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present the

## **2014 Brisbane G20 Summit Interim Compliance Report**

17 November 2014 to 1 March 2015

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“The University of Toronto ... produced a detailed analysis to the extent of which each G20 country has met its commitments since the last summit ... I think this is important; we come to these summits, we make these commitments, we say we are going to do these things and it is important that there is an organisation that checks up on who has done what.”

— *David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom, at the 2012 Los Cabos Summit*

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## 5. Labour and Employment: Youth Unemployment

“We are strongly committed to reducing youth unemployment, which is unacceptably high, by acting to ensure young people are in education, training or employment.”

*G20 Brisbane Leaders’ Communiqué*

### Assessment

	Lack of Compliance	Partial Compliance	Full Compliance
Argentina			+1
Australia			+1
Brazil			+1
Canada			+1
China			+1
France			+1
Germany			+1
India		0	
Indonesia		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Korea			+1
Mexico		0	
Russia			+1
Saudi Arabia		0	
South Africa			+1
Turkey		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score	+0.75		

### Background

Commitments to curb rising global rates of youth unemployment have been included in many recent G20 summits. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates there are approximately 202 million unemployed people globally, 40% are youth.<sup>483</sup> The rate of youth participation in the workforce has severely declined across multiple G20 states within the last decade.<sup>484</sup> To boost the workforce participation rate, initiatives must be made to encourage youth contribution and allow youth to have good start in life. The ILO has identified that countries which develop and implement robust youth-specific employment strategies that encourage youth to engage in the formal economy have better outcomes for their men and women.<sup>485</sup> This can be done with access to quality education, training, and opportunities for gainful employment which will allow for a smooth transition into the

<sup>483</sup> Youth Employment. International Labour Organization. Date of Access: 01 February 2015.

<http://www.ilo.org/washington/areas/youth-employment/lang--en/index.htm>

<sup>484</sup> Millennium Development Goals Indicators: Youth Unemployment. 2014. Date of Access: 01 February 2015.

<http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/SeriesDetail.aspx?srid=597>

<sup>485</sup> Why youth employment matters beyond 2015. International Labour Organization. 2015. Date of Access: 01 February 2015.

[http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/multimedia/video/video-interviews/WCMS\\_342144/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/multimedia/video/video-interviews/WCMS_342144/lang--en/index.htm)

labour market. Furthermore, the G20 members have recognized that current commitments to the reduction of youth unemployment are not enough and must become a focus for the 2015 cycle.<sup>486</sup>

### **Commitment Features**

The commitment requires G20 members support and create new policies. To judge compliance, young people are defined according to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals indicators and ILO definitions as individuals between the ages of 15 and 24.<sup>487</sup>

In the 10-11 September 2014 Labour and Employment Ministerial Declaration the ministers recognized the need to boost participation in the workforce, specifically identifying the need to promote youth employment across all member countries and renewing their commitment to fight youth unemployment.<sup>488</sup> As identified by the Minister's Meeting, commitments will be focused on increased support of existing policies or the development of new programs to support an increase in youth employment. The commitment will consist of three components: governments must make efforts to improve the educational attainment of the labour force, provide training programs to youth, and create new employment opportunities for youth populations. Examples of such policies include:

*Acts to improve the educational attainment of the youth labour force, drawing on the International Standard Classification of Education used by the ILO<sup>489</sup>*

- Improvements to funding in secondary education programs improving subject specialization and presentation of new materials
- Encourage the inclusion of more of the youth population into universities, colleges, higher professional schools and distance learning institutions
- Highlight the need to promote investments in education for different population groups in response to the distribution of educational resources
- Provide financial incentives for education whether in the form of grants, bursaries or scholarships

*Acts to improve the training programs and skills of youth populations*

- Encourage the improvements or creation of apprenticeship programs, or the development of vocational programs for youth populations
- The inclusion of policies which support youth guarantees

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<sup>486</sup> G20 Labour and Employment Ministerial Declaration Melbourne, 10-11 September 2014: Preventing structural unemployment, creating better jobs and boosting participation. Date of Access: 01 February 2015. [http://www.international.gc.ca/g20/assets/pdfs/Communique\\_Meeting\\_of\\_G20\\_LEMs\\_Melbourne\\_10-11\\_September\\_2014.pdf](http://www.international.gc.ca/g20/assets/pdfs/Communique_Meeting_of_G20_LEMs_Melbourne_10-11_September_2014.pdf)

<sup>487</sup> Guide to the new Millennium Development Goals Employment Indicators. International Labour Organization. 2009. Date of Access: 01 February 2015. [http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/download/mdg\\_en.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/download/mdg_en.pdf)

<sup>488</sup> G20 Labour and Employment Ministerial Declaration Melbourne, 10-11 September 2014: Preventing structural unemployment, creating better jobs and boosting participation. Date of Access: 01 February 2015. [http://www.international.gc.ca/g20/assets/pdfs/Communique\\_Meeting\\_of\\_G20\\_LEMs\\_Melbourne\\_10-11\\_September\\_2014.pdf](http://www.international.gc.ca/g20/assets/pdfs/Communique_Meeting_of_G20_LEMs_Melbourne_10-11_September_2014.pdf)

<sup>489</sup> The Youth Employment Network. International Labour Organization. 2011. Date of Access: February 2 2015. <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/employment/yen/whatwedo/projects/indicators/8.htm>

*Acts to create new employment opportunities for youth populations*

- Work to promote youth entrepreneurship and innovation across multiple sectors
- Encourage opportunities for youths in public sector organizations at different levels of government or within the private sector

**Scoring Guidelines**

-1	Member does not recognize the issue of youth unemployment and does not show a commitment to ensure young people are in education, training OR employment.
0	Member shows a commitment to improving youth employment conditions through national actions that improve youth access to education, training OR employment.
+1	Member shows an active commitment to reducing youth unemployment through the implementation of programs that ensure young people are in education, training AND employment.

*Lead Analyst: Derek Cuddington*

**Argentina: +1**

Argentina has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 26 February 2015 Minister of Education Alberto Sileoni and Attorney General Alejandra Gils Carbó signed an agreement to extend the “Plan de Finalización de Estudios Primarios y Secundarios para Jóvenes y Adultos” or “FinEs” (Plan to Finalize Primary and Secondary Studies for Youth and Adults).<sup>490</sup> Established in 2008, the “FinEs” program has resulted in the graduation of more than 513,000 students. Another 1,800,000 students are currently registered.<sup>491</sup>

On January 15 2015 the World Bank approved a loan of US425 million, with a 32.5-year maturity period and a seven-year grade period, to support Argentina’s Youth Employment Support Project.<sup>492</sup> This project aims to promote quality employment opportunities for 540,000 young adults living in vulnerable socioeconomic conditions.<sup>493</sup> The project will finance activities over a three-year implementation period.<sup>494</sup> This project aims to: 1) improve the quality of guiding and training services; 2) consolidate the coverage of Jóvenes con Más y Mejor Trabajo (Youth with Greater and Better Job

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<sup>490</sup> Ministerio de Educación, Sileoni y Gils Carbó firmaron convenio para ampliar el Plan de Finalización de Estudios Primarios y Secundarios (FinEs) (Beunos Aires) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://portal.educacion.gov.ar/prensa/gacetillas-y-comunicados/sileoni-y-gils-carbo-firmaron-convenio-para-ampliar-el-plan-de-finalizacion-de-estudios-primarios-y-secundarios-fines/>

<sup>491</sup> Ministerio de Educación, Sileoni y Gils Carbó firmaron convenio para ampliar el Plan de Finalización de Estudios Primarios y Secundarios (FinEs) (Beunos Aires) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://portal.educacion.gov.ar/prensa/gacetillas-y-comunicados/sileoni-y-gils-carbo-firmaron-convenio-para-ampliar-el-plan-de-finalizacion-de-estudios-primarios-y-secundarios-fines/>

<sup>492</sup> W/B Argentina: Job Opportunities for Half a Million Young Adults, The World Bank (Washington) 15 January 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/01/15/wbargentina-job-opportunities-for-half-a-million-young-adults>

<sup>493</sup> World Bank approves projects to continue generating job opportunities for young adults (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2015. Date of Access: 26 February 2015. [http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/ampliado.asp?id\\_nvd=2262](http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/ampliado.asp?id_nvd=2262)

