

hope.

## YOUTH

### THEMES

**A TIME OF DREAMS, A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY:** Young people are seekers – and drivers of change. What it means to become an adult across the globe.

**OVERVIEW:** Examples of work at GIZ

**IN FIGURES:** We are many – youth and demographics.

**'WHAT'S LACKING, ABOVE ALL, IS WORK':** Interview with Ahmad Alhendawi, the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

**SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST:** A commentary by Dhieu Williams

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# A time of dreams, a time of uncertainty

Whether they live in a developing or an industrialised country, young people everywhere are intent on gaining an entry ticket to the adult world. And wherever there is poverty, there are high expectations of the young generation.

TEXT UTA RASCHE

In a vocational college in Kabul, Muzhda Homa Bari and three of her colleagues sit side by side on a worn brown sofa. There are broad smiles on the young women's faces. They've obviously made an effort to look smart, especially Muzhda, who's wearing skinny jeans, a tailored black jacket and a black scarf draped loosely around her hair. Her make-up is carefully applied. Her colleagues' outfits are more traditional – long dresses or skirts, worn with gleaming high-heeled shoes. The women have spent the last six months completing a vocational teacher education programme, and today they are being presented with their certificates. Prior to that, they themselves attended a vocational college for two years. Aged just between 20 and 22, they will soon be training other young women. They have been studying bookkeeping, accountancy and management.

Now it's time for them to pass on their skills. These four young recruits to the teaching profession are among

Afghanistan's educated elite. It is their generation that has the task of rebuilding this ruined country. There are high expectations of them, as they are well aware: 'We want to help our country,' says Muzhda.

## A good education requires a high level of commitment

Héctor Piedrafita realised a long time ago that self-motivation was his key to the future. The 25-year-old from Spain sits in his host family's dining room in Oetzberg in Hesse. Behind his smiling face, there is shyness: he still can't speak German as fluently as he would wish. In August 2014, he began his training as a chemical technician with Merck in Darmstadt – although he already holds a degree in chemical engineering. 'I am happy to have this opportunity,' he says. In Spain, youth unemployment stands at around 55 per cent. Some of Héctor's school friends have moved to the UK, but he opted for Germany. His classmates who stayed in Spain have only been offered internships and low-paid temporary jobs so far. 'That became clear to us while we were studying,' says Héctor. 'There's simply no work in Spain.' »

Girls still find it difficult to access education. After years under the Taliban, the situation in Afghanistan is only gradually improving.



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## PARTICIPATION

### PROJECT:

STRENGTHENING LOCAL DEMOCRACY –  
YOUTH PARTICIPATION AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL

### COMMISSIONED BY:

GERMAN FEDERAL FOREIGN OFFICE, GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY  
FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

### LEAD EXECUTING AGENCY:

TUNISIAN MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR, DIRECTION GÉNÉRALE  
DES COLLECTIVITÉS PUBLIQUES LOCALES DU MINISTÈRE  
DE L'INTÉRIEUR, MUNICIPALITIES

**OVERALL TERM:**  
2012 TO 2017

## TUNISIA

GIZ is promoting dialogue between municipalities and civil society in order to strengthen civil engagement and to increase involvement of young people.

[www.giz.de/tunisia](http://www.giz.de/tunisia)

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## VOCATIONAL TRAINING

### PROJECT:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT SERVICES IN  
ESTABLISHING VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRES FOR THE TRIBAL  
YOUTHS OF GUJARAT STATE

### COMMISSIONED BY:

GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT

**OVERALL TERM:**  
2010 TO 2015

## INDIA

GIZ International Services has established five skills development centres in the Indian state of Gujarat. The training provided by the centres is improving the social and economic status of the tribal youths of Gujarat. The first cohorts of graduates have already found work and are earning significantly higher wages than they could have expected to achieve without the training.

[www.giz.de/international-services/en/html/1748.html](http://www.giz.de/international-services/en/html/1748.html)

More than 6,000 kilometres separate Muzhda and Héctor. But while their countries are very different, their situations are similar. They are young and full of hope, and gaining an education has required a high level of commitment from both of them. Héctor left his home country because he knew it could not offer him a future in his chosen career. One of Muzhda's colleagues comes from Herat, at the other end of the country, more than a day's drive away. To attend each of the training weeks in Kabul, she had to be accompanied by her father, her grandfather or one of her brothers, for women are not allowed to travel on their own in Afghanistan. Neither Héctor nor Muzhda belongs to a generation of 'gilded youth' who can spend their time pleasure-seeking at their wealthy parents' expense. These two young people have no option but to be self-motivated and create the conditions for their future financial security. And despite the difficult economic circumstances, they are determined to have a good life, earn a decent wage and live in dignity.

