

DECENT WORK IS CRUCIAL FOR SOCIETY, yet it is far from universal



Though the global unemployment rate is 5%,¹ the UN estimates **~300 MILLION PEOPLE HAVE PAID WORK BUT LIVE BELOW THE INTERNATIONAL POVERTY LINE.**



~42% OF WORKERS WORLDWIDE (1.4 billion) and **76%** in low-income countries **ARE IN VULNERABLE FORMS OF EMPLOYMENT.*²**

**work characterized by inadequate earnings, low productivity, and/or difficult work conditions*

The challenges of Active Labor Market Policies (ALMPs)

The main type of direct intervention governments and institutions use to connect workers with more and better employment opportunities.



Many vocational training programs **SUFFER FROM LIMITED ENROLLMENT**, even with offering incentives for participation.³



Even when people sign up, **MANY FAIL TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM**, with drop-out rates as high as 50% in sub-saharan Africa.⁴



Despite high take-up rates for skills-based matching programs, **FEW JOB SEEKERS FOLLOW THROUGH ON MATCHES, SUCH AS 83%** of workers in Jordan stating the type of job was more important than compensation.⁵

Attempts to improve ALMPs may benefit from a thorough analysis and understanding of the factors that influence the decisions and actions of target populations

¹ International Labour Organization, ILOSATA. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.UEM.TOTL.ZS>

² Kuhn, S., Milasi, S., & Yoon, S. (2018). World employment and social outlook: Trends 2018. Geneva: ILO. Retrieved from https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_615594.pdf

³ Almeida, R., Behrman, J., & Robalino, D. (Eds.). (2012). *The right skills for the job? Rethinking training policies for workers*. The World Bank; McKenzie, D. (2017). How effective are active labor market policies in developing countries? a critical review of recent evidence. *The World Bank Research Observer*, 32(2), 127-154; McKenzie, D. (2017). How effective are active labor market policies in developing countries? a critical review of recent evidence. *The World Bank Research Observer*, 32(2), 127-154.

⁴ Filmer, D., & Fox, L. (2014). Youth employment in sub-saharan Africa. Africa development series. Washington, DC: World Bank. doi:10.1596/978-1-48-0107-5. License: Creative Commons Attribution CC BY 3.0.

⁵ Almeida, R., Behrman, J., & Robalino, D. (Eds.). (2012). *The right skills for the job? Rethinking training policies for workers*. The World Bank; McKenzie, D. (2017). How effective are active labor market policies in developing countries? a critical review of recent evidence. *The World Bank Research Observer*, 32(2), 127-154; McKenzie, D. (2017). How effective are active labor market policies in developing countries? a critical review of recent evidence. *The World Bank Research Observer*, 32(2), 127-154.