

Concept note

African youth consultation on the Job creation campaign on the margin of the 33rd AU summit, February 2020

Background

Understanding that Africa is at the height of a crisis and an opportunity, with its population standing at 1.3 billion people. Of these, about 35 per cent are aged 15 – 35 and over 75 per cent of Africa's total population are under 35 years of age. Africa therefore needs to create 22.5 million jobs annually to employ new labor market entrants. The extremely low quality of jobs available to young people, especially in the informal sector can be seen in the share of youths who are working but living in extreme poverty, a staggering 42.4%.

Youth Employment is also one of the key focus areas of the 1 Million by 2021 Initiative that seeks to reach one million young Africans with opportunities in the areas of Education, Employment, Entrepreneurship and Engagement (4E's) by the year 2021. Concrete actions are needed to catalyze action for youth development in Africa, towards harnessing Africa's demographic dividend and achieving the vision of Agenda 2063. It is therefore necessary to have consultations to collate ideas, voice and build consensus and understand the thinking of young people across Africa on accelerating the implementation of job creation and employment strategies. A forum to share the current trends and develop a common understanding of the of the issues, strategies, investments, models and policy gaps to creating jobs on the African continent as well as collate ideas, build consensus and provide a platforms for disseminating knowledge and strategic engagement with policy makers and business leaders is critical in developing a winning advocacy strategy.

The overall objective of the consultation is to come up with a job creation campaign to secure investment and implementation of policies that create job growth and also build consensus for mobilizing the thoughts of young Africans on key policy commitments and reforms that can enable African countries to create 1 million decent jobs annually by 2021.

Expected Outcomes

It is hoped that at the end of the consultation, the following outcomes will be achieved:

1. Develop a campaign strategy on job creation that will focus on fast tracking the implementation of the **Employment** and **Entrepreneurship** components of the 1 million by 2021 strategy.
2. Deep and meaningful partnerships with key youth networks and institutions desiring to work on Job creation across Africa.
3. Develop a tool and strategy to mobilize authentic African youth voices on the subject of job creation in Africa.

Participants and Partners

It is anticipated there will be around 20-30 participants as identified below:.

- African Union Commission
- AU Youth Envoy and Advisory Council
- Regional Youth network leaders
- African Union youth department
- AUDA – NEPAD - 1
- UN Economic Commission for Africa
- Other CSOs
- Representatives of development partners/foundations
 - GIZ
 - Mastercard foundation
 - African Development Bank
 - World Bank
 - ACET

Logistics

The consultation is held in partnership with the AU Youth Division and the Office of the African Union Youth Envoy on February 7th. The venue for the consultation is Jupiter International Hotel

Roles and Responsibilities

AUC Youth Department – Integrate Job creation agenda into 1m by 2021 engagement plans

AU Youth Envoy's office – Co-design programme, Co-invite participants, transmit recommendations to AU Assembly

ONE – Facilitate logistics of consultation, coordinate inputs and lead strategy on Youth manifesto on Job creation

Development partners – Experience sharing on job creations initiatives – lessons and opportunities

Digital and Media - Public Communications Plan –

A supporters engagement plan will be developed in partnership with AU Youth Envoy's team to connect ONE supporters and the general public on the role of youth employment and empowerment in silencing the guns. Media engagement through coverage, interviews and thought leadership will be facilitated to make the conversations mainstream.

DRAFT AGENDA

TIME	ACTIVITY	FACILITATOR
8:00am	Arrival & Registration Welcome Tea	ONE Rapporteurs
8:45am- 9:30am	Official Opening Welcome Remarks Remarks by Opening Speech	MC
9:30am – 10:30am	Discussion: 1mBy2021 Initiative: Focus on 2 E's Employment, Entrepreneurship	AU Youth Division
10:30am – 11:00am	TEA BREAK	
11:00am – 11:30am	Presentation: Through ONE's action of Organising, mobilizing, educating and advocating for the harnessing of the Demographic Dividend	ONE
11:30am – 12.00 pm	Presentation: Accelevate Leads, Kenya Transforming education for youth employment	Viridiana Wasike, CEO Accelevate Leads
12:00pm – 12:30pm	100,000 SMEs for 1 Million Jobs by 2021	AUDA-NEPAD
12:30 – 1:00 pm	Concept Presentation Division into groups & elaboration of discussion Format & expected outcomes	Facilitators
1:00pm – 2:00pm	LUNCH BREAK	
2:00pm – 3.30pm	Roundtable Discussions In Groups (25 youth participants)	Facilitators
3.30pm- 4.00pm	Compilation of a Campaign Strategy	Facilitators
4.00 pm – 4.30 pm	Presentations of Youth Recommendations	Participants & MC
4:30pm	Closing Remarks	MC
5:00pm	Vote of Thanks	