<sup>494</sup> Argentina – Youth Employment Support Program, The World Bank 10 December 2014. Date of Access: February 27 2015. [http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/12/23/000470435\\_20141223094317/Rendered/PDF/PAD6220PAD0P13010Box385389B000UO090.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/12/23/000470435_20141223094317/Rendered/PDF/PAD6220PAD0P13010Box385389B000UO090.pdf)

Opportunities program) and the PROGRESAR (Program to Support Students from Argentina); 3) strengthen the performance of the network of 630 employment offices around the country.<sup>495</sup>

The Youth Employment and Support Project will also support the expansion and strengthening of the Youth with Greater and Better Job Opportunities program. This program targets youth from the ages of 18 to 24 that have not completed secondary education.<sup>496</sup> Approximately 200,000 youth have participated each year since the program's initial launch in 2008.<sup>497</sup>

During the compliance period Argentina has taken actions to improve the educational attainment of the labour force, provide training programs to youth, and create new employment opportunities for youth populations. Thus, Argentina has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julia Stockdale-Otárol*

### **Australia: +1**

Australia has fully complied with its commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 20 November 2014, the Australian government announced a new national employment services system, planned to launch on 1 July 2015.<sup>498</sup> The Australian government is investing AUD 6.8 billion over four years in its new employment services called “jobactive.” Jobactive was announced in the 2015-16 Budget along with the Growing Jobs and Small Business Package, which is comprised of a range of measures aimed at improving youth employment and education outcomes. The package includes an AUD 331 million Youth Employment Strategy to assist young people who have disengaged from work and study by providing support to vulnerable young job seekers and improving outcomes for early school leavers.

On 3 December 2014, the Australian government introduced amended legislation to the Higher Education and Research Reform Bill 2014, creating a new scholarship fund for universities with high proportions of low socioeconomic status students.<sup>499</sup> This works to improve the educational attainment of the youth labour force, encouraging the inclusion of disadvantaged and rural students by providing financial incentives for education in the form of scholarships.

On 5 December 2014, the Australian government announced plans to introduce tuition subsidies to all Australian students in participating Australian higher education institutions, beginning 1 January 2016.<sup>500</sup> The Australian government plans to provide AUD820 million over three years, to support over 80,000 students by 2018. This reform is intended to promote the inclusion of the youth

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<sup>495</sup> World Bank approves projects to continue generating job opportunities for young adults (Buenos Aires) 15 January 2015. Date of Access: 26 February 2015. [http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/ampliado.asp?id\\_nvd=2262](http://www.trabajo.gov.ar/ampliado.asp?id_nvd=2262)

<sup>496</sup> W/B Argentina: Job Opportunities for Half a Million Young Adults, The World Bank (Washington) 15 January 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/01/15/wbargentina-job-opportunities-for-half-a-million-young-adults>

<sup>497</sup> Argentina – Youth Employment Support Program, The World Bank 10 December 2014. Date of Access: February 27 2015. [http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/12/23/000470435\\_20141223094317/Rendered/PDF/PAD6220PAD0P13010Box385389B000UO090.pdf](http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2014/12/23/000470435_20141223094317/Rendered/PDF/PAD6220PAD0P13010Box385389B000UO090.pdf)

<sup>498</sup> Employment Services 2015, Australian Government, Department of Employment (Canberra) 20 November 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://employment.gov.au/employment-services-2015>

<sup>499</sup> Higher Education and Research Budget Information, Australian Government, Department of Education, 5 December 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://education.gov.au/higher-education-and-research-budget-information>

<sup>500</sup> Expanding Opportunities for Students, Australian Government, Department of Education, 5 December 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://education.gov.au/expanding-opportunities-students>

population in Australian universities, and form innovative partnerships with Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutions.

On 12 December 2014, the Education Council endorsed a new framework to guide the provision of Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses in schools. The framework sets out a vision in which all secondary school students experience quality vocational learning and have access to VET courses seamlessly integrated into secondary schooling. The framework will be followed by the development of a number of practical tools aimed at producing quality outcomes for students, employers, parents, schools and training providers.

On 20 February 2015, the Assistant Minister for Employment reiterated that the Australian government is committed to the new employment services model.<sup>501</sup> The program will introduce new subsidies and incentives to encourage employers to offer opportunities to the youth labour force and other vulnerable groups.

During the compliance period, Australia has taken actions to improve the educational attainment and vocational skills training of the youth labour force, and has worked to create youth employment opportunities. Thus, Australia has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alison Dillman*

### **Brazil: +1**

Brazil has fully complied with its commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 16 December 2014 the Minister of Labour and Employment Manoel Dias launched the Jovem Aprendiz do Desporto — Jade (Youth Sports Apprentice Program — Jade) in the federal district.<sup>502</sup> This program aims to provide more and better training opportunities and decent work for youth in sports institutions. Jade is a professional training program for youth engaged in organizations and companies in the sports sector through the Learning Act.

On 2 February 2015 the Minister of Labour and Employment Manoel Dias participated in a national meeting of technical schools in Rio de Janeiro.<sup>503</sup> This four-day event discussed the role of vocational and technical education in the development of the country. Dias announced that it is the Ministry's goal to incorporate 500,000 youth as apprentices in micro and small enterprises through quotas.<sup>504</sup> Minister Dias also emphasized the encouragement of policies that integrate youth into the workforce.<sup>505</sup>

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<sup>501</sup> Statement to Four Corners, Ministers' Media Centre (Sydney) 20 February 2015. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://ministers.employment.gov.au/hartsuyker/statement-4-corners>

<sup>502</sup> Dias lança Jovem Aprendiz do Desporto no DF, Ministério do Trabalho e Emprego (Brasília) 16 December 2014. Date of Access: February 26 2015. <http://portal.mte.gov.br/imprensa/ministro-manoel-dias-lanca-jovem-aprendiz-do-desporto-no-df.html>

<sup>503</sup> Dias debate políticas para la juventude, Ministério do Trabalho e Emprego (Brasília) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://portal.mte.gov.br/imprensa/dias-debate-importancia-das-politicas-educacionais-para-a-juventude.htm>

<sup>504</sup> Dias debate políticas para la juventude, Ministério do Trabalho e Emprego (Brasília) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://portal.mte.gov.br/imprensa/dias-debate-importancia-das-politicas-educacionais-para-a-juventude.htm>

<sup>505</sup> Dias debate políticas para la juventude, Ministério do Trabalho e Emprego (Brasília) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://portal.mte.gov.br/imprensa/dias-debate-importancia-das-politicas-educacionais-para-a-juventude.htm>

On 9 February 2015 the Subcommittee on Decent Work for Youth resumed their preparation of the Plano Nacional de Trabalho Decente para Juventude (National Decent Work Plan for Youth).<sup>506</sup> The General Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic, through the National Youth Secretariat, and the Ministry of Labour and Employment, jointly coordinate the Subcommittee. During the first half of 2015 the Subcommittee is scheduled to finalize the definition of challenges, goals and indicators of the Plan. The main features of the Plan include: (1) more and better education; (2) reconciliation between studies, work, and family life; (3) labour market integration with equal opportunities and treatment; (4) Social Dialogue: Youth, Work and Education.<sup>507</sup>

On 11 February 2015 Minister of Education Cid Gomes and the Minister of Micro and Small Enterprise Guilherme Afif Domingos signed a technical cooperation agreement to develop the Pronatec Aprendiz na Micro e Pequena Empresa (Pronatec Apprentice in Micro and Small Enterprises) initiative.<sup>508</sup> The initiative is part of the Program for Access to Technical Education and Employment (Pronatec) and will benefit youth ages 14 to 24 years. Youth hired through the apprentice category will receive mandatory education from an accredited Pronatec institution. Upon completion of the learning program — one to two years — students will receive a technical certification.

During the compliance period, Brazil has taken actions to improve the educational attainment of the labour force, provide training programs to youth, and create new employment opportunities for youth populations. Thus, Brazil has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julia Stockdale-Otárola*

#### **Canada: +1**

Canada has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

The Canadian government committed to support job creation in the current Economic Action Plan, with a focus on skills training initiatives.<sup>509</sup> The Economic Action Plan allocates CAD194 million in 2015 to “training the workforce of tomorrow,” an increase from CAD66 million in 2014. The budget outlines youth employment as a key priority, and commits to support the “Flexibility and Innovation in Apprenticeship” technical training program, the “Canada Accelerator and Incubator” entrepreneurship program, and the “Computers for Schools” information and communications technology skills training program.<sup>510</sup> These programs aim to improve the training and skills of youth populations.

