



International  
Labour  
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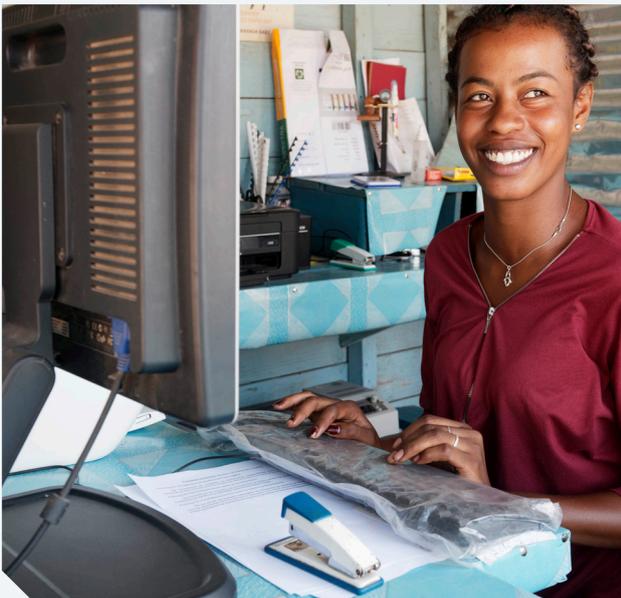
# ▶ Mastercard Foundation ILO partnership

▶ January 2021

## Committing to youth training and employment

The Mastercard Foundation is an important strategic partner of the ILO. Contributing nearly US\$ 15 million since 2011, the Foundation has focused its support on youth employment through the Work4Youth programme and played a vital role in improving global labour statistics related to youth in the labour market.

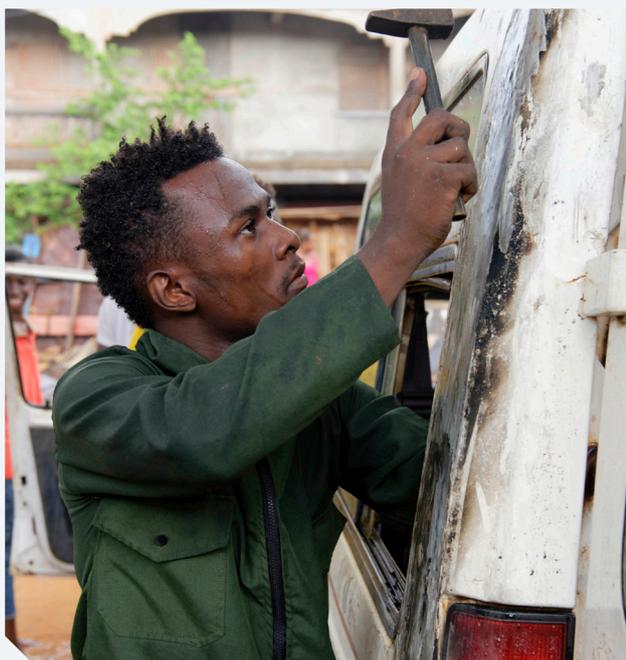
### ▶ Incorporating new youth employment indicators into ILOSTAT using labour force survey microdata



With the aim of using the ILO's repository of labour force survey microdatasets to generate a new, continuously-updated [YouthSTATS](#) database with wide global coverage over time, this Mastercard Foundation supported project has greatly enhanced the body of evidence on youth in labour markets around the world. It has also facilitated new research and better-informed policies to help improve the situation among the most vulnerable youth populations across the world.

As a result of the lessons learned through the project, the ILO is better equipped to provide countries with targeted support to enhance their labour force survey instruments to capture the transition from school to work.





With the shared goal of increasing the existing number of school-to-work transition surveys (SWTS) from five to 52 and integrating the data and analysis into publications and workshops, ILO and the Master Card Foundation implemented the multi-year Work4Youth project from 2011 to 2016.

The partnership allowed essential research on the entry of youth into the labour market to take place as well as facilitated the establishment of databases on global youth statistics. Access to accurate, up-to-date data means policymakers are better positioned to adopt policies aligned with the needs of young people and develop youth employment interventions nationally and globally. While the Work4Youth programme did not itself seek to create jobs, it allowed technical specialists within the ILO to work with constituents to enhance youth policy design in 34 project countries across the globe. Furthermore, a series of communications products developed during the course of the project, enabled advocacy on youth employment issues.

### THE RESULTS

- 53 school-to-work transition surveys were completed across 34 project countries.
- More than 186,000 young people participated in the surveys, representing 335 million people between the ages of 15 and 29.
- 35 country-level analytic reports were published as well as five thematic reports, and four regional reports.
- Two versions of the ILO's flagship publication, Global Employment Trends for Youth (which includes data from the survey) were published, and have been downloaded 190,000 times.
- Two databases were developed: YouthSTATS using the school-to-work transition data-sets and YouthPOL as an inventory of more than 500 youth employment policies divided by country and theme; both of which are openly available.
- The project also conducted national and regional workshops, two symposia for researchers who accessed the data-sets and developed papers, technical assistance to staff from the National Statistical Offices at the training centre in Turin, and technical support to country offices to analyze the data and develop related policies.

### ► About the Mastercard Foundation

Created in 2006 by Mastercard International and based in Toronto, Canada, the Mastercard Foundation's work is guided by its mission to advance learning and promote financial inclusion for people living in poverty. It seeks a world where everyone has the opportunity to learn and prosper. With a strong focus on countries in Africa, the Mastercard Foundation supports economically disadvantaged people to move out of poverty to a better life. For more information, sign up for the Foundation's newsletter by visiting <https://www.mastercardfdn.org> or following the Foundation on Twitter at [@MastercardFdn](https://twitter.com/MastercardFdn).

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