### Years of dependence on parents or relatives

Youth as a carefree existence, long on pleasure and short on commitments and responsibility, is a familiar scenario, but mainly in Western industrial societies, and only for the educated elite. The reality is that even in the midst of prosperity, it is difficult for many young people to gain a foothold in the highly specialised adult world of work. As a result, most young people spend their teenage years preparing for working life, gaining qualifications and 'entry tickets' to adult life. They have hopes and dreams, but they are often beset by doubts as well. Economic dependence is lasting longer and longer for young adults, even in many Western countries. At the same time, they yearn for independence. This dichotomy can cause problems for parents and young people, for there is a high rate of youth unemployment, especially in southern Europe. But in Germany too, the 'internship generation' is all too familiar with the uncertainty caused by precarious employment.

Yet it is often the young who are drivers of change. In Germany, the student movement broke open the intellectual and moral constraints of the post-war era. In Egypt and Tunisia, many of the protesters who forced autocrats Mubarak and Ben Ali to resign were the young unemployed, women and men alike. Student demonstrators lined the streets and waved their diplomas, venting their frustration at the fact that despite their qualifications, they were unable to find work. In Egypt, the mass protests were not only an expression of fury at the state's security appa-



Your best friends around you and all the time in the world: some young people have a carefree existence – but only in a few Western countries.

‘... and I remember my youth and the feeling ... that I could last for ever, outlast the sea, the earth, and all men’

JOSEPH CONRAD, in his short story ‘Youth’ (1902)

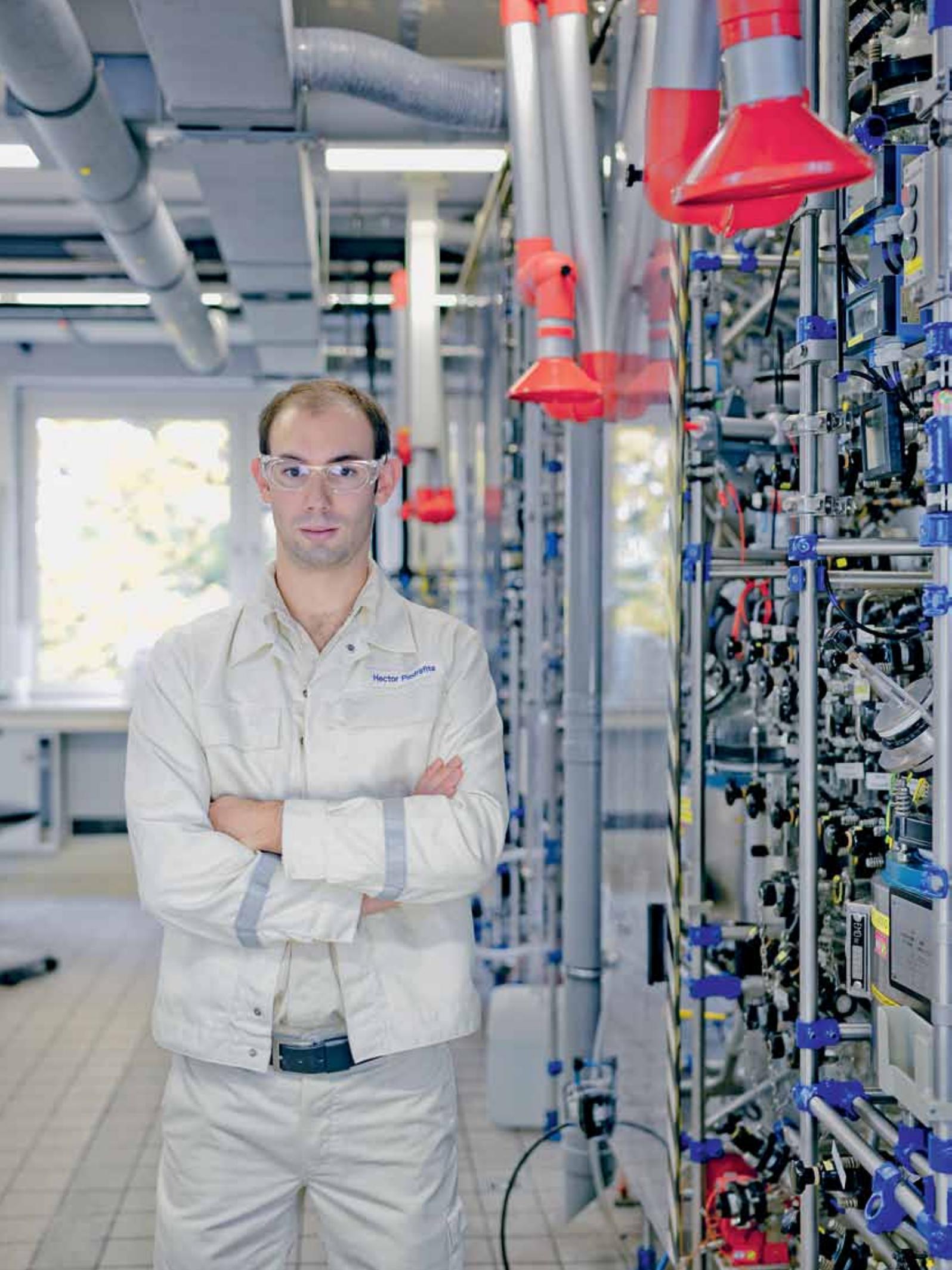
ratus, the lack of freedom of opinion and widespread corruption. They were also triggered by anger at the supply bottlenecks affecting bread and flour, and the poor quality of state education. Rising prices and poor job opportunities were an explosive mix. Young adults with no economic prospects and little hope of ever achieving independence and starting a family were the driving forces behind the Arab Spring in Egypt.

