

ADAPT Labour Studies BOOK-SERIES

Youth Unemployment in Africa: Recent Developments and New Challenges

Call for Papers

Youth unemployment has become a challenging issue in Africa, in both economic and social terms. To illustrate this point, it is sufficient to go through a recently issued report – *African Economic Outlook*, published jointly by AFDB, OECD, UNDP and UNECA, in May 2012 – which indicates that about 22 million out of 40 million African young jobseekers have become jobless and fearful of their future opportunities.

Given the current trend of annual labour market growth of 2.2%, the challenges of youth employment still seem far from improving in the short-time frame. This is because with this annual labour market growth, the number of youth in Africa is expected to double by 2045, which will make Africa the home of the mostly young people in the world (*African Economic Outlook 2012*). This high number of youth, coupled with the existing weak and inadequate labour market institutions, is thus expected to result in high persistent youth unemployment in the years to come. Especially, the situation of young women is a particular concern as they might face even higher rates of long-term unemployment and joblessness basically for many gender related reasons. This situation then poses a number of questions and challenges.

For those reasons, ADAPT, the Association for International and Comparative Labour Studies and the fields of Labour Law and Industrial Relations (www.adapt.it), is soliciting original articles and manuscripts which discuss African youth employment challenges. Accepted papers will be included in a special issue of the ADAPT Labour Studies BOOK-SERIES (www.adapt.it/currentissue).

Possible themes in contributing papers include, but are not limited to:

- Working conditions of the youth
- Determinants of youth unemployment
- Consequences of youth unemployment
- Role of vocational training on youth employment
- Role of private vs public sector on employment creation for the youth
- Foreign direct investment and job for the youth
- The role of informal sector vs formal sector in job creation
- Roles of small scale industries

- Early skill building and competency of the youth
- Gender disparities in the labour market
- Legal framework and youth employment
- Emerging technologies and the youth
- School-to-work transition of the youth
- On-the-job training and skills
- Multi-party system, politics and youth employment
- Youth unemployment and migration
- Youth unemployment and security issue
- Labour market policies and youth employment
- Sector policies (agricultural, industry etc) and the youth
- Nature of labour market institutions and their implication to youth employment
- Labour productivity and its implication to youth employment
- Macroeconomic policies and youth employment

Notice that ADAPT also welcomes experts who are willing to produce a national report or a national case study on the foregoing issues. Should you have any interest, please make contact with the project supervisors by not later than 31 December 2012 so you will be given instructions in this connection.

Submissions of Papers

Papers for publication should usually be between 6,000 and 10,000 words in length. The subject matter should examine issues at hand from an international and interdisciplinary perspective. All submissions should include an abstract of not more than 250 words. Interested authors should also submit a separate abstract of the chosen topic, with their name(s), title, qualification, institutional affiliation and e-mail contact. If there are multiple authors, the name and contact details of the corresponding author(s) should be sent. Articles submitted will be exhaustively refereed before being accepted for publication.

Best Wishes
Francesca Sperotti
Head of ADAPT International Relations

Project Supervisors

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Deadline for Submission

July 01, 2013

Please send all submissions to

cfp@adapt.it