

## Factsheet African Policy Dialogue:

# Youth employment interventions in Ghana

Led by Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC)

Despite relatively high rates of economic growth and numerous interventions initiated by the Government of Ghana to address employment challenges, unemployment remains high, especially among the youth, and other challenges such as underemployment are yet to be adequately addressed. This is partly because government interventions are often discontinued when a different political party forms government after national elections. The other reason for this is poor alignment between the focus of interventions and the demands of the labour market. The interventions generally encompass skills development for occupational classes or enterprise development segments with limited labour market demand. In addition, employment interventions are implemented in isolation, which makes it difficult to link their different perspectives. Finding out the extent to which the interventions have met their objectives and what has worked for youth is difficult due to lack of meta-analyses of youth employment interventions. This African Policy Dialogue (APD) seeks to generate research evidence on what works and what does not in youth employment interventions and contribute to the design of youth interventions in Ghana.

### Objectives

- Develop a coherent understanding of the root causes of youth unemployment across diverse youth demographic cohorts
- Develop comprehensive knowledge of previous and existing youth interventions to determine the (non)efficacy of interventions
- Use research evidence from the two objectives above to inform policy dialogue on youth employment
- Establish a network of relevant private-public-civil sector stakeholders in Ghana and engage them in dialogue on youth employment
- Inform the formulation and implementation of new policies, and align existing policies and programmes

### Main actors

- Netherlands-African Business Council (NABC)
- Other actors: government agencies such as ministries linked to youth employment, agriculture, and business development; representatives of political parties; labour unions; youth groups; knowledge institutions; civil society; multilateral development institutions; and the Dutch Embassy in Ghana

### Activities and deliverables

- Comprehensive appraisal of youth interventions in Ghana (One District One Factory; Planting for Food and Jobs; One village-One Dam; Nation Builders Corps; and Free Secondary Education)
- Functional and active APD on youth employment in Ghana
- Youth employment in Ghana thematic review report
- Systematic review report on youth employment interventions in Ghana
- Unabridged policy report on youth employment

- Meta-analysis of youth employment interventions in Ghana
- Background paper on youth employment interventions in Ghana
- Discussion paper on the future of youth employment in Ghana
- Stakeholders' perspective report
- Three work-group specific discussion papers
- Synthesis of emerging evidence from practitioners' report
- Policy insights on youth employment (unabridged report)
- Policy insights brief on youth employment (abridged report)
- Policy briefs on youth employment: emerging insights into youth employment efficacy
- Newspaper articles: minimum of 5
- Blogs: minimum of 10
- Audio-visual portraits: Ghanaian youth aspirations
- Interactive youth reports: minimum of 5
- Expert working group sessions
- Kick-off seminar on 'The state of youth employment in Ghana'
- Public-private-civil sector dialogues
- Dialogue with key public institutions
- Stakeholder engagement session on 'The future of youth employment in Ghana'