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<sup>506</sup> Subcomitê discute Trabalho Decente para juventude, Ministério do Trabalho e Emprego (Brasília) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://portal.mte.gov.br/imprensa/subcomite-discute-trabalho-decente-para-juventude/palavrachave/juventude-trabalho-decente.htm>

<sup>507</sup> Subcomitê discute Trabalho Decente para juventude, Ministério do Trabalho e Emprego (Brasília) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://portal.mte.gov.br/imprensa/subcomite-discute-trabalho-decente-para-juventude/palavrachave/juventude-trabalho-decente.htm>

<sup>508</sup> Pronatec Jovem Aprendiz apoiará estudantes em microempresas, Governo Federal Brasil (Brasília) 11 February 2015. Date of Access: 26 February 2015. <http://www.brasil.gov.br/educacao/2015/02/pronatec-jovem-aprendiz-apoiara-estudantes-em-microempresas>

<sup>509</sup> Supporting Jobs and Growth, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2014/docs/plan/ch3-0-eng.html>

<sup>510</sup> Connecting Canadians with Available Jobs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://www.budget.gc.ca/2014/docs/plan/ch3-1-eng.html>

The budget allocates CAD8 million in 2015 to “ensuring training reflects labour market needs,” an increase from CAD7 million in 2014.<sup>511</sup> Recognizing the challenges facing persons with disabilities in the work force, the budget allocates CAD15 million over three years to the “Ready Willing and Able” initiative to increase the employment of Canadians with developmental disabilities, and CAD11.4 million over four years support persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders, through the expansion of targeted vocational training programs.

In addition to committing to support targeted vocational and skills training programs for youth populations, the budget proposes investments to reform the reserve education system through the *First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act*, in partnership with the First Nations.<sup>512</sup> The Canadian government commits to CAD1.25 billion in education funding beginning in 2016, to provide levels of funding consistent with the current model of provincial education funding. This aims to improve the educational attainment of students enrolled in the reserve education system.

The Economic Action Plan, under the Youth Employment Strategy, proposes to allocate CAD40 million toward supporting 3,000 internships in high-demand fields, and CAD15 million toward supporting 1,000 internships in small and medium-sized Canadian enterprises.<sup>513</sup> The program is targeted at creating new employment opportunities for recent post-secondary graduates.

The government of Canada proposes a review of the Youth Employment Strategy, to facilitate improvements to programs for youth populations, and ensure effective programs targeting a range of high-demand fields.<sup>514</sup>

During the compliance period, Canada has taken actions to improve the educational attainment and vocational skills training of the youth labour force, and has worked to create youth employment opportunities. Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alison Dillman*

### **China: +1**

China has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 19 January 2015, the government of China published the “2014 Ten Actions Plan of Employment.”<sup>515</sup> The government made commitments to improve the educational attainment of youth labour force and the training programs of youth population, helping youth population to find new employment opportunities.<sup>516</sup>

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<sup>511</sup> Supporting Jobs and Growth, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015.

<http://www.budget.gc.ca/2014/docs/plan/ch3-0-eng.html>

<sup>512</sup> Connecting Canadians with Available Jobs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015.

<http://www.budget.gc.ca/2014/docs/plan/ch3-1-eng.html>

<sup>513</sup> Connecting Canadians with Available Jobs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015.

<http://www.budget.gc.ca/2014/docs/plan/ch3-1-eng.html>

<sup>514</sup> Connecting Canadians with Available Jobs, Government of Canada (Ottawa) 2014. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015.

<http://www.budget.gc.ca/2014/docs/plan/ch3-1-eng.html>

<sup>515</sup> Ten big issues of 2014 employment in China, China Association for employment promotion (Beijing) 19 January 2015. Date of Access: 25 January 2015. <http://www.zgjy.org/newlist/Jyyearshow.asp?MessageID=1334>

<sup>516</sup> Ten big issues of 2014 employment in China, China Association for employment promotion (Beijing) 19 January 2015. Date of Access: 25 January 2015. <http://www.zgjy.org/newlist/Jyyearshow.asp?MessageID=1334>

In November 2014, Chinese government opened multiple recruitment channels and released information of state-owned enterprises to college graduates.<sup>517</sup> This aims to regulate the recruitment process and guarantee the equal employment rights for all youth.

On 21 November 2014, the Employment Action Plan was implemented in Inner Mongolia.<sup>518</sup>

On 5 December 2014, the Employment Action Plan was implemented in Tianjin.<sup>519</sup>

In December 2014, China Association of Employment Promotion and Taiwan S.D.S.F Foundation facilitated dialogues between mainland and Taiwan youth about promoting vocational skills and exchanging expertise, combating youth unemployment together.<sup>520</sup>

On 6 January 2015, the communist Youth League of China and China Mobile has launched a two-year vocational program for youth populations named “Succeed With You,” in response to the “Ten Actions Plan of Employment.” This program plans to provide youths with various training and practical programs and job opportunities.<sup>521</sup>

During the compliance period, China has taken actions to reduce youth unemployment by ensuring educational and training programs and improving employment opportunities. Thus, China has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Celine Liu*

#### **France: +1**

France has fully complied with its commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 21 November Prime Minister Manuel Valls described the *plan interministériel de lutte contre le décrochage scolaire* (interministerial plan for fighting against student dropouts) to halve annual school dropout numbers by 2017.<sup>522</sup> The plan provides EUR50 million a year to fight against student dropouts.<sup>523</sup> A new focus on prevention and the mobilisation of stakeholders including parents, youth, teachers, public authorities, associations and businesses has been emphasized. This adds to the ongoing student re-entry strategy. A new telephone line was created to provide advice and information about alternative training and support solutions for youth. The implementation of the

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<sup>517</sup> Recent reforms and national development, Shanxi Development And Reform Commission (Shanxi) 11 November 2014. Date of Access: 2 February 2015. [http://www.sxdr.com.cn/xxlm/bgs/zhd/201411/t20141126\\_73831.htm](http://www.sxdr.com.cn/xxlm/bgs/zhd/201411/t20141126_73831.htm)

<sup>518</sup> Inner Mongolia: Support 35 million college students for entrepreneurship in four years, NorthNews (Inner Mongolia) 21 November 2014. Date of Access: 25 January 2015. <http://www.northnews.cn/2014/1121/1791742.shtml>

<sup>519</sup> A Notice of Implementation of Action Plan to lead Tianjin college entrepreneurs from 2014-2017, Tianjin Employment Information for University Graduates (Tianjin) 05 December 2014. Date of Access: 25 January 2015. <http://www.tjby.com/news.aspx?id=111>

<sup>520</sup> Ten big issues of 2014 employment in China, China Association for employment promotion (Beijing) 19 January 2015. Date of Access: 25 January 2015. <http://www.zgzy.org/newlist/Jyyearshow.asp?MessageID=1334>

<sup>521</sup> Succeed with you Conference, Inner Mongolia University of Technology (Inner Mongolia) 09 January 2015. Date of Access: 25 January 2015. <http://www.imut.edu.cn/gdxwf/7552.htm>

<sup>522</sup> Student drop out : “giving young people a new chance in education”, République Française (Paris) 21 November 2014. Date of Access : 26 February 2015. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/student-dropout-giving-young-people-a-new-chance-in-education>

<sup>523</sup> Student drop out : “giving young people a new chance in education”, République Française (Paris) 21 November 2014. Date of Access : 26 February 2015. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/student-dropout-giving-young-people-a-new-chance-in-education>

plan is expected to reintegrate 10,000 youth into education.<sup>524</sup> This plan is on schedule according to Prime Minister Manuel Vall's reform agenda.<sup>525,526</sup>

On 3 December 2014, France announced to expand the Youth Guarantee scheme across 61 new departments supporting 50,000 youth in 2015 and 100,000 youth in 2017.<sup>527</sup> The Youth Guarantee scheme helps youth less than 25 years of age find employment or training after their studies.<sup>528</sup> France has set aside EUR162.2 million in the 2015 budget, with an additional EUR21.4 million from the European Union's Youth Employment Initiative Fund, for this expansion.

