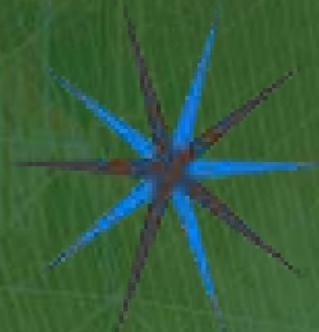


YOUTH INCLUSION

IN THE BLUE-GREEN ECONOMY OF THE AMERICAS



**Understanding Perspectives , Challenges,
and Pathways for a Better Future**



YABT
Young Americas Business Trust



OAS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY BRIEF

YABT & OAS CONNECTION TO THE SDG

THE BLUE-GREEN ECONOMY FROM YOUTH
PERSPECTIVES

LOCAL ACTION



AN ECONOMY THAT AIMS TO
SUSTAINABLY APPROACH COSTAL
DEVELOPEMENT

**BLUE
ECONOMY**

OAS

ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

AN ECONOMY THAT AIMS TO REDUCE
ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS.

**GREEN
ECONOMY**

YABT

YOUNG AMERICAN BUSINESS TRUST

Key Terms

Introduction

THE YOUNG AMERICA BUSINESS TRUST

The Young American Business Trust is a non-profit international organization focused on promoting global social and economic development for youth in partnership with the OAS.



EMPLOYMENT
+
POVERTY
REDUCTION

CLIMATE
CHANGE

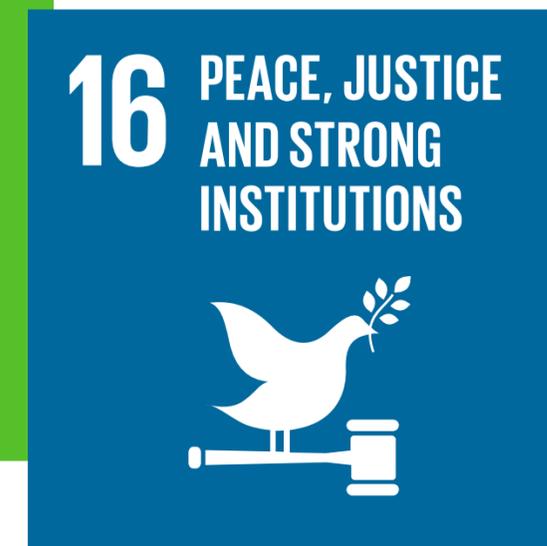
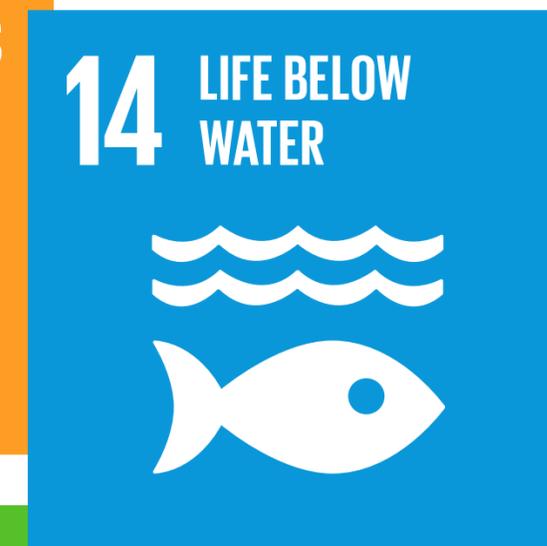
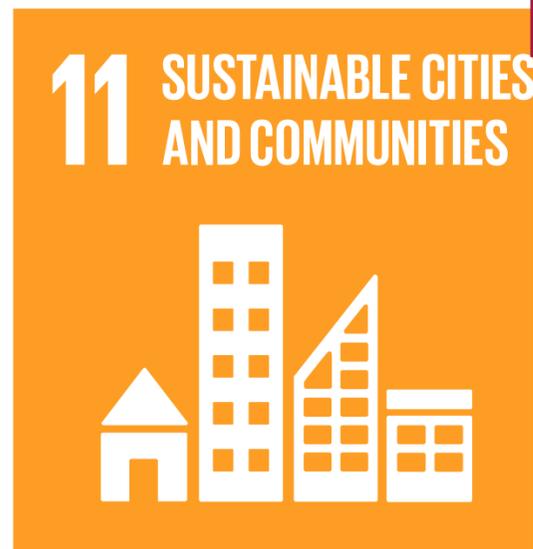
PEACE
+
DEMOCRACY



