

Goal 8

Target number: 8.b and 8.6

Indicator Number and Name: 8.b.1 Existence of a developed and operationalized national strategy for youth employment, as a distinct strategy or as part of a national employment strategy

Agency: The International Labour Organization (ILO)

Has work for the development of this indicator begun?

Yes: International monitoring of youth employment policies was carried out over the period 2010-2012 by the Youth Employment Network (YEN) – a partnership between the ILO, United Nations and World Bank – utilising a questionnaire to national authorities. This evolved into YouthPOL, an inventory of youth employment policies and programmes maintained by the ILO until 2016 and available online (covering 65 countries). The ILO also maintains EmPol, an internal inventory of broader national employment policies that includes youth as one of its target groups (covering 143 countries). Drawing on these tools, new methodological work on Indicator 8.b.1 is being carried out, as explained hereafter.

Who are the entities, including national and international experts, directly involved and consulted in developing the methodology/and or data collection tools?

International experts from the:

- ILO Department of Statistics
- ILO Employment Policy Department

National experts working in ministries responsible for employment policies, as well as development or sectoral policies that directly affect youth employment at the country level.

What is the involvement of or how do you plan to involve National Statistical Systems in the development of the methodology?

As this indicator falls under the remit of the Ministries of Labour/Employment, Youth or Development/Planning and ILO experts, it is being developed at this level. However, coordination with NSOs at the country level will be encouraged through the relevant national ministry and through the formal presentation of the indicator in the next International Conference of Labour Statisticians in October 2018.

Please briefly describe the process of developing the methodology for the indicator

The indicator methodology is being developed as follows:

1. The global strategy framework to develop the youth employment indicator is based on (i) *The youth employment crisis: A call for action*, adopted at the 101st session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) in June 2012 and; (ii) the *Global Jobs Pact* adopted by the ILC at its June 2009 session. These documents, adopted by ILO tripartite partners, provide the basis of the policy approaches and policy instruments that define this indicator.
2. A survey is currently under development to collect national-level information on youth employment policies from relevant ministries. The information will be used to determine if countries have developed and operationalized a national strategy for youth employment as a stand-alone strategy or as part of a national employment or sectoral strategy, in line with the above-mentioned ILC resolutions.
3. A review of ILO databases on employment and youth employment policies (YouthPOL and EmPol), maintained by the Employment Policy department, will be carried out as an initial assessment.
4. Discussions with pertinent ministries and tripartite constituents may take place during this process.
5. A methodological note for defining, measuring and validating this indicator will be developed.
6. The methodology will be piloted in selected countries.

Please indicate new international standards that will need to be proposed and approved by an intergovernmental process (such as UNSC) for this methodology.

As the components of national strategies for youth employment draw from previously endorsed resolutions by the International Labour Conference, it is not necessary to seek additional approval by an intergovernmental process. However, the following concepts and definitions will be presented for discussion at the 20th ICLS meeting in October 2018.

- “A **developed national strategy**” – an officially-adopted document that articulates a set of measures and provisions aimed at promoting youth employment within a defined timeframe and with clear targets and objectives. It explicitly mentions youth as a target. It may exist on its own or as part of a wider employment or development strategy.

“Officially adopted” document – a text adopted by the responsible government entity/authority. The following types of documents can be considered:

- National Strategy/Policy for Youth Employment
- Youth Employment Law/Act
- National Action Plan for Youth Employment
- National Employment Strategy/Policy
- Youth (Development/Empowerment) Policy/Strategy/Plan
- National development strategy/plan

“Set of measures” – a mix of policy measures which may include economic policies for (youth) employment, active labour market policies targeting young people, or policies to enhance youth employability, promote youth entrepreneurship, or protect youth rights at work.

Provisions” – arrangements foreseen to implement policy measures illustrated by the availability of an action plan with a monitoring framework, resources earmarked and institutional responsibilities clarified.

- “An **operationalized strategy**” – this means there is evidence (official statement, technical/financial progress report, others) of implementation of the measures and provisions in the strategy.

When do you expect the methodological work on this indicator to be completed?

The methodological work should be completed by March 2019. A draft methodological note of the indicator will be discussed at the ICLS in October 2018, and comments and suggestions from this discussion will be taken on board to refine the final version of the indicator by the end of 2019.

Are data and metadata already being collected from the National Statistical System for one or more components of this indicator?

No – relevant data and metadata have already been collected from other responsible entities including the Ministries of Development, Labour or Planning, and has been compiled in the two ILO databases mentioned above (YouthPOL and EmPol).

If yes, please describe:

Not applicable.

How do you plan to collect the data?

We plan to regularly collect information and relevant documents mainly from Government entities responsible for development, employment and youth policies. A **global survey** will be administered for the purpose. Data compilation will be supported by the ILO and UN country and regional offices (where necessary and feasible); and by the active use of the above-mentioned databases plus NATLEX – the ILO database of national labour, social security and related human rights legislation.

The method of computation is under development and relies on the above-listed concepts and definitions. The possible inclusion of metadata notes is being considered.

If the indicator involves multiple components from different data sources, please describe how each individual component of the indicator will be collected here.

Not applicable.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected?

Regular biannual updates, as from 2019.

Is there a process of data validation by countries in place or planned for this indicator?

Yes, if required following an initial review by ILO. These would likely include the following cases (i) when the document has not been directly provided by the government itself, and (ii) when it is unclear if the strategy and related action plan have been officially adopted (iii) when there are doubts regarding the implementation of the strategy (iv) when, for language issues, the data and information needs to be verified.

If yes, please briefly describe:

ILO experts will verify with the Ministry of Labour/Employment or other relevant national body that the strategy for youth employment has been officially adopted and an implementation plan is in act.

(as of July/August 2018)