On 10 December 2014 the economic growth and activity bill was presented to the Council of Ministers.<sup>529</sup>

On 5 February 2015 the Ministry of Higher Education and Research launched its second edition of the *Prix PEPITE (Pôles étudiants pour l'innovation, le transfert et l'entrepreneuriat) — Tremplin pour l'Entrepreneuriat Etudiant*.<sup>530</sup> The PEPITE Prize aims to encourage and support business creation among youth and students between the ages of 18 and 30 by providing prizes for the most innovative projects. Three grand prizes of EUR10,000 are awarded to the students with the most promising projects.<sup>531</sup>

On 19 February 2015 President Hollande's government won a vote of confidence in the National Assembly allowing them to go forward with the *Loi Macron* bill designed to stimulate growth, investment and employment.<sup>532</sup> The bill is aimed at marginalized members of society and youth. Goals directly related to youth employment include promoting equal opportunity and mobility, in particular for young people and women, and creating new vistas and greater career flexibility for junior lawyers.<sup>533</sup>

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<sup>524</sup> Student drop out : "giving young people a new chance in education", République Française (Paris) 21 November 2014. Date of Access : 26 February 2015. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/student-dropout-giving-young-people-a-new-chance-in-education>

<sup>525</sup> Reform agenda, République Française (Paris) 21 June 2014. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/reform-agenda>

<sup>526</sup> Reform Agenda #reformagenda, République Française (Paris) 21 June 2014. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/all/themes/custom/matignon/templates/agenda-reformes/pdf/reform-agenda.pdf>

<sup>527</sup> France to extend Youth Guarantee scheme, EurActiv. 3 December 2014. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/social-europe-jobs/france-extend-its-youth-guarantee-scheme-310521>

<sup>528</sup> France to extend Youth Guarantee scheme, EurActiv. 3 December 2014. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://www.euractiv.com/sections/social-europe-jobs/france-extend-its-youth-guarantee-scheme-310521>

<sup>529</sup> The Economic Growth and Activity Bill, République Française (Paris) 10 December 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. (<http://www.gouvernement.fr/en/the-economic-growth-and-activity-bill>)

<sup>530</sup> I-Lab 2015: 17ème concours national d'aide à la création d'entreprises innovantes, Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, 5 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid77179/ouverture-des-inscriptions-prix-pepите-tremplin-pour-entrepreneuriat-etudiant-2015.html>

<sup>531</sup> I-Lab 2015: 17ème concours national d'aide à la création d'entreprises innovantes, Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, 5 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://www.enseignementsup-recherche.gouv.fr/cid77179/ouverture-des-inscriptions-prix-pepите-tremplin-pour-entrepreneuriat-etudiant-2015.html>

<sup>532</sup> Hollande Government Wins Confidence Vote on Economic Reform Law, Bloomberg (Brussels) 19 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-02-19/hollande-government-wins-confidence-vote-on-economic-reform-law>

<sup>533</sup> Growth and Economic Activity Bill, République Française (Paris) 10 December 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.gouvernement.fr/sites/default/files/locale/piece-jointe/2015/02/frenchgrowthandeconomicactivitybill.pdf>

During the compliance period, France has taken actions to improve the educational attainment of the labour force, provide training programs to youth, and create new employment opportunities for youth populations. Thus, France has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Julia Stockdale-Otárola*

### **Germany: +1**

Germany has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 20 January 2015, the German Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth published the article “Start of Interagency Program ‘Strengthening Youth in Their Own Neighbourhood’ in 180 municipalities.”<sup>534</sup> This project is financed by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB).<sup>535</sup> It aims to provide young individuals in social problem areas with training and create a successful transition into the work force.

This four year program is first introduced in 2015 in poorer developed urban areas and 185 municipalities. The European Social Fund and federal fund combined for approximately EUR115 million.<sup>536</sup>

On 21 January 2015, the Federal Ministry of Education and Research published a report that explained the “JOBSTARTER plus” program, the upgraded version of the “JOBSTARTER — Training for the Future” initiative that began in 2006. The main goal of the “JOBSTARTER — Training for the Future” program was to teach youths skills that will allow them to obtain jobs easier in the work force. The “JOBSTARTER plus” program focused more on the “innovation and structural development in vocational education,”<sup>537</sup> allowing individuals to be better trained at their respective positions and provide more avenues for individuals to find their desired jobs.<sup>538</sup>

During the compliance cycle, Germany implemented a new program that improves youth training and employment transition as well as improved an existing program of vocational education, training and employment of youths. Thus, Germany is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Fu Yuan (Andrew) Liu*

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<sup>534</sup> Start of interagency program "Youth SELLING in the neighborhood" in 185 municipalities, Federal Ministry on Education and Research (Bonn) 20 January 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015.

[https://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate\\_c?depth=1&hl=en&prev=search&rurl=translate.google.ca&sl=de&u=http://www.bmfsfj.de/BMFSFJ/kinder-und-jugend,did%3D212922.html&usg=ALkJrhg8WWIMv1kYJyTA49cLCgFrJo8KKA](https://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?depth=1&hl=en&prev=search&rurl=translate.google.ca&sl=de&u=http://www.bmfsfj.de/BMFSFJ/kinder-und-jugend,did%3D212922.html&usg=ALkJrhg8WWIMv1kYJyTA49cLCgFrJo8KKA)

<sup>535</sup> Start of interagency program "Youth SELLING in the neighborhood" in 185 municipalities, Federal Ministry on Education and Research (Bonn) 20 January 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015.

[https://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate\\_c?depth=1&hl=en&prev=search&rurl=translate.google.ca&sl=de&u=http://www.bmfsfj.de/BMFSFJ/kinder-und-jugend,did%3D212922.html&usg=ALkJrhg8WWIMv1kYJyTA49cLCgFrJo8KKA](https://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?depth=1&hl=en&prev=search&rurl=translate.google.ca&sl=de&u=http://www.bmfsfj.de/BMFSFJ/kinder-und-jugend,did%3D212922.html&usg=ALkJrhg8WWIMv1kYJyTA49cLCgFrJo8KKA)

<sup>536</sup> Start of interagency program "Youth SELLING in the neighborhood" in 185 municipalities, Federal Ministry on Education and Research (Bonn) 20 January 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015.

[https://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate\\_c?depth=1&hl=en&prev=search&rurl=translate.google.ca&sl=de&u=http://www.bmfsfj.de/BMFSFJ/kinder-und-jugend,did%3D212922.html&usg=ALkJrhg8WWIMv1kYJyTA49cLCgFrJo8KKA#](https://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?depth=1&hl=en&prev=search&rurl=translate.google.ca&sl=de&u=http://www.bmfsfj.de/BMFSFJ/kinder-und-jugend,did%3D212922.html&usg=ALkJrhg8WWIMv1kYJyTA49cLCgFrJo8KKA#)

<sup>537</sup> JOBSTARTER - Training for the Future, Federal Ministry on Education and Research (Bonn) 21 January 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015. <http://www.bmbf.de/de/jobstarter.php>

<sup>538</sup> JOBSTARTER - Training for the Future, Federal Ministry on Education and Research (Bonn) 21 January 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015. <http://www.bmbf.de/de/jobstarter.php>

## **India: 0**

India has partially complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 21 January 2015, the government is working on a Rs. 1.2 Lakh crore solar power project and youth with a B.Tech, MBA or M.Com degree will be eligible to apply for a project, in which they can hold 26% to 51% equity, and receive a share of the revenue in proportion to their equity.<sup>539</sup>

During the compliance cycle, India created a new employment opportunity for youths. However, they did not take actions that improve youth education and training in preparation for employment. Thus, India has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Shabbano Rao*

## **Indonesia: 0**

Indonesia has partially complied with the commitment on youth labour and employment.

