







# **KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS:** YOUTH CAREER AND SKILLS ASPIRATIONS

#### WHICH PROFESSIONS ARE (UN)POPULAR AMONG YOUTH?

- Most appealing sectors: Technology and IT, medicine and healthcare, law and politics.
- Least appealing sectors: Science and environmental sustainability, manufacturing and craftsmanship, hospitality and tourism.

#### WHICH FACTORS MOTIVATE YOUTH CAREER CHOICES?

- Salary and benefits drive career choices for nearly half (49.8%) of respondents.
- **Opportunities for career advancement** motivate 20.8% of respondents, while **job security** is a key factor for 14.4%.

## WHICH SKILLS DO YOUTH NEED?

- 81% of respondents recognize **continuous learning** as crucial for success.
- Top three desired skills are: Communications, Problem-solving, Creativity.

## HOW CAN YOUTH TRANSITION FROM EDUCATION TO JOBS?

- Over half of employed respondents work in **positions unrelated to their field of study**.
- **Career guidance and counseling** are underutilized resources, with 55.3% of respondents having no experience with such services.
- Youth prefer **paid internships** to bridge the gap between education and employment.

## **ARE YOUTH INTERESTED IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP?**

- Around 3/4 of respondents expressed interest in starting their own business.
- Aspiring entrepreneurs need **financial support and mentoring**.

## DO YOUTH KNOW ABOUT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT MEASURES?

- The majority of youth are not familiar with **governmental measures** for (self)-employment.
- Youth prefer to receive information about employment opportunities through social media.

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FOR THE RESEARCH

The research 'Youth Career and Skills Aspirations' was conducted within USAID's Youth Actively Create Opportunities Activity. The author's views expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the USAID or the United States Government.

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