One young man in particular was the trigger for the protests across the Arab world: Mohamed Bouazizi, a 26-year-old Tunisian street vendor. After the death of his father, it fell to him to support his family by selling fruit and vegetables from a cart. But Mohamed was often harassed by the police because he had no permit, and then they confiscated his wares and scales. He complained to the municipal authorities – to no avail. He was arrested and beaten by the police. In protest at these humiliations, Mohamed set himself alight. His self-immolation in December 2010 was a rallying cry.

Mohamed Bouazizi’s act inspired others in Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania and Egypt. Researchers have identified the ‘youth bulge’ – meaning that young »

90%

of 10- to 24-year-olds live in developing countries.



'I am happy to have this opportunity. There's simply no work in Spain.'

HÉCTOR PIEDRAFITA (25) is a trainee chemical technician with Merck in Darmstadt.

people make up a disproportionately large share of the population – as one of the causes of the protests. In the Maghreb countries, around two thirds of the population are under 30 years of age. In a prosperous country, a very young population can stimulate additional growth, but if training opportunities and jobs are in short supply or food is scarce, the 'youth bulge' can become a catalyst for social upheaval instead of boosting the economy. In the past 40 years, the populations of Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco have doubled, while Libya has experienced a staggering threefold increase in population numbers.

Worldwide, 75 million young people are seeking work. According to a recent report by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the youth labour market for the 15 to 24 age group has worsened in almost every re-

gion of the world, with young people three times more likely than adults to be unemployed in 2013. This situation, ILO suggests, is partly a consequence of the economic and financial crisis. The rise in youth unemployment is highest in the Middle East and North Africa, where around one in three young people are out of work. There are gender differences in the youth employment situation as well, with young females experiencing particular difficulties compared with young males. Young women who find employment tend to be concentrated in low-skilled, low-paid jobs.

### Around 5,000 young Spanish trainees in Germany

In the European Union, too, the number of young people not in employment, education or training has recently increased. In May 2013, Germany and Spain therefore agreed to give 5,000 young Spaniards per year, over four successive years, the opportunity to undertake training in Germany. Héctor is one of them. He found out about the programme, which is run by the German Federal Employment Agency, on the internet. When his letter of acceptance dropped through the letterbox at his home in the Pyrenean village of Villanúa, his parents and friends celebrated with him. Around 500 people live here, at an altitude of almost 1,000 metres, earning a living from tourism and agriculture. Héctor's mother manages a youth hostel; his father works for a municipal cleaning company.

