Pakistan now has more young people than it has ever had. If young Pakistanis are prepared for the transition to adulthood, the potential for progress is unlimited.

**EMPLOYMENT**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- **18 MILLION** young Pakistanis are not in education, employment or training.
- **78.6%** of young workers are men.
- **97%** of jobs are created by the private sector.
- **1.5-2 MILLION** jobs/year are needed to absorb young workers entering the labour force.

**WHAT INVESTMENTS DO WE NEED?**

Ensuring gainful employment opportunities for all of its young people is vital for harnessing Pakistan’s demographic dividend, accelerating economic growth and advancing sustainable development. There is clear need to:

- **EXPAND DECENT WORK** opportunities for young people as 400,000 young workers will join the labour force every year. Demand for young workers will need to come from a growing private sector, capable of sustaining a growing labour force.

- **CLOSE THE GENDER GAP**. Although the gender gap in school enrolment has been closing, this has not yet translated into gains in secure, paid employment. Women’s overall labour force participation is just 22.5 PER CENT.

- **REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT** among young people, paying attention to both the educated and uneducated. 10 PER CENT unemployment rate exists among young people – twice the national average. Unemployment rises as education levels rise, reflecting sub-optimal use of human capital.

- **EQUIP YOUNG PEOPLE WITH 21ST CENTURY SKILLS** to compete in the digital economy and reap the myriad opportunities it offers.

**WHAT RETURNS CAN WE EXPECT?**

- **200 PER CENT** overall return on investments in employment-related training. Skills matching also results in substantial gains, while the under-utilization of skills negatively impacts labour productivity.

- **5 PER CENT** economic growth over the next five years would be produced if Pakistan secures a reduction in inequality of just 1 Gini point. Such a reduction can be secured by expanding decent work opportunities.

- **1.8 TRILLION** government target of SME lending in Pakistan would boost employment opportunities for young people immensely.

- **1 PER CENT** increase in private investment (capital stock) would increase large-scale value added by more than 11 per cent.

**THE NEW DIGITAL ECONOMY** offers opportunities to improve the quality of working lives, expand choice, close the gender gap, and reverse the damages wreaked by inequality.

**INTRODUCING GENERATION UNLIMITED**

Generation Unlimited is a new global partnership that can support Pakistan to meet the urgent need for education, training and employment opportunities for young people. GenU’s ultimate goal is to create an ecosystem surrounding young people’s progress, to innovate better than ever before, and to ensure that all young people have the abilities and opportunities to realize their potential.