

# The first solutions-focused MENA Youth Employment Summit



Casablanca, Morocco. October 7-8, 2024

## Overview

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region has **the world's highest youth unemployment rate, averaging 30%**, and nearly double that figure for young women. It also has one of the largest youth populations in the world. This unsustainable combination results in the loss of enormous economic potential and causes hundreds of thousands of youths to become socially and economically disconnected from their communities.

Leveraging almost two decades of experience working on youth employment in the MENA region, EFE will convene the first annual solutions-focused MENA Youth Employment Summit (MENA YES!) in 2024 **bringing together public and private sector** stakeholders and **youth** to co-create solutions to address key youth unemployment and entrepreneurship issues. MENA YES! will focus on critical challenges and opportunities that impact the region's economies and labor markets. This includes digital transformation and the future of work, climate change and green jobs, refugees and migration, and conflict. The summit will culminate in the formulation of a comprehensive advocacy agenda and strategic policy recommendations including specific indicators, milestones, and commitments to action to be achieved the following year.

## What to Expect

The MENA Youth Employment Summit will be a two-day solution-oriented event, taking place in Casablanca, Morocco in October 2024. The event will consist of interactive sessions, workshops, and roundtable discussions on a diverse range of topics relevant to youth employment and entrepreneurship. Attendees will include private sector employers, local and international government representatives, youth from Morocco and the wider MENA region, multilateral organizations, implementing organizations, local civil society organizations, academic institutions, think tanks and others.

## Join Us!

We are looking to highlight innovations and initiatives that address youth entrepreneurship and employment issues to drive positive change across the region.

We invite contributions from private sector players, government officials, policymakers, established professionals, and emerging leaders. Your insights, solutions, and experience are what will make MENA YES! a success.

Get in touch with Nour Kamel at [nkamel@efe.org](mailto:nkamel@efe.org) to explore partnership opportunities and ways to collaborate.

## Vision



### WHO

250+ established and emerging professionals: private sector employers, government, civil society, multilateral organizations, academic institutions, think tanks, and youth.



### WHAT

Regional summit to learn, develop, connect, brainstorm, and innovate, generating a concrete action plan that advances SDG 8



### FORMAT

2-day event consisting of interactive sessions, workshops and roundtable discussions on a diverse range of topics relevant to youth employment and entrepreneurship.



### KEY THEMES

Digital transformation and the future of work, climate change and green jobs, refugees and migration flows, systems change, and more.



### ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

New private-public partnerships, advocacy agenda, commitments for the following year, and more.

## About EFE

Education For Employment (EFE) is the leading nonprofit organization that trains and links youth directly to employment or entrepreneurship support across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

Learn more at [www.efe.org](http://www.efe.org)