Héctor knew that as a chemical engineer, he had no future in Villanúa. Before leaving for Germany, he attended a three-month language course in Zaragoza. In parallel, he completed internships with a motor industry supplier, a sewage treatment plant and a research institute. He and four other Spaniards are now working for Merck. 'We were given a very warm welcome,' he says. For the first six months, the apprentices are living with Merck employees' families, and have attended a four-week induction course to familiarise themselves with the company. Héctor goes swimming every day or spends the evening playing volleyball with co-workers. He stays in contact with his friends and family via Skype and by email. 'I don't have time to be homesick!' he says. He plans to use Darmstadt as a base from which to visit the European capital cities one by one, starting soon. He misses the mountains, but that's all. After completing his training, he hopes to stay in Germany and work as an engineer. »

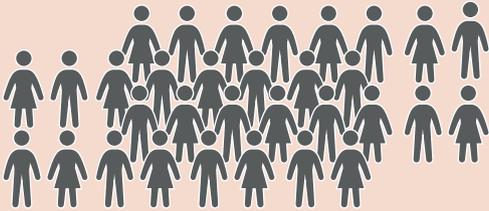
# 40%

Young people accounted for 40% of the world's 197 million unemployed in 2012.

Focusing on the future: Héctor Piedrafita's search for career prospects has taken him away from his home country to Germany.

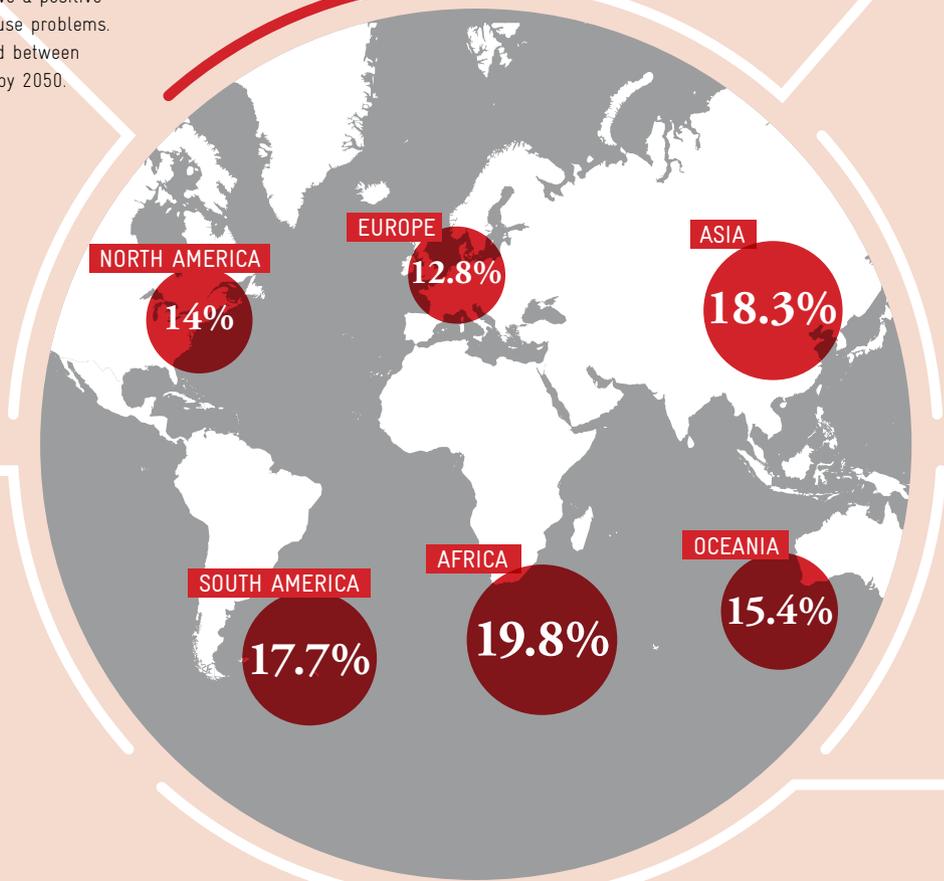
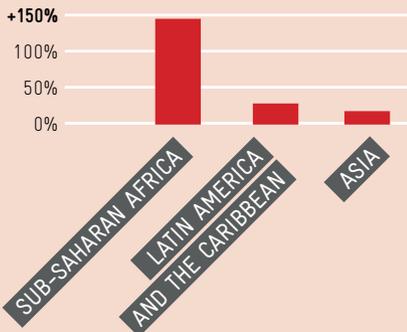
# WE ARE MANY

Never before has the world had such a high youth population. The percentage of 15- to 24-year-olds is particularly high in developing and emerging countries. This group accounts for just 12.8 per cent of the population in ageing Europe, compared with almost 20 per cent in Africa. Researchers talk about a 'youth bulge', meaning that young people make up a disproportionately large share of the population.



