MINISTRY OF LABOR, EMPLOYMENT, AND SOCIAL SECURITY

YOUNG PEOPLE WITH MORE WORK AND BETTER JOBS PROGRAM

MAY 2008





Secretariat of Employment

Labor and social situation, 2003 v. 2007



Thousands of jobs have been created. Nevertheless, youth unemployment remains a problem.

The unemployment rate among young people is three times the average of the economically active population.

Most affected groups

EPH figures identify three groups of young people that are a public policy priority:

Highly at-risk youth

329,000 youths not employed, not seeking jobs, and not in education

67,000 unemployed youths with family obligations

182,000 unemployed youths not in education

Target population

- Young people aged between 18 and 24:
 - Unemployed
 - Incomplete basic education (primary or secondary)
 - > Little or no work experience
 - Belonging to at-risk homes

Rationale behind a specific policy for young people

- > They are the most affected by unemployment.
- > They account for 44% of unemployed people.
- ➤ The unemployment rate for people aged 15 to 24 is 3½ times greater than the average among the general EAP.

Some characteristics

- > 42.8% of unemployed youths come from the poorest 20% of households.
- > The unemployment rate is higher among young women (30.1%) than among young men (21.3%).
- Young people do not spend more time looking for work and adults, but they switch more dynamically between periods of employment and unemployment and report higher levels of job precariousness.

Some characteristics

- More than 70% of young jobseekers have worked previously.
- > 62.2% of young people aged between 18 and 24 have held precarious or unregistered jobs.
- Almost 40% of unemployed youths have either not begun or not completed their secondary education. They therefore lack the skills necessary for securing decent jobs.

More Work and Better Jobs:

Youth Employment Policy

Fund the development of training plans and school completion programs to improve employability.

➤ Promote insertion in local contexts and in the most dynamic economic sectors, strengthening ties with the business world.

Key Ideas

- Encourage social and labor inclusion, establishing linkages between education and work.
- Encourage the definition of a training and job plan involving guidance, mentoring, and tutoring during the different phases of the program.
- Inter- and intra-institutional **linkage** among the different levels of government, the private sector, trade unions, and civil society.

Main Objective

Young People with More Work and Better Jobs Program

To create social and labor inclusion opportunities for young people of both sexes through integrated actions that construct a pathway for incorporation into the job market:

- Recover the idea of a life plan based on training and work
- Conclude compulsory education
- Train for a job
- Perform internships in real working environments
- Begin a productive business, either independently or in partnership with others
- Secure a job, providing economic benefits for small and medium-sized enterprises that hire young people

The Program will offer a system of scholarships and economic incentives

Goals

- Over the next 5 years (2008/2013), the Program plans to reach, at least, 300,000 young people.
 - School leaving certificates
 - Professional training
 - New productive microenterprises
 - Internships
 - Labor insertion

Intervention Strategy

Interconnection of the following resources:

- Employment Services Network: 250 Municipal Employment Offices, providing tools for the implementation of training and employment policies in conjunction with population segments with particular learning dynamics.
- Network of Continuous Training Institutes: more than 400 training centers, which will provide the local area with relevant, quality job offers, and other institutes of education existing in each municipality.
- Provincial and Municipal Youth Areas: incorporation of each of these bodies into the different phases of the program, encouraging the inclusion of training and employment issues in their everyday work.
- Agencies involved with the working world: establishment, in conjunction with local companies, trade unions, and other bodies, of:
 - □ **On-the-job training projects** (internships), or **integrating** the productive businesses created into their supply chains, or
 - □ Authentic jobs