary, India, Mexico, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, and Russia. This program has supported nearly 21,000 young people by helping them stay in school, enroll in job training programs, and obtain employment.

IYF has a long history of partnering with corporations. The following list represents a sample of recent investors in IYF programs:

Alcatel-Lucent	Microsoft
BP	Nike
Caterpillar	Nokia
Chevron	Oracle
Cisco	Pearson
Gap Inc.	Telefonica
Intel	Wrigley
Merrill Lynch	

Partnership

IYF collaborates with businesses, governments, and civil society organizations to build on their shared commitment to improve the life conditions and prospects of young people through effective, sustainable, and scalable programs. IYF implements programs through competent and carefully vetted local organizations. This cost effective strategy focuses on building the capacity of local partners who will continue to implement programs long after the project ends.

Contact Us

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For more information about Youth:Work and IYF's other youth employment strategies and successes, visit us online at www.iyfnet.org/YouthWork

About IYF

The International Youth Foundation is a global, nonprofit, non-government organization uniquely dedicated to creating a positive direction for young people throughout the world. Since its founding in 1990, IYF's network of partner organizations has grown to more than 70 countries—helping young people shape their futures through proven programs that tie education to work, improve employability and develop young people's critical life and work skills. All of our programming is designed to transform young people into skilled workers, healthy, engaged citizens and inspiring leaders. To date, IYF has reached more than 30 million young people through its programs.

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