## Growing demand for jobs

A high proportion of working-age persons can have a positive effect on a country's economy, but it can also cause problems. In sub-Saharan Africa, the number of people aged between 15 and 64 will increase by around 150 per cent by 2050.



## TOP 5 youngest and oldest countries

Niger has the youngest population in the world on average. Around two thirds of its people are under 25 years old, and the population is growing rapidly. The supply of food, jobs and education cannot keep pace.

Youngest countries (based on average age)

- NIGER – 15.0 YEARS
- UGANDA – 15.8
- CHAD – 15.8
- ANGOLA – 16.3
- MALI – 16.3

Oldest countries

- JAPAN – 45.9
- GERMANY – 45.5
- ITALY – 44.3
- BULGARIA – 43.0
- GREECE – 42.8

## A strong entrepreneurial spirit in South America

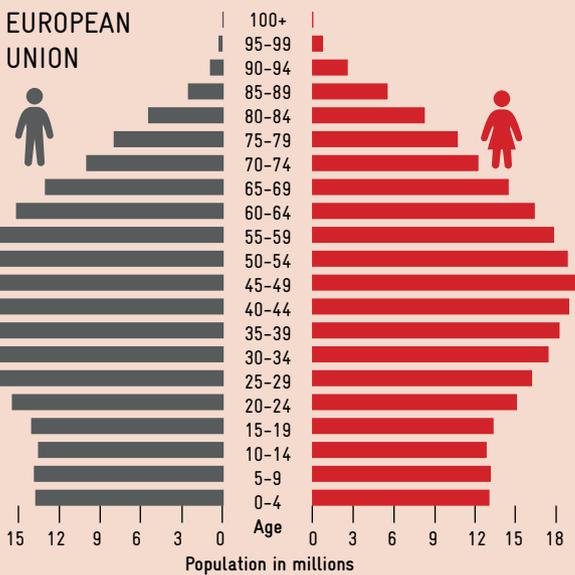
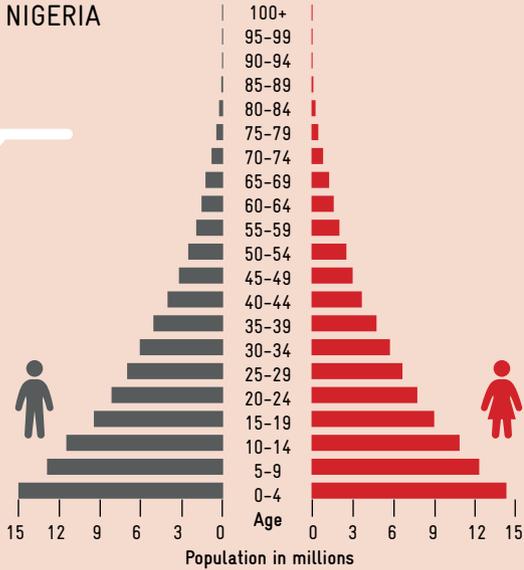
A lack of career prospects and an increase in independent business initiatives often go hand in hand. This is evident from a survey conducted in 2014, which asked 6,700 women and men aged between 18 and 30 what they want to achieve by 2024.



■ United States ■ Western Europe ■ South America

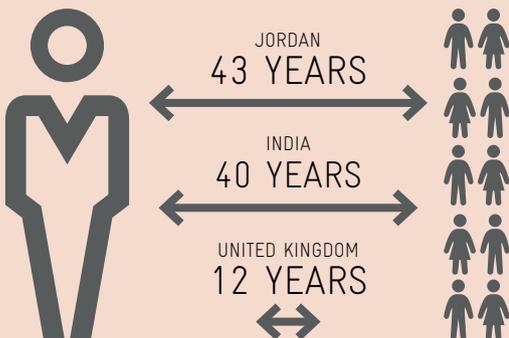
### Africa's demographic challenge

Like many African countries, Nigeria's age structure is tilted sharply towards the younger generations. This offers opportunities as well as challenges, and contrasts with the European Union, which has a declining birth rate.

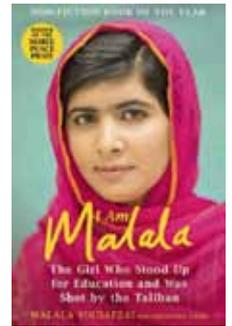


### Politicians and their young constituents

The difference in the average age of politicians and the electorate is immense – and can cause social discord.