The government of Indonesia has recognized the importance of reducing youth unemployment and it has committed to ensure that effective strategies to be implemented to create decent jobs for youth and to ease them to access the information of labour market in their action plan for 2014-15.<sup>540</sup>

On 26-27 November 2014, the regional workshop on “Partnership for Solutions”: Priorities and Pathways for Sustainable Energy and Deep Decarbonization in Indonesia” took place. SDSN’s initiative is to promote sustainable development and encourage research and development in secondary education.<sup>541</sup> The UIS-SDSN Award also provide up to DR300 Million for the projects that are in line with United Nations sustainable goals. This initiative was first launched by the President of Republic of Indonesia and has improved subject specialization and presentation of new materials related to sustainable development.<sup>542</sup>

On November 21, the government of Indonesia launched the “Indonesia Smart Card,” which provides school fees and stipends to 24m poor students across Indonesia.<sup>543</sup> This strategy addresses the concerns of disadvantaged youth to receive proper education.

The government of Indonesia also prioritized secondary and vocational training as priority in their Actions Plan and to promote apprenticeship programs in the national level. However, no actions have been taken in regarding to expand these training programs in Indonesia.<sup>544</sup>

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<sup>539</sup> Rs 1.2 lakh crore solar plan in the works for jobless tech grads, MBAs, The Times of India. 21 January 2015. Date of Access: 26 February 2015. <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Rs-1-2-lakh-crore-solar-plan-in-the-works-for-jobless-tech-grads-MBAs/articleshow/45960621.cms>.

<sup>540</sup> Open Government Indonesia 2014-15 (Indonesia) July 2014. Date of Access, 10 December 2014. [http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/Indonesia%20OGP%20ACTION%20PLAN%202014-2015\\_BAHASA.pdf](http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/Indonesia%20OGP%20ACTION%20PLAN%202014-2015_BAHASA.pdf)

<sup>541</sup> The Sustainable Development Goals of the Post-2015 Agenda: Comments on the OWG and SDSN Proposals (German) 26 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. [http://www.diegdi.de/uploads/media/DIE\\_Comments\\_on\\_SDG\\_proposals\\_\\_150226\\_04.pdf](http://www.diegdi.de/uploads/media/DIE_Comments_on_SDG_proposals__150226_04.pdf)

<sup>542</sup> Partnering for solutions to sustainable energy in Indonesia, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (Melbourne) 1 December, 2014. Date of Access: 10 February 2015. <http://ap-unsdsn.org/sustainable-energy-deep-decarbonization-indonesia/>

<sup>543</sup> Indonesia's Jokowi launches welfare programmes, Khabar Southeast Asia (Indonesia) November 21, 2014. Date of Access: 10 February 2015. [http://khabarsoutheastasia.com/en\\_GB/articles/apwi/articles/features/2014/11/21/feature-01](http://khabarsoutheastasia.com/en_GB/articles/apwi/articles/features/2014/11/21/feature-01)

During the compliance period, Indonesia has shown some commitments to address the issue of youth unemployment through national policies that improve current youth education especially for disadvantaged youths. However, Indonesia has not taken action to improve youth training or employment. Thus, Indonesia has been awarded a score of 0 for this commitment.

*Analyst: Celine Liu*

### **Italy: +1**

Italy has fully complied with its commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 29 December 2014 the Ministry of Education released a ministerial decree announcing a plan to establish a fund for the support of young people and encouragement of student mobility. The fund will provide scholarships to support international mobility of students as well as provide incentives for enrolment in courses of study related to particular subject areas “of national and community interest” such as science, engineering, and mathematics.<sup>545</sup>

On 23 January 2015 the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy announced a decree that expanded the incentive bonus to companies by adding a ‘professional apprenticeship’ category to the eligibility for incentives already available under the Youth Guarantee plan (Garanzia Giovani).<sup>546</sup> The Italian implementation of the EU Youth Guarantee program, launched on 1 May 2014, aims to ensure all “NEETs” (youth between 15 and 29 years that are not in education, employment or training) find work, training, traineeships or apprenticeships, within four months after becoming unemployed or exit from the formal education system initiatives.<sup>547</sup>

On 20 February 2015 Italy’s coalition government approved a decree passed by parliament last year related to an initiative called the “Jobs Act,” which is designed to increase flexibility in the labour market by reducing regulatory restraints faced by employers when hiring and firing workers.<sup>548</sup> The legislation will relax the conditions for companies to use fixed-term and apprenticeship contracts in an effort to replace temporary contracts and get young people into jobs with progressively more secure contracts that result in entitlement to a permanent job after three years.<sup>549</sup>

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<sup>544</sup> Open Government Indonesia 2014-15 (Indonesia) July 2014. Date of Access, 10 December 2014. [http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/Indonesia%20OGP%20ACTION%20PLAN%202014-2015\\_BAHASA.pdf](http://www.opengovpartnership.org/sites/default/files/Indonesia%20OGP%20ACTION%20PLAN%202014-2015_BAHASA.pdf)

<sup>545</sup> Fondo per il sostegno dei giovani e favorire la mobilità degli studenti, Ministry of Education, University and Research (Rome) 29 December 2014. Date of Access: 28 February 2015. <http://attiministeriali.miur.it/anno-2014/dicembre/dm-29122014.aspx>

<sup>546</sup> Bonus Occupazione, sì ad apprendistato professionalizzante e cumulabilità, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 12 February 2015. Accessed 28 February 2015. <http://www.garanzigiovani.gov.it/EventiNews/News/Pagine/2015/Bonus-Occupazione-si-ad-apprendistato-professionalizzante-e-cumulabilita.aspx>

<sup>547</sup> Bonus Occupazione, sì ad apprendistato professionalizzante e cumulabilità, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (Rome) 12 February 2015. Accessed 28 February 2015. <http://www.garanzigiovani.gov.it/EventiNews/News/Pagine/2015/Bonus-Occupazione-si-ad-apprendistato-professionalizzante-e-cumulabilita.aspx>

<sup>548</sup> Italy’s Labour Market: Marching to a Different Tune, The Economist 28 February 2015. Accessed 28 February 2015. <http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21645256-bold-move-free-up-employment-marching-different-tune>

<sup>549</sup> Italy’s Labour Market: Marching to a Different Tune, The Economist 28 February 2015. Accessed 28 February 2015. <http://www.economist.com/news/europe/21645256-bold-move-free-up-employment-marching-different-tune>

During the Compliance period, Italy has taken steps to improve educational attainment of the youth labour force, improved training programs, and created new employment opportunities for youths. Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Travis Southin*

### **Japan: +1**

Japan has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 12 February 2015, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe addressed the need to improve the measures for the employment of youth by encouraging companies hiring new graduates to give the option and information on overtime work, training, turnover, and various related opportunities.<sup>550</sup> Furthermore, the Prime Minister wanted to utilize career promotion subsidy in order to give irregular employment to assist young workers who are looking for a stable and regular occupation.<sup>551</sup> He also stated that the public employment bureau, Hello Work, will not take job advertisement for new graduates from companies that have been suspected with high turnover rate of young workers.<sup>552</sup>

Japan has taken steps to improve conditions of youth employment by providing greater access to training, employment, and education. Thus, Japan is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Fu Yuan (Andrew) Liu*

### **Korea: +1**

Korea has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On February 2015, President Park Geun-hye's administration has pushed ahead with a three-year economic innovation plan, which aims at increasing the youth employment rate from 40.4% to 47.7% by 2017.<sup>553</sup>

On 16 January 2015, the Korean government announced that in "support [for] young people to enter the labour market early, the government plans to introduce a work-study dual system, build and spread a competency-based hiring system and address mismatches between youth (job seekers) and SMEs [small and medium-sized enterprises]."<sup>554</sup> The government of Korea also committed that it will expand the youth internship program for SMEs, aiming to expand to cover 50,000 beneficiaries in 2015.<sup>555</sup>

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<sup>550</sup> Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 189th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 February 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015.

[http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97\\_abe/statement/201502/policy.html](http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201502/policy.html)

<sup>551</sup> Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 189th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 February 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015.

[http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97\\_abe/statement/201502/policy.html](http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201502/policy.html)

<sup>552</sup> Policy Speech by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to the 189th Session of the Diet, Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet (Tokyo) 12 February 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015.

[http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97\\_abe/statement/201502/policy.html](http://japan.kantei.go.jp/97_abe/statement/201502/policy.html)

<sup>553</sup> Korea lays out plans to deal with aging population. Asia Heartbeat arirang (Seoul). 06 February 2015. Date of Access: 10 February 2015. [http://www.arirang.co.kr/News/News\\_View.asp?nseq=175603](http://www.arirang.co.kr/News/News_View.asp?nseq=175603).

