



Young Futuremakers Malaysia – Promoting the career progression of young women through up/reskilling in STEM, including digital skills, and employment services

October/2022

© Shutterstock

▶ At a glance



Stakeholders

- ▶ Ministry of Human Resources (MOHR)
 - ▶ HRD Corp
 - ▶ Department of Skills Development (DSD)
 - ▶ TalentCorp
- ▶ Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF)
- ▶ Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC)
- ▶ Ministry of Youth and Sports (MOYS)
- ▶ Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)
- ▶ Other stakeholders, including civil society organizations, academia, TVET/skills institutions, enterprises and local communities



Donor

Standard Chartered Foundation



Duration

July 2022 – December 2023



Target beneficiaries

Youth (aged 15-30), including TVET trainees and graduates, women, members of the bottom 40 per cent (B40) and middle 40 per cent (M40) of income groups



Geographical focus

Malaysia with a primary focus on Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Kedah

▶ Background

In Malaysia, the COVID-19 crisis has negatively impacted the labour market prospects of youth through disruptions to education and training, job disruptions through reduced working hours and unemployment, and disruptions in transitioning from school to work. These disruptions also risked exacerbating pre-existing inequalities, especially related to gender. Even before the crisis, young women in Malaysia were in a vulnerable labour market situation and encountered a rapidly changing world of work with changes in technology and skills demanded by employers, in addition to persisting gender disparities in the labour market and skills development.

In response to these challenges, the ILO collaborates with Standard Chartered Foundation to implement the “Young Futuremakers Malaysia” project (2022-23) with a focus on promoting the employability of young women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in Malaysia. Focusing on a gender-responsive and inclusive approach, the project is expected to reach a total number of 1,200 young people between the ages of 15-30, including TVET trainees and graduates, women, members of the bottom 40 per cent (B40) and middle 40 per cent (M40) of income groups from July 2022 to December 2023.

► Objective

Anchored in the UN Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, the project takes a gender-responsive, systemic, and inclusive approach to strengthening existing labour market structures, services, and institutional capacities, while building linkages between government, training centres, employment offices, the private sector, and young people. The project aims to:

Improve employment-related knowledge and skills of young women and men, with a focus on industry demand-driven tech-oriented STEM and core skills towards their career advancement

The project will work closely with key project stakeholders to develop a gender-sensitive career progression map for youth in STEM-related fields, while considering the 'lived-realities' of youth and young women in selected occupations. The project will also develop a pilot micro-credential training with a particular focus on young women, in STEM related occupations based on the career progression map, focusing on digital and core work skills to improve employment-related knowledge and skills needed for employment. Findings and lessons learnt from the pilot micro-credentials training and career progression map will be used to develop action plans to scale, replicate and sustain the training based on the findings of the pilot and to provide input for enhancement of national career support systems to support labour market transitions of young women in STEM.

Improve labour market transitions of underprivileged female TVET graduates' labour market transition through awareness raising on up/reskilling and career opportunities as well as strengthened post-training employment services

The project will work closely with key project stakeholders and establish strategic partnerships to help underprivileged female TVET graduates and young workers to explore STEM-related employment opportunities through enhanced post-training support systems and employment services following the micro-credential training. The project will also build the capacity of TVET training institutions to provide career guidance based on the post-training support materials and gender-sensitive career progression maps and conduct career guidance support through group-based mentoring and coaching to support work/internship placement of trainees in STEM-related occupations.

To achieve this, the project will be implemented in close collaboration with local partners and key stakeholders, including:

- Ministry of Human Resources (MOHR)
 - HRD Corp
 - Department of Skills Development (DSD)
 - TalentCorp
- Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF)
- Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC)
- Ministry of Youth and Sports (MOYS)
- Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI)
- Other stakeholders, including civil society organizations, academia, TVET/skills institutions, enterprises, and local communities

► Contact details:

ILO Kuala Lumpur Project Office
Suite 12.04, Level 12, Menara E&C
No 2, Lorong Dungun Kiri, 50490 Kuala Lumpur
T: + 603 2733 3000
E: weidenkaff@ilo.org
W: ilo.org/asia