For Muzhda in Kabul, training as a vocational teacher was merely an interim step. 'I would like to work more hours, not only in the mornings,' she says. She hopes to get a job in a bank some day, so she is attending evening classes at a private university. Her aim is to obtain a Bachelor's degree. And she is prepared to move abroad to take a Master's – Afghan universities do not offer postgraduate courses. Jobs in Afghanistan's public sector are not particularly well-paid, but at least it's a regular wage. With support from international donors, the country is now in the process of expanding its network of vocational colleges. The aim is to ensure that by 2020, 20 per cent of young people in each year group have access to vocational training; at present, the figure is just 4 per cent. But in Afghanistan, a vocational college is very different from its German counterpart: the teachers lack practical skills, there are no training workshops, and many schools don't even have an electricity supply. Cooperation with industry is an alien concept. Technical standards in businesses are often very low as well. As the owner of a car repair shop in Kabul explains: 'We can only repair cars built before 1995. With the newer models, we fix one part and ruin three others.'



Malala Yousafzai stood up for her right to an education – and almost paid with her life. The Nobel Peace Prize laureate from Pakistan tells her story in 'I Am Malala'. Published by W&N, 320 pages.

### A potential solution: vocational training

Muzhda comes from a privileged family. Her father works at the Ministry of Education and her mother is a teacher. More than two thirds of the Afghan people work in agriculture. While the Taliban were in power, Muzhda's parents arranged for her to be educated in secret. It was only in 2014 that Afghanistan celebrated its first cohort of girls to complete a full course of schooling: the fall of the Taliban regime meant that they were able to attend school for 12 years relatively unhindered. Over time, this will reduce the country's illiteracy rate, currently one of the highest in the world – around 50 per cent of men and 90 per cent of women in Afghanistan cannot read or write. Occupations requiring formal training are now being established with international support.

The Afghan Government has a very positive attitude towards these initiatives, for it considers that better vocational training also offers an opportunity to close young people's ears to the siren call of extremism. Around one million young Afghans scrape a living as casual labourers. However, a young person who acquires technical and commercial skills and takes citizenship classes has no reason to join the Taliban – at least, that's what policy-makers hope. The Ministry of Education even broadcasts advertisements for vocational schools on TV. »



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## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

### PROJECT:

PROMOTING VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND THE LABOUR MARKET

### COMMISSIONED BY:

GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT

### LEAD EXECUTING AGENCY:

PALESTINIAN MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION  
AND LABOUR

### OVERALL TERM:

2011 TO 2015

### PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

GIZ has developed strategies for vocational training and employment in order to equip more young Palestinians with skills that match the region's labour market needs. The programme is receiving additional support from the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.

[www.giz.de/en/worldwide/18117.html](http://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/18117.html)

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## SPORT

### PROJECT:

PROMOTING GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN THROUGH SPORT  
AND SPORTS COACHING IN SCHOOLS

### COMMISSIONED BY:

GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT

### PARTNER:

AFGHANISTAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION

### OVERALL TERM:

2013 TO 2015

### AFGHANISTAN

In cooperation with the German Football Association, national sports bodies and the Afghan Ministry of Education, GIZ is training female sports teachers. The aim is to improve the opportunities for girls to participate in sport. The school day currently offers girls little scope for physical activity.

[www.giz.de/expertise/html/9915.html](http://www.giz.de/expertise/html/9915.html)

In this way, Afghanistan is attempting to replicate a model espoused by Georg Kerschensteiner in Germany in the late 19th century. Kerschensteiner, who served as Munich's Director of State Schools, was one of the founding fathers of Germany's network of vocational schools, which in his day were still known as 'industrial schools' (Arbeitsschulen). He believed that career prospects, combined with civic education, would protect young men from 'moral decay'.

But what can be done today to tackle the high rate of youth unemployment? Even in Europe, the under-25s now account for around one third of the long-term unemployed. According to the Bonn-based Institute for the Study of Labor, the under-25s are the weakest group in the European labour market, lacking experience, business expertise, and adequate protection from dismissal. Regardless of whether the economy was booming or in recession, young people have always found it more difficult than adults to find work. In August 2014, youth employment in the Eurozone averaged 23 per cent. However, it was below 8 per cent in Germany.

