Policy-knowledge community on youth employment in Ghana

The Ghanaian economy has experienced high growth rates over the past decade. Nevertheless, the economy is still prone to unemployment or ‘joblessness’ and there is a high level of vulnerable employment. Especially youth have been affected by joblessness and low-wage employment, despite a rise in their education levels. The Government of Ghana has struggled to address the youth employment challenges, causing this to become an important topic in the national elections of 2016. Both the political discourse and social media demonstrate a weak understanding of the problem. This project proposes to establish effective national-level policy-knowledge communities through the organization of two national dialogues on youth employment.

Objectives

- To expose relevant stakeholders, particularly political parties, to knowledge on youth employment challenges and the dangers associated with these challenges
- To engage relevant stakeholders in the discussion on youth employment challenges
- To gain understanding of how youth employment is incorporated in the political agendas of the parties participating in the 2016 elections

Lead organization

African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET)

Country focus

Ghana

Partners

- African Development Bank, Accra Office (tentative)
- National Development Planning Commission (NDPC)
- International Institute for Advanced Studies (IIAS)

Planned activities

- Hold first dialogue meeting with relevant stakeholders focused on knowledge sharing (July)
- Prepare background paper and deliberation report based on first dialogue meeting (May/June)
- Hold second dialogue meeting with political parties participating in the 2016 elections in which political parties will present their political standpoints on youth employment (early September)
- Prepare a report on the outcomes of the dialogues and the way forward for policy-makers on youth employment (September/October)