CONNECTION TO

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are a set of 17 interrelated goals that aims to protect the **people** and **planet** to ensure that humanity enjoys **peace** and **prosperity** by 2030.



YABT CONSULTATION FINDINGS

- In the Caribbean, youth unemployment is alarmingly high.
 - 2024 rates ranged from **17.6% to 24%**
- About 8.4 million youth-centric green jobs will be available by 2030, but currently:
 - **<10%** work in this sector due to job shortages
 - **>60%** lack the necessary skills

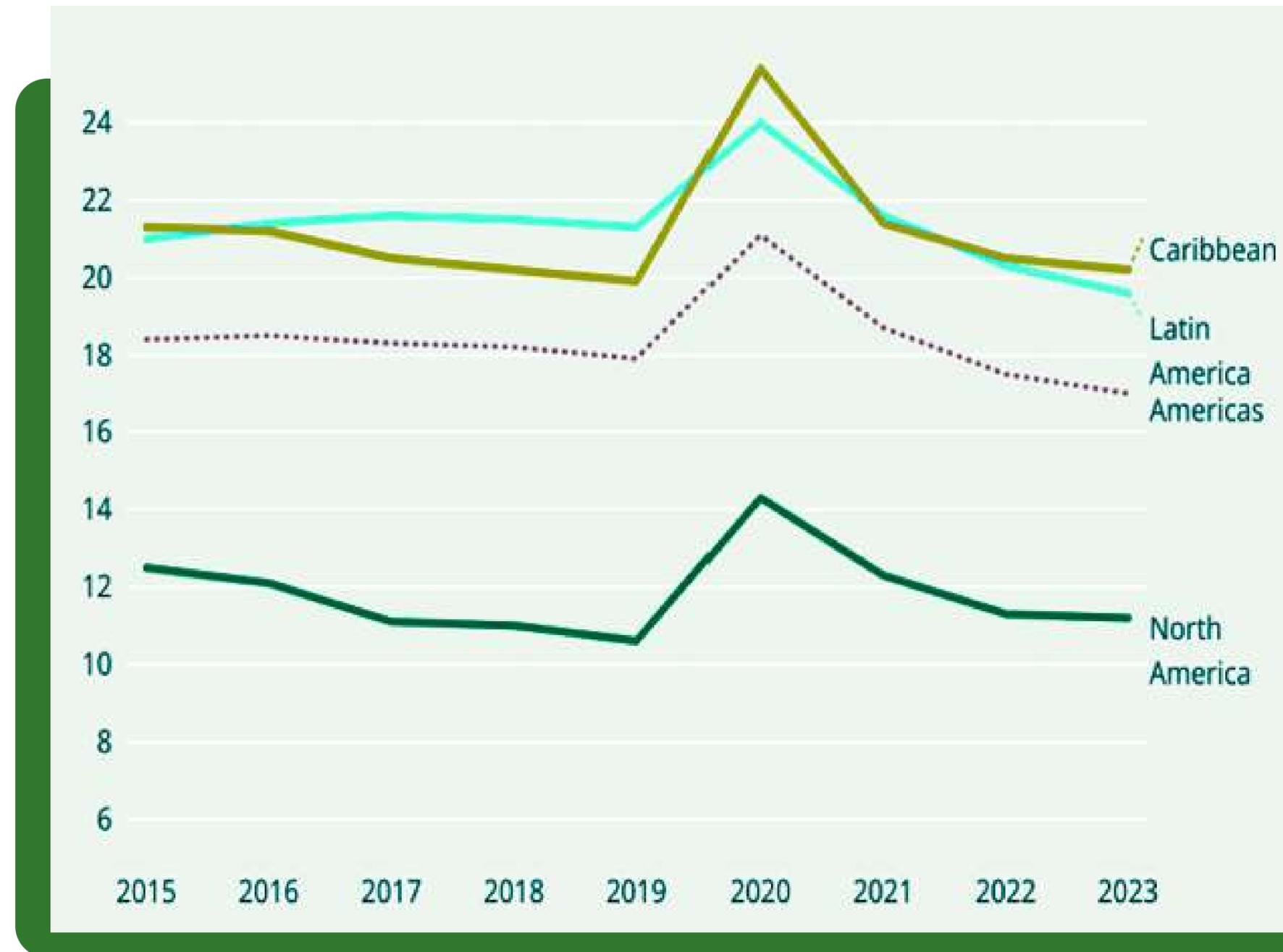


YABT CONSULTATION KEY POINTS



YOUTH NEET RATES BY AMERICAS REGION AND SUBREGIONS, 2015-23

- In 2023, **17%** of youth in the Americas were NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training).
 - The Caribbean (**20.2%**) and North America (**11.2%** – lowest global rate) increased.
 - This trend was projected to continue in 2025.
 - Latin America decreased from **21.3% to 19.6%**



Source: ILOSTAT, ILO modelled estimates, August 2024

THE PILLARS OF YABT



Skill
Development
&
Training



Youth
Representation in
Policy &
Leadership



Strengthened
Support Of
Entrepreneurs



BARRIERS TO DEVELOPMENT PILLARS

POVERTY

Eliminating extreme poverty requires improved social protection and increased economic opportunities to ensure access to essentials and support stable incomes, promoting equity and growth.

FOOD SECURITY

Ensuring food security through sustainable agriculture and equitable food distribution is crucial for creating a resilient food system that supports global sustainability.

EDUCATIO

N Expanding lifelong learning opportunities empowers individuals and communities, significantly contributing to a sustainable economy.

WHY YOUTH INCLUSION MATTERS

Youth across the Americas are calling for transformative action from member states for support in employment and remain dedicated to providing practical solutions to the systemic barriers identified.



