



FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION
IMPLEMENTED BY DT Global

Leave no SA youth behind:

Developing a Basic Package of Support for Youth

SUPPORTING SOUTH AFRICA'S YOUTH
IN A TIME OF COVID-19 AND BEYOND

June 2020

The Basic Package of Support (BPS) for Youth team hopes this bulletin finds you well under the current circumstances.

The past months' challenges to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus have highlighted South Africa's devastating inequalities and the vulnerabilities of those who were already struggling to get by in the context of poverty and unemployment. Young people, a large number of whom are not in employment, education or training (NEET), are now joined by many millions more who lost their

jobs or who are endeavouring to continue their education via remote learning, often under challenging and resource-constrained circumstances.

Never has the need to support South Africa's young people been as critical as now – and in the following months and years that will show the serious economic impact of this pandemic.

In response to these challenging times, the BPS team has joined several initiatives to support young people in South Africa during lockdown and beyond. These include the 6 Million campaign, led by Harambee Youth Accelerator; and partnerships to conduct two surveys to gauge the experiences and needs of South Africa's youth during, and beyond, the lockdown period – one with UNICEF South Africa and other partners, the other in collaboration with the Human Sciences Research Council. We elaborate on these in this bulletin.

Since the team's research report on a proposed model for a BPS for South Africa was released in December last year, there have been other exciting developments for the project. The BPS approach was embraced by the Project Management Office in The Presidency and our work is going forward in alignment with the National Pathway Management Network. The NPMN is one component of the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI) announced in the 2020 State of the Nation Address.

In this bulletin, we share a policy brief that outlines the BPS model and its envisaged location in the ecosystem of available support to South Africa's young people, alongside a *Daily Maverick* article that describes the approach and resources behind the PYEI.

While some of the preparatory work for a BPS pilot in several sites across the

country has been put on hold due to the pandemic, several other components of the work are moving along steadily. As discussed below, these are happening with the support of the DG Murray Trust and the Capacity Building Programme for Employment Promotion in the Government Technical Advisory Centre, respectively.

While the timeline for the implementation of the BPS pilots is dependent on the pandemic's trajectory and the easing of the lockdown, the team continues the work, in liaison with current and prospective partners at national, provincial and local levels, to nurture and grow the community of practice that is central to the nested approach of the BPS.

We look forward to report more in the future. Until then, we are extending our best wishes for strength and resilience during the current challenging times.

The BPS project is a collaboration of the:

[Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit, University of Cape Town](#); [Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg](#); [Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab Africa](#); [DG Murray Trust](#); [The Jobs Fund](#); and the Capacity Building Programme for Employment Promotion, funded by the European Union and based in the [Government Technical Advisory Centre](#) in the National Treasury.

**“WE ARE REVOLUTIONISING GOVERNMENT'S
APPROACH TO YOUTH EMPLOYMENT”**



The Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI) is “the most concrete, realistic, fully costed and well-funded programme to be announced by the government yet in order to tackle youth unemployment”, according to Saul Musker, who works in the Projects Management Office in The Presidency. In an article in the *Daily Maverick*, he points out that, most importantly, the intervention’s components are “backed by adequate resources and strong partnerships between government, the private sector and civil society. They do not require the establishment of new bureaucratic structures with high overhead costs, but focus instead on dramatically scaling up models that have already been proven to work.”

[Read more](#)

TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A BPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE NEET



Image: John Hain/Pixabay

Early in 2020, the BPS project was invited to join the PYEI's National Path Management Network as a partner project and to work collaboratively on the BPS pilots. This comes as phase 2 of the project is commencing with the support of the Capacity Building Programme for Employment Promotion (CBPEP), funded by the European Union and based in the Government Technical Advisory Centre. The work entails systems development, such as an expanded version of the Youth Explorer data portal, developed by SALDRU in partnership with OpenUp, to allow accurate service mapping alongside a comprehensive understanding of the youth cohort at various geographical levels; a case management system that will connect with the NPMN and allow for efficient support to young people as they are referred between different services; the development of a framework for BPS communities of practice; communications development; fundraising for the pilot roll out; and more.

[Read more](#)

POLICY BRIEF OUTLINES THE BPS IN A NUTSHELL



This brief is based on the final research report of the first phase of the Basic Package of Support project. It outlines the proposed policy and programmatic approach to a BPS for South Africa’s youth who are not in employment, education or training. It makes a case for the implementation of this intervention through integrated, collaborative partnerships and strong, cooperative and dynamic communities of practice comprising government, the non-profit and the private sectors. The brief describes the seven pillars of the BPS approach and explains the model within the broader ecosystem of service providers and available services.

