MEXICO

Mexico's youth population is the largest generation the country has ever seen, representing 24.4% of the total. However, there is a significant challenge as 17.3% of young people in the country are currently not engaged in education, training or employment. Of the 5.4 million young people who have not had the opportunity to study or work, a staggering 91.2% are women. Since 2006, IYF has provided a comprehensive range of services to address the unique challenges faced by Mexican youth and to support them in achieving the future they want.

CHALLENGES FACING MEXICAN YOUTH:

Socio-economic disparities are a barrier for many young people in Mexico: 51% of them live in poverty, and of that group, 20% live in extreme poverty. These circumstances result in limited access to quality education, health care and employment opportunities.

Mexico's education sector also faces significant obstacles. The graduation rate for university studies is quite low, with only 2% of those enrolled completing their studies. Adolescents also struggle with dropping out of school, with 3 out of 10 leaving education, often to help support their families.

In terms of employment, Mexico faces several challenges for its youth, with nearly 80% of employed youth lacking a work contract and 47% lacking work benefits. In addition, there is a lack of alignment between the school system and the country's productivity needs, making it difficult for 79% of young people to make a smooth transition to the labor market.

Climate change is already affecting the lives of young people in Mexico, leading to internal migration and the displacement of entire communities in search of safer and more sustainable living conditions. The effects of climate change can also have long-term economic impacts, particularly on sectors such as agriculture and tourism, potentially limiting employment opportunities for young people.

Mexico's economy is evolving with new opportunities in digital skills and climate-related fields. The tourism, manufacturing, and trade sectors continue to employ a significant percentage of the youth population. IYF's agile and demand-driven approach has been instrumental in preparing young people for employment opportunities in key sectors such as IT, hospitality, energy efficiency, and financial and banking services.

HOW IYF HAS BEEN RESPONDING TO THESE CHALLENGES?

1. Enhancing the TVET system to **achieve long-term improvements** in youth employability through sustainable approaches.

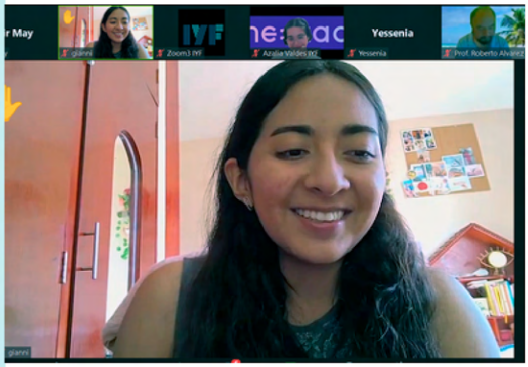
2. **Collaborating with employers** to understand the essential skills they seek in young employees, and then **partnering with educational and training institutions** to bridge the skills gap and connect young individuals with real job prospects.

3. **Supporting young people** in exploring diverse career possibilities, acquiring essential **socio-emotional skills** for success in both work and life, and **fostering positive engagement** within their **communities.**

IYF envisions a transformed public education system that meets the needs of all young people, regardless of gender, creating pathways to opportunity and building a skilled workforce to drive economic growth and improve the lives of millions of disadvantaged people in Mexico. In addition, our goal is to enable youth to be agents of their own destinies and catalysts for change in their communities.

EMPOWERING FUTURES

For the past 5 years, IYF has taken a **systems change approach** to creating economic opportunities for marginalized youth in Mexico. Working with a broad network of partners and allies, our Mexico portfolio aims to **reach youth both inside and outside the education system**. Through initiatives such as **JuvetudES** and **En Trayecto**, we have supported Opportunity Youth and at-risk youth to **access quality education** and **return to school** or **find decent work**.



DRIVE FOR INCLUSION AND BREAKTHROUGHS

By 2030, 80% of all jobs will be related to **STEM careers**, making it critical to address the significant **gender gap in ICT careers**, including challenging and **breaking gender stereotypes**. Through programs supported by **Google.org** and partnerships with the **Cisco Networking Academy**, IYF is **committed to increasing women's participation** in the industry, enabling them to fully engage and excel in one of **today's fastest growing sectors.**

CREATING AGENTS OF CHANGE

Our **longstanding initiatives** like **EquipYouth** and **Networking**, as well as newer sector-specific programs such as **Green Generation MX** and **Financial and Banking Services**, equip young people with the **necessary skills** to enter **emerging markets** and **positively impact the world** around them.

DRIVING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR GREATER SOCIAL IMPACT

FUNDING PARTNERS

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Thanks to years of alliance building, we have a **trusted network of public and private sector, academia, and civil society partners** with whom we've achieved scale and sustainability.

In Mexico, IYF has garnered recognition from various organizations as a transformative agent that adds value to the process of youth workforce development.

Unlocking Youth Agency

Driving Economic Opportunity

Making Systems More Inclusive

192K+

young people reached directly

34 programs

1 national

8 local (17 states)

48% 52%

Current IYF programs

Historic IYF programs

www.iyfglobal.org