INNOVATION

Young professionals contribute fresh ideas and possess strong technical skills.

SUCCESSION

Create job opportunities for young professionals by filling positions left by retirees, ensuring knowledge transfer and continuity.

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Ensures that all individuals receive equitable advantages from economic and social advancements.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH & SKILL DEVELOPMENT

The YABT has recognized notable deficiencies in education, especially concerning agriculture and climate-smart training. In light of this, young people are advocating for:

**Improved
incorporation of
sustainability
within school
curricula**

**Establishment of
intergenerational
mentorship
networks**

**Collaboration
between emerging
and traditional
trades**



YOUTH REPRESENTATION IN POLICY & LEADERSHIP

YABT suggests enhancing youth participation in OAS decision-making.

Establish permanent roles for young individuals to participate in the OAS hemispheric policy process.

Showcase best practices from countries that have successfully integrated women and youth.

Invest in capacity building and incorporate youth recommendations into OAS mandates.



STRENGTHEN SUPPORT OF YOUTH ENTREPRENEURS

YABT suggests enhancing youth participation in OAS decision-making.

Support seed funding and grant opportunities tailored for blue-green startups.

Develop initiatives that celebrate youth and women in blue-green spaces .

Regional showcases and trade forums to improve market access and trade in



LOCAL ACTION

In the **Blue** Economies



LOCAL ACTION

In the **Green** Economies





Thank You

For Taking Part in Building a
Sustainable Future

Presented by
Shanté Hanna

SDG Youth Ambassador (2025–
2026)



sdgunit242



www.sdg.gov.bs

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