[Read more](#)

COVID-19, LOCKDOWN AND YOUTH WELL-BEING



Concerned about the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the strict lockdown on the lives of already vulnerable young people in South Africa, it is hoped that two surveys of youth's experiences during this time can help inform appropriate

responses by different role-players. The first survey, which ran for three weeks in May, was spearheaded by UNICEF South Africa and SALDRU's Ariane De Lannoy, who leads the BPS project, in partnership with the Centre for Social Development in Africa, University of Johannesburg; the Children's Radio Foundation; Youth Capital; and Naspers Labs. The poll was administered via UNICEF's [UReport](#) platform, and has received over 11 000 responses from young people from the different provinces in the country. The findings will be shared in various formats for distribution via the partners' networks, multi-media platforms and community radio stations to provide further opportunity for conversations with young people, their communities and various stakeholders during Youth Month.

For the second survey, the multi-partner team has joined forces with the Human Science Research Council, which runs the national COVID-19 series of surveys. The findings of the HSRC survey of young people will directly inform the government's efforts to mitigate the effects of the pandemic.

[Read more](#)

**SUPPORTING YOUTH WITH RELIABLE INFORMATION
IN A TIME OF COVID-19**

SELF-CARE AND WELLNESS

SOME DAILY REMINDERS IF YOU ARE UNEMPLOYED



- You are *not a failure*; you have been hurt by this pandemic, but it does not mean you are not useful.
- Take *care of yourself* right now the way you'd look after a loved one

**This will end. You will work again.
This is only temporary.**



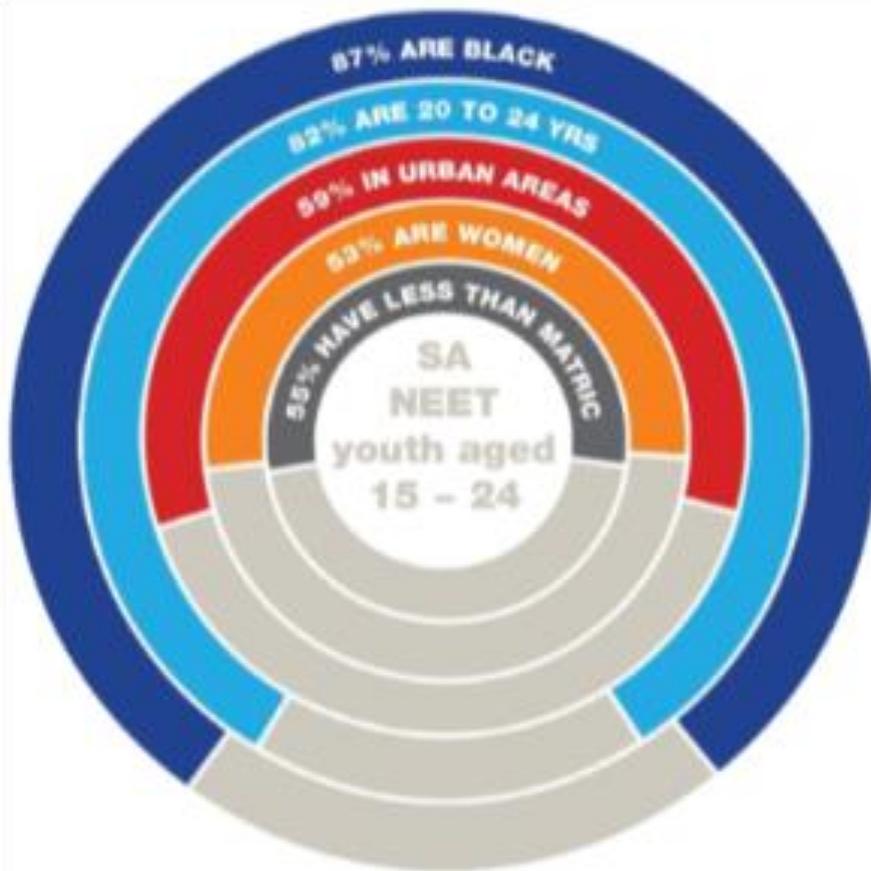
Image: @forabody

Young people have been bombarded with misinformation and fake news as the country moved into a national lockdown in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic while, at the same time, they were dealing with increasingly worsening financial and education challenges. This saw the launch of a campaign, led by Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator and others as part of the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention's response to the pandemic, and in partnership with the Solidarity Fund. The BPS project is one of the 239 partners who to date has joined what was originally called the 3Million3Weeks campaign. Now renamed 6 Million, the initiative aims to reach this number of youth to help them stay informed and be smart, change their behaviours to be safe, and be agents of change for their families and communities. The [6 Million campaign](#) was recently showcased

on 702 radio's *Azania Mosaka* show, when Harambee's Chief Brand Officer Kuben Nair shared what has been learnt through the campaign so far about how young people are coping during the COVID-19 crisis.

[Listen](#)

**WHO ARE THE YOUNG PEOPLE THAT THE
BASIC PACKAGE OF SUPPORT IS DESIGNED FOR?**



[Read more](#)

STAY IN TOUCH



SHARE WITH OTHERS



Share



Tweet



Forward

Copyright © 2020 Basic Package of Support for South Africa's Youth, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Basic Package of Support for South Africa's Youth
Level 3, School of Economics building, Middle Campus,
University of Cape Town, Rondebosch
Cape Town, WC 7700
South Africa

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