<sup>554</sup> Young, elderly's income gap widens, The Korea Times (Seoul). 04 March 2015. Date of Access: March 05 2015. [http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2015/03/602\\_174585.html](http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2015/03/602_174585.html).

<sup>555</sup> Govt. Promotes Smart Plants. Invest Korea (Seoul). 16 January 2015. Date of Access: 10 February 2015.

[http://www.investkorea.org/ikwork/iko/eng/cont/contents.jsp?no=608300001&l\\_unit=90202&bno=501160008&code=102060101&mode=&url\\_info=bbs\\_read.jsp](http://www.investkorea.org/ikwork/iko/eng/cont/contents.jsp?no=608300001&l_unit=90202&bno=501160008&code=102060101&mode=&url_info=bbs_read.jsp).

In 2015, the Korean government plans to introduce the apprenticeship education program from Switzerland in vocational high school. After 2016, the plan is expected to expand such type of school into all 41 government-led industrial complex.<sup>556</sup> However, there have not been any actions taken regarding to this proposal.

The Korean government also committed to provide financial incentives for young entrepreneurs by increasing its grants to high school graduates working at the SMEs. The government also proposed to stimulate demand of youth in the labour market after the completion of military services. However, there is no specific strategy mentioned in the plan.<sup>557</sup>

During the compliance period, Korea has shown commitments to address the issue of youth unemployment through national policies that improve education, training and improve youth employment opportunities. Thus, Korea has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Celine Liu*

### **Mexico: 0**

Mexico has partially complied with its commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 19 January 2015, the Mexican Government Incentive Program (PAI) published their incentive programs to promote economic growth and development. In the report, it did not list any incentive programs that promote youth employment. There are a few incentive programs on education, but they are not designed for youth between the ages 15-24.<sup>558</sup>

On 18 February 2015, KSAT 12 reported that the Mexican Consulate has given USD 60,000 to the University of the Incarnate Word in order to fund the scholarship program for Mexican origin students who are part of the IME Fellowship program. Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto increased the original fund for the program by four times. A specific amount of scholarships are designated to offer to students with Mexican origin. This scholarship is designed to help students reach their goals and contribute to the society in the United States and Mexico.<sup>559</sup>

During the compliance period, Mexico has taken action to promote employment to improve youth education, but did not take actions to improve youth training and employment opportunities. Thus, Mexico is awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Fu Yuan (Andrew) Liu*

### **Russia: +1**

Russia has fully complied with the commitment to facilitate young people's access to education, training and employment.

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<sup>556</sup> Employment Plan 2014, Republic of Korea (Seoul). 22 December 2014. Date of Access: 2 February 2015.  
[https://g20.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/g20\\_employment\\_plan\\_korea-1.pdf](https://g20.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/g20_employment_plan_korea-1.pdf).

<sup>557</sup> Employment Plan 2014, Republic of Korea (Seoul). 22 December 2014. Date of Access: 2 February 2015.  
[https://g20.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/g20\\_employment\\_plan\\_korea-1.pdf](https://g20.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/g20_employment_plan_korea-1.pdf).

<sup>558</sup> PAI 2015 Government Incentive Program, Issuu 19 January 2015. Date of Access: 21 February 2015.  
[http://issuu.com/mireyjorgemercado/docs/pai2015-english\\_print](http://issuu.com/mireyjorgemercado/docs/pai2015-english_print)

<sup>559</sup> Mexican Consulate gives \$60,000 check for UIW student scholarships, KSAT 12 (San Antonio) 18 February 2015.  
Date of Access: 21 February 2015.  
<http://www.ksat.com/content/pns/ksat/news/2015/02/18/mexican-consulate-presents--60-000-check-for-uiw-student-scholar.html>

Russia has taken actions to promote young people's access to education.

On 22 April 2015, the meeting of the coordinating committee on the introduction of federal standards for education of people with disabilities took place in the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation. It was announced that the new standards would be implemented by 1 September 2016, which would allow to create a barrier-free environment in educational facilities, thus, facilitating vulnerable people's access to education.<sup>560</sup>

On 24 April 2015, the Government of Russia approved the plan for the implementation of the Children's Supplementary Education Development Concept for 2015-2020. The plan provides for measures to facilitate access to quality education.<sup>561</sup>

Russia has taken actions to promote young people's access to employment.

On 1 April 2015, the first meeting of the Ministry of Education and Science Council on development of social partnership in education, youth policy and child protection took place in Moscow. The council is to elaborate new measures to advance cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders, including private sector and nongovernmental organizations in the field of youth policy. According to Russian Minister of Education and Science Dmitry Livanov, one of the goals of the newly created council is to promote professional orientation of the youth.<sup>562</sup>

On 28 May 2015, the Government of Russia approved the draft regulation distributing subsidies on the implementation of labour policy measures to the federal subjects. These measures include, inter alia, stimulating youth employment as well as providing training opportunities for the people in risk of losing their jobs.<sup>563</sup>

During the monitoring period Russia has taken actions to facilitate young people's access to education, training and employment. Thus, Russia is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Andrei Sakharov*

### **Saudi Arabia: 0**

Saudi Arabia has partially complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 13 January 2015, Saudi Arabia increased their budget by 3% and allocated USD58 billion towards education, USD108 million towards general school rehabilitation projects and USD3 billion towards higher education.<sup>564</sup>

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<sup>560</sup> New federal standards for education of people with disabilities will be implemented from 1 September 2016, Russian Ministry of Education and Science 22 April 2015. Date of access: 16 June 2015. <http://xn--80abucjiibhv9a.xn--p1ai/%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8/5476>.

<sup>561</sup> The plan for the implementation of the Children's Supplementary Education Development Concept for 2015-2020 approved, Russian Ministry of Education and Science 8 May 2015. Date of access: 16 June 2015. <http://xn--80abucjiibhv9a.xn--p1ai/%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8/5533>.

<sup>562</sup> The first meeting of the Ministry of Education and Science Council on development of social partnership in education, youth policy and child protection took place, Russian Ministry of Education and Science 1 April 2015. Date of access: 16 June 2015. <http://xn--80abucjiibhv9a.xn--p1ai/%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B8/5384>.

<sup>563</sup> Four more regions are to receive subsidies on additional labor policy measures, Russian Ministry of Labor and Social Protection 28 May 2015. Date of access: 16 June 2015. <http://www.rosmintrud.ru/employment/employment/438>.

<sup>564</sup> Saudi Arabia's Youth Unemployment Problem among King Salman's Many New Challenges after Abdullah's Death, International Business Times. 13 January 2015. Date of Access: 27 February 2015. <http://www.ibtimes.com/saudi-arabias-youth-unemployment-problem-among-king-salmans-many-new-challenges-after-1793346>

On 4 January 2015, the Saudi government announced make 300,000 jobs for its citizens in the private sector, the ministries of Economy and Planning, Finance and Labour will start 36 new initiatives to create more jobs.<sup>565</sup>

On 26 January 2015, a quota was placed on foreign firms to hire Saudi locals, to help decrease the youth unemployment rate and prevent locals from searching for jobs abroad.<sup>566</sup>

During the compliance cycle, Saudi Arabia has implemented programs that improve youth education and create youth employment, but did not take actions to improve youth training and employment opportunities. Thus, Saudi Arabia has been awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Shabbano Rao*

### **South Africa: +1**

South Africa has fully complied with its commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 19 November 2014, Deputy Minister Buti Manamela, in a speech at the African National Congress Progressive Business Forum encouraged youths to take advantage of the various skill and training programs offered by the National Youth Development Agency.<sup>567</sup>

On 2 December 2015, the National Human Settlements Youth Accord was signed between Minister of Human Settlements Lindiwe Sisulu, national youth organizations, and department key stakeholders. The youth accord creates housing programmes aimed at skill development and job creation.<sup>568</sup>

On 13 January 2015, the Department of Public Works invested approximately ZAR5 million in bursaries awarded to students pursuing careers in engineering, architecture, and urban planning.<sup>569</sup>

On 14 January 2015, the presidency initiated the consultative process in drafting the 2020 National Youth Policy, calling for youth input.<sup>570</sup> The policy is to be implemented in March of this year with the primary goal of installing youth development programmes.<sup>571</sup>

On 16 January 2015, the Deputy Minister of Water and Sanitation Pamela Tshwete launched the Unemployed Youth Skills Development Project in Thohoyandou in conjunction with the

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<sup>565</sup> Saudi Arabia To Create 300,000 Private Sector Jobs For Locals, Gulf Business. 4 January 2015. Date of Access: 25 February 2015. <http://gulfbusiness.com/2015/01/saudi-arabia-create-300000-private-sector-jobs-locals/#.VPMdC3zF-gx>

<sup>566</sup> In Saudi Arabia, new king Salman seeks stability, Global Risk Insights. 26 January 2015. Date of Access: 25 February 2015. <http://globalriskinsights.com/2015/01/saudi-arabia-new-king-salman-seeks-stability/>

<sup>567</sup> Address by Deputy Minister Buti Manamela at the ANC Progressive Business Forum, The Presidency (Pretoria) 19 November 2014. Date of Access: 11 February 2015. <http://www.gov.za/speech-deputy-minister-buti-manamela-occasion-progressive-business-forum-johannesburg-country-club>.