Economic stability is not the only reason why Germany is ahead of the game. A key factor is its dual education system, which combines workplace and classroom-based training and is one of Germany's most successful exports. Global management consulting firm McKinsey conducted a study in 2014 entitled 'Education to Employment: Getting Europe's Youth into Work', for which it surveyed 5,300 young people, 2,600 employers and 700 education providers from eight countries: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. The aim was to evaluate the quality of vocational training and university education, and the results were sobering. The study found that Germany and the UK were the only countries where training providers consulted with employers regularly. This kind of dialogue was lacking in all other countries. While around 74 per cent of vocational training providers believed that they were preparing their students adequately for professional life, only 35 per cent of the employers agreed.

### Young people must become more mobile

The young unemployed are all too familiar with the crushing feeling of being rejected. And the experience has a lasting effect throughout their careers, according to the Institute for Employment Research in Nuremberg: on average, every day of unemployment during the first years on the labour market increases unemployment »

# ‘What’s lacking, above all, is work’

Ahmad Alhendawi, born in Jordan in 1984, is the first UN Envoy on Youth in the history of the world organisation – and as such, living evidence of the changing demographic landscape. He talks about the pressing issues affecting his generation.

**You are the Envoy of some 1.8 billion young people around the world. That sounds like a massive responsibility. How do you manage to represent this diverse group in a fair manner?**

Being the Envoy of the largest generation of young people ever is indeed a great responsibility. I do not claim to represent all of the 1.8 billion because it’s technically impossible. But I try to represent their interests because this generation should receive more recognition, be better represented and better heard. My job here is to make sure their issues are included in the work of the United Nations. I see myself as megaphone, helping to get their messages across. And in turn I am opening up venues to increase their participation in international affairs. For example, we have just hosted the First Global Forum on Youth Policies, bringing together 700 ministers and youth experts from 165 countries. Before that we developed a Global Youth Call, to which 1,700 youth organisations subscribed. They endorsed a consensus on what they would like to see included in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. That has never happened before.

**Young people are struggling with unemployment and a lack of economic opportunities. Do you agree with the idea of a ‘lost generation’?**

Yes I do. This is a lost generation in the sense that young people nowadays are denied the opportunities they need to realise their full potential. They particularly suffer from a lack of employment opportunities. And they are struggling everywhere with the transition period from pursuing education to gainful employment. Globally we have 75 million unemployed young people, but we estimate that

around 500 million are underemployed. So, in the next 15 years we need around 600 million jobs for young people. This is a big number – and a big challenge.

**Some see education as a possible solution, others entrepreneurship. How could we provide young people with better prospects?**

There is no single solution to this. The profile of unemployment is different from region to region. If you talk to education experts they will tell you the solution is education. If you talk to financial experts they will talk about access to credit. If you talk to labour representatives they will talk about the need to restrict labour laws. If you talk to the investment community they will talk about the need to support small businesses, etc. And I think: It’s all of that but it has to be adapted to different unemployment situations. In Africa, for example, more investment in agriculture and infrastructure could create millions of jobs. Thus, governments all over the world must take the lead here. They have to prioritise youth and investment in youth.

**In Germany we tend to think that vocational training could be a solution.**

I truly think that the German model is one of the best in the world. You have one of the lowest youth unemployment rates, also because of that dual system. I am convinced that this model could be replicated in other places. However, it’s not about copying-and-pasting, but rather requires a lot of hard work. It entails strong investment and a long-term commitment from the public and the private sector, but it’s definitely worthwhile.



Ahmad Alhendawi was appointed the United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth in 2013.

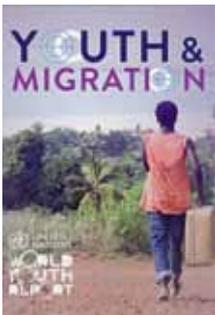
**What are some other challenges young people are facing around the world?**

Next to education and employment, the third big challenge is participation. The young are interested in politics but not necessarily in political institutions. They are living in the digital era while the political institutions often remain in the analogue age. Their lifestyle is so different from those in power. Just to give you one example: they feel it’s a waste of time to stand in line for eight hours to vote when they could do it electronically within a few seconds. So the tools should be modernised in order to get young people engaged. They are drivers of change, and we need change to meet the diverse global challenges.

**Interview: Friederike Bauer**



Staying in touch: the digital revolution keeps young people connected all over the world.



