



12 August: International Youth Day and the end of the Year of Youth

Happy International Youth Day!

The theme for this year's **International Youth Day** is "Dialogue and Mutual Understanding". The choice of the theme reflects the General Assembly's appreciation of the value of dialogue among youth from different cultures as well as among different generations, and is in line with the theme of this International Year of Youth. As part of the **International Year of Youth**, the General Assembly held a high-level meeting on youth on 25 and 26 July 2011. You can read the joint statement of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD) and draft General Assembly Resolution on Youth [here](#).

NEW: ASK THE COMMUNITY – BE THE EXPERT

Since its inception in 2008, **APYouthNet** has been continually updated and innovated its user friendliness, looks and services. The latest round of innovations include a new feature and service called '**Ask the Community**'. This feature allows all members to access the combined knowledge, experience and estimated 5,000 years of work experience from 700 members by posting any youth employment-related question to the 'Ask the Community' Message Board. Any member who subscribed to '**Be the Expert**' will be notified so that your question will be answered. Additionally, the APYouthNet team will make sure that all questions get connected to the right person because we believe in the power of knowledge sharing and working together. Try this feature [here](#).

POSTCARD FROM...Indonesia

by APYouthNet Members Tenny Gunawan (ILO CO-Jakarta) and Nicky Ferland (YEN Associate)

Apa Kabar? Greetings from the beautiful archipelago of Indonesia! More than 238 million people, including a large youth population, call our 17,500 islands stretched across three different time zones home. With our economy experiencing robust and steady growth to the tune of 6 per cent annually, we need to ensure that this translates into decent and productive employment opportunities for youth while enabling an entrepreneurial culture in new and exciting sectors like the creative industries and green enterprises.



With a third of employed youth still work in low productivity non-wage labour and more than half of them working in the informal sector, youth are working in a vulnerable environment without any social protection, and with decent work deficits measured in terms of working poverty and employment status. But on the bright side, the trends indicate that youth unemployment is declining: from 2007 to 2010, the unemployment rate dropped by about a quarter.

You will be pleased to hear that a growing number of 'movers and shakers' are committed to tackling the youth employment challenge in Indonesia. At the 100th annual International Labour Conference in Geneva recently, President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono called for a **Global Coalition for Youth Employment**. Supported by the ILO and World Bank, the Vice President's Office for Acceleration of Poverty Reduction team is currently designing a Youth Employment Strategy 2011-2014 based on existing programmes and activities implemented by various ministries. **The Indonesia Youth Employment Network (IYEN)** Secretariat will lend its coordination and knowledge sharing expertise to the upcoming Strategy.

We hope to hear back from the **APYouthNet** community soon!

KA JAM: Kabataan (Youth) Jobs and Alternatives to Migration



In line with the International Youth Day celebration, the **MDG Fund Joint Programme on Alternatives to Migration: Decent Work for Filipino Youth** is organizing an event entitled "Kabataan: Jobs and Alternatives to Migration" or KA JAM.

This event will be held on Friday, 12 August 2011, at the SMX Convention Center, Mall of Asia in Pasay City. It will serve as a platform for the presentation of the key youth employment and migration priorities to His Excellency President Benigno Aquino III, who will be the Keynote Speaker.

You can find further information about the event [here](#) and more information and debate on the topic in our last [discussion forum](#) on the issue of the effects of labour migration policies on young people.

Recommended:

The **UNESCO Courier** special Youth Day edition '*How youth drive change*', August 2011.



Latest resources:

Sustainlabour Report 'Green Jobs for Youth?'

June 2011 - This recent report looks at the demographics of green jobs and whether green jobs will be able to offer decent employment to youth.