<sup>568</sup> Press Release - 02 December 2014, Department of Human Settlements (Pretoria) 2 December 2014. Date of Access: 11 February 2015. <http://www.dhs.gov.za/content/media-statements/press-release-02-december-2014>.

<sup>569</sup> Public Works invests millions in education, Department of Public Works (Pretoria) 13 January 2015. Date of Access: 11 February 2015. <http://www.gov.za/public-works-invests-millions-education>.

<sup>570</sup> Draft National Youth Policy 2014-2019, The Presidency (Pretoria) 12 January 2015. Date of Access: 11 February 2015. <http://www.thepresidency.gov.za/MediaLib/Downloads/Downloads/Draft%20National%20Youth%20Policy%202014%20AD2019.pdf>.

<sup>571</sup> Deputy Minister Buti Manamela: Launch of consultative process for the National Youth Policy 2020, The Presidency (Pretoria) 14 January 2015. Date of Access: 11 February 2015. <http://www.gov.za/deputy-minister-buti-manamela-launch-consultative-process-national-youth-policy-2020>.

Department of Public Works and the Vhembe District Municipality. The program rationale includes both job creation and skills development,<sup>572</sup>

On 22 January 2015, Minister of Basic Education Angelina Motshekga approved a revision of the current Senior Certificate qualification to include the Nation Curriculum Statement subjects, enhancing opportunities for pupils aged 21 and above to complete higher academic certification.<sup>573</sup>

South Africa has taken steps to improve conditions of youth employment by providing greater access to training, employment, and education. Thus, South Africa is awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Sophie Barnett*

## **Turkey: 0**

Turkey has partially complied with its commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 26 November 2014, the Ministry of Development published the Medium Term Programme 2015-2017, which announces that the youth labour force participation and employment rate will “continue to be increased through an efficient and integrating employment policy.”<sup>574</sup>

As of December 2014, the Ministry of Labour and Social Security European Union Coordination Department implemented a project aimed at “Improving the Quality of Vocational Education and Training, and Vocational Skills of Young People.”<sup>575</sup> The operation has a total budget of EUR25 million and an implementation period of 30 months.<sup>576</sup>

On 23 January 2015, the Ministry of Development published the Tenth Development Plan (2014-2018),<sup>577</sup> It includes various goals for improving the current social and economic opportunities in Turkey, including that of youth.<sup>578</sup> Future objectives aim at providing youths with the skill

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<sup>572</sup> Deputy Minister Pamela Tshwete: Launch of Vhembe District Municipality Unemployed Youth Skills Development Project, Department of Water and Sanitation (Thohoyandou) 16 January 2015. Date of Access: 11 February 2015. <http://www.gov.za/deputy-minister-pamela-tshwete-launch-vhembe-district-municipality-unemployed-youth-skills>.

<sup>573</sup> Basic Education on implementation of amended senior certificate, Department of Basic Education (Pretoria) 22 January 2015. Date of Access: 11 February 2015. <http://www.gov.za/implementation-amended-senior-certificate-qualification-adults-and-out-school-learners>.

<sup>574</sup> Medium Term Programme (2015-2017), Ministry of Development (Ankara) October 2014. Date of Access: 14 February 2015. <http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/10/Medium-Term%20Programme%202015-2017.pdf>.

<sup>575</sup> Improving the Quality of Vocational Education and Training, and Vocational Skills of Young People, Ministry of Labour and Social Security European Union Coordination Department (Ankara) December 2014. Date of Access: 14 February 2015. <http://ikg.gov.tr/en-us/projects/projectsinimplementation/natagency.aspx>.

<sup>576</sup> Improving the Quality of Vocational Education and Training, and Vocational Skills of Young People, Ministry of Labour and Social Security European Union Coordination Department (Ankara) December 2014. Date of Access: 14 February 2015. <http://ikg.gov.tr/en-us/projects/projectsinimplementation/natagency.aspx>.

<sup>577</sup> The Tenth Development Plan (2014-2018) published, Ministry of Development (Ankara) 23 January 2015. Date of Access: 14 February 2015. <http://www.mod.gov.tr/Pages/content.aspx?l=99479284-12e6-4d7d-bb4d-10d2a19feded&i=12>.

<sup>578</sup> The Tenth Development Plan 2014-2018, Ministry of Development (Ankara) 2 July 2013. Date of Access: 14 February 2015. [http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20\(2014-2018\).pdf](http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20(2014-2018).pdf).

requirements of the information society and increasing the participation of youth, who are not in education or employment.<sup>579</sup>

The Turkish government specifies improving youth access to education, training, and employment opportunities by upgrading and increasing mobility programs as well as implementing support programs to “prevent young people from harmful habits.”<sup>580</sup> The Tenth Development Plan also calls to provide prioritized state support for entrepreneurship and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) “on the basis of innovation, productivity and employment, [and] growth and collaboration” to youth.<sup>581</sup> Again, however, policy has yet to be implemented.

During the compliance period, Turkey has begun to implement programs that improve youth education, training and increase employment opportunities. Thus, Turkey is awarded a score of 0.

*Analyst: Sophie Barnett*

### **United Kingdom: +1**

The United Kingdom has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 10 December 2014 the Department of Education announced the creation of a careers and enterprise company that will provide young people aged 12 to 18 “access the best advice and inspiration about the world of work” by encouraging greater collaboration between schools and colleges and employers. The company will be employer-led and independent of government in order to “transform the provision of careers education and advice for young people.”<sup>582</sup>

On 20 January 2015 the Department for Business, Innovation, and Skills announced a new partnership with automotive manufacturers, funded with BGP11.3 million of government funding alongside a BGP2.8 million cash investment and BGP16.4 million in-kind contributions from industry. The partnership will provide a “route to work for 225 19 plus year-olds” by offering a 15-day program offering vocational training that leads to opportunities for future apprenticeships.<sup>583</sup>

On 27 January 2015 the Department for Education released its annual destination data 6 months in earlier than expected, “showing the government’s commitment to improving the timeliness of the

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<sup>579</sup> The Tenth Development Plan 2014-2018, Ministry of Development (Ankara) 2 July 2013. Date of Access: 14 February 2015.

[http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20\(2014-2018\).pdf](http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20(2014-2018).pdf).

<sup>580</sup> The Tenth Development Plan 2014-2018, Ministry of Development (Ankara) 2 July 2013. Date of Access: 14 February 2015.

[http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20\(2014-2018\).pdf](http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20(2014-2018).pdf).

<sup>581</sup> The Tenth Development Plan 2014-2018, Ministry of Development (Ankara) 2 July 2013. Date of Access: 14 February 2015.

[http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20\(2014-2018\).pdf](http://www.mod.gov.tr/Lists/Duyurular%20ve%20Kalknma%20Ajans%20Duyurular/Attachments/12/The%20Tenth%20Development%20Plan%20(2014-2018).pdf).