Youth on the move:  
the latest United Nations  
World Youth Report  
focuses on migration.  
[www.unworldyouthreport.org](http://www.unworldyouthreport.org)

by an additional day in later life. And researchers in the UK report that 42-year-olds who were jobless when young are still earning less than their continuously employed peers. So there are good reasons why young people should be spared this experience. But the question is, how? According to labour market researchers, there is an urgent need for a vocational training reform in many countries. But until that takes effect, they recommend that young people leave their home countries, at least temporarily, and move to wherever jobs are more plentiful and training is a better match for business needs – just as Héctor has done.

### Courage and enthusiasm in the face of adversity

Despite the numerous challenges they face, young people are still willing to stand up for their rights. They are courageous and enthusiastic, and some are quick to turn the spotlight on suffering and injustice. One of them is Malala Yousafzai, a young woman from Pakistan who, in Decem-

ber 2014, became the youngest person ever to win the Nobel Peace Prize, which she shared with Kailash Satyarthi, a children's rights activist from India. Malala became a symbolic figure in young women's struggle for the right to education after she was shot by a Taliban gunman on her school bus for opposing the local ban on girls attending school. Although critically injured, she successfully underwent treatment in Pakistan and the UK city of Birmingham. Today, she lives in Birmingham with her family and continues her advocacy for girls' right to an education. On her 16th birthday in July 2013, Malala delivered an address to the United Nations Youth Assembly, in which she called for a global struggle against illiteracy, poverty and terrorism, a struggle in which education is the most powerful weapon. 'One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world,' she said. This young woman has already inspired many other people with her dream of a better future.

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[www.giz.de/youth-empowerment](http://www.giz.de/youth-empowerment)  
[www.giz.de/vocational-education-training](http://www.giz.de/vocational-education-training)



# SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST

A commentary by Dhieu Williams

I was born in 1987 but of course I have no memories of the exact date. But I do remember the small village I lived in: situated in a narrow, grassy valley, crisscrossed by clear streams and overlooked by green hills. It is called Piol and belongs to Jonglei state in South Sudan.

I completed primary school in the bush during the liberation struggle, my secondary schooling under the trees, and finally university in the streets of Juba city, the capital of South Sudan. I lived between the poor and the rich. When I started working I was not able to save anything because I had family relying on me for most of their basic needs. And the pay was so little, roughly 500 Sudanese pounds, which equals about 100 dollars. So supporting my siblings and other relatives often dried up my salary before the next month ended.

We had very high hopes when we became independent from Sudan in 2011. But the youth here are still the poorest. The country is now in the hands of former fighters who do not want to listen to other voices, in particular to those who did not participate in the war of liberation.

So, young men and women are floundering about, without being able to get their hands on anything tangible to earn a living. They are stuck with few perspectives in a coun-

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## PROFILE

DHIEU WILLIAMS is a South Sudanese journalist who lives in Juba. He currently works for Classic FM, a leading radio station in the country. He studied mass communication at the University of Juba.

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try they overwhelmingly voted for independence; a country they had hoped would change for the better in the hands of their liberators. But the dependence on working parents, relatives and friends continues to dominate the lives of youth in the independent country they believed would be their own.

A new phenomenon among young people has emerged: opportunism. Instead of raising their voices collectively about their concerns, they try to benefit from a system that in reality denies them services. Individualism also greatly affects their efforts to fight off corruption which is happening in broad daylight. When a relative is appointed to a government position, young people of that extended family celebrate because it opens up job opportunities. And if individual youth representatives secure themselves a seat closer to the govern-

ment, they shut their mouths. In my case, I don't need to be an opportunist to survive. I prefer to use the skills I acquired in school in order to get a job.

Unfortunately the youth here, including myself, have a preference for white collar – office – jobs, leaving other jobs to foreigners. We are too blind to see new opportunities, like starting a small business. If you walk around Juba you will always find youth gathered around tea shoppes talking politics, rather than engaging in business activities.

Many young graduates in the country are abandoning their real careers and grabbing any available job they can get their hands on. Medical doctors, who are supposed to be in a hospital treating patients, are working in hotels as security guards. Teachers have deserted their profession because the pay is so low. To earn a university degree is one thing, but to get a job in South Sudan is another. It is not the degree that decides whether you get a job, but rather if you support a certain political party or individual politicians.

For me it seems that even if oil is flowing abundantly underneath our country and could possibly benefit all citizens, it is the law of the survival of the fittest that actually applies here.