<sup>582</sup> New careers and enterprise company for schools, Department of Education (London) 10 December 2014. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-careers-and-enterprise-company-for-schools>

<sup>583</sup> Government and automotive industry start the motor on £30 million skills investment, Department for Business, Innovation, and Skills (London) 20 January 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-and-automotive-industry-start-the-motor-on-30-million-skills-investment>

data.” The destination data shows that from October 2012 to March 2013 91% of 16-year-olds continued on to further education, training or employment, rising from 89% the previous year.<sup>584</sup>

On 3 February 2015 the Cabinet Office announced 750 new apprenticeships in the civil service. The placements will be paid and offer two-year structured placements that result in the ability to apply for continued employment.<sup>585</sup>

On 4 February 2015 Chief Executive of the UK Commission for Employment and Skills Michael Davis welcomed the announcement of the creation of a GBP10.6 industrial partnership for the aerospace sector. Michael Davis noted that the partnership “will help the sector develop a range of innovative programmes, including ways to attract and retain young people and developing higher-level skills through industry-led graduate level courses.”<sup>586</sup>

On 17 February 2015 Prime Minister David Cameron outlined his plan to decrease youth unemployment by requiring youth aged 18-21 who have not had a job for six months to start an apprenticeship or complete community work in order to continue receiving job seeker’s allowance. Prime Minister Cameron noted signalled that youth unemployment will remain a top priority: “we are taking further steps to help young people make something of their lives. Our goal in the next parliament is effectively to abolish long-term youth unemployment.”<sup>587</sup>

The UK has shown an active commitment to reducing youth unemployment through the implementation of programs that ensure young people are in education, training and employment. Thus, the UK has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Travis Southin*

#### **United States: +1**

The United States has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 8 December 2014 the Office of the Press Secretary announced new commitments that will provide millions of additional K-12 students access to computer science education in over 60 school districts. These commitments include over USD20 million in philanthropic contributions to train 10,000 computer science teachers by fall 2015 and 25,000 teachers by fall 2016.<sup>588</sup>

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<sup>584</sup> More young people continuing in education, employment, or training, Department for Education (London) 27 January 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/more-young-people-continuing-in-education-employment-or-training--2>

<sup>585</sup> Government launches 750 apprenticeships for talented young people, Cabinet Office (London) 3 February 2015. Accessed 28 February 2015. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-750-apprenticeships-for-talented-young-people>

<sup>586</sup> UK Commission for Employment and Skills welcomes new aerospace industrial partnership, UK Commission for Employment and Skills (London) 4 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/aerospace-industrial-partnership-welcomed-by-uk-commission-for-employment-and-skills>

<sup>587</sup> Unemployed will have to do community work under Tories, says Cameron, The Guardian (London) 17 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2015/feb/17/unemployed-will-have-to-do-community-work-under-tories-says-cameron>

<sup>588</sup> FACT SHEET – New Commitments to Support Computer Science Education, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington) 8 December 2014. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/12/08/fact-sheet-new-commitments-support-computer-science-education>

On 9 January 2015 the Office of the Press Secretary unveiled a proposal called America's College Promise. The proposal will provide two years of free tuition to students who attend at least half-time, maintain a 2.5 GPA while in college, and make steady progress toward completing their program. Federal funding will contribute three quarters of the average cost of community college and participating states will be expected to contribute the rest.<sup>589</sup>

On 2 February 2015 President Obama's fiscal year 2016 budget announced USD1.5 billion for a program called Connecting Disconnected Youth with Opportunities, which will create a competitive grant program to open "educational and workforce pathways for disconnected youth." The program will assist disconnected youth to earn high school diplomas, achieve further educational attainment, and improve long-term job prospects.<sup>590</sup>

On 2 February 2015 President Obama's fiscal year 2016 budget announced a proposal to create a new USD200 million American Technical Training Fund that would create 100 technical training centers in an attempt to match workforce needs of employers in high-demand industries.<sup>591</sup>

On 2 February 2015 President Obama's fiscal year 2016 budget announced USD873,416,000 (a 5% increase) for elements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) that help youth "obtain skills and education to succeed in a knowledge-based economy, including growing and emerging industry sectors, such as health care and IT."<sup>592</sup> The WIOA was signed into law on 22 July 2014 with the goals of assisting job seekers in accessing employment, education, training, and support services and to match employers with skilled workers.<sup>593</sup>

On 2 February 2015 President Obama's fiscal year 2016 budget announced an additional USD1.5 billion for the Connecting Disconnected Youth with Opportunities program to provide grants for localities to expand summer and year-round job opportunities.<sup>594</sup>

On 23 February 2015 the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) announced an expansion of the My Brother's Keeper Initiative by launching the Millennial Road Show. The program is a national tour throughout 2015 of Minority Serving Institutions designed to expose

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<sup>589</sup> FACT SHEET - White House Unveils America's College Promise Proposal: Tuition-Free Community College for Responsible Students, Office of the Press Secretary (Washington) 9 January 2015. Date of Access 28 February 2015. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/01/09/fact-sheet-white-house-unveils-america-s-college-promise-proposal-tuitio>

<sup>590</sup> Fiscal Year 2016- Department of Labor Budget Fact Sheet, Department of Labor (Washington) 2 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/budget/2016/PDF/FY2016DOLFACTSHEET.pdf>

<sup>591</sup> The 2016 Budget: Improving Opportunity and Affordability in Higher Education, Department of Education (Washington) 2 February 2015. Date of Access 28 February 2015.

<http://www.ed.gov/blog/2015/02/the-2016-budget-improving-opportunity-and-affordability-in-higher-education/>

<sup>592</sup> Fiscal Year 2016- Department of Labor Budget in Brief, Department of Labor (Washington) 2 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/budget/2016/PDF/FY2016BIB.pdf>

<sup>593</sup> Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Department of Labor (Washington) 14 July 2014. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<http://www.doleta.gov/wioa/>

<sup>594</sup> Fiscal Year 2016- Department of Labor Budget Fact Sheet, Department of Labor (Washington) 2 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/budget/2016/PDF/FY2016DOLFACTSHEET.pdf>

youth to entrepreneurship support resources and raise awareness about the possibilities of overcoming barriers through entrepreneurship.<sup>595</sup>

The US has shown an active commitment to reducing youth unemployment through the implementation of programs that ensure young people are in education, training and employment. Thus, the US has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Travis Southin*

### **European Union: +1**

The European Union has fully complied with the commitment to reduce youth unemployment.

On 14 November 2014, the European Commission published the 2015 Erasmus+ Programme Guide, which outlines projects aimed at increasing the capacities of youth training and educational organizations, by offering more effective programmes to respond to individual needs, and reinforce initiatives in non-formal, vocational, and entrepreneurial training.<sup>596</sup>

In February 2015, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP) published a briefing note outlining the CEDEFOP's commitment to place a primary focus on Vocational and Educational Training (VET) reforms, and to combating early leaving from education and training.<sup>597</sup> The VET reform goals specify three main priorities: (1) supporting modernization; (2) work-based and adult learning; (3) analyzing skill demand and supply.<sup>598</sup>

On 10 February 2015 James Calleja, Director of CEDEFOP, reiterated a commitment to continued improvement in the areas of youth employment and skills development.<sup>599</sup>

The European Commission continues to support the Agenda for New Skills and Jobs, an initiative launched in 2010, with an employment target of 75% for the working-age population by 2020.<sup>600</sup>

The European Union has taken actions to improve the educational attainment and vocational skills training of the youth labour force, and has worked to create youth employment opportunities. Thus, it has been awarded a score of +1.

*Analyst: Alison Dillman*

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<sup>595</sup> SBA Announces Millennial Entrepreneurship Road Show, United States Small Business Administration (Washington) 23 February 2015. Date of Access: 28 February 2015.

<https://www.sba.gov/content/sba-announces-millennial-entrepreneurs-road-show>

<sup>596</sup> Erasmus+ Programme Guide, European Commission (Belgium), 19 February 2015. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015.

[http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/discover/guide/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/discover/guide/index_en.htm)

<sup>597</sup> Old Routes for New Routes, European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Belgium), 10 February 2015. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/publications/9095>

<sup>598</sup> Old Routes for New Routes, European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Belgium), 10 February 2015. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/publications/9095>

<sup>599</sup> On the Road to Reform: European VET on Cedefop's 40th Anniversary, European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Belgium) 10 February 2015. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/news-and-press/press-and-media/press-releases/road-reform-european-vet-cedefops-40th-anniversary>

<sup>600</sup> Agenda for New Skills and Jobs, European Commission (Belgium) 2012. Date Accessed: 21 February 2015. <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=958>